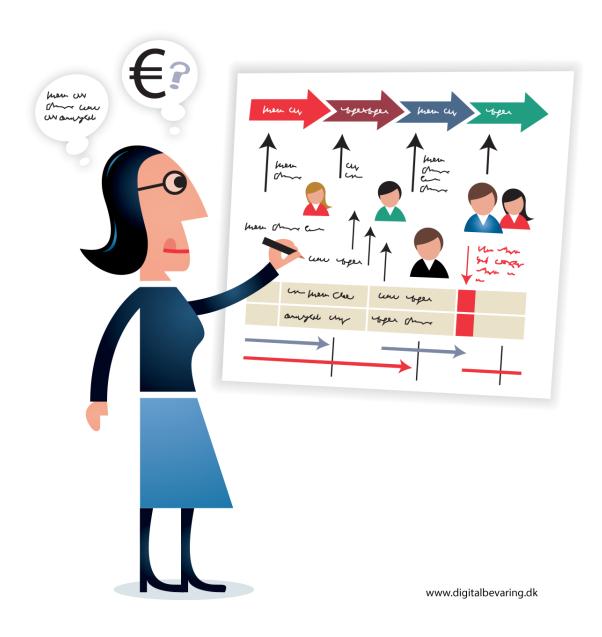
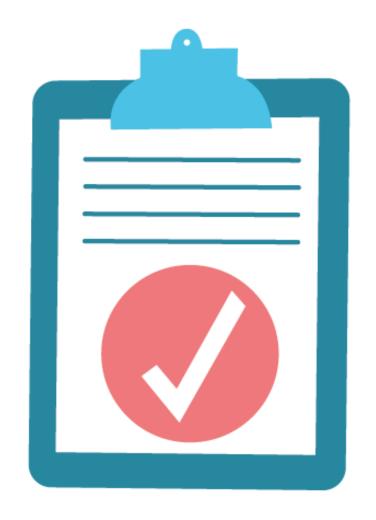
# Now for a Business Case!



### What is a Business Case?

- A business case captures the reasoning for initiating a project or task.
- Key step in gaining (financial) support and resources for programme/project
- Back to the Golden Circle:
   Why→How→What



### What is in a Business Case?

- Executive Summary
- Problem Statement
  - Who, What, When, Where, Why?
- Background and Context
  - Current capabilities, work to data, scope of collections, links to strategy, key stakeholders
- Options
  - Requirements, descriptions and assessments of options, recommendation

- Implementation Plan
  - Scope, Objectives, Dependencies and Assumptions, Roles and Responsibilities, Project Governance
- Benefits
- Risks
- Resourcing/Financial Analysis
- Cost/Benefit Analysis

# Developing a Business Case: Research and Planning



### Organizational Context

- Understand strategic context
  - Mission, strategy, policy
  - PESTLE Analysis
- Assess current DP capabilities
  - A RAM Assessment
  - Previous business cases
  - Existing systems and staffing
- Depending on the scope and granularity of your activity you may want to:
  - Audit your digital collections
  - Conduct a risk assessment
  - Investigate activities at other organizations



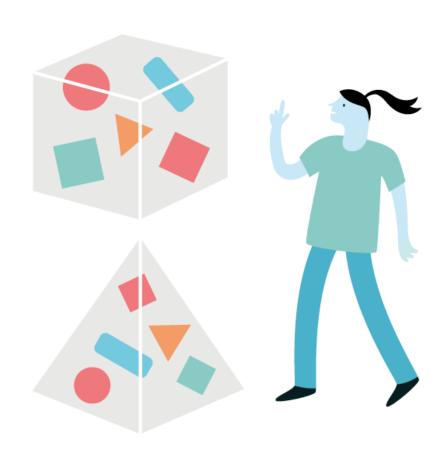
## Identifying Your Audience

- Who will:
  - Assess your business case?
  - Be affected by the resulting activities?
- Are stakeholders internal or external?
- Helps with the right tone, language, structure, and content
- What "hooks" will work
- Remember to identify champions



