Managing our Print Legacy:
Factors influencing the success, sustainability and scalability of shared print management
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Shared Print: Key Performance Indicators

**Success**
Operational and strategic goals are met; local burden of print management is reduced, while a broader range of materials is preserved and made available.

**Sustainability**
Shared management reduces costs and creates enough surplus benefit to ensure continued contribution and participation.

**Scalability**
Models are extensible; as adoption curve grows, additional participants can be added to maximize economies of scope and scale.
Establishing a body of evidence

Growing recognition that institution-scale print management models are unsustainable

Intra-regional duplication is low; inter-regional duplication is high; “scale matters”

Benefits & trade-offs of operationalizing shared collections at group or regional scale

Exploring characteristics of European collective collections; structural contrasts with US

Significant share of institutional inventory is duplicated in digital and print repositories

Growing trend toward coordinated management at a variety of scales

Web-scale discovery redefines collection boundaries; growing need for coordination capacity
Factors for success, sustainability, scale

- System-wide view of aggregate resource
  operational success relies on measuring, managing and monitoring risk
- Robust trust networks
  single greatest constraint on success and scale of shared management
- Scalable infrastructure
  discovery, delivery logistics that reduce cost and friction
System-wide perspective

- Insight into local, group and global collections
  regional bibliographic infrastructure, global data network
- Variable local cataloguing magnified in aggregation
  affects clustering of related publications; identification of ‘last copies’
- Global registries of shared collections
  WorldCat Shared Print LHR; CRL PAPR; UKRR LARCH
Robust networks of trust

• Regional consortia, peers a natural starting point
  BTAA (US), White Rose (UK), UKB (Netherlands)
• Tradeoffs balancing economies of scale, coordination costs of diffuse networks
  WEST, EAST (US), RLUK (UK), German networks
• What happens when a new member joins? risk of eroding trust among existing partners
Scalable Infrastructure

- Discovery, delivery of shared resource
  shared bibliographic infrastructure reduce costs, friction
- Analytics and performance dashboards
  trust but verify; routine monitoring reduces uncertainty
- Path dependencies constrain scale of collaboration
  difficult to add members using different local systems
National context matters

• Centralized infrastructure and governance
  France, Netherlands, Nordic countries

• Decentralized, devolved
  Germany, United Kingdom

• High degree of institutional autonomy
  Australia, United States
Do economic trading zones define boundaries of shared print management?

What happens when boundaries are renegotiated?
Can existing mega-regions reduce friction in scaling shared print management?

Will these corridors of trade compete with consortium or national-scale efforts?
Join the conversation

• National-scale shared print will be operational:
  – In the next 5 years
  – In the next 10 years
  – Not in my lifetime

• Greatest constraint on scaling shared print in EMEA:
  – Networks of trust
  – Bibliographic infrastructure
  – Discovery, delivery for shared collections
Together we make breakthroughs possible.

Let’s stay in touch:

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