

IFLA ANNUAL REPORT 2017



International
Federation of
Library
Associations and Institutions

ifla.org

IFLA
ANNUAL
REPORT **2017**



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IFLA – the Global Voice of the Library and Information Profession

IFLA puts libraries on the global stage and helps them develop. We are the global voice and the largest brains trust of the library and information profession, with an active network of nearly 1,300 Members – leading institutions and players in the library field – in over 130 countries around the world, and well-established relations with the United Nations and other international organisations. Together with our Members we work to set the professional agenda and develop standards for provision of library services, to improve access to information and cultural heritage resources, and to advocate for the place of libraries at the heart of local and global policies.

Aims

IFLA is an independent, international, non-governmental, not-for-profit organisation. Our aims are to:

Promote high standards of provision and delivery of library and information services

Encourage widespread understanding of the value of good library & information services

Represent the interests of our members throughout the world.

Core Values

In pursuing these aims IFLA embraces the following four core values:

1. The endorsement of the principles of freedom of access to information, ideas and works of imagination and freedom of expression embodied in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
2. The belief that people, communities and organisations need universal and equitable access to information, ideas and works of imagination for their social, educational, cultural, democratic and economic well-being
3. The conviction that delivery of high quality library and information services helps guarantee that access
4. The commitment to enable all Members of the Federation to engage in, and benefit from, its activities without regard to citizenship, disability, ethnic origin, gender, geographical location, language, political philosophy, race or religion

Donna Scheeder

President 2015-2017



The presidential agenda for 2017 focused on three major areas: delivering the call to action, advocating for the critical role of libraries in achieving the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and working to launch a process to unite the library field with a global vision.

As your President in 2017, I continued to urge all librarians to build their change agendas and the response to this call to action was magnificent. Speaking at national and regional meetings all over the world allowed me to see the amazing work underway to transform libraries, and society. I saw first-hand the importance of strong library associations, their dedication to raising the profile of libraries in their countries, and their efforts to help their members develop new skills and sharpen old ones.

Meetings with Ministers and other decision-makers allowed me to bring the message that libraries are a critical part of the infrastructure that will help them to achieve their national goals and advocate for libraries as strong partners to achieve the SDGs.

The second President's Meeting brought all IFLA's leadership together and marked the kick-off of something momentous for the library field, the IFLA Global Vision Project. It confirmed my conviction that we are all IFLA and that together we are a strong and powerful force.

What IFLA accomplished in 2017 is clear evidence of what can happen when all of IFLA is engaged to create a positive future for the library field.

We have charted a course for long term success!

Relations with Other Bodies

We have established good working relations with a variety of other bodies with similar interests, providing an opportunity for a regular exchange of information and views on issues of mutual concern. We have formal associate relations with UNESCO, observer status with the United Nations, associate status with the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) and observer status with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the International Organisation for Standardization (ISO). We have observer status with the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

In turn, we have offered consultative status to a number of non-governmental organisations operating in related fields, including the International Publishers Association (IPA). We are also members of the International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS).

IFLA's Strategic Programmes

IFLA's Strategic Programmes enable the continuation of our advocacy and development goals in areas such as access to digital content, copyright limitations and exceptions, freedom of access to information, libraries and development, preservation and conservation, and library standards.

Regional Activities, Language Centres and Headquarters

Three regional offices in South Africa, Singapore, and Argentina work in coordination with regional sections representing Africa, Asia and Oceania, and Latin America and the Caribbean. IFLA has four Language Centres whose role is to contribute to more effective communication within the relevant language communities (Arabic, Chinese, French and Russian) and with the IFLA bodies involved. IFLA's Headquarters is located in The Hague, The Netherlands.

Sections and Special Interest Groups

Members and professionals work together through IFLA's 44 Sections and 16 Special Interest Groups to further the development of the profession. Sections specialise in a particular type of library and information service, an aspect of library and information science, or in a geographical region. Sections cover topics ranging from academic libraries to association management. Special Interest Groups enable discussions of professional issues that cut across library sectors, such as Big Data, and national information policy.

Gerald Leitner

Secretary General



In 2017 IFLA turned 90; a time both to look back with pride on our great achievements, and at the same time look forward, with ambition, to new goals and perspectives. For decades, IFLA has stood for quality, representing the interests of libraries worldwide and working with experts to strengthen the library services that improve people's lives.

But as the famous Italian writer Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa said in his novel *Il Gattopardo*: "if we want things to stay as they are, things will have to change."

The challenges of today are different to those of the past. We can only overcome them if we join forces and act more closely together. IFLA is therefore intensifying engagement with its members, developing a more inclusive way of working that reaches all regions and sectors.

In 2017 we launched an unprecedented consultation process – the IFLA Global Vision – that will ensure that all regions and professional units participate in identifying key priorities. This will allow IFLA to develop the best possible support for the library community.

I firmly believe that only a united and connected library field will be able to fulfil the true potential of our institutions: to build literate, informed and participative societies. To reach this ambitious goal, IFLA has ushered in new ideas, resources and services which will support our members more effectively and give libraries globally a stronger voice.

IFLA is ready for change. We are going to transform IFLA into a more inclusive and participatory organisation. Change IFLA with us!

Governing Board 2015-2017



Donna Scheeder

United States of America
(President)

Glòria Pérez-Salmerón

Spain (President-elect)

Christine Mackenzie

Australia (Treasurer)

Seated, left to right:

Christine Mackenzie

Australia (Treasurer)

Glòria Pérez-Salmerón

Spain (President-elect)

Donna Scheeder

United States of America (President)

Maria-Carme Torras i Calvo

Norway
(Chair, Professional Committee)

Standing, left to right:

Gerald Leitner

IFLA Secretary General
(member ex-officio)

Christine Wellems

Germany

Barbara Schleihagen

Germany (Chair, MLAS)

Ágnes Hajdu Barát

Hungary

Andrew McDonald

United Kingdom

Ngian Lek Choh

Singapore

Perry Moree

Netherlands (Chair, Division IV)

Victoria Owen

Canada

Margaret Allen

Australia

Victoria Okojie

Nigeria (Chair, Division V)

Frederick Zarndt

United States of America
(Chair, Division II)

Kirsten Boelt

Denmark

Viviana Quiñones

France (Chair, Division III)

Raissa Teodori

Italy (Chair, Division I)

