

RESULTS OF THE WORLDCAT RESOURCE SHARING SURVEY

Introduction

Libraries Australia is investigating the feasibility of interconnection between the Libraries Australia Document Delivery (LADD) and WorldCat Resource Sharing (WRS) systems. Interconnection would allow LADD libraries to exchange ILL requests with the more than 9,000 libraries worldwide that use WRS, with the WorldCat database at its core. For more information on WRS see www.oclc.org/us/en/resourcesharing/support/default.html.

At present Libraries Australia Document Delivery users can request from the National Library of New Zealand's Te Puna Interlending and from the commercial supplier Infotrieve.

Some preliminary discussions have been held with OCLC staff in Dublin, Ohio. Several business and technical issues would need to be resolved before WRS-LADD interconnection could be implemented. For example, Libraries Australia would want to ensure that libraries from each network would need to opt in to request from the other network, and Libraries Australia would only accept payment via OCLC ILL Fee Management (IFM) (so that from the LADD user point of view payment would be rolled into the LADD Payments Service).

It was decided that it would be valuable to gauge the level of interest in interconnection with WRS among the LADD community through a survey.

Objectives

The survey aimed to identify:

- The extent to which LADD libraries currently request items from overseas;
- The extent to which LADD libraries currently supply items to overseas libraries;
- Whether requests are for interlibrary loan or for document supply;
- Which overseas sources are used by LADD libraries;
- The extent to which LADD libraries would request/supply items if WorldCat Resource Sharing were made available;
- Any perceived financial constraints.

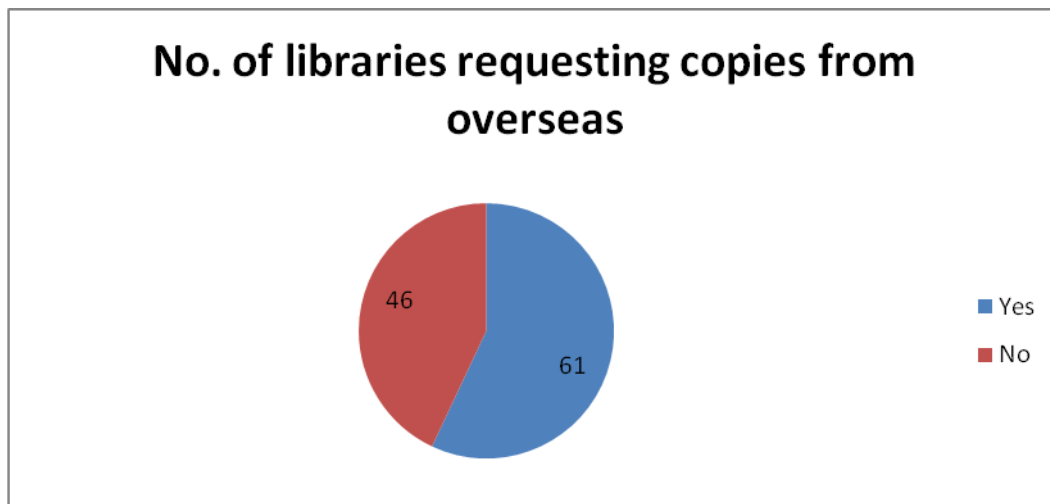
Methodology

The survey was launched on 11 January 2010, and was originally scheduled to close on 5 February. However, in an attempt to improve the response rate the survey was extended until 19 February. Libraries input their responses using an online web form using the SurveyMonkey service www.surveymonkey.com/. The survey was publicised via the librariesaustraliadocdel-l list. The survey questionnaire is provided at Attachment A. Respondents were asked to exclude requesting/supplying to Te Puna in their answers, as Te Puna is already provided as a target in LADD.

Results

In total there were 107 responses, with 16 of these from libraries that interoperate with LADD using the ISO ILL protocol (see www.nla.gov.au/librariesaustralia/isoill.html).

