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# contents

**From Publisher's Desk****How Do Libraries Further Development?****Ifla: The International Federation Of Library Associations And Institutions****Excerpts From Ifla Trend Report****News-useful Information****FROM****PUBLISHER'S DESK**

Dear Friends,

Over the years ADINET and many other library networks, library organizations including many library professionals have been working towards creating awareness about the need and importance of information and therefore awareness about the need and importance of developing and sustaining well equipped modern libraries.

The focus now has shifted from AWARENESS to ACTION. Much work has been done and is still being done to achieve this goal. The question which we have always been addressing is how can small libraries at the local level, start sustainable activities which can help to deliver relevant and equitable (i.e. fair and just) access to information. To enable this, a large number of factors need to be addressed.

A major goal of libraries is not just to provide access to crucial information, but to be a major agent for change, for development and thus for growth, through its training programs, online learning activities and other opportunities. Mostly all libraries especially public libraries can and do act as hubs for economic and social change.

It is also important to identify Library Services which can be given by using available resources and also by resource sharing. Resource sharing amongst libraries having the same subject collection would be very beneficial.

It is now so much easier to reach our readers. The relevant information can be sent by e-mail, SMS, by using any social media site or library blogs.

We need to identify a few Librarians who can partner with ADINET, suggest a few useful projects which will help their readers. These projects can be implemented either on their own or with the help of a team of Librarians. They will be of great help to the LIS profession at large.

To begin with we need to create the need for information and also emphasise the importance of information, both for library personnel and also for our clientele. This can be done by preparing Information Brochures, Posters, Book marks etc.

In order to project the library and to increase its use, it would be essential to prepare an Orientation Program – both for teachers and students by using Placards and if available keep it online also.

It could contain the following:-

1. Details about Library Collection
2. Library Rules, etc.
3. Book Suggestion Forms for Teachers and Students
4. New Arrivals are displayed on (mention period)
5. Highlight Special Collections
6. Newspaper Clippings
7. Question Paper Banks – Subject wise & Year wise
8. Identify and prepare Information Products
9. Help with Project Work/Assignments
10. E-Courseware (Open Access Course Material)
11. Course Material – esp. in Gujarati
12. N-List E-Journals
13. Online E-Resources
14. College Website (provide link)
15. Short Term Courses – Vacation batches
16. Photocopying Facilities (if available)
17. Suggestion Box, also invite feedback from users

A brief write up on how libraries can help further development projects and also help to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) is given. The eight UN backed MDGs range from halving extreme poverty rates to halting the spread of HIV/AIDS and providing universal primary education, all by the

target date of 2015. A blueprint has been formed by all the world's countries and all the world's leading development institutions. UN and its partners have galvanized unprecedented efforts to build a better world.

Details of the IFLA report which was approved by the IFLA Governing Board in Singapore on August 16, 2013 are included.

Two excerpts from the IFLA Trend Report which highlight New Technologies and Online Education are covered. In November 2012, IFLA commissioned a comprehensive literature review. An extensive bibliography was hosted on the Trend Report online platform in January 2013. Based on this work key experts prepared submissions, which were further discussed by the expert panel. Finally in July an Insights Document, highlighting five top level trends was compiled and submitted.

## HOW DO LIBRARIES

### FURTHER DEVELOPMENT?

Libraries further development by helping people in developing countries get the information they need to access economic opportunity, improve their health or develop their communities.

- Development projects that are working to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) are most effective when they leverage existing resources and local institutions that people already know and trust, such as public libraries.
- Libraries have staying power because of ongoing public support and dedicated funding, and therefore governments and development agencies should seek to strengthen and expand the services libraries offer, rather than funding new, unproven infrastructure or investing in narrow, technology-based approaches. Development practitioners should seek to partner with libraries wherever available as a way to sustainably support initiatives in a variety of fields, including health, agriculture, civic engagement, education, information literacy and others.
- Libraries have a powerful impact when they proactively promote their role in information access for development. Libraries can offer innovative partnerships with government initiatives and NGOs as a way to address community members' needs and work to communicate their value as institutions that can sustain development efforts.

All over the world, libraries combine a trusted, local institution with information access that is critical to powering economic opportunity and community development. Libraries offer a more efficient, smarter way of doing development.

