Information System Media Education (ISM): Networking for a New Digital Reference Tool

Heike vom Orde

International Central Institute for Youth and Educational Television (IZI)
Bavarian Broadcasting Corporation, Munich, Germany
Heike.vomOrde@brnet.de

Abstract. The Information System Media Education (ISM) represents the most extensive digital reference tool on the topic of media education in the German-speaking area and a joint effort for the integration of existing reference databases, project information and catalogues of educational media on the Internet. The six databases of ISM dispose of a common database design which guarantees easy handling.

Objectives

The *Information System Media Education* (in German: *Informationssystem Medienpaedagogik ISM*) is the most extensive digital reference tool on the topic of media education in the German-speaking area.

The objectives of ISM are not only the integration of freely available information about scientific literature, projects and educational media resources via the internet but also the creation of a direct and complete access to the required subject-related information.

The *Information System Media Education* is a reference tool for librarians, information specialists, researchers, teachers in schools and universities or journalists who require relevant information in the fields of

- media education,
- media literacy,
- media research,
- media policy,
- children's, youth and educational television,
- Internet and computer in educational and vocational training,
- child and youth media protection.

Partners and collaborative efforts

ISM represents a joint effort for the integration of existing reference databases, project information and catalogues of educational media. The comprehensive aim of the project and the diverse information demands on behalf of our target groups require a network of partners who contribute their specific thematic emphases and expertise the field of media education:

- *Libraries and documentation centres*: content (references, media catalogues), database design and content management
- *Research institutions*: content (references, abstracts and information about research projects)

- *German Media Broadcasting Authorities*: content (project information on media education and research)
- *German Federal Agency for Civic Education*: marketing and distribution of *ISM* (CD-ROM version)

User interface and structure

The six databases dispose of a common database design which guarantees easy handling. There is no need for detailed knowledge about the structure of the individual database. The user may start a search request in all databases respectively in a selection of them. As requested the user is free to limit his retrieval on citations of literature, project information or media resources.

ISM offers three possible ways for searching: a simple search (free-text field), an expert search with keywords and a search via indexes. An online tutorial is available.

The ISM-databases

ISM is published on the internet (www.ism-info.de) and on CD-ROM.

So far only for the reference database of the IZI (www.izi-datenbank.de/en) an English version is available.

Reference Database DIPF:

The database of the *German Institute for International Educational Research (DIPF)* contains citations of German literature on media education and media research published since 1970 and it includes all relevant publication types (journal articles, books, research reports).

Reference Database IZI:

The *International Central Institute for Youth and Educational Television (IZI)* collects and evaluates international literature on children's, youth and educational television and publishes the most extensive bibliographical database on these topics. 60% of the citations are in English.

Reference Database LfM:

In this database the *Media Broadcasting Authority of North Rhine-Westphalia (LfM)* provides articles, books and position papers in German since 1990. Main subjects are media policy and media right, local broadcasting, broadcasting corporations and programmes, open channels, journalism and media research.

Project Database LfM:

The project database of *the Media Broadcasting Authority of North Rhine-Westphalia (LfM)* contains all the projects in media research of the German Media Broadcasting Authorities; the references are updated every year based on a current survey.

Media Catalogue MZH:

The Media Catalogue contains references to the audio-visual media which can be borrowed from the *Media Centres of Hesse* (e.g. films, videos, CD-ROMs, slide-shows).

Media Competence Starting Kit ecmc:

The Media Competence Starting Kit is part of the project *mekonet* (Media Competence Network NRW) financed by the Media Broadcasting Authority of North Rhine-Westphalia. The starting kit contains a systemised and commented selection of

introductory materials, books, web pages, projects and institutions related to the subjects of media competence and new media.

Links
ISM Homepage: http://www.ism-info.de/
IZI-Datenbank.de (English version): http://www.izi-datenbank.de/en/
IZI Homepage (English version): http://www.br-online.de/jugend/izi/english/home.htm/