



1. Introducing ICOM NL

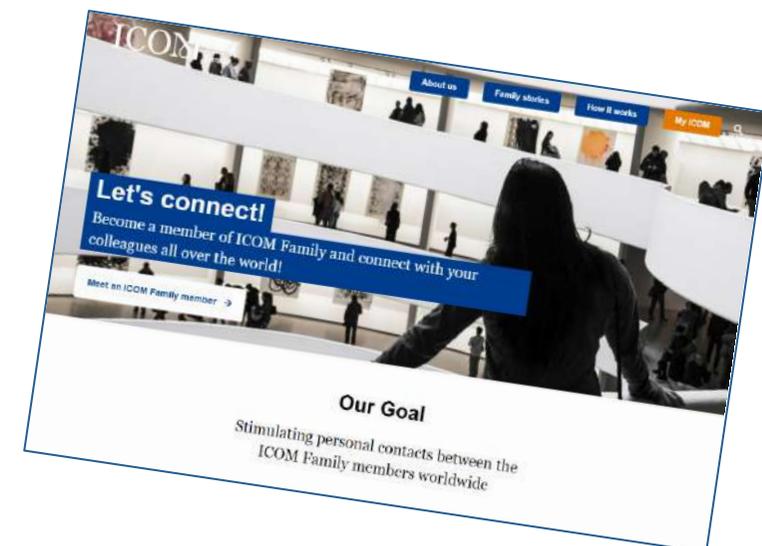
A large and growing committee in a relatively small country:

Numbers of members:	2014	2017	2019
Individual	1.998	2.319	3.024
Student	559	766	1.599
Senior	327	589	603
Institutions	52	59	76
Total	2.935	3.733	5.302

1. Introducing ICOM NL

Our policy:

- Less separate member activities, but cooperating with other parties in the Dutch museum field.
- Focus on encouraging members to look beyond the borders and use ICOM to become inspired by international perspectives.
- ICOM Family – platform to connect to colleagues worldwide.



2. Feedback and approaches in NL after Kyoto

→ Many very different opinions !!

Decided in the ICOM NL-board:

- *A Museum Definition Working Group* will take the lead (3 board members).
- We published a *fact sheet* in November and an update in February.
- We want to enhance discussions among Dutch museum professionals – ICOM and non-ICOM members.
- We do this by using a '*grassroot*' approach, involving our over 5000 members.
- We finally will collect their different views and opinions.
- We *partner* as much as we can *with other organisations* in the Dutch museum landscape and ask them to put the discussion on their own agenda. By doing so we reach out to a wide range of museum colleagues.

2. Approaches

Already held:

1. Heritage Arena 'Game Changers': 29. January 2020 at the Reinwardt Academy
2. Work session for ICOM Netherlands members on the museum definition: 6. February 2020 at Museum Catharijneconvent, Utrecht

Upcoming:

3. Museum Knowledge Day of the Dutch Museum Association, under the title 'Is the museum a clubhouse with a collection?' at Museum het Valkhof in Nijmegen: 23 March 2020
4. General Assembly of ICOM Netherlands: 25. May 2020 in Breda
5. Invitation to members to give voting advice (via online tool) prior to the General Assembly 2021 of ICOM Netherlands
6. General Assembly of ICOM Netherlands in the spring of 2021

2. Successful work session on 6. Feb.



3. Observations so far

As many opinions as members??

- Depends a lot on the *type of museum* and the *role* of the member.
- Seems to be a difference between more *object focused* museums and museums where *storylines* (told with objects) are most important.
- The question: '*for whom* is the definition?' defines part of the opinions: for policymakers, museum professionals or the general public?
- The discussion obviously triggers our members.

NB. suddenly ICOM seems to matter...



The collage on the right side of the slide contains several elements:

- 1. WAAROM een definitie?** (Why a definition?) with sub-questions: a. Wat is de functie van een definitie? b. En voor wie is ie? c. Voor wie heeft de nieuwe definitie grote gevolgen? d. Is er verschil in impact voor grote of kleine musea?
- 4. de NIEUWE d** (The new definition) with sub-questions: a. Wat vind je sterke punten hierin? b. Wat vind je er minder goed aan? c. Welke vragen roept die op?
- 6. opmerkingen voor ICOM NL** (Remarks for ICOM NL) with the question: 'Wat wil je het ICOM Nederland-bestuur nog meegeven als het gaat om dit onderwerp?' (What do you want to give the ICOM Netherlands board regarding this topic?).
- Handwritten notes in various colors (blue, green, orange, pink) providing feedback and opinions on the definition process.

4. Our message for this meeting

ICOM NL only has 5 votes out of >800 → just modest impact on results

So: let's USE the delay in decision making and take advantage of the unique opportunity to EXPLORE our own profession 😊

Conditions:

- Open mind
- Postpone judgement!
- Explore arguments used by pro's and con's.
- Explore the different sub-themes, seen from different perspectives

→ Diverge first, and then – before June 2021 – converge again

