

Il paradigma della biblioteca sostenibile

Original

Il paradigma della biblioteca sostenibile / Morriello, Rossana. - In: ENSULIB NEWSLETTER. - ISSN 2773-1243. - 1:1(2021), pp. 23-23.

Availability:

This version is available at: 11583/2954418 since: 2022-02-01T15:54:46Z

Publisher:

IFLA

Published

DOI:

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IFLA Section
**Environment,
Sustainability and Libraries**

IFLA ENSULIB Newsletter



Volume 1, Number 1

December 2021

ISSN 2773-1243

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from the Chair	3
About the Editorial Committee	5
The Great Sustainable Shifts : The Story of ENSULIB	6
ENSULIB's Definitions	10
Introducing ENSULIB Standing Committee Members.....	11
Petra Hauke Awarded the IFLA Scroll of Appreciation	15
The IFLA Green Library Award 2021	16
Conference Reports	19
Book Reviews.....	21
A Guide to Support Libraries' Commitment to Sustainable Development and Social Responsibility	24
Green and Sustainable Libraries and Projects:	
Australia	25
China	27
Indonesia	28
Italy	31
Finland.....	33
France.....	35
Germany	36
Latvia.....	38
Slovenia	40
Spain	47
United States of America	51
2022 International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development.....	53
International Days observed by the United Nations Jan-Jun.....	54

Message from the Chair



Harri Sahavirta

It is a great joy for me that the very first ENSULIB Newsletter is now out. My wish is that readers will find it interesting and useful.

In my view, the newsletter is necessary and maybe also expected. Climate change and other environmental issues are continuously in focus and for good reason. It has become essential that states, cities, local communities, organizations, and citizens all prioritise the environment and sustainability since there is only one planet Earth and no plan B. For the same reasons, library world has realized that – although libraries do not have high carbon footprints nor use nonrenewable raw materials – it should participate in environmental work and become proactive in it. This has been Environmental Sustainability and Libraries (ENSULIB) special interest group's (SIG) mission from the very beginning.

Environmental sustainability in libraries is currently at a very interesting stage. It seems that the concept of environmental sustainability is getting broader and including new concepts such as carbon handprint and the sharing economy, and principles like the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). However, it is not clear how these relate specifically to libraries and there is still a need to clarify the concept of a green and sustainable library. This is ENSULIB's goal, and the work has begun by rethinking the descriptions and criteria needed for IFLA Green Library Award.

During the past decade ENSULIB has been a messenger whose mission it was to increase awareness of sustainability in libraries. Now, since we gained section status in 2021, ENSULIB wishes to articulate and promote the key elements of environmental sustainability for libraries. This newsletter reflects this transition from SIG to Section: a small special interest group has now a full section status and standing committee. This means that we have more support to develop ENSULIB's resources – like the newsletter. In this newsletter ENSULIB's standing committee members and other experts on environment and sustainability will release short articles on their expert areas and projects as well as news on interesting issues. In addition, the standing committee members are introduced.

Biography of the Chair

Harri Sahavirta, Ph.D., Chief librarian,
ENSULIB Chair 2021-2023

Harri Sahavirta studied philosophy at the University of Helsinki in Finland and his Ph.D. concerned philosophy of science. During his studies, he began to work at Helsinki City Library and he is currently the chief librarian in Arabianranta and Vallila libraries in Helsinki. In addition, environmental sustainability is part of his range of responsibilities at Helsinki City Library.

Harri has participated national projects, like *Sustainability@libraries* (2012), and served as project manager in many national projects, like *Changing soundscapes of public libraries* (2017) and *Public libraries as promoters for adult reading* (2017-2018). His last (and ongoing) project is *Environmental sustainability into the 2020s in public libraries* (2020-2021).

He has been an active member of *Environmental Sustainability and Libraries* IFLA Special Interest Group (ENSULIB) since 2011 and served as the convenor of the group 2015-2019 and secretary in 2020. At present, he is the chair of the ENSULIB section and will serve from 2021-2023. In addition to these responsibilities, Harri has written many articles on environmental sustainability and coordinates the *IFLA Green Library Award* with Petra Hauke.

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The ENSULIB Newsletter is published twice a year (June and December). Please contact our editors for contributions:



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The Great Sustainable Shifts : The Story of ENSULIB

Harri Sahavirta

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ENSULIB Business Meeting at WLIC 2016 in Columbus, Ohio

ENSULIB has existed little over ten years and the narrative of the group reflects broader shifts in the environmental discussion in libraries. 2010 marked the start of the decade when awareness of environmental sustainability really broke through – from the Paris climate agreement in 2015 to UN Sustainable Development Goals, and the Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow in 2021. At the same time libraries realized that environmental and social sustainability could and should be at the core of librarianship. However, this awakening has not been the only major shift. The development of

library thinking about environmental issues has progressed through green architecture to carbon footprint and even further to carbon handprint. At the same time, the social aspects of sustainability have been recognized in libraries.

ENSULIB was founded in 2009 as a relatively small Special Interest Group. I (Harri) joined the group in 2011 at IFLA WLIC San Juan, Puerto Rico where I delivered a paper. However, I had followed ENSULIB's open session the previous year in Gothenburg, Sweden. It was that point I realized I wanted to join the group and participate in IFLA.

However, a great deal had happened before that. The driving force behind the formation of ENSULIB was Claudia Lux's President's closing address at the IFLA Conference 2008 in Quebec, Canada, in which she addressed for the first time the key role of libraries in the sustainability of the information society.¹ ENSULIB was established next year in IFLA WLIC Milan, Italy, as a Special Interest Group (SIG), sponsored and supported by IFLA's Preservation and Conservation Section. The group's original name was *Environmental Sustainability and Libraries*, and the aim was to contribute to efforts for reaching the UN Millennium Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability.²

At first, there were only couple of librarians involved in the group, whose first promoter and convener was Veerle Minner from Spain, together with Vincent Bonnet from France.³ Veerle Minner described the mission, objectives and plans of the ENSULIB in her paper titled "An Agenda for the Environmental Sustainability

¹ Lux, Claudia (2008). World Library and Information Congress, Québec, 2008: Opening address by the President of IFLA. *IFLA Journal*, 34 (4), 333–336. <https://repository.ifla.org/bitstream/123456789/386/1/ifla-journal-4-2008.pdf>

² United Nations (n.d.). Millennium Development Goals: Goal 7: Ensure Environmental Sustainability.

<https://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/enviro.html>

³ Bonnet, Vincent (2009). How green is my library? Exploring Sustainability and Libraries in a Global World. <https://www.ifla.org/news/how-green-is-my-library/>

and Libraries Special Interest Group” (2009).⁴ The group grew slowly but steady and gained new, highly motivated members like Petra Hauke (Germany), Philippe Colomb (France), and later on Madeleine Charney (US), Saima Outab (New Zealand).



