

**Final Progress Report**  
**Virtual Library Services**  
**C4D Thrust, ICT-KM Projects**

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Reporting Period :	8 December 2004 – 15 October 2006
Target Audience:	Chief Information Officer C4D Thrust Coordinator C4D Team

## Summary

In 2004, the proposal for a CGIAR Virtual Library Service set out as its goal "to facilitate access to library information within and outside the CGIAR through integrated searches of document-type databases using a common user interface, standard protocols, and easy linking to electronic full text". In the words of a DFID report, the Virtual Library Service would "provide a one-stop center for agricultural information, not by creating a massive new central site, but by linking existing services."

This objective has been achieved. The CGVlibrary (as the Virtual Library Service is now called) has been fully operational since June 2006, eighteen months after project approval. Over 160 electronic resources are searchable through the CGVlibrary site, including fifteen CGIAR center library plus the CGIAR Secretariat catalogs, and linking is possible to more than 4,000 e-journals and other external publications. Staff within the CGIAR and agricultural researchers outside the CG system is using the CGVlibrary on a daily basis. 94,311 sessions were recorded between June 1 and October 15, 2006. Usage for CGIAR catalogs alone has increased from 967 searches in June 2006 to 41,470 searches by mid-October 2006.

The World Summit on the Information Society, held in Tunis in November 2005, recognized that "access to information and sharing and creation of knowledge contributes significantly to strengthening economic, social and cultural development, thus helping all countries to reach the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals" (Tunis Commitment, WSIS-05/TUNIS/DOC/7-E, Clause 10). The summit also held that the development process can be enhanced by removing barriers to universal, equitable and affordable access to information. This is precisely what the CGVlibrary is doing: removing barriers to information and making publicly available information more accessible to researchers in developing countries. In so doing, the CGVlibrary is contributing to the economic and social development of poorer nations and helping them to reach their development goals.

Clearly, the objective of providing easier and better access to high quality information resources has yet to be fully accomplished. With the CGVlibrary, as with any ongoing service, further work remains to be done in publicizing the service, training new users, developing more thematic groups of resources, including more information resources, and more tightly integrating some resources into the common search. However, the foundation has been laid for providing access to a wide range of agricultural information more efficiently and to a wider audience than ever before possible.

The following represents the final project report for the CGVlibrary, summarizing progress reported previously while highlighting activities conducted since March 2006. Although the official reporting period concluded in October 2006, it is worth noting that the CGVlibrary Team subsequently received the CGIAR Science Award for Outstanding Scientific Support Team. This award was presented during the CGIAR Annual General Meeting in December 2006 in Washington, DC. Moreover, funding was approved for Phase II of the CGVlibrary project in early 2007. For more details on Phase II or on activities completed prior to March 2006, please consult the Phase II Project Proposal and earlier progress reports, respectively.

# 1. Project Performance

Objective 1 Step 1	Project Review Meeting	Status : COMPLETE (SEPTEMBER 2004)
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## Progress and results

A project review meeting was held in conjunction with the IM's meeting in Penang, Malaysia, in September 2004. The meeting resulted in a better understanding of the VL proposal, validation of the project proposal and a formal commitment of the IMs to support the project. After the meeting, the proposal was revised to improve clarity and meet some concerns expressed.

## Reflection and learnings

When possible, regular meetings of CGIAR staff should be used as forums for discussing specific activities, even if the timing of those meetings may represent a challenge in terms of the timing and budgeting for activities. Face-to-face meetings are an effective way to dispel misunderstandings and to build a strong community.

Objective 1 Step 2	Analysis and Selection of Specific Software	Status : COMPLETE (SEPTEMBER 2005)
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## Progress

As previously reported, in early 2005 the Virtual Library Services project undertook an unplanned examination of lessons learned in other organizations that have deployed VLS systems. With no evidence of any organization using institutional portal software for implementing a VLS service, but many precedents for using specific VLS software, a Request for Proposal (RFP) for software was prepared and sent out to twelve different companies offering virtual library products or services. Responses were received from six companies and a shortlist of three vendors was established based on functional completeness of the solution offered, cost, number of current installations, amount of development required and whether access to the general public could be allowed. ExLibris's MetaLib and Knowledge Base (for resource directory and cross-database search), and SFX products (for the OpenURL link resolver) were unanimously chosen by members of the evaluation group. A contract was signed by IFPRI on behalf of the CGIAR ICT/KM program with ExLibris concerning these products in September 2005.

## Reflection and Learning

Evaluation and selection of software was carried out successfully, even in an environment where the participants in this phase of the project were widely distributed, and working in different time zones. Electronic communications and a mature community of practice played an important role in ensuring all members of the group had the same information and were able to communicate easily.