Loida Garcia-Febo

United States of America

Not pictured:

Ellen Ndeshi Namhila

Namibia

Governing Board 2017-2019



Glòria Pérez-Salmerón
Spain (President)

Christine Mackenzie
Australia (President-elect)

Barbara Lison
Germany (Treasurer)

Front row, left to right:

Gerald Leitner
IFLA Secretary General
(member ex-officio)

Raissa Teodori
Italy (Chair, Professional Committee)

Sueli Mara Soares Pinto Ferreira
Brazil (Chair, Division V)

Antonia Arahova
Greece (Chair, Division IV)

Ágnes Hajdu Barát
Hungary

Glòria Pérez-Salmerón
Spain (President)

Christine Mackenzie
Australia (President-elect)

Back row, left to right:

Michael Dowling
United States of America
(Chair, MLAS)

Ann Okerson
United States of America
(Chair, Division II)

Patrick Losinski
United States of America

Huanwen Cheng
China

Knud Schulz
Denmark

Viviana Quiñones
France

Maja Žumer
Slovenia (Chair, Division III)

Victoria Owen
Canada

Torbjörn Nilsson
Sweden

Vicki McDonald
Australia (Chair, Division I)

Barbara Lison
Germany (Treasurer)

Marwa El Sahn
Egypt

Victoria Okojie
Nigeria

2017 at a Glance

IFLA Membership

1,293

members*

137

countries

IFLA Global Vision online votes

21,772

online votes

190

UN member states

7

continents

Library Map of the World Project

2.1

million libraries
counted

105

countries engaged in
the LMW project

126

organisations contributed
to the LMW project

WLIC 2017

3,100+

delegates

500+

speakers

247

sessions

* Includes national and international associations, institutions, organisations and individuals.

IFLA Strategic Plan

Strategy supported by strong governance

IFLA's Strategic Plan sets out our strategic directions and goals for 2016-2021. It aims to guide the governance and activities of IFLA.

For 2016-2021, the IFLA Governing Board set out four Strategic Directions, progressed through a set of Key Initiatives and Activities.

1. Libraries in Society

- 1.1. Promoting reading and literacy as an essential requirement for active participation in society, through access to information in any format
- 1.2. Introducing libraries on the agenda of international organisations
- 1.3. Building on the IFLA Trend Report
- 1.4. Promoting IFLA standards to support libraries in the provision of services to their communities

2. Information and Knowledge

- 2.1. Defining a long-term, sustainable information environment
- 2.2. Advocating for an equitable copyright framework
- 2.3. Influencing the future of Internet governance

3. Cultural Heritage

- 3.1. Establishing our network of Preservation and Conservation Centres (PACs) as centres of expertise critical to safeguarding documentary cultural heritage globally
- 3.2. Developing standards for the collection and preservation of content in its diverse forms
- 3.3. Safeguarding documentary cultural heritage through Disaster Risk Reduction

4. Capacity Building

- 4.1. Promoting libraries within the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- 4.2. Delivering the International Advocacy Programme (IAP)
- 4.3. Advancing our Leadership Programme
- 4.4. Delivering our Building Strong Library Associations programme
- 4.5. Strengthening IFLA by building regional and sectoral capacity and participation across our activities

Key Initiatives and their Activities are driven by IFLA's Governing Board through advisory and steering groups comprised of representatives within our membership, professional units, policy and programme advisory bodies, Regional Offices and Language Centres, and partners, working closely with expert IFLA staff. IFLA's professional units capitalise on their expertise to undertake additional projects that support the Key Initiatives.

IFLA's strategic directions are supported by strong governance, evidence-based practice and research, and robust policies and standards.

Our Highlights

As IFLA celebrated its 90th birthday, we saw the first results of the Legacy Partnership signed with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, alongside the Public Library Association (PLA) and the Technology and Social Change Group at the University of Washington (TASCHA). The Partnership opens up an exciting new phase in IFLA's history – the highlights of which are in the following pages. It has also seen the first ever IFLA membership survey, whose results will be made available in the course of 2018.



Global Vision Kick-off Workshop, Greece



Global Vision Workshop, North America



IAP Workshop, Uruguay

IFLA Global Vision

Statistics from 2017 online votes

7

continents

190

UN member states

21,772

online votes

The challenges facing the library field from ever-increasing globalisation can only be met and overcome by an inclusive, global response from a united library field.

This is why IFLA engaged thousands of librarians and library friends in the Global Vision discussion – a venture that will generate a global library roadmap for the future. There has never been such an initiative before, giving every single librarian in the world the chance to contribute.

Starting with the leaders of its Professional Units, IFLA brought together a body of experts in Athens, Greece for a kick-off meeting. A series of questions were posed and through discussion, consensus and voting, thoughts and answers were accumulated. Following this meeting, the Global Vision discussion visited six continents gathering participants from 140 countries during high-level regional workshops held in Washington D.C., USA; Yaoundé, Cameroon; Alexandria, Egypt; Buenos Aires, Argentina; Singapore; and Madrid, Spain.

The participants of all meetings organised by IFLA were asked to facilitate their own workshops within their communities, countries and library networks. Also, a set of guidelines for librarians and library friends interested in organising self-facilitated meetings were made available in seven languages. Fifty reports were submitted by IFLA professional units, 80 reports were submitted by

national associations or institutions, and 30 reports came from various groups of interest. Over 9,000 library professionals participated in these meetings.

Following these discussions, almost 200 written reports were submitted to IFLA with details on the challenges faced by libraries, thoughts on potential solutions, and ideas for opportunities for a united library field.

At WLIC 2017 in Wrocław, IFLA launched a global online vote. Bolstered by social media and available in more than 20 languages, it allowed every librarian or library worker to make their voice heard. Almost 22,000 people voted from 190 UN Member States. The reports and results of the vote provided a huge body of material to be analysed and form the basis of the Global Vision Report which will be launched in 2018.

Never before have so many librarians from so many parts of the world contributed to one global conversation. Some of those providing reports noted that it was the first time they felt included in a global process; that it allowed every worker in a library to have their say; and that the meeting gave them a space in which to consider key issues such as the core values of libraries and touch base with what drives their passion for their work. The Global Vision Report is just the first step, providing an overview of what we have in common. It will give IFLA the basis for developing the action plans that will turn our vision into reality.