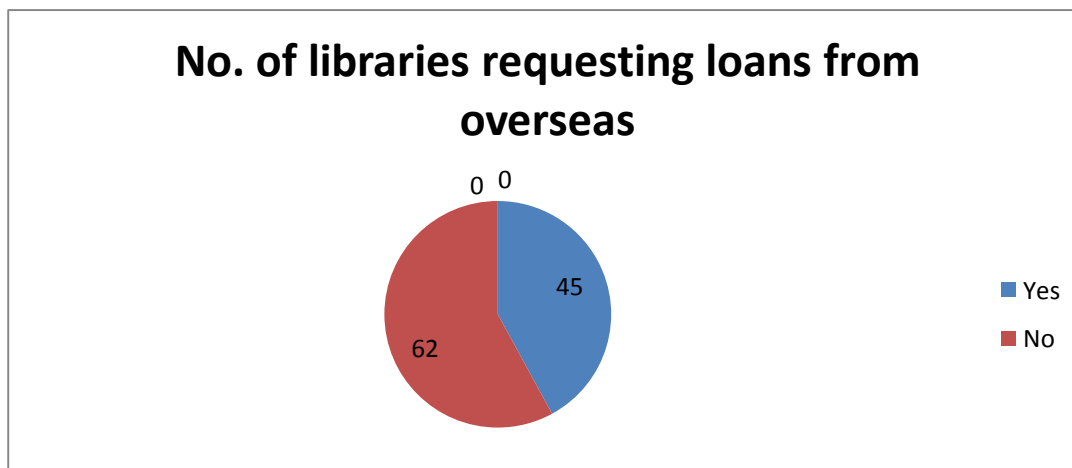
Question 3. Does your library currently request copies (non-returnables) from overseas libraries?



The highest number of copies requested per year by a single library from overseas sources was 5,000. The average number for those libraries that do request copies was 455 requests per year.

Overseas sources cited included the British Library Document Supply Centre and Subito (mentioned most frequently), then CISTI, Infotrieve, WorldCat Resource Sharing, National Agricultural Library, National Library of Medicine, Linda Hall Library, and North American universities.

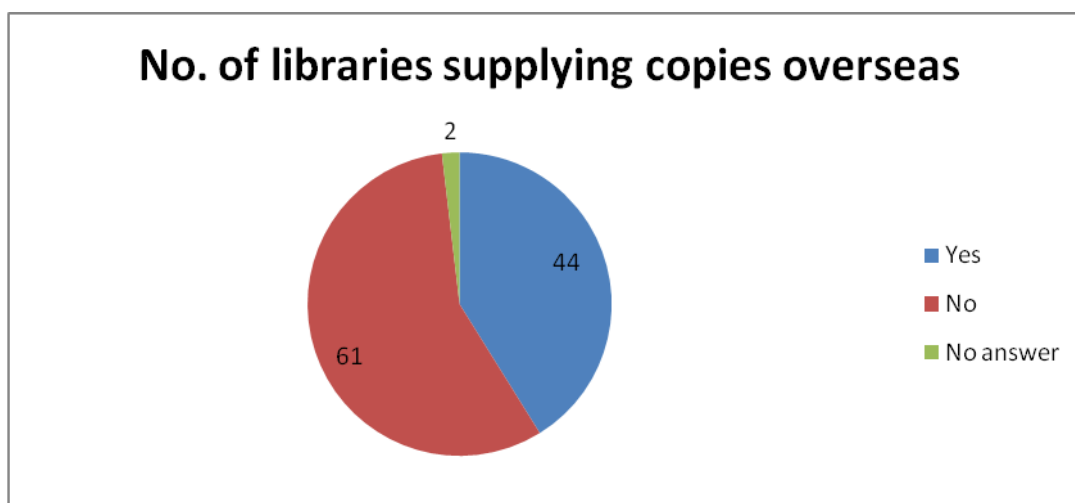
Question 4. Does your library currently request loans (returnables) from overseas libraries?



