
Planning a Trusted Digital Repository with PLATTER

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What is a Repository?

A Repository is an organisation responsible for conserving digital material.

- “Conservation” implies a timescale beyond the limits of current technology
- A repository is *not* a piece of technology
- ... but it is defined by the challenge of technological change

What is Trust?

Trust is demonstrated organisational fitness for purpose.

- Established as part of relationship between repository and stakeholders (funding agency, depositors, users, parent institution etc.)
- A two-stage process: achieving fitness and demonstrating it
- PLATTER handles the first of these (and DRAMBORA is concerned with the second)

The Road To Trust

There are no widely-accepted standards for trust! What exists are

- Checklist-based standards (such as nestor and TRAC)
- Flexible toolkits (i.e. DRAMBORA)
- Promising standardisation initiatives (e.g. The Birds of a Feather Group)

So for any repository, Goal 0 is

- In consultation with stakeholders, establish criteria for trust

PLATTER is a tool to steer a path towards satisfying those criteria.

How do we make a planning tool when we don't what we're planning for?

Scylla and Charybdis

Over-generality

- General-purpose organisational planning tools
- Only useful with prior knowledge of repositories
- Lacking concrete advice

Over-specificity

- Inflexible
- Unrealistic expectations
- Failure to balance costs/benefits

Finding The Middle Way

The PLATTER approach:

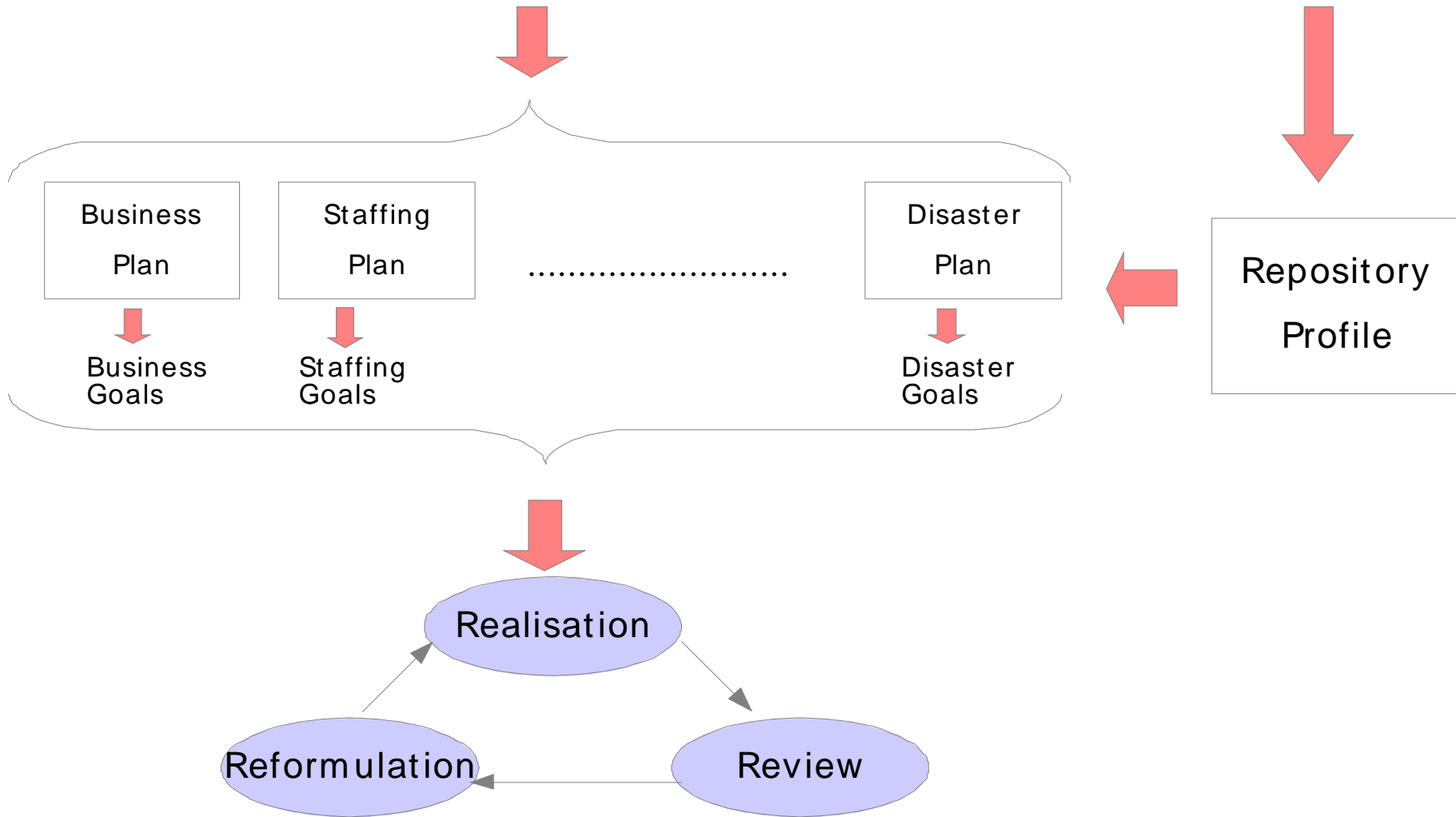
- Define general guiding principles (for all repositories)
- Use these as a basis for repository to set its own goals
- Provide many examples for repositories to use, modify, or reject according to their specific mandate
- Use the CRL/DCC/DPE/neslor Ten Core Principles as a starting point

