

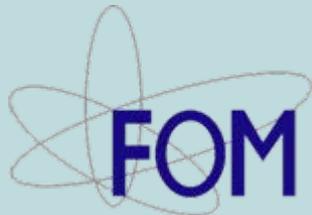
# How we cope with our financial IT-systems!

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*The Netherlands*



*Physics for Science and Society*

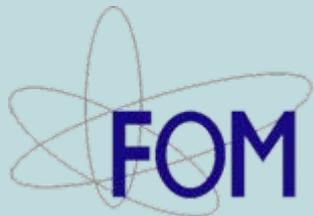


- Introduction to FOM
- Financial IT-systems
  - overview
  - software
  - infrastructure
  - responsibilities
- IT-audit
- IT-ambitions
- Discussion

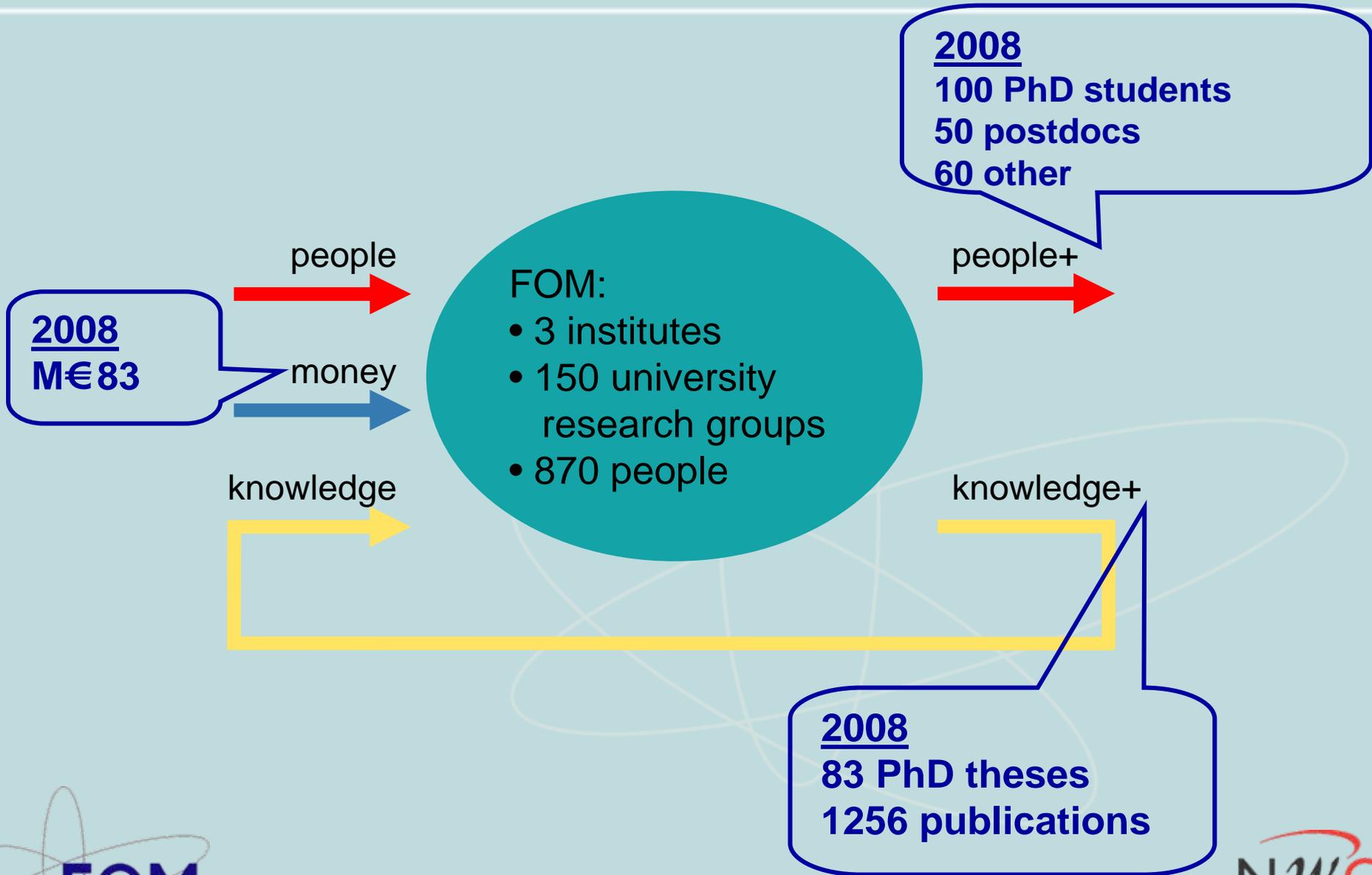


# Introduction to FOM

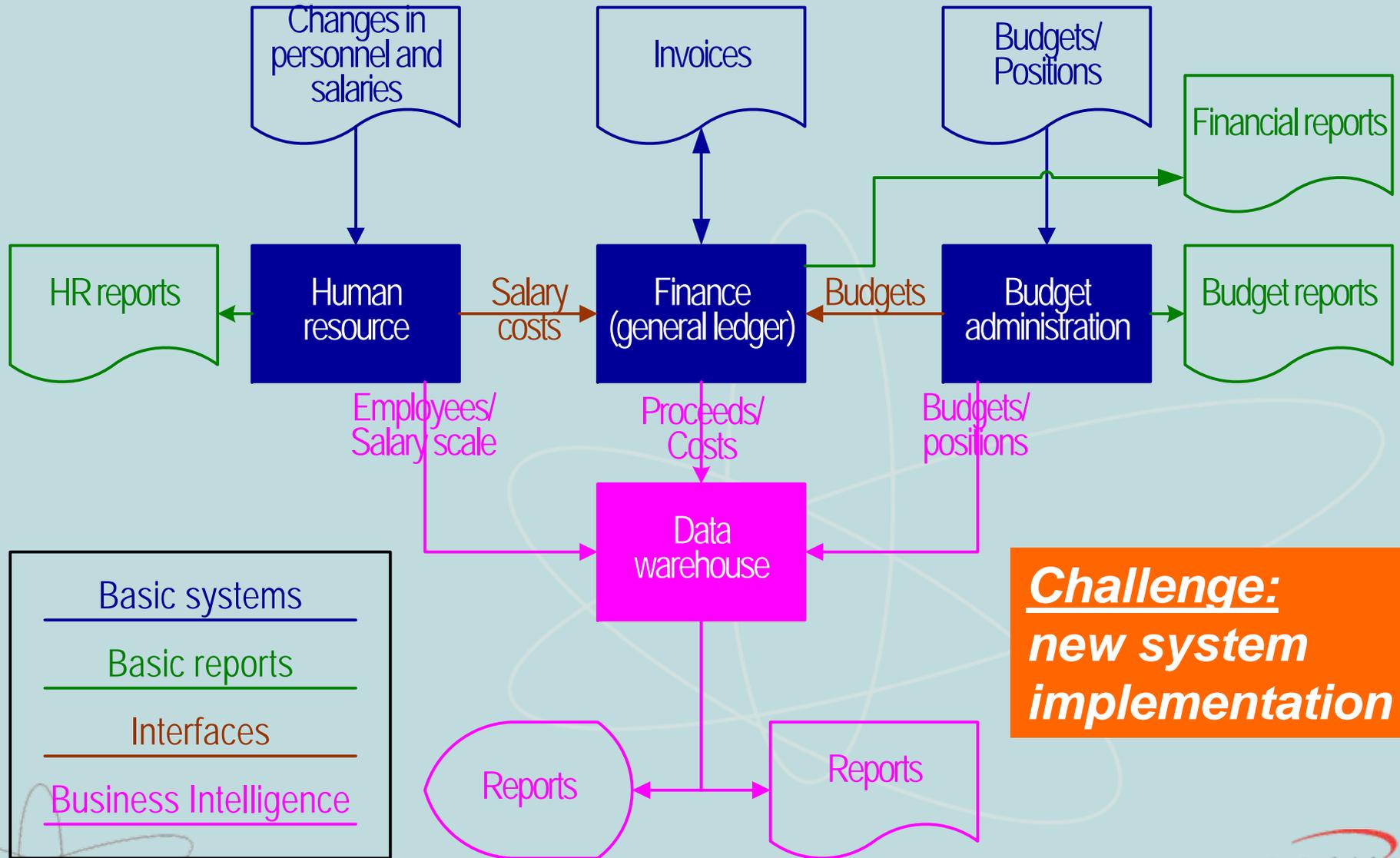
- Foundation for Fundamental Research on Matter: established in 1946
- Mission:
  - to promote fundamental physics research
  - for the benefit of Dutch society
- FOM is a combination of
  - organisation of research institutes
  - research council
- FOM is approved by and accountable to NWO