Library Map of the World

Results from data collected in 2017

2.1

million libraries
counted

105

countries engaged in
the LMW project

126

organisations contributed
to the LMW project

How can IFLA advocate at the global, regional and national level when it does not have basic information about the number and state of libraries across the world?

This question prompted the development of the Library Map of the World (LMW). The LMW initiative aims to address the critical and thus far unmet need of IFLA and the library field to accurately collect and share basic information about the library landscape in each country. The short-term goals of the LMW are to:

- Create awareness of the state of the libraries in the world
- Communicate basic metrics that describe library service levels per country
- Inspire more countries to contribute data and stories to the site
- Provide countries with data and evidence for library advocacy

The LMW began by collecting a small set of basic library performance indicators from as many libraries as possible. By the end of 2017, 105 countries had provided national level data. Many national associations responded that the initiative had prompted them to look more deeply at the statistics gathered in their country and how to ensure these are available for advocacy purposes.

At its launch in August at WLIC 2017 in Wrocław, IFLA premiered a section of the LMW for libraries to highlight how they are contributing to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This section showcases stories that demonstrate the impact of libraries on the lives of people in their communities and will be a key advocacy tool. More stories, more data and more information on the library environment in each country will be gathered each year. The 21,000 visits to the site from over 183 different countries within six months prove the interest from librarians in helping to visualise the power of libraries.

Development and Access to Information (DA2I) Report

IFLA launched the first DA2I Report in 2017, providing quantitative and qualitative evidence of the importance of access to information for the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



“There is no sustainable development without access to information. And there is no meaningful access to information without libraries” - Donna Scheeder, IFLA President 2015-2017

A partnership with the Technology and Social Change Group at the University of Washington, the DA2I Report underlined that access had to be understood as more than an Internet connection. It also requires the right laws, social and cultural norms, and skills to turn information into better decision-making for development.

The report does this by describing the state of access to information at the start of the UN’s 2030 Agenda through a range of indicators that will provide a benchmark for assessing progress. It also collected evidence from four external experts on how access drives the achievement of some of the SDGs on which the UN decided to focus in 2017.

The DA2I report was launched at a well-attended reception at New York Public Library in July, welcoming participants from the High Level Political Forum, the main annual event on sustainable development. With words from ambassadors and a representative of the UN Secretary-General, as well as then-IFLA President Donna Scheeder and Secretary General Gerald Leitner, the event saw strong interest in and support for this work.

Strategic Directions

Strategic Direction 1: Libraries in society

2017 saw the concept of fake news establish itself firmly on the agenda, highlighting concerns about developments in the information society. For some, it was an excuse to censor and silence. But for IFLA, it was evidence on the need to focus on developing literacy – and information literacy in particular – as essential skills for all.

Our most successful infographic, “How to Spot Fake News”, attracted enormous attention across the world, and was featured on CNN. Thousands of retweets and 39 crowd-sourced translations made this our most popular digital resource to date. Conferences, consultations and other communications have offered an opportunity to underline the message that the only sustainable response to fake news is to empower individuals to take a more critical perspective themselves.

Digital Literacy & Basic Literacy

We produced a well-received statement on Digital Literacy, launched at WLIC in Wrocław. This underlined the importance not just of connection to the Internet, but also the skills, knowledge, attitudes and behaviours that are needed to make connectivity meaningful. In making recommendations to governments and other actors, it called for recognition to be given to libraries’ unique role in delivering digital literacy skills for all. We are now closely engaged in work led by the Institute for Electronic and Electrical Engineers to spread this good practice around the world.

A highlight was the joint opening of the Global Media and Information Literacy Week by IFLA President Glòria Pérez-Salmerón in Jamaica in October, alongside the Jamaican minister of education and UNESCO. IFLA has now joined the International Steering Committee for the next edition and we look forward to drawing attention to the excellent work done by libraries around the world.

Our work on basic literacy also advanced, with a publication on national literacy strategies due in 2018. Renewed memoranda of understanding with the International Board on Books for Youth and the International Literacy Association will facilitate efforts to ensure that libraries are at the heart of efforts to build literate societies.

Elsewhere, we undertook a survey of provisions for services to people with disabilities around the world, collecting hundreds of examples of what libraries are doing, with or without formal policy obligations. The results of this survey were presented at the UN in December and will contribute to a report on effective responses to helping guarantee equality for people with disabilities.

Trend Report Update 2017

A new Trend Report is produced every five years, with shorter updates in between. Drawing on the insightful contributions made at the President’s Meeting in Athens, the 2017 Update explored how libraries are bringing 3D printing to the public, blurring the boundaries between consumers and creators. It explored the concept of library and ‘anti-library’, underlining the need for trustworthy, physical, repositories of knowledge. And it underlined how essential libraries will be in ensuring that all have the skills needed to face the postmodern, post-truth world. The new major Trend Report publication will come in 2020.

Strategic Direction 2: Information & Knowledge

With the Marrakesh Treaty seeing nearly a doubling in the number of ratifications or implementations over 2017, the power of legal change as a means of bringing access to information is as clear as ever. We continue to invest in promoting reform, at the global, regional and national levels.

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

WIPO represents the single most important forum for IFLA in the field of copyright. Under a new Chair and Deputy Secretary-General, there has been a welcome new energy in the world of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights (SCCR), which agreed on the idea of an action plan designed to bring both short and longer-term benefits to libraries. The goal of a common international basis of copyright exceptions and limitations for libraries remains.

IFLA's work with WIPO brings other dividends. An updated version of the report by Professor Kenneth Crews provides a unique insight into the state of copyright legislation for libraries around the world. There have been a number of valuable opportunities to engage with governments in order to promote reforms, for example in Russia, Vietnam and Costa Rica.

Marrakesh Treaty

On the Marrakesh Treaty, a steady stream of countries are joining, with each one expanding the possibilities for exchange of books in formats accessible for people who are blind, partially sighted or who have other print disabilities. IFLA has engaged particularly strongly in ratification by the European Union (EU), given the example this would set, and the wealth of books that would become available. Following extensive engagement, including at a European Parliament hearing, the EU decided in October to place only minimal restrictions on the creation of accessible format books.

We will work closely with partner organisations to ensure favourable national implementation of the EU rules by Member States. IFLA has already produced a guide to support this. A further guide, targeted at individual libraries and explaining the Treaty's provisions, will be published in 2018.

