Investing in Open-Source
Community Level Strategies for Developing Sustainable Software

MICRO LOCAL
- Software development best practices: specs, design, tests, issues, documentation (The Joel Test).
- Develop in the open (e.g., posting work on public source code management systems like GitHub).
- Solutions that address local needs, but built for potential wider adoption.
- Standards based (e.g., W3C, open formats).
- Don’t hack, extend.
- Open-source as a platform for experimentation and innovation.

MID INSTITUTIONAL
- Promoting reuse and sharing of knowledge, code, and solutions between units and campuses.
- Positioning open source as shared infrastructure.
- Promoting the benefits of open-source software to key decision makers.
- Open-source as a preservation strategy and educational methodology.

MACRO COMMUNITY
- Active participation in open-source communities (e.g., Islandora).
- Institutional support of open-source foundations.
- Prioritizing issues and other contributions from the macro community within the local needs and scope.
- Provide support and training time as needed.
- Thought leadership and visibility: conferences, presentations, articles.