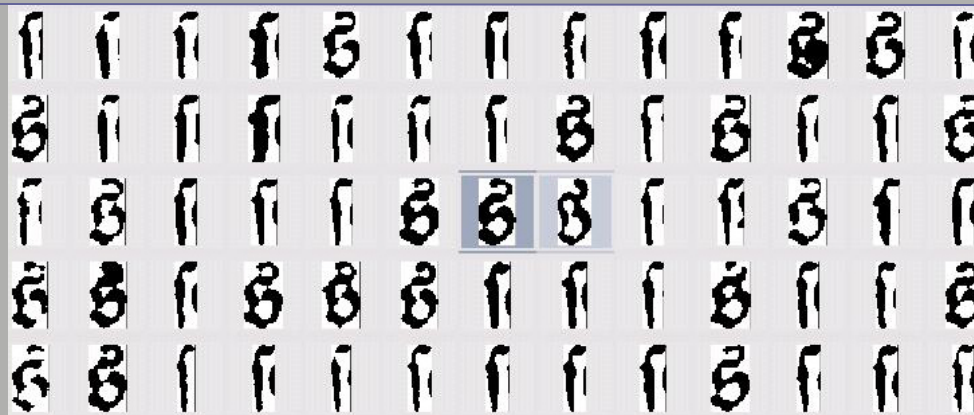


Improving Access to Text

IMPACT



IMPACT is supported by the European Community under the FP7 ICT Work Programme. The project is coordinated by the National Library of the Netherlands.

IMPACT: Centre of Competence in digitisation



Hildelies Balk – Pennington de Jongh, IMPACT Project director, KB National Library of the Netherlands

A short introduction...

<http://www.youtube.com/user/theimpactproject>

Historical text: typical OCR results



VVt Venetien den 1. Junij, Anno 1618.

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OCR Challenges: damaged pages, bleed through, difficult layout, historic fonts ... and many more

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21

effectus



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folgt die Taktik, in ihren Programm
n Band nicht mehr zu erwähnen. V
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Eur. 333 (37)
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vnd verdriff / Der vnwillichen gemelten

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Language Challenges: Spelling variants, orthographical variants, inflected forms...and more

A. My daarentegen verſchaft het een onbedenkelyk
genoegen, als ik de voortgang van deeze zo wel als
alle andere Weetenſchappen door de verſcheiden eu-
wen der **wereld** naargaa, en zie, hoe veel juifter onze
begrippen, hoe veel bondiger onze beweegredenen
in de Zedekunde zyn, en welk een hangelyke ver-
andering inzonderheid de Chriſtelyke Openbaaring,
ten deezen opzigte, heeft uitgewerkt.

Historical variants of the Dutch word 'wereld' (world):

werelt weerelt wereld weerelds wereldt werelden weereld werrelts waerelds weerlyt
wereldts vveerelts waereld weerelden waerelden weerlt werlt werelds sweerels
zwerlys swarels swerelts werelts swerrels weirelts tsweerelds werret vverelt werlts
werrelt worreld werlden wareld weirelt weireld waerelt werreld wereld vvereld weerelts
werlde tswerels werreldts weereldt wereldje waereldje weurlt wald weëled

Institutional Challenge: lack of knowledge and expertise → inefficiency



Answering the challenges – IMPACT

- IMPACT – Improving Access to Text (2008-2011)
Large-scale integrating research project, funded by the EC
 - Consortium of 26 partners
 - Good mix of public and private partners
 - Users, researchers and industry work together to find solutions
 - Each established in a large international network
 - Coordinated by the National Library of the Netherlands (KB)
 - EU funding: € 12 100 000 (FP7 ICT Work Programme)
 - From 2012: sustainable Centre of Competence with alternative resources
- Main objectives:
 - Innovate OCR & language technology
 - Build capacity in mass-digitisation



IMPACT Main Achievements at this point

- Improved commercial OCR (ABBYY 'IMPACT' Finereader 10 on market)
- Effective tool for OCR correction with volunteer involvement (CONCERT) ready for implementation
- Novel Approaches to preprocessing, OCR and post correction available
- Computerlexica for nine languages close to delivery
- Digitisation Framework with evaluation tools available
- Facility to plug in other tools (Your tools!)
- Large Dataset with sophisticated Ground Truth close to final delivery
- Knowledge bank with guidelines and learning resources close to delivery
- A unique network bringing together experts from different communities
- New website under construction
- Centre of Competence to be launched at final conference 24-25 October 2011

