

Media Management & Archiving

Adding Archiving & Storage to media lifecycle at Wageningen University

April 2026 | Tim Wohltmann



Tim Wohltmann

Product Owner Educational Media Team

Tim

PO | Educational Media

Teaching & Learning Centre

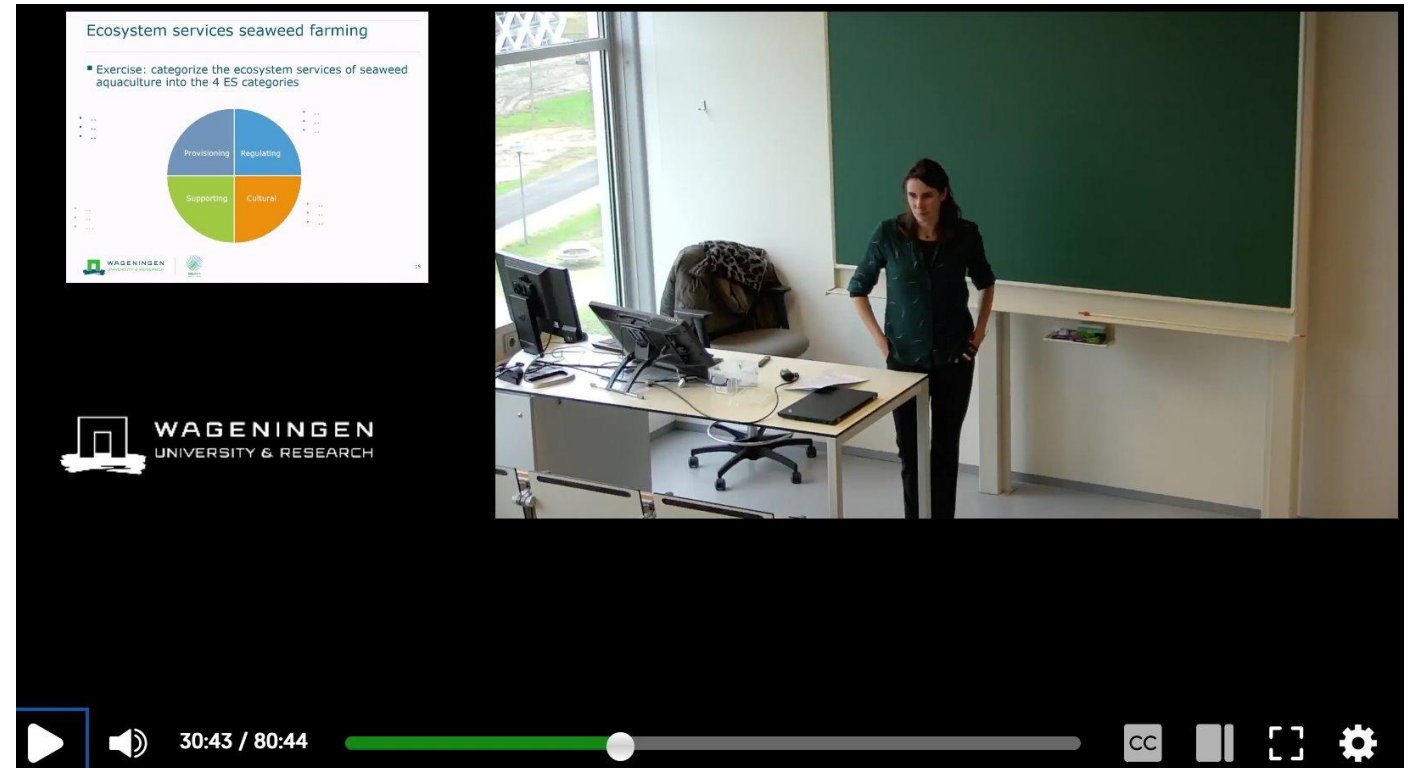
- 20+ years experience in primary, secondary, higher education
- Creating digital learning materials
- Universities, for- and non-profits
- Multiple countries and lingual contexts

Types of content

Context

Lecture & Event Capture

- Livestreaming and recordings offered from 63 rooms throughout campus.
- Produces >8,000 weblectures annually with average success rate of >95%
- Over 52,000 videos currently available in 7K courses with 3.2 million views over past several years.

