

**IFLA**  
**UNIVERSAL DATAFLOW AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**  
**CORE PROGRAMME**

**1997-2002**  
**MEDIUM-TERM**  
**PROGRAMME**

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# THE UDT MEDIUM-TERM PROGRAMME 1997-2002

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## **Programme Concept**

In 1997 to 2002, the UDT Core Programme will continue the development of IFLANET electronic services as a focal point for the promotion of IFLA activities and research to the international library community. The programme will continue to monitor and promote the use of relevant standards, promote the use of relevant technologies and monitors relevant policy issues in an effort to overcome barriers to the electronic transfer of data in library fields.

The 1997-2002 Medium-Term Programme builds upon the successful introduction of IFLANET electronic services during the 1992-1997 programme. A realignment of program activities to support IFLANET has been undertaken and will be continued. The UDT programme also retains its objective of analysis and promotion of information technologies and standards as they apply to digital library development. Networked resources discovery, information retrieval, digitization and metadata standards remain key areas of UDT attention.

## **Programme Objectives**

The objective of the IFLA Universal Dataflow and Telecommunications programme is to promote the effective use technology in libraries and it's support of the IFLA programmes and projects by:

- 1) Administering, developing and promoting IFLANET electronic services.
- 2) Assisting and supporting other Core Programmes, Divisions, and Sections on the use of IFLANET electronic services and other technologies as appropriate.
- 3) Promoting the effective use of digital technologies and the development of "digital librarians" through education and training.
- 4) Serving as the focal point for the analysis, promotion and use of standards, technologies and policies for library specific applications.

## **Programme Orientation**

Building upon its work to establish networked information services for IFLA, UDT will assist IFLA in navigating the complex array of technologies, standards, policies and issues that surround digital library initiatives.

It is important to note that the UDT Core Programme is concerned with technologies of data organization and dissemination and the *per se* rather than with the creation and intellectual content of the data, which are the concerns of the other core programmes and professional groups. Similarly the UDT programme is concerned with the technical, economic and policy barriers to interconnection of computers, the creation of digital collections and services, and of telecommunications, rather than with economic and policy issues pertaining to the data itself.

## **Programme Goals for 1997-2002**

- 1) Increase the awareness of IFLANET electronic resources through promotion and enhanced service development.
- 2) Promote the development, implementation and use of information technology standards and applications, in particular those pertaining to Internet and World Wide Web wherever these are relevant to the development of electronic services and collections within libraries. This goal will be accomplished through:
  - Investigation and analysis of digital library initiatives, focusing on the theory, skills, technologies, standards, policies and procedures that underlie them.
  - Informing IFLA and the international library community of digital library initiatives through publications and presentations.
  - Initiation of operational and demonstration projects that will be integrated into IFLANET electronic services.
  - Supporting the transfer of technical and theoretical knowledge through training and publication.
  - Continuing to mainstream the electronic dissemination of IFLA publications, communications and services.
- 3) Monitor international and national policies as they affect the use of technology in libraries and the emerging global information infrastructure.
- 4) Increase the awareness in the library community and related sectors of the technical and service benefits of the electronic communications and dissemination of information.