



WORLD
DIGITAL LIBRARY

The World Digital Library: a project overview

ICADLA-2-
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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

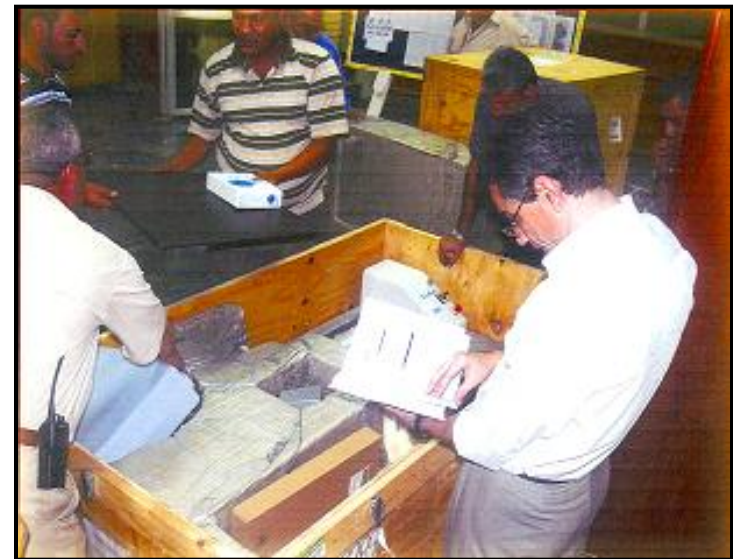
In addition to building a website, the WDL is also an effort to share knowledge and build capacity around the world by:

- 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

The screenshot shows the 'Browse by Institution' section of the World Digital Library website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the 'WORLD DIGITAL LIBRARY' logo, a 'LANGUAGE' dropdown menu set to 'English', and a 'BROWSE' section with links for 'Place', 'Time', 'Topic', 'Type of Item', and 'Institution'. A 'SEARCH' box is also present. Below the navigation bar, the 'Browse by Institution' section is titled and contains four rows of institution-specific content:

- Bibliotheca Alexandrina** | [View all 21](#): This row features a collage of historical documents and images related to Egypt, including a book cover titled 'DE L'EGYPTE' and various architectural and cultural illustrations.
- Brown University Library** | [View all 20](#): This row displays a collage of historical images, including a map, a portrait, and various scenes of daily life and historical events.
- Center for the Study of the History of Mexico CARSO** | [View all 10](#): This row shows a collage of historical documents and images, including a book cover titled 'HVEI' and various historical illustrations.
- Columbus Memorial Library, Organization of American States** | [View all 77](#): This row features a collage of historical photographs and images, including a group of people and various scenes of daily life.

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

Pages viewed

113 million

Engaged users

[Begin Live Demo of www.wdl.org]