ENSULIB’s programme at WLIC 2017 in Wrocław, Poland

At the end of the decade, the small special interest group worked like a section: WLIC conference sessions were organized every year from 2009 on, including offsite meetings and a Satellite Meeting 2017 in Berlin, Germany. Also, some book projects were completed, and published in the IFLA Publication Series.⁵ Last but not least the annual IFLA Green Library Award was first announced in 2016, the announcement for 2022 is currently in progress. Finally, at the IFLA Conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, the ENSULIB Special Interest Group was awarded as “Runner-up” in the [“IFLA](#)

[Dynamic Unit and Impact Award 2018”](#) competition. After many attempts and efforts, the Professional Committee was finally persuaded to pave the way for the transition from a Special Interest Group to a full-fledged IFLA Section from 2021 on.

As noted above, I joined the group a couple of years after it has been established. The reason was simple: many Finnish librarians participated the Gothenburg WLIC conference 2010 since we were preparing for WLIC 2012 in Helsinki, Finland. I was interested in environmental issues and, I thought I was ready to have a paper in the WLIC the following year.⁶ At first, I was fascinated but also a bit confused. In the beginning, I recall that I was wondering why the focus was solely on architecture and on green library buildings. I came from a relatively small Finnish public library and felt quite helpless. I realized that I could not do much for the energy efficiency of the building nor did my budget give room for new lighting system or ventilation. It seemed that we could only sort our wastes and recirculate our deaccessioned books. That was not enough for me; I wished to do more. Hence, my argument that we cannot rebuild all the libraries but must learn to run them in environmentally sustainable manner.

⁴ Minner Van Neygen, Veerle (2009). An Agenda for the Environmental Sustainability and Libraries Special Interest Group. Paper submitted for the 75th World Library and Information Congress, 23–27 August 2009, Milan, Italy. <https://www.ifla.org/past-wlic/2009/168-minner-en.pdf>

⁵ Hauke, Petra; Latimer, Karen; Niess, Robert (eds.) (2021). *New Libraries in Old Buildings: Creative Reuse*. (IFLA Publication, 180). Berlin and Boston: De Gruyter Saur. ISBN: 978311067951-9 <https://www.ibi.hu-berlin.de/de/studium/studprojekte/buchidee/bi19-20/startseite>

Hauke, Petra; Charney, Madeleine; Sahavirta, Harri (eds.) (2018). *Going Green: Implementing Sustainable Strategies in Libraries Around the World: Buildings, Management,*

Programmes and Services. (IFLA Publication, 177). Berlin and Boston: De Gruyter Saur. ISBN: 9783110608878 <https://www.ibi.hu-berlin.de/de/studium/studprojekte/buchidee/bi175/bi175%20en>

Hauke, Petra; Latimer, Karen; Werner, Klaus Ulrich (eds.) (2013). *The Green Library — Die grüne Bibliothek: The Challenge of Environmental Sustainability – Ökologische Nachhaltigkeit in der Praxis*. (IFLA Publication, 161). Berlin and Boston: De Gruyter Saur. ISBN: 978-3-11-030927-0 <https://www.ibi.hu-berlin.de/de/studium/studprojekte/buchidee/bi12>

⁶ Sahavirta, Harri (2012). Showing the Green Way - Advocating Green Values and Image in a Finnish Public Library. *IFLA Journal*, 38 (3), 239–242.



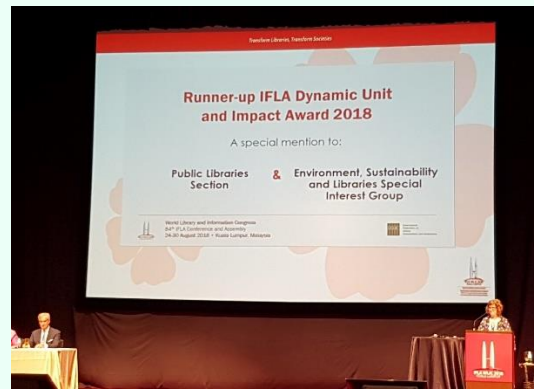
ENSULIB's WLIC Satellite Meeting 2017 in Berlin, Germany

During the last ten years, this way of thinking has become increasingly popular in general environmental discussions and also in libraries. With some hindsight, one might say that around 2010 only carbon footprint was considered. Libraries and other organizations attempted to reduce (energy) consumption and decrease their emissions. This is naturally the foundation for all environmental work, but is only the first step. Subsequently, the concept of carbon handprint was introduced and libraries began to scrutinize the environmental aspects of their services. It was recognised that libraries can reduce their clients' emissions and need to consume by offering shared spaces and devices. This means that (even small) libraries can have a real role in sustainable communities and a concrete task in environmental work.⁷

The shift of focus from carbon footprint to carbon handprint is remarkable but it is not the only shift which has occurred over the years. Another development has been the rise to prominence of the social aspect of sustainability. This may be illustrated by the first IFLA Green Library Award winner from 2016: El Pequeño Sol Ecological Library (The Little Sun Ecological Library), Mexico.⁸ In this project, the inhabitants of a little Mexican village collected

recyclable materials from which they built a library for children. The building process was sustainable but so was the over-all goal: to promote children's literacy since that is an important foundation for environmental sustainability. Sustainability was understood in a broad sense and penetrated the entire process.

This broadening of the sustainability concept also led us to change the group's name. Originally, the group was called Environmental Sustainability and Libraries. Now, we wished to preserve the "environmental aspect" but also incorporate social and economic sustainability.



ENSULIB SIG received recognition as "Runner-up" for the "IFLA Dynamic Unit and Impact Award 2018" in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

But let us return to *the IFLA Green Library Award*. The Award has been a great achievement for ENSULIB. It was originally Petra Hauke's initiative and has become a success. In my mind, two things have been amazing. First, many people have volunteered to work on the Award; over the years about 30 reviewers from all over the world have participated in the jury and evaluated the submissions. Second, there have been so many submissions (again) from all over the world that in 2021 we needed to do some preliminary elimination and the Award had to be divided into two categories: *Best Green Library*

⁷ Sahavirta, Harri (2012). A visit to the library reduces your carbon footprint: The library, pioneer in environmental sustainability. In Sonkkänen, Leila; Minna Asikainen, Harri Sahavirta (eds.), *Green@library* (pp. 14–19).

<https://www.netzwerk-gruene-bibliothek.de/wp-content/uploads/pdf/G%4oLen.pdf>

⁸ Germinalia (2016). Pequeño Sol Green Library. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OProiYPkCDw>

and the *Best Green Library Project*. The further development of the Award is on ENSULIB's Action plan for 2021–2023 and a working group has been formed to formulate revised definitions of green and sustainable libraries, clear descriptions of the new categories and robust criteria for the Award. With these actions ENSULIB wishes to enhance the significance of *IFLA Green Library Award*.

The IFLA Green Library Award was originally conceived of by a small Special Interest Group. This situation changed dramatically at the beginning of 2021 when ENSULIB gained section status and now has a full standing committee of 20 members. The standing committee begun its work at the IFLA WLIC 2021, in August – and hence, we are still organizing our working methods, but it is evident that in future ENSULIB will be stronger and more proactive in the united library field that is interested in environmental issues. I cannot describe how happy we are about the transition – we had been working hard for it for several years.

