



Nationaal Archief  
*Ministerie van Onderwijs, Cultuur en  
Wetenschap*

# Open data at the National Archives of The Netherlands

Martin Berendse  
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## Mission NAneth:

- *support everyone's right to information and*
- *enhance understanding of our nation's past*

## Evolution in realizing this mission:

*from: 'public, unless.....'*

*to 'open data, unless.....'*



## Open Data at NAneth:

**Large part (digital) collection accessible/available as open data:**

98% (6400) of inventories	[100 % digital]
50% (500.000) of scans	[0,001 % digital] *)
88% (1.350.000 records) of indexes	[100 % digital]
100% (6200) of digitized maps	[0,2 % digital] *)
25% (250.000) of digitized photographs	[7% digital] *)

**www.gahetna.nl: 1 – 1.2 million unique visitors per year**

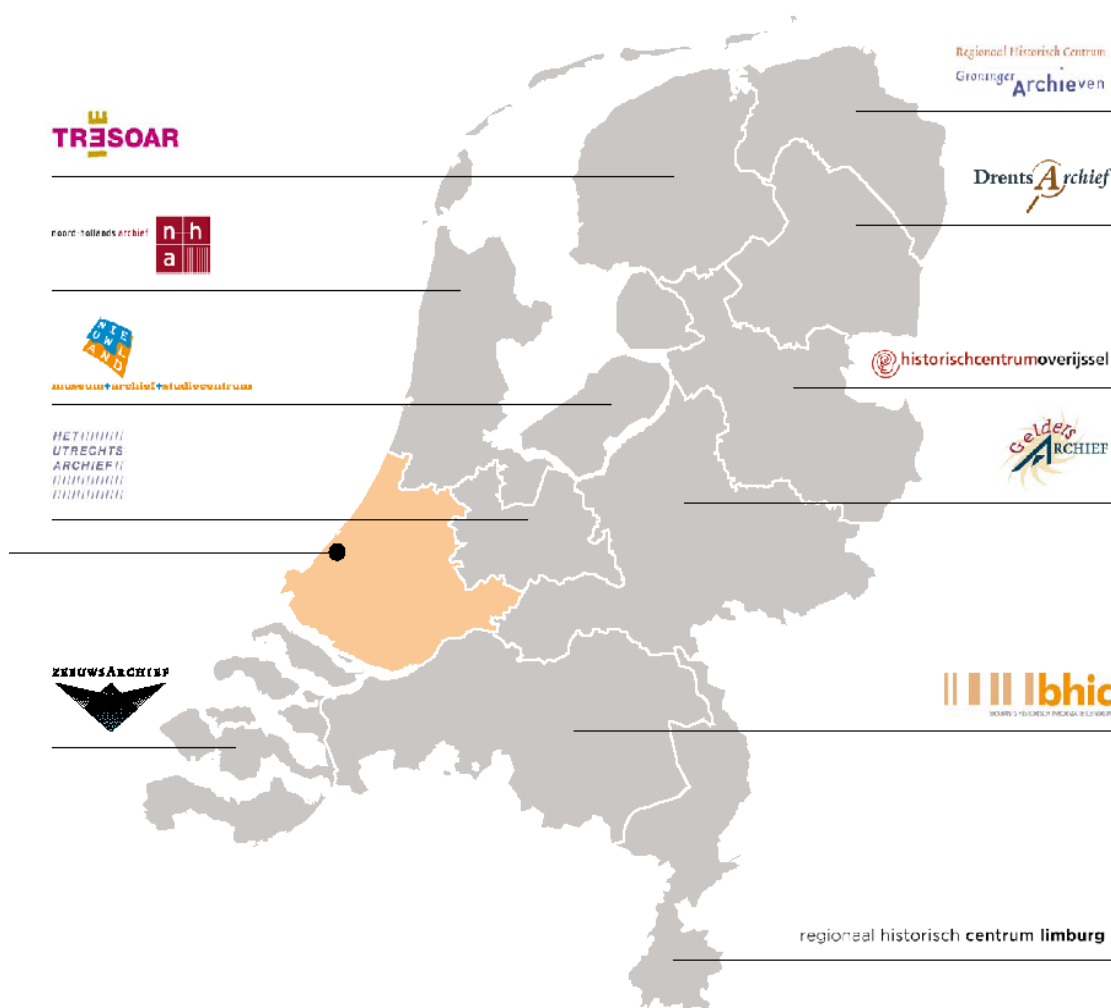
**Open data experiments through (inter)national platforms**



## \* ) 10 % digitization programme 2014-2028

- + € 15 mln/year
- NANeth/RHC (11 regions)
- digitization 10 % holdings
- digital infrastructure

**na**  
nationaal archief





# Obstacles

## **Contradictory policy framework:**

Profitable exploitation of collection      vs.  
EU Directive on re-use of PSI (2012)

## **Measuring success:**

Physical/digital visitors to the NA      vs.  
Sharing content on other platforms

