Resolving Anticipated Barriers to Digital Access

An FDLP Forecast Study Focused Discussion

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Expected Outcome

- Determine options to *resolve* or *minimize* the anticipated barriers to accessing digital Federal Government information
Barriers to Digital Access Identified in Forecast Responses

- Access
- Digital Divide
- Technology
- Funding
- Preservation

Poll: How Great a Barrier?

- Access
  - Cataloging
  - Metadata
  - Indexing
  - Search interfaces
  - More
Poll: How Great a Barrier?

- **Digital Divide**
  - Access to a computer
  - Internet availability
  - Connection speed
  - Technical skill
  - More

Poll: How Great a Barrier?

- **Technology**
  - Changing formats/platforms
  - Connectivity issues
  - Software compatibility, need standardization
  - Proprietary formats
  - Limited or outdated equipment in libraries
  - ADA compliance
Poll: How Great a Barrier?

### Funding
- Agency publications become commercial products
- No budget for ADA compliant hardware/software
- Limited funds to keep technology current
- Expensive printing costs to libraries
- Lack of funds to digitize or manage digital collections
- Funding cuts could inhibit GPO/FDLP/FDsys

### Preservation
- Need to harvest and archive Web-based publications
- Need for an increased capability to harvest content
- Need for preservation plans
- Need for preservation standards
- More
Question 1

What can GPO do to mitigate each of these anticipated barriers to digital access?

- Access
- Digital Divide
- Technology
- Funding
- Preservation

Question 2

What can depository libraries do to mitigate each of these anticipated barriers to digital access?

- Access
- Digital Divide
- Technology
- Funding
- Preservation
Question 3

Describe potential partnership opportunities between FDLs and GPO that would mitigate or resolve anticipated barriers.

- Access
- Digital Divide
- Technology
- Funding
- Preservation

What’s Next

- Continue the discussion
- Determine and fine-tune digital access objectives
- Incorporate into strategic plans or the National Plan
- Actions you can take