

## WHAT IS RecordIM ?

R. Letellier

International Coordinator RecordIM Initiative and Vice-President CIPA Heritage Documentation  
Letellier.R@Sympatico.ca

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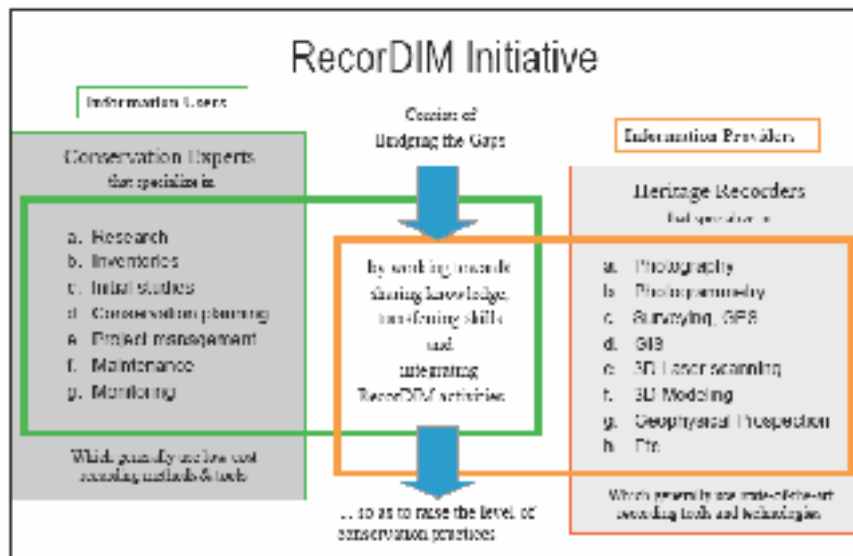
### ABSTRACT

An Overview of the RecordIM Initiative.

In broad terms, the RecordIM Initiative can be defined as: *an international 5-year (2002-07) partnership (or goodwill alliance) between international heritage conservation organizations working together to bridge the gaps that currently exist between the information users ( conservation specialists of all trades, project managers, planners etc.) and the information providers (photographers, heritage recorders, photogrammetrists, surveyors, etc.).*

It can also be described as: *a window of opportunity for conservation specialists at large, to address concerns and needs relating to the activities of Recording, Documentation and Information Management (RecordIM)(see list of needs that resulted from the RecordIM Roundtable-1 meeting, which are provided on pages 9-11 of the report entitled 'Bridging the gap between the Information User and Provider' at: <http://extranet.getty.edu/gci/recordim/reports.html> ).*

It should be mentioned that RecordIM is not an organization, but a 5-year initiative providing a platform for all that are interested in bringing conservation practices to another level of standards.



RecordIM VISION (which was presented during the Potsdam CIPA Symposium in 2001)

### 1. RecordIM APPROACH

RecordIM activities are largely based on self-motivation in that generally those creating a RecordIM task group do it to resolve a gap that exists within their own organization / country. This motivation grows with the understanding that task groups will get input from the other RecordIM Partners (now approximately 20) that represent organizations with similar needs, but from different countries with complementary experiences. One of the task groups rewards is to see their joint efforts / results posted on the web, under a common RecordIM Framework (see Matrix of Task Groups hereafter), for the benefit of conservation practitioners worldwide.

RecordIM task groups engage in bridging gaps at the outset, as each task group chair MUST develop his / her proposal in partnership with two other organizations respectively representing the Information User and the Information Provider. The fact that the three organizations steering each task group come from different countries, ensures that dialog and

interaction takes place at an international level of experiences, knowledge and needs.

RecordIM's potential and sustainability lies largely on the goodwill alliances that are established between Partners that agree to share knowledge, skills, information and networks.

RecordIM activities and interactions are facilitated by the Task Group 'Alliance Hub' described hereafter.

### 2. TASK GROUP 'ALLIANCE HUB'

During the second half of 2003, in response to the RecordIM meetings that took place in Austria, Turkey, Zimbabwe and Sri Lanka, more than 15 new task group proposals were initiated (see **Task Group Delivery Table** in appendix A hereafter). To facilitate the coordination of new task groups in the making, the RecordIM

site (<http://extranet.getty.edu/gci/recordim/index.html> ) was re-organized in early 2005 to provide RecordIM Partners and

Potential Partners with **New Tools** to help with the creation and operations of Task Groups. For example:

- the RecorderDIM web page entitled '**Task Groups**' now provides procedures to help conservation organizations to define and implement new task groups:
  - its sub-section '**Operational Framework**', provides guidelines and task group examples;
  - its sub-section '**Seeking Alliances**', introduces the '**Alliance Hub**' (or *meeting place*) specially designed for task group Chairs to seek support from User and Provider organizations that wish to input / participate to task group activities.
- The new Alliance Hub web page now provides two new matrices that allow to see at a glance who is doing what in terms of creating / chairing task groups;
  - its sub-section '**Task Groups Delivery Table**' provides a chronological list of on-going and new RecorderDIM Task Groups with the names of Chairs. It also provides target dates for reviewing progress and publishing results. This list is updated yearly.
  - its sub-section '**Matrix of Task Groups**' (appendix B) provides an overview of the

GAPs being addressed, and by whom (see interactive web page at: [http://extranet.getty.edu/gci/recordim/hub\\_sub.html%2310](http://extranet.getty.edu/gci/recordim/hub_sub.html%2310) ). This Matrix is also meant to be a 'tool' for conservation organizations / specialists worldwide, to highlight areas / subjects that still need to be addressed, thus inciting conservation organizations to create new task groups.

- Finally, the web page entitled '**Info Warehouse**' (currently in development) provides those interested in creating RecorderDIM Task Groups with knowledge of existing web pages that relate to RecorderDIM principles, practices, tools and technologies. This warehouse can be described as an open-ended collection of web links. This interactive collection of information will grow with the motivation / generosity of those interested in sharing RecorderDIM related data.

The above-mentioned web pages were discussed during the RecorderDIM Partners 2005 Meeting (Paris, France – May 8-10, 2005) and will be refined during the course of 2005 to make this web presence - <http://extranet.getty.edu/gci/recordim/> - become a **Worldwide RecorderDIM Task Group "Alliance Hub"**.





