

The European Library: Content Development Strategy

TEL Library Coordination Group

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The purpose of this session is to establish a framework for a content development strategy for The European Library, within the context of its focus on the research communities of Europe

NUMERIC (2007-2009)



Developing a statistical framework for measuring the progress made in the digitisation of cultural materials and content

Study deliverable N° 8:

Study Report

Study findings and proposals for sustaining the framework

The opinions expressed in this study are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Commission.

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<http://www.NUMERIC.ws>

788 respondents from 26 countries

Main subjects:

- digitisation budgets
- costs of digitisation
- status information policies
- staffing for digitisation
- role of third parties (companies)
- progress of digitalisation
- most popular formats
- use and access rights

From: Numeric Study Report

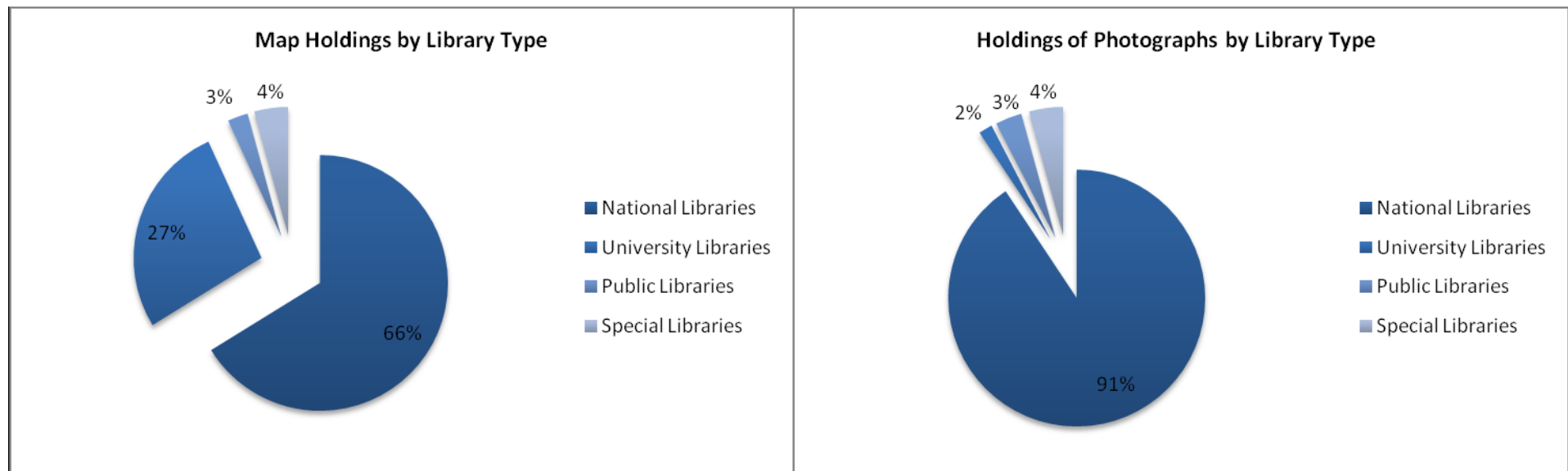
Table 1 Classification of materials held in collections

Framework categories	Units
Archival records	<i>Metres</i> ¹
Rare books	<i>Volumes</i>
Other books	<i>Volumes</i>
Newspapers	<i>Issues</i>
Serials	<i>Volumes</i>
Manuscripts	<i>Number</i>
Sheet music	<i>Number</i>
Microforms/microfilms ²	<i>Number</i>
Maps	<i>Number</i>
Photographs	<i>Number</i>
Engravings/prints	<i>Number</i>
Drawings	<i>Number</i>
Posters	<i>Number</i>
Postcards	<i>Number</i>
Paintings	<i>Number</i>
Any other two dimensional object	<i>Number</i>
Three dimensional works of art	<i>Objects</i>
Man-made artefacts	<i>Objects</i>
Natural world specimens	<i>Objects</i>
Other objects in collections	<i>Objects</i>
Monuments ³	<i>Number</i>
Film	<i>Hours</i>
Video recordings	<i>Hours</i>
Audio (music & other recorded sound)	<i>Hours</i>
Other items not classified above	<i>Number</i>