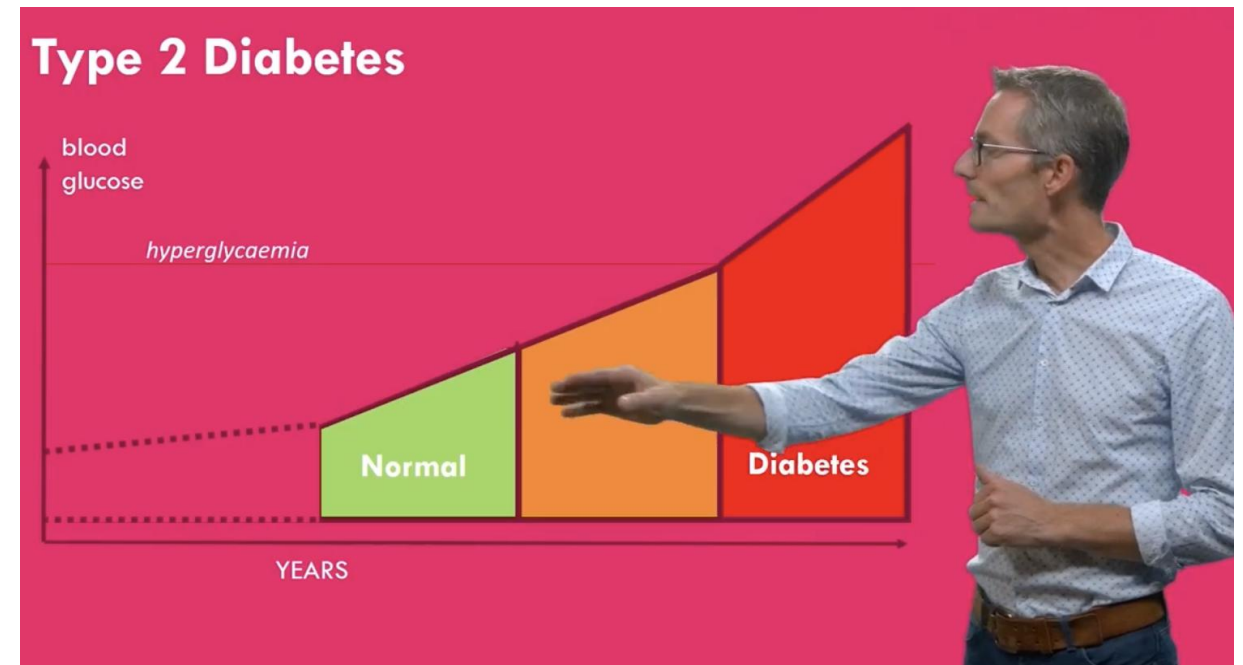


Types of content

Context

Circa 300 other media objects annually including:

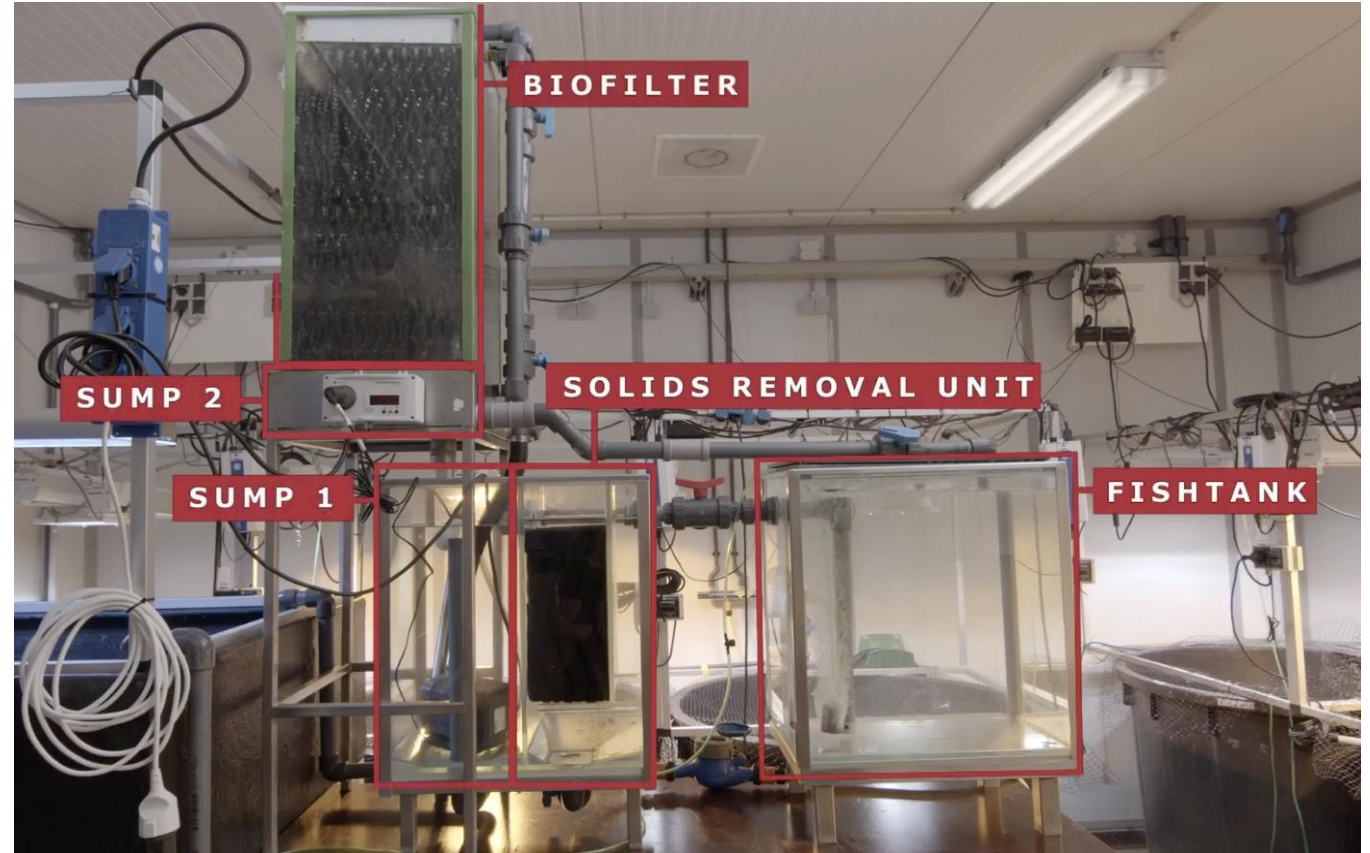
- Videos
- Interactive media
- Screencasts
- Podcasts



Beyond presentations & recall

Media illustrating:

