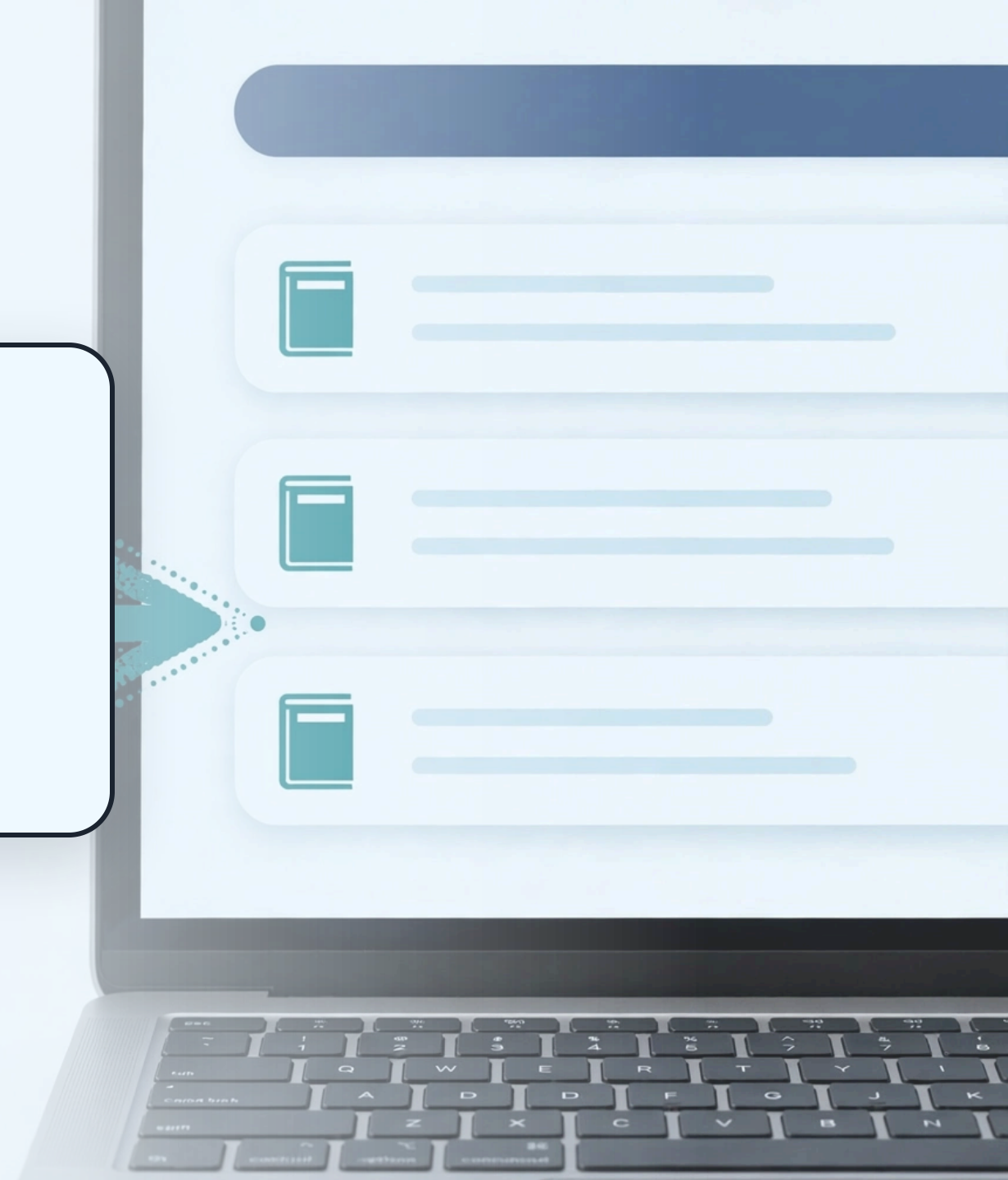
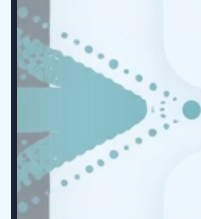


Retrospective Conversion (ReCON)