Copyright Reform

Broader copyright reforms in Europe, South Africa and Latin America have also been a focus, with IFLA lending its support to local libraries in their effort to ensure that the law promotes access to information and reflects modern uses and practices. There are likely to be key votes and decisions in 2018, where the results of this work will become visible.

Internet Governance Forum (IGF)

Our long-standing engagement with IGF continues, with IFLA representatives contributing actively not only in the global IGF conference in December, but also in all regional editions. Support for libraries not only as an access point, but also as a place where access can be made meaningful, is strong.

This is nonetheless a complex area. We continue our advocacy around the importance of providing public access to the Internet, both as a stepping stone towards, and complement to, home access. Yet recognising that connectivity is not enough, there have been statements not only about digital literacy (as mentioned above), but also on Internet shutdowns, and on the use of Technological Protection Measures to block certain uses of digital content. With the rolling-back of net neutrality protections in the United States, the need for vigilance is high.

Strategic Direction 3: Cultural Heritage

2017 provided a powerful reminder of the threat posed by natural disasters to libraries and the heritage they contain, with hurricanes in the Caribbean and United States, and the earthquake in Mexico. Over the course of the year, IFLA not only set out a clear position on the importance of safeguarding documentary cultural heritage as part of development efforts, but also launched a number of pathbreaking initiatives.

Our work on cultural heritage ranges, thematically, from the policy-focused to the practical, and geographically, through the network of 16 Preservation and Conservation (PAC) Centres.

Preservation and Conservation (PAC) Centres

With support from Stichting IFLA Foundation, the Sri Lanka PAC Centre was able to hold a workshop on palm leaf manuscripts in July, leading to the launching of work on developing new metadata standards for these materials. Other PAC Centres have been equally active, and for the first time are publishing forward-looking plans for their work, allowing visitors to our website to know what is coming up.

In 2017, we published the results of our extensive survey of preservation and conservation standards. This work provides a rich inventory of standards applied around the world, as well as acting as a basis for exploration of where there are potential gaps for us to focus on in 2018.

PERSIST Programme

Involvement with the UNESCO PERSIST programme, looking at the preservation of born-digital content such as electronic documents, film, music and games, continues. IFLA leads the working group on content and best practices, with a successful steering group meeting in Frankfurt in February. With welcome steps towards the clarification of PERSIST's place within UNESCO due in early 2018, there will be new possibilities to promote good policy and practice around the world.

Blue Shield

IFLA President Glòria Pérez-Salmerón and Secretary Gerald Leitner spoke for libraries and their work at the Blue Shield Annual Meeting, where IFLA's place on the Executive Board of the organisation was confirmed. This provided an opportunity to meet outgoing UNESCO Director General Irina Bokhova. We look forward to working with her successor, Audrey Azoulay, in 2018 and beyond.

Digital Unification Working Group

An exciting new development is the creation of the Digital Unification Working Group, comprised of members from IFLA sections, the Governing Board, and representatives of other organisations and expert advisors. The result of a request from the Governing Board, this group is looking at the experience of institutions already involved in efforts to use digital technologies to recreate – or re-unite – collections which have been scattered for different reasons. In a field that can be technically, legally and politically complex, the work should lead to genuinely valuable materials for libraries around the world.

Publications

Finally, IFLA published two important documents. First, our inaugural brochure that describes our work across the board on cultural heritage issues shone a light on the breadth of the work done. This will help explain our role to other parties in future. Secondly, a statement on libraries and safeguarding documentary cultural heritage, agreed in April, underlined the point that libraries are an indispensable part of any comprehensive heritage strategy, and a driver of development.

Strategic Direction 4: Capacity Building

Raising the voice of librarians and library representatives at national, regional and global levels, and developing an advocacy agenda for libraries as key players in political, economic and social change is core to our Capacity Building work. Much of this work focuses on the contribution of libraries in delivering the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and draws on the ideas set out in the Development and Access to Information (DA2I) Report described earlier.

International Advocacy Programme (IAP)

Following a “Train the Trainer” workshop and four Regional workshops at the end of 2016, the IAP continued in 2017 with two more successful workshops in the Latin American and Caribbean (Jamaica) and Middle East and North Africa (Qatar) Regions.

The workshops in Jamaica and Qatar gave participants the tools and knowledge to plan work in their own countries, with amazing results. Representatives of 75 countries have now signed agreements with IFLA to spread knowledge about the SDGs and how to get involved in national development policy planning. Our three updates on these activities give a rich overview of library engagement in the SDGs around the world, from meetings and conferences to TV appearances and newspaper articles. This is testimony to the enthusiasm and skills of the participants.

In addition to these workshops, we issued two calls for proposals for projects designed to raise activities of the SDGs and library advocacy on national and regional levels. A total of 180 responses were received, of which 25 were selected. The projects will be carried out in all parts of the world and give many countries the opportunity to connect with our programme.

This work is already bearing fruit. Initial results from a survey of participants in summer 2017 showed that almost a third now feature in national development plans to achieve the SDGs.

International Leadership Programme (ILP)

The second cohort of ILP Associates continued to contribute their skill and enthusiasm throughout 2017. They took prominent roles both at IFLA events – notably in discussing leadership at the President-Elect’s session, and externally at the World Intellectual Property Organisation, the Internet Governance Forum, and the UN High-Level Political Forum. In doing so, they showed the breadth and depth of talent within the library field, showing the promise that the future library field holds. IFLA will consider the options for a third cohort.

Building Strong Library Associations

Building on an evaluation in 2016, which showed the value to IFLA’s members of the Building Strong Library Associations initiative, a call for proposals was issued in February 2017. From 21 submissions, ten were selected for funding, with reports posted on the Library Development Programme webpages. Thanks to existing training materials and ongoing support from IFLA Headquarters, many others around the world have been able to consolidate or expand the activities of their association, with public libraries benefitting particularly.



IAP Workshop, The Hague

Professional Units

44

sections

16

special interest
groups

1,200+

experts

IFLA's Professional Units are a unique asset. More than 1,200 experts, highly experienced and engaged, participate in 44 Sections, 16 Special Interest Groups and six Core Activities. Working in Standing Committees, individual members come from library associations and all types of library institutions around the world. They commit to activities which enhance and develop library and information science around the globe.

To address new areas of concern, the Professional Committee endorsed the formation of a new Special Interest Group on Evidence for Global and Disaster Health. One of their aims is to showcase the broader picture of the library's role in preventing, preparing for and responding to health emergencies.