ENSULIB's transition from SIG to section reflects another great shift in societal thinking about environmental sustainability. States, but also cities, local communities, and organizations, have committed to various environmental agreements, programmes, and goals. The most remarkable of these are Paris Climate Agreement carbon neutrality goals, and UN Agenda 2030. Environmental issues are in focus everywhere in society. For libraries this means two things. First, libraries are not alone in their environmental work anymore. As a chief librarian, I and my library's property management team have now the same carbon neutrality goals and we work together to attain them. Environmental requirements are considered seriously. The second point is that the new goals — especially UN Sustainable Development Goals — have broadened our thinking about sustainable libraries. Libraries must now re-examine their environmental work through the 17 SDGs. In a way, this may seem like

an easy job since libraries can always claim that they offer information on several topics — for example, life under water and life on earth (goals 14 and 15). It is also relatively easy to find the central goals of libraries – libraries strive for good education and to reduce inequalities (goals 4 and 10). However, it is harder to say how libraries really and concretely advocate these goals and how to measure or otherwise show that the positive results are delivered. It seems evident that this kind of criterion will be added to the IFLA Green Library Award 2022 criteria. Considering all of these things, it is evident there is still a lot for ENSULIB to do.

GAIA
EN MI BIBLIOTECA LA TIERRAS DE TODOS

Biblioteca Pública Municipal Daniel Gaillard

© Daniel Gaillard Public Library, Cali, Colombia
Winner of the IFLA Green Library Award 2019

ENSULIB 2019
ATHENS, GREECE

**IFLA Environment, Sustainability and Libraries
Special Interest Group**

ENSULIB's mission is to address:

- Effects of climate change on libraries
- Applications of environment-friendly practices in libraries
- Proposed environmental recommendations for the profession
- Increasing and promoting sustainability-related library resources and services
- Increasing librarians' own awareness of environmental concerns
- Please visit: <https://www.ifla.org/environment-sustainability-and-libraries>
- Please contact/visit:
Harri.Sahavirta@hel.fi (Convener)
Petra.Hanke@hm-berlin.de (Secretary)
<https://www.ifla.org/environment-sustainability-and-libraries>

IFLA International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions

Tuesday 27 Aug
08:30-10:30 **Session 156**
Open Session: Environment, Sustainability and Libraries - SIG
"Let's Change Now: Libraries Driving Sustainability"

Tuesday 27 Aug
11:45-12:45 **Session 166**
Joint Session: IFLA's Environment, Sustainability and Libraries - SIG (S)
"Libraries and Sustainability: Examples, Supporters, Educators"

Tuesday 27 Aug
12:45-13:45 **Session 172**
Awards Presentation:
IFLA Green Library Award 2019

Thursday 29 Aug
11:45-12:45 **Session 262a**
Lightning Talks – IFLA Professional Committee
"10 Reasons for Environmental Commitment in Public Libraries"

INOFFICIAL BUSINESS MEETING
Meet and Greet ENSULIB!
Time and Place TBA
Please contact:
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ENSULIB's programme at WLIC 2019 in Athens, Greece

ENSULIB'S DEFINITION

What is a Green Library?

Environment means the surroundings or conditions in which human beings, organizations animals, or plants live and operate. Environments can be natural, social, or cultural.

Sustainable development is development that "meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" (Our Common Future, Brundtland Report, UN). Present environments are endangered by climate change and other threats including social inequalities. All organizations should strive to protect the environment through sustainable development. This includes all kinds of libraries, which can play an active and significant role in sustainable development.

A green and sustainable library is a library which takes into account environmental, economic and social sustainability. Green and sustainable libraries may be of any size, but they should have a clear sustainability agenda that includes:

- **Green buildings and equipment:** The emissions, or carbon footprint, of the building and equipment are actively decreased.
- **Green office principles:** Operational routines and processes are environmentally sustainable.
- **Sustainable economy:** Consumption is restrained; circular and sharing economy practices are advanced and are made accessible to the community.
- **Sustainable library services:** Relevant and up-to-date information is easy to access for clients. Shared spaces, devices, and environmental education are offered and operations are efficient. The library has a positive carbon handprint.
- **Social sustainability:** Good education, literacy, community engagement, cross cultural diversity, social inclusion, and overall participation are considered. The library works actively to reduce inequality.
- **Environmental management:** Environmental goals are SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Timebound), and the library works to decrease its own negative impact on environment. The library's environmental policy, its implementation and the results of environmental work are communicated to a broader audience.
- **Commitment to general environmental goals and programs:** Commitment to work towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals, environmental certificates & programs, the Paris climate agreement etc.

Introducing ENSULIB Standing Committee Members

There are [20 Standing Committee members](#) in IFLA's ENSULIB Section. In this issue, we introduce 8 of them. Names are listed in alphabetical order of family names.



Beth Filar Williams, United States of America

Beth Filar Williams is currently the Head of the Library Experience and Access Department at Oregon State University Libraries, United States of America. She is an active member of the OSU Faculty Senate Carbon Commitment Committee working toward carbon neutral for campus. Beth is the co-founder of the American Library Association's Sustainability Round Table and continues to work within the committee, as well as being an adviser for the Resilient Communities: libraries respond to climate change. She has worked professionally for over 20 years in the many facets of librarianship but always including sustainability principles, mentoring students, and collaborations. The opportunity to host virtual international students over several years, as well as guest lecture in Parma, Italy for the DILL program was a highlight. Beth earned a Master's of Library Science from the University of Maryland and a BA in Geography from the Johns Hopkins University.



Sarah Foezon, France

Sarah Foezon works at Goethe-Institut France. She earned a Master of Library and Information Science from Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin (Germany), a University Certificate of Teaching Librarian and a Bachelor in Cultural Studies. She worked for over ten years at the library of the German Historical Institute Paris (Max Weber Foundation) and has been Head of Library at the Goethe-Institut Paris since 2016. The Goethe-Institut is represented in nearly one hundred countries, promoting knowledge of the German language abroad and fostering international cultural cooperation. Sarah Foezon's work there focuses both on collaboration with institutions in the field of literary and cultural mediation and education in a Franco-German and international context, and on the further development of library services with regard to changing usage demands. Sustainability is an important topic of her library work, and she has been involved with ENSULIB since 2021 to support and network projects in the field of green libraries.



Arnold Mwanzu, Kenya

Arnold is the Associate University Librarian & Regional Librarian, East Africa at Aga Khan University where he manages all the campus libraries in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. He holds a Master's in Information Science from Kenyatta University, A Master's in organizational development from USIU-Africa and a certification in Lib@web Programme from University of Antwerp, Belgium. He is currently completing a PhD in Information Science at Moi University. He was previously a standing committee member of the IFLA Preservation & Conservation section (2017 - 2021); the current Secretary of the Kenya Library & Information Science Consortium; the Country coordinator for EIFL and an IFLA/OCLC Fellow from the Jay Jordan fellowship in Columbus, Ohio. His research interests are in library automation, knowledge management, evidence based practice and green libraries. He has been involved in ENSULIB since the satellite conference in Berlin (2017) and has been a reviewer of IFLA Green Library award for the past three years. He has also authored a book chapter for ENSULIB's book project, Going Green: Implementing sustainable strategies in libraries around the world.



