

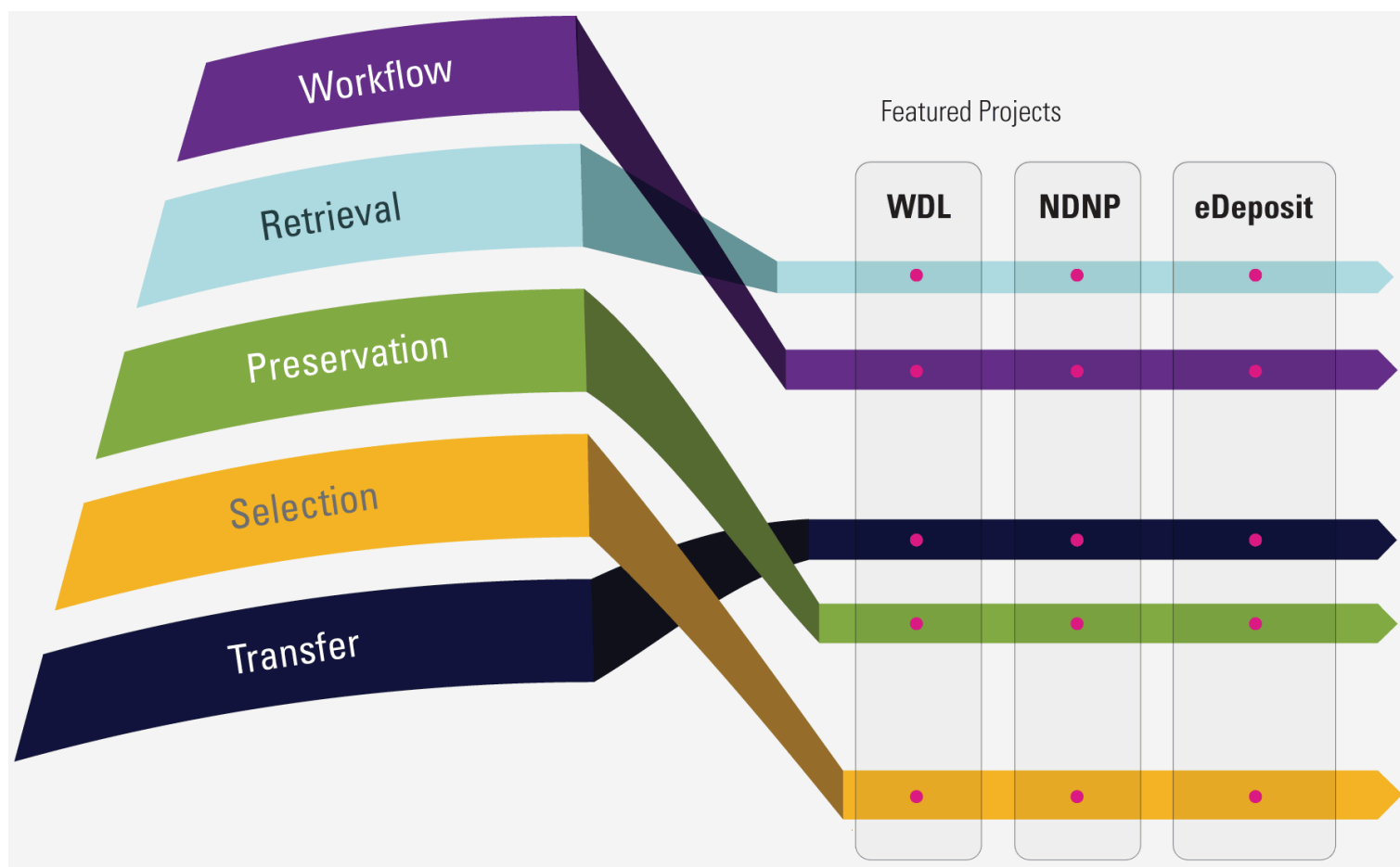


**Babak Hamidzadeh**, Director  
Repository Development Center  
Office of Strategic Initiatives  
Library of Congress

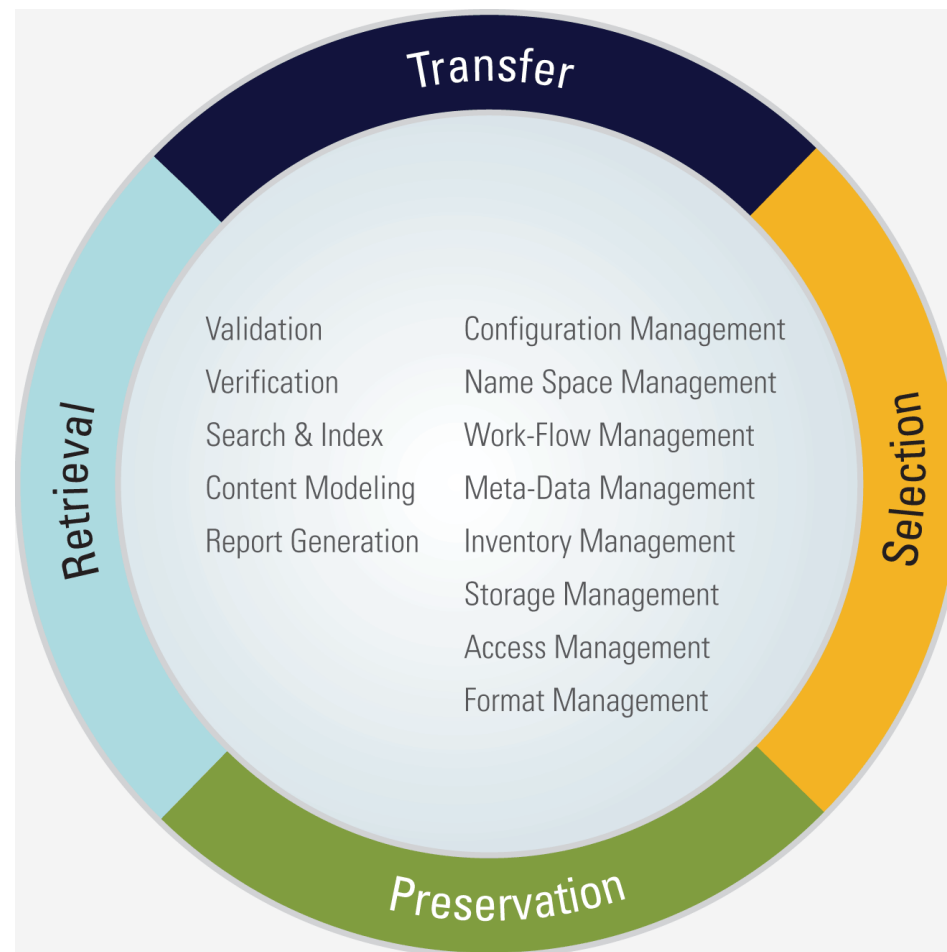
## Repository Development Center (RDC)

- Responsible for technical development of WDL.
- Build & deploy to production, processes and software systems that enable management of digital collections in their lifecycle.
- Digital Collections lifecycle includes:
  - Production
  - Selection
  - Transfer
  - Preservation
  - Access

