



## **Video transcript**

### **Embedding accessibility into digital collections**

So for one of our recent products, Africa and the new imperialism, we partnered with a company called HUMAP to create an interactive map of the continent that showed the shifting political landscape from 1870 to 1915. However, due to a large number of geographical and political regions that we wanted to show on this map, it was difficult to depict the changing landscape in an accessible way.

So the regions were merging into each other for users with visual impairments or colour vision deficiency also known as colour blindness. We reviewed accessibility guidelines and trialled several different colour variations. We later turned to trialling patterns as well. So after various trials and rigorous testing, our final map included patterns to allow for better differentiation between different areas of the map.

So you don't need to just rely on colour. We used a colourblind friendly contrasting blue and orange colour palette. These two colours were used to denote the two different political parties. We used outlines to provide contrast between different areas and we also implemented a larger key so that the patterns were displayed clearly.

The key is also open by default to ensure that it's not hidden from users and they can see it right from the get-go. So on the next slide I have a short demo of the map in action. So here you can see that the key is open by default and it's easily accessible any time. You can zoom in and navigate the map and click the sections of the map for more information.

You can do this with keyboard or a mouse. When viewing a different point in the timeline, the key then opens by default again.