From: *The Cost of Digitising Europe's Cultural Heritage* (2011)

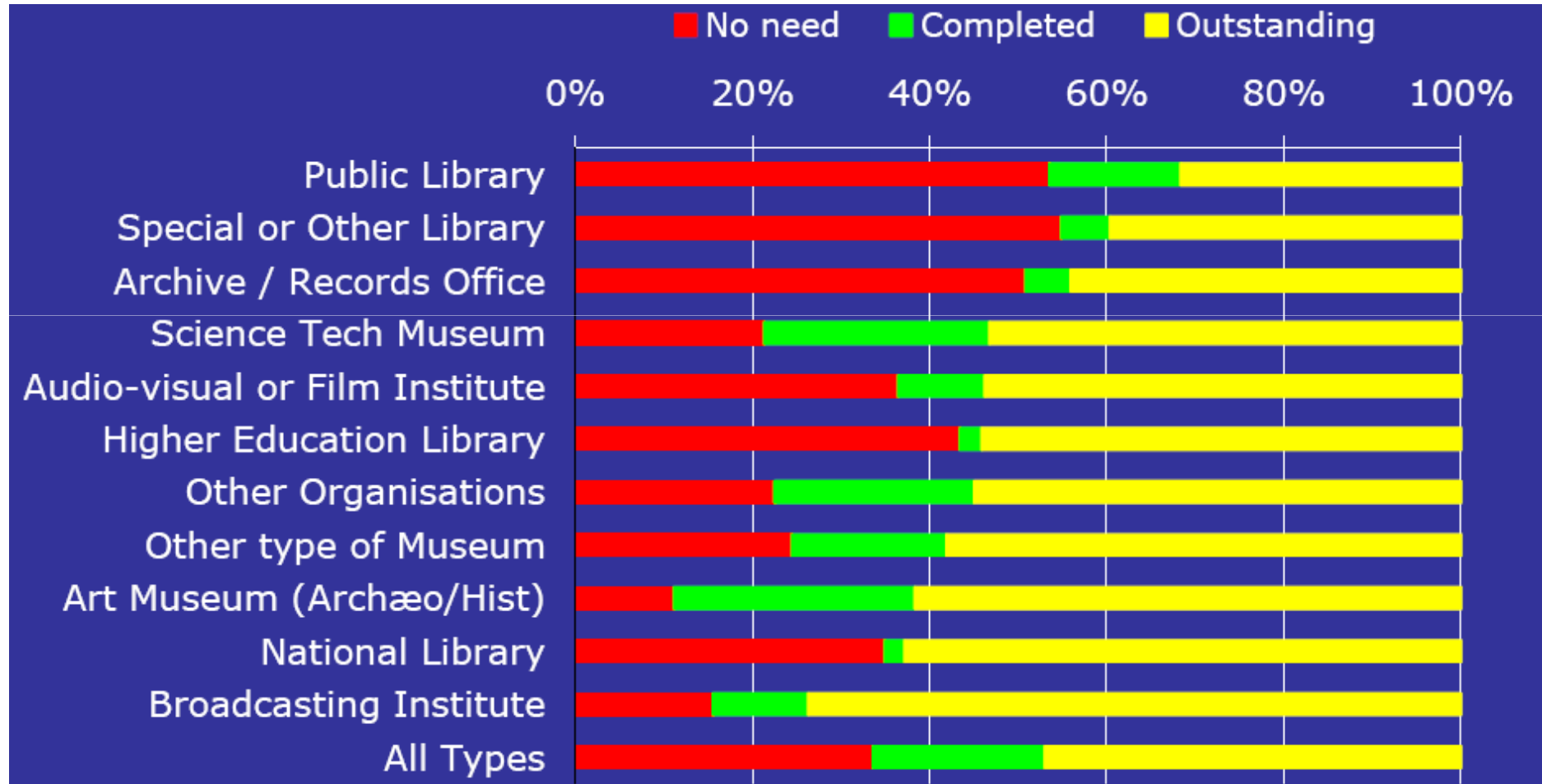
IFLA estimates in 2000⁷, for example, put the total holdings of European Libraries at approximately 16bn items (see table below), including 5.64bn books, at an estimated 1.41 trillion pages.