The highest number of loans requested per year by a single library from overseas sources was 1,500. The average number among those libraries who do request loans was 93 requests per year.

Overseas sources cited included: British Library Document Supply Centre and Subito (mentioned most frequently), then WorldCat Resource Sharing, North American and European universities.

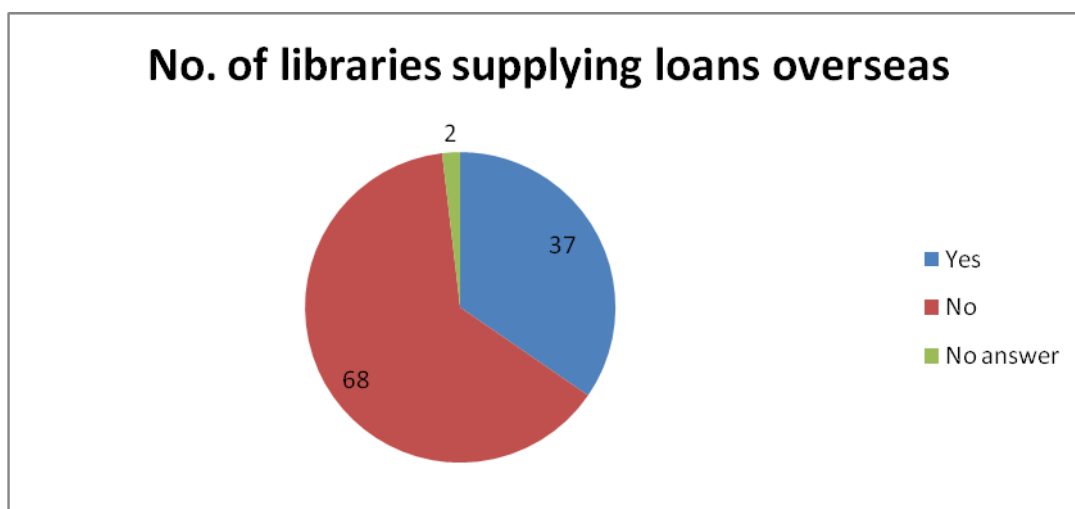
Question 5. Does your library currently supply copies (non-returnables) to overseas libraries?



The highest number of copies supplied per year by a single library to overseas sources was 3,600. The average number for those libraries that do supply copies was 145 copies supplied per year.

Overseas requests for copies came mainly from European and North American universities.

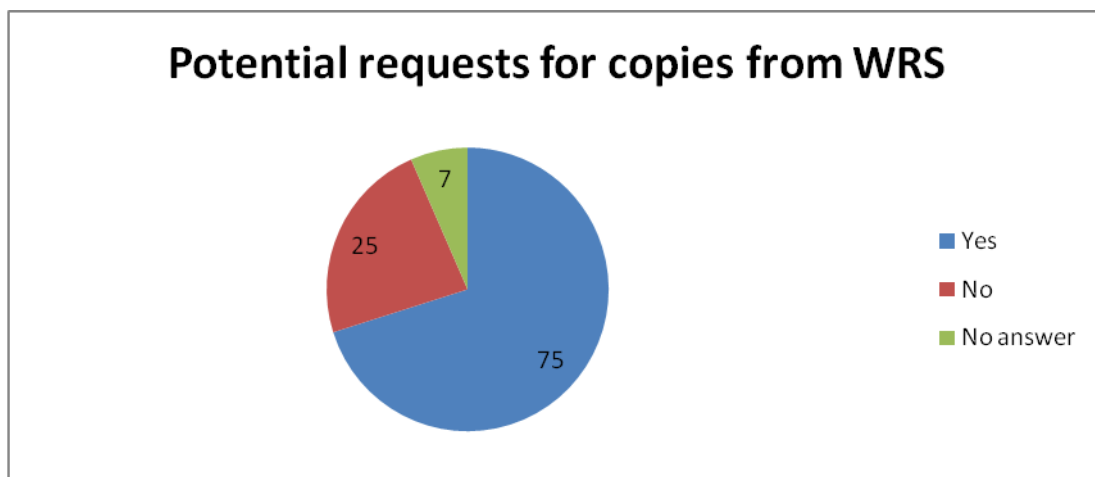
Question 6. Does your library currently supply loans (returnables) to overseas libraries?



