

# Project Diamond Open Access in the Netherlands

## *Strengthening non-profit scholarly- and library-led publishing*

Diamond Open Access (DOA) refers to publishing models where ownership lies with the academic community (scholarly- or library-led). DOA makes articles and books open available immediately and without embargo, does not charge fees to readers and/or authors and keeps copyright in the hands of the author. DOA contributes to a diverse publishing system by making it possible for researchers with small grants to publish Open Access and by publishing on topics and in languages that commercial publishers tend to set aside.

Despite these advantages, DOA journals and publishers are struggling. With little to no budget, reliance on volunteering and a culture of evaluation built around impact factors, DOA is pushed into a tight spot. With the project Strengthening Diamond Open Access in the Netherlands, the UKB aims to strengthen, make more sustainable and encourage DOA journals and publishers. This is done by:

### 1. Establishing a national expertise centre DOA

An expertise centre connecting projects, services and actors is indispensable for further strengthening DOA. Designed within an online environment, the expertise centre will help expand the knowledge and expertise of the academic community and create communities around editors, research supporters and publishers.

### 2. Developing capacity at DOA publishing platforms

A national strategy with unified commitments to local, national and international investment in DOA infrastructure and publishing enables these actors to focus on innovation and a long-term publishing strategy.

### 3. Developing a monitoring system for DOA

An evaluation procedure for measuring quantitative and qualitative developments within DOA in the Netherlands. This monitoring is based on a benchmark.

The project is a continuation of the report [Versterking ondersteuning van diamond open access in Nederland](#) (in Dutch) published in November 2022 by Universities of the Netherlands. This report contained recommendations for sustainable and structural support of, and transformation to Diamond Open Access (DOA) of journals, books and infrastructures. The proposal appeared as one of the elaborations of the [Ambition Document National Plan Open Science 2030](#) which states that investments in a more inclusive, sustainable and equitable scientific communication system are necessary.

Budget: €100,000 per year for the duration of the project, possibly supplemented by grants from [Open Science NL](#).

Partners: [UKB](#) and [Universities of the Netherlands](#)

Duration: February 2024- February 2026

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