

# Surf Pilot UvA

## About the pilot

Why a pilot? Consider the dependence on large american companies, at the UVA level but also more in general of higher education. Digital autonomy creates space for alternative collaboration environments.

## Objectives:

- trying out the use of alternatives
- gain insight for their application in the future

## When and for whom

the pilot is for all institutions, duration of 1 year, March 2027; participating institutions: education above all (WO is universities, 12/14) - if they manage to continue they must step in  
but there are also MBO, HBO, UMC, research and other institutions.

## Organization

SURF develops and manages the environment, the next cloud is installed in the surf data centers, ran by surf; UvA Works is the UVA next cloud  
you never see SURF context

Participants: 250+ signed in (10% students), 188 active users; about 2/3 as a team

## Support

- participants among themselves and with the support team --> support chat in SURFworks
- 3 students assistants (16 h/wk) --> via IT service desk
- technical administrator (from team Samenwerken)
- SURF

## Evaluation

- Diary study Carolin Schneider
- Being launched by Surf with the UvA to follow in collaboration with FMG Carolin Schneider
- Schedule meetings with owners of participating teams

Guidance group provide advice on scenarios

## *Possible scenarios:*

- side by side

- replacement
- backup
- no use of SURFworks

## Team

Karin Baltus Management

Denna Sardari

Marthe Mesdag

Rico Koster

Frank van Tatenhove Coordination and linking pin with SURF

## Evaluation

SURF starts an evaluation in collaboration with UVA (Caroline Schneider, FMG)

How develops the use of the Nextcloud platform (works.surf.nl) during the pilot and which factors facilitate or hinder its use?

What participation involves:

- complete a first questionnaire (about 25 mins)
- after that you will automatically receive follow up invitations every few months
- participation is voluntary and can stop at any time

The results will be used for evaluation of the pilot by participating institutions and SURF and for scientific publications. Reports will only contain aggregated results, personal information will never be shared

## Client Software

What it's about

- the use of client -software is recommended
- there is a client files and for Talk
  - files: you can connect SURFworks surfdrive and researchdrive in your explorer at the same time
  - install the file from nextcloud, use help function if needed
  - UVA managed laptop: you have to install this from the software center,
  - some people encounter issues with the multiple accounts on surf (works, drive and research) - if you encounter these issues delete the accounts that already exist and add them again,
  - self-managed computer: <https://nextcloud.com/install/> download and install from nextcloud site, latest release 33.0.3

## Teams and team folders

whats it about

- teams:

- with teams users can organize collaboration with SURF Works as a basis for shared folders and rights management
- users can create local, read-only, and federated teams
- admins can manage all teams and members

#### team folders

- admin-managed shared storage areas
- allowing teams to access files without reliance on individual user accounts
- option for local team within UVA environment or a federated team across environments features
- various roles to manage team folders (owner, admin, moderator, member)

#### MS 365 integration

- there is a plugin for Outlook, which automatically adds nextcloud talk meeting links to calendar appointments created in outlook, you do not need to go to nextcloud separately to generate a talk link
- calendar synchronization: via outlook; still being developed
- email integration: reading and sending email via existing mail server, delayed not happening yet

#### Support summary

- peer support
- manuals created by SURF
- support channel SURF Works
- Deck in SURFworks
- Contact ICT service at SURF desk

#### Summary of next steps:

- evaluation: we will be requested to participate in the evaluation
- plugin for outlook automatically added to the next cloud
- team folders: will be contacted by the support team
- calendar synchronization: calendar and synchronization on Nextcloud
- client software: update client software for windows managed laptops in the UVA software center