# REPOSITORY SERVICES



# REPOSITORY COMPONENTS

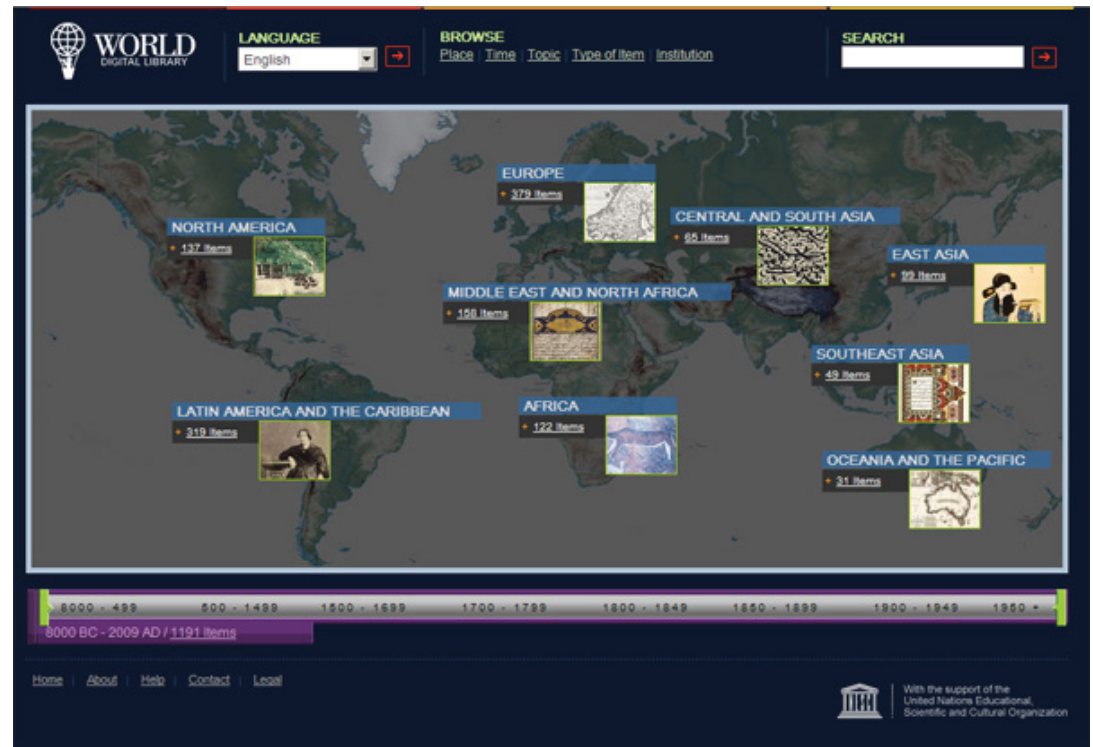


## What is the World Digital Library?

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

This content includes:


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



## Key Features of the WDL Website

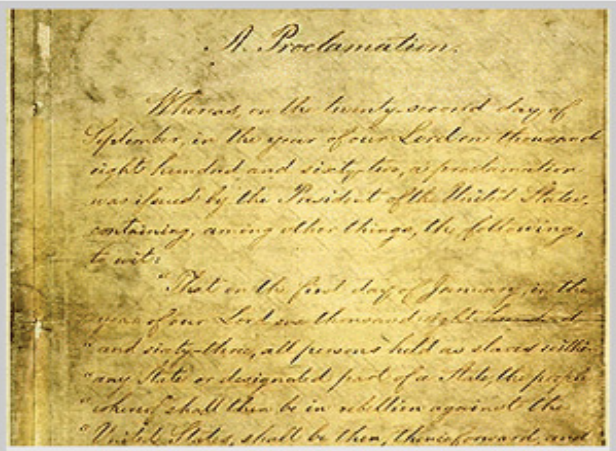
- Multilingualism
  - Interface in seven languages
  - Content in more than forty languages
- High quality content of cultural and historical importance
- Consistent, high-quality metadata to allow searching and browsing across cultures and time periods
- Item-level descriptions, curator videos to enhance user understanding of the content
- Speed and performance
- Web 2.0 features

## Web 2.0 Features

**WORLD**  
DIGITAL LIBRARY

LANGUAGE  
English

BROWSE  
[Place](#) | [Time](#) | [Topic](#) | [Type of Item](#) | [Institution](#)



*A Proclamation*

Whereas, on the twenty-second day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, a proclamation was issued by the President of the United States, containing, among other things, the following, to wit:

"That on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and

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**Title:** Emancipation Proclamation

**Description**

Initially, the Civil War between the North and the South was fought to preserve the Union. Ending slavery changed on September 22, 1862, when President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, which stated that slaves in those areas in rebellion as of January 1, 1863, would be free. One hundred years later, the Emancipation Proclamation declaring "that all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and

**Author**  
[Lincoln, Abraham](#) (1809-1965)

**Date Created**  
September 22, 1862

**Language**  
[English](#)

**Place**  
[North America](#) > [United States of America](#) > [District of Columbia](#)

**Time**  
[1850 AD - 1899 AD](#)

## What else?

An effort to share knowledge and build capacity around the world by:

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



## Digital Content Production Centers



**Delivering scanning equipment to the National Library of Uganda**



**Newly trained staff at the National Library and Archives of Egypt**



**Training at the Iraqi National Library and Archives**

## Who are the partners?

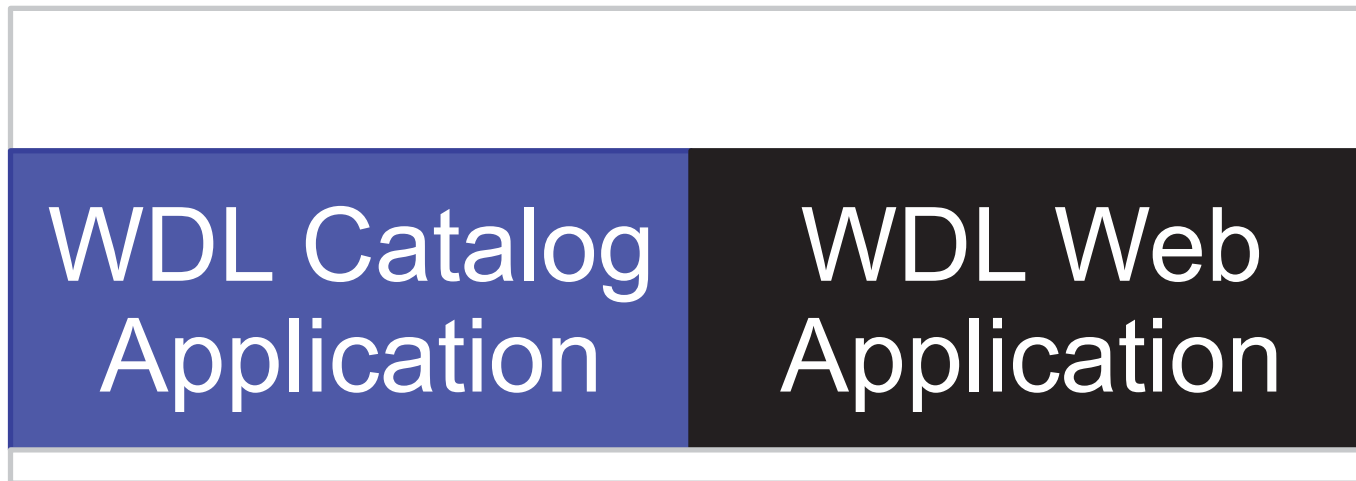
- National, university, and public libraries; archives, museums
- **60** partners in **40** countries as of February 2010



## WDL Partners as of February 2010

- Allama Iqbal Library, University of Kashmir
- Bavarian State Library
- Bibliotheca Alexandrina
- Brown University Library
- Center for the Study of the History of Mexico CARSO
- Central Library of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- Central Library, Qatar Foundation
- Columbus Memorial Library, Organization of American States
- Foundation New Era Nicaragua
- General Archive of the Nation
- Government College University Lahore
- International Federation of Library Institutions and Organizations
- Iraqi National Library and Archives
- John Carter Brown Library
- King Abdullah University of Science and Technology
- Library of Congress
- Mamma Haidara Commemorative Library
- National Academic Library of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Astana
- National Archives and Records Administration
- National Central Library
- National Diet Library
- National Institute of Anthropology and History INAH
- National Library and Archives of Egypt
- National Library of Argentina
- National Library of Belarus
- National Library of Brazil
- National Library of Bulgaria
- National Library of Chile
- National Library of China
- National Library of Finland
- National Library of France
- National Library of Israel
- National Library of Kazakhstan
- National Library of Korea
- National Library of Latvia
- National Library of Portugal
- National Library of Russia
- National Library of Serbia
- National Library of Spain
- National Library of Sweden
- National Library of the Netherlands
- National Library of Uganda
- National Library of Wales
- Romanian Academy Library
- Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and the Caribbean Studies KITLV
- Russian State Library
- Saint Mark Coptic Library
- State Library and Archives of Florida
- State Library of South Australia
- Tetouan-Asmir Association
- UNESCO
- University Library in Bratislava
- University of Pretoria Library
- University of South Carolina Library
- University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Libraries
- Vilnius University Library
- Walters Art Museum
- Wellcome Library
- Yale University Library
- Yeltsin Presidential Library

