



## MEMBERSHIP BROCHURE 2024

The OPF is a global not-for-profit membership organisation. We develop and maintain open source digital preservation software and supporting resources to provide long-term solutions to #digipres problems.

## INTRODUCTION

As a not-for-profit foundation, we rely on membership fees to develop our reference toolset and offer a diverse programme of activities to support your work. Becoming an OPF member not only gives you access to a range of benefits – it is a rewarding opportunity to make a positive contribution to the field.

By joining us, you are backing our efforts to develop open standards and software, helping to secure our continued position as a neutral and trustworthy body in the digital preservation landscape, and taking your place within a community that is committed to ensuring our global digital legacy.

Every member strengthens the Foundation's impact. Keep reading to see why you should join us today.



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# WELCOME TO OUR DIGITAL PRESERVATION COMMUNITY!

In an era defined by technological reliance and evolution and the exponential growth of digital content, the preservation of our digital assets is more important than ever.

Please allow us to introduce you to our membership program dedicated to the preservation and safeguarding of valuable digital assets – a community committed to securing the legacy of our digital world for generations.

### Why Digital Preservation Matters

The fragility of digital data poses significant challenges. Format obsolescence, technological decay, and the rapid pace of change threaten the longevity of this information, risking its loss for future understanding and appreciation.

### Our Commitment to Preservation

As an organisation dedicated to open source digital preservation, we understand the urgency and importance of addressing these challenges. We stand at the forefront of a global effort to develop strategies, share knowledge, and implement best practices to ensure the continued accessibility, integrity, and usability of digital assets.

### Your Role in Preserving Our Digital Legacy

As part of the digital preservation community, you'll be actively participating in the preservation of our collective digital assets. Your support and involvement contribute to the creation of a sustainable ecosystem where digital content remains accessible, discoverable, and usable for future generations.

### We work for you!

By joining the OPF, you have the opportunity to have your say on what we do and how we can support your digital preservation priorities.

Together, let's embark on a journey to safeguard our digital legacy. Join our membership program and be an integral part of a global movement committed to preserving and celebrating the richness of our digital heritage.

### Membership Benefits

By becoming a member of the Open Preservation Foundation, you join a network of individuals and organisations passionate about protecting our digital legacy. Here are some exclusive benefits our members enjoy:

- Connect and network with like-minded professionals, researchers, archivists, librarians, and individuals across diverse sectors interested in preserving digital information.
- Gain insights from experts in the field, access resources, and participate in workshops and training sessions focused on digital preservation strategies.
- Receive guidance and support in navigating the complexities of preserving digital assets, including best practices, standards, and technological advancements.
- Your priorities become our priorities. We put our members at the heart of what we do, and every decision we make is taken with your interests in mind. We will provide your organisation with the practical tools and resources you need, shine a light on your work, and provide access to an international and influential network.

## WHO IS THE OPEN PRESERVATION FOUNDATION?

**The OPF was established in 2010 to sustain the outcomes of an EU-funded research and development project called Planets.**

The primary goal for the Planets project was to build practical services and tools to help ensure long-term access to our digital cultural and scientific assets. As one of the first organisations of its kind, the Foundation's goal was to build on the project's collaborative, practical approach to advancing digital preservation.

Today, collaboration and sustainability remain at the heart of what we do. Our small team serves our members and the community by providing practical digital preservation solutions and facilitating best practice that supports enduring access to digital collections.

In 2014 Open Planets Foundation changed its name to the Open Preservation Foundation (OPF) to reflect our evolution and relevance within a growing field. The OPF operates as an independent, not-for-profit membership organisation, welcoming digital preservation practitioners from around the world to our open source community



*Team meeting, February 2024.  
JISC Offices, London.*

## NETWORKING

A space for you to learn and exchange knowledge.

### GET CONNECTED

OPF membership is open to any type and size of organisation that shares our vision of open, sustainable digital preservation. We work together to address and solve common issues and problems, our members come from libraries, archives, research institutions, government agencies, and vendors from across the globe.

We provide a space where you can learn from the experiences of others, exchange knowledge and best practices, and discover new partnerships for collaboration. By making members our key focus, we offer many opportunities to learn, debate, and connect with like-minded professionals. Engagement occurs at every level, from simply being part of our members mailing list, to joining one of our working groups or participating at the board level.

### BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN TECHNICAL PROVIDERS AND USERS

Our members include many national libraries and archives, leading university libraries, as well as commercial organisations offering digital preservation solutions. OPF can facilitate conversations and requirements sharing between technical providers and users.

### PUBLICITY AND PROMOTION

We are committed to showcasing the work of our members. When you join us, you can also advertise relevant jobs and events on our website and communications channels. Our vendor members enjoy opportunities to demonstrate what they do and connect with prospective users in ongoing initiatives.

## GOVERNANCE

We work for you! By joining the OPF, you have the opportunity to have your say on what we do and how we can support your digital preservation priorities.

### BE ELECTED TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Take advantage of your chance to make a positive difference whilst developing new skills. Our board represents the Foundation's membership and plays a vital role in making strategic decisions and monitoring ongoing activities.

### MEMBERSHIP TIERS

Gold Membership allows five votes and participants at the AGM, as well as priority eligibility for a staff member of your organisation to be appointed to the OPF board of directors.

Silver Membership allows your organisation to bring two participants to attend and vote at the AGM. If available, Silver Members can also be appointed to the board.

Bronze Membership provides space for one attendee and one vote at the AGM.

Our Technical Contributors are also provided one invitation to the AGM.

### AN INVITATION TO OUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

All members are invited to attend our Annual General Meeting (AGM) to evaluate our work from the past year, connect with other members, and influence our activities for the year ahead. As a member, the AGM is a valuable occasion to offer your feedback and vote in elections for the board, which provides strategic leadership for the Foundation.

### JOIN US FOR OUR OPF ADVISORY GROUP

This is a member-only forum to update you on our work and give you a greater say in the development of our tools, special interest groups, knowledge-sharing initiatives, and new projects. The Advisory Group (OAG) provides members with a chance to oversee the development plans for each of our open source products and ensure member requirements for bug fixes and new feature requests are prioritised.

## KNOWLEDGE

Knowledge sharing is an essential part of digital preservation, and we facilitate a range of services and activities which enable the dissemination of ideas, insights, and best practice throughout the community.

### WEBINAR ARCHIVE

Our popular webinar series features expert speakers and draws participants from around the world. We encourage all of our members to present their work as part of the series. Members have exclusive access to our webinar archive to watch these at their leisure, and we encourage them to request topics and share their own work.

### VIRTUAL PANEL DISCUSSIONS

We host online debates and discussions on the topics that matter to you. These are also opportunities for our members to show what they are working on. As members-only events, our virtual panels are an opportunity to share your experiences and learn from others in a learned, inclusive and collaborative environment.

### WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING

Our workshops run periodically throughout the year and provide practical training on our open source products.

### ADVANCE KNOWLEDGE

Members receive early booking opportunities for all of our events, including webinars, workshops, and training.

### INTEREST AND WORKING GROUPS

We facilitate a number of interest groups that meet regularly to discuss specific preservation challenges, whilst our working groups bring members together to undertake specialised projects.

### RESOURCES

We maintain a collection of valuable resources, including our webinar archive, slides from workshops and conference presentations, and data from our surveys. As an OPF member, you benefit from exclusive and unlimited access to this material, aiding knowledge-sharing within your institution.

## SUPPORT

Whether you are an experienced user, software vendor, or working with digital preservation environments for the first time, we are here to help.

### COMMISSION WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING

Whether you want one of our existing courses to be delivered in your institution, to design a bespoke course for your staff, or wish to commission a new educational resource based on our open source tools, we will work with you to ensure that your needs are met.

### ONLINE OR FACE-TO-FACE CONSULTATION

In addition to our technical expertise, the OPF team offers extensive experience in project management, event planning, marketing and social media. Gold members are eligible to claim up to one day per month of consultancy.

### USE OF OPF TOOL WEB DEMONSTRATOR

Try out OPF products online, without the need to download and install the software.

### HELP TO ADOPT OUR OPEN SOURCE TOOLS

We help our vendor members with integrating OPF products into their solutions, which are used by their clients, our members, and the wider digital preservation community. Any issues raised by members are our priority. We can also offer support interpreting the results from our products.

