The nestor Digital Preservation Community Survey: What does the landscape for digital preservation communities looks like?

Thomas Bähr, Micky Lindlar (TIB - Leibniz Information Center for Science and Technology University Library)

Svenia Pohlkamp, Sabine Schrimpf (German National Library – nestor office)

Stefan Strathmann (Göttingen State and University Library)

Dr. Monika Zarnitz (ZBW-Leibniz Information Center for Economics)

Liber Conference 2022 in Odense / Denmark

nestor - network of expertise in long-term storage of digital resources

nestor

What is nestor?

- the German Network of Expertise in Digital Preservation

- a network linking libraries, archives, museums …

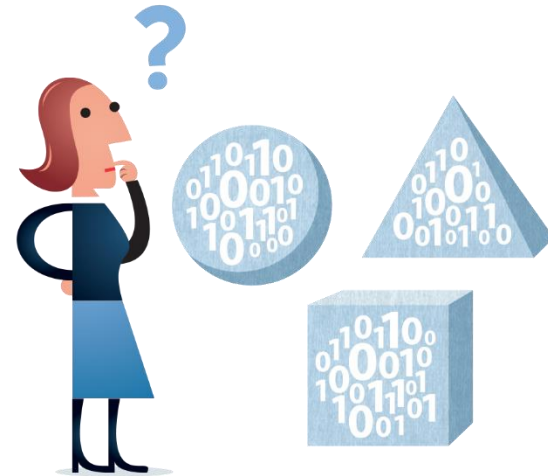- an open network that is in contact with many global players in the field of digital preservation

What's in the store?

- Why did we start the nestor Community Survey?

- What did we concider to be a community?

- Questions / Phases of work

- Community Profiles

- Showcasing questions that can be answered with the survey results

- Future of the Community Survey

nestor

Why did we start the nestor Community Survey? I

- digital preservation is demanding

- skills needed by people to do the job

- digital preservation is a task to big to be tackled alone

nestor

Why did we start the nestor Community Survey? II

- surveys usually target individuals and institutions

  - https://openpreservation.org/resources/surveys/

  - https://ndsa.org/groups/storage-survey/

- knowledge about communities is limited – market opportunity for nestor

![nestor logo]

- What did we consider to be a community?

  - an open association of people and/or institutions

  - thematically concerned with digital preservation

  - an association which engages in digital preservation beyond pure self-interest

  - a platform for exchange about digital preservation and its advancement

The questions

- formal aspects (10 questions)

- governance structure & financing (5 questions)

- organizational structure (12 questions)

- communication (10 questions)

- events (3 questions)

The phases of our work

02/19-05/19   09/19 – 05/20   05/20 – 07/21   08/21-04/22
definition /   survey   analysis   preparing
preparation   publication

Community Profiles I

- short description of each community

- data base: answers in the survey

- permit to publish in the internet

- helps to gain more transparency about digital
  preservation communities worldwide and supports
  cooperation

https://www.langzeitarchivierung.de/communityprofiles

Community Profiles II

Screenshot of Adobe Acrobat Pro DC showing PDF "Steckbrief_Community_nestor_Entwurf_20200527.pdf":

Profile of

nestor - Kompetenznetzwerk digitale Langzeitarchivierung / German network of expertise in digital preservation

Data base: own disclosure
The community agreed in letting nestor publish the individual results of the survey for this community

General characteristics

| Located in: Germany

| Regional focus: entire country

| Subjects the community is working in: digital preservation with all of its aspects

| Exists since: 2009

nestor - network of expertise in long-term storage of digital resources

Data analysis: overall responses

Entries	Numbers	Note
total	73	-
Only the community name, no other information	5	-
Duplicate entries	7	
Not a "community" according to our definition	6	-
No permission to publish the results.	1	-
Remaining entries as basis for anonymous analysis	54	Some of these otherwise valid entries did not include a full completion of all questions

http://nbn-resolving.de/urn:nbn:de:0008-2022041204

Showcasing questions that can be answered with the survey results I

- Example I: Are digital preservation communities typically siloed or do they collaborate with other communities?

- Showcasing questions that can be answered with the

  survey results II

  - Example II: What form(s) of outreach and
    communication tools do digital preservation
    communities most frequently use?