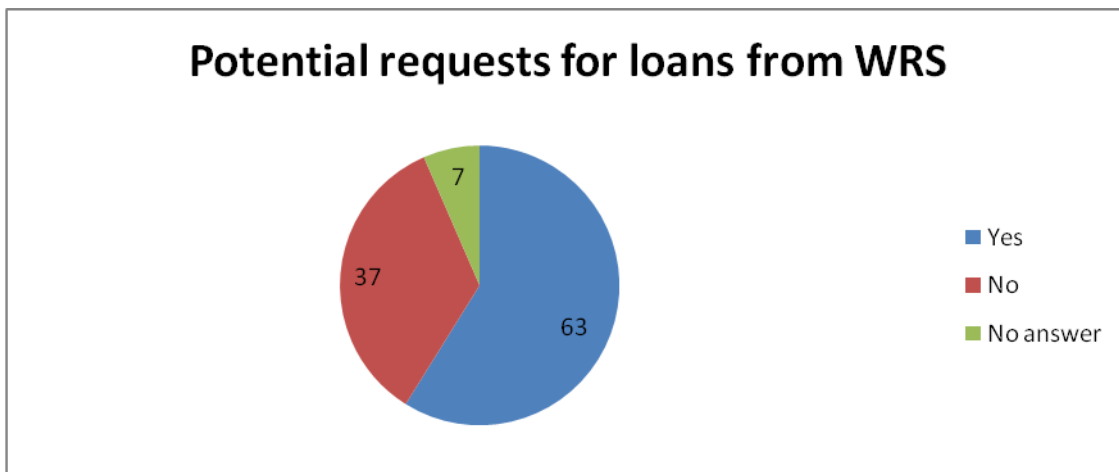
The highest number of loans supplied per year by a single library to overseas sources was also 3,600. The average number for those libraries that do supply loans was 292 loans supplied per year.

Overseas requests for loans came mainly from European and North American universities.

Question 7. Would your library request copies from overseas libraries if LADD was connected to WRS?

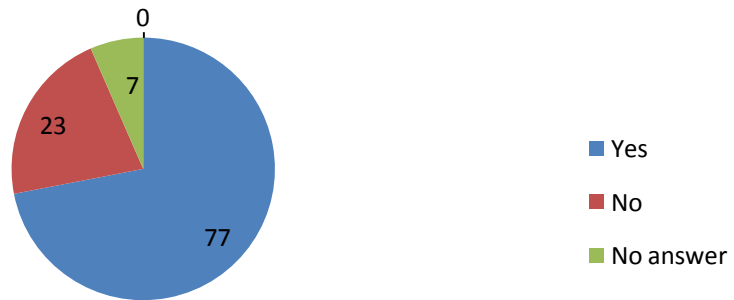


Question 8. Would your library request loans from overseas libraries if LADD was connected to WRS?



Question 9. Would your library supply copies to overseas libraries if LADD was connected to WRS?

Potential supply of copies to WRS



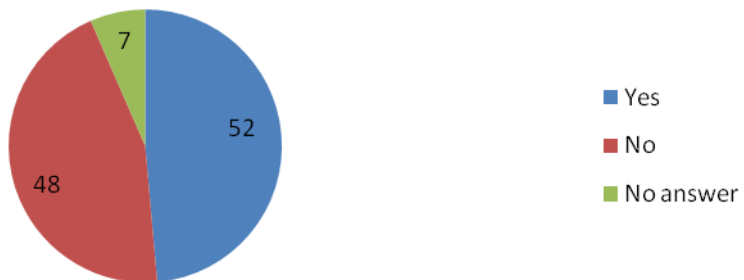
Question 10. Would your library supply loans to overseas libraries if LADD was connected to WRS?