Foundation of **library automation**

DEFINITION

Card → machine MARC

Human-readable → searchable OPAC



1 Convert legacy cards

2 Make it MARC21

3 Enable OPAC search

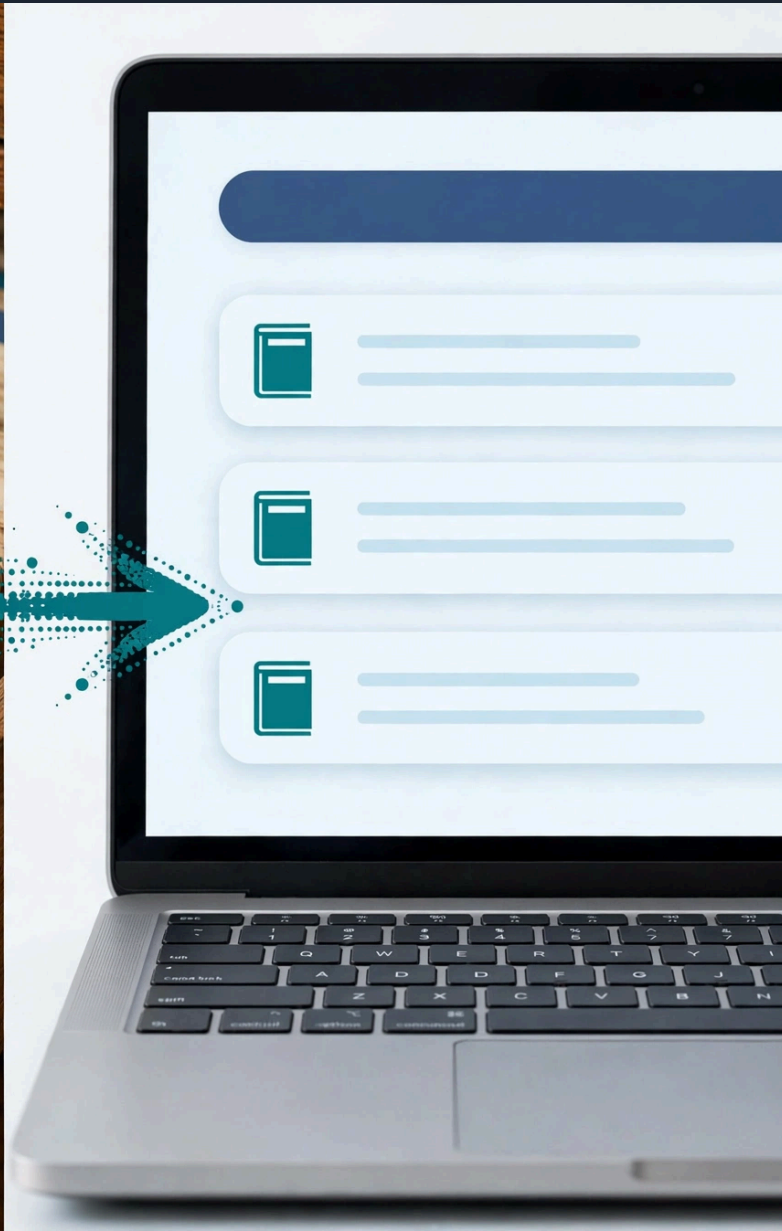
1965
MARC born

80% faster
Copy saves time

90% done
In India

Vintage cards → Searchable OPAC

FIXED IMAGE • HUGE



BEFORE

**Wooden drawers •
One access**

↓ SAME BOOK ↓

AFTER

**24/7 OPAC • 10+
searchable fields**

KEY: Not new info — new FINDING

What are we trying to **achieve**?

1

Transform

Paper → MARC database

2

Discover

Keyword • Author • ISBN search

3

Standardize

RDA + MARC21 uniform

4

Share

Join IndCat • WorldCat

5

Preserve

Cards fade — MARC doesn't

!

Why not PDF?

