

## **m.KoBSON: A step closer to the new technologies**

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**Abstract:** Started from the 2001, KoBSON (Serbian Library Consortium for Coordinated Acquisition) always try to develop and improve library practice in Serbia. Continually taking care about end-users needs, KoBSON implemented new technologies and made an global-level library. When we recognize that traditional library (bookshelf library) became old-fashion, we change acquisition policy, and instead of journals in print (hard copy) version, we put an accent on e-journals. With a new type of material, we made a new library - e-library, and meet our end-users need 24/7. We managed them access from work (through Academic network), and also from their home (remote access by EzProxy).

Last two years a lot of users started using smart phones. Almost all for-profit institutions (banks, news-media, etc.) made their service available through that new platform. The same happened also with scientific publishers. In order to meet this new technology we developed also m-KoBSON portal. The application include only our the most used service EleCas (Electronic Journals Linking Service). By this service users can (1) do a quick Journal title search or (2) access to the journal archive (if title is subscribed) or (3) see the Journal ranking (based on legislative establish by the Scientific Council). When access to journal archive, we provide direct access to publisher (Aggregator service) mobile platform if it's developed (for example JSTOR, Cambridge University Press, EBSCO etc.). We also made a user authentication (like via EzProxy). Whole project is made by our IT developer, and we proudly can say that this is the first m-library platform in Serbia.

KoBSON (Serbian Library Consortium for Coordinated Acquisition) established in 2001, was a new organizational model of libraries in Serbia. It's main goals were:

- Optimal supply of international scientific journals
- Migration from print to electronic journals
- Improvement of electronic information access

Our first web page appeared in 2001, and it's comprehended incorporate information about all scientific journals available in Serbia, in print version. There were also some main information about initial activity about consortia establishing. It's contained KoBSON trade colors which are, whit a little additions, held since today – our dark blue-green pages (Picture 1):



Picture 1

In that first years we purchase also journals in print version. Even increased number of journals we subscribed, that wasn't enough to content needs of all of our users. When electronic journals became available, we recognize possibility to get more, for users and for librarians:

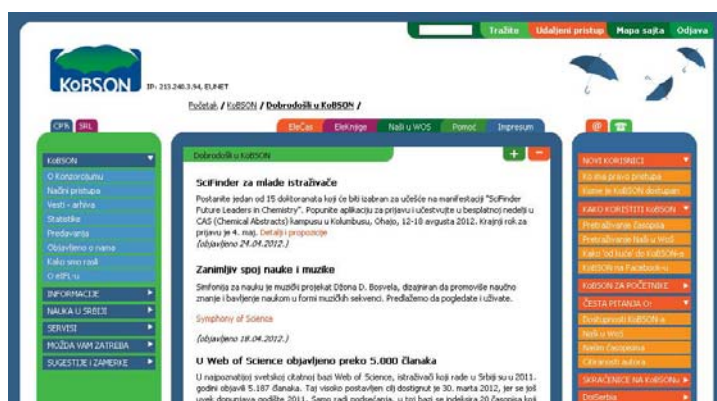
- 1) users:
  - access is provided for unlimited number of users simultaneously
  - user could use the service at any time and in any place
  - access is prompt and simple
- 2) librarians
  - they don't need shelves anymore
  - there is no need for physical arrangement of publications

In 2002 we became the member of EIFL ([www.eifl.net](http://www.eifl.net)) and though that international consortium we subscribed for the first electronic service – database EBSCO. As service was readily accepted by end users, and by librarians, we kept with our purchase policy increasing supply of electronic journals and databases, and decreasing supply of journals in print version. In 2012, we have subscribed 35 000 titles of e-journals, and more than 60.000 of e-books (through more than 20 services, either publisher or aggregators). Simultaneously we constantly worked on improvement of our web platform, so our first professionally designed web site was made in 2003 (in our well-known dark blue-green combination (Picture 2)).



Picture 2

On the other hand, we put an accent on continually educations and trainings, for both – end-users and librarians, either about our web page or new technologies in access to electronic resources. Soon, electronic access to scientific information became very popular in Serbian scientific community. Thereupon, in 2009 we set up a new, a lot improved web page, easy to navigate and more informative than the previous one (with more colors too (Picture 3)):

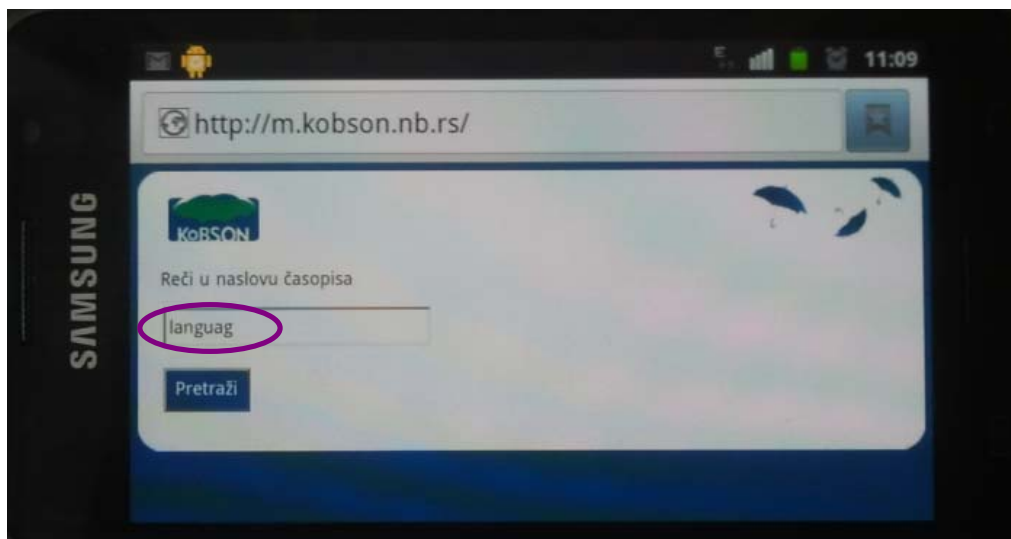


Picture 3

According to end-users needs, in 2004 we established a remote access through EzProxy which enabled access to KoBSON content even outside of office, after working hours (since access was restricted to Academic network, not to commercial providers). That made us "a library 24/7". According to our usage statistics, the most access via EzProxy is registered out of working hours, on nights, weekends and holidays – when libraries are closed.

