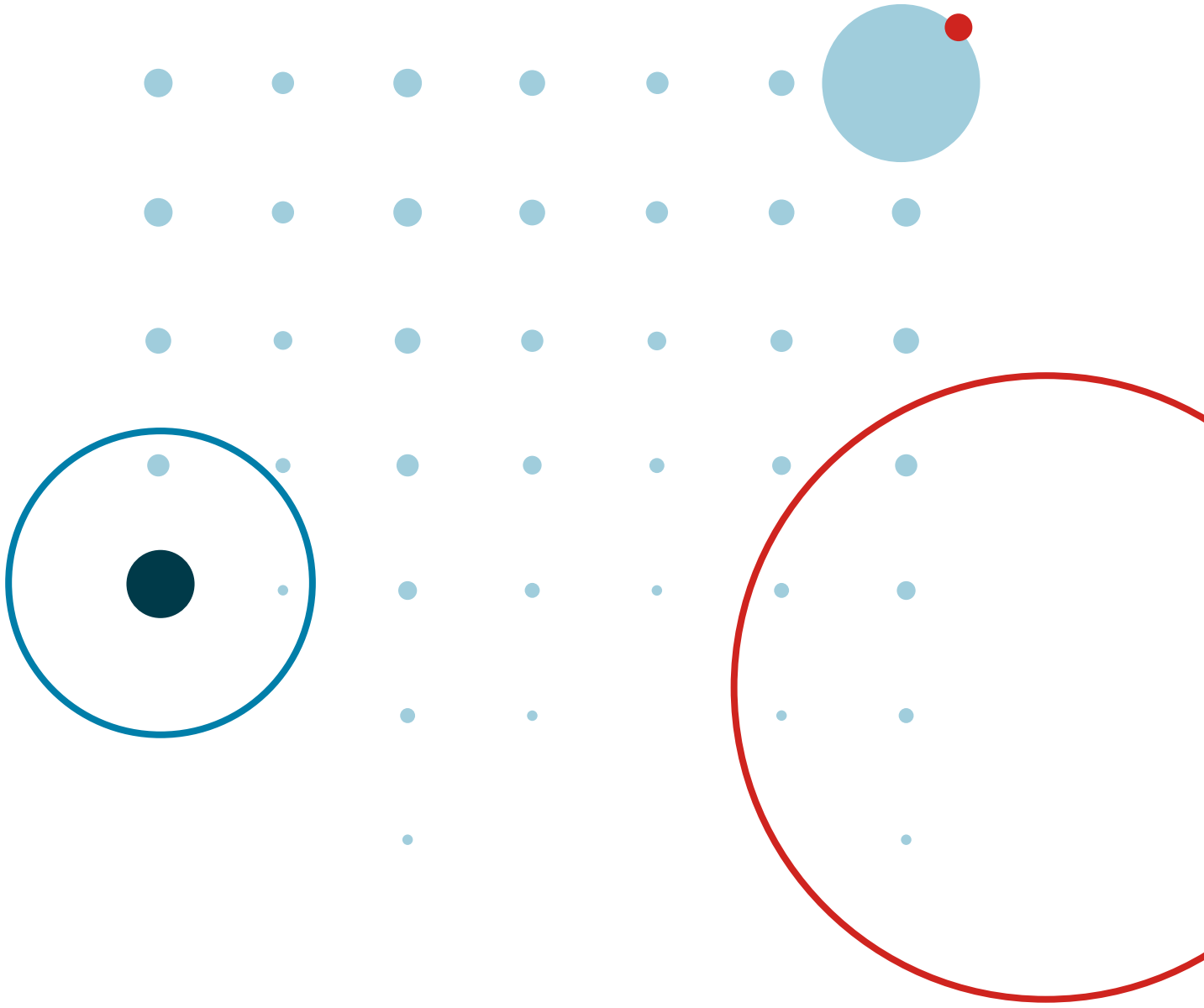
From data to knowledge

Strategy 2026 – 2028



DANS

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Foreword

We are proud to present the DANS 2026–2028 strategy. We have opted to plan for a relatively short, three-year period with the goal horizon set for 2028. This decision is mainly based on our view that, as a player in the field of research data, we operate in a highly dynamic environment. Some examples to consider include the impact of artificial intelligence (AI), the rapidly developing field of data services and data policy, and the uncertainties brought on by shifting geopolitical and technological relationships. By setting targets for 2028, we are providing a more practical framework for the choices that DANS will face. At the same time, we are making sure to retain the flexibility we need to adapt to new challenges.