Showcasing questions that can be answered with the survey results III

- Example III: Have social media surpassed the classical mailing lists when it comes to community communication?

nestor

Example I: Cooperation with other communities

Four check boxes were provided. Only one answer could be given.

Respondents all together: 54

No answer to this question: 4

| Number	Numbers	% of answers
0	9	16,7%
< 3	14	25,9%
4 - 10	17	31,5%
> 10	10	18,5%
no answer	4	7,4%

- Only 9 communities did not cooperate with others
- Many had some cooperation / about 20 % more than 10 partners

Example II: Newsletter

Two check boxes were provided. Only one answer could be given. A text entry field was also provided for the option "Yes (number of subscribers")."

Respondents all together: 54

No answer to this question: 3 / 5 of 19 answers to number of subscribers

Newletter?

- no
- yes
- no answer

Number of Subscribers

- <= 500
- 501-1000
- 1001-2000
- > 2000
- no answer of yes
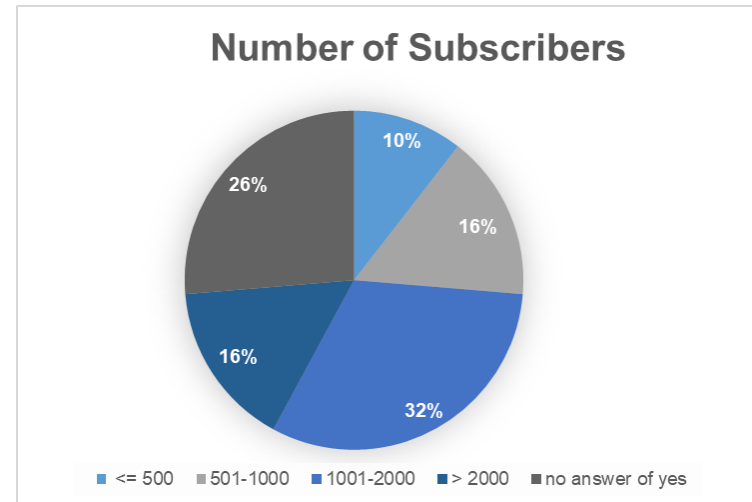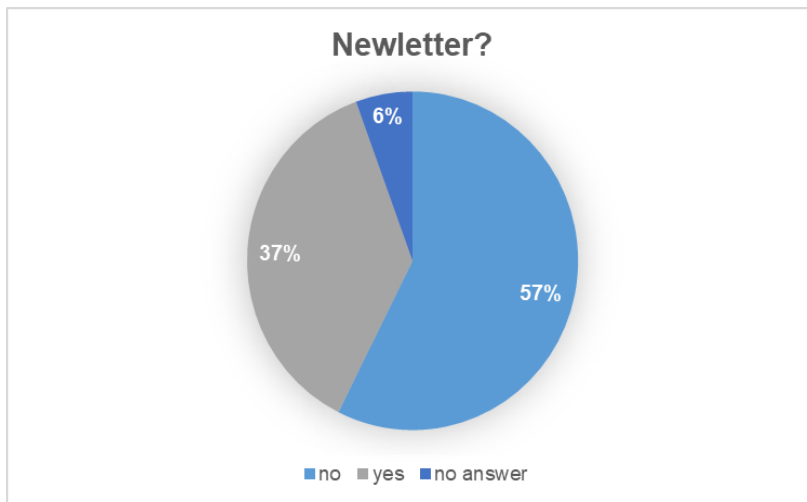
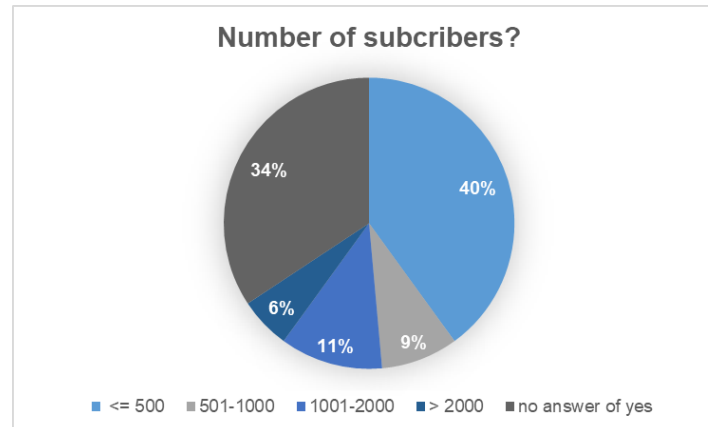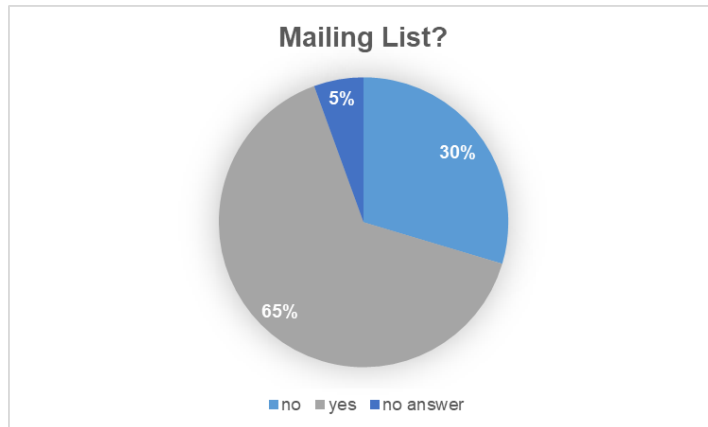## Are newsletters outdated? – Role of social media?