# FOM in Action

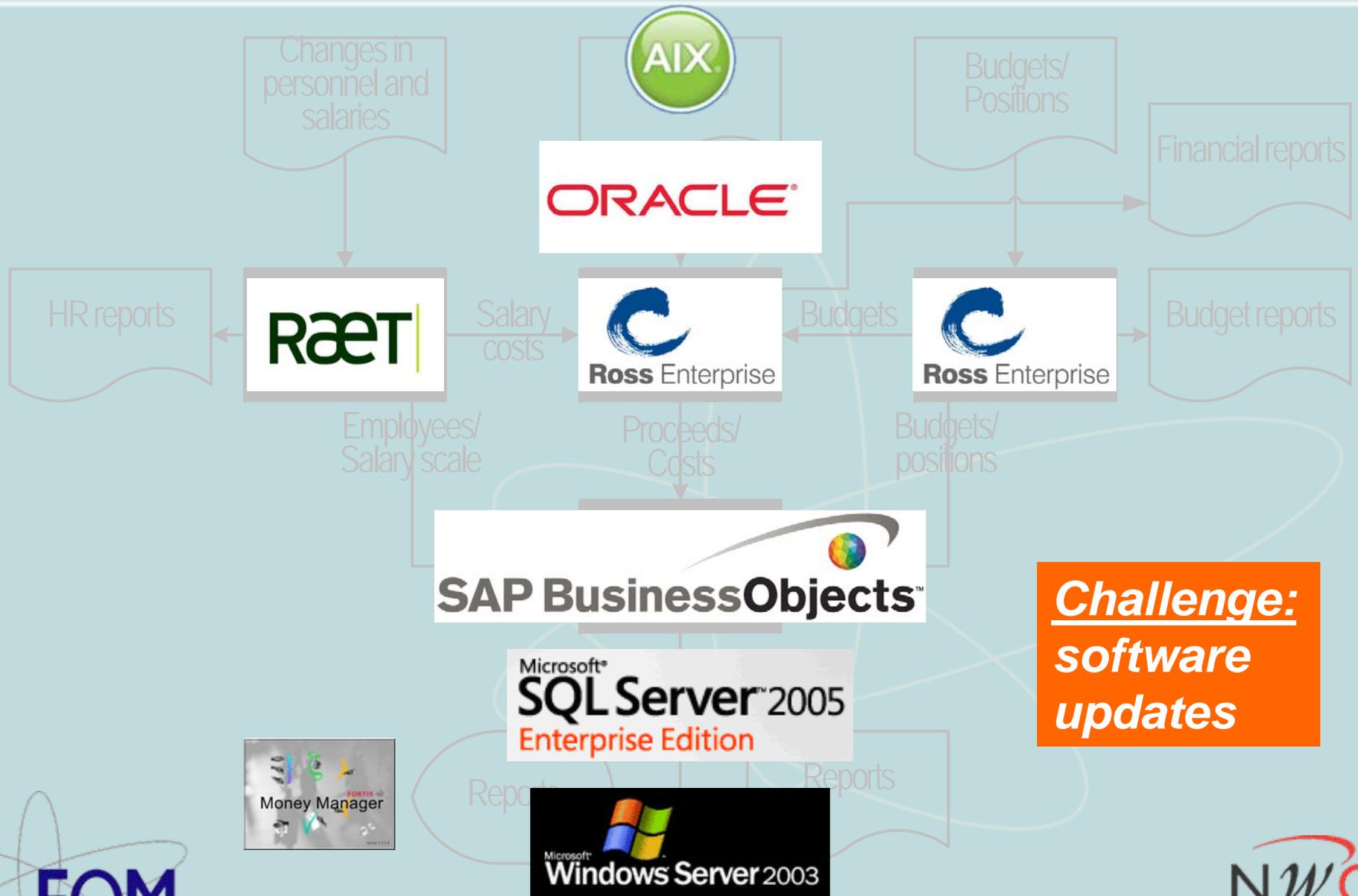


# Overview financial systems

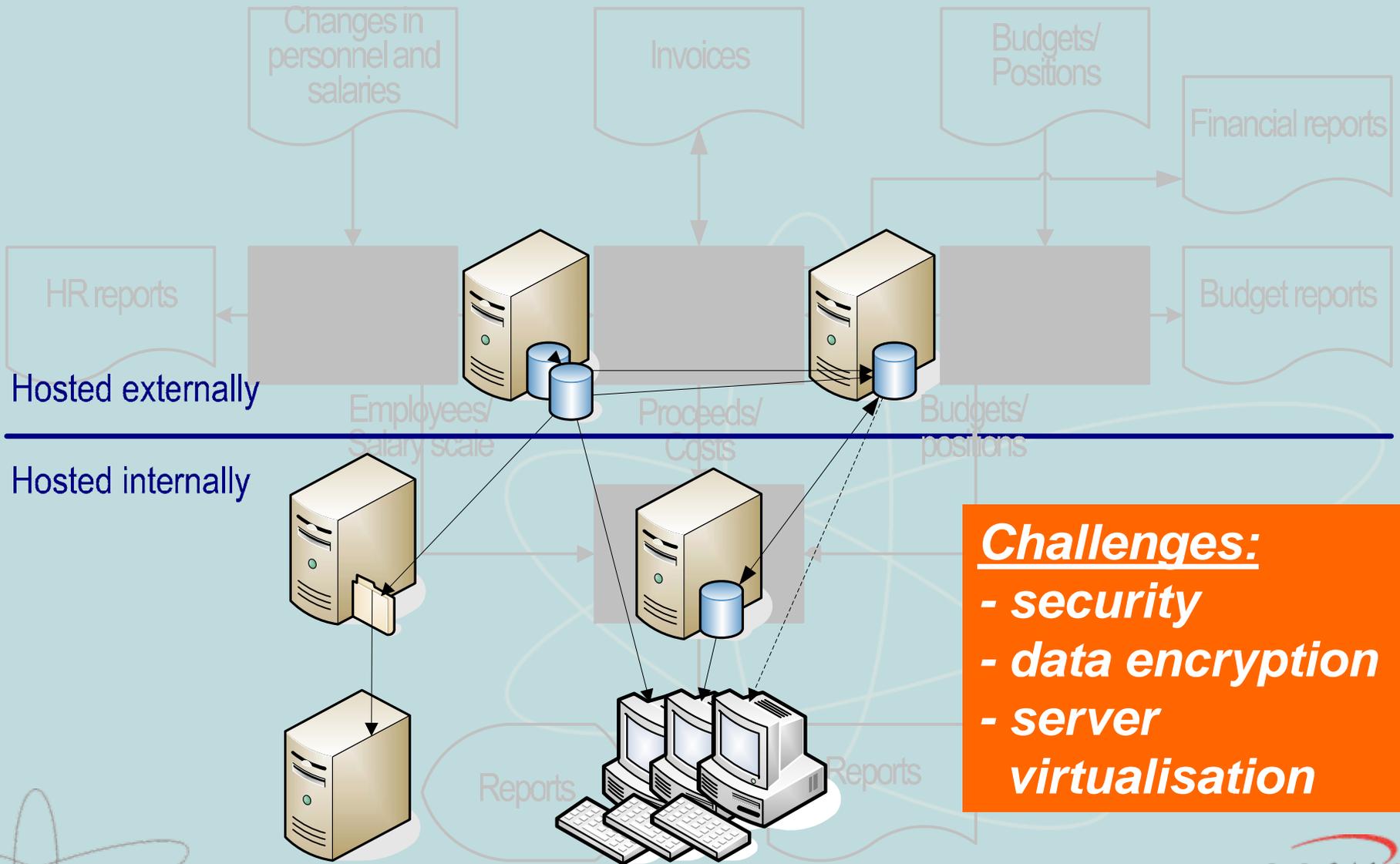


- Basic systems
- Basic reports
- Interfaces
- Business Intelligence

# Financial systems: software



# Financial systems: infrastructure



**Challenges:**

- security
- data encryption
- server virtualisation

# Financial systems: responsibilities

- HRM department:
  - HR system
    - ▶ 1 application manager
- Financial department:
  - Finance and Budget administration
    - ▶ 2 application managers
  - Data warehouse
    - ▶ 1 data warehouse manager
- IT department
  - Local infrastructure
    - ▶ 2 system administrators



**Challenge:  
necessary  
expertise**

- Risk assessment with respect to:
  - application controls
  - general IT controls



## Conclusions:

- Control of financial IT-systems: above average
- Risks identified currently are addressed by implemented manual controls

# IT-Audit: recommendations

- Application controls:
  - authorization tables
  - logging
  - check sums in interfaces
  - change management
- Replace manual controls by automated controls
- General IT-controls:
  - password policy
  - management of user accounts

