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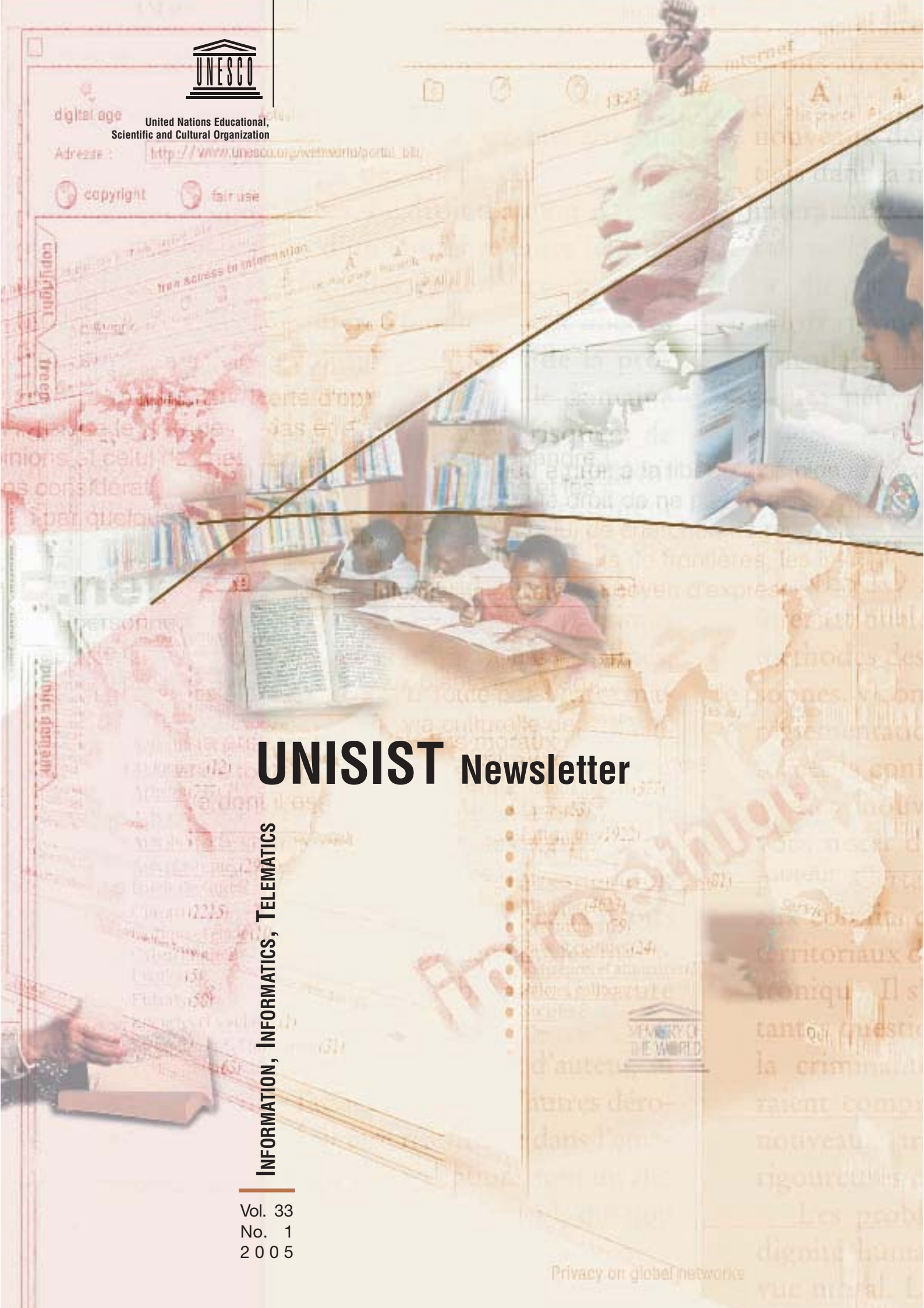
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UNISIST Newsletter

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Privacy on global networks



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**Information Society Division
Communication and Information Sector**

UNESCO's Information for All Programme

THE Information for All Programme (IFAP) provides a framework for international cooperation and international and regional partnerships. It supports the development of common strategies, methods and tools to build inclusive, open and pluralistic knowledge societies

and to narrow the gap between the information-rich and the information-poor. IFAP contributes to the fulfilment of UNESCO's mandate to contribute to education for all, to the free exchange of ideas and knowledge, and to improve the means of communication between peoples.

Bureau Meeting

THE 8th meeting of the Bureau of the Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All Programme was held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris from 4 to 6 April 2005. Its agenda included an in-depth assessment of twenty-four projects related to information literacy, preservation of information, and ethical implications of information and communication technology (ICT) which had been pre-selected from more than 500 proposals to be financed by IFAP's Special Fund of contributions from UNESCO Member States.

The Bureau approved US\$758,000 in funding for projects that include training in information literacy for students and teachers in Ghana; for young women leaders in Uganda and librarians in several countries of the Commonwealth. Information literacy research will also be supported in China and Indonesia.

Regional projects to preserve library and archive materials, contained in audiovisual and human rights archives will be supported in South-East Asia, the Mediterranean, Latin America/Caribbean and in Sahel countries in Africa.

The Bureau also decided to provide funding to help libraries and archives in Sri Lanka plan their reconstruction after the tsunami disaster.

Support to promote a better understanding of the ethical, legal and societal implications of ICT will be extended through different projects such as workshops for libraries on copyright and related issues for the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the provision of information on legislation aiming to foster an enabling environment (Latin America and the Caribbean).

The Bureau expressed satisfaction with the high quality and number of the projects submitted as proof of the great interest in the Information for All Programme and a reflection of a realization of the benefits of using information and knowledge for development. At the same time because of the limited amount of funds available, the Bureau could only grant funding to a very small number of projects. Therefore, Member States were urged to continue providing voluntary contributions to IFAP's Special Fund, so that it can meet development needs.

A debate on information literacy, involving some 50 participants, was one of the key features of the Bureau meeting. The one-day event provided a platform for discussion on UNESCO's role in promoting Information Literacy and future actions in this field. The purpose of the debate was to identify the particular contribution that IFAP could make to give all people the opportunity to become information literate.

According to the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP), a UK-based professional body for librarians, information specialists and knowledge managers, information literacy is "knowing when and why you need information, where to find it, and how to evaluate, use and communicate it in an ethical manner."

Experts and researchers in the field of information literacy addressed four key questions:

- What is information literacy?
- What are people's needs?
- What education programmes are needed to meet these needs?

- What strategies and actions can UNESCO and IFAP implement?

