



# Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) KONINKLIJKE NEDERLANDSE AKADEMIE VAN WETENSCHAPPEN

## The Online Dutch-Frisian Dictionary - Workflow

Sijens, H.; van der Kuip, F.J.

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[pure@knaw.nl](mailto:pure@knaw.nl)

## **The Online Dutch-Frisian Dictionary - Workflow**

### **1 introduction**

The online Dutch-Frisian dictionary is a bilingual dictionary, with modern standard Dutch as its source language and modern Frisian as its target language. The dictionary will replace the concise and outdated 1985 predecessor. It provides non-Frisian-speaking people with a tool for translating Dutch into Frisian and helps Frisian-speaking people to write correct Frisian that is less coloured by the dominant Dutch language.

We are still in the preparatory stages. By the end of 2014, we hope to present a demo version of the tool. The project will be carried out by three lexicographers (1,8 FTE), a software engineer (0,4 FTE for the time being) and two lexicographical assistants (0,9 FTE).

### **2.1 Preparation**

The material from the Algemeen Nederlands Woordenboek, the ANW will be our point of departure, and we will partially adopt the structure of the entries in that dictionary. Since the ANW is a monolingual explanatory dictionary, and the Dutch-Frisian dictionary is a bilingual dictionary, the INL has adapted its editor software according to our demands.

### **2.2 Data acquisition**

The dictionary is based on the data provided by the ANW: lexical entries, meanings, examples, collocations, expressions and proverbs as well as a list of compounds and derivatives of the headword, the so called 'word families'. The Frisian data are generated from the Frisian language database, which is linked to the Dictionary Writing System. This system is also linked to portals with grammatical information and with prior lexicographical work. Data mining of the internet may yield new information on frequency or meaning.

Our greatest challenge will be finding Frisian equivalents for Dutch neologisms.

### **2.3 computerisation**

The INL editor will be adapted to the demands of the editors. To every field with elements from the source language, a field will be added for the translation into the target language. The data will be entered into an XML schema, stored in a MySQL database with metadata.

### **2.4 data processing**

The data for the Dutch-Frisian dictionary are provided by the ANW and copied into our writing

system. This data will be assessed and selected when the separate entries are processed.

## **2.5 Data analysis**

Because the dictionary yet is in its preparatory stage, it is not possible to show a screenshot, but this slide gives an impression of how we will inform the user.

The Dutch fields on meaning, examples, collocations and expressions will be supplied with a Frisian equivalent. Information on phonetics, inflexion, grammar and hyphenation will be added to one-word translations. We do so because there are but few electronic lexicographic facilities providing this type of information. Moreover, this Dutch-Frisian dictionary will not have a Frisian-Dutch counterpart in the near future.

At this stage, the editors will match the Dutch words with their Frisian equivalents. The assistants will add additional linguistic information. Then, the editors will complete the entry by providing the Dutch examples, collocations, idiom, and word families with equivalents or translations. Finally, the assistants will check the spelling and references. The editors will discuss the edited entries before publication.

## **2.6 Online Release**

We will take the approach applied by the ANW. With approved entries, a column marked 'ready for online' is ticked. Every three months, a new version of the dictionary will be released, and changes can be made in between.

## **2.7 Afterlife**

We propose keeping one editor available for additions and improvements of the dictionary after completion of the project. We have not decided upon the way we will handle version management yet.