

Tonny Skovgård Jensen:  
The Relevance of National Libraries for Society

Annual General Meeting 2022

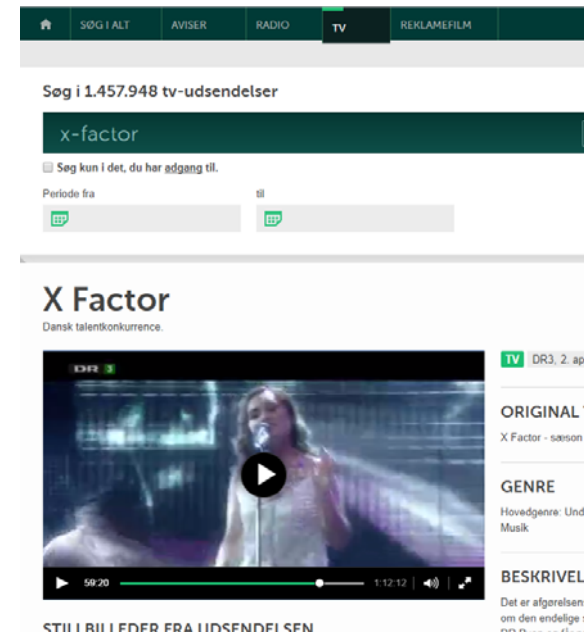
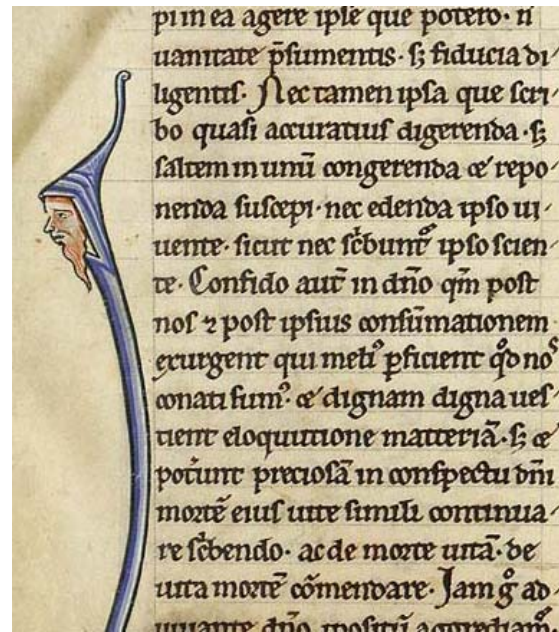
19 - 21 June 2022