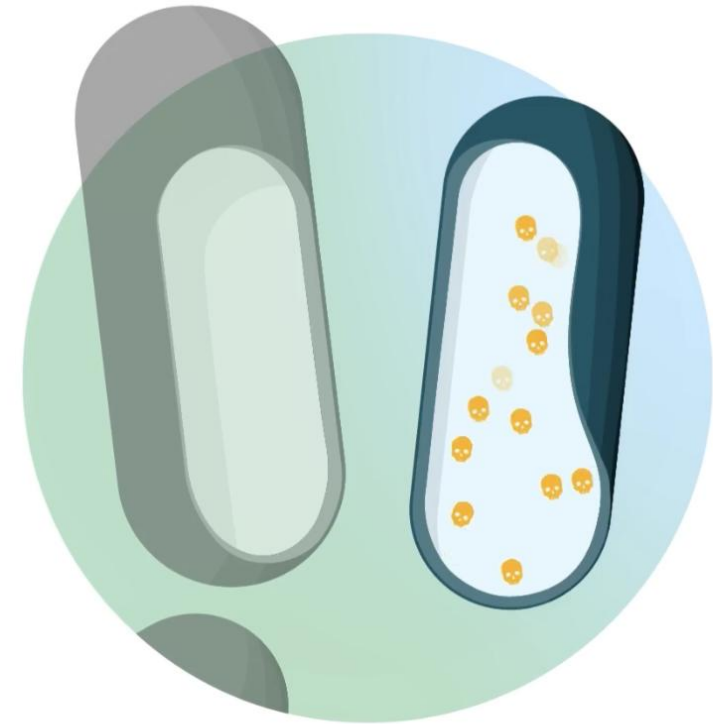
- Scientific processes
- Communities
- Environmental or location-specific contexts



Visualizing what can't be seen

And for visualizing data or spaces otherwise impossible:

- Animation
- 3D & CGI



STYLIZED REPRESENTATION

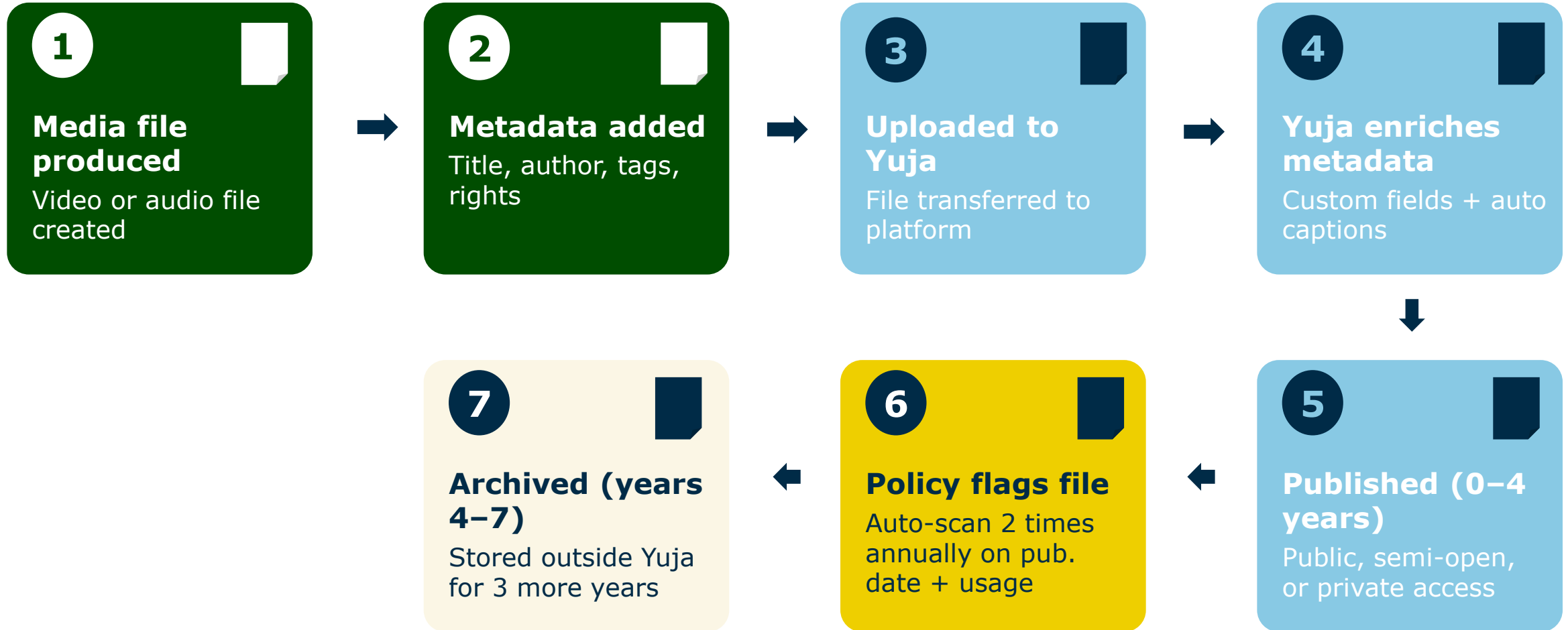
Taking students where we otherwise can't



