

https://dspace.org/

The World Digital Library:

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http://hdl.handle.net/10539/11538

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The World Digital Library: a project overview

ICADLA-2-
University of Witwatersrand
Johannesburg, South Africa
November 17-18, 2011

John Van Oudenaren

Director, World Digital Library

Library of Congress

A website, http://www.wdl.org, that provides free access to primary sources that document the histories and cultural achievements of all countries.

- Rare books
- Journals
- Manuscripts
- Maps
- Prints and photographs
- Films
- Sound recordings



Timeline

June 2005: Dr. James H. Billington proposes creation of a World Digital Library

December 2005: Initial funding secured

December 2006: Agreements with UNESCO; WDL Experts Meeting

October 2007: Prototype unveiled at UNESCO General Conference

April 2009: www.wdl.org launched

March 2010: WDL Charter adopted

June 2010: First partner meeting under the WDL charter

November 2011: Second WDL partner meeting

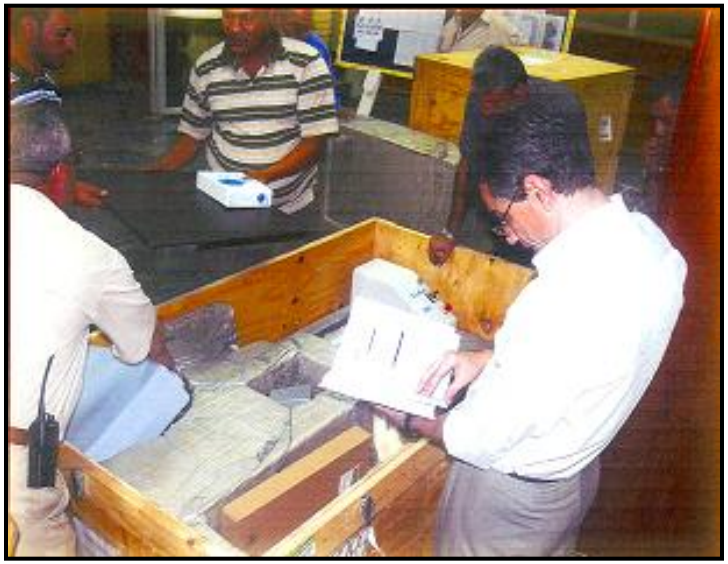
In addition to building a website, the WDL is also an effort to share knowledge and build capacity around the world by:

- Assisting in the establishment of digital conversion centers (Egypt, Iraq, Uganda)
- Encouraging digitization where little or no digital content is being produced
- Facilitating cooperation between experienced institutions and those just getting started

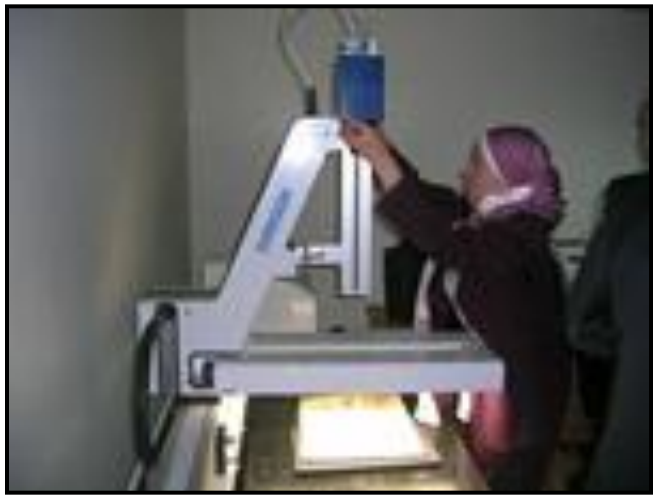
Digital conversion centers



Delivering scanning equipment to the National Library of Uganda



Training at the Iraqi National Library and Archives



Newly trained staff at the National Library and Archives of Egypt

136 partners from 72 countries

- National libraries
- University libraries
- Public libraries
- Archives
- Museums



Governance

- Charter
- Executive Council
- Project Committees
  - Content Selection
  - Technical Architecture
  - Translation and Language
- Library of Congress serves as Project Manager
- View project site for more information (http://project.wdl.org/).

Statistics

Visitors

17.4 million

Engaged users

Pages viewed

113 million

April, 21 2009 – October 31, 2011

[Begin Live Demo of www.wdl.org]