National Persistent Identifier for Digital Objects system (NPIDOS) of National Library and Archives of Islamic Republic of Iran (NLAI): A project for ensuring preservation of documentary heritage for future generations

Afsaneh Teymourikhani
Saeedeh Akbari-daryan
Introduction

- Strategic plan of National Library and Archives of Islamic Republic of Iran
- Wealth of the documentary heritage
- Web Archive of Iran
- Digital National Library and Archives of Iran (DNLAI)
- long-term preservation
- Developing national protocols and standards, virtual infrastructures, strategic cooperation and improving the quality of services
- National Persistent Identifier for Digital Objects system (NPIDOS)
Persistent Identifiers Systems

- Handle, 1994
- Persistent URL (PURL), 1995
- Uniform Resource Name (URN), 1997
- Digital object identifier (DOI), 1997
- Archival Resource Keys (ARK), 2001
- Extensible Resource Identifier (XRI), 2005
Advantages:
- Stable and well-established
- Independent and interoperable
- Syntax is straightforward
- Adaptable to the different levels of access
- Distributed model
- Scalable

Disadvantages:
- An initial fee and an annual charge
- Strong emphasis on identifying resources which are openly available
- Optional metadata elements
- The character set for Handles is much broader than is permissible for URIs
Advantages:
- Cheap and easy
- Compatible
- Library cataloguing context
- Well-established and widely used
- Scalable

Disadvantages:
- Open, web-based resources
- Access restrictions
- Partial resolution
Advantages:
- Flexible and easy to construct
- Technology independent
- Enabling users to resolve URNs using a standard web browser

Disadvantages:
- Lack of a universal resolver
- Ongoing lack of consensus about the value of URNs
- Not be suitable for dealing with personal digital archives
Advantages:

- Sustainable in the long-term
- Adopted by libraries as well as commercial organizations
- Used in a non-public digital repository environment or dark archive as well as an open environment
- Maximize interoperability

Disadvantages:

- Strong emphasis in the DOI member list on the commercial sector, or very large information institutions
- Extensive metadata is already produced for each digital object
- To identify only resources & associated with intellectual property transactions
Advantages:
• Technology independent
• Simple identification scheme
• To identify different types of entity
• Library context
• Closed environment & dark archive or an open publicly-accessible environment
• Importance of organizational commitment
• No commercially motivated background
• More flexible than some of the other PID schemes
• The technical requirements for participation are relatively low
• Can feed into and shape this development

Disadvantages:
• It is difficult to gauge at this stage how popular and long-lived it might be
• Some elements of the scheme are probably superfluous to the requirements of digital archives
• Duplication of metadata
Extensible resource identifier (XRI)

- It is difficult to know how many users XRI has independent and interoperable
- A simple tool for describing and discovering resources.
- Based on both URI and IRI
- “Dumbing” IRIs down to URIs
Strategies to select a Persistent Identifier system

- Technical interoperability among institutions
- Synergy effects it should be noted
Final results

- Written policy and procedure method
- Ability to set different levels of access,
- Centralized system for assigning identifiers appropriate system for NLAI is ARK
Final results

- The primary study and selection appropriate system(s)
- Devising the Technical details of the project
- Providing the general infrastructure
- Organizing Working Group/ Preparation of Plans and Policy Committee
- Supplying and Training of specialists for the Plan
- Designing and implementing the software
- Designing and implementing of the information system and services
Thank you.