The following conclusions emerged from the discussion:

- Information literacy is of concern to all sectors of society and should be tailored by each to meet its specific context;
- Developing countries need to have a more proactive role in determining solutions most suited to their needs, as solutions for developed countries may be inappropriate;
- Information literacy enables people to access information about their health, their environment, their education and work;
- People require computer literacy in order to access digital information, which is increasingly a necessary pre-condition for information literacy in information societies;

- There is a need to embed information literacy in the curriculum at primary, secondary and tertiary levels, as well as in the training for information professionals, including education and health care workers.

The proceedings of the debate with 10 papers presented by the participants will be soon available online on webworld: http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=18382&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=-465.html

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Governmental Public Domain Information in Latin America

THE “Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace” adopted by UNESCO in 2003 proposed the development of policy guidelines to promote a broader understanding of the role and value of government information in the public domain, with particular attention to information in digital form. Consequently, in 2004, UNESCO published the **Policy Guidelines for the Development and Promotion of Governmental Public Domain Information**.

The Guidelines support the premise that the empowerment of citizens can be attained through access to, and use of, information and knowledge, as a corollary to basic rights such as freedom of expression, and to participation in cultural life and scientific progress.

Consequently, more and more governmental information is being produced and made available through the Internet. Although there may be restrictions on public access and use, due to intellectual property rights protection, national security, privacy, confidentiality and other considerations, most of this information is freely disseminated through the Internet, libraries and other means to citizens and to a broad range of development stakeholders. Whereas the focus

of most policy analyses and law-making is typically on the protection of proprietary information, the role and value of public domain information, especially of information produced by the public sector, is still not widely enough addressed.

This has led UNESCO to initiate several pilot projects to assist Member States in implementing the policies as recommended in the Guidelines.

A meeting in Lima, Peru in May 2005 -a first step for the implementation of the Guidelines in Latin America- brought together experts from eight Latin American countries (Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Nicaragua, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay) to review the current status of laws, policies, mechanisms and institutional aspects relating to public domain information strategies of each participating country.

They also identified issues, gaps and specific problems and came to a preliminary agreement on specific actions that should be taken as a concrete follow-up for the implementation of the Policy Guidelines at national level.

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WSIS

Third Meeting of the Working Group on Internet Governance (WGIG)

DEVELOPING a common understanding of the roles and responsibilities of all actors involved in Internet governance, assessing the adequacy of existing arrangements and discussing recommendations for proposals for action were the subject of the third meeting of the Working Group on Internet Governance in Geneva in April 2005.

The Working Group on Internet Governance (WGIG) was established at the request of the Heads of Governments at the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (Geneva, December 2003), who asked UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan to set up an open and inclusive consultation process on Internet governance, that ensured a mechanism for the full and active participation of governments, the private sector and civil society from both

developing and developed countries, involving relevant intergovernmental and international organizations and forums, to investigate and make proposals for action on the governance of Internet by 2005. The WGIG will present the result of its work to the second phase of the Summit in Tunisia.

UNESCO has consistently stressed that Internet governance mechanisms should be based on the principle of openness, encompassing interoperability, freedom of expression and measures to resist any attempt to censor content.

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Harnessing Information and Communication Technology for Learning and Skills Development

IN preparation for the second meeting of the World Summit on the Information Society (Tunis, Tunisia, 16-18 November 2005) UNESCO is organizing a series of thematic meetings. These meetings are contributions to operationalizing the Organization's concept of *Knowledge Societies* and include *Freedom of Expression in Cyberspace* (3-4 February 2005, UNESCO

Headquarters, Paris, France); *ICTs for Capacity-Building: Critical Success Factors* (11-13 May 2005, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France) and *Cultural Diversity* (17-19 May 2005, St. Petersburg, Russian Federation); *Multilingualism for Cultural Diversity and Participation of All in Cyberspace* (6-7 May 2005, Bamako, Mali). Regional consultations are also being held.

ICT and Capacity Building: Critical Success Factors

THE potential of information and communication technology (ICT) to train and educate communities that have limited or no access to formal education channels was the focus of an international conference opened by UNESCO Director-General Koïchiro Matsuura at UNESCO Headquarters, and broadcast live on the Internet, from 11 to 13 May 2005.

The *ICT for Capacity-Building: Critical Success Factors* conference involved the participation of local leaders, community educators and experts in learning from all continents, from countries as diverse as Afghanistan, Brazil, Jordan and Senegal. The discussions focused on the critical success factors for using new delivery methods for learning and other skills development, especially for marginalized groups such

as those in rural villages, the urban poor, refugees, the visually impaired and those suffering from HIV/AIDS

Using satellite facilities and twelve centres affiliated with the Global Development Learning Network (GDLN), actual case studies were presented live from Latin America, Arab States, Africa and Asia to more than 200 participants in Paris and in twelve video conference centres around the world. During the strategic sessions, development experts, academics, and representatives from industry, non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations evaluated the impact of the current investment in ICT projects, debating the key issues of sustainability, impact monitoring and evaluation, infrastructure solutions, human capabilities, appropriation of technologies and content by local communities, and the social dynamics of these projects.

The conference focused on the potential of ICT to train and educate communities that have limited or no access to formal education channels.



Participants agreed that for projects to be successful, they must take into account a number of essential factors including having clear vision and a holistic and integrated approach. They must develop not only skills but change mindsets and attitudes. Successful projects need local ownership and community participation. They also need government support and must build on multi-stakeholder partnerships.

Curricula and content development need firm involvement of local communities and must take account of language competencies, as well as the involvement of women, as an essential component in building trust in the projects.

The web cast of the entire conference is available on WebWorld: http://portal.unesco.org/ci/admin/ev.php?URL_ID=18866&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201

The event was organized by UNESCO and the Club of Rome.

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Multilingualism for Cultural Diversity and Participation of All in Cyberspace

IN the thematic meetings on multilingualism, held in Mali, more than 130 participants from 25 countries concluded that there was a need for written national language policies to address the issue of language in cyberspace. Standards are crucial to create, access, disseminate and preserve multilingual content in cyberspace, particularly for endangered and lesser-spoken languages.

Local content was identified as a critical factor in fostering a multilingual cyberspace and to ensuring that all communities can share in the benefits of cyberspace. In this context, the role of libraries and archives in sustaining linguistic diversity could be further developed in promoting reading and making content in local languages available, both in analogue and in digitized form.



There were also calls to strengthen local and community radios and emerging web media, to foster language diversity, especially by using endangered and lesser spoken languages, particularly those with predominantly oral traditions. Although the meeting focused on “cyberspace” it was noted that the media has a vital role to play, whether in localizing terminology or in building capacities that are

relevant to the ability to participate in the digital world.

Measuring and monitoring multilingualism in cyberspace are essential to the development of language policies and analyzing their impact. However, the present statistical services including data collection and analysis are insufficient, and more appropriate ones need to be formulated.

The Conference was organized by UNESCO together with the African Academy of Languages (ACALAN) and the Agence intergouvernementale de la francophonie (AIF), in cooperation with the Government of Mali.