2017 has seen Professional Units updating guidelines, holding webinars, surveying colleagues, undertaking capacity building workshops, and conducting stimulating sessions at IFLA WLIC in Wrocław. They have collaborated with partners such as the World Blind Union on implementation of the Marrakesh Treaty, and the Associazione Italiana Biblioteche on the international contest for short films on libraries – 'A corto di libri'. Units have been communicating via newsletters, Facebook, email lists and blog posts. The IFLA Professional Unit Communication Award for 2017 was presented jointly to the Academic and Research Libraries Section for their communication activities with industry partners and members in developing countries, and to the Knowledge Management Section whose communication channels incorporated the majority of IFLA languages.

In the spirit of cooperation, three of IFLA's Professional Units are working together to oversee a new Professional Award, the IFLA/Systematic Public Library of the Year Award.

Publishing

Powered by continuing changes in library and information science, IFLA's publications bring an international perspective to issues affecting libraries.

IFLA Journal

So great was the interest that the first issue of the IFLA Journal for 2017 was an additional special issue covering research data services and the role of libraries. During the year, 26 articles from authors all over the world were published and the journal increased its usage and downloads by 17%. Our publishing partner SAGE launched their new platform which provides increased functionality for users. The year ended on a high with the news that the journal has been accepted into the Clarivate Analytics' (formerly Thomson Reuters) Emerging Source Citation Index (ESCI). It will now be indexed in Web of Science making articles more discoverable and easier to track with regard to citation activity.

IFLA Library

Launched in 2013, the IFLA Library is our repository of digital resources. Each year has shown significant growth across important indicators.

Statistics show impressive usage in 2017:

- 364 papers, 31 translations and 96 born-digital posters from IFLA WLIC 2017 and satellite meetings were added to the IFLA Library, bringing the total by the end of 2017 to 1639 items
- 192,509 downloads
- Peak downloads were recorded in September 2017 (20,007 downloads)
- The most downloaded paper in 2017 was downloaded 4121 times.
- 81,246 searches were directed in from Google

IFLA Standards

IFLA Standards and Guidelines continue to define a path for libraries seeking to improve services and operations. This is reflected in the high number of downloads annually and the requests received to translate a standard or guideline into another language. New and revised guidelines published in 2017 included:

- Definition of PRESSoo: A Conceptual model for Bibliographic Information Pertaining to Serials and Other Continuing Resource
PRESSoo Review Group [Cataloguing Section]
- IFLA Guidelines for Library Services to People Experiencing Homelessness
Library Services to People with Special Needs
- IFLA Guidelines for translations of the IFLA ISBN namespaces in RDF
ISBD Review Group
- IFLA Library Reference Model (LRM): A Conceptual Model for Bibliographic Information
Cataloguing Section

Professional Report

- Literacy Matters! Using Research to Promote Literacy and Reading in Libraries (Rev. Ed.)
Literacy and Reading Section

IFLA Publications Series

With the stepping down of Michael Heaney, Janine Schmidt was appointed Series Editor of the IFLA Publication Series. Along with publishing partner, De Gruyter, new proposals were sought on key themes of current concern. One title was released in 2017:

- Global Library and Information Science
Edited by Ismail Abdullahi



IFLA World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) 2017

3,100+

delegates

500+

speakers

247

sessions

122

countries

70

exhibitors

387

volunteers

More than 500 speakers and 3100 delegates from 122 countries, not to mention 247 sessions covering all aspects of our profession, made IFLA's World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) 2017 a unique experience of professional development and networking.

The Congress is one of the most geographically and thematically diverse gatherings of representatives from the library and information sector worldwide. The beautiful city of Wrocław provided the perfect setting for the 2017 edition, steeped in its own rich cultural heritage.

Addressing the audience during the Opening Session, IFLA Secretary General, Gerald Leitner, prepared the hall for an inspiring week: "We are coming with a firework of new ideas and services for you to this congress! Colleagues, I'm sure we are going to have a vibrant congress here in beautiful Wrocław. Use this opportunity, become an active part of it, and build your network!"

Highlights included the launch of the IFLA Global Vision online voting platform, the Library Map of the World,

the change-over to a new IFLA Governing Board, which of course involved the handover from President Donna Scheeder to incoming President Glòria Pérez-Salmerón. In her first address as IFLA President, Glòria Pérez-Salmerón spoke of how libraries are the "motors of change and we, the librarians, are the gears". Her words were echoed across social media as she captured the imagination of library professionals both in the hall and beyond.

Our transparent and open approach was reflected by this year's live streaming of the Opening, Highlights, President and Closing Sessions which brought, for the first time, IFLA WLIC to the homes of many more professionals unable to attend

The Cultural Evening is always a chance for delegates to let their hair down, mingle with new friends and enjoy the host country's hospitality with entertainment and cuisine. The Polish National Committee and the city of Wrocław pulled out all the stops for a memorable evening complete with traditional Polish dancing, a breath-taking fountain show, and the popular silent disco.

In addition, over 15 satellite meetings took place in various locations throughout Poland and neighbouring countries.

Honours and Premier Awards



IFLA Medal

Martyn Wade

For distinguished service to IFLA and international librarianship, championing freedom of access to information and core professional values

IFLA Scroll of Appreciation



In grateful recognition to the: National Committee

IFLA World Library and Information Congress 83rd IFLA General Conference and Assembly Tomasz Makowski and Elżbieta Stefańczyk, Co-Chairs of the IFLA Wrocław National Committee accepted the award



Nancy Bolt

For her exemplary service to IFLA and international librarianship particularly in the development of government libraries and through her commitment to library services for people with special needs



Elena Escolano Rodríguez

For her distinguished service to IFLA particularly in the development, review and internationalisation of IFLA Standards for cataloguing and bibliographic control



Terry Weech

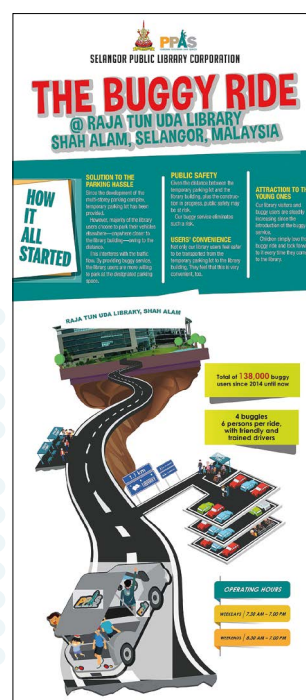
For his distinguished contribution to IFLA and the library profession especially in the internationalisation of library and information science education

