## International Conference on Digital Libraries ICDL 2013 Vision 2020: Looking Back 10 Years and Forging New Frontiers

New Delhi, 27–29 November, 2013





The Energy and Resources Institute



## International Conference on Digital Libraries (ICDL) 2013

Vision 2020: Looking Back 10 Years and Forging New Frontiers

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Venue: India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi

## FOREWORD



Research and development activities related to digital libraries began just over three decades ago, and since then knowledge and practice in the field have progressed significantly. Over the past three decades, a large number of digital libraries have been established in different countries to cover a range of subjects from health sciences to the physical sciences, from engineering and technology to art and culture, and many others. Accordingly, digital libraries have been used by a wide range of user communities that include school children, academicians, scholars, scientists, and the general public. Diverse contents have been created and stored in these digital libraries ranging from digital packages such as photographs, music, films to more research-oriented knowledge as well as scientific and research data.

Since the 1990s, there have been unprecedented changes in information flows and technology worldwide. These changes have completely eclipsed developments

that took place in the field of information science over several decades in earlier periods. Libraries, which have been the repositories of knowledge for hundreds of years, now need to make major changes in their operations and the means by which they make information and knowledge available. The world is moving rapidly towards the model of digital libraries, and countries like India have to be at the forefront of this revolution. The digital library of tomorrow provides wide opportunities not only for efficient retrieval and access to knowledge, but also by creating avenues for taking libraries far beyond the buildings and structures where they are housed. Digitization of libraries makes it possible to read material that may physically be housed thousands of miles away.

TERI has been active in the field of documentation and information science for three decades now, and has incorporated technical changes in its activities in this field to maintain a high level of efficiency and effectiveness. In the year 2004, a major international conference — the International Conference on Digital Libraries (ICDL) — was opened by the Hon'ble President of India, Dr A P J Abdul Kalam. This conference brought together the leading library science experts from all over the world. The association of several relevant departments and ministries of the Government of India and other official agencies ensured that the experience and knowledge generated in other parts of the world was made available to the organizations that took part in ICDL 2004 and thus to official channels in this country, which provided value in defining new policies and direction in the field. Knowhow is advancing at a very rapid pace in this and related areas.

As on previous occasions, the proceedings of this conference are being brought out in advance of the conference itself so that all the participants and others associated with the conference can carry back the knowledge contained in these pages. It is hoped that ICDL 2013 will prove even more useful than the previous versions of this conference held in 2004, 2006, and 2010.

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