The National Digital Library of Finland – Public Interface FINNA

Aki Lassila

Head of Development

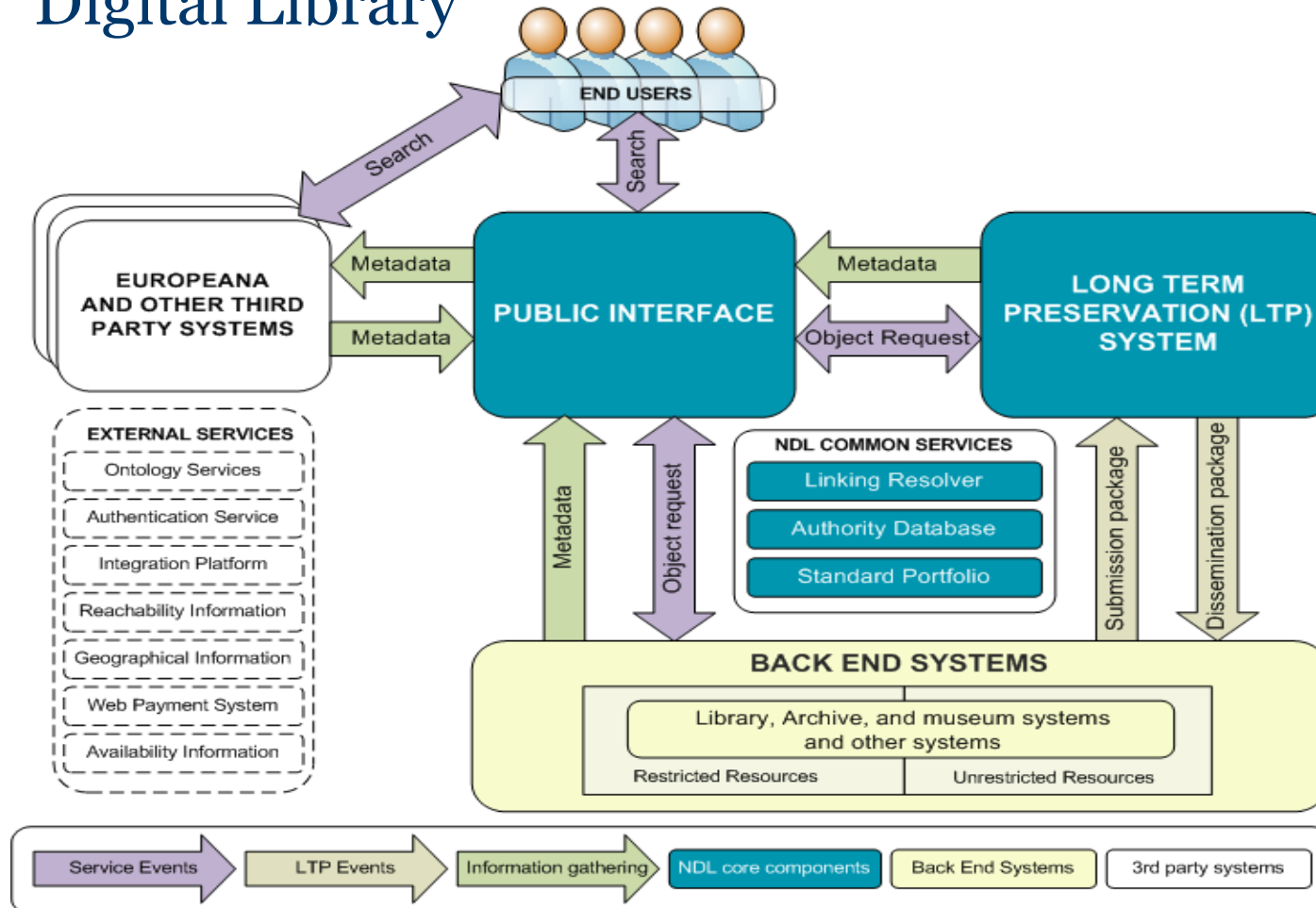National Library of Finland / Library Network Services

Outline

- National Digital Library of Finland
- Making of Finna
- Public interface Finna
- Demonstration of the public interface Finna

National Digital Library of Finland

National Digital Library means:

- Common user interface for the information resources of libraries, archives and museums (in operation 2012).

- Digitisation of the most essential cultural heritage materials of libraries, archives and museums.

- Development of a long-term preservation solution for electronic cultural heritage materials (in planning phase).

- National Digital Library works as an aggregator for the European Digital Library Europeana.

Enterprise Architecture of the National Digital Library

NATIONAL LIBRARY NETWORK SERVICES

The Public Interface FINNA

Users can:

- Search information from archive, library and museum systems and databases.
- Retrieve materials, such as pictures, documents, newspapers, research documents, video and audio recordings.
- Access digital services, such as renew loans, buy pictures and order documents.

