# Integrating Records Systems with Digital Archives

## Current status and way forward

DLM Forum Members Meeting

June 11th 2014, Athens

# What is it archives have to do?

http://rahvusarhiiv.ra.ee/en/what-we-do/

„The functions of the National Archives are:
- to collect documented data important for our society;
- to offer broadest use of the collections;
- …"

„In a period where free access to information constitutes a fundamental right, government owned Archives do not just store and preserve simple documents but manage information issued in different types of material."

General State Archives of Greece (http://www.gak.gr/ → Mission)

# Where's the information we want?



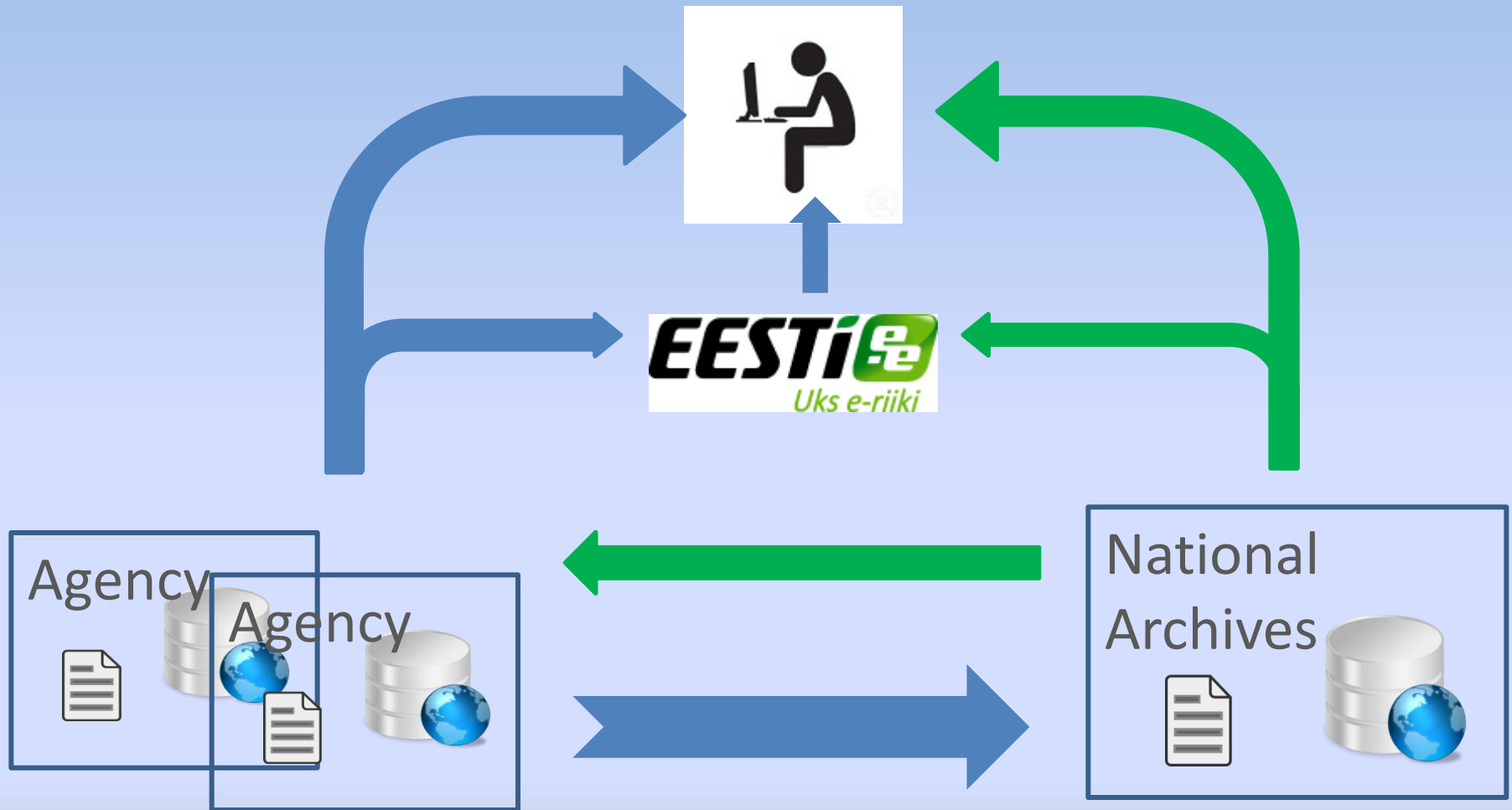http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/media-policies