## IFLA:

### The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions

#### Statement on Libraries and Development

Access to information is a fundamental human right that can break the cycle of poverty and support sustainable development. The library is the only place in many communities where people can access information that will help improve their education, develop new skills, find jobs, build businesses, make informed agricultural and health decisions, or gain insights into environmental issues. Their unique role makes libraries important development partners, both by providing access to information in all formats and by delivering services and programmes that meet the needs for information in a changing and increasingly complex society.

As the United Nations moves to establish a post-2015 framework to guide development worldwide, IFLA calls upon all stakeholders to recognize that libraries, in every part of the world, can be reliable mechanisms for underpinning the delivery of sustainable development programmes.

#### IFLA affirms that:

##### Libraries provide opportunity for all

Libraries are found in all locations – In the countryside and in the city, on the campus and in the workplace. Libraries serve all people, regardless of their race, national or ethnic origin, gender or sexual preference, age, disability, religion, economic circumstances or political beliefs. Libraries support vulnerable and marginalized populations and help ensure that no person is denied basic economic opportunities and human rights.

##### Libraries empower people for their own self – development

Libraries underpin a society where people from any background can learn, create and innovate. Libraries support a culture of literacy and foster critical thinking and inquiry. Through libraries, people can harness the power of technology and the internet to improve their lives and their communities. Libraries protect the rights of users to access information in a safe environment. Libraries are socially and culturally inclusive. They can help all people engage with the public institutions they need to access services, and can act as gateways to civic participation and new e-government services.

##### Libraries offer access to the world's knowledge

Libraries are an essential part of a critical infrastructure that supports education, jobs and

community growth. They offer meaningful, convenient access to information in all its forms, whether it is manuscript, printed, audio-visual or digital. They can support formal, informal and lifelong learning, the preservation of folk memories, traditional and indigenous knowledge, and the national cultural and scientific heritage. When national information policies aim to improve telecommunications and provide high speed broadband networks, libraries are natural partners for the provision of public access to Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and networked information resources.

### **Librarians provide expert guidance**

Library staff are trained, trusted intermediaries dedicated to guiding people to the information they seek. Librarians provide training and support for the media and information literacy, people need to better understand and participate in the information society. They are also cultural stewards, creating and providing access to cultural heritage and supporting the development of identity. Libraries are part of a multi stakeholder society. Libraries work effectively with many different stakeholder groups in varied situations. They deliver programmes and services alongside local and national governments, community groups, charities, funding organizations, and private and corporate enterprises. Librarians are agile actors who are able to work alongside others in governments, civil society, business, academia and the technical community to help deliver policy goals.

### **Libraries must be recognized in development policy frameworks**

As libraries have a natural role in providing access to the information content and networked services that underpin sustainable development, policymakers should encourage the strengthening and provision of libraries and utilize the skills of librarians and other information workers to help solve development problems at community levels. IFLA therefore urges policymakers and development practitioners to leverage these powerful existing resources and ensure that any post 2015 development framework:

- Recognizes the role of access to information as a fundamental element supporting development
- Acknowledges the role of libraries and librarians as agents for development
- Encourages UN Member State support of the information frameworks underpinning development, providing networks, information and human resources such as libraries and other public interest bodies

Approved by the IFLA Governing Board in Singapore,  
August 16, 2013

## **Excerpts From IFLA Trend Report**

IFLA – The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions is a leading international association of library organisations.

It was founded in 1927 and is one of the first international non-profit, non-governmental organisation, aiming to further the cause of librarianship. IFLA promotes international co-operations, discussion and research in all fields of library activity. It aspires to speak with authority as the global voice of the library profession. It has members in over 144 countries.

### **What is the IFLA Trend Report?**

The sheer volume of information and the speed at which it is being created online is one of the focal points of the IFLA Trend Report. The IFLA Trend Report is the result of twelve months' consultation with experts and stakeholders from a range of disciplines to explore and discuss emerging trends in our new information environment. It is not a static report, but a dynamic and evolving set of online resources for library and information professionals to contribute to at trends.ifla.org.

The objective is to create a dynamic and evolving set of online resources to foster further discussion and debate about future priorities within the global library community.

### **In the global information environment, time moves quickly.**

In 2010, the quantity of information transmitted globally exceeded 1 zettabyte for the first time, and is expected to double every two years. The amount of new digital content created in 2011 amounts to several million times that contained in all books ever written. OECD figures show that Internet traffic has risen by 13,000% in the last decade, with more digital information created in 2008-2011 than in all of previous recorded history.