The principal difficulty during this phase of the project was the time pressure under which the group was working, given the need to present a substantive prototype for the GGIAR meeting in December 2005. A longer time for vendors to respond to the proposal might have resulted in a larger number of responses; however, the responses received were sufficiently representative of different approaches in the current marketplace and included the main leaders in this product area.

Objective 1 Step 3	Implementation of virtual library services	Status : COMPLETE (JUNE 2006)
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## Progress

Actual project implementation was the principal activity of the project between September 2005 and June 2006. This involved obtaining and setting up the server, training staff in the use of the software and actual implementation of data services and providers. The software included a federated search product (MetaLib), a link resolver product based on the standard OpenURL protocol (SFX) and the Knowledge Base for updating information for these services.

In August 2005, the VLS Team decided to use CGNET as a hosting service for the VLS server. CGNet proved to be a very important partner in terms of setting up a reliable infrastructure within a very short period of time. It took only four weeks to order, receive, install the server and have it ready for software installation, and service has been reliable and trouble-free in the months that followed.

Once the server and software were installed, training in the selected products began. The following lists the training provided to CGIAR information staff.

### **Training provided to CGIAR information staff**

Online SFX and Metalib Training Webinars (web-based training sessions)

Location: Online

Date: September 27-29, 2005.

Trainees: CG staff from 6 Centers (CIP, CIAT, IFPRI, IITA, World Agroforestry, WARDA). Staff from other centers (CIFOR, ICARDA and the VRC Infrastructure Project) were invited but could not attend. The video recordings of the Metalib and SFX webinars were shared with the CGIAR Information Managers during the IMs' meeting in Syria in September 2005.

SFX and Metalib Introductory Training

Location: IFPRI

Date: 11-13 October 2005

Trainees: CG staff from 4 centers (IFPRI, CIAT, CIP, CG Secretariat).

Creative uses of SFX

Location: Online

Date: 1 Dec. 2005

Trainees: Staff from three centers participated.

SFX and Metalib Training (Webinar)

Location: Online

Date: February 17 and 21, 2006

Trainees: CG Staff from IFPRI, CIP and CIAT

### **Online SFX Training**

Hosted by: Ex Libris Ltd.

Date: March, 2005

Location: Online

Product installation was handled in a number of different ways. In order to meet the deadline imposed by the CG AGM in December 2005, additional resources for implementing the software were provided under separate contract with ExLibris with the services of a Metalib/SFX consultant based in Canada. Since then, implementation has been performed by CGIAR staff freed from some of their regular duties in various CGIAR centers. In addition to Nancy Walczak, the Technical Advisor and Luz Marina Alvaré, the Project Manager, the following have made particular contributions to the development of the CGVlibrary.

- CGIAR Information Managers, who were involved in establishing lists of resources and organizing meetings, and whose practical experience was very useful in this regard.
- Aamir Quresh (IFPRI) -- loaded ExLibris information updates and implemented authentication with Active Directory
- Jean- Pierre Carre (CIP) and Cecilia Ferreyra (CIP) -- implementing the SFX link resolver
- Carlos Saa (CIAT) -- implementing the Metalib resource database and cross-search, including development of scripts to implement INMAGIC catalogs (see Objective 2) as well as other networked resources such as CAB.
- Indira Yerramareddy (IFPRI) and Elinor Dumont (IFPRI), responsible for adding and updating new resources when ExLibris provides the updates. These updates are run by Aamir. Also, Indira and Elinor are responsible of building the thematic Quicksets.
- Mulugueta Bayeh (IFPRI) who did the web design of the CGVlibrary interface
- Alexander Jerabek, a consultant hired to assist in the implementation of Metalib

Currently, more than 160 electronic database resources are available through the Metalib software, allowing a user to select resources to be searched simultaneously via a single, user-friendly interface. The dynamic link resolution service, based on SFX software, provides access to more than 4,000 electronic journals and other publications. The dynamic link resolution service that the CGVlibrary provides through the SFX implementation has enhanced the process of finding resources that are freely available on the Internet, thereby contributing to the economic, social and cultural development of partners throughout the developing world.

## **Reflections and learning**

Lack of continuity in program personnel and detailed documentation can lead to difficulties in inter-project communication. Without full documentation of inter-project agreements, the way in which commitments are perceived can shift over time. Particularly when projects are working under tight deadlines, as during the period from May to December 2005, these issues are difficult to resolve and increase the pressure on all concerned.

Using standard software implemented by other organizations has meant that it has been possible to integrate login with standard CGIAR authentication procedures without extensive development as well as implement resources quickly. By using interfaces to databases developed as part of an industry-leading software package that is used by a large community of libraries, it was possible to build the CGVlibrary metasearch services within a very short timeframe.