Exploring the underground world at mole-size with Dr. Monique Weemstra for soil ecology.

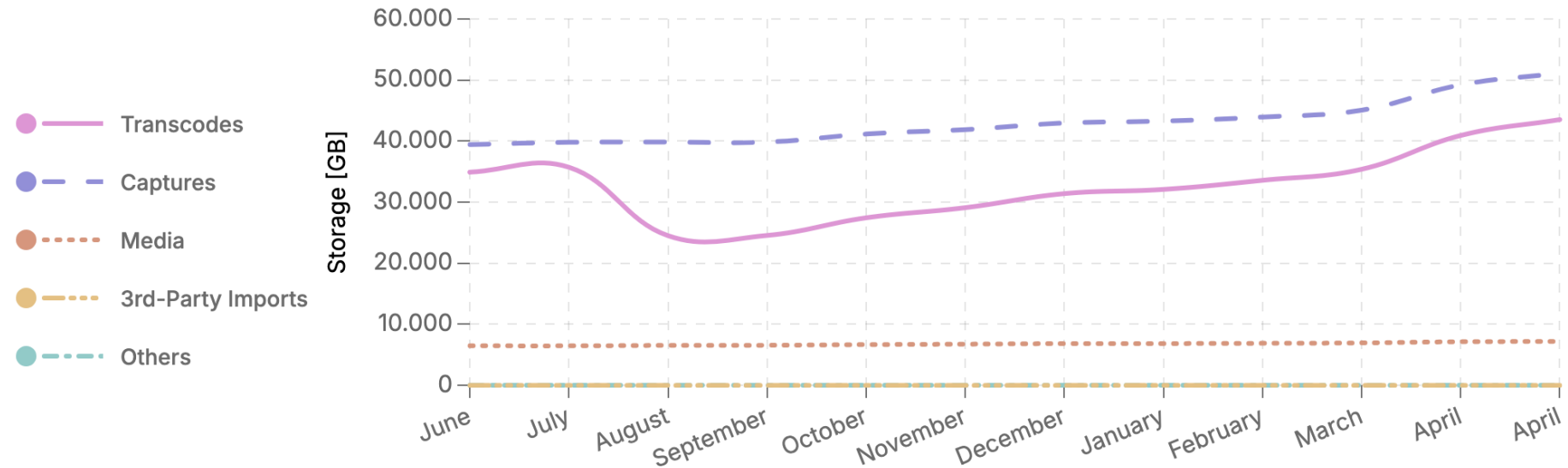
Media lifecycle

7-year journey from production to archive



Storage in 2026

Context



- 101TB total, 40% of which is transcodes
- At current, approximately 60% needs to remain in Production environment (policy 4 years from date of publication); likely 25TB needs to be archived
- Business policies in EVP exist but are not being run to archive older assets

Key challenges

Refining an approach to archiving



Technical gaps

Ensuring reliable user notification for archived content in automated way



User confusion

Media exists within larger ecosystem; how to ensure archived media doesn't increase support tickets when archiving.



Scale and complexity

Automation depends business policies -> integrity of metadata. Systematization of metadata requires health checks to archive continuously at scale.



Fragmented storage

On- and off-prem storage + disaster recovery in spread across four systems = risk.

