HUMlab
Umeå University
www.humlab.umu.se

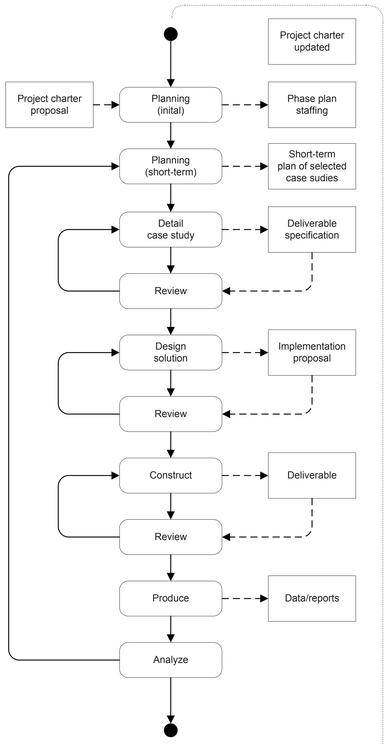
Implementing and sustaining a DH infrastructure: The HUMlab experience

Formalized workflows involving researchers and system developers

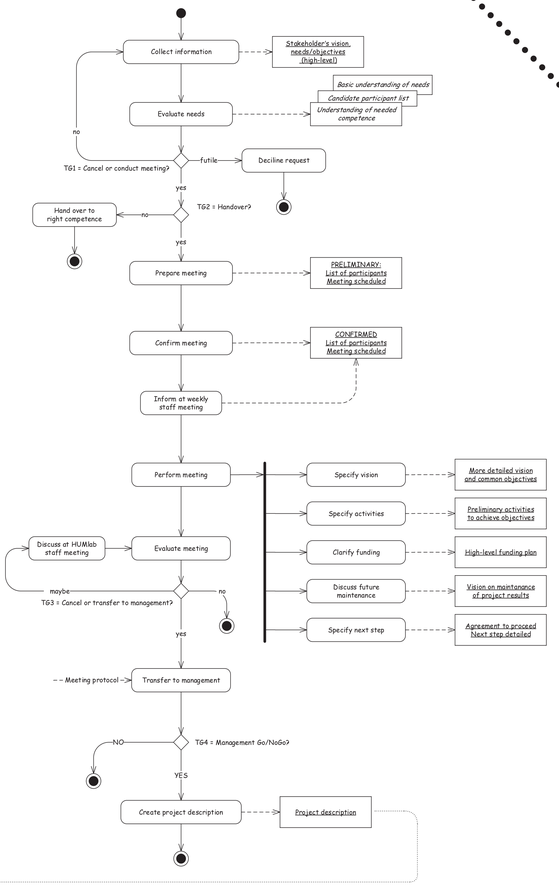
Values in the work processes with research projects:

- Ensure high quality using a structured workflow in the dialogue with new stakeholder.
- Be proactive to needs of researchers.
- Systems solutions is incorporated early in collaboration.
- Data and service hosting is planned, increasing the awareness of the need for maintenance and sustainability.
- System infrastructures are part of publications.

Researcher / Developer processes



Initial dialogue with a new stakeholder



HUMlab* in operation: organizational flow

Discoveries Innovations
Satisfaction Added Value

Create Strategies

Create Visions

Execute Projects

Organize Department

Apply for Funding

Public Outreach

Education Research

Host an Event

Capture Data

Visualize Data

Analyse Data

Apply Methods

Curate Data

Develop Methods

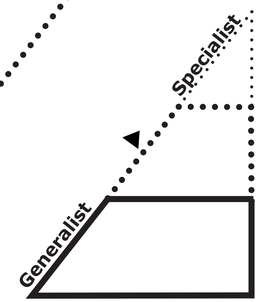
Analyse Text

Ideas
Needs
Visions
Curiosity
Questions
Expectations
Commitments

Formalizing workflows in academia: making structures within DH visible

Core competences (existing and needed within or in connection to HUMlab):

- Interdisciplinary collaboration
- System development
- Creative processes and artistic curation
- Capture, store and curate data
- Visualize and explore data
- Text analysis
- Simulation
- Network analysis
- Big data / Open (linked) data



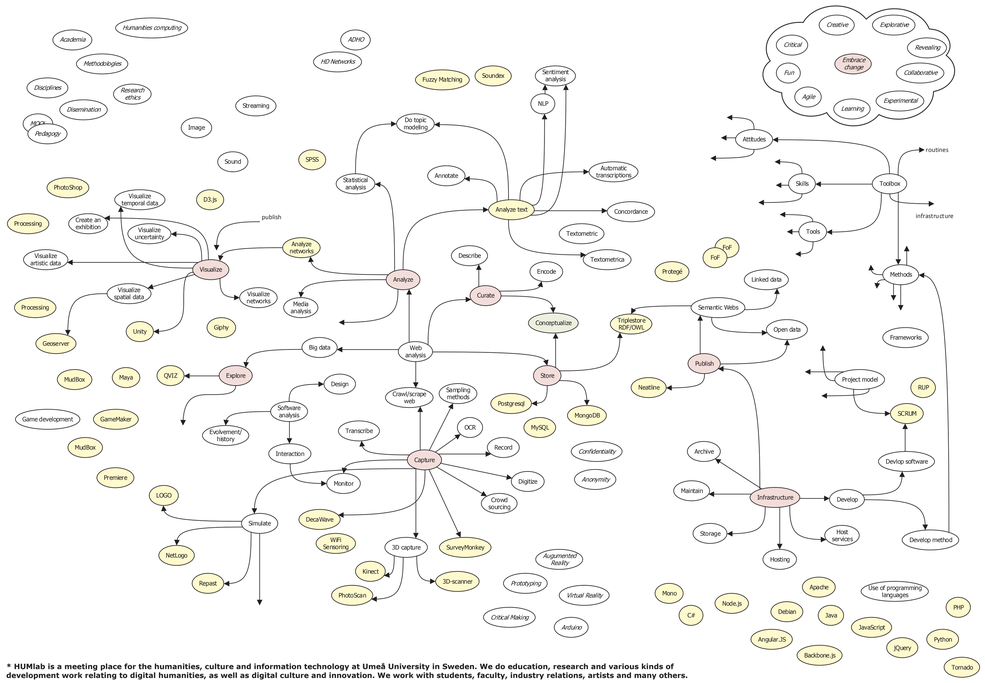
Generalists or Specialists: questions on distribution of workload between areas

Skills in Tools and Technology Transient, Short-lasting
e.g. Mallet

Skills in Methods
e.g. Topic Modelling, Latent Dirichlet Allocation

Domain Knowledge Persistent, Long-lasting
e.g. Text Analysis

Knowledge, Methods, Tools: challenges in keeping competences within a complex range of processes



Commitments and engagements within Education, Research and Public Outreach:

- Proposal engagements
- Method development
- System development in research and artistic projects and for internal system
- Coordinate development
- Maintain competence center
- Networking

* HUMlab is a meeting place for the humanities, culture and information technology at Umeå University in Sweden. We do education, research and various kinds of development work relating to digital humanities, as well as digital culture and innovation. We work with students, faculty, industry relations, artists and many others.