PDF not field searchable

Why it matters — huge wins



Save time

15 min → 2 min per record



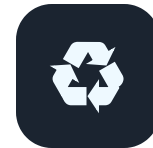
Precision search

Fielded • Boolean • Filters



24/7 access

Hostel • Home • Anywhere



One record, many uses

No duplication • Auto reports

1 → 10+

Access points

80% ↑

Faster cataloguing

24/7

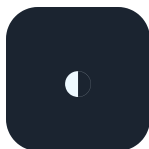
OPAC live

How to convert? 3 techniques



Manual entry

Slow • Accurate • Small sets



OCR + cleanup

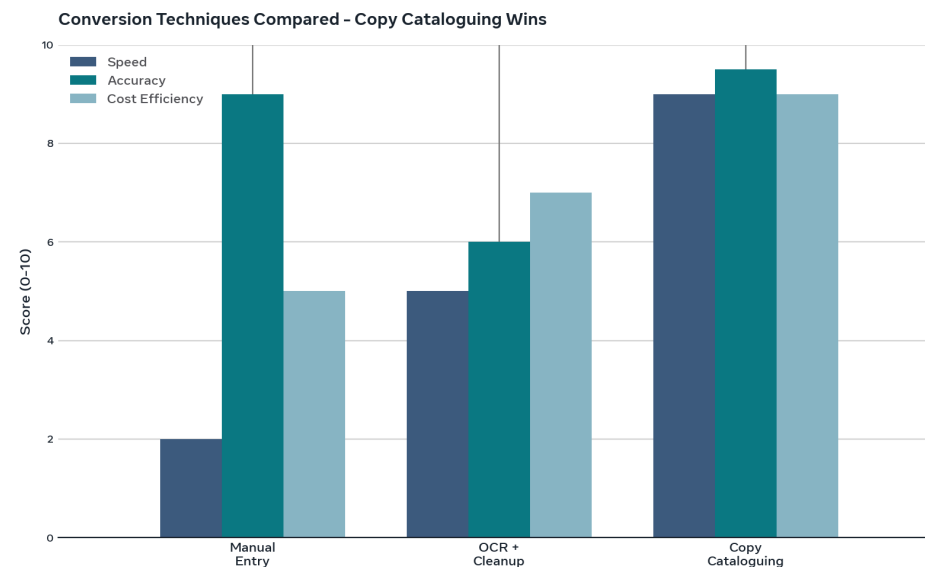
Scan → Edit • 75% raw



Copy cataloguing

Search → Download • FAST

BEST: Copy first — 80% time saved



9/10
Copy speed

9.5/10
Accuracy

Lowest
Cost

Which model? Choose fast

◆ In-House

Full control

<10k records

Learn MARC

▲ Outsourced

50k+ in weeks

Expert QC

Fast deadline

★ Hybrid – BEST

Bulk = outsource

Rare = in-house

Students practice 20 cards

Keep 50 cards for audit

BUDGET

<1L = in-house

SIZE

>50k = outsource

TIME

<3mo = outsource

TYPE

Rare = in-house

ReCON workflow – 6 steps

SELECT → SEARCH → ENTER → VERIFY → USE

1

Select

Prioritize A-Z or high-demand

2

Check

Read card — ISBN ok?

3

Search GOLD

LOC / IndCat first

4

Import

Download MARC + 852

5

Verify

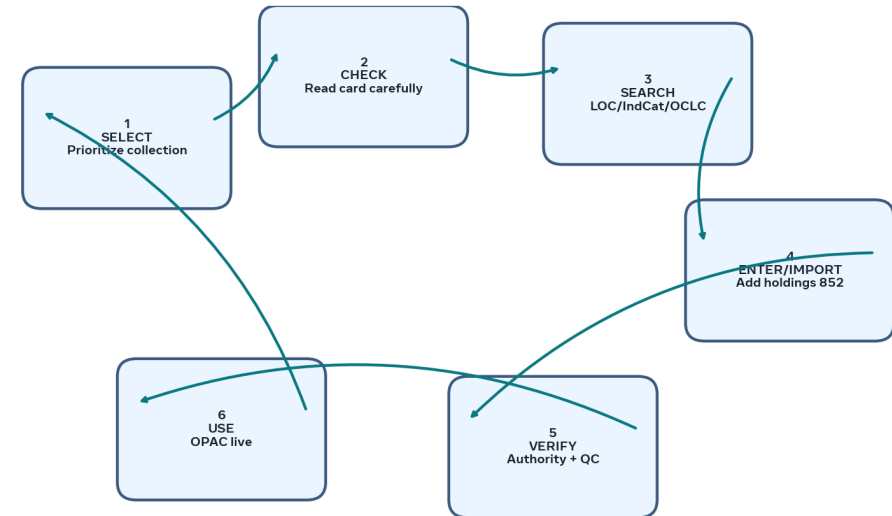
Authority • Duplicate check

6

Use

OPAC live • Circ on

The 6-Step ReCON Workflow - Search BEFORE Typing



2 min copy vs 15 min manual

10% audit weekly

Same book, **two languages**

Wings of Fire — Kalam

CARD — Human

Acc 9254

Author: Kalam, A.P.J.
Title: Wings of Fire
Imprint: Hyd 1999
Subj: Scientists — Bio

