



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF INFORMATION

Putting Marrakesh Into Practice

Fulfilling the Treaty's Promise

Victoria Owen

Information Policy Scholar-Practitioner

Faculty of Information - University of Toronto

Accessibility Symposium - York University Libraries – January 29, 2019



Marrakesh Treaty 2013

To Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled



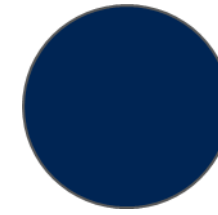
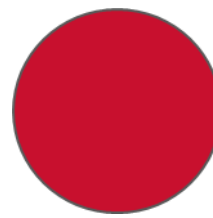
- First users' rights IP treaty
- Process of negotiating an international treaty involved, WIPO member states, diplomats, legislators, NGOs, driven by The World Blind Union, IFLA, EIFL, LCA,...
- After the MT, legislators, beneficiaries, and librarians need to ensure wide adoption of the MT to live up to its promise of access to works across borders WBU Legislation enables the implementation of the MT provisions
- 49 countries ratified or acceded to the MT as of January 28, 2019¹ (Thailand)
- [1. https://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/ShowResults.jsp?treaty_id=843](https://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/ShowResults.jsp?treaty_id=843)

Background with the Treaty

- Director of Library Service, CNIB Library for the Blind
- World Blind Union on required legislative provisions to allow international access.
- our contributions in relation to the treaty and your experience with implementation



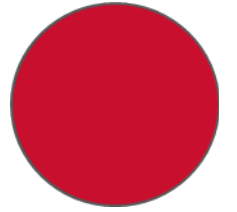
Libraries are Essential



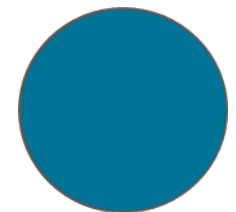
- For libraries and librarians:
 - What happens now?
- How does the treaty get implemented on the ground level?
 - What are the first steps?
- As librarians, how do our users benefit from the treaty?
 - Test Case – April 2018 in Kyrgyzstan
 - The first international transfer of accessible books in Kyrgyzstan under the Marrakesh Treaty took place during the seminar.
 - Books were from the UofT library system
 - SP's ACE service
 - Timeline – 2 weeks – and high level intervention



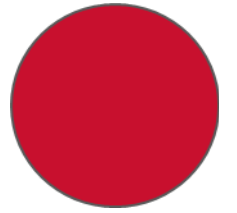
Testing the Exchange Process



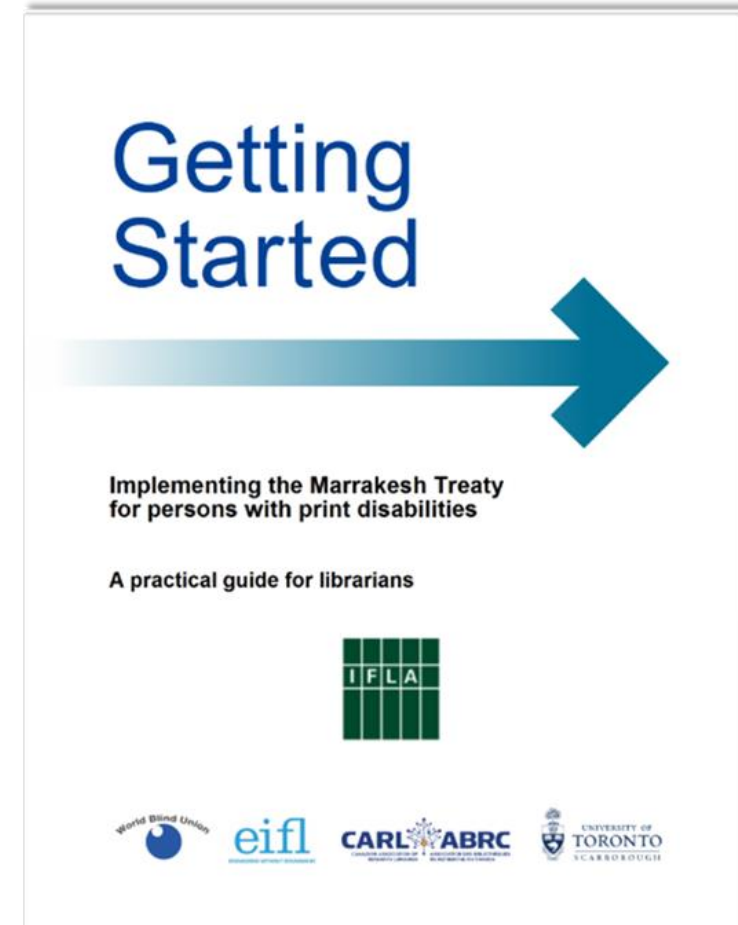
- The Role for Libraries
 - Two MT countries
 - Locate the texts
 - Digitize
 - Upload / process – depending on where the accessible format copies are made
 - In the Kyrgyzstan example - DAISY and Braille formats
-
- SP Leadership
 - Already have a successful international exchange
 - Confirm standard procedures
 - Actively seek partners and agree on protocols



Getting Started

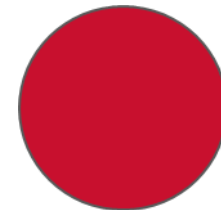
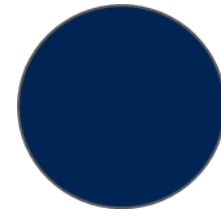


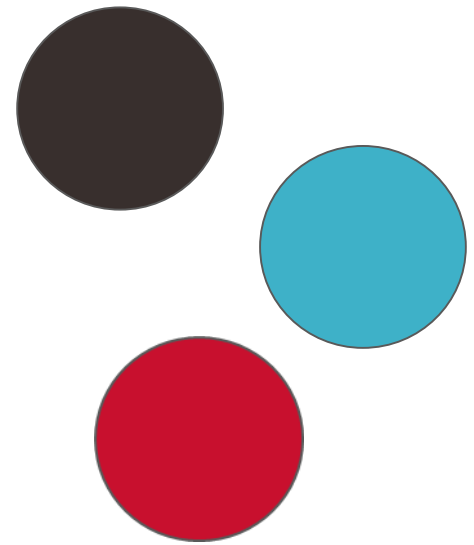
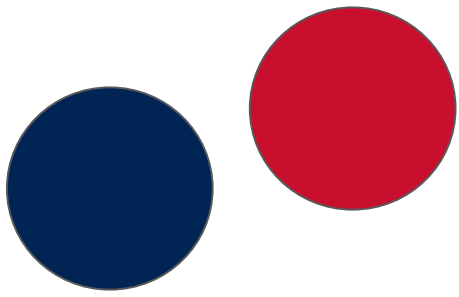
- **Getting Started for Canadians** – a hands-on, practical guide for library staff
- Sets out the basics of MT in plain language
- How library staff go about providing access
- Sharing mechanisms
- Record keeping
- Accessible book services that exist
- Digital locks



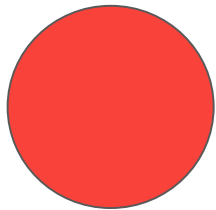
Using the Treaty

- Experiences so far?
- As you expected – Easier? Harder?
- Barriers in the legislation that interfere with access?
- Capturing the data on the process
 - Each step
 - Locate the barriers
 - Quantify the impediments
 - Report them centrally





Thank you.



Question?
Observations?

