WHAT COLLABORATION CAN DO FOR RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

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Summary

• e-Infrastructure governance is a complex matter
  • Many stakeholders
  • High upfront investments cost
  • Large spill-over effects
  • Dynamic nature and many interdependencies

• e-Infrastructure commons is an organisational rather than technical challenge

• No lack of vision, see: Riding the Wave (2010) GEANT2020 (2011) and the e-IRG 2013 White Paper

• Needed: leadership, coordination and collaboration
Overview

• I will focus on the situation in The Netherlands

• Overview of NL’s e-infrastructure landscape evolution

• Restructuring SURF

• Evaluation on where we stand now
Landscape in the 60’s and 70’s

• Information monopoly for libraries
• Communication monopoly for analog telephone services
• Creation of computer centres
• Emerging Coordination
Landscape in the 80’s

• Awareness of importance of IT
• 1984 Government Informatics Stimulation Plan
• Emerging Collaboration
• 1987 Formation of SURF
Landscape in the 90’s

• Awareness of essential role of IT for economy

• Creation of NCF, National Computer Facility

• 1997 Parliament motion to fund Knowledge Infrastructure programmes

• Dot-com boom
The GigaPort projects: engines for innovation

Innovation in applications

ICT-applications

Generic application services

Network infrastructure

Research

Pilots

Market

GigaPort projects

Effects on research

Effects on innovation

Effects on telecoms market

Primary effects

Secondary effects

Innovation in markets

SURFnet - We make innovation work
Landscape in the 00’s

- Dot-com crash

- 2005 DANS, 2008 3TU-Datacentrum

- 2008 ICTRegie recommendations
  - Leading role for SURF
  - Structural funding for national e-infrastructure
  - Create e-Science Center
  - Develop key position in international cooperation
Landscape in the 10’s

• Economic crises

• 2011 Creation of NL e-Science Center, Termination of NCF

• 2013 Merger SURF and SARA
  RDNL, Research Data Netherlands

• 2014 Restructuring SURF
SURF Cooperative

- SURF-bureau acts as holding organisation
- Continue model of insourcing
- Services and innovation programmes are carried out by the operating companies
- Core business = providing a national advanced and federated e-infrastructure for research and education
Old organisation structure

NWO

CoR

Board

STC

RES

EDU

BA

SURF

SURF center

SURF SARA

SURF NET

SURF MARKET

Vancis
New organisation structure as of 28 January 2015: SURF as cooperative
SURF 2.0

- More transparent and streamlined governance structure
- Increased sense of ownership and control for member institutions
- Better fitted for insourcing
- Reinforced managerial involvement
- Core business remains providing a national infrastructure for research and education
Financing policy for the e-infrastructures

- Cooperation from contribution member institutions
- Innovation funding from government and institutions
- Services paid by users
- NLeSC: Funded by SURF and NWO
Status NL e-infrastructure commons

- In good shape, but still work in progress:
- Improve involvement of all stakeholders
- Speak with one voice towards funders
- Strengthen role SURF as national umbrella
- Enable users to play a more prominent role
NL: Digital gateway to Europa

Thank you for your attention