MARC21 — Machine

Koha

020 |a 9788173711466
100 |a Kalam, A.P.J.
245 |a **Wings of Fire**
260 |a Hyderabad : Uni Press 1999
650 |a Scientists — India
UD Main 9254

→ **MARC = machine labels** →

Human eye reads

1 access only

Tags = labels

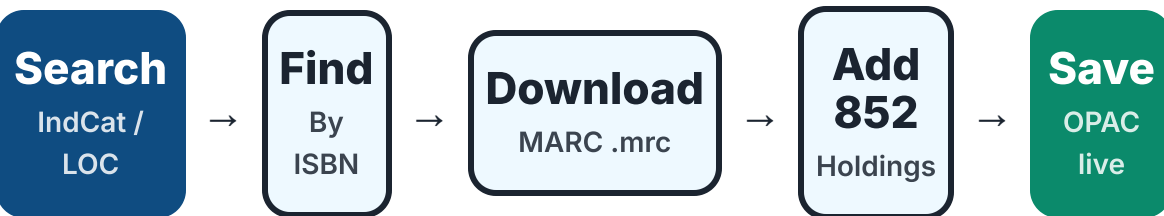
|a |b |c subfields

852 = your copy

Golden rule: Search first

DON'T RETYPE — COPY!

2-MINUTE FLOW



LOC

Free • English best

IndCat

Free • 2Cr+ India

WorldCat

500M+ • Subscription

Z39.50

Search inside Koha

WHY COPY WINS

- 80% time saved
- ✓ No typos • Verified
- ★ RDA • MARC21 ready

Try now: Take ISBN → Search loc.gov/marc → IndCat → Compare 245 / 100 fields. Which better Hindi headings?

Quality control & pitfalls



Wrong edition in 245
2nd vs 3rd — outdated



ISBN typo in 020
1 digit off = zero results



Subject mismatch
Breaks faceting



Duplicate record
Circulation confusion

1 typo = unfindable in OPAC

QC CHECKLIST — ASK BEFORE SAVE

- ☒ ISBN match? 020 ok
- ☒ Edition correct? 250
- ☒ Authority? 100 / 700
- ☒ Duplicate check?
- ☒ 852 holdings present?