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MEMORY OF THE WORLD

Twenty-Nine New Inscriptions on the Memory of the World Register

THE Children’s and Household Tales of the Grimm Brothers (Germany), Evolution of the Phoenician Alphabet (Lebanon), Roald Amundsen’s South Pole Expedition (1910-1912, Norway) and the Jose Marti Archives (Cuba) are among 29 new inscriptions approved by UNESCO’s Director-General for inscription on the Memory of the World Register following the recommendations of the International Advisory Committee at its 7th meeting in Lijiang, People’s Republic of China from 13-16 June 2005.

This brings to 120 the number of items on the Register which was started in 1997 to highlight heritage considered to be of importance for the global community. Twelve countries have heritage listed for the first time attesting to the growing awareness of the need to transmit the world’s documentary heritage to future generations. The new items are:

Albania

Beratinus 1 et 2: Codex pourpres

Two ancient codices discovered in Berat. Beratinus 1 dates from the 6th century and Beratinus 2 from the 9th. Both form part of the seven «purple codices» which survive today. Beratinus-1, in particular, is an important reference in the development of biblical and liturgical literature.

Austria

Collection of Gothic Architectural Drawings

A unique collection of 425 drawings that are indispensable to the study of the buildings of the Gothic period (1150 - 1550 A.D.). These drawings date from 1400 to 1550 and are among the oldest surviving architectural drawings. They bear testimony to the epoch in European history when major constructions began to be undertaken on the basis of advance planning of every detail.

Brahms Collection

The collection documents the life and works of Johannes Brahms (1833-1897), one of the major representatives of the Romantic style. It includes manuscripts of Brahms' own works, galley-proofs of his published works, working copies of the first editions of Brahms' works, first and early editions, as well as original manuscripts, of works by other composers, correspondence addressed to Brahms, his music and literary library.

Azerbaijan

*Medieval manuscripts
on medicine and pharmacy*



A unique collection of medical manuscripts containing information and images on complex medicines, medieval surgical instruments as well as pharmaceutical descriptions of hundreds of natural medicines, plants, minerals and animal substances.

China

*Golden Lists
of the Qing Dynasty Imperial Examination*

The Golden Lists are original evidence for a study of China's feudal examination system and contain the names of many prominent historical figures. They are representative documents of the examination system of the Qing after many centuries of evolution since the Sui Dynasty (581 A.D.). The system had international impact and influenced recruitment systems in Japan, Korea and Vietnam, as well as several European countries. All documents have high calligraphic value, and can be considered pieces of art in their own right.

Colombia

Negros y Esclavos archives

Vast and important testimonial information on the slave trade and slavery from the 16th to the early 19th centuries in Cartagena, a major slave port on the Caribbean coast of modern Colombia, in the 'Neogranadino' (New Kingdom of Granada) territory. The collection comprises 55 files relating to slavery in Colombia as well as Ecuador, Panama and Venezuela and is part of the wider slave trade project.

Cuba

Fondo José Martí Pérez

2,435 documents (a total of 7,177 pages) corresponding to the period of 1827 to 1995, of the literary, journalistic, revolutionary, diplomatic, biographical and personal work of Jose Marti, as well as his correspondence with different persons, including his family. Marti was an author and social activist whose influence has had an enduring influence on Latin American culture in particular.

Egypt

Documents of Sultans and Princes

Four hundred scrolls of title deeds which belonged to the Princes and Sultans who ruled Egypt, starting from the Fatimid era to the end of the Mamluke era, i.e. 979 A.D. to 1517 A.D. The collection provides information about social, economic and political life throughout the region over six centuries and is recorded on parchment and paper in roll form, the longest of which is 40 metres.

France and United Kingdom

Appeal of 18 June 1940

Four key documents relating to Charles de Gaulle's 18 June 1940 radio address urging France to resist the German occupation. The appeal was regarded as a turning point in World War II and in French national history as it marked the beginning of the French resistance to Nazi occupation. It exemplified the power of radio used as a weapon of war rather than entertainment to launch a movement, and influenced the development of resistance movements in other countries.

France

Films Lumière

The entire original cinematographic production of the Lumière factory as listed on the catalogue. Auguste and Louis Lumiere are credited with the world's first public film screening on

28 December 1895. It features rare footage of world leaders such as Queen Victoria and King Umberto of Italy. It also documents military footage exercises and parades, scenes of daily life, ceremonies and official visits.

Introduction of the decimal metric system, 1790-1837

The metric system (International System of Units) was born in Revolutionary France to replace the chaotic collection of units. The inscription includes the text of the original proposal concerning weights and measures, submitted to the French National Assembly by the Bishop of Autun (Talleyrand) in 1790, as well as subsequent legal texts on this issue dating from 1791 to 1837. The metric system has now become almost universally used.

Germany

*Kinder- und Hausmärchen.
Gesammelt durch die Brüder Grimm
(Children's and Household Tales)*



The first systematic compilation and scientific documentation of the entire European and Oriental fairy tale tradition. After the Luther Bible, they are most well-known and widely distributed book of German culture. Translations exist in over 160 languages and cultural dialects on all continents.

Hungary

(on behalf of Austria, Belgium, France, Germany and Italy)

Bibliotheca Corviniana

The Bibliotheca Corviniana was the one of the greatest collection of books in Europe in the Renaissance period containing works written for King Mathias (1458-1490) and copies of the most important documents known at that time. It represented the literary production and reflected the state of knowledge and arts of the Renaissance. It included philosophy, theology, history, law, literature, geography, natural sciences, medicine, architecture, etc.

India

Saiva Manuscripts in Pondicherry

A collection of 11,000 manuscripts that concern mainly the religion and worship of the Hindu god Siva. It includes the largest collection in the world of manuscripts of texts of the Saiva Siddhanta, a religious tradition, which spread across the Indian subcontinent and beyond, as far as Cambodia in the East.

Italy

Malatesta Novello Library



A rare example of a complete, beautifully preserved collection from the mid-15th century, just before the advent of printing in Europe.

343 manuscripts of different provenance on subjects of a philosophical, theological and biblical nature as well as classical and scientific works. The collection is a unique example of a humanistic library of the Renaissance, a time when the dominance of Christian writing and teaching was giving way to more secular considerations. The collection is kept in its original building in the town of Cesena.

Kazakhstan

*Nevada-Semipalatinsk,
the International Anti-Nuclear Movement*

Records the activities of the first anti-nuclear non-governmental organization created in 1989 on the territory of the former USSR and documents the role played in ending nuclear tests at the Semipalatinsk polygon in Kazakhstan.

Lebanon

Phoenician Alphabet

The invention and evolution of the Phoenician alphabet, the earliest known example of alphabetical as opposed to hieroglyphic or cuneiform writing. It is the base from which most subsequent alphabets have been developed.