Potential supply of loans to WRS

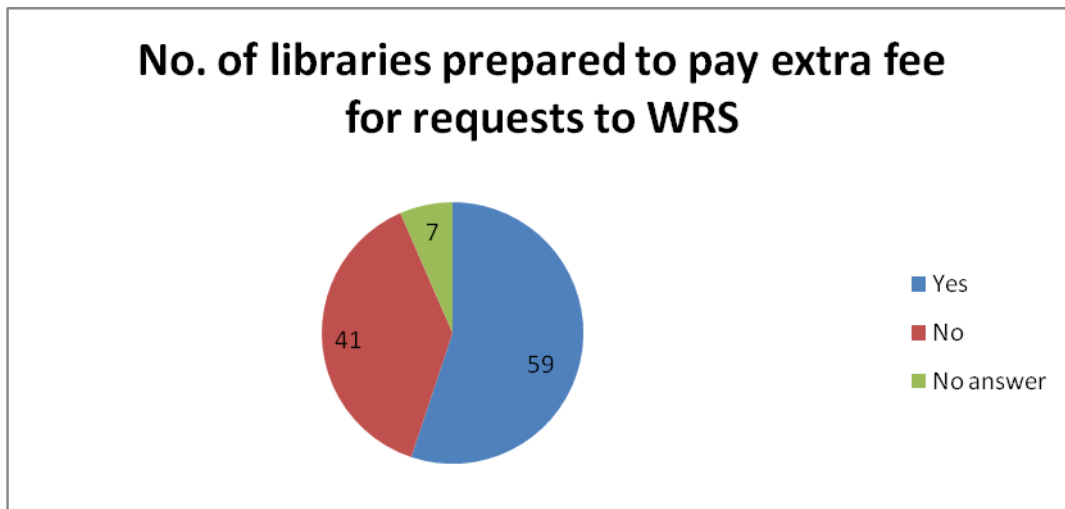


Question 11. Does your library policy allow the supply of loans to overseas libraries?

Library policy allows loans to overseas libraries



Question 12. Would you be prepared to pay a fee (in addition to the loan/copy charge levied by the supplying library) for each request sent to WRS?



A number of libraries noted that requesting from WRS would depend on the size of the extra fee levied.

Recommendation

The Libraries Australia Advisory Committee to confirm that we should proceed with interoperability, subject to resolving the barriers for the technical and business issues.

Libraries Australia Database Services

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Attachment A LADD WorldCat Resource Sharing Survey

1. Please enter your contact and library details.
2. Please enter your Library NUC symbol.
3. Does your library currently request copies (non-returnables) from overseas libraries? Yes / No
If so, approximately how many per year?
If so, which sources do you use?
4. Does your library currently request loans (returnables) from overseas libraries?
Yes / No
If so, approximately how many per year?
If so, which sources do you use?
5. Does your library currently supply copies (non-returnables) to overseas libraries?
Yes / No
If so, approximately how many per year?
If so, which organisations request from you?
6. Does your library currently supply loans (returnables) to overseas libraries?
Yes / No
If so, approximately how many per year?
If so, which organisations request from you?
7. Would your library request copies from overseas libraries if LADD was connected to WRS?
Yes / No
8. Would your library request loans from overseas libraries if LADD was connected to WRS?
Yes / No
9. Would your library supply copies to overseas libraries if LADD was connected to WRS?
Yes / No
10. Would your library supply loans to overseas libraries if LADD was connected to WRS?
Yes / No
11. Does your library policy allow the supply of loans to overseas libraries?
Yes / No
Any comments?
12. Would you be prepared to pay a fee (in addition to the loan/copy charge levied by the supplying library) for each request sent to WRS?
Yes / No
13. Any other comments?