MarcEdit

Validate batch

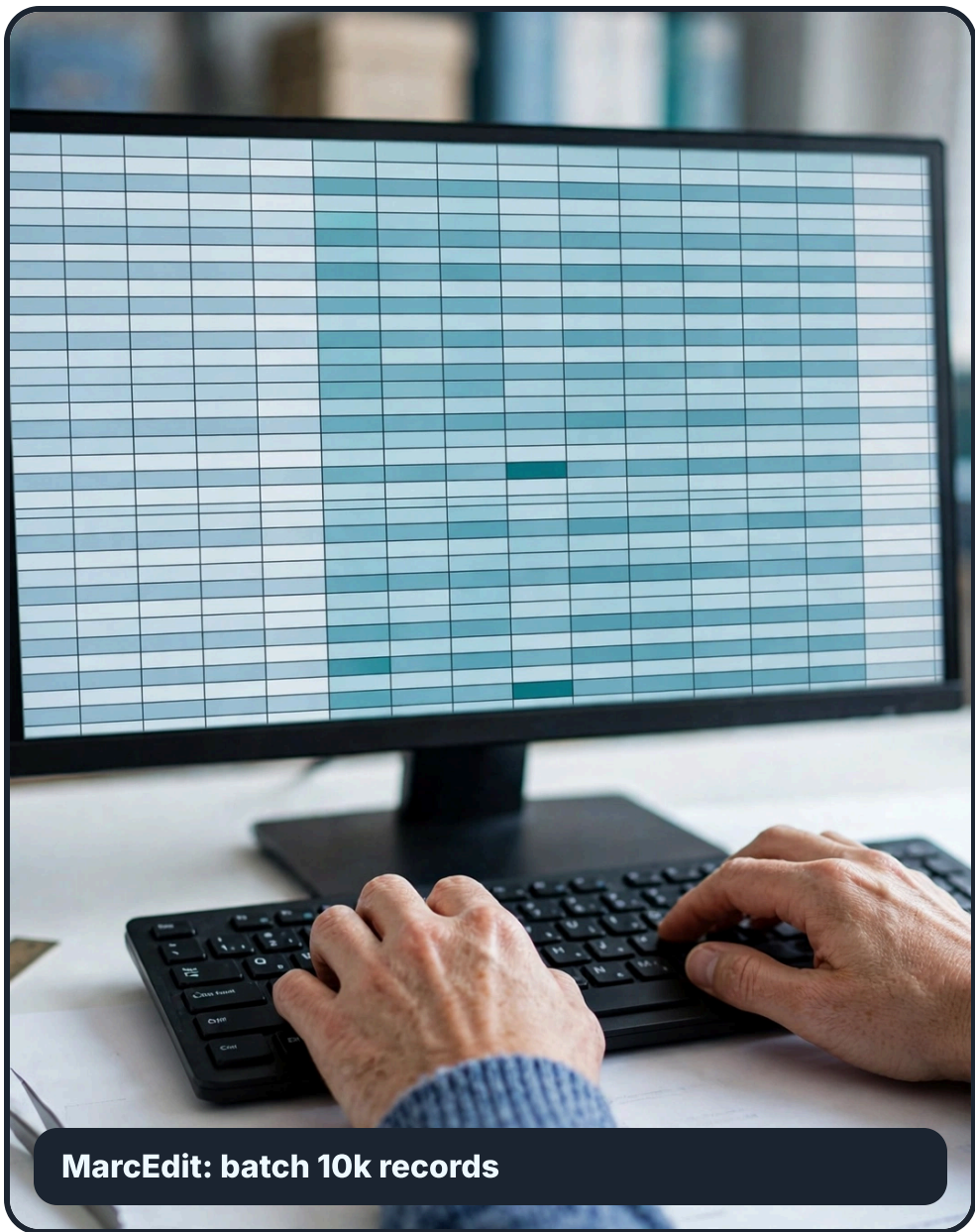
Koha

Dupe check

OpenRefine

Clean Excel

Habit: Search → Download → Verify → Save



MarcEdit: batch 10k records

Excel

→

MarcEdit

→

Koha

→

OPAC

Tools of **trade**

E

MarcEdit

Free • Batch edit 10k • Validate

MUST LEARN

R

OpenRefine

Clean messy Excel first

CLEANUP

K

Koha ILS

Import • Z39.50 • 852

IMPORT

Z

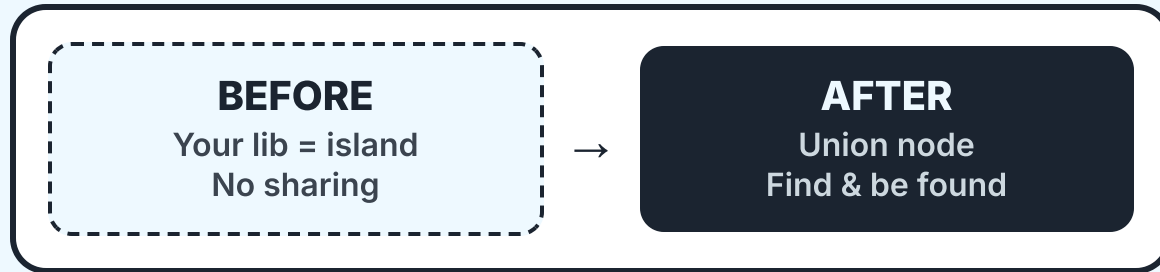
Z39.50 / SRU

Search LOC • IndCat free

COPY

Live demo: 5 Excel rows → Refine cluster → MarcEdit build → Koha import. No hand typing.