Some resources are not as tightly integrated into the CGVlibrary as users would like. The increasing use of XML based standards, such as SRU/SRW and the NISO Metasearch profile, means that it will be easier in the future to integrate new information resources into the CGVlibrary, including both free and commercial resources. Institutions such as CABI (for CAB Abstracts) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (for AGRIS) have expressed interest in moving toward implementation of these new standards-based approaches.

Other projects launched during development of the VLS diverted the attention of the Information Managers. This situation resulted in the need for a significant chunk of the work to be done by staff based at IFPRI. Great efforts have been made to involve, accommodate, and work with staff at other centers, but a variety of issues posed significant barriers to full collaboration among all members of the VLS Team. These include the extremely tight project deadline, competing demands on staff at all Centers, different perceptions of the activity on the part of management in the Centers, and the difficulty of travel due to geographic dispersion of team members.

While staff from a number of different centers has been trained in CGVlibrary products, the absolute number of staff who are able to support the CGVlibrary remains relatively small, and this presents risks to the long term sustainability of the service. In the future, more staff should be trained in the technical implementation and support of the CGVlibrary and should be involved in supporting the service to ensure that the loss of one or several key personnel does not threaten the sustainability of the VLS. These staff members should be drawn from centers that have not been heavily involved in CGVlibrary development to date.

Project management is one of the most significant challenges in managing projects that are outside of the normal day-to-day responsibilities of CGIAR staff. Without long-term commitments, it is difficult to identify and retain external consultants who are able to assist in the management of the project. While this means that consulting costs were not as high as originally planned, a greater burden fell on CGIAR staff. While CGIAR center management may be supportive of this dual role, there remains a large burden on the individuals taking on these additional responsibilities. A more predictable, reliable and sustainable method of managing system-wide projects of this type should be explored.

Despite the effective use of information technologies, particularly web-based training tools, on-site training remains an essential part of implementing innovative information software. During the process of launching the CGVlibrary a need to train trainers (i.e., each center's Information Managers) arose which had not been budgeted for initially. This face-to face meeting for training was also used to negotiate agreements and procedures for the maintenance of the CGVlibrary for on-going sustainability and was done in conjunction with

the IAALD Africa Chapter conference. These needs (training the staff building the CGVlibrary) and additional unplanned travel for C4D coordination meetings resulted in additional, unbudgeted travel costs.

It has not been possible to integrate free resources available to specifically defined groups from developing countries, such as those available through INASP's PERI services (online journals free of charge to developing country researchers) and FAO's Agora project. This would be an effective way of increasing the value of the CGVlibrary for agricultural researchers in developing countries who are outside the CGIAR system, and is an important component of Phase II of the VL Project.

## Feedback

This is an enormous asset to people at the CG centers, to those of us working away from HQ (even when on the road), and especially to our collaborators. – CGIAR researcher

Thank you very much for introducing Publications and Virtual Library program to us. I have already sent this message to Northwest University, Xi'an Jiaotong University, Ningxia University, Qinghai National College, Qinghai Normal University, Lanzhou University, Xinjiang University and Xinjiang Normal University. Northwest Socio-economic Development Research Center ([www.nsdrc.org.cn](http://www.nsdrc.org.cn)) has 32 council members who came from the seven universities in northwest. This message also was sent to them. –Information Manager from China

A very important landmark on making agriculture related scientific and technical information more accessible globally has been achieved. I hope all agricultural research and development institutions can collaborate and continue with this effort and link other resources such as those of the FAO and AGRIS to the Virtual Library. – GFAR researcher

Objective 1 Step 4	Selection and description of basic resources	Status : COMPLETE (JUNE 2006)
Objective 3 Step 11a	Selection of resource center content	

## Progress

These two steps (selecting a basic and an extended set of resources) were combined since the option of having a larger set of resources as proposed in the VLS proposal was approved. The CG Information Managers suggested resources and provided input into prioritizing the different lists that were prepared; Srinivas S. (ICRISAT) collected suggestions and drew up the initial draft list of resources; Mila Ramos (IRRI) identified the CGIAR catalogs and bibliographic databases; and Elinor Dumont, Indira Yerramareddy (IFPRI) and Zulma Piñeros (CIAT) developed categories and wrote the descriptions for the resources based on the CGIAR Discussion Group feedback.

## Reflections and learning

As the number of resources available in the CGVlibrary continues to increase, it is necessary to develop new strategies to help users in selecting the subset of those resources most appropriate to their particular information need. New quick sets reflecting more focused subject areas will be required if the CGVlibrary is to continue to meet the needs of agricultural researchers working in different areas.

Objective 1 Step 5	Integration with authentication services	Status : COMPLETE (MARCH 2006)
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## Progress

Authentication is the process whereby a user identifies him or herself to a computer system and subsequently is able to access the particular resources he or she is licensed to use. With

the assistance of a consultant identified by ExLibris, the VL was able to implement authentication using the Active Directory Services that lie at the heart of CGIAR network services. This means that CGIAR staff can use their own network identifier and password when logging in to the VLS, avoiding the need for a separate user name and password.