This strategy has been formulated thanks to significant input from many people within DANS during input and consultation sessions. We then invited national and international external partners of DANS, to discuss our draft strategy. We are delighted with both the internal engagement and the discussions with our users and colleagues in the field. These fruitful discussions clearly show that many people are deeply committed to DANS and highlight the strong position we have within our networks.

We are proud of what DANS means to researchers, data professionals, and numerous organisations in the Netherlands who use our services, who benefit from our advice, and with whom we collaborate to explore new ways of using research data as building blocks for new knowledge. We feel privileged to have opportunities to collaborate with experts in Europe and beyond, with whom we develop and exchange best practices.

The six-year evaluation of DANS was carried out in 2024 based on the Strategic Evaluation Protocol (SEP). In its report, the evaluation committee shared several observations confirming DANS' strong position within the national and international (particularly European) data landscape. The report also offers recommendations that DANS is incorporating into its strategy for the coming years, reflected in our 2028 goals.

For DANS, as a national institute, 2025 marks twenty years of commitment to research data. While the context and role of DANS in the data landscape continue to evolve, our mission remains the same: to promote the reuse of research data for the benefit of research. In the coming years, we will further develop how we implement our mission, based on current research needs, new technological possibilities and developments in the data landscape. The 2024 SEP evaluation of DANS will also provide direction in this process. We will work closely with our partners, build on our strengths and seize new opportunities, with the aim of ensuring that the secure and safe reuse of data becomes the norm for all researchers.

Anja Smit
Director of DANS

1. Introduction

1.1. DANS today

DANS is a national institute of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) and the Dutch Research Council (NWO). As part of the KNAW organisation, we contribute specifically to the core ambitions of the joint KNAW institutes. The following are particularly relevant to DANS: (a) strengthening the Dutch research community and (b) developing knowledge for the benefit of society.

DANS positions itself as the national centre of expertise for research data. We offer repository services and operate as a knowledge partner, service provider and advisor. In this capacity, we support researchers, institutions, and data professionals in making research data sustainably findable, accessible, and reusable. We distinguish ourselves by ensuring that knowledge development and practice go hand in hand. We share new insights with colleagues in the field and apply them directly in our data services. This is how we contribute to a data landscape in which sharing and reusing research data becomes the norm.

During the policy period 2021 – 2025, DANS has taken major steps to further consolidate its role as a centre of expertise and service provider. The EASY repository service has been replaced by four domain-specific Data Stations, the development of which is based on the international open source software Dataverse. Together with DataverseNL, the Data Stations form a robust network of open source institution-specific and domain-specific repositories (composed of 300,000 datasets as of 2025) with 900,000 downloads per year. DANS has discontinued and transferred its services outside the core area of research data (such as NARCIS and in the field of research software) and now focuses entirely on data. Thanks to steady growth in its participation in national and international projects, DANS has consolidated its position in the data landscape in recent years. This has been made possible by our team of over 50 employees and an annual budget of approximately 7.5 million euros, of which over 3 million comes from projects.

For the coming policy period, the wording of DANS' vision, mission, and core values has been updated.

Vision

Secure access to research data for all is the foundation of open, inclusive, and future-oriented science. DANS is the leading national centre of expertise for sustainable data infrastructure, which, together with research institutions and partners, strengthens the Dutch data landscape and connects it to international innovation.

We set the standard for secure, responsible, and reliable data sharing by carefully combining data rights, confidentiality, and transparency with digital progress and resilience.

Mission

DANS supports researchers and data professionals within research organisations with its expertise, infrastructure, and services for the sustainable management, sharing, and reuse of research data. We offer our trustworthy services, up-to-date knowledge, and practical support, to enhance the findability, accessibility, and quality of research data.

Together with national and international partners, we ensure streamlined policies and interconnected services throughout the entire data cycle. In this way, we strengthen open science and contribute to the development of knowledge for the benefit of science and society.

Core values

Trustworthy

We are a stable and independent partner within the data landscape. Researchers and institutions can rely on our careful handling of data, our transparent working methods, and our long-term commitment. At DANS, trustworthiness means that we stand for secure and sustainable access to research data, today and in the future.

Expert

Our expertise is at the core of what we do. We develop and share up-to-date knowledge about sustainable data management and access in addition to translating international developments to the Dutch context. At DANS, expertise also means that we continue to learn, collaborate in national and international networks, and are committed to passing on knowledge to new generations of data professionals and researchers.