National Library of Türkiye, Ankara

# The relevance of national libraries for society - a newcomer's perspective

Tonny Skovgård Jensen

Royal Danish Library



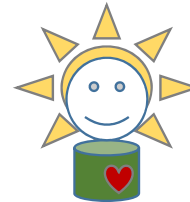
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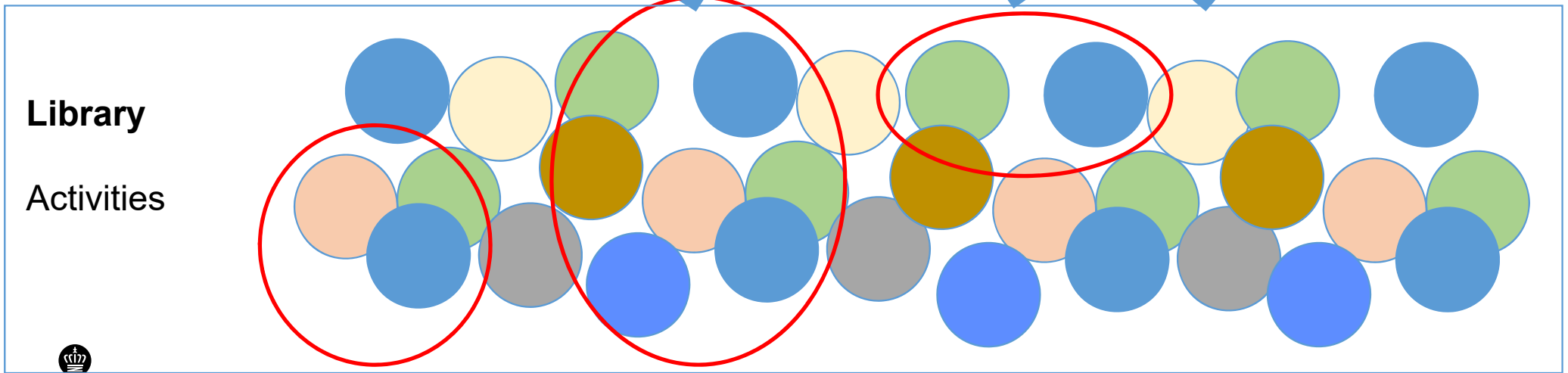
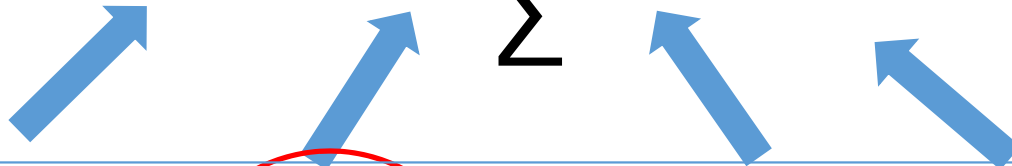
# Value creation

Which kind of value?  
How much value?



$\Sigma$

Enlightenment,  
Knowledge, understanding  
Inspiration  
Entertainment



# Royal Danish Library – a melting pot of mergers

- Royal Danish Library – a result of many mergers
  - Today around 630 FTE
  - 20 visiting locations in Denmark
  - National library
  - University library, full service, for several universities
  - National library services for all research libraries: Academic e-resources, Library management system ...
  - Services for all public libraries
- Recent mergers ...
  - Royal Danish Library Copenhagen – national library and university library
  - Statsbiblioteket Aarhus – university library and national library
  - Universities own libraries, Copenhagen, Aarhus, Roskilde
  - National cooperation agency for research libraries, academic e-resources
  - National library of art and architecture
  - Library for the central administration, ministries etc.
  - Other special libraries: Drama, immaterial culture, gender studies

