



# Policy information about research

How to align VSNU-KUOZ and DANS-NARCIS classifications and why we think it's important

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## Agenda

- **Relevance of policy information** for VSNU:  
towards a sector dashboard
- **A case for change:** clarifying the governance  
around research output information
- Suggestions for **improvements and next steps**



# Relevance of policy information for VSNU

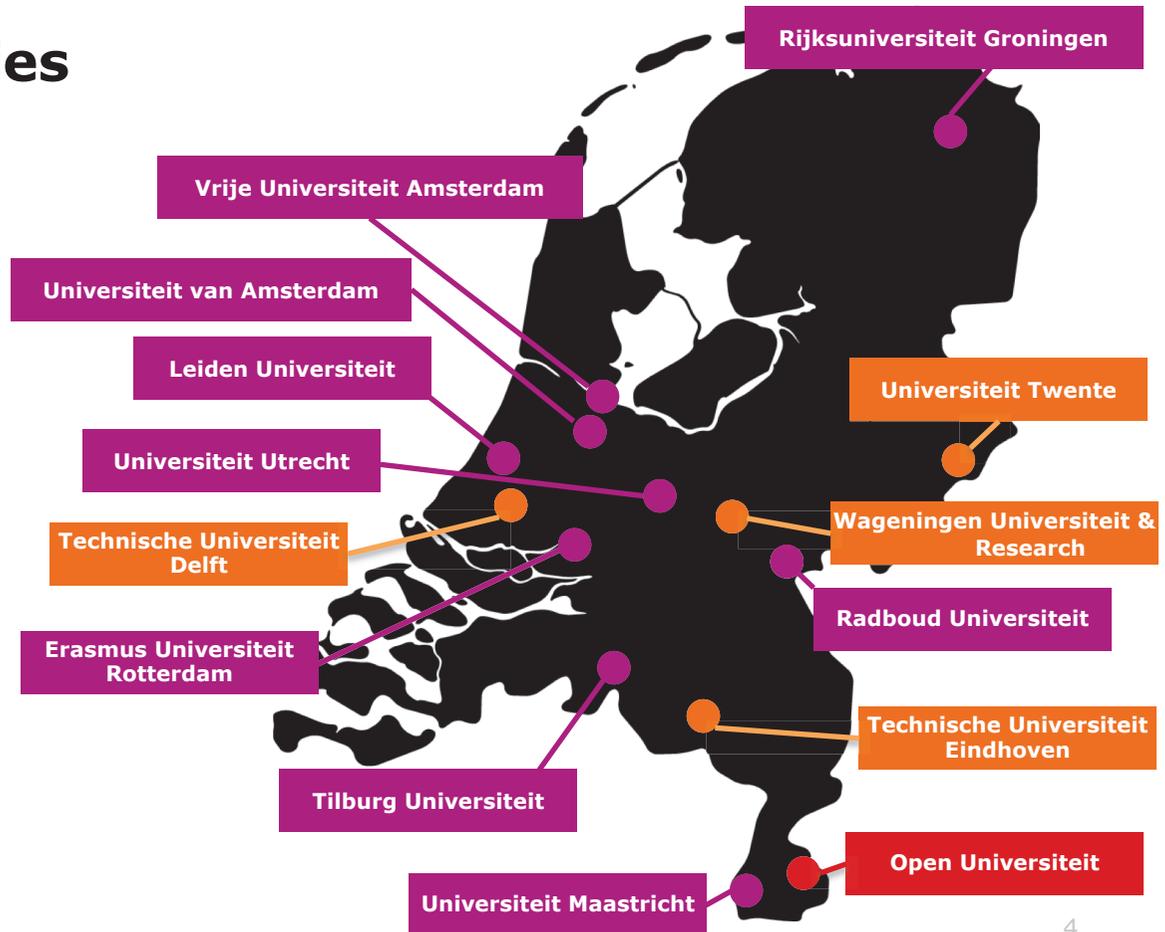
Towards a sectordashboard



# 14 Dutch Universities



Comprehensive  
Technical  
Open





# 6 Policy Domains

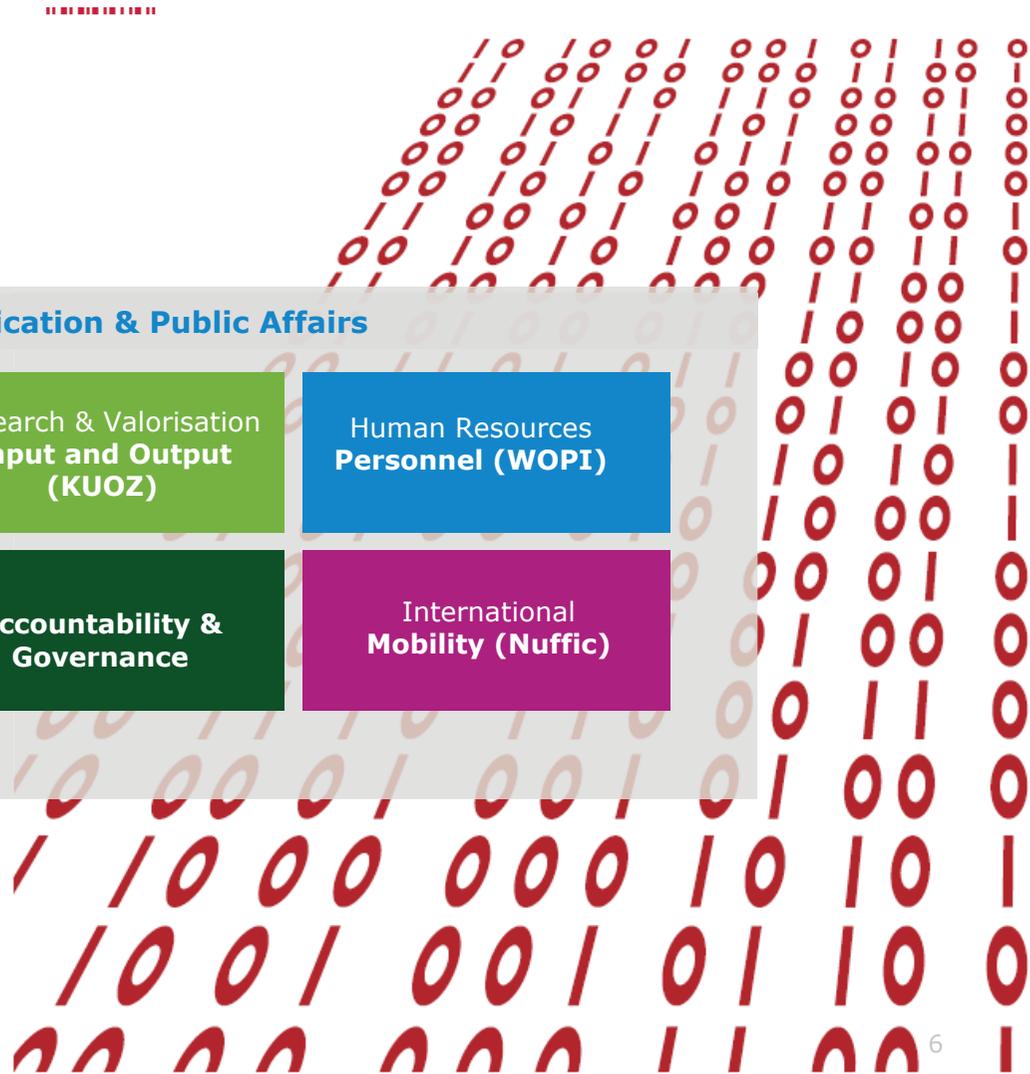


Loaded with data...



