Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America

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Publishing by foreign countries on the World Wide Web has increased exponentially this year, reminding us that electronic publication is and will be of increasing importance in providing access to government information. These WWW sites include the type of information found in government manuals, such as structure, addresses, and general information; however, detailed content is often lacking. The searcher will find excerpts of publications, selected statistical tables, or brief publications such as newsletters, but often not the full content of major publications. Luxembourg’s GoverNET is one example of a developing national WWW site that is well designed and offers substantial information.

The activities of international intergovernmental agencies that have affected foreign government publishing include the conferences on education and on women. Countries that attended the 44th session of the International Conference on Education in Geneva in 1994 prepared national reports, an important source of information on national education systems. Some of these reports may be difficult to acquire directly from each government. The International Bureau of Education previously made these reports available on microfiche and is working to make them available both on the World Wide Web and on a CD Rom, “World Data on Education 1993/94,” scheduled for publication June 1996.

National reports on women were submitted to the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, China, 1995. Many have been published by the individual countries.

I have included a vendor, Hogarth Representation, under availability for African documents, although it is possible to try to order directly from the governments: Hogarth Representation, 1 Birchington Court, Birchington Road, London N8 8HS England; phone from overseas 44-181-341-6570; fax from overseas 44-181-341-0284. If taken from their lists, orders can normally be supplied in 6-9 months.

Belgium


This is a manual on the new structure and function of the Ministry of Economic Affairs, with organizational charts and directory information. In French and Dutch.
Belize
   This statistical report covers main labour force indicators, employment, unemployment, persons not in the labour force, and youth and women in the labour force. Appendices cover methodology and definitions. It also includes a summary.

Benin
   This chronologically arranged bibliography of socio-economic reports, studies, and seminars covers the years 1988-1993. Within each year, entries are arranged by broad subject category. Basic citations include financial source, consultants, keywords, and geographic descriptors.

   This collection of reports from various agencies on forest resources in Benin includes statistics, project plans, projections, and agency information.

Botswana
   This is a summary report of the goals, strategies, activities, and implementation of Botswana’s National Programme of Action (NPA). This program was developed to respond to human development needs in Botswana, particularly among women and children. Featured are reports on economic strategy, status of children and women, health and population, environmental management, education, nutrition, children in difficult circumstances, and resource requirements.

458. National Report for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Beijing, China, 1995. Gaborone, Women’s Affairs Division, Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs and the National Preparatory Committee for the Regional and World Conferences on

This work reviews and appraises the status of women in Botswana since the 1980s, covering the following issues: economics, labor, education, health, and social and legal status. Also included is a review and appraisal of international support, as well as a report on progressive strategies and goals, including the improvement of the national institutional machinery and women’s empowerment programs.


This report on Botswana’s 1994 parliamentary and local government elections features statistical tables accompanied by an analytical report.


“This government paper outlines Government’s reactions to the recommendations of the Report of the National Commission on Education 1993 and lays down policy guidelines and strategy for future educational development.” (p. 1)

Brazil


This is the Web site of the government of Brazil. It is in Portuguese with some Spanish and English Web pages available. It offers links to government, education, ecology, tourism, culture, agriculture, health and medicine, science and technology, economy and finance, and industry and commerce. E-mail contacts and links to a services page are provided.

Costa Rica

This is Costa Rica’s development plan for 1994 /1998. It covers social, political, and economic planning, and includes historical information. It also discusses sustainable development.

Croatia
   This site provides links to members of the government, press releases, documents, government bodies, government activities, government sessions, and the Roundtable with the Government of the Republic of Croatia. Also featured are links to Croatian language WWW sites.

Czechoslovakia
   Featured are links to general country information, business information, statistics, other Czech and Slovak servers, the Office of the President, news in English and Czech, and tourism information. Select Infotree and Political system for governmental links. It also provides e-mail contacts. One large graphic makes it slow to load.

Eritrea
   This set of proposals submitted for debate and public comment is intended as a preliminary step to the writing of the first draft of the Constitution.

   This is a summary of the Constitutional Commission’s work in progress during 1994-1995. It covers the mandate, structure, and finance of the commission, as well as the progress and challenges of its work on the constitution.

Finland
This is an analysis of the emerging markets of the Barents Euro-Arctic Region. It covers privatization, international co-operation, foreign trade, state of the environment, natural resources, telecommunications, and business investment.


Virtual Finland has links to FINFO: Finland Information, Virtual Embassy, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Council of State, and Finnish Aid. Council of State provides links to government pages, including the Ministries. Also FINFO offers many information links on Finland, with a choice of various languages. Under FINFO, choose “Society and Institutions” (http://www.fn.fi/vn/um/otyhdeng.html) for links to government, law, and political WWW sites.

France


This collection of important texts and documents relating to the 1995 French presidential election contains all of the texts published in the Journal officiel, transcription of the televised debates, and other principal political and historical documents.