University Libraries

Cultural Heritage

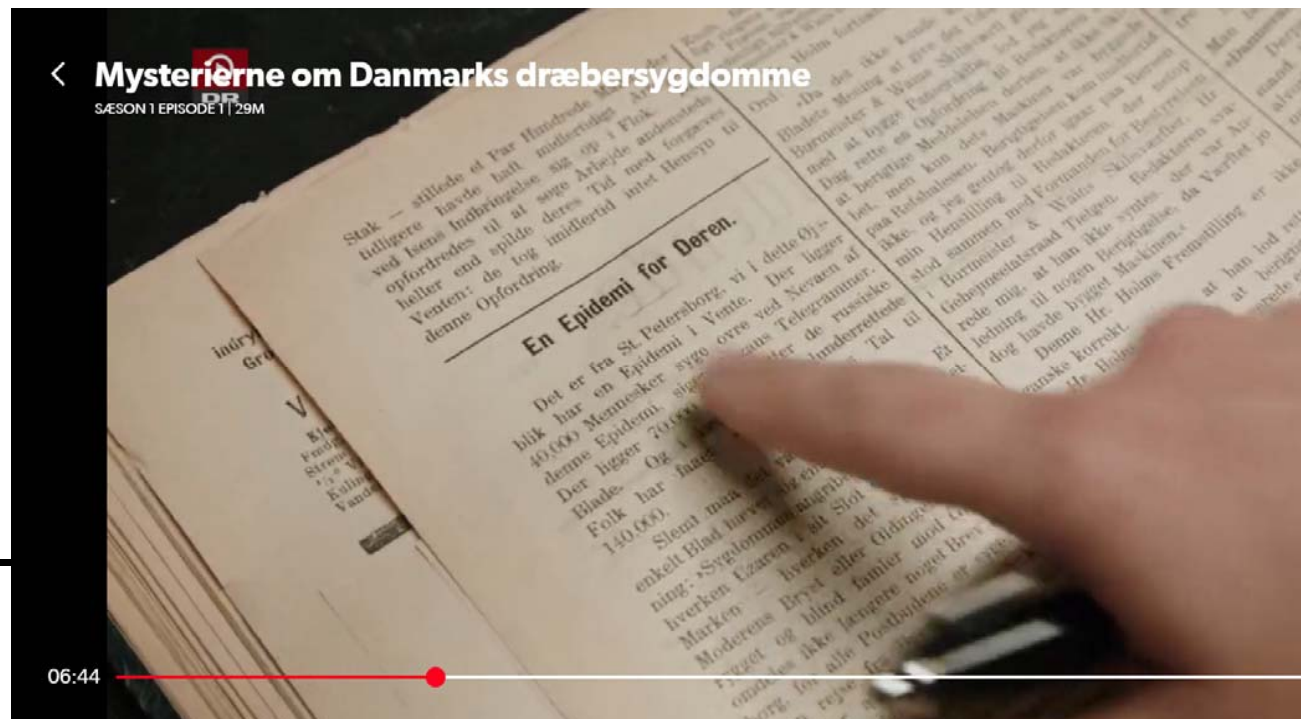
Services for public libraries



# What is "national library" of all this?

And what is the **relevance** for society of that part?

- Economic resources
- IT
- Buildings
- Communication band with
  
- What is the value of the national library to society?
  - An everyday question in the melting pot



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# Cultural Heritage – value creation

Realised value for society = usage (now or in the future)

User value

Communication and mediation

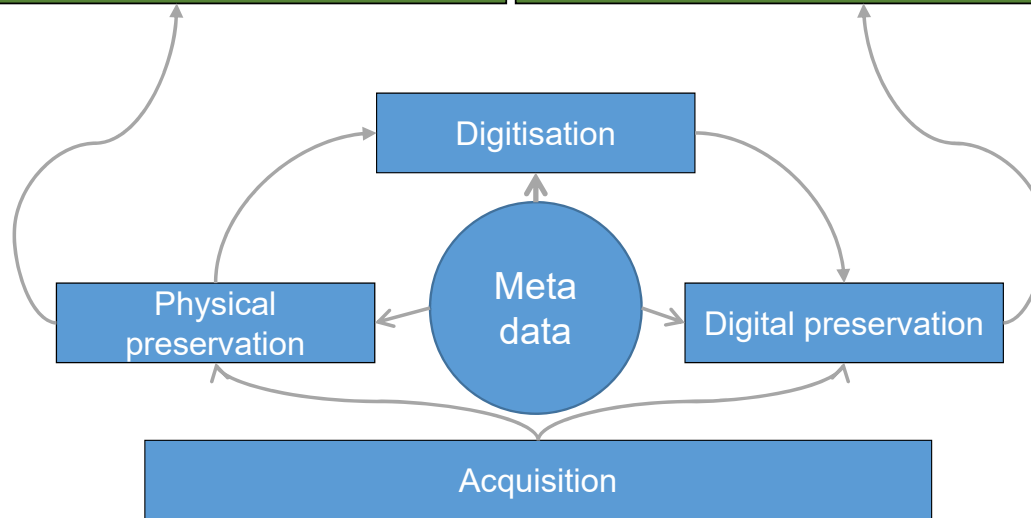
Services – reading room, catalogue, online digital content etc.