Facts and Figures VSNU:  
[https://www.vsnu.nl/nl\\_NL/feiten-en-cijfers.html](https://www.vsnu.nl/nl_NL/feiten-en-cijfers.html)

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## **But we want more... a sectordashboard which improves transparency further**

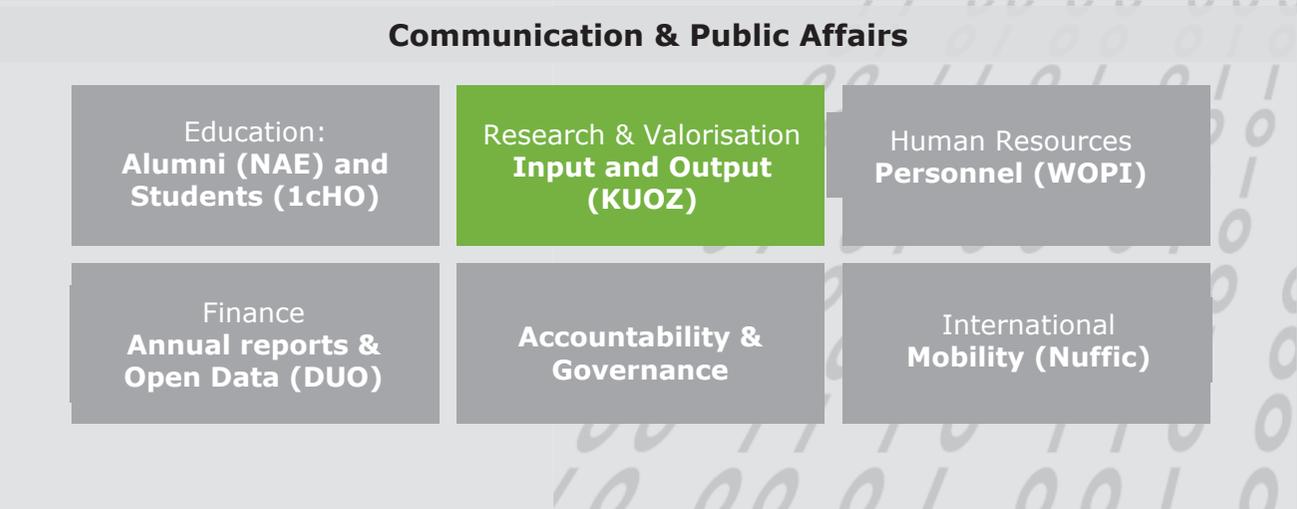
- Responsibility to show the use of resources allocated to higher education institutions
- Part of sector agreement 2018-2024 with Dutch ministry of Education, Culture and Science
- Will give an overview of the 3 core tasks of universities: education, research and valorisation

Important goals are also to:

- improve cooperation between dataproviders
- increase involvement of research community to improve use of institutional data
- reduce administrative burden for collecting data

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# Research indicators are **challenging!**







## How?

- \*Primarily information open to the public (i.e. annual reports, open data)
- Focus on existing HE-indicators (long list of 500+!)
- Further developing indicators in agreement with data providers
- Including multiple data providers and users
- Focus on collective overview of the sector rather than competitive benchmarking among universities
- Taking into consideration the risk of using indicators for performance based funding schemes

\*list of indicators for domain research and knowledge transfer is given to the audience