Collaborative

DANS builds bridges between disciplines, institutions, as well as national and international partners. We believe that collaboration is at the core of and crucial to the realisation of sustainable solutions for data management and reuse. Being collaborative means that we are open to partnerships, that we seek connections in the field of research, and that we contribute to common standards and infrastructures.

Inclusive

We strive for open science that is accessible to everyone. At DANS, inclusive means that we recognise and value internal and external diversity and equality. It also means that our repositories offer space for a wide variety of data types, including non-traditional research outputs. This is how we ensure that as many researchers, disciplines, and users as possible have access to data and that the data itself is widely applicable and reusable.

1.2. DANS in a dynamic landscape

As a player in the national and international data landscape, we are dealing with significant dynamics in various areas, such as: developments in science and society, technological innovation, the growing importance of research data as building blocks for knowledge, and political developments. The most important trends and their impact on DANS are outlined below.

Research into global societal issues not only asks for in-depth knowledge within research disciplines, but also for thematic collaboration between researchers from different research domains across national borders. This thematic research requires high-quality data that can be understood and used across disciplinary boundaries. Therefore, DANS actively aims to improve the quality of domain-specific metadata and, at the same time, to develop international, generic standards for research data (and the sharing of it). We build on our many years of experience and expertise in the social sciences and humanities (SSH) domain and offer additional services within the data landscapes in related disciplines in the other domains. This is in line with the recommendations of the SEP evaluation report[1], which encourage us to capitalise on domain-oriented data services, while we need to maintain our strong position in the SSH domain.

The digitisation of research and research data infrastructures is developing rapidly, with AI playing an increasingly significant role. This enables working with larger and more complex data collections and to generate knowledge faster. In the coming years, DANS will focus on the responsible use of AI in the development of data services, particularly to improve the enrichment and findability of metadata and datasets. The role of data experts and curators remains crucial in safeguarding the integrity, quality, and validity of (meta)data. Generative AI also raises important questions about intellectual property, the transparency and traceability of knowledge, and may conflict with the principles of open science. This theme will be covered more prominently in training and knowledge activities.

The need for reusable research data and its actual reuse is increasing rapidly. This need offers opportunities for financing the development of digital infrastructures, within the Netherlands as well as in Europe. Up until 2028, funding for this development will be available as part of the European agenda of the Horizon Europe programme, such as via the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC). From 2028 onwards, the focus of investments in European digital infrastructure and how they will take shape is still unclear. The coming years will offer plenty of opportunities for DANS to participate in innovative projects in the field of data infrastructures and to play a role in intensifying knowledge sharing between the Dutch and European data landscapes.

1 Assessment Report 2024 Data Archive and Networked Services DANS https://www.knaw.nl/en/our-research-policy/evaluations-academy-institutes based on the Standard Assessment Protocol (SEP)

Acknowledging the importance of data sharing is also spreading from the scientific community to societal knowledge organisations. This is evident, for instance, in new legislation and agreements that make the sharing of research data and public data mandatory. The aim is to create a competitive Europe that controls its own data, independent of commercial, monopolistic data services. On the other hand, we live in a world in which the value of scientific research is being questioned, academic freedom and independent scientific practice are under pressure, and geopolitical tensions can hinder cross-border cooperation. Within this dynamic, DANS is a sought-after, independent partner and service provider for Dutch research institutions in the public domain. This means that we will continue to seek new ways to provide a secure environment for sharing data as openly as possible.

The current Dutch data landscape has a highly federated structure, meaning that research support in this area is growing within research institutions and at the national level. The call for national streamlining of services and facilities in a national and international open science infrastructure is growing louder, and with it the expectation of the development of (inter)nationally streamlined services, supported by structural financing models. For DANS, the federated data landscape inherently implies collaboration in the field of repository services. Our repository services focus primarily on publishing and safeguarding the long-term findability and availability of data. DANS is committed to connecting its own services to other infrastructures in the research cycle, such as discovery and analysis tools or administrative environments, with the aim of jointly supporting the entire research workflow.

Further clustering of research infrastructures within Europe also requires streamlining of the digital infrastructure landscape in the Netherlands. The current open science agendas offer opportunities for closer collaboration between partners in the data landscape in the near future. DANS sees major advantages in tailored services and can make a unique contribution to sustainable reusable data through its services and expertise. That is why we are fully committed to helping to create the best collaborative data services for successful science.