Deliverables

Physical collections

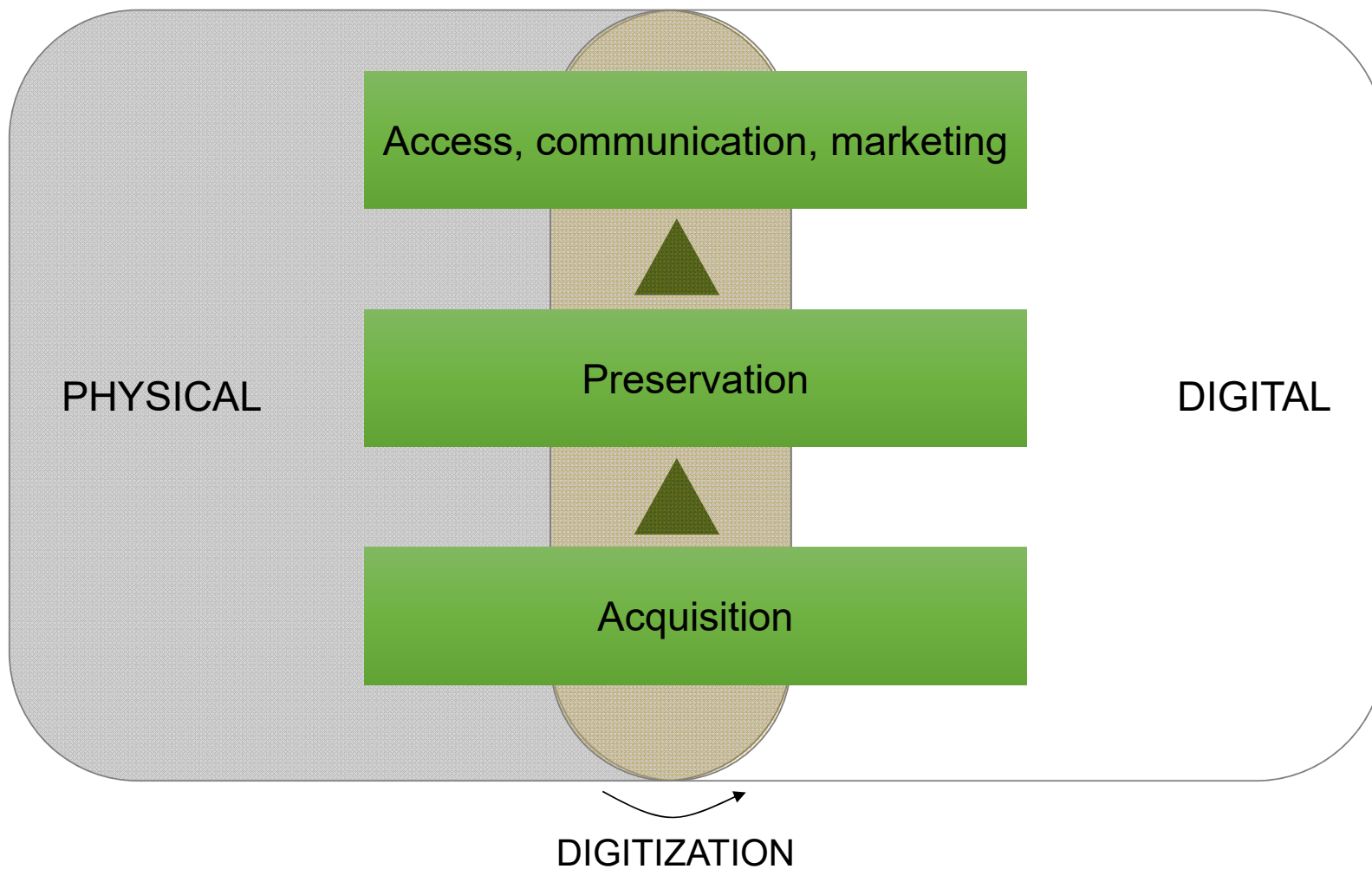
Digital collections

Necessary processes

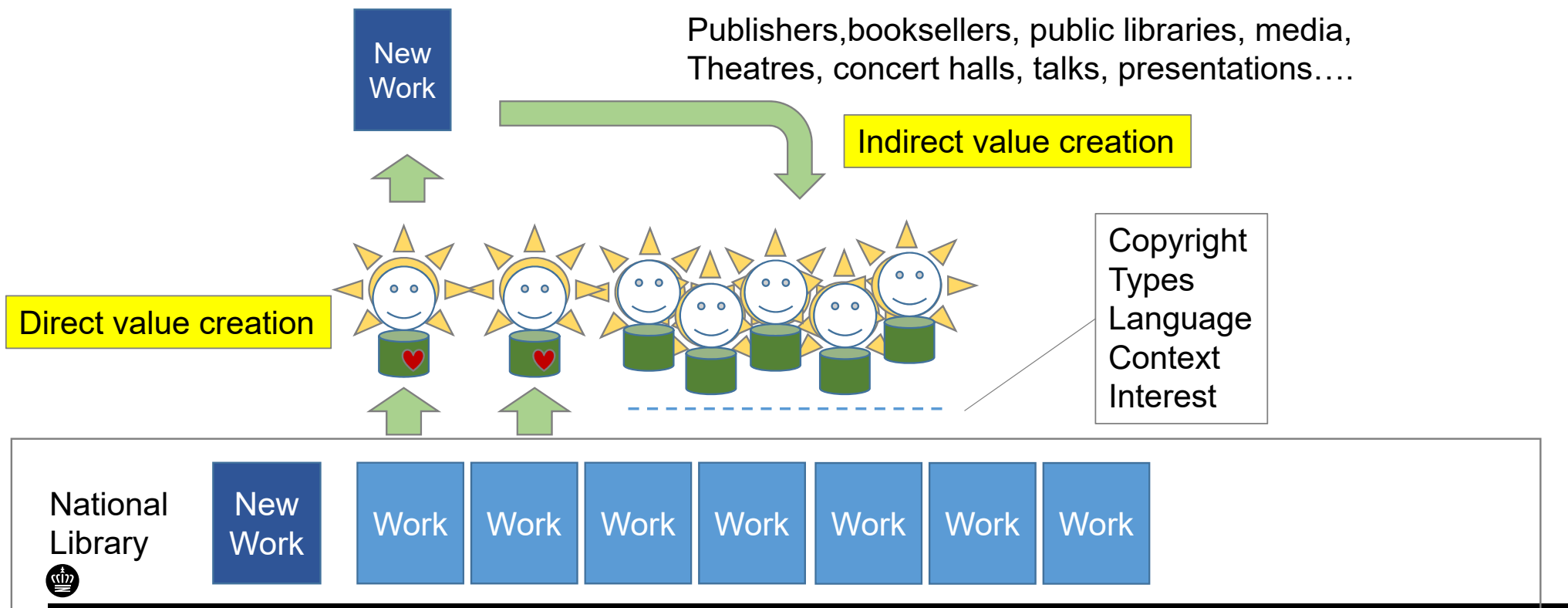


POTENTIAL VALUE





# Direct and indirect value creation



National Library



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Søg i 1.719.981 tv-udsendelser

badehotellet



Søg



Søg kun i det, du har adgang til.

Periode fra

til



## Badehotellet

Dansk tv-serie.



TV TV 2, 30. december 2013 kl. 20:04 - 20:54

### EPISODE

1

### ORIGINAL TITEL

Badehotellet

### GENRE

Hovedgenre: Serier; Undergenre: Dramaserie; Emne: Historisk drama og biografier

### BESKRIVELSE

Ved Vesterhavet slår Andersens lille badehotel dørene op for sæsonen 1928. Værtsparet Julius og Molly Andersen tager varmt imod stamgæsterne fra København, der ankommer belæst med bagage til fire ugers ferie. Der er gensynsglæde og højt humør, men feriedvilen er ikke uden sprækker.

### STILLBILLEDER FRA UDSENDELSEN



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creating value

What counts?

What can be counted?