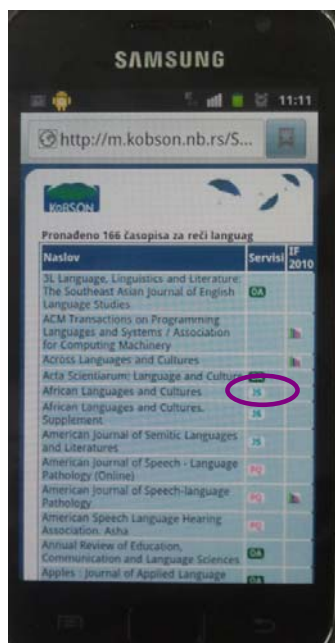
Nowadays, in time of smart phones, we enabled to our users even bigger comfort in work, establishing access to our portal via mobile phones. Whole project is developed by our IT developers, and it's made for our the most used service – EleČas (Electronic Journals Management System). Through this service users can:

- do a quick Journal title search (Picture 4)
- access to the journal archive (if title is subscribed)
- see the Journal ranking (based on legislative establish by the Serbian Scientific Council).

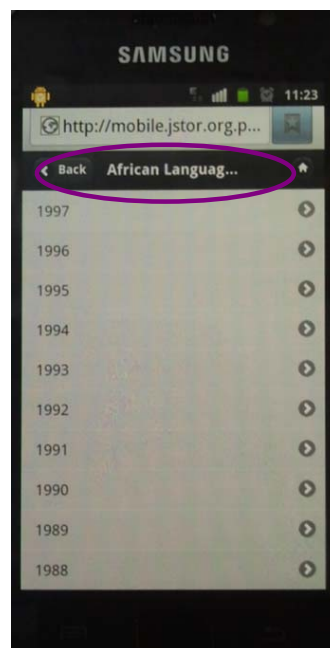


Picture 4

After initial search by journal title, user received a list of journals as a result (Picture 5). If he is interested in, there is a information if journal is subscribed, and through which service (Picture 5). When access to journal archive, we provide direct access to publisher (Aggregator service) mobile platform if it's developed (for example JSTOR, Cambridge University Press, EBSCO etc.) (Picture 6).

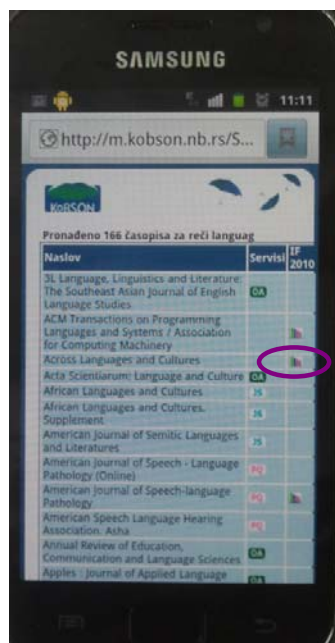


Picture 5



Picture 6

Besides that link, for every journal title which received Impact factor, there is a information about it's ranking based on legislative establish by the Scientific Council. On first page there is data for current year, but simultaneously, that is a link to new page with data about journal ranking for the past five years (2006-2010) (Picture 7 and 8).

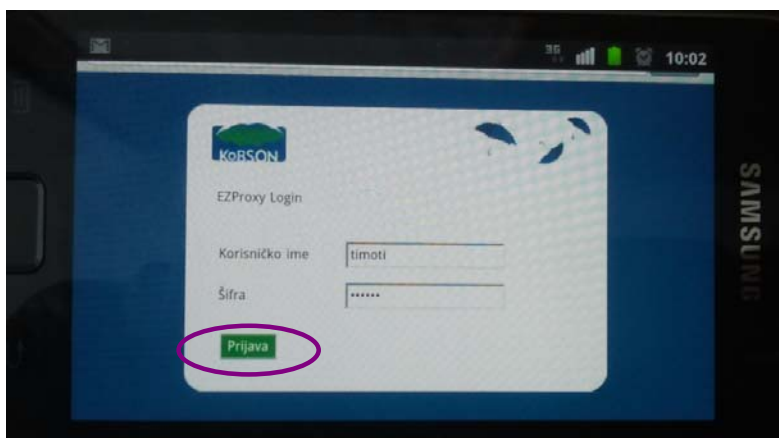


Picture 7



Picture 8

Access to services through mobile platform is also controlled by IP address and it demand user authentication, with the same login data as EzProxy login (Picture 9).



Picture 9

Continually following end-users needs, KoBSON portal is, from one traditional way of serving, developed into one global-level institution for acquisition and providing access to scientific information. Besides one modern and dynamic platform, we established the first library mobile platform in Serbia. Our next goal is to improve users more wide access to our content, not just from Serbia, than from abroad, implementing VPN (Virtual Private Network) service. When we'll achieved that goal, the Serbian researcher community will have KoBSON as a world wide service (1) which will be available from any kind of device (PC or mobile phone) and (2) from any spot in Serbia or in the World.

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