Best IFLA Poster 2017



The Buggy Ride @PPAS

Sabariah Sayuti, Mastura Hj Muhamad, Norjasmin Jumha



IFLA Professional Unit Communication Award

Academic and Research Libraries Section and the Knowledge Management Section (Joint winners)

Grants

Grant	Quantity issued
IFLA World Library and Information Congress Participation Grants	20
IFLA Academic & Research Libraries Section Conference Attendance Grant	3
IFLA BibLibre International Library Marketing Award	1
IFLA Green Library Award 2017	1
Bourses francophones IFLA du Comité français international bibliothèques et documentation (cfibd)	20

Grant	Quantity issued
Naseej Conference Grant (for Arab Librarians and Information Specialists)	1
Dr. Shawky Salem Conference Grant	1
Reisekostenzuschüsse zur Teilnahme am Weltkongress Bibliothek und Information: IFLA Generalkonferenz und Ratsversammlung	26
Rovelstad Scholarship in International Librarianship 2016	1

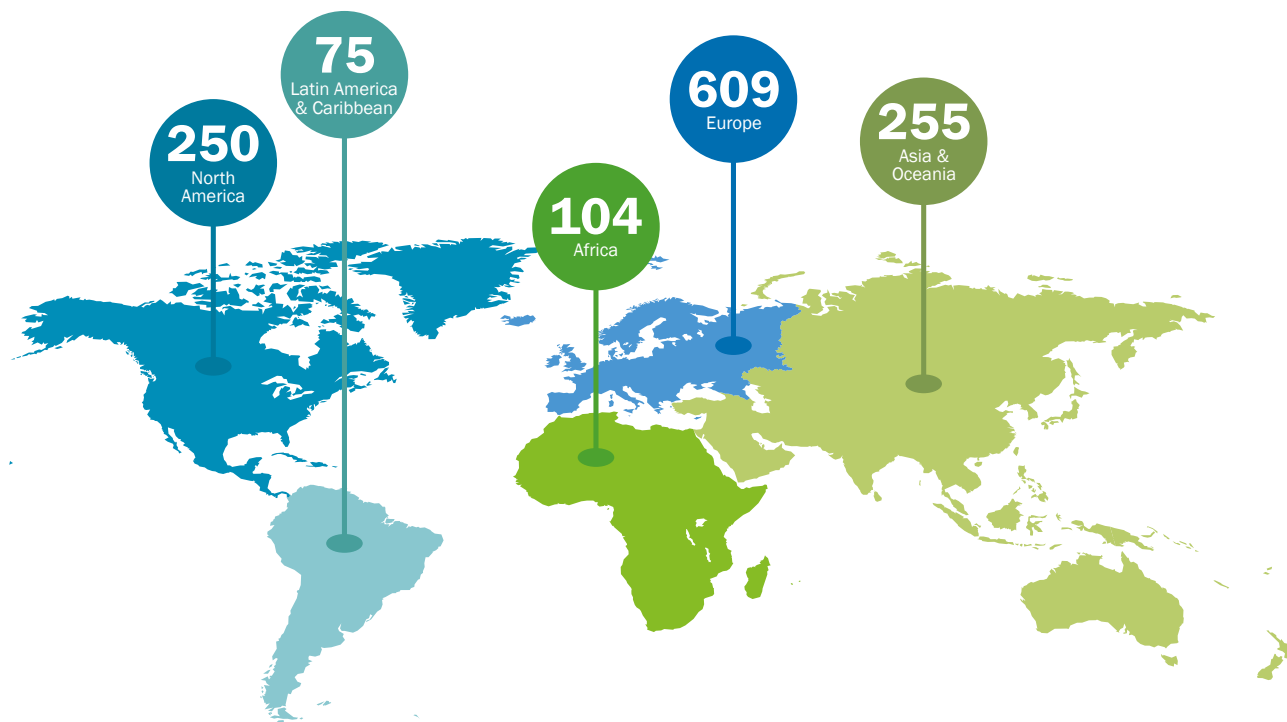
Sponsors

Level	IFLA WLIC Sponsor
Diamond	OCLC
Silver	Infor Library & Information Solutions
Bronze	Axiell Public Library AB
Associate	EBSCO, ISSN, PressReader, Zeutschel

Membership

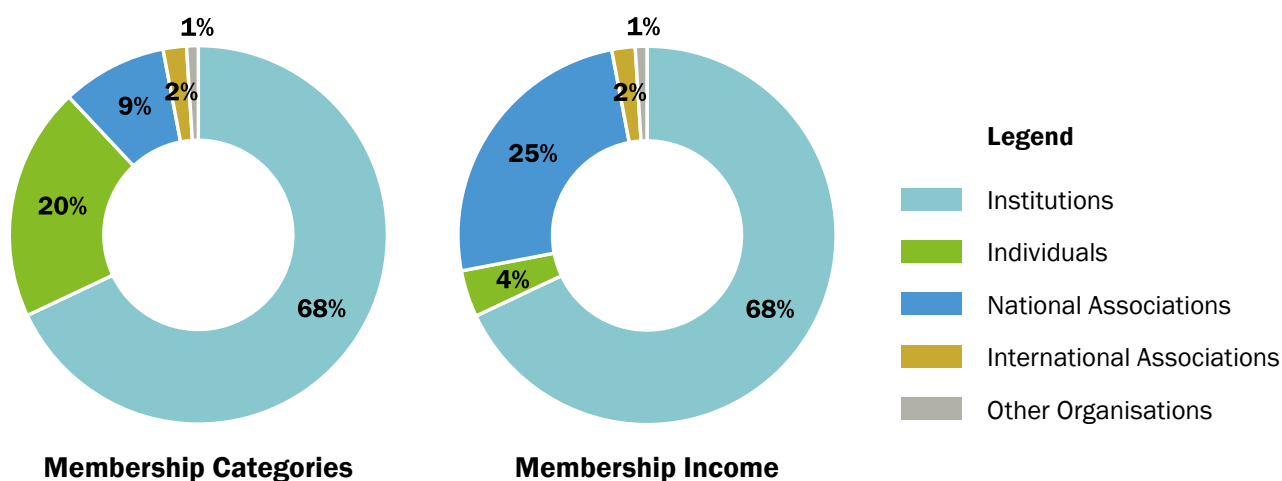
The involvement of library associations around the world is core to our activities and in 2017 we were pleased to welcome national library associations from Cuba, Egypt, India, Jordan, Korea, Mexico, Oman, the Russian Federation, and Sudan to our membership. In 2017, a range of institutional members including the National Libraries of Paraguay and Peru joined, along with the Association of Parliamentary Libraries of Eastern and Southern Africa. It is the variety of members, each with their own topics of interest, that add to the expansive voice of IFLA when advocating on their behalf.