2. Ambitions and goals for 2028

2.1. Centre of expertise

Our ambitions

DANS will accelerate the professionalisation of data management in the Netherlands. By 2028, it will be standard practice to consider both the reuse of existing data and reusable data during the planning phase of research. We are leading the development of a national training and community platform that provides all data professionals access to up-to-date knowledge. Furthermore, we set the standard for secure data sharing by fostering interaction between national and international developments.

2.1.1. A good start is half the work

Even when research is still in its planning phase, researchers are immediately confronted with issues related to research data management. They need to ascertain whether there is any relevant data on which to build and plan how to manage existing and/or new data effectively, both during and after the research. This is the moment when support, for example from data stewards, is most effective and efficient. To encourage more people to consider reusing data, DANS focuses its support and training primarily on this early phase of the research cycle. We particularly advise data professionals, whether domain-specific or not, to ensure that they can offer their stakeholders the best possible services. Increasingly, we work directly with data professionals, for example by offering in-company training courses based on the train-the-trainer principle. In addition to training courses, we also use presentations, guidelines, white papers, and similar materials to reach specific communities. The collection of public training material made available by DANS-KNAW is growing[2].

By 2028, a national training and community platform for data professionals will have been set up, and DANS is leading this project. By coordinating this nationally, we can make up-to-date knowledge optimally accessible to all data professionals in the Netherlands, give them more concrete career prospects, and boost the quality of data management in the Netherlands. DANS is committed to the effective establishment of a structural national initiative and will contribute consistently and substantially to high-quality training programmes by drawing on our experience in European training projects.

2 DANS-KNAW Training Materials https://zenodo.org/communities/dans-knaw-training/

2.1.2. FAIR metadata = better reusable data

Prior to publishing and long-term archiving, DANS assists data professionals and researchers in optimally describing datasets that are to be deposited. We do this because better and FAIR metadata plays a crucial role in the findability and reusability of datasets. It also makes it easier for potential users to assess how relevant the found data is to their own research objectives. In addition, the findability and reuse of datasets contribute to the recognition and appreciation of the data management carried out by the original researchers. By participating in national and international projects and with our own data services, DANS is expanding its knowledge of metadata and licensing standards, which we pass on to the community in a practical manner.

DANS provides these services by organising training and through advice and collaboration with prospective depositors and data professionals, based on their needs and wishes. We also tap into our own experience in curating data, because all datasets deposited in the DANS Data Stations are validated, curated, and published by DANS with the aim of ensuring the long-term findability, accessibility, interoperability, and reusability of the data. Our role in strengthening the European network of trustworthy and FAIR-enabling repositories fits in seamlessly with this role, for example, through sharing our substantial knowledge on topics such as certification and the measurement of the FAIRness of data and software.

2.1.3. Connecting the Netherlands and Europe

New ideas about research data management are often developed and tested in innovative projects, even across the boundaries of research domains. By participating in projects, we gain insights and find inspiration that complement the experiences and expertise shared in scientific discourse and professional networks.

The results of innovative European projects are relevant to a broad group of data professionals and research and repository organisations, but they will not become known to a wider audience within the Netherlands without additional effort. DANS participates in a substantial number of European research data projects, which continuously feeds our knowledge. Thus, we are actively putting the recommendation of the SEP evaluation committee (“DANS can further enrich the Dutch data landscape with its knowledge and experience”) into practice. This could involve, for example, new instruments in semantic technology, developments in research support, FAIR workflows and FAIR-by-design, responsible use of AI, or opportunities for connecting the national data landscape to European infrastructures via EOSC, including the associated subject of interoperability.

DANS actively structures networking activities to share current developments from European projects with national partners, within projects and with data communities. At the same time, we share national needs and wishes in European projects by means of Dutch use cases. Our participation in

projects is focused on contributing to the reuse of data. Consequently, Dutch activities will, by default, be fuelled by ideas from European projects and existing gaps will be filled by 2028.

2.2 Trustworthy and innovativedata services

Our ambitions

DANS' services will be part of a national open science infrastructure by 2028. We will support a growing number of organisations in setting up and maintaining an institutional data repository and offer individual researchers the opportunity to share their data securely with DANS in the long term and in a suitable thematic repository. By 2028, DANS data will be easily accessible to everyone through a network of trustworthy repositories and through links to diverse types of research output.

2.2.1. Trustworthy services available to more users

DataverseNL

In the coming years, the DataverseNL service will respond to the request of an increasing number of research, educational and societal organisations that wish to set up an (open source) institutional data repository. By 2028, the number of participants will have grown to at least 30. We promote and support the certification of repositories by institutions. Regarding infrastructure, DANS receives direct input on user needs via the Advisory Board and actively pursues acquisition to expand the DataverseNL network, which currently comprises 23 institutions, including universities, university medical centres, universities of applied sciences, and research institutes.

