

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

IMPROVING ACCESS TO TEXT

*CENTRE OF COMPETENCE IN MASS DIGITISATION OF HISTORICAL
PRINTED TEXT*

Hildelies Balk (KB) and Aly Conteh (British Library),
IMPACT conference 7 April



IMPACT Centre of Competence: vision

In 2012 IMPACT is a sustainable Centre of Competence for mass digitisation of historical text in Europe

- providing (links to) tools and guidance
- sharing expertise
- gives access to professional training for digitisation workflow management.
- Around this centre, a bigger community has formed, with added expertise from digitisation suppliers, research institutes, libraries and archives across Europe.
- works with other Centres of Competence in digitisation to avoid the fragmentation and duplication of effort across Europe
- exists as long as is necessary to fulfil the ultimate aim: All of Europe's historical text digitised in a form that is accessible, on a par to born digital documents



Towards a sustainable Centre of Competence (1)

First Phase 2008-2009: IMPACT core consortium of 15 partners

- good mix of public and private partners excelling in their field
- each established in a large international network with good opportunities for outreach and access to outside expertise
- Developing concept of sustainability of project outcomes and expertise
- Defining the roles of partners in the CoC
- Engagement with other Centres of Competence



Towards a sustainable Centre of Competence (2)

Second Phase 2009-2010: extension with 3 to 6 demonstrator sites

- Current languages in IMPACT: English, German, Dutch
- Adding 3 new European languages to demonstrate IMPACT language tools
- Looking toward the East and the South
- Adding experience in mass digitisation, contribute to and demonstrate IMPACT strategic tools
- Test and demonstrate IMPACT language independent tools
- Limited funding at 50% available
- Search for excellent partners with good possibilities for outreach
- Survey executed by Coordinator (KB) and WP-lead CB5 (ONB) march-june 2009
- Negotiations IMPACT GA and EC July – december 2009
- Entry new partners from january 2010



Towards a sustainable Centre of Competence (3)

- Third Phase 2010-2011: realisation of the sustainable Centre of Competence
 - Extension of the IMPACT community
 - Business model defined
 - Resources for continuation secured



Towards a sustainable Centre of Competence (4)

Building a community around IMPACT

- Link to other Centres of Competence in the field
- Digitisation suppliers
- Research institutes
- Libraries, archives and museums
- Organisations (CENL, LIBER, national aggregators)
- TEL/EDL community
- Collaboration and user generated content secondary result: involves stakeholders



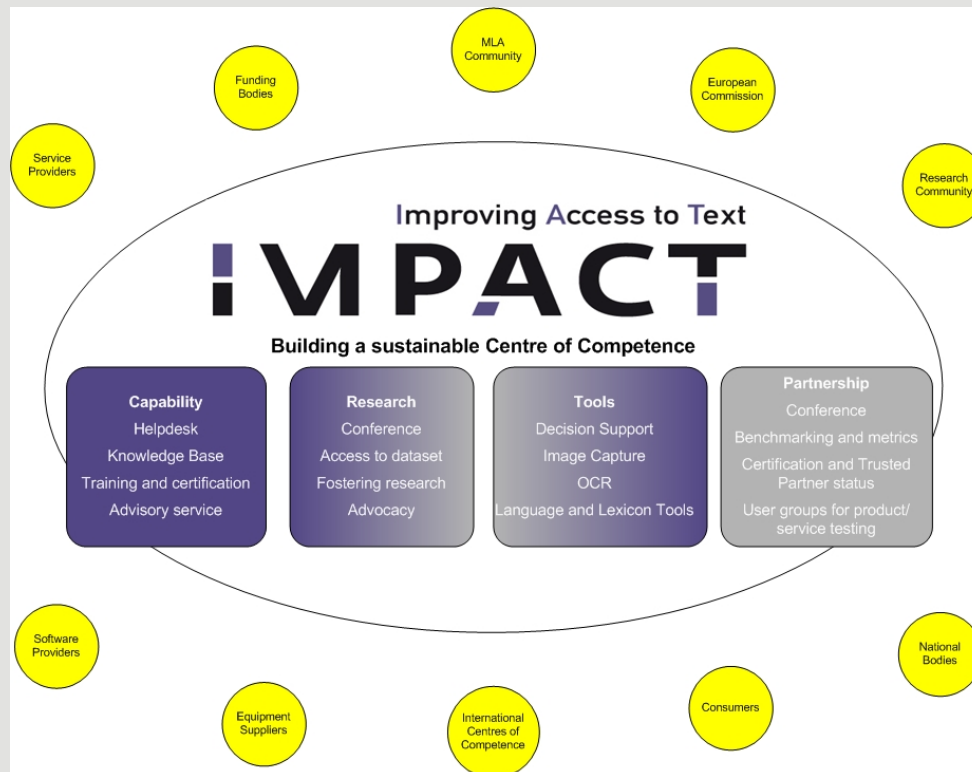
Towards a sustainable Centre of Competence (5)

Platforms

- Central: IMPACT web site and help desk
- Partners sites and services
- Social networking groups (Linked In, Facebook)
- Papers and other comms of individual members
- Delegations to scientific and library conferences
- IMPACT Conferences
 - First IMPACT Conference in April 2009: gather outside views
 - Second IMPACT Conference: share project results