Katharina Portugal, Austria

Katharina Portugal has a bachelor's degree from the University of Vienna in German studies and Theater, Film and Media Studies. Since 2015, she has been a staff member at the Austrian Library Association, where she currently works in the area of communication and cooperation.



Rosario Toril Moreno, Spain

Rosario works at National Center of Environmental Education, Spain. She holds a degree in Documentation and Hispanic Philology, and earned her Master's degree in Environmental Management. Since 1991 she has worked at the Documentation Center of the National Center for Environmental Education (CENEAM), Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge of Spain. Since 2002 she has coordinated the Spanish Network for Environmental Information and Documentation (RECIDA), a national Seminar on Environmental Documentation Centers and has organised courses on environmental documentation and images. Since 2010 Rosario has collaborated with the IFLA Environmental Sustainability and Libraries Section. She authored many publications on environmental documentation. She collaborates with SEDIC (Spanish Society for Documentation and Scientific Information) and is currently Secretary General. Since 2016 she has been a Spanish representative for the National Reference Centers in Communication of the European Environment Agency.



Amélie Vallotton Preisig, Switzerland

Amélie Vallotton Preisig works at Alliance Sud Infodoc, Switzerland. She first graduated in philosophy, literature and religious sciences (MA) and then in library and information sciences (MAS). She started her career as an e-librarian for the NGO Globethics.net in Geneva between 2009 and 2012, and has been working as a librarian at Alliance Sud Infodoc since 2012. She has been serving in professional associations since 2011 (IFLA/FAIFE Committee Member and Secretary 2011-2017; BIS/Bibliosuisse Committee Member since 2015 to present; Bibliosuisse/Biblio2030 Commission co-president since 2017; Bibliosuisse vice-president since 2019 ; IFLA/ENSULIB Steering Committee Member since 2021).



Janet Wagner, Germany

I am a librarian in the Philological library at the Freie Universität Berlin. I have a bachelor degree in library management and I am currently enrolled in a part-time Master's programme "Education - Sustainability - Transformation" at the University for Sustainable Development Eberswalde, Germany. Parts of my daily work concern communication and engagement within the University and their libraries to convey the subject of library sustainability. I am one founding and active member of the "German Green Library Network" and also co-initiator of "Libraries4Future".



Ana Zdravje, Slovenia

I am head librarian of the Šentvid Library, a branch of the Ljubljana City Library in Slovenia's capital. I developed an ecologically themed program for my library which received the IFLA Green Library Award in 2019. Since then, I have been lecturing about and promoting green librarianship at various conferences. I have participated in the preparation of professional recommendations and standards for public libraries for the period 2018–2028 for Slovenia's National Council for Library Services. I have been engaged in the introduction processes for the RFID system and technology that has been initially implemented in the Šentvid Library. I am president of the Ljubljana Library Association. I have been invited to join ENSULIB where I could contribute more effectively to the goals of sustainable development and the preparation of guidelines for library activity on the more global scheme. I think it is very important that library professionals across the world work together, exchange their knowledge and experience, and develop best possible programs of operation that will reach the widest range of libraries possible.

Dr. Petra Hauke, Secretary of ENSULIB Awarded the IFLA Scroll of Appreciation



Petra Hauke

Petra's career spans more than 35 years of expertise in both public and academic libraries. She has taught on a wide range of library-related subjects at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany, and at a host of other universities in Germany and abroad. She has edited and authored numerous library science related publications like "The Green Library" (2013). She has presented many papers internationally at IFLA and other international and national conferences. She joined IFLA as an Education and Training Section Standing Committee Member (2005–2013), serving as newsletter editor, later as secretary, followed by the Library Theory and Research Section Standing Committee 2013–2017. Her desire to promote young professionals led to the "IFLA LIS Student Paper Award" and the "Adopt a Student!" programme. Petra joined the ENSULIB Special Interest Group 2009 at the WLIC conference in Milan. She helped to promote the Green Library movement through conference papers and ENSULIB conference sessions, including the ENSULIB Satellite Meeting 2017 in Berlin, and the annual IFLA

Green Library Award from 2016 on. At the IFLA General Assembly 2021 Petra was awarded with the [IFLA Scroll of Appreciation](#) "...for her distinguished contribution to IFLA, particularly in increasing understanding of the crucial role of the environment and sustainability for libraries. IFLA also recognises her extensive work as a motivator of young professionals to integrate into, and engage with, the international library field."

Petra is IFLA member (Personal Affiliate) and co-founder of the German-speaking "Green Library Network" ([Netzwerk Grüne Bibliothek](#)). Website: <https://www.ibi.hu-berlin.de/de/ueber-uns/personen/hauke>

E-mail: petra.hauke@hu-berlin.de





The IFLA Green Library Award 2021

(Since 2016)

Priscilla Pun

Head of Technical Process Unit,
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The ENSULIB Open Session titled [Green Libraries and Sustainable Practices for the Long-Term Future](#) was successfully held at the virtual IFLA World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) 2021 on 19 August this year. During this international annual event, the [winner and runners-up of the Award 2020](#) presented their submissions, and [the winners of the IFLA Green Library Award 2021](#) were announced. The [annual IFLA Green Library Award](#) was initiated by ENSULIB in 2016 with the support of IFLA, to reward the best green library submissions that communicate the library's commitment to the environment, society, and sustainability locally and worldwide. Since its establishment in

2016, more than 200 submissions have been received from all around the world. An international review committee consisting of about 30 members of library professionals, LIS graduate students and architects has been formed each year to evaluate the submissions.

From 2021, the Award was divided into two categories, namely *the Best Green Library* (Category 1) and *the Best Green Library Project* (Category 2). Category 1 emphasizes environmental and sustainable work concerning the whole library, while Category 2 specifies one or more areas of library operations or projects that are significant in advancing environmental and sustainable goals, at least locally. The ENSULIB 2021-2023 Action Plan includes further developing and refining the two new categories for the Award. In 2021, a Special Recognition for the submission of great, low-cost accomplishments was introduced in an attempt to appreciate and encourage libraries delivering excellent initiatives with limited or small budget.

The IFLA Green Library Award 2022 is coming soon. You are welcome to submit proposals to ENSULIB.



Dr. Harri Sahavirta, the Chair of ENSULIB announced the winners of the 6th IFLA Green Library Award at the IFLA WLIC 2021

Category 1 IFLA Green Library Award Winner 2021

Canada, Edmonton, The Edmonton Public Library—“Edmonton Public Library”

The Edmonton Public Library is committed to sustainable development and providing facilities that have strong design emphasis on human and environmental health, proven by one-third of EPL libraries achieving LEED status. Over the past 13 years EPL has built 8 LEED certified libraries with EPL's flagship, Stanley A. Milner Library (over 225,000 square feet), the 9th LEED project once certified. Its vision and commitment is to continue the green path and seek LEED certification for all new library buildings. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is the most widely used green building rating system in the world.