## **Copyrights:**

Traditional laws & 'all rights reserved'      vs.  
Sharing & (re-)use of knowledge

*and.....*



# Preconditions

## Policy framework

- Clear decision in favour of open data at the top
- In meantime: start experimenting bottom up

## Copyrights

- Having the copyrights (third parties, privacy, portret rights etc.)
- Applying Open Licenses such as Creative Commons

## Technology

- Use of Open Standards and Open Formats to enable exchange
- Also needed for participation in Europeana and APEX
- **Challenge:** connecting national (heritage) sector in one architecture







## Examples of activities NAneth (2)

### Flickr the Commons (2008-...):

- Sharing photographs
- Users tag and comment on pictures
- Visibility & re-use NA collection
- Improve data disclosure on NA website

### Europeana / APEX:

- Active participant in Europeana and APEX
- Helps overcome technological obstacles







# Wikipedian in Residence at NA/KB (1)

- Linking pin between collections and their reuse on Wikipedia
- Builds knowledge & awareness within NA / KB through workshops, writing days, contests

## **Added value Wikipedia:**

- 500 million unique visitors a month
- 93% Dutch population knows Wikipedia (6% websites NA/KB)
- Exposure: raises renewed interest for collections
- Lead new (digital) visitors to the NA
- Low maintenance: NA/KB release content, rest is up to volunteers



# Wikipedian in Residence at NA/KB (results)

## **Visibility and re-usability of NA content**

- 428 Wikipedia links to NA services lead to 7.910 [new] visitors
- 15.553 NA images on Wikimedia Commons
- 7.296 NA images in 20.458 Wikipedia articles, 100 million visitors in 4 months

## **Improvement of Wikipedia articles**

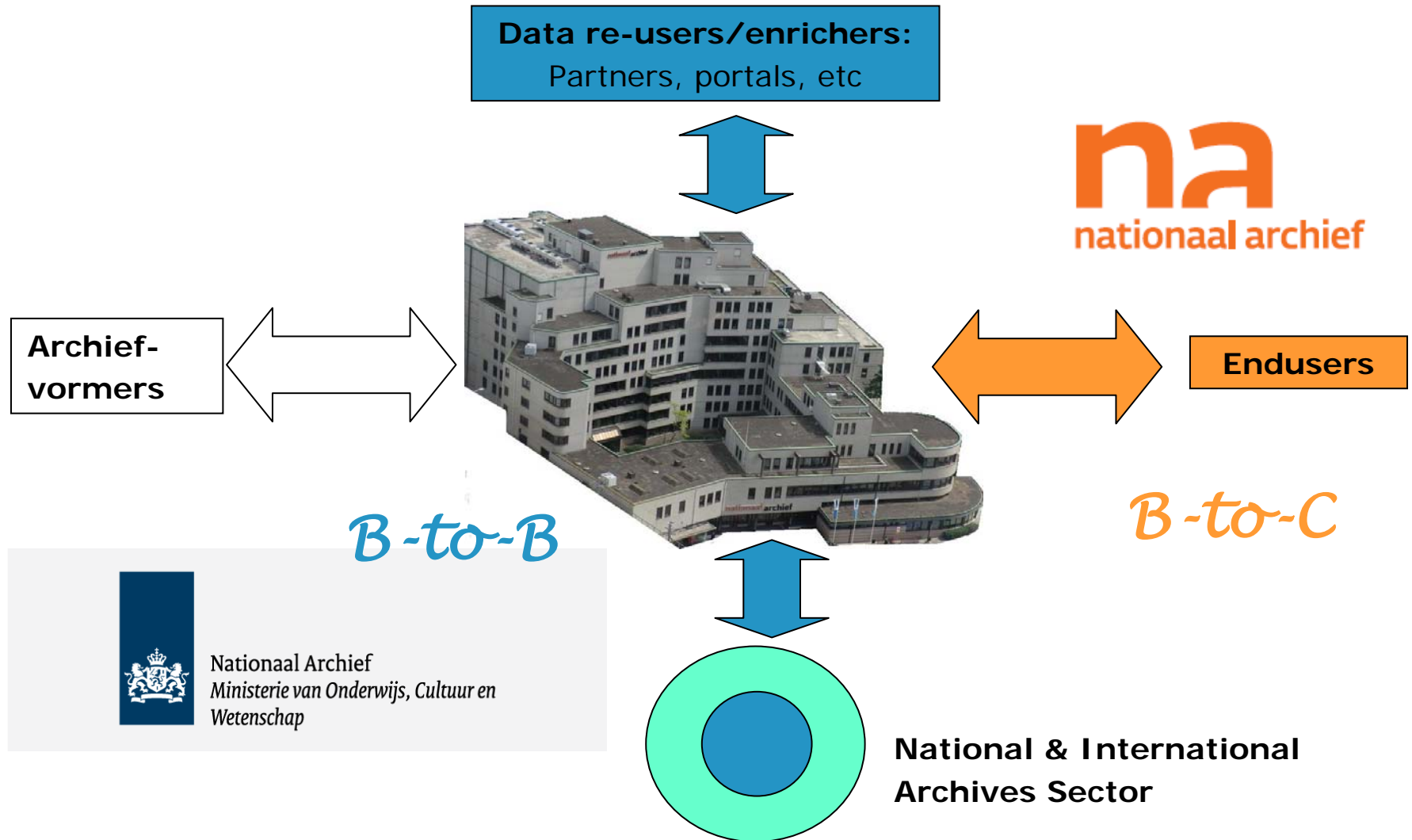
- Improved knowledge of Wikipedia at NA
- 434 improvements to Wikipedia articles by NA employees
- Promotion further re-use NA open data among Wikipedia writers