# Problems ..

- It's way too expensive:
  - Export records from ERMS (or any other e-gov system)
    - Read: develop ERMS export control module for 150,000 €
  - Mapping to archival metadata schema
    - Read: spend multiple weeks of IT staff and archivists time, taken you even have the people to understand the rules..
  - Validation, migration of files, creation of technical metadata:
    - Read: hopefully the National Archives has developed a tool for that, otherwise spend weeks of IT staff effort or developed a tool for another 100,000 €
- By the way, that applies to a single agency…
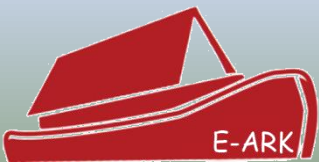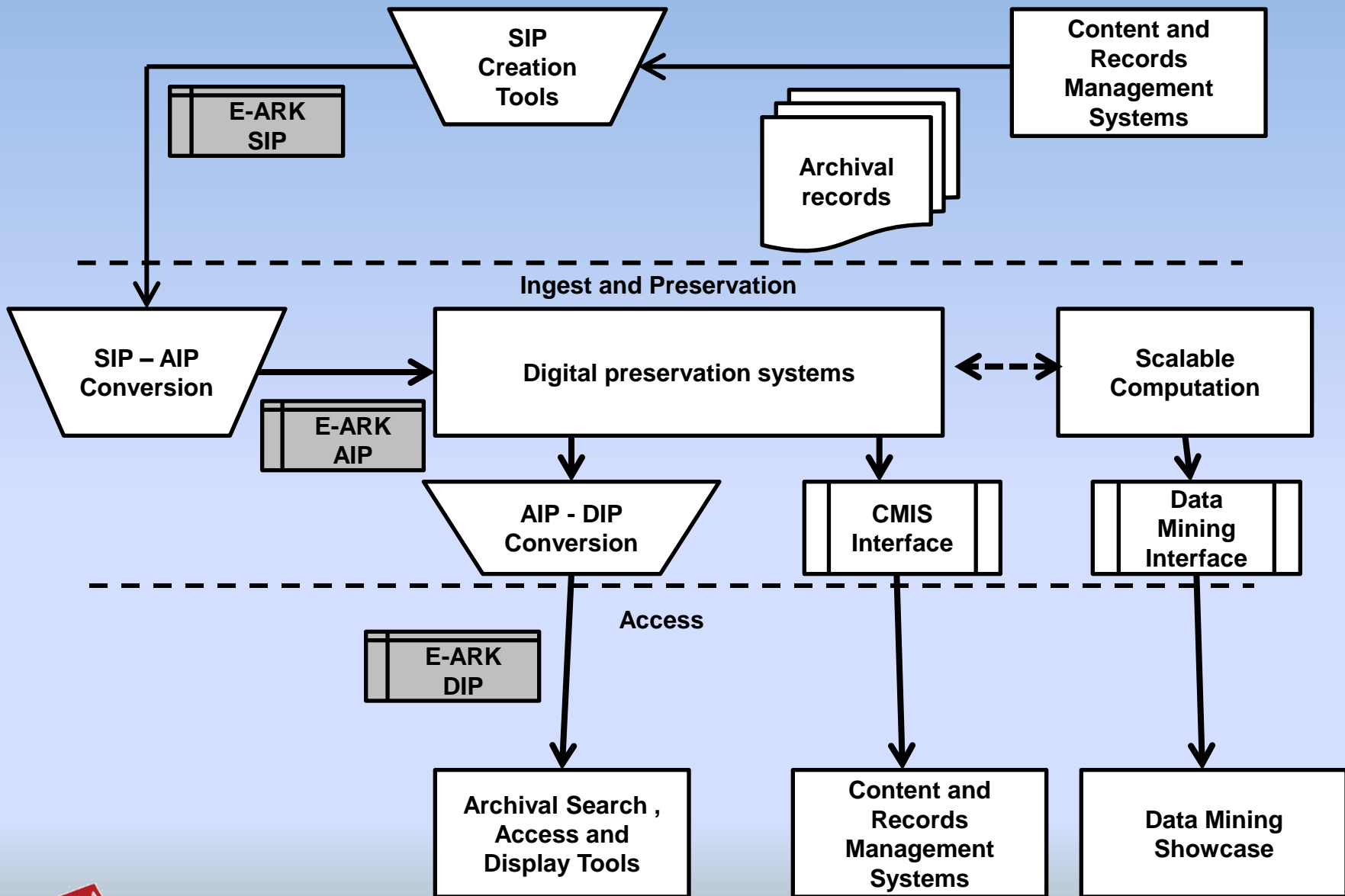
# More problems: Access to archives

# E-ARK **will** solve it!

- E-ARK = <u>E</u>uropean <u>A</u>rchival <u>R</u>ecords and <u>K</u>nowledge Preservation

- [www.eark-project.eu](www.eark-project.eu)

- Duration: 36 months, 02.2014 – 01.2017

- Instrument: Pilot B

  – At least six months of piloting in real-life scenarios

  – Seven real-life pilots to be carried out in 2016

- 16 partners from 11 countries (incl 5.5 national archives)

- Three advisory boards (open to all of you!)

# E-ARK Objectives

- Reduce the cost of transfer, preservation and access to digital information by
  - Standardising how agencies export and send information to digital archives
  - Offering new ways for the long-term preservation of various content
  - Exploring needs for accessing archives and providing novel interfaces for these

- Long-term vision: Improve semantic and technical interoperability to a level which allows any system developer to deliver out-of-the-box archiving functionality…

# Key milestones

- **Setting the scene:**
  - July 2014: Best practice overview
- **Doing „*the Work*"**
  - April 2015: First versions of E-ARK format and workflow specifications
  - July 2015: First versions of E-ARK tools
- **Consultation and update**
  - April 2016: Pilot versions of E-ARK specifications and tools
- ***Last efforts and final publishing***
  - January 2017: Final release of E-ARK specifications and tools

# Thanks for your attention!

All questions, ideas, thoughts, doubts, …

are highly appriciated!

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