STANLEY A. MILNER LIBRARY REVITALIZATION

Building Design

- An additional 450 windows/skylights were installed to bring in as much natural light as possible
- All new energy efficient lighting systems and HVAC equipment
- The floorplan was designed to provide adaptive and versatile spaces
- Low emitting materials were selected for construction including paints, flooring, wood, adhesives, and sealants









STANLEY A. MILNER LIBRARY REVITALIZATION

Sustainable Goals Summary

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce water/electrical/gas consumptions with energy efficient equipment and fixtures Implement a 3-stream waste collection program (Waste/Recycling/Organics) and provide education material to customers on the program Provide car charging stations and bike racks to promote alternative modes of transportation Install Direct Digital Controls on major building systems to monitor energy usage and thermal comfort of occupants Promote green and sustainable education and providing tours of our LEED certified buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to enhance our refrigeration management program Divert waste from the landfills by recycling construction materials and reusing materials for the new building wherever possible Ensure all new construction materials are low-emitting Maximize the use of materials manufactured and / or harvested within an 800 km radius of the site Maintain function and aesthetics of exterior building lighting while reducing light pollution
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Category 2 IFLA Green Library Project Award Winner 2021

Finland Oulu, Oulu City Library—
“A Responsible Library as Promoter of
Environmental Awareness” (see page 33)

Special Recognition

Cuba, Santa Clara, V.C., Asociación Cubana de
Bibliotecarios, Villa Clara Branch—
“BiblioVerde, a space to share and learn in
harmony with nature”

The BiblioVerde project provides a space
developed by the Cuban Association of
Librarians, Villa Clara Branch, where the
community, can acquire general information,



Develop a collection of information resources on
the environment, sustainable development and
responsible consumption

skills, and knowledge about horticulture and
sustainable gardening through talks, workshops,
and conversations. The meetings are held
monthly. They provide information on plants'
care, ways of cultivation, ideas and design
suggestions for gardening (external or in pots)
and the construction of gardens at home. The
space contributes to reinforcing the library's
performance in several Sustainable
Development Goals.



My Green House Project Program: for the
strengthening of urban agriculture, recycling and
the care and protection of the environment



Children's creation contest: My house is my city

CONFERENCE REPORTS

Library, the Heart of the City: the Green Library

Ana Zdravje

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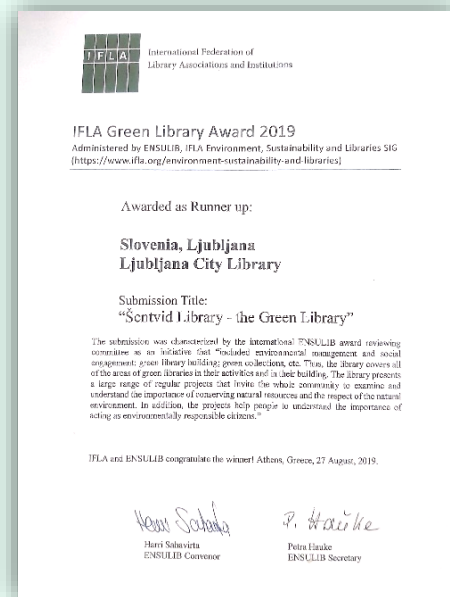
On Thursday, 20 May 2021, Ljubljana City Library hosted the sixth international one-day professional conference *Library, the Heart of the City 2021*, dedicated to green libraries.

One of the branches of Ljubljana City Library is Šentvid Library, which has been renovated in 2014. It is located in a border area of the city, almost half of which is covered in green, forest surfaces. The main motto of the renovated library is: *We live in harmony with nature*. Through it we charted the concept of the green library.

In 2019, Šentvid Library participated in the IFLA Green Library Award competition, awarded by the umbrella international library organization IFLA, and achieved very high placement with the presentation of its realization of the concept of a green library.

We wanted to give green library a new impetus and organized an international conference which would connect expert lectures on the subject in the whole of Slovenia but also in the wider region. Therefore we dedicated our traditional biennial professional conference – the theme of which is always different – to green libraries. The conference should have taken

place in 2020, but was for obvious reasons implemented this year in a virtual environment.



Green Library Šentvid (Ljubljana City Library) wins the award in 2019

We divided the programme into three sets. The first encompassed a broader framework within which a green library can successfully function. Petra Hauke, PhD from Humboldt University in Berlin presented on the ENSULIB section of the IFLA, an international social network focused on sustainable development. A Green City, or Ljubljana as the Green Capital of Europe, was presented by Nataša Jazbinšek Seršen, Head of the Department for Environmental Protection and Executive Head of the project Green Capital of Europe 2016. Matej Nikšič, PhD from the Urban Planning Institute and lecturer at the Faculty of Architecture of the University of Ljubljana also presented on the city-building role of public buildings and spaces within the city.



Petra Hauke, PhD presented on the ENSULIB section of the IFLA, an international social network focused on sustainable development

The second set of content was left to the library profession and the developing concept of green libraries. It was presented by Zofia Mikolasek from Hungary, Ksenija Tokić, PhD and Ana Rubić from Croatia, and Ana Zdravje, M.A. from Slovenia.



Ana Zdravje, M.A. from Slovenia presented Šentvid Library, the Green Library

The third set offered the listener a colourful palette of green visions not only in libraries but also in other public institutions, for example in schools and kindergardens. Libraries often collaborate with these institutions. These green visions were presented by dedicated and innovative experts of various professions from Slovenia and Croatia.

All lectures are published on the Ljubljana City Library [web site](#). You are warmly welcome to listen to them. We hope that you will find new ideas, encounter inspiring practice or a solution you have been looking for. Public libraries have the power, and our spaces are frequently visited. This enables us to gently but persistently form public opinion in various ways. May our working together implement all of the 17 sustainable development goals from the UN's 2030 Agenda.

When renovating or building new library spaces, Ljubljana City Library always refers to standards of green architectural planning and environmentally-friendly practice. Moreover, when planning new library services, Ljubljana City Library takes into account all areas of sustainable development, like environment, society, culture, and economy.

