

Intellectual Content in the Information Infrastructure of the Middle East

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Emerging National Research and Education Networks

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Topics

- 1. Role and status of information centers**
- 2. Collaboration among information centers**
- 3. Cultural values and collaboration**

Functions of information centers

(archives, libraries, museums, databases, etc.)

- **Collect information in all formats**
- **Describe content and object**
- **Organize – assign metadata**
- **Store content**
- **Preserve content**
- **Disseminate content**


A vast desert landscape with rolling sand dunes under a bright sky. The dunes are light-colored and have soft, undulating shapes. The sky is a pale, clear blue. The overall scene is serene and expansive.

Information centers evolve to

- Preserve the records of society and the knowledge it generates**
- Create centers for learning and research**

Information centers are two-way distribution points

- **Bring latest research to local researchers and practitioners**
- **Provide unique, primary sources to researchers and practitioners outside the region**

A vast desert landscape with rolling sand dunes under a clear sky. The dunes are light-colored and have soft shadows, creating a sense of depth and movement. The foreground shows a close-up of the sand's texture, with fine ripples and ridges. The background features more distant dunes, some with small, dark, rounded shapes on their peaks, possibly rocks or small structures. The overall atmosphere is serene and expansive.

Collaboration among information centers

Why?

Collaboration among information centers

- **Agree to share resources**
- **Provide information service equitably to readers**
- **Collect in specific disciplines**
- **Protect the privacy and confidentiality of readers**
- **Teach skills for searching and using information effectively; i.e. information literacy**



Cultural values and collaboration


Cultural ideals affecting collaboration

- **Every person contributes either as a worker or as a consumer, or both**
- **Every person has rights to education and to pursue intellectual interests**
- **Every reader's intellectual pursuits will be kept confidential**
- **Every reader respects community-held property**



1

**Information centers are
two-way distribution points**



2

**Information *TECHNOLOGY* infrastructure
and
Information *CONTENT* infrastructure
are *LINKED***

“Intellectual content” of the information infrastructure must be addressed to realize the full benefits of global NREN.

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