

# Digital Roadmap

of the National Library of France

*"The strength of the BnF lies in its harmony between knowledge and lightness of touch, that makes knowledge accessible to all!"*

Laurence Engel, President of the National Library of France (BnF), April 27<sup>th</sup> 2020

This quite unusual map was made possible through collective thinking about digital technologies and uses at the National Library of France. It follows two previous editions of the Institution's Digital roadmap, which also aimed to visualise the strategic areas, the patterns, the distances, and the paths within the digital landscape of the Library and of its whole ecosystem.

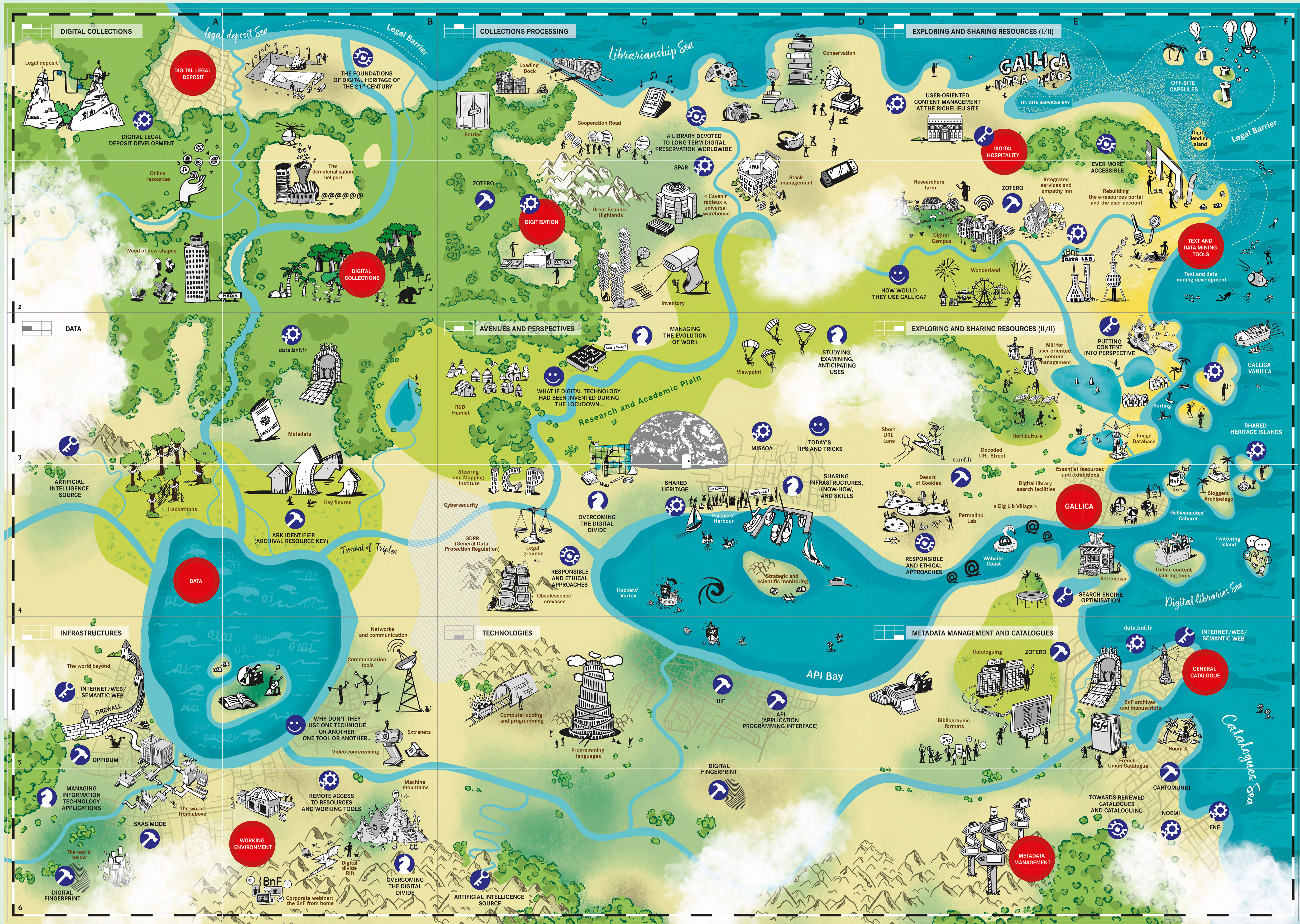
This time, metaphor is used to bring humanity and poetry, to enable a common understanding of a complex subject and to promote the Library's vision for the future. This document, drawing its inspiration from the Library's collections of maps and plans which it will in its turn enrich, is a chance for you, Library staff, professionals from other organizations, partners, contractors, for all of you wherever you come from, to experience and truly explore its landscape.

