DC-NET
Digital Cultural Heritage Network

Public launch event
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Belgian Federal Science Policy / S&T Information Service

Belgium

Belgium, a federal country

Short overviews

- The Belgian Federal Science Policy Office and the Scientific and Technical Information Service

- The digitisation plan of the federal institutions

- The Belgian NREN: BELNET

Belgium, a federal country

- *3 cultural Communities: Flemish, French, German-speaking*

  Culture and education, person-related issues (healthcare & health education, youth, elderly, family) + general support to research carried out in higher education institutions

- *3 geographical (and economic) Regions: Flanders, Wallonia, Brussels-Capital*

  Economy, energy policy (except nuclear), public works, transport and the environment + general support to industrial and technological research and innovation

- *The federal authority*: foreign affairs, defence, justice, finances, social security, important sectors of public health and domestic affairs, etc + the activities of a series of **federal scientific and cultural institutions** + support to various sectors of research

BELGIAN SCIENCE POLICY

STIS

Federal Science Policy Office (BELSPO)

- Research programmes
- Networks of excellence in fundamental research
- Space research
- Support to the participation of Belgium in the European Research Area. In particular, financial contribution of Belgium to **international large-scale S&T infrastructures** (EIRO, ESFRI, etc)
- Research activities and public scientific service of ten federal scientific institutions: **national archives, national library, large museums (fine arts, art and history)**, institutes of space research, natural sciences + **national film archive**
- **Funding of the digitisation plan of the federal institutions**
- **NREN (BELNET)**

BELGIAN SCIENCE POLICY

STIS

Scientific and Technical Information Service (STIS)

- A department of the Federal Science Policy

- National Contact Point (NCP) of the federal authority for all FP7 programmes + CIP ICT PSP

- Financial and administrative management of the participation of BELSPO to European projects

- **Digital Cultural Heritage**: long standing participation in CULTIVATE (FP5) and MinervaEC, DIGIPAT web portal, library and museum statistics, links with the digitisation plan of the federal institutions and *ad hoc* coordination

- Specialised information for and on science policy: RESEARCH.BE (web portal for research and innovation in Belgium), bibliometric studies, strategic watch, etc

- Information broker (science, technology, innovation, patents)

BELGIAN SCIENCE POLICY

STIS

The digitisation plan of the federal institutions

Phase 1 (2005-2010) - 12 institutions / 9 projects

- Digitisation of the national newspapers, to be put later on Europeana (25% of the total budget)
- Digitisation of important archival documents and monographies (25% of the budget)
- Achievement of the digitisation of the library catalogues (16% of the budget)
- Digitisation of a selected set of photographic plates, film negatives, photos, drawings held by museums (15% of the budget)
- The selection of the priorities was made on the basis of a comprehensive preliminary study of all the collections

Phase 2 (2010-)

- A PPP is in preparation
- Call for expression of interest was published in June 2009

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STIS

The Belgian NREN: BELNET (1)

- Created in 1993 by the Federal Science Policy within the framework of a research programme (Information Society)

- In 2000, BELNET became a permanent operational service funded by BELSPO

- 200 clients, 250 connections, 650,000 final users (mainly researchers, academics and students):
  - all the universities and higher schools ;
  - research centers + government/public services;
  - **all the scientific and cultural federal institutions.**

- Full optical fibre network with connections of 10 Gbit/s and more, offering virtually unlimited bandwidth

- Connectivity includes access to GEANT and to the American Internet2

- Access at very fair rates (subsidized)

BELGIAN SCIENCE POLICY

The Belgian NREN: BELNET (2)

Standard Services

- Connectivity: to the BELNET network, (inter)national research networks and the Internet
- IP addresses (IPv4 and IPv6)
- DNS services: recursive and secondary name servers
- Clock synchronisation: synchronises the time on the PCs, servers and other equipment on your campus network.
- Software archive: reference archives with free and open source software
- Bandwidth statistics: statistical information about the use of Internet and research bandwidth
- BELNET CERT: computer and network security
- 24/7 Helpdesk: problem solving, around the clock
- Support and advice: Customer Relations Team as central point of contact

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STIS

The Belgian NREN: BELNET (3)

Addidtional Services

- Backup connectivity
- IPv6 connectivity: the latest generation of Internet Protocol
- Point-to-Point Ethernet: different affiliated organisations can be connected to each other
- Multicast: sends high-quality audio and video streams simultaneously in real time to multiple users
- Domain Name Registration: '.be' and '.eu'
- Instant Messaging: efficient communication in real time
- Digital Certificates Service: protects client's network and offers its users secure communications with its servers
- Vulnerability Scanner: raises client's network security
- Videoconferencing
- Eduroam: secure wireless Internet

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The Belgian NREN: BELNET (4)

Computing Services

- BEgrid: the Belgian computing GRID for research
- Grid CA: certificate service for GRID computing

Possible Future Services

- Storage
- Cloud computing
- VOIP
- Anti-spam

BELNET also operates:

- A central infrastructure for exchanging Internet traffic, called the Belgian National Internet Exchange (BNIX)
- The Federal Metropolitan Area Network (FedMAN)

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Thank you for your attention

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