

## **New services in the digital schema of the French National Library**

The Bibliothèque nationale de France has been involved in many digital projects during the last two decades. Some of them are costly in terms of funding and staff as for example the preservation of electronic data and documents, the digital legal deposit and especially the web legal deposit, the digitisation of a large part of the collections and so on.

The outlook has become rich and complex over the years and clarification became necessary in order to allow the CEO to give priorities. Thus the president of the Library, Bruno Racine, asked in 2008 for a general schema of the digital issue. This detailed schema will be released in Spring 2009.

It is divided into eight main parts: collecting, preserving, referencing, communicating, highlighting, cooperating, common tools, and management.

The services to the readers and the partners, professional or not, are at the core of all parts but several of them are more closely concerned.

Here are the points we would like to develop during the presentation:

- The digital library, Gallica, which has been the centre of attention for four years, will be enriched but above all will be equipped with more innovative tools, such as a new reader, a new widget, formats for mobiles, audio version of the texts etc. The Library will pay great attention to the quality of the images and of the OCR coming from the digitisation.
- The reference system. Because the entire IT system of the BnF relating to the collections relies on the catalogue, it has today become a constraint for the Library. This extremely rich and nearly perfect tool is still necessary to inform clearly and unambiguously about the collections. But it is a complex database and the data contained in it are not collected by the search engines. This wealth of information is more or less unknown by the majority of web users. It is necessary to find a way to push this information towards the best ranking in the results of the search engines. At the same time, a long-lasting programme has been launched to revise the structure of the catalogue.
- The digital services on site or on line will be developed during the coming years. They will take into account the needs of disabled people. The Library wants to build a new relationship with its readers.
- Cooperation. On the one hand, the Bibliothèque nationale de France wishes to improve its relationships with other French libraries, helping them to develop their own digital policies in accordance with the best practices and offering them to be part of the digital library or to benefit from its virtual stacks. On the other, it was decided to develop the main international projects, to participate actively in Europeana, the European library, in the International Internet Preservation Consortium and to contract with OCLC to put the data of the catalogue online in a broader way.

For each project, deadlines, requisite resources, risks, are detailed in the schema. This document is a roadmap for the president and the CEO of the Library for the years to come. Prepared in consultation with all the teams of the Library, it is also a means for them to better understand the policy of the institution.

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