MICHAEL

MICHAEL is a ground-breaking project that aims to open up worldwide access to the European cultural heritage. The project is supported by the European Commission with funding through eTen programme, which is dedicated to the deployment of new technologies in Europe.

MICHAEL aims to provide simple and quick access to the digital collections of museums, libraries and archives from different European countries. Work began in June 2004, with the focus on implementing an innovative multi-lingual open source platform that will be equipped with a search engine. By 2007, the MICHAEL platform will be capable of retrieving digital collections that are dispersed across Europe. There will be many uses for MICHAEL, for example students and researchers will be able to discover information about European collections that might previously have been difficult to find. The services will also support cultural tourism, the creative industries and other interests.

The project consortium includes members from Belgium, Bulgaria, Estonia, the Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Malta, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom with representatives from public authorities, research institutions and private companies."

http://www.michael-culture.org