Archiving today is technically fragile, user-unfriendly, infrequent, and spread across four systems.

Archiving / Storage Options

Local Enterprise Video Platform (EVP) glacier storage for medium term

- Integrated with EVP for simple automation
- Allows for user-prompted recovery (years 4-7 post publication)
- Ease of access or management of EVP storage really necessary?
- Base packages costly in TB bundles

Are you sure you want to archive the following 16 selected items?

Warning

Archiving the 16 selected items will perform the following operations on them:

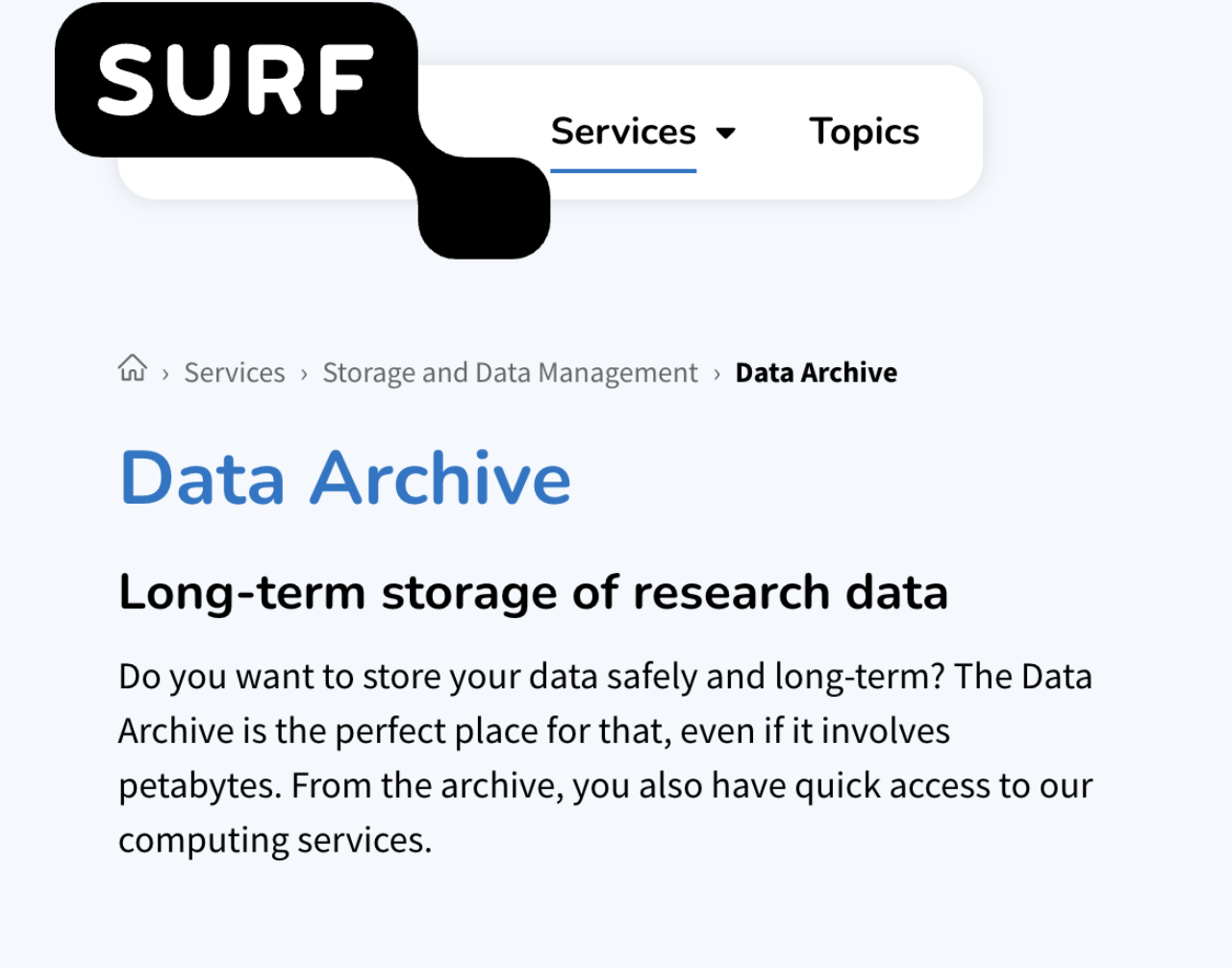
- Content will be moved from the current owners My Media to the newly specified owner's My Media.
- Linked or published content will be unpublished.
- The new Owner of the content will be the selected user.

