Some ideas from developing countries for GDML
Overview

• Most universities in developing countries, even research universities, don’t subscribe to all the main mathematical journals.

• Article access is achieved through:
  1. Personal contacts,
  2. Library access of researchers Alma Mater.
  3. Library agreements.

• Arxiv has become a very mainstream tool.

• Internet access and speed, has become better in most places. Speed of downloading does not seem a significant obstacle, contrary to what was happening some years ago.
Some initiatives in Colombia to access mathematical literature.

- Library agreements for sharing journal articles.
- Joint access to MathScinet from many small universities.
Challenge we are talking about.

The “Gold Open Standard” initiative has been discussed. Changing the model from a “pay-to-read” to a “pay to publish” model can have complicated consequences for scientists in Colombia and the developing world who do not, in general, belong to institutions with large number of subscriptions to journals.
Some quotes.

“It would be great to have access to information at more basic levels than what is found in Arxiv. For example, to support a graduate student in Cambodia or Honduras.

I have not explored what is available but what I have seen is at the level of research that a student (and most teachers) in many developing countries could not read. Something that would be of special interest at the level of developing countries would be to have documents edited by experts on how one enters some areas of research.”
A couple more replies.

• “This is a very interesting initiative. It should be open access. One thing to explore is to map mathematical knowledge, understanding for example how many written articles are in the interface of two subfields.”

• “It would be important to discuss first the balance between novelty and soundness, between the number of publications and their quality, between open source and funding for this purpose.”