

**Croatia**

**RUĐER BOŠKOVIĆ INSTITUTE, ZAGREB, CROATIA:  
LIBRARY REPORT**

by

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Several Croatian scientific institutions are involved in aquatic research: the Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries, Split (with the Department in Dubrovnik), the Ruđer Bošković Institute, the Faculty of Science, the Department of Geophysics and the Hydrographic Institute of the Republic of Croatia. Both the libraries of the Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries and the Ruđer Bošković Institute are Euraslic members. These two libraries work together on a common Project CNS (The Croatian Natural Sciences Information System) with the purpose of creating a virtual library with all the relevant data accessible through the network.

The Ruđer Bošković Institute has two Departments for Marine Research: Center for Marine and Environmental Research in Zagreb and Center for Marine Research in Rovinj. The library in Rovinj maintains a large collection of books and journals dealing with marine science.

The library of the Ruđer Bošković Institute has been established in 1950. It is the biggest scientific library in the Republic of Croatia. Our collections cover the fields of physics, mathematics, electrical engineering, chemistry, biology, medicine, environmental and marine science. The library holds about 30,000 books, and 500 theses. The number of the current periodicals is 400, and the total number of the titles is 920. Our users are researchers, engineers, scholars and students.

The library is involved in several projects. The Croatian Natural Sciences Information System (<http://priroda.irb.hr>) has started in 1995 and is co-ordinated by the Institute Ruđer Bošković Library. The purpose of the project is to create an union online catalogue in the field of science and make the databases accessible through the network. At the moment 23 libraries are involved in the project, among them the library of the Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries-Split.

The Ruđer Bošković Institute Library is also included in the CARNet information research projects (Croatian Academic Research Network) The projects are developing and supporting the network and the information infrastructure of the academic and scientific research institution. The CARNet has been supporting several projects. The RBI Library carries out the project entitled: 'Center for Online Databases CARNet'. (<http://nippur.irb.hr/ovid/>) . The project has began in 1995 and was designed with the aim of becoming the first national service, which would provide a free network access to the commercial databases to users. The Online Database Center is hosted and managed by the IRB Library, and has grown to be a bibliographic service for the entire academic community of the country. The following Databases are available at the moment: Current Contents, Medline, Agricola, Inspec, Eric, Core Biomedical Collection, Evidence-Based Medicine Review.

The RBI Library also conducts the project "Croatian Scientific Bibliography" (<http://bib.irb.hr>), created with the purpose of collecting all the scientific works produced in Croatia, as the result of the work on the projects of the Ministry of Science and Technology

In 1999 the RBI Library has become a Croatian regional center for the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP)

One of our priorities is maintenance of the library site (<http://library.irb.hr>). We have been present on the world wide web since 1994. All the librarians are involved in the creating and maintaining of web pages. We try to make our pages (we offer over 1,500 pages on our Web site) as informative as possible. The pages contain various information about library, its services and activities, online catalogues, electronic archives etc. All pages are both in Croatian and English language. Some of the most important library pages are as follows:

**Online catalogues** (<http://nippur.irb.hr/eng/catalogs.html>) - library online catalogues of books and periodicals as well as union catalogues. There is also a 'List of current periodicals' (<http://nippur.irb.hr/eng/lista.html>) with direct links to home page of each journal.

**Science on Internet** (<http://nippur.irb.hr/hrv/resources.html#zni>)- divided into subfields and covering all the subjects of science including oceanography, oceanology and marine science.

**Library and Information Sciences** (<http://nippur.irb.hr/eng/knjiznicarstvo.html>), Library Conferences, Electronic library journals, Libraries in Croatia, Libraries around the World etc., are very useful and informative pages for librarians.

A full-text of the Institute's Annual Report could also be found on the Web (<http://nippur.irb.hr/izvjestaj/>) with the description of the research programs in the field of marine science.

We hope to develop all our services in the near future, start some new, as well as improve co-operation with our colleagues by becoming a more active member in EURASLIC.

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