Membership by Region*



*Includes all membership categories.

Membership Makeup



Number of Members per Category per Region 2016-2017

	Africa		Asia/Oceania		Europe		Latin America/ Caribbean		North America		TOTAL		%
	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	
National Associations	11	15	30	27	66	63	11	11	14	11	132	127	3.9
International Associations	5	6	3	2	9	10	0	1	4	4	21	23	-8.7
Institutions	73	75	172	182	474	483	50	49	111	114	880	903	-2.5
Individuals	14	24	49	52	59	56	14	21	121	161	257	314	-18.2
Other Organisations	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	3	2	50.0
Grand Total	104	120	255	263	609	613	75	82	250	291	1293	1369	-5.5
2016 > 2017 %	-13.3		-3.04		-0.6		-8.5		-14.0		-5.5		
Total Organisations	90	96	206	211	550	557	61	61	129	130	1036	1055	-1.8
2016 > 2017 %	-6.2		-2.4		-1.3		0		-0.8		-1.8		
Total Individuals	14	24	49	52	59	56	14	21	121	161	257	314	-18.1
2016 > 2017 %	-41.6		-5.8		5.4		-33.3		-24.8		-18.1		

Overall the year began with 1,369 members and ended with 1,293, a decrease of 5.5%. There was a 20% decrease in the number of Personal Affiliate members, many of whom came from North America.

In December, IFLA undertook its first member and viewpoints survey in order to collect thoughts and expectations of IFLA. We invited input from every IFLA Member as well as input from all interested associations, institutions and librarians who are not members to provide their views. The survey concluded in January 2018 and a full analysis will be provided later in the year.

Statement from the Treasurer

The financial result of the year 2017 shows a surplus of €32,660, compared to a surplus of €86,678 for 2016. The surplus of 2017 brings our general reserves to €1,248,230, and earmarked reserves to €42,375. This level of reserves is close to the level of reserves required under our Reserves Policy. These reserves are an important asset for IFLA to secure our work and sustainability into the future.

The total income for the year 2017 was €2,015,839 compared to € 2,927,423 in 2016. The decrease of €911,584 can be mainly explained as follows:

1. Decrease of € 377,821 from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for Key Initiatives
2. No income (and expenditure) from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for Legacy Project costs (in 2016 € 470,362)
3. Decrease of € 53,995 in fees received for management of other projects

The total expenditure for the year 2017 was €1,983,179 compared to €2,840,745 in 2016. The decrease of €857,566 can be mainly explained as follows:

1. Decrease of € 377,821 for Key Initiatives funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
2. No expenses (and income) from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for Legacy Project costs (in 2016 € 470,362)
3. Decrease of € 143,688 in office expenses and Web and IT, which can be mainly explained by the fact that 67% of the overhead expenses are charged to the Stichting IFLA Global Libraries (SIGL) commencing 2017 as part of a Joint-Account Agreement between IFLA and SIGL
4. No expenses in 2017 for Regional Offices and Centres (in 2016 € 39,789)

5. Increase of € 99,488 in staff expenses, mainly due to no funding by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for Legacy Projects (in 2016 € 307,242) and charged staff expenses to the Stichting IFLA Global Libraries of € 211,612 as part of a Joint-Account Agreement between IFLA and SIGL
6. A € 70,000 donation to Stichting IFLA Global Libraries to support the future exploration of the library environment

Since 2012 IFLA's World Library Information Congress has been operating through IFLA Holding B.V. and its subsidiaries, of which IFLA is the sole shareholder, therefore the consolidated company results are included in the annual financial statements of IFLA. The IFLA WLIC surplus show a decreasing trend in the last 4 years (2014: € 126,364 surplus; 2015: € 55,063 surplus; 2016: € 7,975 surplus; 2017: € 18,488 deficit). This is of some concern as the subsequent donation to Stichting IFLA Foundation (SIF) is reduced, so affecting the amount available to fund projects within SIF such as the Leaders Programme.

The trend of decreasing membership income over the past few years is noted and it is important for IFLA to explore additional funding opportunities in the coming years to ensure our ongoing viability.

IFLA is very grateful to its member organisations who support us through donations and hosting activities, and to the organisations that support our initiatives and projects through grant funding.

Balance sheet as of 31 December 2017 (after appropriation of result)

	2017		2016	
Assets				
Tangible Fixed Assets		50,912		45,863
Financial Fixed Assets		329,617		348,105
Current assets				
Receivables	156,670		93,807	
Cash at bank and in hand	6,009,743		6,015,206	
Total (Current assets)		6,166,413		6,109,013
Total (Assets)		6,546,942		6,502,981

	2017		2016	
Equity/ Liabilities				
Equity				
Earmarked reserves	42,375		53,044	
General reserve	1,248,230		1,204,901	
Total (Equity)		1,290,605		1,257,945
Long-term liabilities		2,110,722		0
Bill & Melinda Gates outstanding				
Current liabilities				
Deferred income	25,851		21,868	
Other liabilities	3,119,764		5,223,168	
Total (Liabilities)		3,145,615		5,245,036
Total (Equity & Liabilities)		6,546,942		6,502,981

Statement of income and expenditure for the year 2017

Income	2017	2016
Membership fees	713,930	721,616
Corporate Supporters	22,500	30,000
Dutch Government	16,000	16,000
Contributions Core Activities	81,035	81,787
Contributions Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	691,943	1,540,126
Contributions Stichting IFLA Foundation for Key Initiatives	11,288	57,025
Contributions ARL for Congress Grants	87	4,286
Contributions Stichting IFLA Foundation for PAC	16,177	0
Contributions Sage for Congress Grants	2,328	0
Sales of publications and royalties	31,615	37,774
Conference services fees	234,000	234,000
Management fees	86,710	140,705
Interest and other financial income	9,747	16,438
Result subsidiary IFLA Holding B.V.	0	7,975
Income vouchers scheme	42,692	34,604
Income Shawky Salem Training Fund	53	54
Income Margreet Wijnstroom Fund	720	564
Income other IFLA Funds	0	4,469
Miscellaneous	55,014	0
Total income	2,015,839	2,927,423

