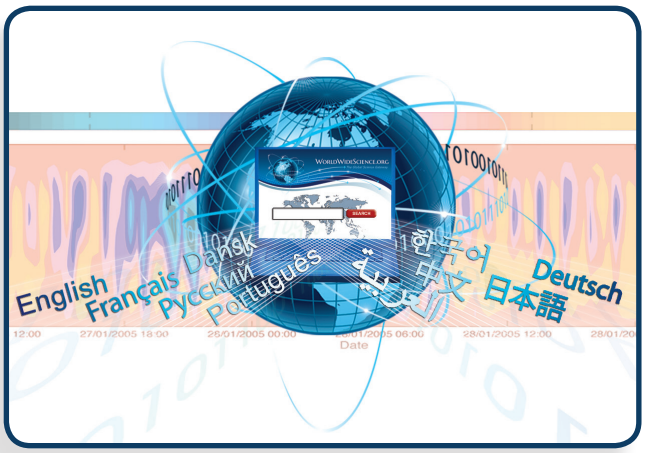
WorldWideScience.org

The Global Science Gateway

What Is WorldWideScience.org?

A federation of national science portals where research results are made available by participating nations, providing encompassing coverage of global science and research results across language barriers.

How does WorldWideScience.org work?



Using existing federated search and complex translations technologies, WorldWideScience.org allows the user to search multiple scientific sources around the world with a single query. When the user enters a query in his/her preferred language in the search box, the query is translated and sent to every individual database or portal searched by WorldWideScience.org. Results are returned in relevance-ranked order and can be translated into the user's preferred language.

The user can review this results list and travel to the host site of a particular result for more detailed information such as the bibliographic citation, abstract, and in many cases, the full text of the document. Ten languages are currently supported: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish. Native speakers of these languages now have unprecedented access to English content. Multilingual translations are powered by Microsoft® Translator.

What type of information is available?

Currently, approximately 100 databases and portals from over 70 countries are searchable through WorldWideScience.org. Users get the most current findings in fields such as energy, medicine, agriculture, environment, and basic sciences, including access to scientific and numeric data sources. Much of the information accessed via this gateway is freely available and open domain.

What are the benefits of WorldWideScience.org?

WorldWideScience.org offers key advantages when compared to existing crawler-based search engines. For instance, since searches occur in real time, the results are as current as the individual databases and portals themselves. Additionally, WorldWideScience.org does not place any requirements or burdens on owners of the individual data sources, other than handling increased traffic. Much-needed access is available to both prominent as well as smaller, less well-known sources of highly valuable science information. Citizens and scientists in all nations … indeed anyone interested in science, can benefit from WorldWideScience.org. This international collaboration speeds access to scientific knowledge and revolutionary advances in science.

WorldWideScience.org is hosted by the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Scientific and Technical Information, which acts as the Operating Agent on behalf of the WorldWideScience Alliance. WorldWideScience.org translations are powered by Microsoft® Translator. The International Council for Scientific and Technical Information is a primary sponsor in the WorldWideScience Alliance.

For more information about this partnership, visit worldwidescience.org or contact Lorrie Johnson at JohnsonL@osti.gov.

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