Additional work is still required to apply information concerning the specific center that a staff member belongs to. This will be necessary to provide individually tailored links to document text using the SFX software and to ensure that contract terms are respected for resources that have been licensed only to specific CGIAR centers. Additional work will be required to implement a proxy server so that outposted staff (using computers connected to the Internet outside the registered CGIAR ranges of IP addresses) can log in and have appropriate access to VL resources.

### Reflection and learning

Single sign-on (whereby a user only needs to authenticate once to the CGIAR network, to the Virtual Resource Center, or to any other of the C4D services and can be recognized and welcomed seamlessly into any of the other sister services) requires a high degree of expertise, a firm grasp of overall system architecture and commitment on the part of the managers of different systems to make it work. The project has brought to the attention of the CIO the importance to implement proxy server to supply more efficiently access to the outposted staff.

Objective 1 Step 6	Graphic design of the VLS interface	Status : COMPLETE
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### Progress

Originally, considerable effort had been planned for implementation of the graphic design of the VLS interface, but the selection of ExLibris as the software supplier allowed us to modify the scope of this activity. ExLibris invested considerable resources to completely re-design the 'out of the box' interface, using extensive testing and user evaluation. The result was an interface delivered with the product that required considerably less adaptation than anticipated. The basic graphic design was subsequently undertaken by IFPRI web staff using design elements and guidelines provided by the C4D Marketing group.

### Reflection and learning

The participation of the ICT/KM Marketing group in the graphic design has proven to be very beneficial to the group, and key to ensuring a consistent look and feel to the different components of the CGXchange, even though services may be using different software and running on different servers.

### Feedback

What a supreme effort and it is so clear and easy to use. This will be a model for all of us to follow. – CGIAR partner

Objective 1 Step 6	Documentation and help material	Status : COMPLETE (JUNE 2006)
Objective 1 Step 8	Training of trainers	Status: COMPLETE (JUNE 2006)

### Progress

A 37-page guide to using the CGVlibrary was prepared, complete with step by step instructions and screen shots. This guide also was broken up into smaller, more specialized chapters describing specific features of the CGVlibrary, including a quick guide as well as smaller specialized guides to finding a database, finding an e-journal, metasearching, managing a personal space and citation linking.

The experiences of the VLS project team thus far in terms of training has led to some re-thinking of this particular aspect of the project, particularly in terms of emphasizing training

support materials that will assist others in training. The success of various web-based demonstrations during the evaluation of the RFP responses, and the web-based training provided by the vendor prior to software implementation illustrated that web-based training could be highly effective. A subscription for a very modest fee was taken out with a web-based hosting service (GoToMeeting), and this web-based technology has been used to deliver training.

Webinars (web-based seminars) were prepared and given for a number of Latin American countries. Similar webinars will be developed and provided in other regions as part of the ongoing activities of the CGVlibrary.

VLS project staff conducted a web-based "training the trainer" session with CGIAR Information staff in Nairobi, Lima, Rome, and Colombia that proved to be very successful. Maria Garruccio (IPGRI) conducted web-based training in March for colleagues in Africa and Asia.

Additional webinars following the rollout date of the CGVlibrary were held as follows in Latin American countries.

Ecuador

Date: June 28, 2006

Attended: About four hundred professors, teachers, information managers, and students from three academic institutions-- Escuela Superior Politecnica de Litoral (ESPOL), el Centro de Información Bibliotecario (CIB) and el Centro de Investigación Científica y Tecnológica (CICYT)-- participated.

Guatemala

Date: July 5, 2006

Attended: About forty-five economic researchers from the Center of National Economic Research participated.

Panama

Date: July13, 2006

Attended: About forty people from the institution of City of Knowledge (international organizations, universities, private sector, and public sector) participated.

Costa Rica

Date: July19, 2006

Attended: About fifteen professors from the Agriculture School of the Humid Tropical Region division of University of Earth participated.

[http://www.earth.ac.cr/biblio\\_pag\\_recomendadas.php](http://www.earth.ac.cr/biblio_pag_recomendadas.php) (link to IFPRI website)

<http://usi.earth.ac.cr/glasopac/> (link to CGVlibrary)

Honduras

Date: August 17, 2006

Attended: About eighty people from the Autonomy National University of Honduras (UNAH), Technologic University of Honduras, Interamerican Institute of Culture, Catholic University of Honduras, and University Jose Cecilio del Valle participated.

El Salvador

Date: August 23, 2006

Attended: About thirty people from the Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería, National Center of Technology and Forestry, and Communication Division Director of General Forestry Office participated.

Ecuador

Date: September 6, 2006

Attended: About fifty people from Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja participated.