### TECH CLINIC

As one of the only organisations of our kind with dedicated technical staff and in-house resources, our monthly tech clinic provides members with personalised, practical support. We offer help using OPF products, implementing new systems, and understanding open source requirements and best practice.

All membership levels can book our tech clinics (bronze members as available), access our web demonstrators and have priority to request bug fixes. Gold members can request bespoke workshops and training

# IMPACT

Our mission builds upon the principles of collaboration and sustainability. Our community begins with OPF members and expands to involve people around the world.



OPF past projects

## TOGETHER, OUR MEMBERS HAVE A UNITED AND RESPECTED VOICE

We believe that organisations across the globe can benefit from working collaboratively to develop shared standards and solutions. Our membership comprises institutions from around the world, charting the course for continued advancement of digital preservation.

All members can receive consultation and feedback opportunities for funded projects, are eligible for support in collaborative initiatives, and have access to influential project networks. Priority consultation and steering opportunities for funded projects is available to gold members, and silver members as available.

## BE AT THE FOREFRONT OF DIGITAL PRESERVATION

OPF participates in a select number of funded projects and initiatives that align with our strategic goals and that reflect the needs of our members. Members are invited to consult on progress throughout the lifetime of a project. We are also happy to facilitate collaborative initiatives among our members.

# WHY JOIN?

**OPF membership puts you in a position to influence the direction of the Foundation.**

### Make your mark on the future of digital preservation

The OPF membership is diverse. This allows for knowledge exchange opportunities and collaboration with an influential network of global like-minded practitioners in memory institutions. Our members play a leading role in the development of the industry, promoting growth and innovation by ensuring that our work is aligned with the community's priorities.

### Get and lend support in a tricky, developing landscape

Digital preservation is constantly evolving: there are always new challenges and something new to learn. Our global membership brings people together to establish and enhance best practice. OPF membership is a valuable way to meaningfully enrich knowledge and contribute to the creation of new resources for everyone.

### Ensure the best possible support for the software you depend on

The products in our reference toolset are available under open source licences, meaning that they are free to download, use, and modify to meet your needs. Our products are relied upon by thousands of users worldwide, but resources are limited and every member helps us to expand and improve our reference toolset for all. Membership fees go towards the costs of hosting, development effort, community building and the creation of documentation, user guides, and training materials for our products.

### Accomplish more in an inclusive and welcoming environment

We foster an environment that enables our members to empower one another by sharing their experiences and lessons learned. Be it a recent success, an obstacle you are facing, or how you are working to overcome a particular challenge, our collaborative and inclusive membership is a place to learn and enhance your own practice. The growth of our membership means we can fund new resources, offer greater opportunities for collaboration, and stronger, more sustainable solutions to prevalent challenges.

*our board alone has nearly a century of digital preservation experience,*



*Collectively, our members store over 8 PB of data in over 1,300 different digital file formats.*

# HOW TO JOIN

We offer four different membership options, each one providing varying levels of support and different opportunities to get involved.

<b>Bronze</b> < £10m*	<b>Silver</b> £10m – £50m*	<b>Gold</b> >£50m*
<b>£2,500 per year</b>	<b>£5,000 per year</b>	<b>£10,000 per year</b>

\* Recommended level of membership based on your organisation's annual operating budget.

## Individual Associate Membership

Our new Individual Associate Membership option is tailored specifically to contractors and consultants. As the field evolves, we believe that the specialised skills and dedication that individual contractors can bring to the table, make a significant impact on the future of digital preservation.

## Technical contributors

Our technical contributor members help support our work, providing time and resources in lieu of a membership fee. This can be providing development effort for our reference toolset, supporting new product development, and hosting workshops on open source tools that are used by our members.

## Multi-year discount

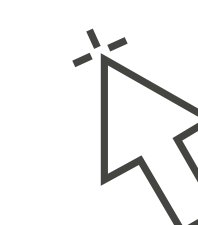
We offer a discount for multi-year membership applications: 5% discount for a two-year commitment and a 10% discount for a three-year commitment.

Donations to our work are always welcome, and accepted in multiple currencies on our website.

**APPLY**



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