*Commemorative Stella
from Nahr el-Kalb*

A series of commemorative steles depicting Lebanese history from the 14th century B.C. to the present through the inscriptions left by successive armies and testify to its relations with the rest of the Middle East and the West.

Mexico

Biblioteca Palafoxiana

The only library in America that faithfully reflects European inheritance through a collection of more than 41,000 books and unique manuscripts. The books are still ordered according to the system used when the library was first established. It is a rare, if not unique, survivor from the earliest days of the Spanish colonization of the Americas.

Namibia

The Hendrik Witbooi Papers

The official archives of Witbooi, an African leader in Namibia, around the end of the 19th Century, offer a rare example of the victims' perception of colonialism. They consist of four (or possibly more) books containing in-and outgoing diplomatic and administrative correspondence, treaties and proclamations. Witbooi

was a traditional chief who, from 1884 to 1894, resisted German advances by attempting to forge a united African front.

Norway

*Roald Amundsen's South
Pole Expedition 1910-1912*

The original film material of Roald Amundsen's South Pole Expedition consisting of 7 sections of nitrate film. It is made up of original sequences, filmed between 1910 and 1912.

Portugal

Letter of Pêro Vaz de Caminha

The letter, dated 1st May 1500 to the King of Portugal D. Manuel I, is the first document describing the land and people of Brazil. It was written when the Portuguese arrived in the new world for the very first time and records Brazil's annexation to the crown of Portugal. The letter is rich in detail, with observations that bear witness to the encounter of the «old» and «new» worlds.

Serbia and Montenegro

Miroslav Gospel - Manuscript of 1180 A.D

A manuscript with miniatures of outstanding beauty. It is representative of illuminated manuscripts of a specific style and iconography resulting from fusion of elements of the West (Italy) and the East (Byzantium).

Sweden

Astrid Lindgren Archives

Approximately 100 shelf metres of manuscripts, shorthand drafts, correspondence, clippings, photos, audiovisual recordings and other material created by Astrid Lindgren herself, one of the most influential writers of literature for children and young adults in the 20th century.

Emmanuel Swedenborg Collection

One of the biggest existing collections of manuscripts from the 18th century, and one of the



very few in modern times that has served as the basis for a new Christian church.

Trinidad and Tobago

C.L.R. James Collection

Original documents including correspondence, manuscripts, pamphlets, personal and literary papers as well as the books that formed the personal library of the late Cyril Lionel Robert James, one of the leading intellectuals of the 20th century. His influence spanned the Caribbean, Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

Ukraine

Collection of Jewish Musical Folklore (1912-1947)

The world's foremost repository of Jewish folk music recorded on Edison wax cylinders. Comprising over 1,017 cylinders of two to seven minutes of music each, the recordings constitute invaluable source material for the study of the almost vanished art and traditions of Ashkenazi Jews in the early 20th century.

United Kingdom

The Battle of the Somme

Five reels of 35mm film, total length 5,005 ft (1,525 metres). A uniquely significant documentary record of one of the key battles of the First World War and is the first feature-length documentary film record of combat produced anywhere in the world.

USA and Germany

Universalis cosmographia secundum Ptholomaei traditionem

et Americi Vesputii aliorumque Lustrationes

A large uncoloured wall map of the world, on twelve separate and unjoined wood cut sheets centred on Europe, Asia, and Africa, in the Ptolemaic tradition, showing the Americas on the west side and Japan on the easternmost portion. This was also the first printed wall map of the world and is the first map to give the name of «America» to the New World, in honour of Amerigo Vespucci.

Calls for New Nominations

The process for the evaluation of new nomination proposals for inscription on the International Register has started. Ideally, nominations should be submitted through the National Commission for UNESCO or the Memory of the World National Committee in the country where it is located. Proposals should be based on the selection criteria listed in the *General Guidelines to Safeguard Documentary Heritage*, which stipulates that the most important criterion for inscription on the Register is the universal significance of the documentary heritage.

The deadline for the submission of nominations is 31 March 2006 and no late submissions will be accepted. Details at: <http://www.unesco.org/webworld/mow>

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Czech National Library wins First UNESCO/Jikji Prize

THE International Advisory Committee of the Memory of the World Programme has awarded the first UNESCO/Jikji Memory of the World Prize to the National Library of the Czech Republic in recognition of its contribution to the preservation and accessibility of documentary heritage.



The National Library was selected from a short-list of seven nominations to receive the US\$30,000 prize, funded by the city of Cheongju. The prize commemorates the inscription on the Memory of the World Register of the oldest known book of movable metal print in the world, the *Buljo jikji simche yojeol*. Printed in two volumes in Korea in 1377 A.D., the Jikji contains the essentials of

Zen Buddhism. The first volume of the work is missing and the second is kept in the *Bibliothèque nationale* of France.

The six other short-listed nominations for the prize were: the National Library of Australia, the Departamento del Valle del Cauca (Colombia), the National Mission for Manuscripts (India), the Universidad Centroamericana (Nicaragua),

Fathi Hassan Saleh (Egypt), and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) in Tanzania.

The thirty-six nominations received from Member States were assessed by the Bureau of the Memory of the World Programme during its meeting at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on 22 March 2005. In the preliminary screening, the Memory of the World Bureau considered the following factors: the significance of work already performed in the area of preservation that is outside the institution's regular functions, long-term preservation strategies, sustainability, and regional representation.

Created in 2004, the UNESCO/Jikji Memory of the World Prize will be awarded biennially to individuals or organizations that have made significant contribution to the preservation and accessibility of documentary heritage. An official ceremony will be held every two years either in Paris or in the Republic of Korea on the occasion of Jikji Day.

This year, the prize giving ceremony took place in Cheongju in the Republic of Korea on 2 September 2005.

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Slave Trade Archives Project Completed

IMPLEMENTATION of the project to improve the conservation and accessibility of slave trade records that was developed by UNESCO in 1999 with funding by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) has now been completed, although some activities should continue, as recommended by the recently published final report.

The Slave Trade Archives project dealt with original documentary sources relating to the trade, mainly in the form of written documents. Digitization of these sources, particularly those at risk from deterioration, was intended to establish a collective memory of this history. The project was based on the need to guarantee the protection and accessibility of documents

with universal value through digitization. It did not aim to restore or reconstitute the original collections themselves.

The project's main goal was to improve access to and use of documents related to the slave trade in order to highlight its impact and lasting consequences. A strategy was outlined with a view to establishing on-line access through the UNESCO website and other sites devoted to the slave trade, as well as publishing multimedia CD-ROMs on the slave trade, acts of resistance to slavery, etc. A website dedicated to slave trade archives was created with this in mind.