DANS Data Stations

The DANS Data Stations are secure and certified repositories that offer users customised solutions for easy publication and long-term reusability of their data. For example, individual researchers may publish with DANS because they want their data included in a relevant thematic repository or because no other (more) suitable service is available.

In the Data Stations, we store data within the following domains:

- Social sciences and Humanities (SSH)
- Archaeology
- Green Life Sciences, Medical and Health Life Sciences
- Physical and Technical Sciences

Within the domains of life sciences and natural sciences, we focus on disciplines and/or research methods related to SSH, enabling us to support new developments in trans-domain scientific research. Examples include research into the physical aspects of historical heritage, which brings together natural sciences and humanities, and health-oriented research that combines social sciences

and life sciences. In this way, the services provided by DANS make it easier for researchers to deposit and find data.

The Data Stations are integrated with other services, such as the international thematic infrastructures and the national data management infrastructure. For physical and technical sciences, we coordinate with the 4TU.ResearchData repository and focus on data that intersects with archaeology and/or the life sciences. Structurally, we work on making sure that our repositories are fully accessible, in compliance with the European Accessibility Act.

For all Data Stations, we collaborate with partners and infrastructures to identify areas where our services can implement standards and complement each other, in order to make it increasingly easy to share and reuse data across repositories. We are also transforming the Data Stations by implementing innovative solutions from European projects. The institutions participating in DataverseNL can then implement these innovations as well. DANS is investigating the possibilities for linking its services to the EOSC and is actively collaborating with SURF and international infrastructures in this regard.

DANS Data Vault

The updated Vault service provides a secure environment for the long-term preservation of all DANS repository data. We also offer this service to organisations within the public domain that make their data available via repositories other than those of DANS, allowing us to contribute to advancing data sovereignty in the Netherlands.

2.2.2. Enriched data via a user-friendly interface

DANS offers a user-friendly infrastructure for depositing data. We are working on automated solutions for data enrichment and archiving of new data types. The user interface for depositing data will be equipped with tools and services that will enhance the usability of data by providing more contextual information (such as automated audio transcription). We also strive for compliance with both domain-specific and international metadata standards (such as DCAT-AP and DataCite schemas).

The workflow for depositing will be optimally integrated with other national and international infrastructures (e.g. Yoda, SURF Research Drive and EOSC services) and we support the connection of Dataverse to institution-specific infrastructures (e.g. local HPC services for the analysis of sensitive data). The automation of the deposting, curation, and quality control of (meta)data will increase in the coming years, a process that will use both AI and more conventional automation strategies.

Additionally, we will focus on supporting an increasingly broad range of data types, such as multimodal data, sample data, and synthetic data. Among researchers, we also recognise a growing need for infrastructures that allow for the processing and provision of diverse types of sensitive

data. This offers opportunities for research that may have a powerful impact, but also requires a robust data infrastructure that can guarantee the necessary security measures to adequately protect the data. We consider the development of infrastructures for the various forms of sensitive data—which is still largely a work in progress—as an area that can only be developed in a national and international context. DANS will contribute to this, particularly in the SSH domain.

2.2.3. Findable and integrated data

DANS makes datasets optimally findable and reusable by integrating them into networks of trustworthy repositories, within domain-specific networks, and via the European Open Science Cloud. Machine-readable metadata are increasingly offered to both domain-specific and generic national and international catalogues and registers. In the coming years, AI will make it possible to use multilingual and natural language search requests to find suitable datasets. This in turn will enable researchers to find and combine data from different domains more quickly and easily, thereby enhancing multidisciplinary research.

Datasets are increasingly becoming an integral part of the research ecosystem, in which research outputs (such as scientific articles, software, non-traditional research results, and physical samples) and actors (such as researchers, organisations, and research activities) are connected via PID graphs. Via these networks, DANS contributes to an improved findability and safe reusability of datasets by offering Data Availability Statements and by continuing to work on rich, standardised metadata. This will also encourage actual reuse.

2.2.4. Insight into data usage

We monitor and measure the deposit and (re)use of data in the DANS repositories and make the results available online to our users. In combination with national (Open Science NL) and international (OpenAIRE Graph, DataCite Commons) initiatives, these metrics offer greater and better insights into the realisation of the open science objectives of DANS and its users.