[www.utplonline.edu.ec/biblioteca](http://www.utplonline.edu.ec/biblioteca)

Guatemala

Date: September 11, 2006

Attended: About eighteen people from the Universidad Francisco Marroquín participated.

Costa Rica

Date: September 18, 2006

Attended: About twenty people from the Technologic Institute of Costa Rica participated.

Colombia

Date: October 2, 2006

Attended: About ten people from the Nutritionist Association of Manizales participated.

Costa Rica

Date: October 31, 2006

Institution: Tropical Agricultural Research and higher Education Center (CATIE)

Attended: About fifty people from Master and PhD. Programs.

Washington

Date: November 4, 2006

Institution: FONTAGRO, IICA

Attended: About six staff from both institutions

Future webinars are planned as follows:

Nicaragua

Date: November 16, 2006

Institution: ABIDH

Paraguay

Date: November 23, 2006

Institution: FONTAGRO with countries from MERCOSUR (Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, and Paraguay)

## Reflection and learning

Web-based training tools have proved to be very effective, available at very low cost, and well adapted to the training required for using the CGVlibrary. However, materials need to be adapted, and training supported for other regions using this same model as part of the ongoing activities of the CGVlibrary.

Objective 1 Step 6	Publicity and communications	Status : COMPLETE (OCT. 2006)
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## Progress

CGVlibrary was selected for what had previously been known as the Virtual Library Service. Moreover, a meaningful and mnemonic domain name was selected for the service: [vlibrary.cgiar.org](http://vlibrary.cgiar.org); [www.CGVlibrary.org](http://www.CGVlibrary.org) was also registered and setup to redirect to [vlibrary.cgiar.org](http://vlibrary.cgiar.org). A promotional flyer was produced in both English and Spanish with 3,000 copies (2,000 in English and 1,000 in Spanish) distributed to the information services of different CG centers. Since March 2006, CGIAR staff has produced a number of presentations, publications and webinars in promotion of the CGVlibrary.

The Following presentations have been made on behalf of the CGVlibrary:

The Ibero-American Seminar

Title: Food and Nutritional Security, CGVlibrary

Date: May 3-5, 2006

Location: Bogota, Colombia

Presented by: Luis Felipe Ruiz-Espindola

Participants: + 500

Brown Bag Seminar

Title: Research on agriculture, hunger, poverty, and the environment from a single gateway, CGVlibrary

Date: August 11, 2006

Location: Washington, D.C., USA (IFPRI Library)

Presented by: Luz Marina Alvaré and Nancy Walczak

Participants: + 20

CGIAR Information Technology Annual Workshop and Conference  
Title: Investigación sobre la agricultura, el hambre, la pobreza, y el medio ambiente desde un sólo portal de información, CGVlibrary  
Date: September 4-8, 2006  
Location: Lima, Peru  
Hosted by: The International Potato Center (CIP)  
Presented by: Luz Marina Alvaré and Nancy Walczak  
Participants: + 50

USAID Conference: Information Remix- The Next Generation of Agricultural Information  
Title: Research on agriculture, hunger, poverty, and the environment from a single gateway, CGVlibrary  
Date: October 8-11, 2006  
Location: Ithaca, New York  
Presented by: Luz Marina Alvaré  
Participants: + 50

In addition the CGVlibrary was presented at the following meetings:

AgNIC 11th Annual Meeting, CGVlibrary  
Date: April 27-28, 2006  
Location: USA

Content for Development Decision Meeting, Virtual Library Services, ICT-KM Program  
Date: May 23, 2005  
Location: IPGRI, Rome

Train the Trainers: CGVlibrary Meeting  
Date: May 17-19 and May 21-26, 2006  
Location: Nairobi

International Expert Consultation meeting for International Information Systems for Agricultural Science and Technology  
Date: 19 – 21 October, 2005  
Location: Rome

CGIAR Information managers at CIAT, CIFOR, IRRI, ILRI, IWMI, ICRAF, IPGRI and ICRISAT have been promoting the CGVlibrary to their respective staff and partner institutions. Finally, the CGIAR Chief Information Officer has made a number of presentations on C4D projects featuring the CGVlibrary, including a presentation at the CGIAR Annual General Meeting in December 2005.