One system and one metadata index, multiple views and services:

- National view for all content.
- Local and sector specific views (museum's view).
- Institutions' own views.

Benefits of the National Digital Library to the Society

- Improves availability of electronic information resources and services and makes their use easier.

- Strengthens cooperation across organisational and sectoral borders.

- Reduces overlapping expenses from digitisation and management, distribution and preservation of electronic material.

- Improves interoperability, manageability, and efficiency of processes.

- Preserves the potential of cultural heritage material far into the future.

Key Factors behind Success

- Central funding for infrastructure services.

- Organised structures of library sectors.

- Tradition of collaboration especially in library domain.

- Systematic development of centralised services.

- Customer organisations involved in steering centralised services.

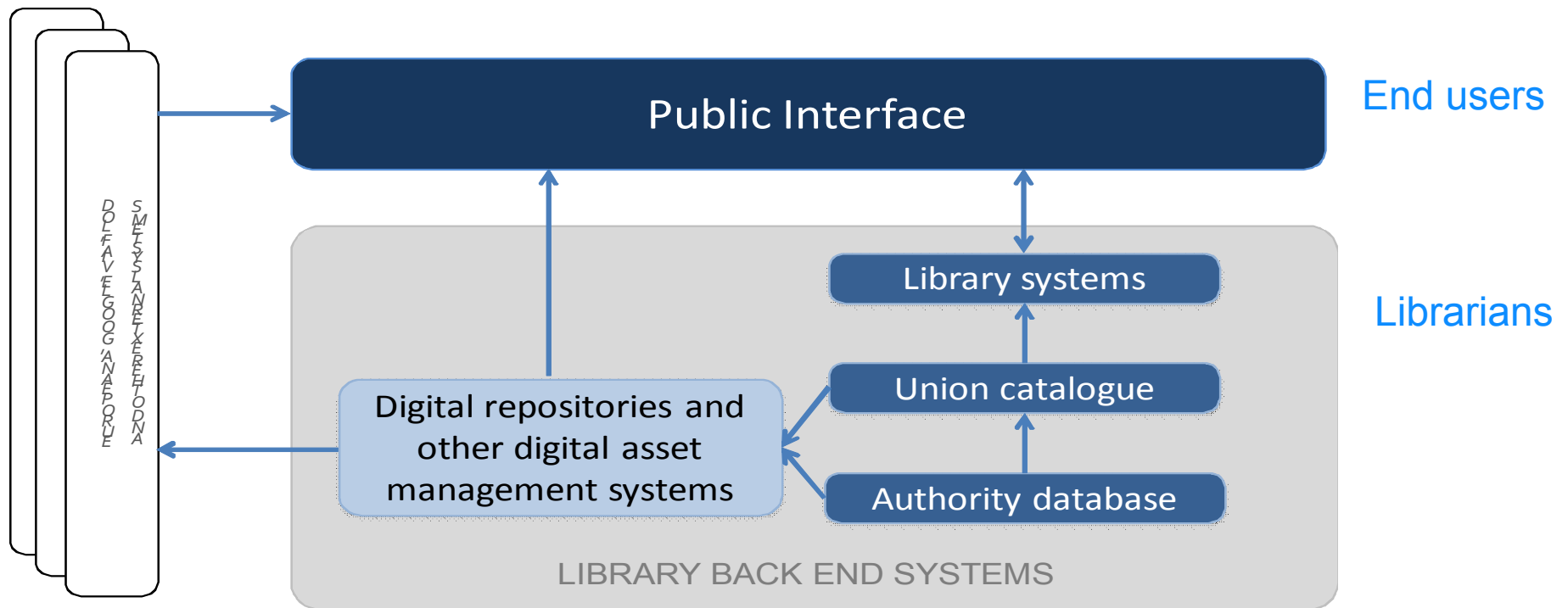# Main Principles Steering the Development of the NDL Public Interface Finna

- Development is based on the requirements defined together with libraries, archives, and museums.

- Organisations will become users of the software in phases.

- Development occurs in development cycles.

- The services are planned together with the customers.

- The user interface software is based on VuFind and additional open source software modules.

- National Library is responsible of the development of the software.

Customer driven development and Finna

- Why open source software (OSS) and agile development method?
  - Value of software is in how it enhances (existing) activities or enables (more efficient) new ways of doing things.
  - Above mentioned issues rely on e.g. how easily or efficiently users can utilize the system/software in question.
  - Note that software's functionality is not enough but usability, integratability (related to openness, APIs), and customization are also important.
- Development progresses in development cycles and issues are priorized according to users' needs.
- NDL's user interface Finna will need to continue to develop also in the future.
- Agile development methods (e.g. Scrum) and OSS based development fully support ongoing, customer driven service development work.