The IFLA Trend Report identifies five high level trends in the global information environment, spanning access to information, education, privacy, civic engagement and technological transformation. Excerpts from two trends are given.

### **A Major Key Trend Which Will Change Our Information Environment Is:**

#### **TREND 1:**

#### **New Technologies Will Both Expand And Limit Who Has Access To Information**

An ever-expanding digital universe will bring a higher value to information literacy skills such as basic reading and competence with digital tools. People who lack these skills will face barriers to inclusion in a growing range of areas.

New technologies are transforming the global information economy. But each new generation of digital books, apps, databases, mobile and now wearable technologies redefines the boundaries of

privacy and data protection – and responsibilities for the management of both – within libraries.

## **TREND 2:**

### **Online Education will democratise and disrupt global learning**

The rapid global expansion in online education resources will make learning opportunities more abundant, cheaper and more accessible. There will be increased value on lifelong learning and more recognition of non-formal and informal learning. The information gold mine in online education and the spread of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) will also have an impact on the boundaries of data protection and privacy. Technological barriers are falling away, accelerated by increasing penetration of mobile devices in developing countries. Today there are just over 2.4 billion Internet users around the world. Mobile technologies are facilitating the rise of MOOCs and open access in the global classroom, while posing interesting questions for educators. By 2016 there will be over 10 billion mobile devices connected to the Internet.

### **The machine is the translator**

Advances in automated machine translation are changing the way we communicate with one another, and breaking down language barriers. In regions where local educational content is limited, students will have access to translated materials from overseas. Researchers and users will be able to read in their own language any book, article, online blog ever written.

### **Likely Developments**

Online Open Education resources (OER), adaptive teaching technologies, Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) and gamified learning approaches transform the global learning landscape over the next decade.

Online courses will be serving more people in the near future than all the students currently attending universities around the world. New courses feature more cross-sectional, multidisciplinary learning.

Digital opportunities for lifelong learning become increasingly essential in a more globalised economy and a rapidly changing technological environment where more people gain new skills and knowledge throughout their adult lives.

In an environment where information is easier to locate and obtain, future educational methods focus more on how to authenticate and exploit this information. Memorisation of information continues to decline in importance.

The wave of disruption of traditional methods of learning driven by online education benefits learners by dramatically reducing costs and increasing access to wider learning opportunities.

The broad adoption of MOOCs increases the added value of intermediaries that offer a platform for peer learning, mentoring networks, co-study,

collaboration and informal support. This change applies to both online and face-to-face methods.

Online resources and adaptive teaching methods transform school classrooms, combining digital tools with human support to tailor each student's learning experience.

### **What are you doing about "Bit Rot?"**

The global information environment is a fragile one. The great pace of technological change has left its information pathways littered with the likes of old formats, out-dated software, broken URLs, corrupted webpages and discarded files.

*"I am really worried right now about the possibility of saving 'bits' but losing their meaning and ending up with bit-rot. This means you have a bag of bits that you saved for a thousand years but you don't know what they mean, because the software that was needed to interpret them is no longer available, or it's no longer executable, or you just don't have a platform that will run it."*

*This is a serious, serious problem and we have to solve that."*

### **Vint Cerf - Chief evangelist, google**

Preserving our digital heritage is a priority for libraries and archives around the world. Identifying and capturing digital content of historical or cultural significance in the information deluge is one challenge for libraries. Copyright restrictions on digital content, format obsolescence and lack of technological capacity are others. Automated technologies like web harvesting and search algorithms are increasingly being used by libraries to identify and record our digital output –what have we lost in turning curation and preservation over to

## **NEWS**

### **USEFUL INFORMATION**

#### **Open access archives "Digital Commons Network"**

This is very useful for researchers: Open access archives "Digital Commons Network"

Its providing open access to peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters, dissertations, working papers, conference proceedings, and other original scholarly work in different disciplines emanating from 263 institutions in USA.

The disciplines include: Architecture, Arts and Humanities, Business, Education, Engineering, Law, Life Sciences, Medicine and Health Sciences, Physical Sciences and Mathematics and Social and Behavioural Sciences.

It is a cross repository search developed for the benefit of researchers.

You may access this at: <http://network.bepress.com>

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