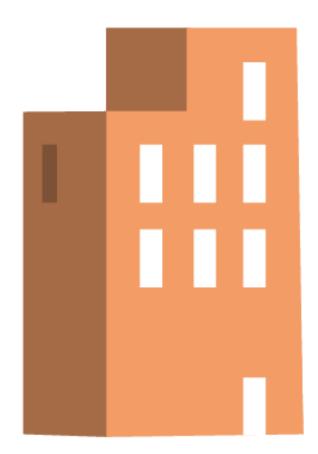
### **Consider Options**

- Understand your high-level DP objectives
  - Perhaps a SWOT Analysis
- Decide what you want the business case to provide
  - A subset of the high-level objectives that you need resources for
- Clearly and concisely articulate:
  - What you want to achieve
  - What you need to achieve it
- Define the scope of the activities and the required budget



### Business Case Requirements

- Know what you need to include in your business case
  - Check if your org has a standard business case template
- Consider if the timing is right
  - Is there a specific funding cycle?
  - Can you avoid busy times?
  - Make sure it is expected
- Look at previous examples
  - Can learn from successful and unsuccessful
- Ask for advice and input



# Developing a Business Case: Drafting and Delivery



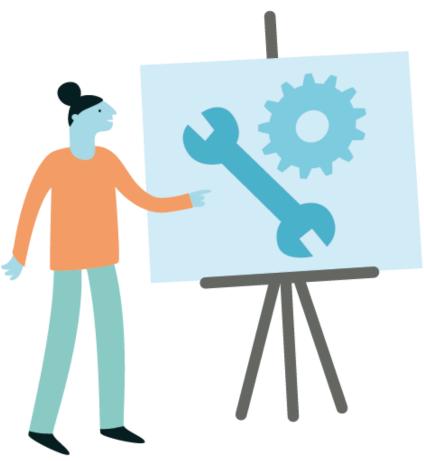
### **Draft Business Case**

- Bring together all of the information gathered
  - Key facts, evidence, costs, benefits, value, impact and other details
- Collaborate with key stakeholders and experts within your organization
- Validate and refine through independent and objective review
  - Is it realistic?
  - Does it use appropriate language?
  - Are there assumptions about DP knowledge?
  - Are there gaps in evidence or unrealistic assertions?



# Deliver Effectively

- Make sure your sponsor/advocate is briefed on key issues
- Create an Elevator Pitch
  - Be prepared for any impromptu opportunities to help sell the business case!
- If presenting your case in person, make sure to practice ahead of time
  - Consider and prepare for likely questions
- Persistence may well be required
  - May need to re-submit your case at a later date
  - Adapt it to the feedback you receive after the 1<sup>st</sup> presentation



### Share If You Can!

- If possible, remove sensitive details from your business case and share to help others...
- DPC looks for resources to complement our advocacy tools!



# Final Tips



#### What Makes a Good Business Case

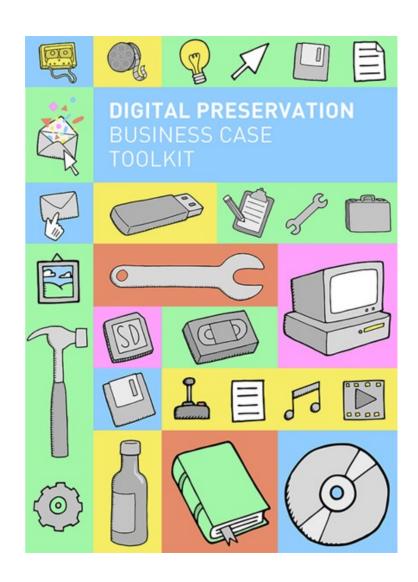
- Using the correct format
- A clear statement of need
  - Aligned to strategy/mission
  - Supported by evidence
- Clear, concise, jargon-free text
  - Supplement with graphics where they add value
- Well-defined scope and objectives
- Clear and realistic plan for implementation
  - Including budget, assumptions, and dependencies
- Considered analysis of risks and benefits



### **Business Case Toolkit**

- Step by step guide
- Business case template
- Common questions
- New edition coming soon!

http://wiki.dpconline.org/index.php?title=Digital\_Preservation\_Business Case Toolkit



# Any final questions?

www.dpconline.org @dpc\_chat

Sharon: sharon.mcmeekin@dpconline.org, @SharonMcMeekin

Sarah: sarah.middleton@dpconline.org, @Sarah\_DPC