Backend systems of FINNA

Public Interface

End users

Librarians

Library systems

Digital repositories and other digital asset management systems

Union catalogue

Authority database

LIBRARY BACK END SYSTEMS

Software Architecture of the Public Interface Finna

- Finna is based on several software modules that are integrated together; therefore new modules can be added to the system if necessary
- Finna consists of two main parts:
  - End users' national interface or portal
  - Archives', libraries', and museums' administrator tools
- Main modules of the Finna system are:
  - End users' interface based on VuFind
  - Search engine Solr
  - Metadata harvesting and processing module RecordManager
  - Finnish linguistics module Voikko
  - External index and external APIs

- VuFind's role as the user interface is central.
- Admin panel handles statistics and upkeep.
- More functionality and modules can be added in the future.
- Finna's demo:
  www.kdk.fi/en/public-interface
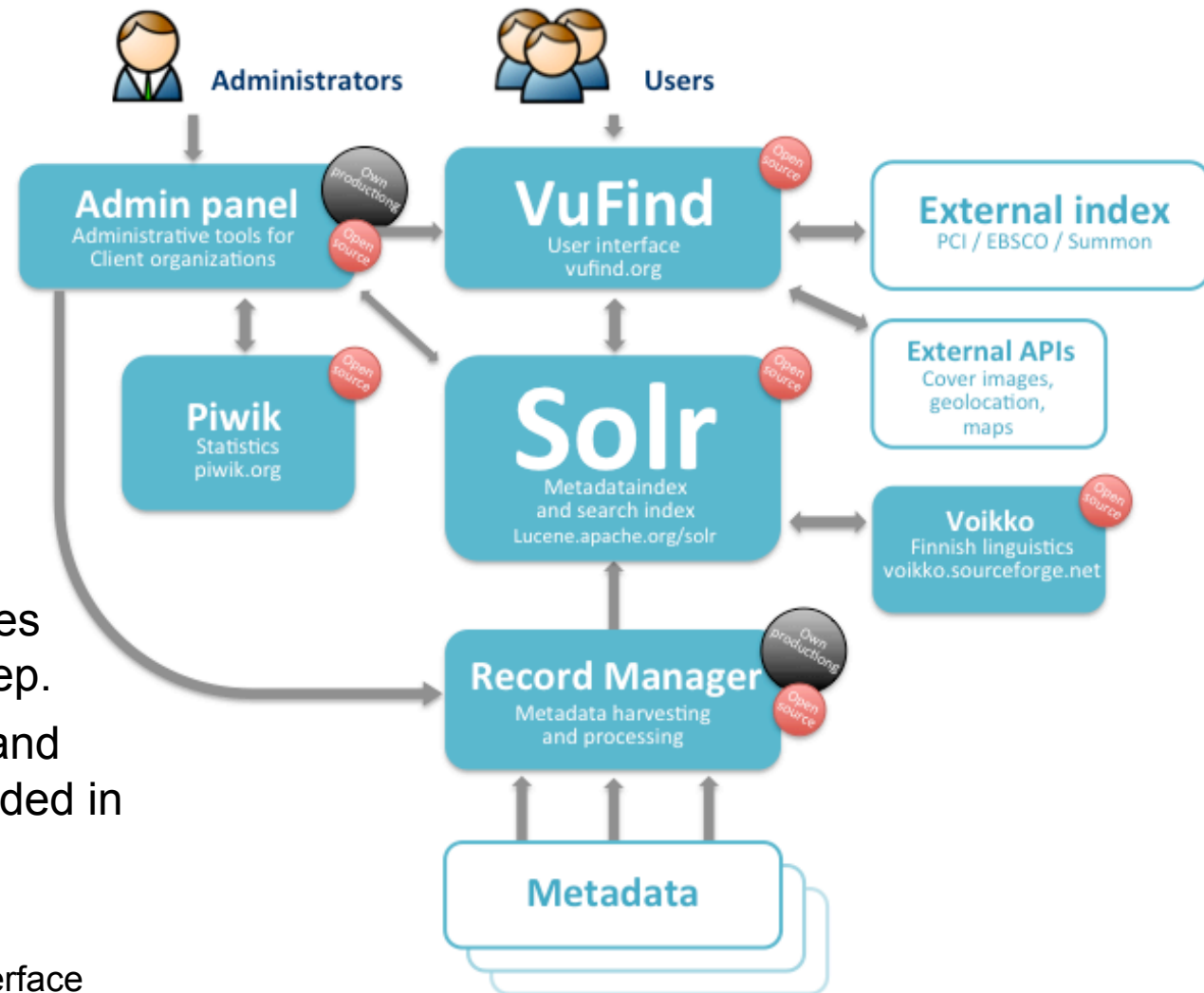
Focus in 2012–2014

- 2012:
  - Forming the User Interface consortium and collaboration structures.
  - Planning of the system and building it, launch of Finna.

- 2013: New customers, new functionalities.

- 2014: New customers, new functionalities, new partnerships.

**THE NATIONAL
LIBRARY
OF FINLAND**

Thank you!

Aki Lassila
aki.lassila@helsinki.fi