The CGVlibrary has been announced or listed in the following on-line venues:

#### **CGIAR**

1. *e-CGIAR News* – Submitted story on the CGVlibrary to Caryl Jones-Swann on September 12, 2006 and **published** in September issue on September 29, 2006. [http://www.cgiar.org/enews/september2006/story\\_17.html](http://www.cgiar.org/enews/september2006/story_17.html)
2. *IFPRI Forum* – Submitted story on September 8, 2006 and **published** in September issue. <http://www.ifpri.org/pubs/newsletters/ifpriforum/if16.pdf> (New Research Gateway)
3. *IFPRI Learning and Capacity Strengthening Newsletter* – **published** in September 2006 issue. [http://www.ifpri.org/training/newsletter/2006/train\\_news\\_0906.asp](http://www.ifpri.org/training/newsletter/2006/train_news_0906.asp)
4. *IFPRI'S Main Page* <http://www.ifpri.org/>
5. *IFPRI'S Library Page* [http://www.ifpri.org/library/library\\_menu.asp](http://www.ifpri.org/library/library_menu.asp)
6. *ICRISAT'S Monthly Newsletter* – **published** in July 2006 issue. <http://www.icrisat.org/satrends/july2006.htm> (Volumes from the virtual vault)
7. *ICT-KM News* – **published** in August 2006 issue <http://ictkm.cgiar.org/Newsletter/Aug06/ICT-KM-News-Aug06-1.html> (CGVlibrary Lauded by Users)
8. *Behind The Scenes* – **published** in August 2006 issue <http://ictkm.cgiar.org/Newsletter/Aug06/ICT-KM-News-Aug06-3.html>
9. *CGIAR: Virtual Information Center* <http://www.cgiar.org/vic/index.html>

10. *The Generation Challenge Programme located in Texcoco, Mexico, at the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)* – **posted** on August 24, 2006 <http://www.generationcp.org/latestnews.php?i=517>
11. *CIAT-News* – **posted** on October 2006 Issue: 26  
[http://www.ciat.cgiar.org/newsroom/pdf/ciat\\_news26\\_october\\_06.pdf](http://www.ciat.cgiar.org/newsroom/pdf/ciat_news26_october_06.pdf)
12. *ICRISAT'S SAT Electronic Library News* – **posted** on July/August 2006  
[http://elibrary.icrisat.org/SATELib\\_files/SATELibNewsV3I7\\_8Jul,Aug2006.htm](http://elibrary.icrisat.org/SATELib_files/SATELibNewsV3I7_8Jul,Aug2006.htm)
13. Disseminated 100 CGVlibrary flyers in GFAR Triennial Conference on Reorienting Agricultural Research to meet the Millennium Development Goals in Delhi, India on November 9-11, 2006
14. Posted invitations in 4 listservs in Philippines
  - a. Philippine Librarians Association, Inc. [plai@yahoogroups.com](mailto:plai@yahoogroups.com)
  - b. PLAI Southern Tagalog Region Librarians Council [plastrlc@yahoogroups.com](mailto:plastrlc@yahoogroups.com)
  - c. Philippine Agricultural Libraries and Information Services Network (PhilAgriNet) [philagrinet@yahoogroups.com](mailto:philagrinet@yahoogroups.com)
  - d. Philippine Association of Academic and Research Librarians (PAARL) [paarl@yahoogroups.com](mailto:paarl@yahoogroups.com)
15. Link to CGVlibrary displayed on IRRI's web site
16. Posted the CGVlibrary flyers on bulletin boards in IRRI
17. Made an announcement on CGVlibrary in electronic IRRI Bulletin

### Universities/ Organizations/ Others

1. *AgVet Library News at the University of Tennessee Libraries* **announced** on September 19, 2006 <http://www.lib.utk.edu/news/agvet/archives/news/001404.html>  
(CGVlibrary: A Link to Global Agricultural Knowledge)
2. *AgInfo News from IAALD* – **posted** on August 19, 2006  
<http://iaald.blogspot.com/2006/08/CGVlibrary-gateway-to-global.html>
3. *IRC* – **posted** on October 11, 2006 <http://www.irc.nl/page/31206>
4. *LYRIS List Manager* <http://lyris.spc.int/read/messages?id=49434>
5. *Research for Development*  
<http://www.research4development.info/news.asp?ArticleID=50032>
6. *Global Potato News* – **posted** on September 11, 2006  
[http://www.potatonews.com/pressreleases/press\\_detail.asp?id=836](http://www.potatonews.com/pressreleases/press_detail.asp?id=836)
7. *NETARD* – **posted** on October 3, 2006  
<http://www.netard.dk/articleItem.php?id=449&st=1&PHPSESSID=945f3b596a0f8a5f559e281c8b8e70de>
8. *EIS News* – **posted** on September 2006 [http://www.eis-africa.org/EIS-Africa/september2006\\_1.pdf](http://www.eis-africa.org/EIS-Africa/september2006_1.pdf)
9. *FANRPAN* <http://www.fanrpan.org/documents/d00092/>
10. *The International Centre for Underutilised Crops (ICUC) News #16* – **posted** on September 20, 2006 <http://www.icuc-iwmi.org/files/News/ICUC-News%2016.pdf>
11. *AIBDA Informa* – posted on August 2006  
<http://www.iica.int/aibda/boletin/2006/n3/n3.html#noticia7>
12. *BioNET* <http://www.bionet-intl.org/opencms/opencms/bulletin/newDevelopments/list.jsp?pageIndex=4>
13. *Global Knowledge Center on Crop Biotechnology, International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications SEAsiaCenter (ISAAA)* – **posted** on September 8, 2006 [http://www.cedab.it/cgi-bin/newsletter/cropbiotech\\_update\\_8\\_settembre\\_2006.pdf](http://www.cedab.it/cgi-bin/newsletter/cropbiotech_update_8_settembre_2006.pdf)