The Ten Core Principles



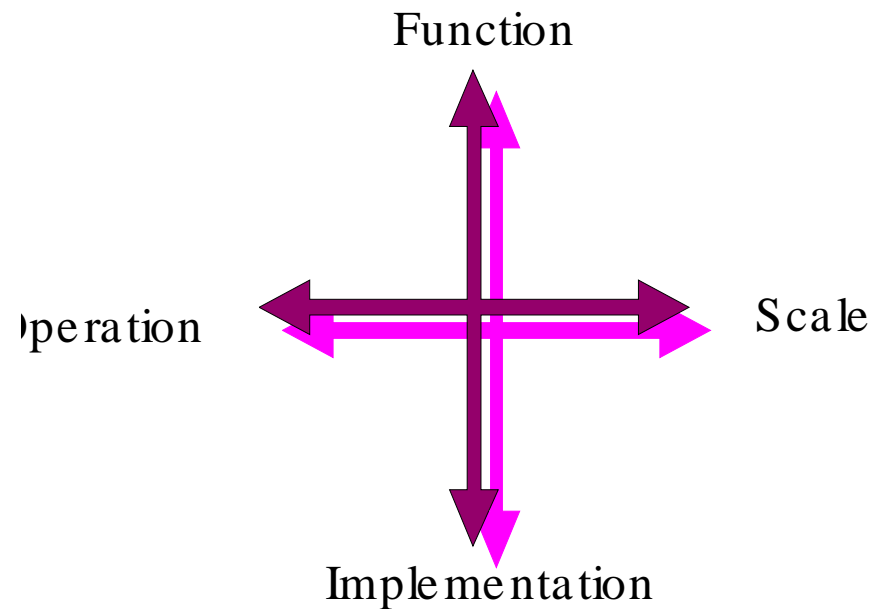
Ten Core Principles

Repository
Characterisation



Repository Characterisation

Four orthogonal axes:



Repository Characterisation

Example

Q1.2 Commercial Status

The functioning of a repository is strongly constrained by its business status, and specifically whether it has a responsibility to further the financial aims of itself or its parent body .

Is the Repository for profit or non-profit?

Strategic Objective Plans

- Acquisition Plan
- Staffing Plan
- Access Plan
- Technical Plan
- Data Plan
- Succession Plan
- Disaster Plan
- Preservation Plan

Generic Goal:

- Goal 2.1 Acquire relevant material

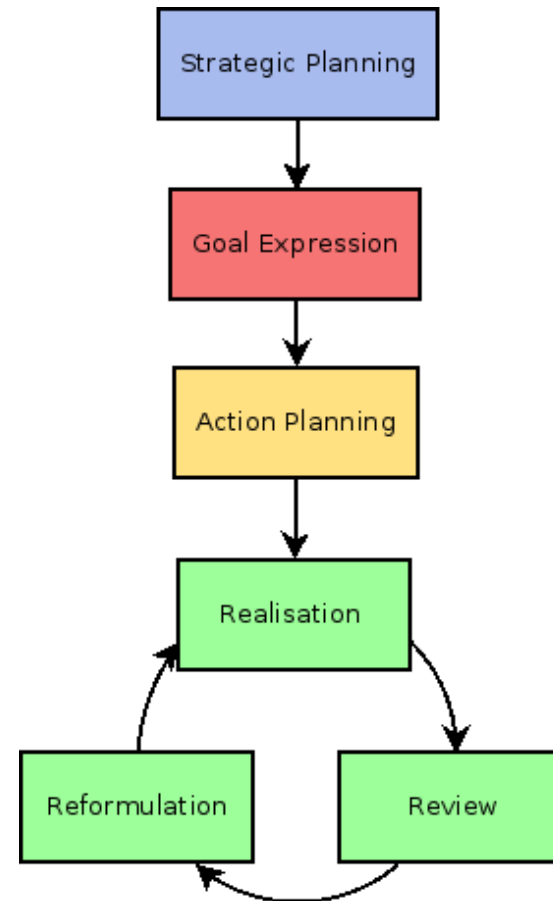
Specific Examples:

- Archive 90% of national internet
- Archive 75% of all articles published in-house
- Ingest at least 1000 new images per year

PLATTER Planning Cycle

Based around SMART objectives

- Specific
- Measurable
- Assignable
- Realistic
- Time-Related



Try PLATTER Today?

<http://www.digitalpreservationeurope.eu>

- DPE Publications
- Reports
- D3.2 Repository Planning Checklist and Guidance