Expenditure	2017	2016
Conference costs	27,490	26,000
Meetings and office president costs	25,480	41,003
Regional Offices and Centres	0	39,789
Professional Activities and Projects	65,192	45,102
Costs of publications (including free publications to members)	33,061	30,898
Staff expenses	949,375	849,887
Office expenses	12,895	90,829
Web and IT	31,049	96,803
Expenses Key Initiatives	728,740	1,126,789
Expenses Legacy Operating Grant	0	470,362
Expenses Congress Grants	2,415	4,286
Expenses voucher scheme	5,012	1,546
Result subsidiary IFLA Holding B.V.	18,488	0
Donation to Stichting IFLA Global Libraries	70,000	0
Expenses Shawky Salem Training Fund	1,221	1,703
Expenses Margreet Wijnstroom Fund	0	1,763
Expenses other IFLA Funds	7,923	550
Miscellaneous	4,838	13,435
Total expenditure	1,983,179	2,840,745
Result	32,660	86,678

IFLA Headquarters Staff 2017

Gerald Leitner

Secretary General

Karolina Andersdotter

Policy and Advocacy Assistant
[until April]

María Violeta Bertolini

Advocacy Communications Officer

Ingrid Bon

Manager, Development Programmes

Julia Brungs

Policy and Projects Officer
[until June]

Tanja Clausen

Policy Research Officer

Natasja Cramer

Vouchers Assistant

Esther Doria

Project Coordination Assistant

Despina Gerasimidou

Project Officer

Christine Graham

Manager, Events and Logistics

Stuart Hamilton

Deputy Secretary General
[until March]

Tatjana Hoeink

Membership Officer

Evgeni Hristov

Communications and Publications
Assistant

Anne Korhonen

Administrative Assistant

Rafal Krazma

Project Coordination Manager

Simon Lemstra

IT Manager
[until August]

Helen Mandl

Manager, Member Services

Ariadna Matas Casadevall

Policy and Research Officer

Esmeralda Moscatelli

Policy and Research Officer

Josche Ouwkerk

Manager, Conferences and
Business Relations

Kristine Paberza

Member Engagement Officer

Lidia Putziger

Administrative Officer

Chris Ridings

Web and IT Officer

Renu Sardjoe Mishre

Business Manager/Internal
Accountant

Louis Takács

Communications Officer

Amy Ting

Human Resources Officer

Claire Worland

Communications Officer

Stephen Wyber

Manager, Policy and Advocacy

Joanne Yeomans

Professional Support Officer

Christine Zuidwijk

Financial Officer
[until September]

Language Centres and Regional Offices

Four Language Centres contribute to more effective communication within the relevant language communities. These activities include the publication and/or translation of newsletters, key IFLA documents, guidelines, press releases, and Congress papers.

Arabic

Dina Youssef

Director IFLA Centre for Arabic
Speaking Libraries (IFLA-CASL)

Sherine Aly

Translator IFLA-CASL,
Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Egypt

Aya Tohamy

Translator IFLA-CASL,
Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Egypt

Chinese

Zhang Xu

Director
International Cooperation Division,
National Library of China, Beijing

Hao Jinmin

Program Officer
International Cooperation Division,
National Library of China, Beijing

French (in Africa)

Papa Arona Ndiaye

Director, Language Centre for French
(in Africa) Central Library
Cheikh Anta Diop University, Senegal

Mandiaye Ndiaye

Assistant, Language Centre for
French (in Africa) Central Library
Cheikh Anta Diop University, Senegal

Russian

Irina Gayshun

Head Sector IFLA Issues/Foreign LIS/
International Relations
Russian State Library, Moscow

Three Regional Offices raise IFLA's profile internationally and assist in: membership recruitment, (co-) organising regional IFLA events, disseminating information, and contributing to effective communication within their regions and IFLA globally.

Africa

Lindy Nhlapo

Regional Manager
University of South Africa, Pretoria

Asia and Oceania

Lin Li Soh

Regional Manager
National Library Board, Singapore

Latin America and the Caribbean

Jerónimo Vitti

Regional Manager
Library of the National Congress,
Argentina
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Donors

IFLA gratefully acknowledges the valuable contribution by these institutions and organisations that have enabled us to continue our strategic and regional activities and development projects in 2017.

- **Koninklijke Bibliotheek, The Netherlands**
Host of IFLA HQ
- **Biblioteca Nacional Portugal**
Host of UNIMARC
- **National Library Board, Singapore**
Host of IFLA Asia and Oceania regional office)
- **University of South Africa, Pretoria**
Host of IFLA Africa regional office
- **Biblioteca del Congreso de la Nación**
Host of IFLA Latin America and the Caribbean regional office
- **Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Egypt**
Host of IFLA Language Centre for Arabic
- **National Library of China**
Host of IFLA Language Centre for Chinese
- **Cheikh Anta Diop University, Senegal**
Host of IFLA Language Centre for French in Africa
- **Russian State Library**
Host of IFLA Language Centre for Russian
- **The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**
- **National Diet Library, Japan**
- **National Library of Australia**
- **The British Library**
- **Library and Archives Canada**
- **National Library Service of Barbados**
- **National Library of Finland**
- **Kungliga Biblioteket, Sweden**
- **Stockholm University Library, Sweden**
- **Bibliothèque Nationale Suisse**
- **Bibliothèque Nationale du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg**

Corporate Supporters

Corporate Supporters provide financial support for IFLA's ongoing activities and receive benefits packages designed to promote their businesses to IFLA members.

Corporate Supporters contribute at five levels: Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze or Associate

Platinum



Gold



Silver

- De Gruyter / Saur
- Elsevier B.V.
- Innovative Interfaces Inc.
- Sabinet Online

Bronze

- Otto Harrassowitz GmbH & Co. KG
- Rockefeller University Press
- Zeutschel GmbH

Associate

- Annual Reviews
- NBD/Biblion

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