EBLI DA
15th Annual Council meeting

el FL.net:
supporting libraries
in developing and transition countries

Teresa Hackett
11 May 2007
Reykjavík, Iceland
### EU member states

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Information Program

Overview

About the Information Program
The Information Program promotes the equitable deployment of knowledge and communications resources—providing access to content, tools, and networks—for civic empowerment and effective democratic governance. more

Best Practice Guide: Implementing the EU Copyright Directive in the Digital Age
December 2006
At a time when the existing EU

Information Program Announces Guidelines for Unsolicited Grants Process
January 22, 2007
OSI's Information Program announces instructions for grant-seeking organizations that aim to enhance the ability to access, exchange, and produce knowledge and information; and that use new tools and techniques to empower civil society. more

Events

CERN Workshop on Innovations in Scholarly Communications
Guiding Principles of eIFL

• access to information is essential in education and research and has a direct impact on the development of societies;

• the combined purchasing and negotiating power of libraries can lead to affordable and sustainable access to electronic information in countries in transition;

• the empowerment of citizens and the spread of democracy depends on equal access to information and knowledge worldwide: eIFL.net is committed to levelling the playing field.
Content negotiation and licensing

- publisher partners has grown steadily;

- includes all subjects, journals and databases, reference sources, e-books;

- average 99% discount off the list price;

- eIFL model licence
Consortium management and sustainability

• considerable savings through centrally negotiated licences;

• sharing resources and financial commitments;

• library empowerment through speaking with one voice;

• advice and guidelines in consortium management;

• in 2006, 500 training sessions for 6,000 librarians.
Open access publishing and institutional repositories

• training and knowledge sharing in OA;

• encourage greater visibility of locally produced content;

• establishment of IR at leading research institutions within the library consortia.
Free and open source software for libraries

- Integrated library system single greatest expense for a library;

- Purchased through one-off grants, systems become obsolete;

- “Library-in-a-box”;

- Regional training for implementation;

- Create self-sustaining communities of expertise.
el FL-IP Advocacy for Access to Knowledge
Copyright and libraries

- goal to protect and promote the interests of libraries;

- vision that libraries become a strong voice for fair and balanced copyright laws;

- network of library copyright specialists, trained 90 librarians from 55 countries;

- WIPO, lead role in global A2K movement, IFLA.
Overcoming the barriers

Underfunding of libraries: Lithuania

- 1999: no access to e-journals;
- 2007: government supports for subscriptions increased 40-fold;
- 25,000 titles in all academic disciplines.
Overcoming the barriers

Poorly resourced in terms of material

• Ideological or financial reasons;

• Electronic resources can quickly redress the situation;

• From famine to feast e.g. in Laos access to 7,000 titles overnight.
Overcoming the barriers

No co-ordination of donor efforts

• Collecting books rather than selecting books;

• the eIFL approach is that countries select, pay for and manage their own resources;

• Ownership, control and sustainability.
Overcoming the barriers

Poor connectivity

- Malawi had access to 3 million USD worth of e-content;
- dial-up modems and slow connectivity hampered its use;
- major national infrastructure project spearheaded by librarians.
Overcoming the barriers

Obsolete library systems and software

• Palestine libraries focused on proprietary solutions;

• FOSS: hardware costs reduced by 65% and no licence fees;

• quality, flexibility, stimulates local innovation, contributes to global FOSS community.
Overcoming the barriers

Professional librarian training and professional isolation

• No professional library schools OR “traditional librarianship” only;

• Professional isolation, little funds for travel;

• eIFL aims to break through the knowledge barrier.
el FL and EBLIDA co-operation

- Sharing contacts in common countries e.g. Lithuania, Poland;
- partnering in EU project proposals e.g. Albania, Moldova;
- assisting eIFL to obtain development aid funding from your national governments;
- use eIFL infrastructure to further your contacts in eIFL member countries.
Copyright

• Sharing resources e.g.
  - eIFL Handbook on Copyright & Related Rights (available soon in Polish & Russian)
  - model copyright provisions for libraries

• Sharing expertise e.g.
  - university copyright policies (Zimbabwe)
  - digitisation of academic thesis (Jordan)
el FL and EBLI DA co-operation

- Political support e.g.
  - WIPO development agenda (reform at WIPO)
  - Bi-lateral trade agreements i.e. European Partnership Agreements

el FL needs EBLI DA support!

Any other ideas?
Thank you for listening!

Subscribe to bi-monthly el FL Newsletter

http://www.eifl.net/

Any questions?