

Discontinuation FAQs

Updated June 13, 2023

Why is the World Bank eLibrary being discontinued?

World Bank Group Publications is committed to open access and making it as easy as possible to discover, use, and share our publications. We have taken a business decision to focus on improving the systems and tools that make our Open Access solutions better for all users. This decision means that we will retire our subscription platform.

SUBSCRIPTION QUESTIONS FOR ADMINISTRATORS

Our subscription is ending before June 2024. Can we renew for a partial term until June 30, 2024?

Yes, partial renewals are acceptable, but all renewal orders must be placed by **June 30, 2023**. After that date, no renewals will be accepted.

Do we need to do anything before our subscription expires?

No action is required; however, administrators may wish to download usage statistics or other information in their accounts before their subscription expires. Usage statistics will remain on the platform until it is shut down next June.

What will happen to our content access after our subscription expires?

Once your subscription expires, your institution's IP addresses will be deactivated, and you will no longer have access to publications or data on the platform. Search, browse, and other portions of the site will remain open on the site until **June 30, 2024**.

Any content downloaded during your subscription period may remain in your possession and be used in perpetuity in accordance with the [eLibrary Terms and Conditions](#).

Can we be refunded for our remaining subscription term?

As all subscribers will continue to receive full service and access through the end of their current term, refunds will not be made.

ACCOUNT QUESTIONS

I am a World Bank eLibrary user. Do I need to do anything?

No, you do not need to do anything. Once the eLibrary platform is shut down, your account and its data

will be deleted. Should you wish to delete your account manually, you can do so from your Profile page under Permissions.

[What will happen to my World Bank eLibrary/CONNECT account when the site is discontinued?](#)

All World Bank eLibrary accounts are hosted on [CONNECT](#), a single sign-on service. CONNECT allows users to use the same credentials to access several other scholarly databases hosted on the same platform.

Any CONNECT personal or administrative account that is **only** associated with the World Bank eLibrary will be deleted, along with its data, when the site is discontinued on June 30, 2024. The routine (offline) backup of the data will be retained for up to 180 days, after which it will also be deleted. The backup data will not be available to subscribers.

Once the platform is discontinued, World Bank eLibrary accounts will be deleted from CONNECT accounts that are associated with multiple databases. Accounts for all active databases will remain in CONNECT and will retain only the data associated with active databases. You can manage your CONNECT account at any time in accordance with the [CONNECT Terms of Use](#).

[I am an Institutional Administrator. How long can I access my World Bank eLibrary Administrator account?](#)

All Administrator accounts will remain accessible until the site closes on **June 30, 2024**. This means that Administrators will be able to access MARC Records, KBART files and download their usage statistics until that date.

After June 30, 2024, your eLibrary account will be deleted along with all associated data. Administrators are encouraged to download their eLibrary usage statistics before the platform is shut down.

[I am a Librarian. Do I need to send my patrons any instructions?](#)

This depends on your library's policy regarding discontinued resources. If you are concerned about patrons' personal data, you may advise them that all accounts will be closed and deleted after June 30, 2024. The World Bank eLibrary team will notify all active account holders, whether individual or administrators, about the forthcoming closure.

[Will COUNTER reports be available after the eLibrary is closed down?](#)

No, COUNTER reports will not be available for the platform after June 30, 2024. Until this date, institutional administrators will be able to access and download their COUNTER reports for the previous 36 months.

CONTENT QUESTIONS

Will links and DOIs from the eLibrary be redirected, and if so, to where?

After June 30, 2024, all content links and DOIs will be redirected to either the World Bank Open Knowledge Repository or the World Bank Documents and Reports database.

Is there a way to do a bulk download of all content in the eLibrary?

Unfortunately, the eLibrary platform does not offer bulk downloading or an API for downloading content.

Can we upload eLibrary content to our institutional repositories and continue to use it after June 30, 2024?

Yes! Any content downloaded may be used in perpetuity in accordance with the World Bank eLibrary [Terms and Conditions](#).

Once the eLibrary is discontinued, where can I find content that was in the eLibrary?

All World Bank books, reports, working papers, and “Other research” **since the 1990s** are freely available in [World Bank Documents and Reports](#); those released after 2000 are also freely available in the [World Bank Open Knowledge Repository](#) (OKR). In addition, all journal articles published by the World Bank are available in the OKR after the publisher’s embargo. All the World Development Indicators in the eLibrary are available on the [World Bank Open Data](#) portal.

Most World Bank Publications (books) are also available for purchase through eBook providers including Amazon, ProQuest, EBSCO, and Apple Books.

Will the World Bank offer MARC records for its publications after June 30, 2024?

We are exploring ways to continue offering MARC records and other services to optimize discovery in library systems. Stay tuned for more updates.

CONTACTS

Whom can I contact with any questions about the eLibrary?

Should you need any assistance with the World Bank eLibrary, please contact World Bank Group Publications Customer Service at onlineresources@worldbank.org. For copyright-related questions, contact pubrights@worldbank.org, and for data questions, please contact data@worldbank.org.