The project was carried out in eleven countries in Africa: Benin, Cape Verde, Gambia, Ghana and Senegal in addition to Argentina,

Barbados, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba and Haiti in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Regarding the initial goals, the following results were obtained:

- At least 14 institutions were provided with computer equipment.
- Six seminars were held in African countries, with 114 participants, as well as other seminars in Colombia and Cuba through local initiative.
- Eight multimedia CD-ROMs were produced, and two more are being prepared.
- Eight websites were created, with two more under construction.
- 11 databases were created with references to over 10,000 documents.

- About 200,000 objects (images and documents) were digitized.
- At least 16 reports were published as well as two books, a bibliography, several notes in Gazettes, Newsletters, and press releases. Publicity was given to these activities in all participating countries through radio and television news.

The final report recommends the continuation of the project in different countries to develop holdings unifying large geographical and linguistic areas.

For additional information please contact Mr Aziz Abid at the address above.

ICT AND WOMEN

Empowering Women in the African Great Lakes Region

ORGANIZED by UNESCO's Social and Human Sciences Sector, a consultation meeting 'Empowering women in the Great Lakes (GL) Region: violence, peace and women's leadership' was held in May 2005 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and was an attempt to operationalize the Dar-es-Salaam Declaration on Peace, Security, Democracy and Development in the Great Lakes Region.

The purpose of the consultation was to bring together policy- and decision-makers, academics and other specialists on women and gender issues, as well as representatives of women's NGOs from the GL Region to discuss priorities and needs for gender equality and development and to prepare a plan of action to assist in women's participation in post-conflict resolution, democratization and governance.

The meeting was organized in three main sessions, featuring reports on experiences from participating countries, on the following:

- Dar-es-Salaam Declaration
- Women's leadership through the role and impact of women parliamentarians, academics and NGOs
- Culture and women's rights.

A final session focussed on defining the agenda for GL women and preparing recommendations. The speakers provided very use-

ful contributions to the topic, resulting in a realistic set of recommendations. Where the Communication and Information (CI) sector is concerned, the recurring theme was the need for networking of persons and institutions for greater access to information, sharing of experience and expertise. The lack of information contributes to women's marginalization in post-conflict situations. The underpinning function of information and ICTs to facilitate social participation, improve health, economic prospects was stressed as an enabling factor for women to achieve their potential in the information society. The Information Society Division's experience in building inclusive knowledge societies and in the use of ICTs was identified as a key component in developing a strategy to solve identified needs for literacy and greater educational opportunities for women. A virtual resource centre or portal will be created to facilitate access to a database containing information on research papers and policies, and to provide access to gender activities.

For additional information please contact Ms Joie Springer, CI/INF, UNESCO, 1, rue Miollis, 75732 Paris Cedex 15, France. Tel: (331) 45.68.44.97. Fax: (331) 45.68.55.83. E-mail: j.springer@unesco.org

SOFTWARE

Argentinean Parliamentary Archives Database developed with UNESCO's CDS/ISIS

THE records of proceedings of the Historical Archives of the Argentinean Chamber of Deputies contain the memory of the parliamentary history of the country. Started in 1999 and developed with UNESCO's CDS/ISIS for Windows (WINISIS) software, the database now covers the period from 1862-1914 and is being extended to include debates up to 1976.

The original files pertaining to the 19th century (1862-1900) are hand-written; some of them are signed by former presidents and other personalities of Argentinean political life, such as Sarmiento, Mitre, Avellaneda and Pellegrini. The documents are preserved underground in more than 7,000 metallic fireproof boxes with adequate atmospheric and climatic controls.

Entering information in the database requires careful verification as some paper documents are not in a good condition, which makes them less readable and difficult to manipulate. The per-

sonnel, who do the data entry, work directly in the Archives, next to the shelves, to minimize transfers and avoid excessive manipulation of documents.

The database has been consulted since its creation by many public and private institutions, historians, researchers, students, state officials and the general public from Latin America and Europe. It has been used for various works, theses and dissertations related to history and law.

The database is available online on the Archives website:

<http://www1.hcdn.gov.ar/congre/formglobal/form.htm>. Argentina is the first in Latin America to digitize and make parliamentary documents available on line.

For additional information please contact Mr Davide Storti, CI/INF, UNESCO, 1, rue Miollis, 75732 Paris Cedex 15, France. Tel: (331) 45.68.37.91. Fax: (331) 45.68.55.83. E-mail: d.storti@unesco.org

Multistakeholder Partnership E-discussion on FOSS

A NETWORK comprising civil society and United Nations Organizations, including UNESCO, launched a public e-consultation on the development implications of free and open source software (FOSS). The Forum entitled "FOSS: Policy and Development Implications" (FOSS-PDI) is at <http://lists.apdip.net/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/foss-pdi>

Other organizations supporting the initiative included Bridges.org, Free and Open Source Software Foundation for Africa (FOSSFA), International Open Source Network (IOSN), OneWorld South Asia (OWSA), UNDP Asia Pacific Development Information Programme. FOSS-PDI discussed how FOSS can help scale up various developmental interventions while reducing the cost and other obligations attached to proprietary software. By forming an alliance, organizers of this forum aimed to raise awareness, among the general public, about the present and possible future impacts of open

source software for creating an inclusive knowledge society.

The forum involved a wide range of experts and activists of FOSS, and development professionals from various regions representing private, public and civil society sectors. The debates lasted from December 2004 to April 2005.

One of the key discussion themes of the forum was the role of FOSS in implementing projects intended to meet UN Millennium Development Goals. The themes of the forum were:

- Opportunities and drawbacks of FOSS for developing countries – the roles of government, civil society, business in the process;
- FOSS & Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) – stretching the development dollar for scaling-up impact;
- The global Intellectual Property Concern
- Business monopoly of first world nations' software giants versus third world collaborative efforts;

- Enabling legal/regulatory/policy framework for country specific strategic evolution FOSS;
- Open-source processes outside the software sector – Free Medicine, Seed Bank, Open Access, Open Archiving, etc;
- Comparison of proprietary software vis-à-vis FOSS in terms of technical merits –reliability, stability, and vulnerabilities, especially in the context of national security;
- FOSS versus Public Domain Software and Freeware – the Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) of FOSS.
- Understanding why individuals contribute to FOSS projects and what motivates FOSS developers to “donate” their time; and are

these motivations different in developed and developing countries? Are there constraints, especially in developing countries, that could be addressed by government or private sector interventions?

The forum is now finalizing a policy document encompassing the viewpoints of the discussants, in addition to presenting the outcomes in upcoming thematic meetings being organized parallel to the World Summit on the Information Society process.

For more information please contact Mr Jean-Claude Dauphin, UNESCO, 1, rue Miollis, 75732 Paris Cedex 15, France. Tel: (331) 45.68.37.89. Fax: (331) 45.68.55.83. Email: jc.dauphin@unesco.org

New Community Software Tool developed by UNESCO and Partners

THE National Informatics Centre (NIC) in New Delhi, the Open Knowledge Network (OKN) and UNESCO have announced a partnership to develop a new software tool – to be called Open eNRICH – for the creation and exchange of locally relevant knowledge within and between communities in developing countries.