### World Bank

1. *Development Outreach* – Flagship magazine of the World Bank Institute. Submitted blurb for their Knowledge Resources section on August 28, 2006. Anna Lawton, the editor, said that it would have to wait until their January 2007 issue (**not yet** published).
2. *World Bank Weekly Update* – World Bank e-news update. Submitted blurb on September 15, 2006 and **published** on September 18, 2006 issue.
3. *InfoShop* – Monthly newsletter of World Bank's public information center and development bookstore. Submitted blurb on September 1, 2006 and **published** in September 5, 2006 issue.
4. *GDLN Newsletter* – Quarterly publication of the Global Development Learning Network, a group affiliated with the World Bank Institute. I spoke to Elena Rose, who is involved in producing the newsletter, on August 30, 2006. She said that they generally did not include outside group's work in their newsletter, but they might

- include an announcement on the GDLN website. I submitted a short blurb the same day. Nothing has appeared as of October 18, 2006 (**not yet** published).
5. *Knowledge for Development Program Newsletter* – Quarterly publication of another World Bank Institute program. Alexei Volynets responded on September 6, 2006, saying that they do not feature outside groups in the newsletter but will be adding a section of external resources to their website next month and can include a mention of the CGVlibrary then. Nothing has appeared as of October 18, 2006 (**not yet** published).
  6. *Today* – Weekly World Bank intranet publication. Nathan Russell, one of the Senior Communications Specialists at CGIAR and our main point of contact with *Today*, responded on September 27, 2006 to inquiries. He said that they had agreed to do a *Today* article for World Food Day, and that a piece on the CGVlibrary would probably not be possible in the near future (**not yet** published).
  7. *HNPFlash* – Quarterly World Bank publication that focuses on nutrition and other issues. Editor Erika Yanick responded to inquiries by emailing me on September 27, 2006 saying that they would feature the CGVlibrary in the next issue. That same day I sent her a blurb that they could use. I do not know when the next issue will come out: there has not been an issue since May, 2006 (**not yet** published).

#### **FAO**

*FAO-Biotech News* – Newsletter apparently put out monthly (although no issue more recent than the July edition is available online), on biotechnology issues. Coordinator John Ruane accepted a blurb on the CGVlibrary, which he abridged and adapted slightly, on October 13, 2006 (**not yet** published).

#### **CTA**

*Spore* – Clare Pedrick responded on August 22, 2006, expressing interest in the idea and saying that she would take it up with the editorial board at the end of September. She emailed me on October 2, 2006, having just come from the editorial board meeting, saying that they would run an item on the CGVlibrary in the next issue of *Spore* (126), which will probably come out in November. In response to a request of hers, I also sent her a blurb on the CGVlibrary (**not yet** published).

#### **AAEA**

*The Exchange* – Darryl Nitsch, the editor, said we should submit a short article for consideration for their November/December issue by October 10, 2006. I sent him an article on September 22, 2006 (**not yet** published).

#### **SciDev.net**

Per a suggestion by Mike Shanahan, submitted an announcement on September 5, 2006 and **posted** on September 12, 2006 on their website.

#### **ID21**

Featured the CGVlibrary in their natural resources web/email newsletter, which **came out** on October 18, 2006. The blurb can be found at <http://www.id21.org/nr/index.html>

#### **Biosafety News**

Sent announcement to Duncan Mboyah for his perusal and adaptation on September 5, 2006 (**not yet** published).

#### **DFID**

*Developments* – Spoke to Martin Wroe on September 28, 2006: he asked to see a summary/blurb and I emailed him one. Later in the day, he said that they would try to do “a little story” on the CGVlibrary for the upcoming issue of *Developments*, which comes out in mid-October. As of 10/25/06, no new issue has appeared (**not yet** published).

### **Reflection and learning**

The assistance of IFPRI’s editing and marketing team has been invaluable in producing the flyer as well as identifying external audiences for outreach activities. Close collaboration on behalf of IFPRI’s Marketing Group and the 15 Center’s and the CG Secretariat has provided a great network that has contributed to spread the news. Also, the use of new technologies

such as blogs and RSS feeds have facilitated the broadcasting of the CGVlibrary around the world.