This is an analysis of the changes and internal and external forces that affect the French defense sector and arms industry. It includes discussion of regulations, nuclear military products, and the effect of electronics on the industry.

Ghana


This national study of infant, child, and maternal mortality, is based on a national survey. Analysis, recommendations, and survey instruments are included.


This overview of the program Ghana— Vision 2020 covers current level of development, long-term objectives, opportunities and constraints, objectives of the medium-term program, and sectoral and geographical allocations of development expenditures. Also included is an executive summary.

Ireland


This report on the management of offenders in Ireland includes a review of the problems and the progress on the implementation of the Whitaker Report, published in 1985. It covers prison facilities, services for offenders, and management and staff. In addition, this document specifies aims and objectives for the prison system as a whole, and emphasizes the importance of alternatives to the traditional treatment of offenders.

Luxembourg


A welcome to the virtual government of the Grand-Duchy. This straightforward, well-designed page features choices of icons or text for the Ministry’s WWW pages and for a government directory. Updates are noted; links
to the agency authors and an e-mail comment line are provided. The Ministry level WWW pages include links to directory information, reports, statistics, related sites within Luxembourg or in other countries, and to some international intergovernmental sites. Although there is some English, these pages are primarily in French.

**Madagascar**


   This analytical report on the situation of primary and secondary education includes development objectives. For each level of education, it covers objectives, programs, pedagogical organization and methods, educational access, resources, and evaluation.


   This report on rural development in Madagascar is broken down by sector and discusses political objectives and strategies and reviews action plans. It also covers the role of the state in rural development and decentralization.

**Malawi**


   This report summarizes the findings of the 1992 Malawi Demography and Health Survey (MDH) conducted by the National Statistical Office. It covers general population information, characteristics of households, as well as data on fertility, birth control, maternal and child health, nutrition, mortality, and health services.

**Malaysia**


   This report analyzes the administrative improvements and restructuring programs undertaken by the Malaysian Civil Service in 1994. It covers quality management, productivity, innovations, information technology, privatization,
financial management, training issues, ethics, complaints, discipline, and the inspectorate system.

Maldives

This work presents an historical review of education in the Maldives, as well an analysis of the present educational structure, developments, and problems. It includes national objectives and international co-operation in education.

Mozambique

The contents include a country profile, mining and petroleum policy and law, doing business in Mozambique, geological and mining overview, some selected mineral resource investment opportunities, ongoing investment projects, and the structure of the Ministry of Mineral Resources. Addresses and an organizational chart are also included.

Namibia

"This study has been undertaken to provide an initial link between the national development planning process and 13 new Regions of Namibia" (p. xiv). It covers issues in regional development planning, and provides the following information for each region: introduction, summary data, background, recent development activities, status of regional development planning, views in the region, recommendations, statistical profile, development budget, and key references.

This report on Namibia’s transport policy includes an historical overview, an analysis, and recommendations of transport policy by type of transportation. It lists transport legislation and major conventions in the transport sector.


This is a compilation of gender statistics from 1991-1994, focusing on the topics: population, work, education, health, law and order, resources, and decision making. A fuller national report on gender statistics is also available to researchers upon request from the Office.

The Netherlands


This summary of research on climate change and the greenhouse effect was done in the Netherlands and includes the objectives and structure of the National Research Programme, in addition to a summary of government policy on climate change.


This report on the trends of the position of women in the Netherlands reviews the condition of women in the following areas: education, labor, caring and working, income, politics and government, health and welfare, and the media. It also provides a general population overview.

Peru


This site offers a wealth of links to Peruvian WWW sites that cover government, commercial, tourist, educational, and Latin American Information. Internet Peru is also available here. To connect to the government page go directly to http://www.rcp.net.pe/rcp/rcp-gob.html
Saudi Arabia

This bilingual edition in English and Arabic includes an overview of the current system of education in Saudi Arabia. It reports on innovations and new directions and discusses the contribution of education in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to international understanding and moral and religious education worldwide.

Singapore

This site provides links to what’s new, government bodies, government projects, statutory boards, speeches, press releases, and other press information. The links under government bodies are arranged alphabetically. Text searching is available.

Spain

This is a report on women’s status in Spain with a nationwide review and appraisal of the situation since the eighties. It covers national policies, poverty, inequality in women’s access, violence against women, international support, and Spain’s future strategic goals and objectives.

Swaziland

The seventh of a series of three-year rolling development plans, this plan reports on international, regional, macro- economic, and sector developments. It includes an economic outlook, macroeconomic perspective, outlook for major sectors, and government finance framework. For each sectoral development
program, it also reports on main sectoral development activities, policy and institutional issues, and capital expenditures.

Sweden

This is a report on Swedish industrial structure, policy and reform, and it includes a directory of useful contracts.

Zambia

This report serves as a background document for the budget process and the allocation of development assistance. It analyzes the budgets and the projects of the economic and social sectors.