## **A case for change**

Clarifying the governance around research output information

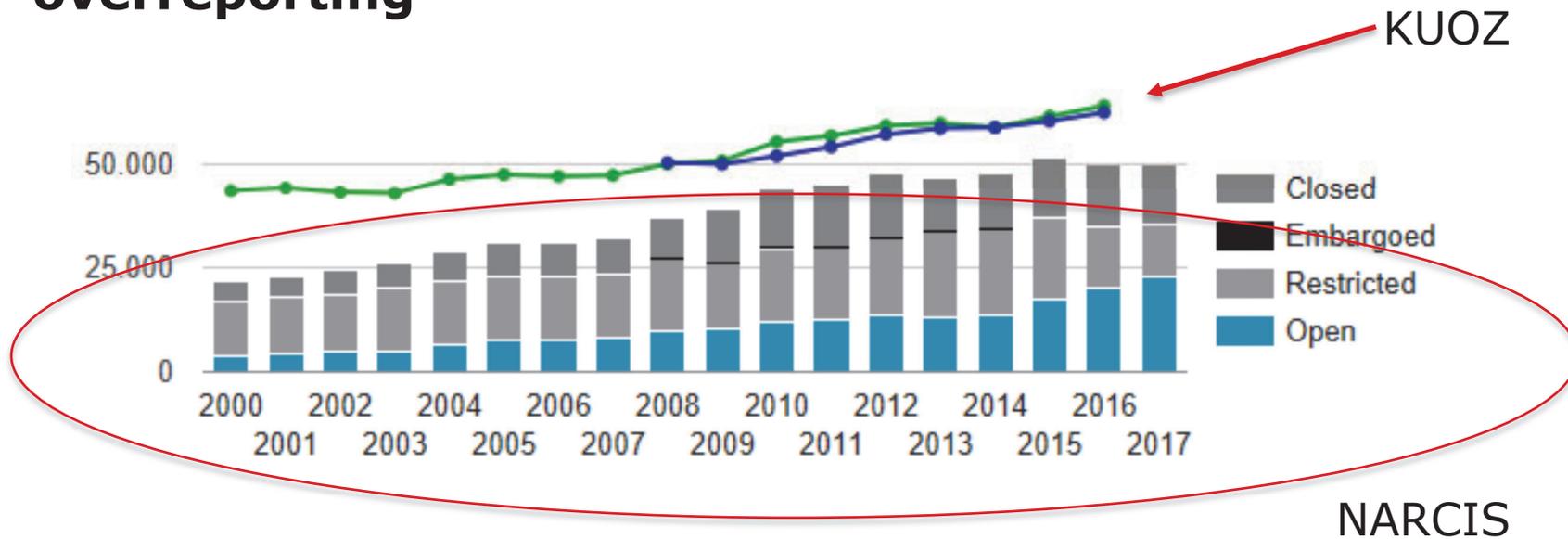


## Two separate systems for counting: NARCIS-KUOZ

- National Academic Research and Collaborations Information System – Data from CRIS and repositories
  - Providing scholarly productivity across the universities
  - improving the visibility of open science, open access publications and datasets
  - Not yet used for making policy recommendations
  - And, dissociation of figures in NARCIS and PURE
- VSNU-KUOZ- Core indicators on research
  - Collection of Publication figures from universities
  - Used for reporting to the ministry – since 1994 (or even earlier)
  - Based on classification developed by expert group
  - But, comments from the universities on delivering data to labor-intensive KUOZ



## Publication numbers differ – both under and overreporting



Green line: Total (peer and non peer reviewed) articles at VSNU as estimated by NARCIS  
Blue line: Total (peer and non-peer reviewed) articles at VSNU



## Reasons for different numbers

- Difference in scope: not all universities in NARCIS
- Different ways of counting.
  - o KUOZ considers publication numbers per university while NARCIS per publication. For example publication by authors from different universities. NARCIS may have all open access publications, but not all closed access publications are available.
- Difference in definitions

NARCIS*	KUOZ
Books, dissertations, conference proceedings	Scientific publications
Scientific output	
Articles	Scientific articles
	Not-peer reviewed articles
	Field articles (Dutch:Vak)



## Who governs the classifications on research output?

Parties involved are for example:

- VSNU
- KUOZ Expert group on definitions
- CRIS providers and user groups (i.e. PURE)
- Rathenau (on behalf of ministry) with an advisory group on indicators
- NARCIS Advisory council
- SURF
- Edustandaard
- CERIF
- University libraries
- Elsevier

*Who decides? How do we ensure that information is relevant for policymakers?*



# Suggestions for improvements



## **Suggestions to measure university research output through NARCIS**

- Improved information flow between PURE and NARCIS
- Checking the publications for digital object identifier (DOI)
- Initiative by university libraries for the indicators for research and knowledge transfer domain
- Clarify governance of research classifications
- Working group to develop key figures for policy information about research
- Ensuring full coverage of NARCIS
- Using NARCIS as the “open data portal” for research output
- Monitoring Open Access through NARCIS
- Replacing (parts of) KUOZ with NARCIS reporting tools



## Next steps for KUOZ

- KUOZ institutional researchers meeting in october
  - o To clarify the reliability of the underlying KUOZ methodology and
  - o Use of KUOZ figures in the wake of GDPR, required SEP tables
  - o No benchmarking, but clustering of publication to support domains
  - o To find alternatives to private parties for benchmarking Dutch research and knowledge transfer
  - o To view KUOZ figures with sufficient knowledge of current and future developments.
  - o Striving for automatisisation of data harvesting via NARCIS



## **Mentimeter questions**

**The End**