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- p An independent foundation that strives to lead, negotiate, support and advocate for the wide availability of electronic resources by library users in transition and developing countries.
 - p Operates through a network of national library consortia in 50 countries.

eIFL Open Access Program

- p** eIFL members benefit from OA
 - n** Content made available through open access is free to access and to use
 - n** Open access can be an important tool in making local content created within the eIFL region available worldwide



eIFL Open Access Program

p Program Components

- n Open Access Workshops in eIFL member countries
- n Development of Institutional Repositories
- n Advocacy (e.g. Ukraine)



eIFL Open Access Program

p Open Access Workshops

- n Serbia, November 2003 & November 2005
- n South Africa, July 2004 & May 2005
- n Ukraine, February 2005
- n Lithuania, February 2005
- n China, June 2005
- n Zimbabwe, April 2006
- n Poland, September 2006
- n Russia, 2007



What is eIFL-IP?

p Launched in January 2005 to

- create a network of national experts in copyright issues for libraries in eIFL countries;
 - provide training, tools and specialist advice in key copyright and related issues for libraries e.g. national copyright laws; development dimension in international copyright treaties; IP chapters in international trade agreements;
 - represent the interests of members in international policy fora such as World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), World Trade Organization (WTO);
 - create strategic partnerships with the international and national library communities and a wide range of civil society organisations.
- ü Representatives appointed in 40 eIFL countries
- ü Regional training workshops planned for Africa, CIS and Mongolia, Europe and the Middle East

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Why eIFL-IP?

- The global trend is towards more copyright protection for rightholders and new rights on information;
 - the traditional balance between rightowners and users of copyright material has been eroded in the digital environment;
 - unbalanced and disproportionate copyright laws inhibit access to resources or impose unrealistic costs on already disadvantaged societies;
 - developing countries wishing to trade with richer nations must adopt the high IP standards of developed countries, regardless of the local development priorities of a country or the cost to education, research or society.
- p As evidenced by the most developed countries, a strong library infrastructure is essential to a nation's development.
- p eIFL.net librarians will become advocates for
- ü fair access to information and knowledge;
 - ü balance and proportionality in copyright laws;
 - ü developmental awareness in copyright policy.

Why eIFL-IP?

- **Issues and campaigns**
- Some examples:
 - Updating national copyright laws;
 - copyright and licensing in the digital environment;
 - technical protection measures;
 - preserving the public domain;
 - free trade agreements;
 - VAT on electronic information.
- **A Development Agenda for WIPO**: a proposal by developing countries who believe that the current “one size fits all” copyright system is not in the best interests of developing countries and that the costs and benefits must taken into account when new international treaties are being discussed.
- **A treaty on Access to Knowledge**: a concrete idea in the proposal, is being taken forward by a global coalition of civil society organisations. This approach frames the copyright debate in a positive way, emphasising freedoms rather than restrictions.
- The special interests of libraries in developing countries are being represented in key international policy arenas for the first time, as eIFL co-ordinates national and international levels.



Additional information

- p eIFL Open Access Program:
http://www.eifl.net/services/services_open.html
- p OSI's Information Program:
<http://www.soros.org/initiatives/information>
- p Budapest Open Access Initiative:
<http://www.soros.org/openaccess/>