Objective 2 Step 10	Implementation of a common catalog search	Status : COMPLETE (JUNE 2006)
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## Progress

Currently catalogs from 15 CGIAR centers and the CGIAR Secretariat have been implemented within a common catalog search using the MetaLib software. All catalogs are presented as one quick set (group of resources to be searched) and specific catalogs are also presented as searchable resources within other topic-specific resource groupings.

These catalogs are from the following centers:

- CG Secretariat
- CIAT
- CIFOR
- CIMMYT
- CIP
- ICARDA
- ICRISAT
- IFPRI
- IITA
- ILRI
- IPGRI
- IRRI
- IWMI
- World Agroforestry
- WorldFish
- WARDA

## Reflections and learning

This goal was achievable due to the implementation of a common software platform in many CG centers, and the common service, CGNet, that they used for hosting. The VLS project demonstrates that agreement on common approaches in informatics can lead to simplification in terms of providing common services.

While the library catalogs are now searchable with a single search, different policies in different centers mean that these collections do not represent all CGIAR publications. In other words, it is still not possible to search all CGIAR publications from a single search. Though it was not an activity foreseen within the VLS project, integrating publications catalogs from the CG Centers has become a priority activity for Phase II of the Virtual Library Project.

## Feedback

An important advantage of the CGVlibrary is the access to gray literature in the CGIAR. There is so much useful information that has not been published in refereed journals. The CGVlibrary provides access to that information. I have also found that the search results are well-focused on the theme that I am looking for. When you search standard databases or GoogleScholar you tend to get lots of information that is secondary to what you are looking for. But CGIAR libraries have the stuff researchers in agriculture need. – CGIAR researcher

Excellent resource from our CGIAR library COP and the ICT-KM Program. Congratulations on the release of this fantastic and really great on-line resource. Finally we are able to search our libraries. – CGIAR researcher

Objective 4	ICT/KM2 visioning process for integrated	Status : COMPLETE (MARCH
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**Progress**

In early March 2005, members of the VLS Project Team and a number of Information Managers participated in an electronic discussion forum involving issues related to the ICT/KM2 strategy under the leadership of the CGIAR Chief Information Officer. The on-line discussion confirmed that there is a need to make data and information more readily accessible and easier to use both for CGIAR researchers and a broader international community, which includes NARS researchers and other partners from the developing world. The CGVlibrary should play a role in showing how integrated and unified access to CGIAR publicly available information can help in the development, dissemination and application of agricultural research worldwide.

# Financial Management and Reporting



INTERNATIONAL FOOD POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
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## World Bank

Global Public Goods (GPG) Program: Information and Communications Technology and Knowledge Management  
 (ICT KM) - Mutual Library Services Project  
 IFPRI Project Number: 3814-001

Final Financial Report  
 As of December 31, 2006

CATEGORY	EXPENDITURES	
	12/31/03	12/31/06
Project Coordination	\$	66,694.14
Field Costs		35,052.50
Center Direct Agreement		1,500.00
Travel		17,120.60
Utilities		77,856.40
Publication/Subscription		1,271.19
Conferences/Workshop		23,393.56
Communication/Postage		4,312.43
Professional Services		41,076.50
Other		501.14
<b>TOTAL DIRECT COSTS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>273,756.74</b>
Indirect Costs		42,516.88
IFPRI Contribution		(3,151.62)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>313,122.00</b>

I certify that the amounts shown are correct.

Gertraud Gawlic, Chief Accountant

## SCHEDULE OF FUNDS RECEIVED As of December 31, 2006

RECEIPT NUMBER	DATE OF RECEIPT	AMOUNT
000001	December 13, 2003	\$ 5,000
000002	January 19, 2005	230,000
000003	April 11, 2006	79,142
<b>Total Funds Received</b>		<b>\$ 313,142</b>



**NOTES**

- IFPRI's overhead rate increased from 14.7% to 15.85% between the time the proposal budget was prepared and project implementation.
- The costs of coordination between the C4D projects were not anticipated in the original VLS project budget. This has required additional consultancies and more travel expenses than originally anticipated. To cover these costs, most of the Project Coordinator time was volunteered so that funds earmarked for this could be transferred to other IFPRI staff contributing to the project development.
- The unavailability of staff in some centers during the training and the difficulty of identifying consultants that could be effectively used in project management meant that larger portions of the work had to be done by IFPRI staff and less by consultants.
- Additional travel costs were required for C4D coordination, training trainers and negotiating agreements for inter-center cooperation and collaboration to ensure the ongoing sustainability of the CGVlibrary.

**Contributions Received to Date**

\$5,000 Grant provided to write the proposal	<i>December 8 2003</i>
\$230,000 Grant provided by the World Bank Information and Communication Technology ICT/Global Public Goods GPG Program	January 19, 2005 Update with further contributions
\$78,142 Grant provided to finalize the project	April 11, 2006