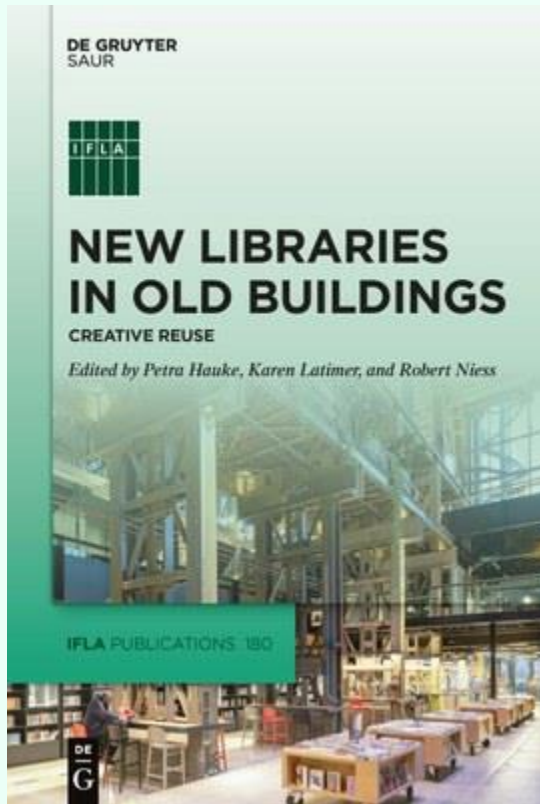
BOOK REVIEWS

"New Libraries in Old Buildings: Creative Reuse"

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New Libraries in Old Buildings

— **Creative Reuse**

Edited by: Petra Hauke, Karen Latimer and
Robert Niess

Berlin/Boston: De Gruyter Saur, 2021

ISBN 9783110679663

(IFLA Publications; No 180)

With programs and spaces that build local resiliency through connections between neighbors, and borrowing services that facilitate communities sharing finite resources to create social equity while limiting resource consumption and financial costs, libraries are a key part of a sustainable future on our planet. The value of the library to the people it serves justifies the economic and ecological costs of creating and updating library spaces, but in IFLA's latest publication, *New Libraries in Old Buildings: Creative Reuse*, editors Petra Hauke, Karen Latimer, and Robert Niess gather nineteen case studies from public and academic library buildings all over the world to challenge the idea that great library spaces can't be created in existing buildings, and demonstrate that adaptation of old buildings can provide benefits which can't be realized in new construction. *New Libraries in Old Buildings*, available now through open access, should be on the reading list for any library administrators and stakeholders looking to update their library space, architects that specialize in library construction, and anyone interested in creating more sustainable libraries.

The reuse of existing buildings as library spaces requires a thorough understanding of the existing buildings and greater creativity than new construction, but reuse offers an opportunity for libraries to lead the way in finding solutions to issues faced by communities and organizations all over the world now grappling with a need for greater services and limitations imposed by climate change, historical building patterns, and empty buildings. In the case study, *A Fire Hall Reused for Windsor Public Library's John Muir Branch* in Ontario, Canada, Rebekah Mayer describes the city's determination to show an old fire hall could become a library to inspire others to rebuild the community. Hauke, Latimer, and Niess point

out, old buildings have characters and aesthetic value that are difficult to capture in new construction, and many old buildings inspire a sense of pride and identity in residents who prize older buildings for their place in the community's history and cultural identity, as in Tara Murray Grove's case study, *Transforming a Match Factory into the American Philatelic Research Library in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania*. Older buildings are often well-situated geographically, providing greater access and walkability in villages, towns, and cities that have been built out over the course of decades or centuries of development. Reusing buildings reduces grey energy, which includes the energy expended in the initial creation of a building, energy expended through demolition and disposal, and the energy needed to rebuild. New architectural techniques for building reuse along with updated techniques, materials, and equipment for building systems and rising hard costs for construction and demolition mean that reuse of buildings no longer has to be considered a luxury in comparison to new construction. Of course, not all buildings can be easily reborn as libraries owing to the nature of the services libraries provide to their communities and the structural requirements for storing books, and the editors offer an overview of several types of historical building and the common benefits and drawbacks to transforming each into a library.

As social and professional life transform in the wake of Covid, and local business models and storefronts adapt to a world where ecommerce plays a larger role, more buildings will need to find new uses or fall into irreversible disrepair. Libraries will have an opportunity to play a greater role in creating resilient communities, and these existing spaces can help them meet patrons where they are while mitigating the

library's contribution to climate change. The guidance and case studies in *New Libraries in Old Buildings: Creative Reuse* provide an informative overview of the processes involved in reusing an old building for library purposes while focusing on community needs, and the information gathered in the book will inspire more sustainable library facilities in the future.

Download:

- [\[English – PDF\]](#)
- [\[EPUB\]](#)

Website: <https://www.ibi.hu-berlin.de/de/studium/studprojekte/buchidee/bi-19-20/startseite>

BOOK REVIEWS

"Il paradigma della biblioteca sostenibile"

Rossana Morriello

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Il paradigma della biblioteca sostenibile

A cura di Giovanni Di Domenico, con Anna Bilotta, Concetta Damiani, Rosa Parlavecchia.

Milano : Ledizioni, 2021

ISBN 9788855265768

The book, published in October 2021, was edited by Giovanni Di Domenico, professor of Library science at the University of Salerno, together with some collaborators. It is a collection of essays mainly in Italian, except for one written in Spanish by Margarita Pérez Pulido, professor at the University of Extremadura, which cover many of the aspects related to the paradigm of the sustainable library, referred to in the title of the book. The work starts with some introductory chapters presenting a review of the state of the art and recalling the professional and scientific literature in Italy. Then a chapter by Chiara Faggiolani comments on the results of an extremely interesting survey on library users conducted recently in Italy by a network of public libraries, in collaboration with the Italian Library Association and Sapienza University of Rome. Other chapters deal with crucial topics for the sustainable library like open access, organization and management, preservation, digital culture, evaluation, as well as perspectives from specific kinds of institutions like academic libraries and archives. This publication is a further important step in the reflection about libraries and sustainability, which in Italy has been growing significantly over the past three years.

Publisher Website:

<https://www.ledizioni.it/prodotto/paradigma-della-biblioteca-sostenibile/>

A Guide to Support Libraries' Commitment to Sustainable Development and Social Responsibility



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The ENSSIB building, French national LIS School

The French National Library and Information Sciences School (ENSSIB) has designed a [thematic guide based on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs) of Agenda 2030. This regularly updated open access resource is a valuable tool to support professionals engaged in developing a sustainable development strategy for their library. Reference documents, academic articles and works, documentary files and a selection of books can be consulted in related to the SDGs. A professional news feed keeps a watch on events linking Sustainable development, societal responsibility issues and

libraries and reports on study days and publications produced by libraries.

On all subjects related to sustainable development, libraries can also offer collections, exhibitions, workshops, courses, conferences. Some examples of concrete actions carried out by libraries and indicated in the guide include: accessibility, [social inclusion](#), free access, solidarity fridges to fight against food waste, health information, literacy actions, [easy-to-read spaces](#), [support platforms](#), [digital advisers](#), and [services to migrants](#).

This resource is also a support for leading sustainable development and societal responsibility workshops. A workshop based on this libguide thus received national labeling in September 2021, on the sixth anniversary of the 2030 Agenda.



GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE LIBRARIES AND PROJECTS: AUSTRALIA

The Australian Library and Information Association: Greening Libraries in Australia

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The [Australian Library and Information Association](#) (ALIA) is the national professional organisation for the Australian library and information services sector. It has recently launched its [Greening Libraries](#) initiative, to provide leadership for the sector and information professionals to work towards a sustainable future.

ALIA's commitment to sustainability includes a [target](#), set in October 2021, for the organisation to become carbon neutral by 2030. ALIA CEO, Sue McKerracher, confirms early measures toward carbon neutrality are already in place, such as having had energy efficient lighting fitted at ALIA offices, eschewing bottled water at meetings and events, using sustainable sourcing, and reducing printed promotional materials. Building on these initial moves, ALIA plans to hire a consultant to undertake an audit to provide a

baseline and highlight areas for improvement, and develop a roadmap for carbon neutrality including measurable goals. ALIA will also work towards [Climate Active](#) certification, a scheme accredited by the Australian government.