Do other media support exchange in a better way?

Example II: Mailing lists

Two check boxes were provided. Only one answer could be given. A text entry field was also provided for the option "Yes (number of subscribers")".

Respondents all together: 54

No answer to this question: 3 (Question „do you offer a Mailing list") / 12 (Question „If yes – how

many subscribers")

Mailing List?
- 5%
- 30%
- 65%
- no
- yes
- no answer

Number of subcribers?
- 34%
- 40%
- 6%
- 11%
- 9%
- <= 500
- 501-1000
- 1001-2000
- > 2000
- no answer of yes

Example II: Newsletter versus mailing list - subscribers

Range ▼	Newsletter ▼	Mailing List ▼
<= 500	10%	40%
501-1000	16%	9%
1001-2000	32%	11%
> 2000	16%	6%
no answer	26%	34%

![nestor logo]

Example II: Mailing lists

Four check boxes were provided. Only one answer could be given.

Respondents all together: 54

No answer to this question: 14

Number of posts

- <= 5 ■ 6-10 ■ 11-20 ■ > 20

52%
25%
8%
15%
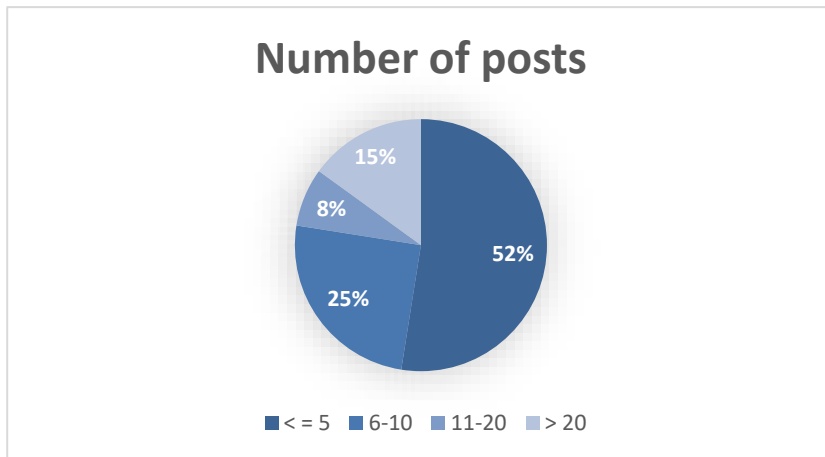
Many posts per month: 48 % and > 5