UNESCO and NIC originally worked together to develop eNRICH to enable users of community multimedia centres to access and easily contribute to knowledge resources. eNRICH was implemented in nine sites within UNESCO’s ICT for Poverty Reduction (ictPR) project. NIC continued to develop eNRICH, and further versions are now in use in the northeastern states of India, the World Health Organization’s Health InterNetwork Project, UNESCO’s INFOYOUTH programme, in the Akshaya Project of Kerala, India and in the District Rural Development Agencies of the state governments of India. OKN will use eNRICH in the near future to support four new partners in northern India, and one in Sri Lanka.

At the same time, OKN has been successfully expanding, with partners in four countries – Kenya, India, Senegal and Zimbabwe – using the OKN software tool to create and exchange local content in seven languages on a daily basis.

Content is exchanged over a variety of appropriate technologies including the WorldSpace satellite, dial-up landlines and mobile phones.

Following discussions between NIC, UNESCO and OKN, it became clear that there were huge benefits in combining forces to develop a new, open source, version of the software which will be called Open eNRICH. This will combine the best elements of the work so far and add many new features requested by our partner organizations. Moreover, the focus will be on an open design that will facilitate exchange of content with other information sources, networks and communication media so that OKN can participate in a global ‘network of networks’ for the world’s poor.

The synergies between the three organizations go beyond software development and will encourage the pooling of resources and approaches for training, support and project evaluation, and the sharing of content between all project sites around the world. One example of this will be collaboration between OKN Africa’s programme and UNESCO’s Community Multimedia Centre scale-up in Africa.

For more information please contact Ms Stella Hughes, UNESCO, 1, rue Miollis, 75732 Paris Cedex 15, France. Tel: (331) 45.68.40.41. Email: s.hughes@unesco.org

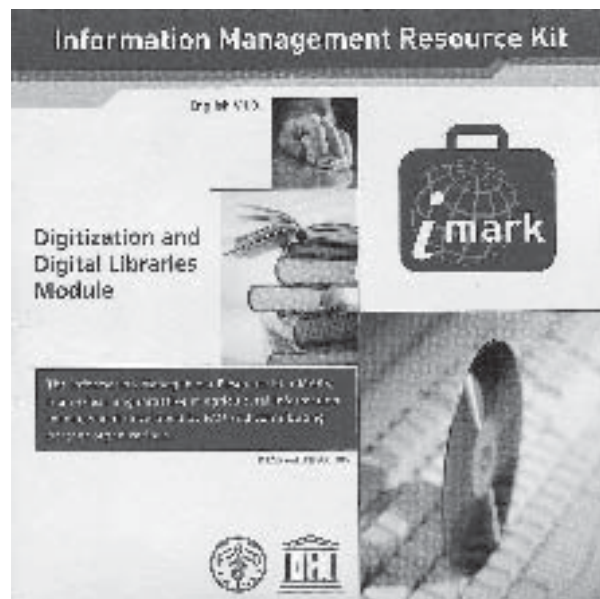
CD-Rom on Digitization for Librarians and Lay Persons

UNESCO and the Food and Agriculture Organization have produced a CD-Rom module "Digitization and Digital Libraries" to teach librarians and lay persons to digitize documents as part of the process of putting them on line and creating virtual libraries.

UNESCO's Director-General believes this teach-yourself module will contribute greatly to the ability of people in the developing world to digitize information and share it on-line. Because it can be used by librarians, information specialists and others in developing countries, it should not only make cyberspace more inclusive but equally promote diversity on the Internet.

The kit, available from the FAO and UNESCO free-of-charge, is compatible with a wide range of computers, Pentium I and later, as well as older operating systems, making it particularly well-suited for a wide range of users. The interactive module includes 15 hours of training which can be personalized to meet individual needs. It also features a comprehensive course on creating virtual libraries and is equally suited for beginners and more advanced users.

The module contains a technical glossary and search function, as well as a wide range of resources such as recommended reading, practi-



cal guidelines, software and manual. An on-line community will be launched in association with the module to allow users to exchange views, share information, and support each other.

For additional information please contact Ms Armelle Arrou, CI/INF, UNESCO, 1, rue Miollis, 75732 Paris Cedex 15, France Tel: (331) 45.68.42.08. Fax: (331) 45.68.55.83. E-mail: a.arrou@unesco.org

INFOYOUTH

The First African Youth Directory

THE first African Youth Directory has been prepared in cooperation with the Institute for a Democratic Alternative in South Africa (IDASA). The Directory, which is available on-line and on CD-ROM, is a practical tool for all youth work professionals and contains information about existing youth NGOs and associations, both at national and regional levels as well as a presentation of youth policies, research institutes and the work done in this field by the African Union, the UN and other regional and international bodies.

Young journalists from Burkina Faso participated in a training workshop on information management in conflict situations at the University of Ouagadougou. The workshop was organized by the "Réseau Afrique Jeunesse", in co-operation

with the Network of West African Journalists for Integration and Peace. The journalists participated in practical work with the assistance of an ICT trainer and debated four principal topics *NICT and conflict prevention, Traditional ways of prevention and management of conflicts, Press freedom and Information management in cases of crisis or conflict*. The workshop, organized within the context of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), also resulted in a practical guide for young journalists from radio and television broadcasting and newspapers.

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REGIONAL OFFICES

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Tsunami: Rebuilding after the disaster

UNESCO responded to an appeal by the National Library and Documentation Services Board (NLDSB) to UNESCO and the international library communities for assistance in rebuilding the tsunami-affected libraries in Sri Lanka by sending its Adviser for Communication and Information in Asia to assess the situation of public and school libraries in the affected areas.

A library disaster committee under the NLDSB was set up to coordinate library rehabilitation and reconstruction activities. The Sri Lanka Disaster Management Committee for Library and Information Services and Archives (SL DMC for LISA) has decided to formulate short- medium- and long-term plans to address the problems, with human resource development in LIS field also being discussed under the

programme. Funding has also been provided by the Information for all Programme (see IFAP Bureau earlier).

The Maldives also reported the loss of important records. Regional hospitals in four atolls had been swept away and along with them the patients' records and reports on their immunization programme. During the assessment mission, it became quite clear that a Central Archive is a necessity in the Maldives. UNESCO will therefore send an expert to the Maldives to prepare a plan for the creation of a national archive.

For additional information please contact Ms Susanne Ornager, Adviser for Communication and Information in Asia and the Pacific region, B 5/29 Safdarjung Enclave, 110 029 New Delhi, India. Tel.: 91 11 671 3000. Fax: 91 11 671 3000. Email: s.ornager@unesco.org

New UNESCO-Supported Training Programme in Information Management

A new training programme in Information Management was inaugurated in May at the University of Mysore, in Bangalore, India.