Island → global web



INDIA – INFLIBNET
2Cr+ records
IndCat • NAAC ready

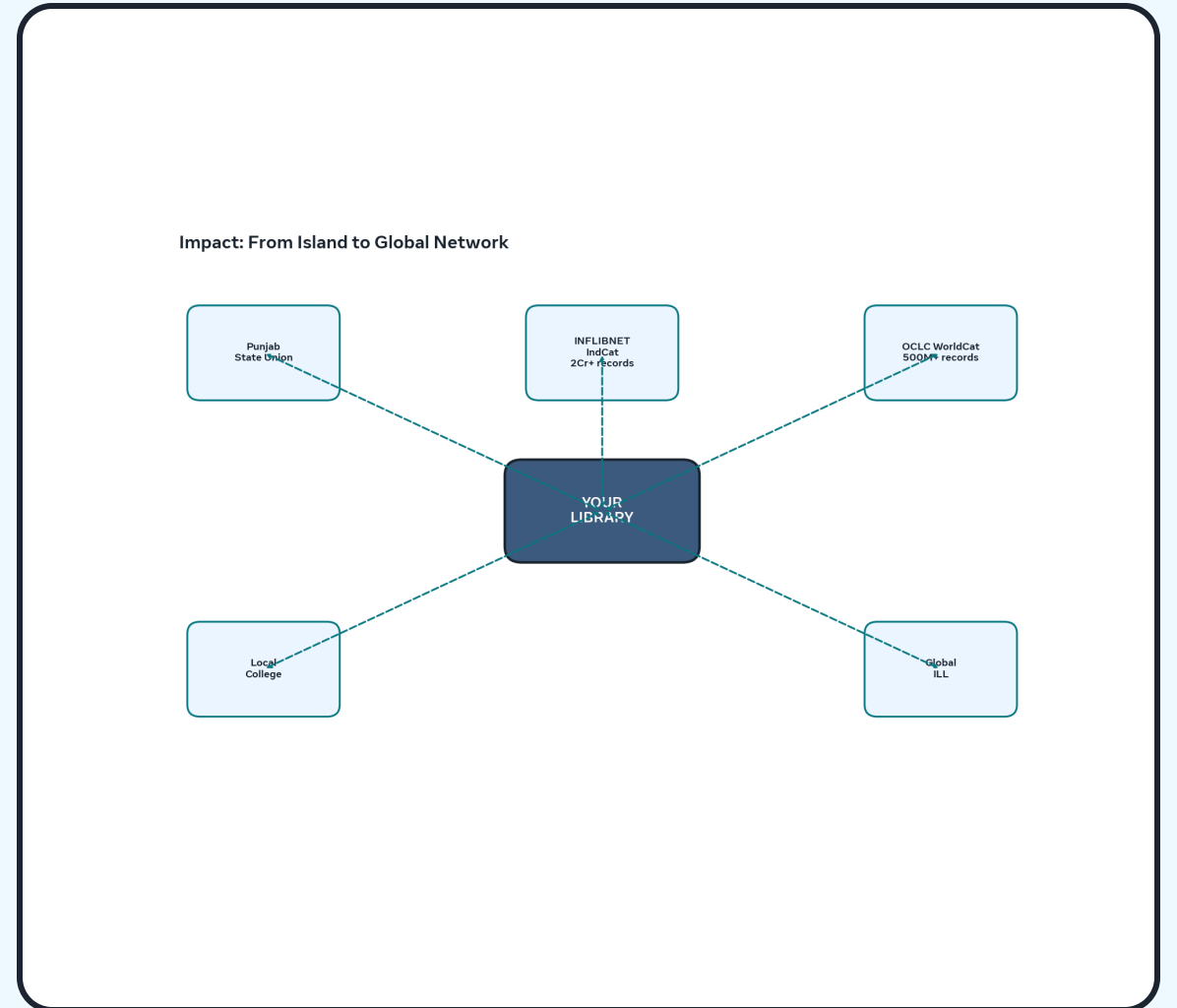
GLOBAL – OCLC
500M+
WorldCat visibility

ILL 2 days not 2 weeks

NAAC / NIRF ready

Borrow what you lack

Students contribute live



LOCAL • — • STATE — NATIONAL — GLOBAL

Your turn: **takeaways**

1 No MARC = no OPAC

2 Card → 10x searchable

3 Accuracy > speed always

4 Copy = smart work

5 Island → global sharing

 LOC MARC FAQ • INFLIBNET Manual • Koha Ch.6



CLASSROOM ACTIVITY • 30 MIN

TRY IT NOW – 4 STEPS

- 1** Take 5 sample cards
- 2** Search IndCat / LOC by ISBN
- 3** Download MARC + add 852
- 4** Verify & show 1 error caught

Exit ticket: Show MARC + why copy vs manual?