As a peak body for the Australian library and information sector, McKerracher sees ALIA playing a stewardship role in library sustainability and working collaboratively with the sector to support environmentally sustainable outcomes. The [ALIA Sustainable Libraries Group](#) already exists to educate colleagues and provide support on issues of environmental, social and financial sustainability. While ALIA supports the UN Sustainable Development Goals as a whole, its SDG [targets](#) include developing guidelines for Australian libraries' environmental sustainability, and ALIA plans to realise this through its Greening Libraries initiative.

Work has commenced on the development of resources planned to support libraries on their environmental sustainability journey. With the generous support of the [Council of Australian University Librarians](#), ALIA has commissioned a team from Charles Sturt University to conduct Greening Libraries research. The initial output is a [literature review](#) that highlights practical sustainability approaches from across the international library sector, as well as the key enablers for success. A further report, in early 2022, will incorporate case studies about how different types of libraries address environmental sustainability.

Based on these research outputs, ALIA plans to launch a survey to enable libraries to self-assess their environmental sustainability. The scoring will be done on two levels. The first will focus on actionable factors within the control of most libraries including: commitment and strategy;

greening initiatives such as recycling and re-use; communication and awareness raising; and how the library monitors its environmental performance. Recognising that many libraries are part of a larger organisation and not independent, the second group of criteria relates to a library's ability to exert influence towards greening for buildings, the design of spaces, and through partnering with others.

ALIA plans to analyse the survey responses and publish an anonymised national database of green library benchmarking data. ALIA additionally plans to publish an analysis of trends in environmentally sustainable library design by drawing on building specifications data from three rounds of ALIA's Library Design Awards. Beyond these valuable resources the ALIA toolkit will also include a series of library-specific templates to support libraries to plan and track their environmental strategies.

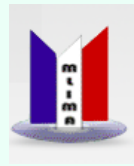
ALIA's Greening Libraries initiative will provide a range of practical resources to support Australian libraries to develop environmental strategies. However, Sue McKerracher recommends that starting small is the best first step for libraries embarking on their environmental sustainability journey. Easily achievable examples include considering [alternatives](#) to plastic book covering and labels,

and identifying sustainable options for weeding collections such as those on offer through the [James Bennett Sustainability project](#). Building up a body of smaller achievements in consumption and waste reduction, and client education will form an excellent base for planning and progressing larger strategic initiatives. Every little thing counts, and ALIA strongly supports the view that by working together libraries can make a positive contribution to carbon reduction.



GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE LIBRARIES AND PROJECTS: CHINA, MACAO

Learning is an Open Door: Sustaining Higher Education in the COVID-19 Pandemic: Macau Academic Library Alliance (MALA)



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In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the university libraries in Macao have been working together to provide online digital services to keep the virtual door open when the physical one is closed. By the end of March, [MALA](#), formed by nine university libraries and supported by [Education and Youth Development Bureau of Macao SAR Government](#), already have had over 10 virtual meetings to discuss coordination and solutions for electronic resources, inter-library loans, patron services, and teaching and research challenges. The following highlights some of the best practices.

MALA integrated the 9 libraries' databases, which were then promptly presented on MALA's platform. The subjects cover science and technology, economics, pedagogy, humanities, and social science.

An addition of high-quality subscriptions, self-created academic resources, and external resources was also push forward for teaching and research.

University of Macau Faculty of Health Sciences created a series of videos with the technical support of the university library's Media Laboratory to disseminate knowledge and actions for Covid prevention. Another programme on book disinfection was also released by the University of Macau Library to help users learn about good practice in library hygiene

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tAnMVrhfgZc> Macau University of Science and Technology (MUST) Library compiled and integrated various subject reading lists to provide solutions for lectures, teaching materials, and assignments on the university's cloud system "WeMust". The University library also produced a manual for easy adoption of WeMust. Its 19 video clips and 7 online training modules saw participation by 90% of its lecturers. Macau Polytechnic Institute Library has dedicated an online space for SARS-CoV-2 research resources for speedy research reference. To support users during the lockdown, City University of Macau Library, Keung Wu Nursing College of Macau, and St. Joseph University Library provided information literacy support such as webinars, database use, online training, thesis consultation, technical support, instruction videos, as well as reference service by phone and email.



GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE LIBRARIES AND PROJECTS: INDONESIA

“E-JARIG” Innovation of Online Search Demand Services: Collection of Rare Newspapers Collected by the National Library of the Republic of Indonesia in the Pandemic Era

Atikah Haroen

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INTRODUCTION

The impact of the pandemic has forced libraries to start shifting from physical to digital services in whole or in part. This makes the role of librarians more challenging and also offers a number of new opportunities. The role of the librarian becomes more important by carrying out various innovations and creativity in providing services. Librarians participate in supporting the lifelong learning process for the community, providing motivation and correct and useful information. Some things that can be done to support the community remotely include communicating with clients through social media via telephone, WhatsApp, and email to keep in touch and to share knowledge with the public.

The National Library of Indonesia till now, still keeps a collection of newspapers from the past, namely relics from the collection of the

Bataviaasch Genootschap van Kunten en Weetenschappen. The rarest newspaper collection is the Bataviasche Koloniale Courant, which was published in 1811 until the newspaper collection was bound in 2016. The rare bound newspaper collection is a collection of newspapers that have passed a certain period and are collected and bound in chronological order, either monthly, semester or year later bound. This binding increases the durability of the collection, and makes the collection easier to use. This daily news is a primary source that can be used as a reference for scientific research or a means of historical evidence. The collection of bound newspapers consists of various regional and foreign languages. These include Javanese, Madurese, Sundanese, Batak, Malay, Bugis, Dayak as well as Dutch, English, German, French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, and Japanese. This is the reason why the National Library of Indonesia tries to preserve and serve it to its users—mostly students and researchers, as well as the general public.



The Rare Indonesian Newspapers Collection

The interest of the public, especially students and researchers both in Indonesia and abroad, in conducting data searches/searches for rare newspaper collections is very high because:

- a. Not all the collections of old rare newspapers in National Library have been digitized;
- b. There is already a collection of rare newspapers in the form of microfilm, but it is hampered by the large number of microfilm collections that are no longer accessible due to damage and most of the readers, especially historians, prefer to read the physical copy;
- c. Difficulties searching information in rare newspaper collections include the physical format, content, and language
- d. Not all information is found in books (monographs) and alternative choices as research sources include collections of rare newspapers which are considered a primary source;
- e. The National Library as a library that has the most complete collection of rare newspapers for Indonesian content (Indonesiana) and its users come from various regions throughout Indonesia and even researchers from abroad.

