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Information Technology in the History of Geology: the First Russian Experience

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The Department for the History of Geology (DHG) of the Vernadsky State Geological Museum - is the single unit of the Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS), обладающая уникальным информационным ресурсом в области наук о Земле. To store data the digitalization has begun since 2007. The main goal is to create the content for the information technology (IT) platforms. The Department for the History of Geology has now two projects.

1. Digital Library **Russian Scientific Heritage** (DL) - is the Program of the RAS which includes information resources of libraries, archives, scientific institutions. DL has to provide efficient searching and retrieval; easy access to the federated information resources stored in data repositories; publishing and printing.

Main goals

- Archiving, preservation, creating, maintaining of libraries collections
- Bridging research and education
- Contributing in Worldwide efforts towards making knowledge free

Partners (RAS)

- Institutions
- Libraries (Natural Science Library Social Sciences Library)
- Archives
- Museums

Information resources

- Books & papers
- Manuscripts, historic and documentary materials
- Photos, musical scores, printed arts
- Cartographic information editions and maps
- Museum collections

Vernadsky Geological Museum has joined DL in 2008 to provide information on geosciences. DHG compile information blocks and place books and periodicals (libraries of the Museum and DHG) in DL. There are about 3 000 authors in the list now.

Block 'Person'

- short information
- biography with a list of main works; photo; digital publications (papers, monographs)
- archive data
- museum collections, specimens

More than 12 000 publications are digitalized. The leaders are Religion (appr. 1900), Philosophy (appr. 1600), Geology & Mining (appr. 950).

2. Data Base **History of Geology & Mining** (DB) is the research project of DHG since 2010. Funds of the DHG, archives, libraries, and Internet-resources are the main sources for the DB.

Goals

- Storage of data on the history of geology & mining
- Free access to the information
- Research work (search on request)

Structure

- Persons (geoscientists): short data (including institutions, scientific degrees, awards, fields of interests, and exploration regions), biographies, full lists of works (with references to digital publications), photo-gallery, documents, correspondence
- Scientific institutions (briefly; and the history, and awards)
- Publishers (short information)

Search

- Personal (multi-search)
- Institutions
- Photos
- Publishers

Two Projects have the same information system platform. The integration has begun. The resources are available through the DHG page: URL: <http://www.sgm.ru/254/>

Literature

- Digital Library *Russian Scientific Heritage*: URL: <http://nasledie.enip.ras.ru/index.html> (free access)
- Data Base **History of Geology & Mining**: URL: <http://scirus.benran.ru/higeo/>
(login - guest, password_ _ _ _ _)