EDLproject: One more step towards the European digital library

EDLproject is a Targeted Project funded by the European Commission under the eContentPlus Programme, within the area of Cultural content and scientific/scholarly content. It is coordinated by the German National Library. EDLproject helps to further build The European Library, a service funded by CENL, the Conference of European National Librarians, providing unified access to the bibliographic and digital resources of the 47 national libraries of Europe. The project is also a continuation of the TEL-ME-MOR project, which supported The European Library by including the digital collections of the ten national libraries of the New Member States.

EDLproject started in September 2006 and will last for 18 months.

Objectives

- o **To integrate** the bibliographic catalogues and digital collections of the national libraries of Belgium, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Norway, Spain and Sweden into The European Library. By the end of 2007 all EU countries will be members of The European Library.
- o **To further enhance access** to The European Library, by continuing to improve multilingual access tools.
- o **To take first steps towards collaboration** between The European Library and other non-library cultural initiatives and the creation of a European digital library.
- o **To expand the marketing and communication** of The European Library.
- o **To leverage the influence and resources of CENL** as a key player in the content field to work towards a consensual resolution of certain issues raised by the Communication "i2010: Digital Libraries", such as potential availability of digital content from national libraries and the scope for collaboration between The European Library and other content providers funded by the eContentPlus Programme.

Impact & expected results

- o **Enlargement of The European Library**, by addition of 40-60 digital collections; 31 countries will be partners by the end of 2007, including all EU and EFTA countries.
- o Added-value to European digital content through standardised quality metadata and multilingual access tools.
- o **Support to CENL** in contributing its influence to finding solutions at European level to key policy issues for the development of the European digital library.
- o **An operational service to European citizens**, students, researchers, and other users and re-users of content to identify and use digital content – irrespective of location or language.

Internet: http://edlproject.eu; http://www.theeuropeanlibrary.org

Contact: Britta Woldering, German National Library, e-mail: edl@d-nb.de