

Preface

The first evaluation campaign of the Cross-Language Evaluation Forum (CLEF) for European languages was held from January to September 2000. The campaign culminated in a two-day workshop in Lisbon, Portugal, 22–23 September, immediately following the fourth European Conference on Digital Libraries (ECDL 2000). The first day of the workshop was open to anyone interested in the area of Cross-Language Information Retrieval (CLIR) and addressed the topic of CLIR system evaluation. The goal was to identify the actual contribution of evaluation to system development and to determine what could be done in the future to stimulate progress. The second day was restricted to participants in the CLEF 2000 evaluation campaign and to their experiments. This volume constitutes the proceedings of the workshop and provides a record of the campaign.

CLEF is currently an activity of the DELOS Network of Excellence for Digital Libraries, funded by the EC Information Society Technologies to further research in digital library technologies. The activity is organized in collaboration with the US National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). The support of DELOS and NIST in the running of the evaluation campaign is gratefully acknowledged.

I should also like to thank the other members of the Workshop Steering Committee for their assistance in the organization of this event.

April 2001

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