## SUMMARY

All digital conversion projects start out with the aim of keeping a fund or collection of images alive and in use, but the effort taken to adapt the image is not always that simple. The new digital universe is directly affected by the instability of rapidly evolving technology.

As a result, many international institutions are developing methods that facilitate adaptation projects, and guarantee their adjustment to new criteria.

From this starting point we work in two directions: searching for suitable methods to codify photographs created using analogue technology, and adapting methods of organisation, control, and management to new uses.

Thus we have arrived at the conclusion that data compiled using control methods combined with flexible planning can provide a method of following the slipstream of new technology.

Technological evolution is a double-edged sword: it offers a certain instability on one side, and the creation of resources and tools that allow us keep up with the flow of the digital era on the other.

As regards photographic archives and collections, implementing systems of quality control in the digital conversion chain appears to be a positive step. Up until recently these systems required a major investment and were impractical for most institutions. Currently the creation of computer applications that measure the response of our digital capturing systems, together with simple methods of analysis, are very accessible, and they are tools that give us the information we need to create adaptation formulas and to provide information that helps us obtain the best results we can from the digital codification process.

These methods are based on an analysis of colour and tone reproduction and the real definition that a digital conversion system offers, based on a specific type of original photograph.

Having overcome the initial limitations of digitalisation systems in terms of technical quality, the time has come for us to make the most of these resources to guarantee the survival of our visual heritage.