Museums in the international information infrastructure.

Do we know what will happen? And what are we going to do?
Museums in the international information infrastructure.

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Making cultural heritage accessible

- Digital infrastructures and
- New competencies for museum professionals
Making cultural heritage accessible

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2 core ideas on what is going to happen

Positioning & networking the museum branding, strategy

Digital infrastructure
The Dutch methodology
Two beliefs on what is going to happen

1. **Connected information – and a contextual solution to questions.**
   - Not data in itself.
   - And certainly not confined to cultural heritage

**Way beyond getting heritage data to the web**
Where it started: Naturalis 2000 ... a slow, long, long time ago
Oud-Hollandse aardappelsoep
Ingrediënten:
50g boter
1 ui
2 preien
½ selderieknol
1 winterwortel
750g aardappelen
1 ½ l bouillon
1 laurierblaadje
250g cervelaatworst
1 dl koffieroom
3 eetlepels gehakte peterselie
Free access for new products & services
Two beliefs on what is going to happen

1. Connected information – and a contextual solution to questions.

2. Museums will be positioned into knowledge-networks
   - Museums & heritage institutes do have broad, generic, contextual information
   - There is a need for a generic digital infrastructure, to be shared with everyone
starting from

“A heritage institution”

we move towards

“A heritage institution with a network”

to becoming a

“A network with a heritage institution”
Positioning
Positioning in knowledge domains
Think networks & grids

Connecting disciplines & institutions

Pro-active networking museums, heritage institutions, professionals, amateurs ....
Think networks & grids

Professional-Amateur (Pro-Am) network of thesauri & databases

Grid
decentralized, open standards
Think networks & grids

Connecting

Connecting

Connecting

Connecting
Digital infrastructure needed

The essential role of a thesaurus
Core idea

User interfaces

Connectivity layer

Data

Network of terms

Thesauri

Toolsets

Agreements & arrangements

GIS
Core idea

Gebruikersinterfaces

Referentielaag
Metadata in thesauri

Datalaag

Externe databases
The Dutch Infrastructure

- The Digital Heritage Network is an open partnership that focuses on developing a system of national facilities and services for improving the visibility, usability, and sustainability of digital heritage.

- The network was established on the initiative of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science.

- The members of the NDE are large, national institutions:
  - the National Library
  - The Netherlands Institute for Sound and Vision
  - the Netherlands Cultural Heritage Agency
  - the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences
  - the National Archive
  - the DEN Foundation
  - a growing number of associations and individuals both within and outside the heritage sector

- National Institutes => hubs
- Organized along knowledge domains
- Join forces – relieve the burden for small institutions
- Network Digital Heritage steering committee
Cultural Heritage Thesaurus – a network of terms and thesauri - as a central facility
Archis3, an archaeological system
for companies, the agency and regional and local governments
ArchiS3, an archaeological system for companies, the agency and regional and local governments
Archis3, an archaeological system
& used for amateur archaeologists in their own, derived system for finds
State monuments
free, open data
Network of war datasets
Determination tools

Use of thesauri
Pro’s & contra’s of the Dutch top-down process

- The Dutch approach is very promising – the cooperative network and state support heart-warming
- Copying is easy; the thesauri & system can be shared across borders of language and nations

although

- It is a unbelievable, sticky, real slow process
- There is a strong central (state)power needed – and leading directors
- Quite complicated technical knowledge needed within the leading central hubs
  - Risk of IT take-over
- It needs the cooperation of (some) companies in collection registration software
So …
if there is no central initiative ~ and you are on your own?

Connect
○ Join if you have collections in which there is already a strong cooperative network in NL
  ○ Religion
  ○ World War 2
  ○ Archaeology
  ○ ..
○ Copycat the methodology and start your own network

Think bottom-up
○ Start with an initiative within your network & copy / use the Dutch innovations you like / could use
○ Do look for new start-ups / software companies who do have (open, proven) technology
Bottom-up methodology (almost) market-ready

Generate thesaurus from data

Modelling your data

Import Excel datasets

Database / dataset
Semantic organization
Bottom-up methodology (almost) market-ready
Bottom-up methodology (almost) market-ready
Co-creation
To summarize
We started scratching the surface of a new **era of co-creation and connectedness**
- all-connected information – heritage & non-heritage
- easy, modular and open software
- networks of organizations & people

**Opportunities for museums & heritage agencies**
- in the short term this will open up opportunities to enhance the role and position of museums.
- in the long term it will even be needed if museums want to keep (or regain) a position of intellectual significance

**The competitive edge**
- a (semantic & GIS-based) digital infrastructure
- a network of co-creators within (knowledge) domains
- a close relationship with software companies – working in the open,

**Have a look at the Dutch infrastructural set-up** – and copycat / join whenever you can

**Go for it ..... way beyond ‘just’ getting our data to the web**
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Klik om stijl te bewerken