A Centre of Competence in digitisation: Why

- Challenges in digitisation of historic material still there
- No lack of novel approaches to improve access: IMPACT and many others
- Challenge: implementation in real life
- Challenge: direction of research
- Need for real life datasets with Ground Truth
- Need for real life testing and evaluation
- Need for support in implementing the solutions

Building the Business Model: Methodology

Business Model Generation (<http://www.businessmodelgeneration.com>)



Building the Business Model: sessions

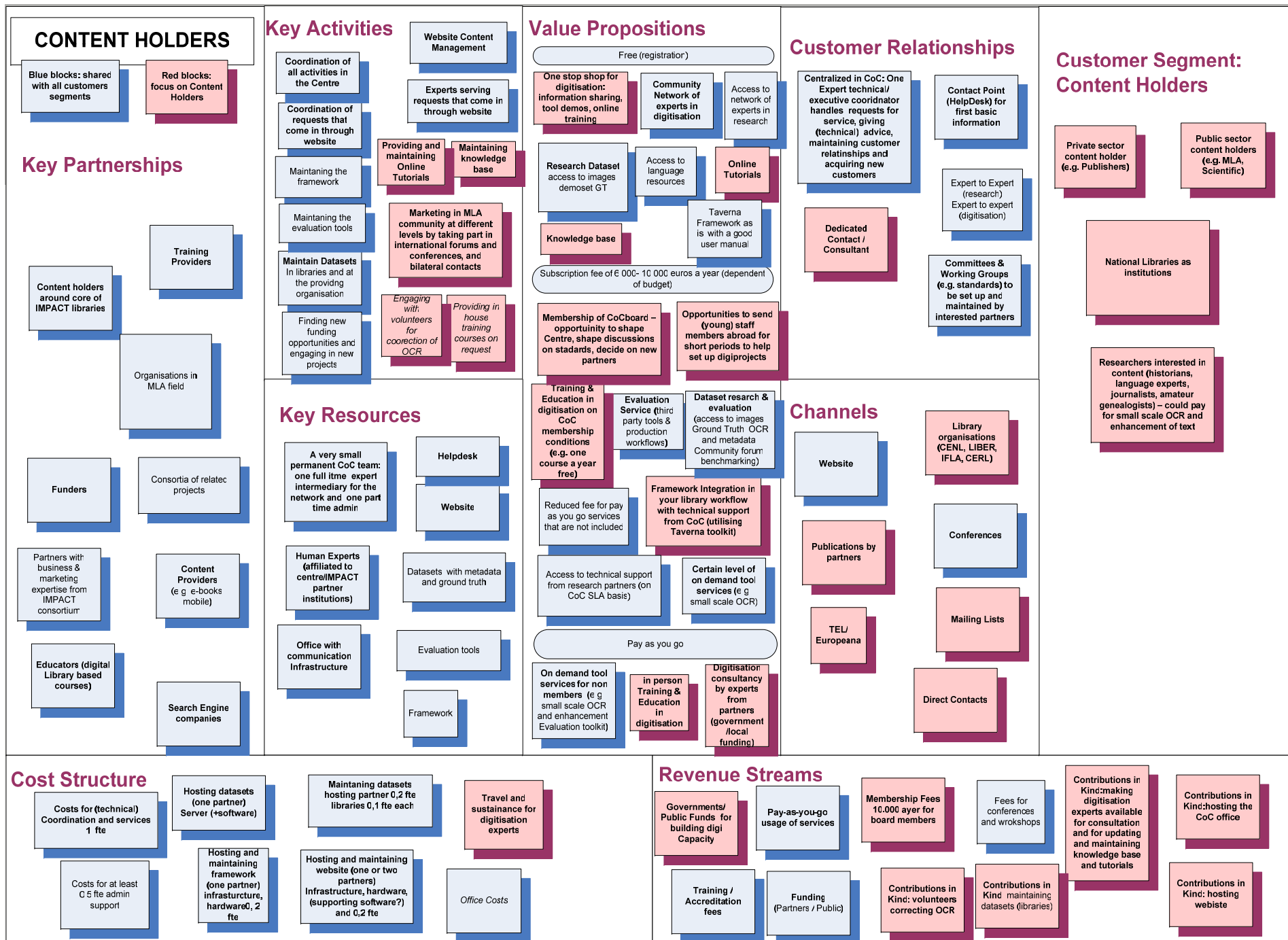


Building the Business Model: Gathering ideas



Building the Business Model: Finding commitment





Centre of Competence: What*


- Not for profit organisation
- Mission: to support the process of making Europe's heritage accessible in digital form
- Web based international community with small core facility for support
- Curates IMPACT achievements and provides tools, services and facilities for further advancement of the State of the Art in this field
- Focuses on practical solutions
- Distributed effort by IMPACT partners spreads risk and ensures continuing engagement
- Income generation by offering number of resources and services at a fee (mix of subscription and pay as you go)

