



Sustainable access to scientific information and open access publishing

The Dutch university libraries give the mutual cooperation an extra impulse with the establishment of a program for joint "Scholarly Information Services": UKBsis. SURF also participates in this initiative.

UKBsis focuses on the realization of sustainable deals with publishers for access to scientific information and open access publishing. Negotiating teams are supported and contract management is further improved. With this approach, national control of negotiations, part of the VSNU Open Access Roadmap, will be facilitated even better.

In addition to extra efficiency and effectiveness, the deployment of the program ensures that university open access specialists are less concerned with administrative matters and can focus more on supporting and advising researchers. UKBsis is explicitly looking for international cooperation with other consortia to realize the transition towards 100% open access in a sustainable way.

Arjan Schalken, former deputy director of the library of the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, is appointed program manager of UKBsis.

In the first year of the program, the following results were delivered:

- Process descriptions for both drafting and managing contracts
- Transfer of activities of university libraries to UKBsis in the field of open access monitoring and workflow improvement
- Development of a data hub (concept phase) in which data from institutions, publishers and other sources are combined for analysis and decision support.
- Improving the use of open access possibilities within contracts

One of the results of the program is the realization of a datahub that contains records of more than 400.000 scientific publications from Dutch institutions since 2018. From more than 30 sources metadata is extracted and presented about the article, journal, publisher, corresponding author, affiliated institute, open access license, publication date, estimated publication costs and funder. Institutes can access the data through their own dashboard. Most used data sources are open, including Crossref, OpenAire, Unpaywall, DOAJ and OpenAPC.