Media	Quantity (estimated)
Books	5.64 billion books, 1.41 trillion pages
Microform	0.02 billion units
AV	Up to 6.54 billion units
Other	Up to 3.69 billion units
TOTALS	15.89 billion units (+/- 15%)



From: Numeric Study Report

How much has been digitised?



From: Numeric Study Report How much has been digitised?

Table 15 Progress made towards the digitisation of collections

Type of institution:	Part of collection digitised %	'Order book'		Equivalent backlog [3]/[2] [4]
		Completed %	Outstanding %	
	[1]	[2]	[3]	
Archives	5.1	10.3	89.7	8.7
A-V or film institutes	9.8	15.4	84.6	5.5
Broadcasting institutes	10.8	12.8	87.2	6.8
Art/archæo museums	27.2	30.6	69.4	2.3
Science and tech museums	25.5	32.4	67.6	2.1
Other museums	17.5	23.1	76.9	3.3
National libraries	2.3	3.5	96.5	27.6
Higher education libraries	2.5	4.4	95.6	21.9
Public libraries	14.8	31.9	68.1	2.1
Special or other libraries	5.5	12.2	87.8	7.2
Other types of organisation	22.5	29.0	71.0	2.4

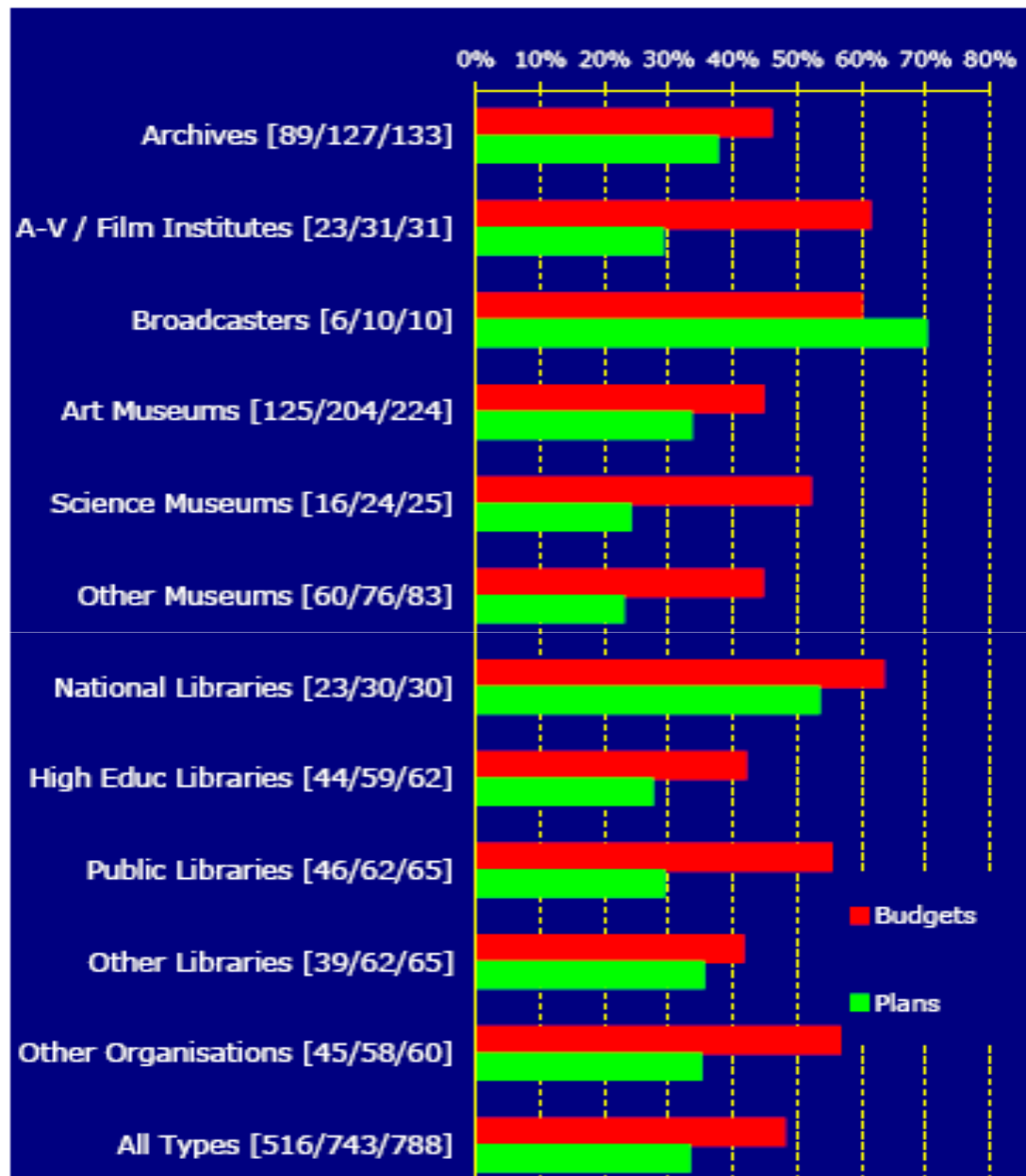
average 13%

From: *The Cost of Digitising Europe's Cultural Heritage* (2011)

Description	Value	Units
National Libraries in the Council of Europe	45	Sites
National Library service points	178	Service Points
Public Libraries	205336	Sites
HE/University Libraries	10161	Sites
School Libraries	164436	Sites
Special Libraries	29089	Sites
Google books estimated number of individual titles	130	Million titles
Lower estimate of titles currently in EU libraries	59	Million titles
Upper estimate of titles currently in EU libraries	95	Million titles
Mean estimate of titles currently in EU libraries	77	Million titles
Lower estimate of pages	1.47	Billion pages
Upper estimate of pages	2.36	Billion pages
Mean estimate of pages	1.93	Billion pages
Mean total cost for BOOK digitisation (in-house)	11.76	€bn
Mean total cost for BOOK digitisation (outsourced)	7.08	€bn
Mean total cost for BOOK digitisation (PPP)	4.79	€bn
Estimated number of RARE BOOKS	6.9	Million books