Title	Type	Added By	File Size
Urban Population	Video	Ammar	33.86 MB
Waves-17122	Video	Ammar	46.85 MB

Archiving / Storage Options

Institutional Long Term

- Transfer to tape for long term, low accessibility storage
- Constrained access, better fit for preservation
- Cost-effective if long term required; alternative to transferring to provincial archive



The screenshot shows the SURF website interface. At the top left is the SURF logo. To its right are navigation links for 'Services' (with a dropdown arrow) and 'Topics'. Below the navigation is a breadcrumb trail: 'Home > Services > Storage and Data Management > Data Archive'. The main heading is 'Data Archive' in blue. Below it is the sub-heading 'Long-term storage of research data'. The main text reads: 'Do you want to store your data safely and long-term? The Data Archive is the perfect place for that, even if it involves petabytes. From the archive, you also have quick access to our computing services.'

Archiving / Storage Options

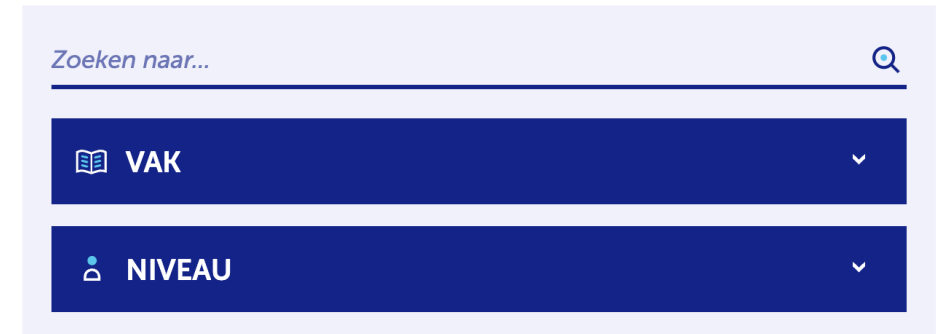
National or NGO Archives (in partnership with CAWO)

- Beeld & Geluid (“Istitute for Sound & Vision”) provides MAM-like archiving
- Includes open but also private access gradients (e.g., medical collections)
- Utilizes proxies for easy searching
- Costs and returns, especially long term, is worth considering if limited access is required
- Robust leveraging of metadata



DIGITAAL LESMATERIAAL

Ontdek het Digitaal Lesmateriaal met media op maat, inspeland op de actualiteit en het curriculum. Zoek op jouw onderwerp, vak of niveau. Meer weten? Lees alles over de [Onderwijs Mediacollectie](#) en hoe je deze gebruikt.



Organizational Considerations

Deciding on archiving / data retention policy



Legal & accreditation compliance

7-year retention is grounded in national selection lists and accreditation — inaction carries legal risk.



Cost vs. clarity tradeoff

EVP storage vs. Glacier vs. Tape (via SURF) vs. National archive — is clearer user messaging worth the premium?



Restoration risk

Restores upon request (up to year 7) require time, manual work and can be disruptive. How to ensure compliance in balance with pragmatism?



Permanent storage question

Inaugurations, farewells, Seminal presentations may need to be archived permanently – who is resourced and accountable for post-7 year storage?

A policy should balance legal obligation, cost, user experience, and operational risk.



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