



Project Name and Approximate Project Value: Cyberbibalex: Virtual Museum Bibliotheca Alexandria Project	Country: Egypt
Project Location Within Country: Alexandria	Professional Staff Provided: 1
Client: Intercan Development Ltd. Contact: Mohammed Sherif Tel: 613-828-5582	No. of Person Months: 1 Start Date: May 2005 Completion Date: July 2006
Senior/Key Staff Involved and Functions Performed: Maria Schnurr, Gender Equality Specialist	
Associated Firm: Groupe Adga Consultants Lab)ideeclic!	Professional Staff Person-Months Provided by Associated Firms: 12
Detailed Narrative Description of Project: <p>The ancient library at Alexandria was developed by Ptolemy I Soter in 290 BC as an intellectual centre and the first research centre in the world. The library expanded to include all of the knowledge in the ancient world – at its zenith over 70,000 scrolls, functioning as a centre of learning until it was burnt in 391 AD. Sixteen Hundred years later an international effort led to its reconstruction in Alexandria. This historical background as well as the new international image and visibility of this famous library serves as the backdrop to the project supported by CIDA's Private Sector Directorate.</p> <p>The \$500,000 project aims to develop an extension of the institution on the web or Cyberbibalex, a Virtual Museum of the Bibliotheca Alexandria. It is designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Develop a fully detailed concept, along with a functional demonstration and supporting documentation to support the position that the project is in fact feasible; <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluate its economic and social impact; <input type="checkbox"/> Plan for its implementation by the benefit of future generations around the world, and for Egyptians; and <input type="checkbox"/> Develop a strategy that will ensure long term strategy. <p>A growing amount of users seek knowledge remotely, quickly and in a user-friendly environment. The project builds on existing technological and multimedia initiatives at the Bibliotheca to enlarge the accessibility of the resources to a broader audience. The project involves dissemination of heritage and knowledge using interactivity and state-of-art technology as its approach, and Internet as its vehicle. The interactive web environment presents contents that will adapt specific learning experiences for specific audiences. Cyberbibalex will also act as a knowledge portal to international initiatives, collections, archives and educational resources.</p>	
Description of Actual Services Provided: <p>IDEA provided a Gender Equality/Social Impact Analysis Specialist to conduct a gender analysis as well as training for the staff at the Bibliotheca. The work involved preparing a background economic, social and gender analysis and outline that compared the situation of women and men and identified gender division of labour. IDEA conducted intensive surveys and interviews with female and male employees. The work was designed to support the development of a larger scale successor project by enhancing both the knowledge of the project design team in the area of gender equality and enriching library personnel through on-site provision of technical assistance, training and workshops. Ultimately, it is expected this will result in improved access for women and men to services.</p>	
Funding Agency: Canadian International Development Agency	
Firm: Integrated Development Enterprise Associates (IDEA)	