Estimated (mean) cost of RARE BOOK digitisation	8.62	€bn
Estimated (mean) cost of ARCHIVAL digitisation in libraries	2.45	€bn
Estimated pages of newspaper (based on 20m per MS)	540	Million pages
Estimated (mean) cost of NEWSPAPER digitisation in libraries	0.68	€bn
Estimated number of MAPS in library collections	7.23	Million maps
Estimated (mean) cost of MAP digitisation in libraries	61.03	€m
Estimated number of PHOTOGRAPHS in library collections	8.64	Million photos
Estimated (mean) cost of PHOTO digitisation in libraries	17.62	€m

TOTALS:

Estimated total cost of digitisation in LIBRARIES (in-house)	23.67	€bn
Estimated total cost of digitisation in LIBRARIES (outsourced)	18.95	€bn
Estimated total cost of digitisation in LIBRARIES (PPP)	16.70	€bn



[The first two figures in brackets indicate the number of institutions respectively responding to the question about their (1) BUDGET and their possession of a (2) PLAN; the third figure is the total number of (3) survey respondents. Some will not have indicated that they possess a budget or a plan; the proportion that did is indicated by the bars in the chart.]

Separate
digitisation
budgets

Information
plans available

Questions:

1. Could you tell us about your (national) library content strategy?
2. What are the key issues that need to be addressed in order to develop a content strategy at the institutional level?

(cont.)

Questions (cont.):

3. Given that it is considered useful to compare on the EU-level:
- the proportion of the content digitised
 - the proportion of the digitised content available through the web
 - the costs of digitisation,

is it feasible to align content strategies across European libraries?

If yes, what needs to be done to achieve that? (e.g. shared terminology, benchmarking tools, acquisition plans etc.).

4. What roles can/should The European Library, ENUMERATE and other EU-initiatives play to align/harmonize content strategies?