## The WDL Architecture Overview



## The WDL Content Pipeline



Transfer

Process

Assemble

Ingest

# The WDL Catalog Application



## Describe

Original Metadata Mapping

Metadata Normalization

WDL Descriptions

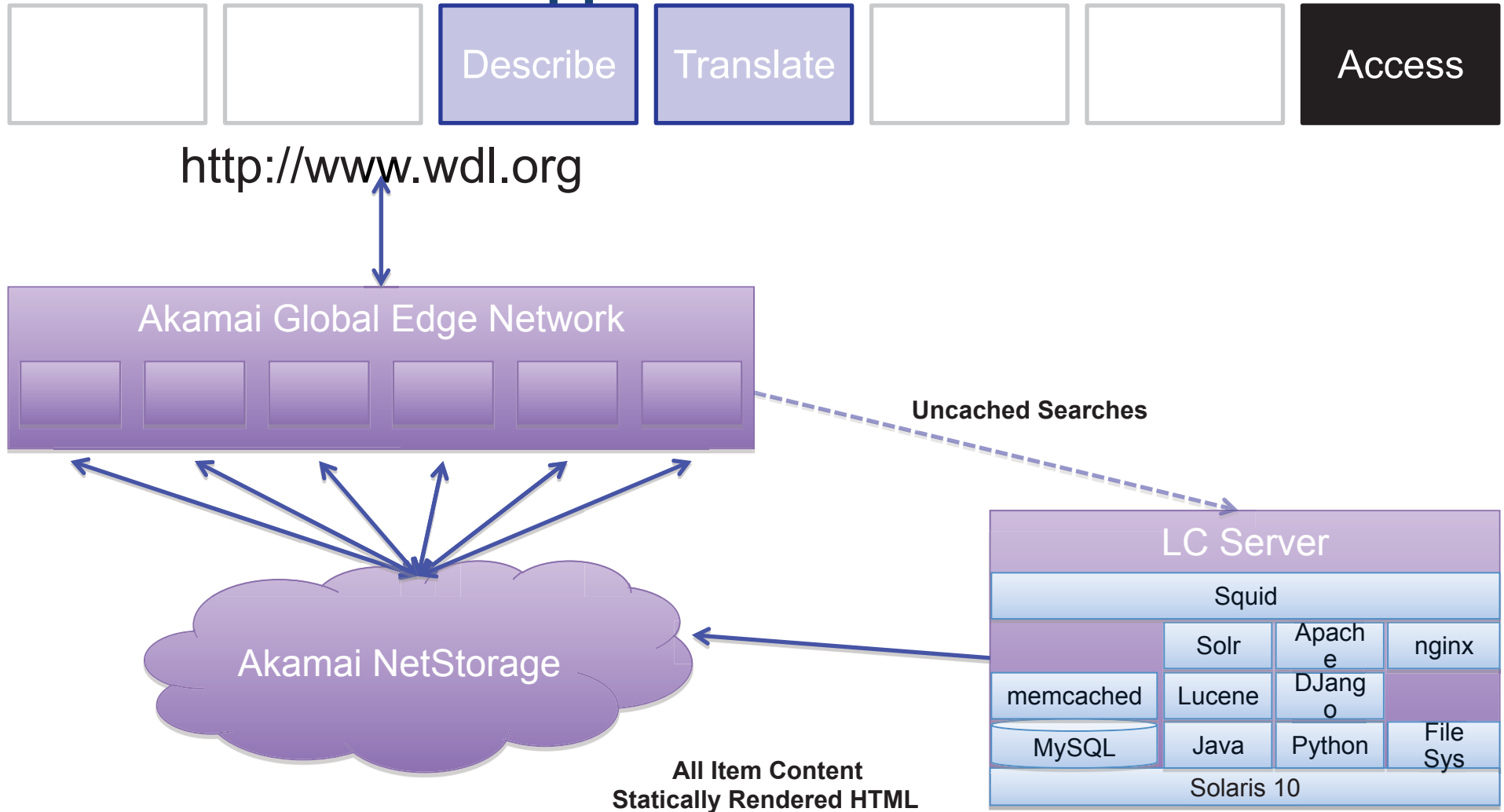
## Translate

Initial Translation to English if applicable

Full Translation to all supported languages

Continuing support for corrections

# The WDL Web Application





## On April 21, 2009: Day One

- The WDL site became available to the public.
- The site was officially launched by 25 partners at UNESCO headquarters in Paris
- The press conference was the [most well-attended in UNESCO history](#).
- The site received:
  - [600,000](#) visitors
  - [7,000,000](#) page views
  - Visitors from [every country](#) in the world.