## **Improved relations with the Wiki-community & familiarity with NA as content supplier**

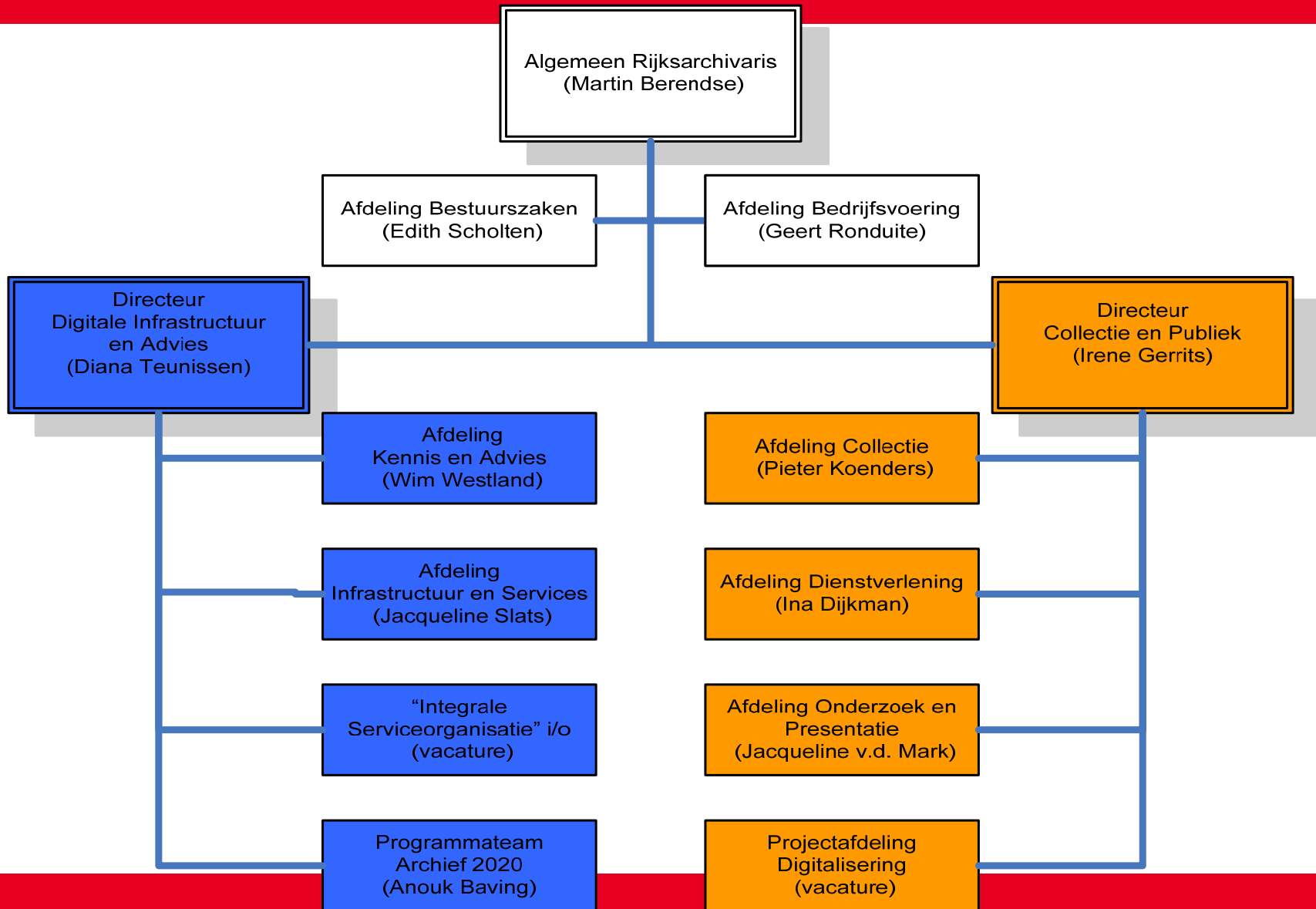
### **Spin off effects:**

- Requests to re-use images found on Wikipedia in newspaper articles etc.
- (Re)discovery NA collections beyond Dutch borders (Poland, Iceland etc.)

# New business model



# New structure



Thank you all for your cooperation  
and inspiration, see you in :