Example III: Social media

The answers possible were "Yes" and "No". For "Yes" answers, a sub-question ("Total number of followers") was provided along with an optional text entry field.
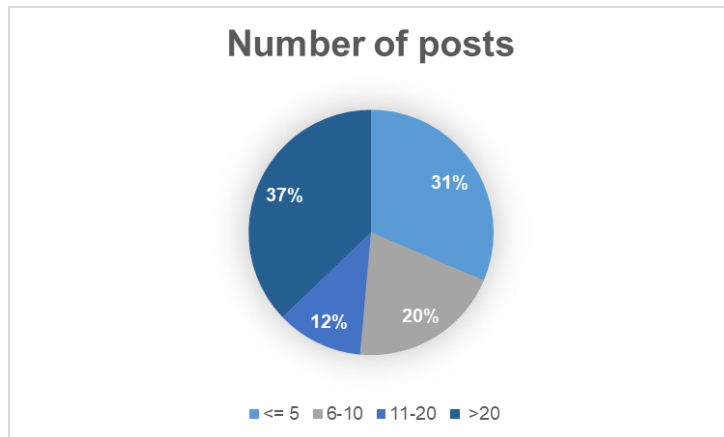
Respondents all together: 54

No answer to this question: 3 (question 1) / 4 (question 2)

Sites	Cases	% of answers
no	17	31,5%
yes	34	63,0%
no answer	3	5,6%

Followers	Cases	% of answers
<=100	2	5,9%
101-400	4	11,8%
401-1000	7	20,6%
> 1001	17	50,0%
no anwer or answer not usable	4	11,8%

- Question III: Social media versus mailing list

  - Number of posts in social media and mailing lists

  - A little more posts on social media compared to mailing lists

Social Media

Number of posts

31%
20%
12%
37%

■ <= 5 ■ 6-10 ■ 11-20 ■ >20

Mailing lists

Number of posts

15%
8%
25%
52%

■ < = 5 ■ 6-10 ■ 11-20 ■ > 20
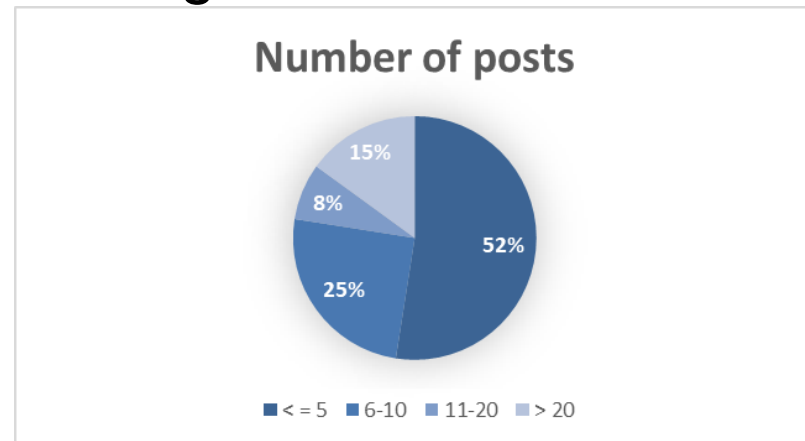
Example III: Wiki

Two check boxes were provided. Only one answer could be given.

A text entry field was also provided for the option "Yes (Number of users per Year)"

Respondents all together: 54

No answer to this question: 5

Shared Workplace	Numbers	% of answers
no	20	37,04%
yes	29	53,70%
no answer	5	9,26%

- Over 50 % - intensive use of collaborative tools

- Number of users per year not usable because of few responses and not comparable

nestor

Conclusion concerning collaboration and outreach

- collaboration with other communities is the rule and not the exception

- digital preservation communities have an impressive outreach considered their very special task

- choice of communication media and tools proves the intensive collaboration within the communities and with outsiders

- Future of the survey

    - repetitions of the survey every 3 – 5 years / next in 2023

    - survey, profiles and nestor-material are services of nestor for an international target group

    - marketing to augment the number of communities which participate in the (next) survey 2023

![nestor logo]

- Do you have questions?

- Do you have suggestions, hints, new ideas?

- Do you want to participate in the next survey?

- We will be happy about each mail you send to:

Svenia Pohlkamp   s.pohlkamp@dnb.de

Stefan Strathmann   strathmann@sub.uni-goettingen.de

Dr. Monika Zarnitz   m.zarnitz@zbw.eu

Copyright: The charming illustrations in this presentation have been created by Jørgen Stamp digitalbevaring.dk
CC BY 2.5 Denmark

Thank you very much.

Community Profiles see

https://www.langzeitarchivierung.de/communityprofiles

Data Analysis see

http://nbn-resolving.de/urn:nbn:de:0008-2022041204