Configurable metrics help policymakers make more accurate strategic plans for research policies on data reuse. Furthermore, this will better equip stakeholders, such as universities and individual researchers, to evaluate performance in the field of open science based on the statistics presented. We also recognise that the (re)use of data involves more than just downloading. Together with our user community, we will undertake targeted activities to gain more insight into what (re)use entails.

2.3 Ambassador for FAIR data

Our ambitions

DANS will participate in steering the development of a nationally coordinated policy that will facilitate and encourage the reuse of research data by 2028. To this end, we will translate the open science principle of 'as open as possible and as closed as necessary' into concrete guidelines and services for the secure sharing of diverse types of data within the framework of legislation and regulations. By 2028, the DANS data services will serve as the national testing ground for the implementation of new policies and the development of best practices.

2.3.1. Promoting policies for FAIR data

DANS advocates for a national agenda for the data infrastructure, consisting of coordinated services and based on a clear policy for FAIR data. This policy must be revised continuously to ensure compliance with both new legislation and regulations and technical developments, for example in the field of AI. This needs to include embracing new opportunities while also carefully considering the associated methodological, ethical, legal, and political challenges.

To achieve this, we are actively present on national and international boards, forums, and in advisory committees relating to research data. We share our expertise and best practices within our national and international networks. DANS is committed to establishing one or more Dutch EOSC Nodes, which will also promote national cooperation and the broad coordination of an open science policy.

DANS has a long-standing, strong network in the domains of SSH and cultural heritage both in the Netherlands and abroad and will continue to build on this. Examples include close cooperation with the Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands in archaeology, our participation in ODISSEI, CLARIAH, and the National Committee on Digital Infrastructures of the SSH Council. DANS is intricately linked to the TDCC-SSH, as the host of the programme, through participation in projects, and by providing in-kind contributions. This results in mutual reinforcement of the ambassadorship for FAIR data policy through a growing network within the SSH. Because of this, we anticipate a long-term partnership with the TDCC-SSH. Within Europe, ERICs in the field of SSH such as CESSDA and DARIAH are relevant.

2.3.2. DANS as a testing ground

DANS is engaged in innovative national and international projects that result in recommendations for handling new types of data and tools for data processing, as well as for new methods for handling existing types of data. DANS has the capacity to implement these innovations in its activities and services. In the coming period, we will implement policies relative to the aspects mentioned below.

- The DANS repository services are designed for the long-term reuse of research data. As the number of data types for which different retention periods are relevant grows, we are developing guidelines for differentiation in retention periods, including the option for deselection at any time.
- We are developing new types of licences for depositing and using data with different access restrictions and for which no standardised licences are currently available. These licences will be made as standardised and machine-readable as possible. Our policy-making process closely monitors the development of new technologies.
- DANS will formulate a policy for handling orphaned data (i.e. data without a known owner)

These updated policies will enable DANS to share new best practices in data policy with partners at home and abroad.

International

National

2.4 Learning organisation

Our ambitions

To realise our strategy, DANS needs to ensure its continuous development as a learning and professional organisation that knows how to utilise the potential of our knowledge workers and which can safeguard a diverse and inclusive working environment. By 2028, DANS' services will be supported by a powerful organisation and robust financial business cases. This will then have consolidated DANS's unique contribution to, primarily, the national data landscape and also to the international, particularly European, data landscape.

Knowledge above all

As a knowledge organisation, up-to-date knowledge is crucial for DANS. To this end, DANS is committed to being a learning organisation, offering training opportunities for employees and increasing internal knowledge sharing. We consider staff mobility a given for which offering career prospects and support is crucial. We reinforce this through further development of operations management, project management, appreciative leadership, and an active diversity and inclusion policy.

Financial robustness

To achieve its strategic goals, DANS partly depends on temporary funding streams and operates within a lump sum budget that is not in step with the expansion of our core activities: knowledge sharing, the provision of services, and advisory services. It is therefore vital that we evaluate the financial business cases of our activities to set the right priorities for DANS, to ensure our unique contribution to the Dutch data landscape.

3. Summary

Moving forward from the 2021–2025 policy period and the SEP evaluation in 2024, DANS presents a new strategy for the period 2026–2028. In recent years, DANS has reinforced its position as a centre of expertise in the national and international data landscape by taking full advantage of opportunities for project funding in the Netherlands and the EU, introducing domain-specific repositories based on the global use of the Dataverse open source software, and focusing all activities more exclusively on data.

