LDCC and DCC-IN position

Kees den Heijer

Jeroen Rombouts

July 1st, 2024

DCC
implementation
network

Digital Competence Centers (Local and Thematic)
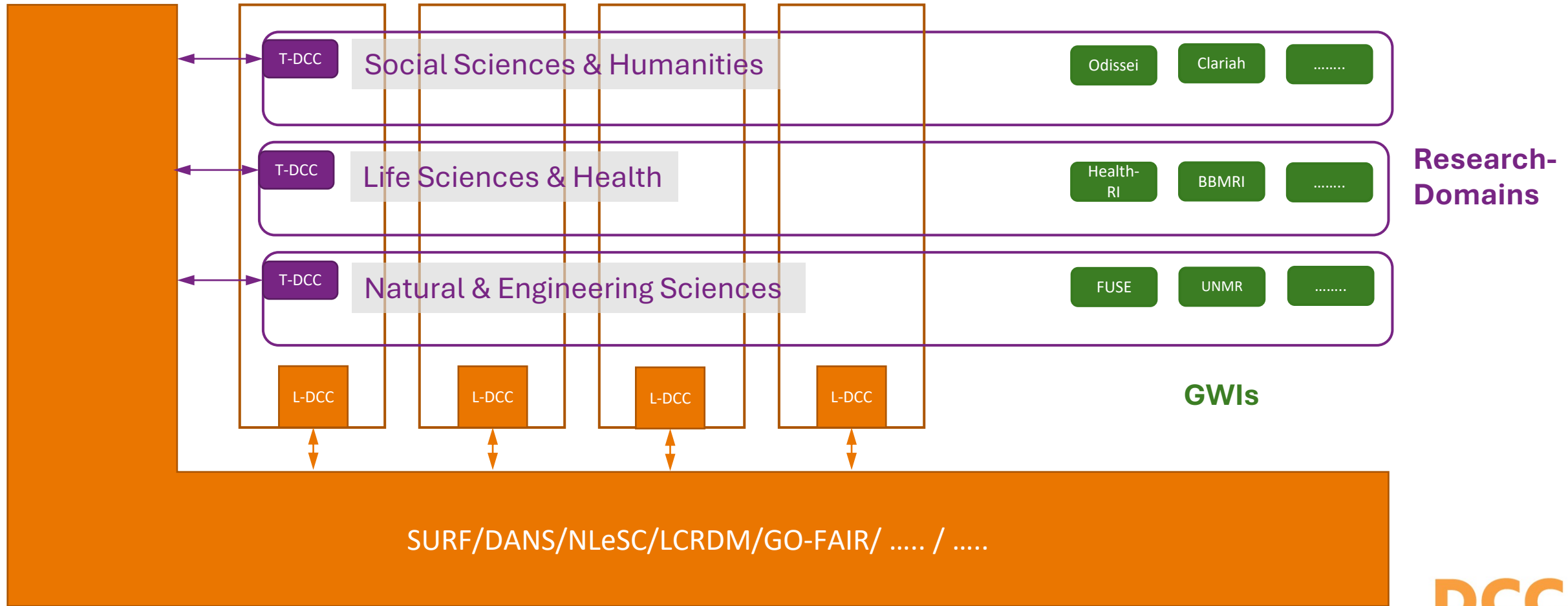
DCC-IN

Primary network:

- 23 coordinators of Local Digital Competence Centers (LDCCs: universities, universities of applied sciences, university medical centers, national research institutes)

- 3 representatives of Thematic Digital Competence Centers (TDCCs: Social Sciences and Humanities, Life Science and Health, Natural and Engineering Sciences)

- SURF representative

- DCC-IN liaison

- Community manager

Starting point LDCC

- Duty of care Netherlands Code of Conduct for Research Integrity
- Digitalisation research
- Implementation Plan Investments Digital Research Infrastructure
- Open Science (like by supporting implementation of FAIR principles)

Scope: research data, research code/software and research IT

DCC
implementation
network

Tasks LDCC

Scope: research data, research code/software and research IT

- Services:
  - Information provisioning
  - Infrastructure
  - Advice and consultancy
  - Training
  - Portfolio management

- Community management: communication, awareness raising and knowledge exchange among members and additional stakeholders depending on topic

- Hub function in institution by Coordination/Alignment:
  - RDM, RSE and IT services for research
  - Policy alignment
  - Ethics/privacy

- Node in national network of DCCs
  - Participating in DCC-IN (sharing expertise, relaying questions)

