Can you think of a digital library without grey literature?

Dominic Farace, GreyNet
Grey Literature Network Service
Amsterdam, Netherlands

Presentation March 16, 2009
Digital Library 2009, Jasná, Slovak Republic
Can you think of a digital library without grey literature?

Part 1:
Focuses on Grey Literature

Part 2:
A Case for the OpenSIGLE Repository
Definition

Grey Literature "Information produced and distributed on all levels of government, academics, business and industry in electronic and print formats not controlled by commercial publishing i.e. where publishing is not the primary activity of the producing body."

(Luxembourg, 1997 - Expanded in New York, 2004)
Grey Literature

- Producers, Corporate Authors
- Document Types
- Collections
- Databases
- Repositories
Producers, Corporate Authors

Examples:

.gov  Parliament, federal agencies, local government, etc.

.edu  Colleges, universities, research centers, laboratories, etc.

.com  For profit organizations, Ltd., Inc., etc.

.org  Associations, foundations, NGO’s, etc.
Document Types

*Examples:*

- **.com** annual reports, risk analyses, feasibility studies, etc.
- **.edu** working papers, dissertations, research reports, theses, etc.
- **.gov** country profiles, memoranda, intelligence reports, etc.

*Among 100’s of other types of grey literature documents*
Collections

Examples:

- Reports, Conferences and Theses, British Library Document Supply Centre
  http://www.bl.uk/reshelp/atyourdesk/docsupply/collection/rct/

- East European Technical Literature, Department of East European Languages
  http://www.tib.uni-hannover.de/en/special_collections/east_european/

- The Haliburton County Collection, Haliburton County Community Co-operative
  http://www.haliburtoncooperative.on.ca/literature/index.html

- Fuelwood Collection, Forest Policy and Environment Group
  http://www.eldis.org/go/display/?id=28311&type=Document
Databases

**Examples:**

- **Italian Grey Literature Database, National Research Council, CNR**
  [http://www.bice.rm.cnr.it/letteratura_grigia_inglese.htm](http://www.bice.rm.cnr.it/letteratura_grigia_inglese.htm)

- **National Archeological Database, National Park Service, U.S. Dept. of Interior**
  [http://www.cast.uark.edu/other/nps/nadb/nadb.mul.html](http://www.cast.uark.edu/other/nps/nadb/nadb.mul.html)

- **BELIT Bioethics Literature Database, Washington University Libraries**
  [http://library.wustl.edu/databases/about/belit.html](http://library.wustl.edu/databases/about/belit.html)

- **OWL, Ornithological Worldwide Literature, Cornell Lab of Ornithology**
  [http://www.birdlit.org/OWL/](http://www.birdlit.org/OWL/)
Repositories

Examples:

- CEDA Repository, Earth observation and atmospheric sciences
  http://cedadocs.badc.rl.ac.uk/

- CoRR, Computing Research Repository, Association for Computing Machinery
  http://arxiv.org/corr/home

- Chester, University of Chester Digital Repository
  http://chesterrep.openrepository.com/cdr/

- OpenSIGLE Repository, System for Information on Grey Literature in Europe
  http://opensigle.inist.fr/handle/10068/697753
Standards
Supply-side

- **Production**
  
  *e.g.* review process, typographical layout

- **Processing**
  
  *e.g.* metadata, value added information and data

- **Access and Distribution**
  
  *e.g.* search engines, document delivery, point of sales
Measures
Demand-side

- Citations
- References
- Website logs
- User statistics
- Links
- Etc.
Applications and Uses

Examples:

- Problem solving
- Decision making
- Policy development
- Scholarly communication
- Research and innovation
- Product enhancement
- Technology transfer
- Etc.
PART TWO

A Case for OpenSIGLE
System for Information on Grey Literature in Europe

- Strategy
- Technologies
- Knowledge
Strategy

A strategy that on the one hand would make GreyNet OAI-compliant and on the other hand would expand INIST’s role in OpenSIGLE from solely a caretaker to an external service provider.

To this end, GreyNet’s conference based collections would provide an example of OpenSIGLE’s potential for other data providers in the grey literature community.
Technologies

- DSpace Software adaptation
- Metadata record for enriched publication
- Retrospective conversion of earlier collections
- phpMyVisites, open source software for use and user statistics
Knowledge

Some indicative results

- Streamline the SIGLE Classification Scheme for OpenSIGLE
- Customize metadata templates according to GL document types
- Plus links to datasets and software underlying published research
- Network with former EAGLE members and new stakeholders in GL
- A crosswalk to subject based and institutional GL Repositories
Closing Statement

It’s hard to think of a digital library without grey literature.

For those who are involved in the field of information, it may be to your advantage to consider the benefits of the OpenSIGLE Repository.

A special panel session on OpenSIGLE is scheduled during the Eleventh International Conference on Grey Literature, December 14-15, 2009 in the Library of Congress.

For those interested, the GL11 Call-for-Papers closes on April 15, 2009.
Thank you!
I look forward to any questions?