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Turning the library inside out, 4 au 7 juillet 2006
35^e congrès LIBER

i2010: Digital libraries' initiative

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i2010: DIGITAL LIBRARIES INITIATIVE

Ligue des Bibliothèques
Européennes de Recherche

Javier Hernández-Ros
European Commission

Uppsala, 4 July 2006



The context

- i2010: Commission strategy for the Information society
 - Technological change
 - Flagship initiative on digital libraries
- Letter of 6 Heads of State and Government of 28 April 2005
 - Commitment of European libraries
 - Major digitisation initiatives in the US
- Ongoing activities at European level
 - Co-ordination and co-funding



Communication 'i2010: digital libraries'

- A first communication structuring the initiative
- The vision: make Europe's cultural and scientific heritage accessible to all
- Different types of material and organisations (archives, libraries)
- Three main strands:
 - Digitisation
 - Online accessibility
 - Digital preservation



Digitisation

- Why digitise?
 - Wider access and use
 - Preservation
- Cultural and economic aspects
- Fragmented efforts throughout Europe
- Challenges
 - Economic, organisational, technical, legal



Online accessibility

Intellectual property rights

- Public domain material
- Towards a 20th century black hole?

Integrated access

- Common access point
- Structured and quality description of the content



Digital preservation

- Digitisation without digital preservation may become a wasted investment
- Relevance beyond digital libraries
- No policies in place



Culture Council 14 November 2005

- Positive reactions by Ministers
- Decentralised model with integrated access
- Build on existing initiatives



Initiatives under way

- Co-ordination at European level
 - Lund action-plan (updated under UK Presidency), NRG
- Co-funded projects with European scope + added-value
 - Funding digitisation primarily responsibility of the MS



European Digital Library's Vision

- Access to Europe's cultural and scientific heritage through the internet
- Add value providing integrated access and retrieval
- Single entry access point
- Relying on independently managed collections distributed across a wide range organizations
- Public libraries, research libraries, archaeological sites



European Digital Library's Roadmap

- End 2006; full cooperation between all 25 National Libraries providing access to their records through the TEL (The European Library) infrastructure
- By 2008; multilingual access to at least 2 million objects rising to 6 million by 2010.
- By 2010; cooperation will include institutions other than national libraries



Scientific Technical Medical Publishing

Objectives

- Enhance access
- Foster dissemination
- Ensure preservation

General issues

- New opportunities offered by IS technologies
- Topic is gathering increasing importance and attention
- Tensions in the market



Scientific Technical Medical Publishing

System in transition

- New markets, new services, new players
 - New technology tools create new ways to add value.
 - Cross database searches, linking data to literature, eScience, etc
 - Open Access initiatives emerging
 - New business models to achieve free on-line accessibility. e.g. “Author pays model”
 - Deposit of articles (pre-post prints) in “open repositories”



Scientific Technical Medical Publishing

Issues and Challenges

- Financial
 - High price of Journals
 - Fixed budgets for Libraries
 - VAT
- Organisational
 - Public bodies aim to maximise ROI in terms of impact and usage through OA
 - Role of Open Repositories emerging, but concerns exist regarding responsibility and sustainability



Scientific Technical Medical Publishing

Issues and Challenges

- Legal
 - Copyright
 - Legal Deposit
 - DRMs
- Technical
 - Further research on IS tools
 - Interoperability Issues & Metadata



Next steps

- Political level
 - Proposal for a recommendation on Digitisation and Digital Preservation (Summer 2006)
 - Communication on scientific and scholarly information (end 2006)
 - Discussions with stakeholders (on-going)
- Operational level
 - Work with relevant stakeholders, cultural institutions, build on TEL
- Technical level
 - Increased co-funding *eContentplus*, *research programmes*



Digital libraries:

[http://europa.eu.int/information_society/
activities/digital_libraries/](http://europa.eu.int/information_society/activities/digital_libraries/)