The IMPACT Centre of Competence





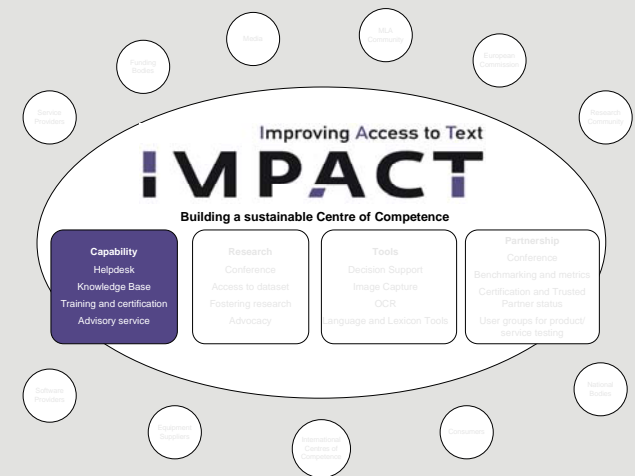
Capability

Helpdesk

Knowledge Base

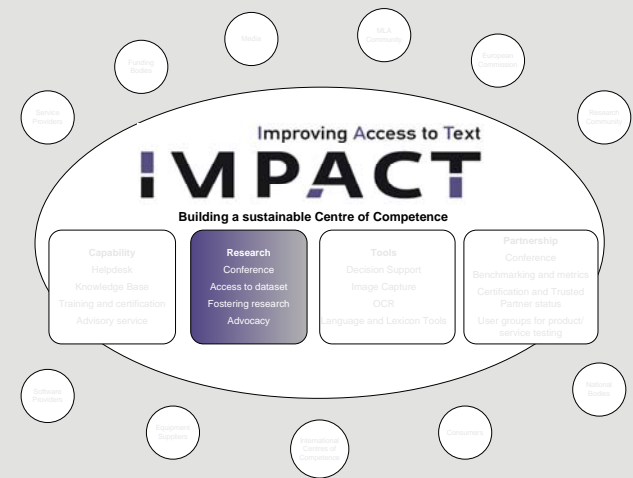
Training and certification

Advisory service





**Research
Conference**
Access to dataset
Fostering research
Advocacy





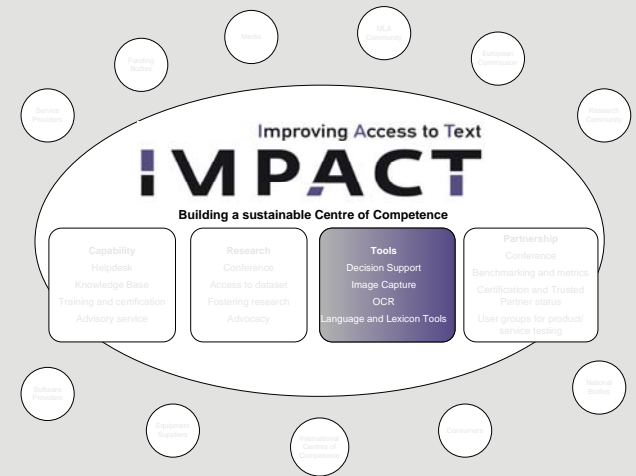
Tools

Decision Support

Image Capture

OCR

Language and Lexicon Tools



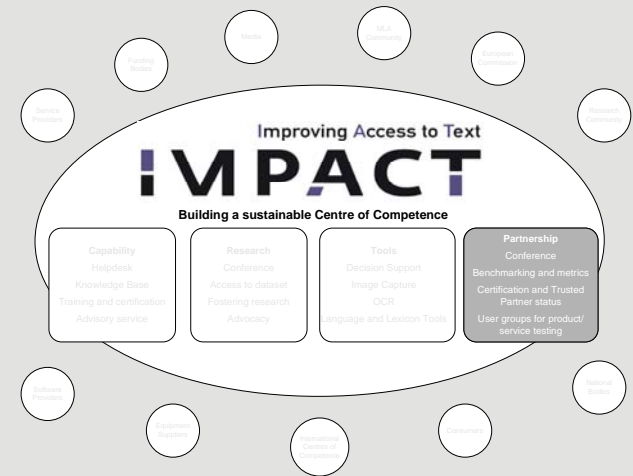


Partnership Conference

Benchmarking and metrics

Certification and Trusted
Partner status

User groups for product/
service testing





Discussion items

- Role of all partners in IMPACT: prepared to sustain if funding can be found
- Extending the IMPACT community
 - TEL/EDL community
 - Organisations (CENL,CERL,LIBER)
 - National aggregators
 - National libraries
 - Research institutes
 - Individual experts
 - Innovative SME's
 - Vendors of software and services
 - other?
- business model: combination of
 - income from extra services offered, e.g. training ' Digitisation workflow Manager' , consultancy, certificate
 - Sponsoring
 - licensing
 - Public-private partnerships
 - membership fees
 - additional resources from EC and or government funding
 - Other?



How shall we join forces

- What shall our community look like
- Governance: who steers, who decides who gets on board
- Other CoC's – linking



How do we sustain

- What are the options?
 - Subscriptions
 - Sponsorship
 - Other options



Now questions for you?

- Do we need a Centre of Competence?
- What are your expectations?
- Does what we have presented meet those needs?
- What is missing from the concept we presented today?



Thank you