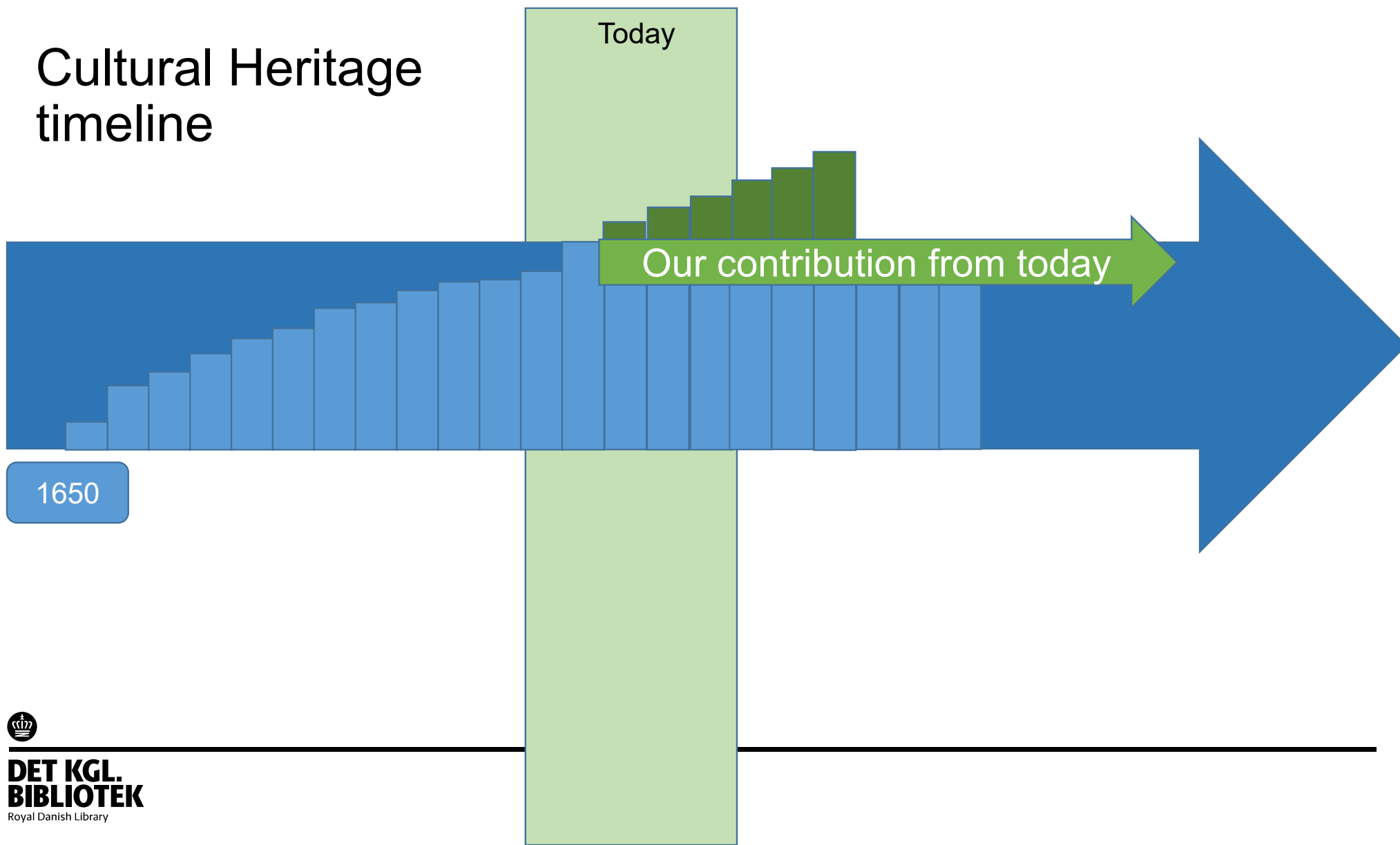
What can be explained?



Which tools are you using?



# Cultural Heritage timeline



# The "national library" part

- Just in case – rather than just in time
- Acquisition is not end-user oriented
  - Legal deposit – Danish, non-academic
  - Curators choice - Danish
  - Traditions
  - Old stuff – Danish and European
- Mostly not related to quality or demand
- For all researchers, and students – not just the universities we serve
- For citizens, professional creators of new works – books, music, architecture, art ...
- For future users
- We keep it even if no one ever uses it
- We keep stuff for a very long time – even if nobody uses it
  - Many other organizations help to provide newer content and much used content
  - After 100 years we are the only ones who have it – that is our unique value