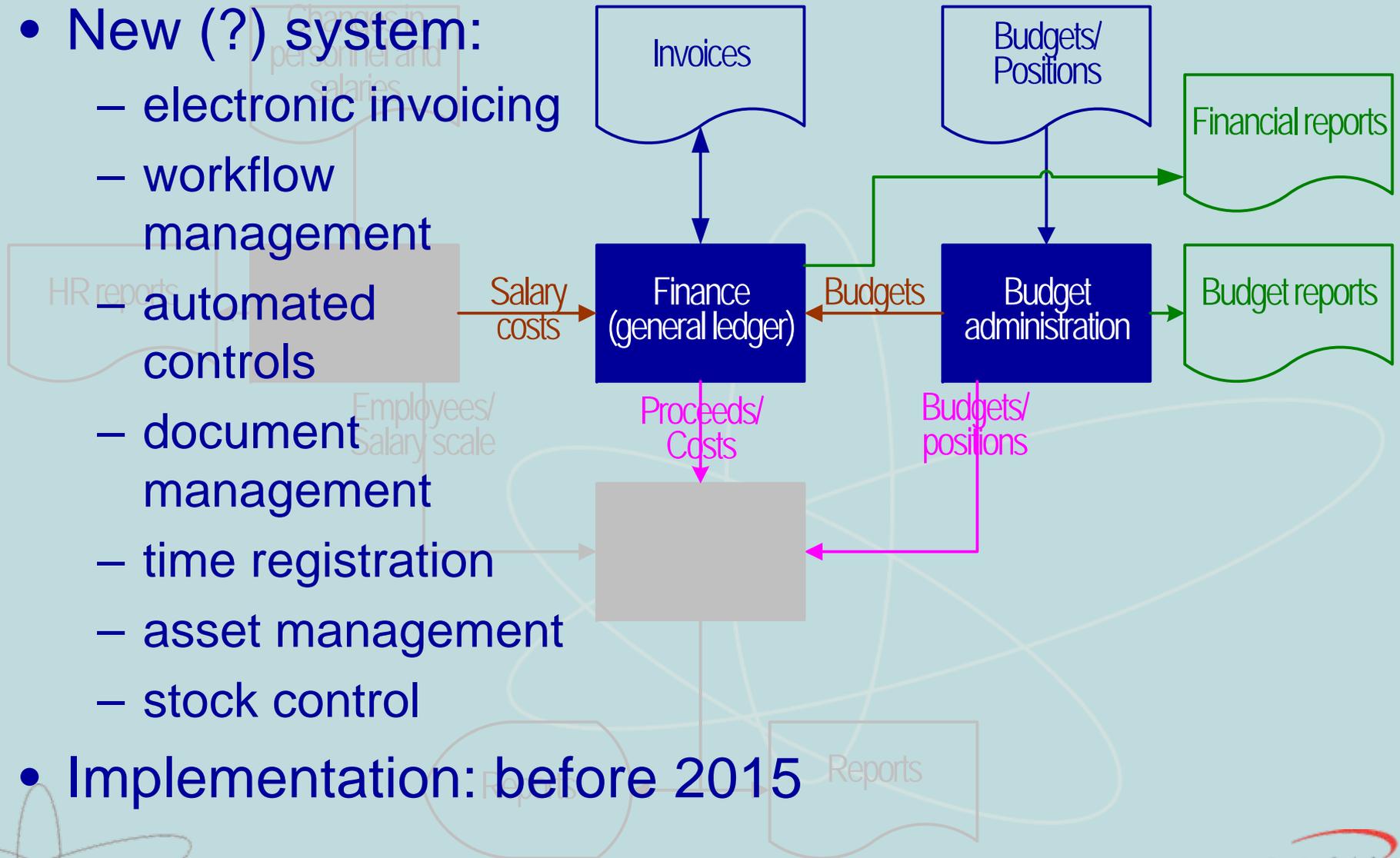
# IT-ambitions: e-business FOM

- Recently implemented:
  - conference system with web-interface
  - web portal for grant applications
- New IT-system primary process (grant applications processing)
  - ▶ together with NWO
- e-HRM
  - digital pay slips
  - mutations in personnel file
  - electronic submission and processing of various forms



# IT-ambitions: financial systems

- New (?) system:
  - electronic invoicing
  - workflow management
  - automated controls
  - document management
  - time registration
  - asset management
  - stock control
- Implementation: before 2015



- Improve the current financial system or implement a new one?
- Is it possible to use standard financial software in a research organisation?
- What are the (dis)advantages of integrated solutions (e.g. SAP)?
- What are the (dis)advantages of outsourcing?

Your experiences please!