The UNESCO Training Programme for Information Professionals in Asia and the Pacific which is hosted at International Institute of Information Technology, Bangalore is envisioned as a training programme with a difference. It is intended to be needs-based and technology-driven. The vision is to create a learning environment which is a fruitful blend of different learning methods and modes where participants bring their learning needs to the programme and take back attitudes, technologies, knowledge and skill sets suitable to engender an information society.

The vision is to fashion an innovative, interactive, participatory learning landscape which provides a learning environment that is based on appropriate content, methods, tools, and settings. The aim is to craft course content and methods that would help in achieving a

needed balance between discourse and demonstration; teaching and training; perception and performance, to facilitate participants in learning/ developing the knowledge and skill sets that are required by information professionals to participate and contribute to the emerging information society.

This six-month programme is an experiment in testing the efficacy of blending onsite (face to face) with distance education mode: the first and the last month being onsite and the intervening four months in distance mode. It aims to twin the real setting in a learning mode; integrating learning with practicing; place greater emphasis on practical problem-solving approaches adopting/adapting different learning modes: lecture-based theory, practice-oriented hands-on and other strategies. Active learning techniques include lectures and tutorials, seminars, workshops and brain-storming sessions, projects mentoring, group tasks and activities.

The course content spanning the entire range of topics from content creation to archiving is streamed into three modules:

1. Digital Information – technologies and management
2. eContent and collections – creation and management
3. Electronic publishing- policies and practices

Topics also include Mark Up Languages such as XML; open source digital library software such as Greenstone and DSpace; content management issues such as Open URL and Metadata; Access control and security issues, and electronic publishing, Open Access Movement and others.

This innovative programme was conceived and is being implemented by UNESCO's Communication and Information Adviser and the Programme Coordinator. The outcome of this novel experiment will be evaluated through a well-articulated mechanism of feedback both from the participants and parent organizations as well as resource persons and other experts.

For additional information please contact Ms Susanne Ornager, Adviser for Communication and Information in Asia and the Pacific region, B 5/29 Safdarjung Enclave, 110 029 New Delhi, India. Tel.: 91 11 671 3000. Fax: 91 11 671 3000. Email: s.ornager@unesco.org

Developing Radio Archives in Lao People's Democratic Republic and Bangladesh

WORKSHOPS aiming at digitizing and preserving sound archives of radio stations of the Lao National Radio, Vientiane and Bangladesh Betar, Dhaka, were recently conducted by the Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) as part of the project "Digitization of Radio Archives", which was funded by UNESCO's International Programme for the Development of Communication (IPDC).

Ten engineers, librarians and producers participated in the workshop at Lao National Radio and sixteen in Bangladesh Betar. In both stations, a consultant also conducted well-attended half-day seminars for the station's management, to better inform them about the aims of the workshop, modern sound archiving concepts and possibilities for preserving their archives.

Although both workshops had the same objectives, they were modified to take account of the quite different situations in each station. Both archives had considerably different volumes and while Lao National Radio had switched to computerized programme production a few years ago, Bangladesh Betar still produces its programmes with analogue equipment. So digital archiving strategies had to be adapted to the different requirements of the stations.

In common to both stations is the fact that the old tape equipment is steadily becoming

obsolete and substitutes have to be found one way or the other. The cataloguing systems in both stations also need to be updated so converting them to create a computerized database systems was one of the key matters addressed during the workshops.

Participants were introduced to the various problems of sound archives and presented with solutions that modern technologies can offer to overcome them. During the workshops, new metadata structures were developed, which considered existing catalogue information as well as modern standards like the Dublin Core. Solutions for the storage and conversion of digital audio were also developed and the participants benefited from opportunities of having their first hands-on exercises in these new technologies.

Recognizing that 5-8 day workshop cannot enable an analogue archive to be converted to digital, -this is a process that takes months or even years- the preparation of a road map to guide the institutions in the further development of their archives was a final but important part of the workshops.

For more information please contact Ms Tarja Virtanen, Adviser for Communication and Information in Asia and the Pacific, B 5/29 Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi, 110 029, India. Telephone: 91 11 671 3000. Fax: 91 11 671 3001/2. Email: t.virtanen@unesco.org

ARAB STATES

Lebanese Librarians Trained in Use of UNESCO Library Software

SOME 20 public libraries from all governorates of Lebanon recently received copies of UNESCO's WINISIS software and their staff was trained in its use during a two-day workshop at the UNESCO Office in Beirut.

This project is part of UNESCO's initiative to provide communities with better access to information, knowledge and ICT through enhancing the capabilities of public libraries.

UNESCO has accumulated significant experience in facilitating the development of some key software tools for processing information. These software tools are distributed free-of-charge and the objective is to empower users

by giving them access to key technology for development and knowledge-sharing, that most of them otherwise could not afford. The development model is based upon international collaboration and the software tools are continuously enriched, modified and updated with the co-operation of a community of experts from different countries.

For additional information please contact Mr George Awad, National Professional Officer, Communication and Information Office in the Arab States, Bir Hassan, Cité Sportive Avenue, Beirut, Lebanon. Tel.: +961.1 85 00 13. Fax: +961.1 82 48 54. Email: g.awad@unesco.org

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Consultation Meeting on the Latin American and Caribbean WSIS Process

THE Government of Ecuador, UNESCO and United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) contributed to the preparation of the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) by organizing a consultation meeting on the Latin American and Caribbean WSIS process in conjunction with the 10th Biannual Consultation for UNESCO's INFOLAC Programme in Quito from 4 to 6 May 2005.

During the meeting, that also contributed to the Regional Preparatory Ministerial Conference of Latin America and the Caribbean for the second phase of the World Summit which was held in June 2005 in Brazil, participants presented their inputs to the Regional Action Plan 'eLAC 2007', for approval by the Preparatory Conference.

eLAC 2007 is a set of initiatives and concrete activities, with measurable goals for the development of the Information Society for the year

2007, based on the WSIS Plan of Action and the Bavaro Declaration.

The consultative meetings are open to participation by members of INFOLAC, governments of GRULAC, international organizations and United Nations agencies, civil society, research institutions and representatives of the private sector.

The agenda of the Quito meeting covered topics such as national information society strategies, infrastructure and access, knowledge-sharing, public service applications and building an enabling environment.

For more information please contact Mr Isidro Fernandez-Aballí, Adviser for Communication and Information in Latin America and the Caribbean region, UNESCO Office Quito, Juan Leon Mera 130 y Patria, Edificio CFN 6to piso, Quito, Ecuador. Tel.: (593-2) 252 90 85; 256 23 27. Fax: (593-2) 250 44 35. Email: quito@unesco.org or E-mail: i.fernandez-aballi@unesco.org

Prize For Best Educational Portal in Latin America and the Caribbean Awarded

THE website of the *Centro Bibliotecario de Puente Alto* designed by Cristian Maturana (Chile) is the winner of the UNESCO-supported contest for the best educational portal in Latin America and the Caribbean, which was organized by the Information Society Programme in Latin America and the Caribbean (INFOLAC).