**pending approval of IMPACT consortium*

Welcome to **impact** Centre of Competence

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*Lorem ipsum dolor sit
amet, consectetur adipiscing
elit etiam*

 **TWITTER** : Cras tristique massa vel metus ornare ut vulputate eros pellentesque. Integer non magna est. Integer mi urna, congue sed adipiscing vitae

What's new at **impact**



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Tools



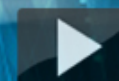
Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Quae [more >](#)

Knowledge Bank



Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Quae [more >](#)

What do **impact** do?



[Click here to watch our film](#)

Services



Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Quae [more >](#)

Centre of Competence: Who

- Digitisation practitioners in content holding institutions
 - Researchers in the field of historical document processing and language technology
 - Service providers
 - End users (Researchers in the humanities who need access to the content)
-
- IMPACT Centre of competence offers distinct value to each of these target groups

Centre of Competence*: benefits for content holders**

- Exchange of best practice in community of content holders with digitisation programmes
- KnowledgeBank with comprehensive and up to date information and technology watch reports
- Training on demand and on line tutorials
- Online support through a Helpdesk
- Support in the implementation of the innovative IMPACT solutions for improving access to text
- Access to the IMPACT Dataset with Ground Truth and tools for evaluation
- Digitisation Framework: Guidelines on using the open source workflow management system Taverna in a digitisation workflow
- Language Resources: a set of historical lexica that can be utilised within the digitisation workflow
- Conferences/workshops with focus on demonstration and implementation
- Working together on future practical solutions with scientific communities in the area of pattern recognition, language technology, image processing

**pending approval of IMPACT consortium **access depends on membership level*

Centre of Competence*: Benefits for researchers**

- New community: Bridging the gap between specialist research and real life needs
- Brings together scientific communities in the area of pattern recognition, language technology, image processing with a focus on large scale digitisation
- Access to content holding community
- Access to large real life datasets and ground truth
- Working on implementation of research prototypes/products into digitisation environment
- Facilities for testing and evaluating new tools and IMPACT tools
- Working groups and committees
- Access to new projects and funding opportunities
- Conferences/workshops with focus on demonstration and implementation

**pending approval of IMPACT consortium **access depends on membership level*

Centre of Competence*: Benefits for service providers**

- Access to content holding community with large scale digitisation programmes
- Access to large real life datasets and ground truth
- Facilities for testing and evaluating new tools and IMPACT tools
- Attend conferences
- Working groups and committees
- Make yourself known to your clients through yellow pages on website
- Sponsorship and exhibition opportunities
- Working together with content holders and researchers on practical solutions

**pending approval of IMPACT consortium **access depends on membership level*

Join the Centre by becoming a member!

Three levels of membership (pending final decision IMPACT consortium) :

- Open (registration) access to forum, part of content
- Basic membership (fee): access to all facilities, reduced fee for conferences
- Premium membership (fee): member of the Board, privileges such as free entry to conferences

Want to sign up?

- Mail to impact@kb.nl for information on membership
- Join us now already on LinkedIn
- Follow us on Twitter (@impactocr)
- Access through www.impact-project.eu
- Come to our conference on 24 and 25 October

IMPACT final conference: 24-25 October 2011

Digitisation & OCR: Better, faster, cheaper

Solutions of the IMPACT Centre of Competence and future challenges

- Presentation of final results of IMPACT & related research in the area of OCR, digitisation and language technology
- Location: The British Library, London, UK
- Registration and more news available through the IMPACT website:
www.impact-project.eu

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www.impact-project.eu

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IMPACT

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IMPACT is a project funded by the European Commission. It aims to significantly improve access to historical text and to take away the barriers that stand in the way of the mass digitisation of the European cultural heritage. [Read more](#)

Friday 19. November 2010

IMPACT at Czech Library conference

In the beginning of the December, the IMPACT project will be promoted at the Czech national...

[\[more\]](#)