Over 1,700 official news reports (print, radio, TV)



## Total Traffic (April 2009 – February 2010)

- Total visitors: 8,587,672
- Total page views: 62,123,147
- Visitors by countries (top ten):
  - Spain (1,422,188)
  - United States (945,986)
  - China (675,573)
  - France (571,689)
  - Brazil (561,391)
  - Mexico (535,255)
  - Argentina (452,863)
  - Russian Federation (404,290)
  - Portugal (246,282)
  - Colombia (199,157)

## Total Traffic (continued)

- 89% of traffic is from outside the United States
- 76% of users access the site in languages other than English
- Interface languages used:
  - Spanish: 50.9%
  - English: 24.2%
  - Portuguese 9.5%
  - Chinese 4.8%
  - Russian 4.6%
  - French 4.4%
  - Arabic 1.4%

## Awards, Notices



- WebPick of the week by Communication Arts Magazine (December, <http://www.commarts.com/web-sites/world-digital-library.html>)
- One of the best sites on the Web by BBC's Webscape program (August)
- Top new curriculum Web resource by eSchoolNews (June)
- Seadragon Showcase site (<http://seadragon.com/showcase/>)
- Twitter, blog posts, user comments

## Representative User Comments

- Your Site is totally amazing, to me this is what the Internet should be all about.
- I cannot thank you enough for having created the Digital Library. This is truly the sort of thing the Internet is most useful for...I have just had the pleasure of being able to look through an entire book, Stories from Hans Anderson...I am familiar with some of the illustrations...but seeing them in their original context was an exciting experience. It was almost as good as being able to touch the actual book. Thank you again.
- Hello, I salute this initiative to make culture available for everyone online, and I am sure that I will be browsing the content for hours!
- I am an elementary school librarian and my brain is overheating with all of the ways I can apply the materials held in this Library. KUDOS for making this kid friendly but sophisticated, beautifully designed, an organizational dream and one of the most totally cool sites I have seen in a long time. Thank you so much!!
- Thank you! This is wonderful, beautiful and extraordinary. You have given me and my children a marvelous gift.
- I like the user experience with your digital documents, i.e. ease of zooming in and out, moving around the document, the size of the display. Do you have a good guide for other institutions that want to create high quality digital libraries?

## The WDL Governance Structure

- WDL launched as a Library of Congress-UNESCO partnership
- WDL Charter provides for:
  - Annual partner meeting
  - Executive Council
  - Standing Committees for:
    - Technical Architecture
    - Content Selection
    - Translation and Language
  - Regional and Subject Sub-committees:
    - Arabic Scientific Manuscripts
    - Chinese Language Content
    - Meso-American Codices
- Library of Congress serves as Project Manager (2010-2015)

## Financial Supporters

- Google, Inc., \$3 million for the initial development of the WDL prototype
- Qatar Foundation, \$3 million in general support
- Carnegie Corporation of New York, \$2 million to support the inclusion of cultural institutions from sub-Saharan Africa and Eurasia in the WDL
- King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Saudi Arabia, \$1 million to digitize and display on the WDL scientific manuscripts from the Arab and Islamic worlds
- Microsoft, Inc., \$1 million in general support
- Additional support from the Lawrence and Mary Anne Tucker Foundation, the James Madison Council of the Library of Congress and other donors.

## Next Steps/Medium-Term Goals

- WDL Partner Meeting
  - Washington, June 22-23, 2010
- Add content to the WDL
  - Ongoing
- Recruit additional partners
  - Goal: participation from all 193 UNESCO member states
- Establish additional digital conversion centers in developing countries
- Build a world-wide, web-based content creation, cataloging and translation network to:
  - Scale up content creation
  - Open and distribute translation and cataloging
  - Build capacity in partner institutions in developing countries
- Develop improved applications for mobile devices