DCC
implementation
network

Diversity

- LDCCs vary in maturity level
- LDCCs vary in organization model
- LDCCs vary in focus
- Developing/changing over time

Therefore, keeping overview and stimulating connection/collaboration is important

DCC
implementation
network

Characteristics (Unique Selling Points) **DCC-IN**

- Members are <u>coordinators</u> of service delivery (as opposed to <u>experts</u> in e.g. LCRDM/RDA-NL/DSIG)

- Focus on <u>national</u> collaboration <u>across domains</u> (as opposed to <u>domain specific</u> and <u>(inter)national</u> scope in TDCC/LSRI)

- <u>Holistic</u> across topics and departments with <u>single point of contact</u> (as opposed to <u>'guild'</u>-networks such as UKB, NL-RSE, RSTNL)

- <u>Bottom-up</u> and content-based approach of collaboration (as opposed to <u>funding based</u> in e.g. OSNL and EC projects)

DCC
implementation
network

Direction of development (roadmap) DCC-IN

Connecting national stakeholders to

- Stimulate collaboration (e.g. finding partners per topic)

- Create national overview of needs, services and expertise

- Act as sounding board for development plans (services incl. infrastructure, expertise)

Providing guidance for all members to advocate common LDCC interests and roles

DCC
implementation
network

Elaborate on roadmap

- Form working groups and/or interest groups on collaboration topics (leader + members)
  - Integrated workflows
  - AI training
  - ...*
- Working groups and/or interest groups detail their goals and milestones
- Core group coordinates and acts as contact point for queries
- All members exchange information and create overview in network meetings

* See a.o. on last slide

DCC
implementation
network

Success factors DCC-IN and liaison role

- Stimulating collaboration
  - Coordinating/aligning funding applications (Q&A on calls NWO/OSNL)
  - Harmonizing (no competition) (integrating workflows, procurement through SURF)
- Knowledge exchange
  - DCC SPRING training days
  - Thematic sessions (onboarding, roadmaps)
- Positioning and vision/mission
  - Positioning emerging initiatives in existing landscape (e.g. TDCC/LDCC connection)
- Facilitating sounding board / creating overview
  - Inside out: sharing common LDCC interests
  - Outside in: responding to queries

Next steps

- Steering group (May 15th)
- Core team LDCC coordinators (May 29th)
- Core team (stand-up June 3rd)
- Coordinators meeting (July 1st)
- Concise summary of vision/mission (common interests and roles)
- Further detailing of roadmap in working groups and/or interest groups
- Share this slide deck for reference (Zenodo and/or https://lcrdm.nl/dcc/)

DCC
implementation
network

In summary

- **Vision**: Easy access to all available expertise and services on research data, research code/software and research IT is realized by LDCCs as hubs within their own organizations connected to other DCCs and service providers. The network links needs to development plans and optimizes use of resources.

- **Mission**:
  - Collaboratively delivering and developing (federated/shared) expertise and services
  - Actively maintaining networks and communities
  - Utilizing overview of needs and plans at research performing organizations to set priorities and disseminate information
  - Raising awareness and harmonizing practices

DCC
implementation
network

Acronyms

- LDCC: Local Digital Competence Center
- DCC-IN: Digital Competence Center Implementation Network
- TDCC: Thematic Digital Competence Center
- LCRDM/RDA-NL: National Coordination Point Research Data Management
- DSIG: Data steward Interest Group
- UKB: University and National Libraries
- NL-RSE: Dutch Research Software Engineering network
- RSTNL: Research Software Training NL
- LSRI: Large Scale Research Infrastructures

DCC
implementation
network

Collaboration topic	Actively collaborate 2024/2025	Passively interested 2024/2025	Not interested before 2026
How to best organize the DCC	11	4	0
Sharing experience about research software management	10	5	0
Expertise in community building	10	5	0
Address overlap in calls	9	6	0
Further development of RDM infrastructure (irods/yoda)	9	2	4
Implementation of SMPs	8	7	0
Data stewardship training, both for support staff and for researchers	7	5	0
Sharing experience on deidentifiction practice and tools	7	7	0
Integrated workflow for DMP-ethics-privacy assessment	6	5	1
AI training, including legal and ethical considerations	5	6	2
SURF Research Cloud	5	7	2
Shared support information for (infrastructure) services	4	11	0
Procurement of research software (DAS online collaboration tools)	2	12	0
RDM with citizen science	2	12	1
Privacy and security risk analysis (SURF Vendor Compliance)	1	13	0

Table is result of DCC coordinators meeting on 2024-01-29