The websites *Museo de los Niños* de Caracas-Venezuela (Children's Museum of Caracas - Venezuela) by Curiosikid (Venezuela) and *Colombia Aprende* (Learn Colombia) by Claudia Zea (Colombia), came in second and third respectively in the contest.

A special prize was awarded to the teacher training portal *Nueva Alejandría*, designed by NAL Educativa, S.A. (Argentina).

The jury also gave special recognition to the *Science and why things* website designed by the Metropolitan University (Venezuela), to *Cyberescuela.com* by Sabas Monroy Martínez (El Salvador), and *Campus Virtual* by the CAPACYT Institute (Argentina).

The contest was organized in mid-2004 and awakened great interest throughout the region with 180 inscriptions. The jury was composed of a team of multidisciplinary professionals, selected by an organizing committee, with experience in web publication in the areas of ICT and education, including teacher-training.

The prizes consisted of US\$4,000 for first place, US\$2,000 for second place and US\$1,000 for third place. The special prize dedicated to the best website for teacher training received US\$1,000.

The next INFOLAC contest will judge the best websites on online museums in the region.

For more information please contact Mr Isidro Fernandez-Aballí, Adviser for Communication and Information in Latin America and the Caribbean region, UNESCO Office Quito, Juan Leon Mera 130 y Patria, Edificio CFN 6to piso, Quito, Ecuador. Tel.: (593-2) 252 90 85; 256 23 27. Fax : (593-2) 250 44 35. Email : i.fernandez-aballi@unesco.org or Ms Viviana Vinueza at the same address. Emil: quito@unesco.org

Guide to Rural Telecentres Available in Portuguese

A "Guide to Rural Telecentres" (*Guia Gemas da Terra de Telecentros Rurais*) was recently published by the Brazilian NGO *Gemas da Terra*. The Guide, produced with resources from UNESCO's Information for All Programme, is intended to help Portuguese-speaking communities establish community multimedia telecentres in rural areas.

Gemas da Terra is a network of rural community telecentres established in communities of less than 2,500 people. The project started towards the end of 2001 when a former NASA engineer, moved to São Gonçalo do Rio das Pedras, a community of about 1,500 people in the Jequitinhonha Valley, one of the poorest areas of Brazil. Communities in São Gonçalo do Rio das Pedras, Milho Verde, Tombadouro,

Conselheiro Mata and Rodeador collaborated in developing a model for self-sustainable rural community telecentres and the first telecentre, established in São Gonçalo do Rio das Pedras, became operational in November 2003.

The guide can be downloaded, together with an open-source software to be used in telecentres, from the website of *Gemas da Terra*: <http://www.gemasdaterra.org.br/recursos/manuais.htm>

For more information please contact Ms Marie Inés Bastos, National Professional Officer for Communication and Information, UNESCO Office in Brasilia, SAS QD05 Lote 06 Bloco H, Ed. CNPq/IBICT/UNESCO 9 andar, 700-70-914 Brasil DF, Brazil. Tel.: +55 61 2106 35 00. Fax: +55 61 322 42 61. E-mail: brasilia@unesco.org

Building Digital Libraries

TRAINING in methodologies for planning digital libraries and the use of free software for their creation was provided in February 2005 in Fortaleza, Brazil, during a workshop organized by UNESCO, the Federal University of Ceará, Brazil and the Centre for Training and Development (CETREDE) in Fortaleza.

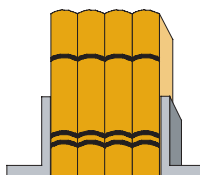
The workshop entitled *First Latin-American Course on Building Digital Libraries* was one of the many initiatives to create and strengthen information centres and institutions, libraries and archives. Its objective was to train specialists to build digital libraries in their institutions and to facilitate access to scientific, educational and cultural information.

The International Federation for Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), the Association of Universities Grupo Montevideo (AUGM) and the Latin-American Centre for

Studies in Informatics (CLEI) sponsored the event which was built around UNESCO's free and open software tools for processing information.

CDS/ISIS is used worldwide for managing databases in libraries and information centres as it provides facilities for storing documents electronically and for advanced information retrieval. Greenstone is a suite of software for building and publishing digital library collections. It provides a new innovative way of organizing and publishing information on the Internet or on CD-ROM.

For additional information please contact Mr Guenther Cyranek, Adviser for MERCOSUR, Edificio MERCOSUR, Calle Dr. Luis Piera 1992, Montevideo, Uruguay. Telephone: +598.2 2 413 20 75 ext. 126/124. Fax: +598.2 413 20 94. Email : g.cyranek@unesco.org



NEW PUBLICATIONS

Requests from Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Portugal, Spain, and the Asia and Pacific Region should be sent directly to our documents resource centres whose addresses are indicated below. Document requests from Africa, Arab States,

Europe and North America, Latin America and the Caribbean should continue to be sent to: Information Society Division, UNESCO, 1, rue Miollis, 75732, Paris Cedex 15, France.

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ASIA/ PACIFIC REGION

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Thailand
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Bangkok

All documents may be consulted at the premises of each of the institutions mentioned above. Copies may be obtained on a cost recovery basis at prices set out by the distributing institutions.

UNESCO is in the process of digitizing its documents and a full text selection of these can be consulted at: <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/ulis/index.html>

Below is a list of new publications:

- *Initiative B@bel*. Paris: UNESCO, 2005. CI.2005/WS/1 (English, French, Spanish and Arabic).
- *New Technologies for Literacy and Adult Education*. Paris: UNESCO, 2005. 119 p. ISBN 92-3-103986-5 (English and French).
- *Reports and Conclusions of the thematic meetings organized by UNESCO in preparation of the second meeting of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)*. Paris: UNESCO, June 2005. 27 p. CI. 2005/WS/3 (English and French).

CD-ROMs

- *Greenstone Digital Library Software 2.60*. A software suite for building and distributing digital library collections. Paris: UNESCO, May 2005.
- *Information Management Resource Kit*. This model offers a series of interactive lessons covering the workflows, processes, technologies and skills involved in the creation, management and distribution of digital libraries. Co-published by FAO and UNESCO, 2005.

DVD-ROM

- *Building Cyberspace. Technology, Society, Law & Cyberspace*. UNITAR and UNESCO: Paris, 2004.

The Newsletter provides information on the activities of the Information Society Division and other related issues. Published twice a year in Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish, the Newsletter is distributed free of charge by the Division.

*Editor: Ms Elizabeth Longworth; Assistant Editor: Ms Joie Springer;
Editorial Assistant: Ms Grace Mensah*

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