Archiving by design
Norwegian approach

Espen Sjøvoll
June 6th 2019
Norway – a digital economy

Source: EU Digital Scoreboard 2018
Norway – a digital economy (cont.)

Source: Statistics Norway and EU Digital Scoreboard, 2018
Its all about documenting information and decisions

... So that our organisation can know what it actually knows...
Search and reuse of information provides efficiency and avoid duplication of tasks

... to provide evidence for chains of events...
Authenticity ensures security under the law, public accountability and democracy

.. so that the past may learn from our experiences
Useable and authentic data to enable research and ensure cultural legacy
In March 2017 the Auditor General reported to Parliament...
The ministries have huge gaps in their records

- They do have records – about half a million documents a year
- Abundant evidence of poor routines in general and for areas of high public interest
- Important areas with no or poor records:
  - Decision to stop a 2,4 B NOK ICT project in the Norwegian Police
  - Norwegian bilateral relations with China 2010 – 2017 (after Nobel peace price to Chinese oppositional Li Xiabao)
  - Decision not to meet Dalai Lama in 2014
  - Investigation of the basis of international law for Norway to take part in the action against ISIS.
How did we get here?
Before our records process worked just fine...
... untill the age of information overflow
We identified a toxic cocktail of four main drivers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volume and variety of data</th>
<th>Nobody is expected to spend any time on this</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• § everything with archival value is to be archived</td>
<td>• Priority on getting the real job done</td>
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<tr>
<td>• § Quite a lot may have archival value</td>
<td>• Lack of management signals on compliance</td>
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<td>• Comes in many formats and channels</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Individual assessment</th>
<th>User-unfriendly systems</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Each piece of information manually</td>
<td>• Slow and complex DRM-systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>• § unclear legal assessment criterias</td>
<td>• Low level of integration between systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>• § additional snag: Freedom of information act</td>
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Current situation is unmanageable for public sector

§ Remember to finish up the records before you leave tonight
New regulation for Norway opens for redesign

- Management strategy for document and records management
- Focus on data, registries, systems and automation, less on individual documents
- Documentation of algorithms and systems design mandatory part of archival data
- Downsize NOARK and explore “Archiving by Design”
  - Think European level standardisation, not national regulation
... but the answers lies beyond archives legislation
Complex casuality

- § GDPR
- Legacy
- ICT systems/Vendors in the market
- Incentives for innovation (?)
- § access to info. act
- § national legislation
- § public procurement

Budgets

Design thinking
What if nobody spends any time on archiving in 2025?
What is our goal?
Archiving by design means designing information systems to support the work process in such a way that the long-term accessibility of that information is taken into account from the outset.

Erik Saaman, Strategic Advisor at the National Archives of the Netherlands
How do we get there?

User orientation  Technology  Innovation  Collaboration

Procurement  Rules & regulation  Organization
**Collaboration and user oriented approach**

- Listen to and understand the user
- Focus on needs rather than solutions
- Collaborate closely with all agents (Public sector, market vendors, academia+)
- Harmonization of concepts and topics
- Establish an arena for innovation
- Collaborate internationally to solve problems that are larger than Norway
Organisasjon, regelverk og innkjøp

- National archives must clear national postion
- Be bold and dare to challenge the existing!
- Focus on needs rather than instruments
- Need for a new approach towards standarization and regulations
- Need for a new approach to procurement to stimulate new solutions, not incumbents
- Gain purchasing power by joint procurement among public sector organizations
Together we can solve complex problems!
Who wants to collaborate?
Archiving by design

Workshop

June 6th 2019
Workshop

Objectives

- To clarify whether this is a common challenge
- Clarify the interest to collaborate on:
  - Finding common approach
  - Exchange experiences and best practice
  - Possibly develop a common framework

Practical information:

- 3 groups
- 3 themes to discuss
  (2 minutes individual, 10 minutes discussion each theme)
- Each group presents 3 key takeaways from the group
- One secretary for each group documents the discussion
1. Documentation and the role of the National Archives

- What are the main challenges related to documentation in public sector?

- How should National Archives engage in early stages of record management in public sector?
  - What kind of role should the National Archives take?
  - What are the possible benefits of taking an active role?
  - What are challenges of taking an active role?
  - What is, in your opinion, the ideal situation?
2: Archive by design

- How do you evaluate the potential of archive by design?
- In which way does digitalisation and technological development open up new possibilities for records management in public sector?
- How does your National Archive deal with digitalization of processes and information in the society?
3: Common challenges and need for collaboration

- Based on the two former themes, are there common challenges across borders?
- What are the possible benefits of collaborating across borders to find a common approach?
- How can we work together to solve these issues?
- What should be the next step for EAG?
Follow up questions?

Espen.Sjovoll@arkivverket.no
Mobile: (+47) 98411632