The "digital world" which is thus unveiled in autumn 2020 is being released during an era – the global health crisis – that, in many respects, has upset the way we use and manage digital technologies. Adapting virtual content for different types of audience is more essential than ever, just like providing user-oriented and customized public services or remote working. Moreover, the digital divide has never been so relevant. The Digital roadmap takes into account these challenges within a renewed perspective, but it also suggests how valuable it can be for an institution to maintain a permanent, transversal and long-lasting critical reflection, enabling it to enrich its strategy and vision, and, above all, to face the most uncommon and unexpected situations. In this way, the digital working environment – of the staff as well as of the users – was identified long before March 2020 as a key field for changes to be initiated. This map is grounded on a strong base – including regions and geographic features, that echo the Library's missions. Since the Library's collective thinking about digital technologies and uses is bound to go on and because what we have learned from the health crisis will become clearer, it has also been designed to evolve over future editions. If you look closely, you will see the cartographers at work.

(BnF) Bibliothèque nationale de France

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<https://www.bnf.fr/en/digital-roadmap>



## Legend

This map consists of eight large regions, one of them being double: "digital collections", "data", "infrastructures", "collections processing", "avenues and perspectives", "technologies", "exploring and sharing resources" (double region), "metadata management and catalogues".

It is supplemented by forty fact sheets indicated by blue pictograms which provide short syntheses, links and contacts for anyone looking for more information.

Fact sheet

Digital roadmap highlight

Collections Forest

Research and Academic Plain

Knowledge Ocean, bordered by several seas: Legal deposit Sea Librarianship Sea Catalogues Sea Digital libraries Sea

Data Lake

Data rivers

Terra incognita

High security zone

Keyword

- Putting content into perspective [F3]
- Digital hospitality [E1]
- Artificial intelligence [A3, C4]
- Internet / web / semantic web [A4, F5]
- Search engine optimisation (SEO) [E4]

Strategy

- Overcoming the digital divide [B6, C4]
- Studying, examining, anticipating uses [D3]
- Managing the evolution of work [C3]
- Sharing infrastructures, know-how, and skills [D4]
- Managing information technology applications [A6]

Vision

- A library devoted to long-term digital preservation worldwide [D1]
- Towards renewed catalogues and cataloguing [F6]
- The foundations of digital heritage in the 21<sup>st</sup> century [B1]
- Responsible and ethical approaches [C4, E4]
- Ever more accessible [F1]

Building works

- Remote access to resources and working tools [B6]
- BnF Data Lab [E2]
- data.bnf.fr [B3, F3]
- Digital legal deposit development [A1]
- French national entities file (FNE) [F6]
- Gallica vanilla [F3]
- User-oriented content management at the Richelieu site [E1]
- MISAOA (shared and innovative collection, preservation and dissemination of audio-visual heritage) [D3]
- NOEMI (WEMIL - Works, Expressions, Manifestations and Items Linking) [F6]
- Digitisation [C2]
- Shared heritage [D4, F3]
- SPAR (Scalable Preservation and Archiving Repository) [D2]

Tool

- API - Application programming interface [D5]
- CartoMundi [F6]
- data.bnf.fr [A4]
- Digital fingerprint [A6, D6]
- IIF [D5]
- ARK Identifier (Archival Resource Key) [B4]
- SaaS mode [A6]
- Oppidum [A5]
- Zotero [C2, E2, E5]

Where Am I?

- How would they use Gallica? [E2]
- What if digital technology had been invented during the lockdown... [C3]
- Why don't they use one technique or another, one tool or another... [B5]
- Today's tips and tricks [D3]