The data landscape and DANS' position in its context are changing constantly, but our mission remains the same: to promote the reuse of research data for the benefit of research. This not only implies the importance of continuity but also ongoing and dynamic development. We will continue to interpret this mission in the coming years, all in line with the latest developments in research, technological capabilities, and developments in the data landscape. In doing so, we will, of course, incorporate the recommendations from the 2024 SEP evaluation.

DANS today
Today, in 2025, DANS is a centre of expertise and a leading training hub for data professionals as it supports researchers and repository managers with training, workshops, and practical guidelines. Participation in national and European projects facilitates the sharing of new knowledge, enabling us to advance the development of policy, standards, and innovative applications of research data. Our data repository infrastructure ensures sustainable archiving and encourages the reusability of research data. By fostering this combination of infrastructure and expertise, DANS strengthens both the facilities and the skills needed for the growth of safe and responsible data use.

A dynamic landscape and the role of DANS
With the digital transition in science, data are playing an increasingly vital role not only as a source for knowledge development but also in terms of research results. The optimal (re)use of data for new research is a prerequisite for rapid knowledge development. The Netherlands and Europe continue to promote the sharing of research results through open science agendas, emphasising the principles of traceable knowledge and transparent working methods.

AI is contributing to the acceleration of knowledge development in unprecedented ways, but sometimes it is also in conflict with the principles of open science. With the increasing pressure that global monopolistic commercial digital services are putting on intellectual property, academic freedom, and privacy, data sovereignty will be crucial and urgent in the coming years.
We recognise a growing need to be able to share sensitive data within research and societal knowledge organisations, increasingly supported by new legislation. Societal research institutions increasingly require expertise that can assist in the design and/or implementation of data policy.

That is why all of DANS' activities during this policy period are geared towards a single overarching goal: achieving a real increase in the use of research data in the Netherlands by 2028. To accomplish this:

- We are sharing our expertise as trainers, consultants, and project partners
- We are improving findability and reuse in our repository services
- We are committed to the realisation of a national policy for FAIR data

DANS has a solid foundation as a national institute of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) and the Dutch Research Council (NWO) and enjoys a strong position in national and international networks. DANS' role as a centre of expertise is becoming increasingly prominent in this regard. In a federated landscape of data professionals and data services, we contribute significantly to the further professionalisation of the data landscape by sharing domain-specific expertise, our extensive experience with international interoperability, and by providing repository services.

Ambitions
As a centre of expertise, DANS will accelerate the professionalisation of data management in the Netherlands so that the reuse of existing data and reusable data will be standard practice in the planning phase of research by 2028. DANS is leading the development of a national training and community platform that provides all data professionals access to up-to-date knowledge. We reinforce the interaction between national and international developments.

DANS' trustworthy and innovative services will be part of a national open science infrastructure by 2028. We will support a growing number of organisations in setting up and maintaining an institutional data repository and offer individual researchers the opportunity to share their data securely with DANS in the long term and in a suitable thematic repository. By 2028, DANS data will be easily accessible to everyone through a network of trustworthy repositories and through links to diverse types of research output.

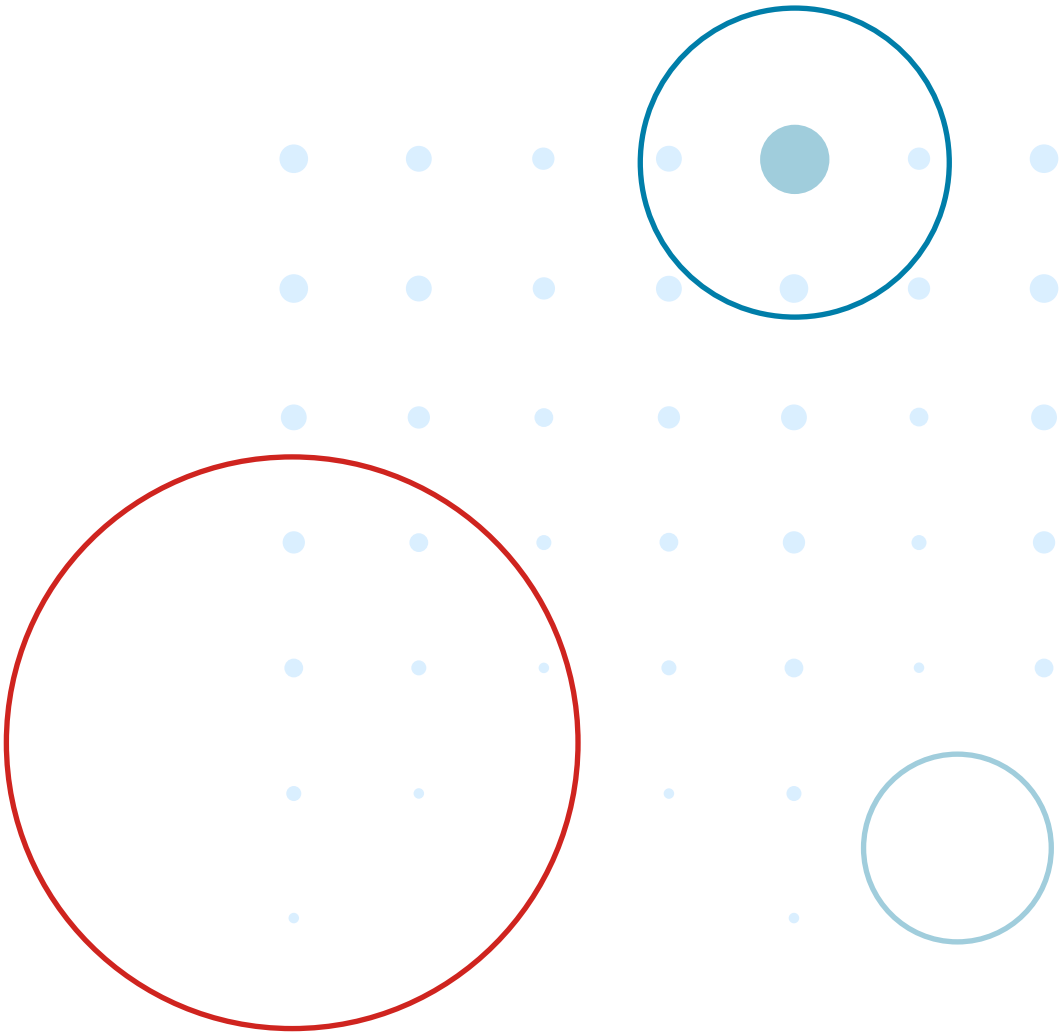
DANS will participate in steering the development of a nationally coordinated policy that will facilitate and encourage the reuse of research data by 2028. To this end, we will translate the open science principle of 'as open as possible and as closed as necessary' into concrete guidelines and services for the secure sharing of diverse types of data within the framework of legislation and regulations. By 2028, the DANS data services will serve as the national testing ground for the implementation of new policies and the development of best practices.

To realise our strategy, DANS needs to ensure its continuous development as a learning and professional organisation that knows how to utilise the potential of our knowledge workers and which can safeguard a diverse and inclusive working environment. By 2028, DANS' services will be supported by a strong organisation and robust financial business cases. This will then have consolidated DANS's unique contribution to, primarily, the national data landscape and also to the international, particularly European, data landscape.

In the coming years, DANS will play a stimulating and connecting role within the national and international data landscape to increase the actual reuse of research data.

4. Appendix: List of definitions and abbreviations

Term	Definition
CESSDA	Consortium of European Social Science Data Archives
CLARIAH	Dutch digital infrastructure for the Humanities
DARIAH	Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities
DataCite	International organisation for persistent identification of research output
Data Station	Domain-specific digital archive for research data
Dataverse	Open source software used worldwide, developed by Harvard University
DataverseNL	DANS service for institutional data repositories
DCAT-AP	Data Catalogue Vocabulary Application Profile
EOSC	European Open Science Cloud
ERIC	European Research Infrastructure Consortium
FAIR	Findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable
Reuse	Umbrella term for data consulted for: ▪ use in new research, ▪ use for the purpose of verification, replication, and reproduction of the original research from which the data originate, ▪ other uses of data, for example in education or out of interest.
HPC	High Performance Computing
ODISSEI	Dutch digital infrastructure for the social sciences
OpenAIRE Graph	Integrated infrastructure that brings together metadata from research objects from more than 70,000 scientific sources worldwide
Open Science NL	Regulatory body that accelerates and finances the transition to open science in the Netherlands
RCE	[Dutch] Cultural Heritage Agency
Sensitive data	Sensitive data contain information, in any form, of which the disclosure could potentially cause harm, for example to individuals, communities, public and private organisations, plants and animals.
SEP	Strategic Evaluation Protocol
SSH	Social Sciences and Humanities
SURF	Dutch cooperative for ICT facilities in education and research
TDCC-SSH	Thematic Digital Competence Centre – Social Sciences and Humanities
Yoda	Data Management Service, Utrecht University



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