Before the pandemic, this rare newspaper collection service received quite a number of visits, mostly from students doing final assignments, academic researchers, journalists for flashback reports, and for supporting evidence in court cases. During the pandemic, there was an increase in requests for information retrieval from the public through social media (WA, Email). For this reason, the Bind Rare Newspaper Collection service group created a method to independently to record and document incoming search requests which are given the term "E-JARIG". This E-jarig innovation is manual search assistance, but the users must first fill out the google search request form. Once they enter the rare newspaper service data, a search by the rare newspaper

collection librarian team begins. The search is done by physically opening the pages of rare newspapers, which are given the term "google-finger" this translated to the service name "e-jarig".

E-FINGER (MANUAL GOOGLE) SERVICE

The following fields are displayed in the E-Jarig form. The user's personal data consisting of: name, place of birth, date of birth, residential address, telephone/mobile number, email, member number for the National Library of Indonesia, education/job. Then the search query field which consists of:

- topic or subject you are searching
- the required periodicity of newspapers,
- name of newspaper and edition
- research period
- questions and comments
- supporting file sample data requested
- research letter in

Display of Google Form E-Jarig
(Address: s.id/ejarig)

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CONCLUSION

In the pandemic era, rare newspaper librarians are transformed into subject specialists to be able to transfer knowledge and information requested by users.

The professionalism of librarians transferring this knowledge is important. Using information technology, the process involves an information transliteration process that is able to overcome the limitations of space and time. Science requires and produces information. And this has been proven by librarians from the collection of rare newspapers bound by the National Library of Indonesia. The pandemic has presented a challenge to find new innovations whose ultimate goal is to continue to provide information services to users in an excellent and professional manner.

GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE LIBRARIES AND PROJECTS: ITALY

Italian Library Association, Bibliopride, Agenda 2030 and IFLA Stories: the Lazio Region Experience

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In September 2021, the Italian Library Association (Associazione italiana biblioteche, AIB) organized the 10th edition of "Bibliopride – The National Week of Libraries", an event during which libraries are encouraged to promote initiatives revolving around a specific topic. The topic for this year's edition was Libraries for Agenda 2030.

Wondering about what to propose to the libraries of its region, the Lazio branch of the AIB was inspired by a beautiful project of the IFLA called SDG Stories. This initiative aims at sharing experiences at an international level on the role that libraries can play in pursuing the Sustainable Development Goals. Italy is not yet represented by any story within the IFLA Library Map of the World and so we thought: why not start from the SDG Stories of Lazio?

Therefore, between August and September 2021, AIB Lazio encouraged all the libraries of the region to think about what activities carried

out in libraries can pursue the objectives of Agenda 2030.

The perspective we wanted to share with librarians was to start from the assumption that all the activities of libraries somehow pursue the Sustainable Development Goals. However, these activities need to be shared so that they can be understood, valued, promoted, and widespread. They need to leave their libraries in order to become good practices available to other libraries.



Segni Public Library (RM), Reading aloud for children: "The Garden of Fables"

Our regional branch received a total of six stories from libraries of different kinds: public reading libraries (Public Library, Segni; Galline Bianche Library, Rome), university libraries (Giorgio Aprea Library, University of Cassino; Ludovico Quaroni Library of the PDTA Department, Sapienza University of Rome), research libraries (Library of RM1-Research Area, Italian National Research Council-CNR), and ecclesiastical libraries (General Library of the Center for Historical Studies PP. Barnabiti). The stories can be found on the Association's website:

<https://www.aib.it/struttura/sezioni/lazio/lazio-con/2021/92793-bibliopride-2021-lazio/>



General Library of the Center for Historical Studies PP. Barnabiti, Lectura Dantis for "Galeotto fu il libro" initiative

Each library suggested and shared through its story different ways of pursuing the Sustainable Development Goals. These include, for example, the design of an environmentally friendly library and the planning of meetings aimed at promoting a close-knit community, without inequalities. Furthermore, some libraries proposed initiatives connected with education, biodiversity and legality, and the development of innovative events as a means to foster and promote the heritage of libraries, putting users at the center.



Ludovico Quaroni Library of the PDTA Department, Sapienza University of Rome, Project: Bookcrossing in the Library and eco-friendly design

During an online event called "Lazio Stories" held on October 1st, 2021, librarians were invited to personally tell the stories of their libraries (<https://youtu.be/PwXQpCnswtQ>). The event was an exciting moment of sharing, but the stories were not the only protagonists: the most central aspect was the comparison among the various experiences and the enhancement of the great role that librarians can play within their communities.

AIB Lazio is still cooperating with the libraries that took part in Lazio Stories: we are currently translating the various stories into English, and we expect to send them to the IFLA very soon so that Italy can contribute to the IFLA Library Map of the World.



General Library of the Center for Historical Studies PP. Barnabiti, Young students read Divine Comedy in the edition illustrated by Gustave Dorè.

GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE LIBRARIES AND PROJECTS: FINLAND

A Responsible Library as Promoter of Environmental Awareness

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During 2019-2020, the Oulu City Library implemented A Responsible Library as Promoter of Environmental Awareness project. The objectives of the project were promoting environmental awareness among customers and library staff, reducing the environmental impact of library operations, and drawing up an action plan for sustainable development.

Creating new ways of thinking and acting

During the project, environmental communication to both customers and staff was significantly increased. All available channels and means were used for communication, from social media updates and newsletters to training, events, environmental book exhibitions and reading tips. A new green visual look, the Sustainable Library concept, was also designed to support environmental communication.

The project also looked at the library's practices related to energy use, logistics, recycling, and collections, and looked for ways to reduce the resulting environmental impact. For example, recycling was made more efficient at both customer and staff premises for the Oulu City Library by reorganizing the library's recycling

points and equipping them with sorting signs in accordance with the Sustainable Library concept.. 46 water tap nozzles were installed in the main library's toilets, with the aim of halving the property's water consumption. Plasticization was also reduced in all libraries involved in the project, and ways to reduce the use of plastic in library operations are still being considered.

Sustainable Library 2030 roadmap

The most important environmental act of the project was the preparation of an action plan for sustainable development for the Oulu City Library. The Sustainable Library 2030 roadmap supports the library's environmental work and will make the work more consistent and planned. The roadmap is based on the goals of the UN Agenda 2030 and the ecological promises made by the Oulu City Library in 2015.

The roadmap defines the main development areas and sets detailed implementation plans for each area. The roadmap consists of four main objectives: 1) promoting environmental awareness, 2) reducing environmental impact, 3) responsible construction and 4) the sustainable library of the future, as well as two specific areas for development—resource-wise regional development and the promotion of remote practices. Central to the preparation of the roadmap was also reflecting how the goals of Agenda 2030 were relevant to the library's operational goals and eco-promises.

Although all 17 SDGs are relevant and apply to libraries at some level, Oulu City Library decided to prioritise the 11 SDGs which best reflect the aims of their sustainability plan, as the basis for their roadmap. These are goals number 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16 and 17.

IFLA Green Library Award 2021

The IFLA Environment, Sustainability and Libraries Section announced the 6th IFLA Green Library Award results on August 19th, 2021.

Oulu City Library was announced the winner of the category "Green Library Project" with this project. Any type of green library or any outstanding green library project, initiative or idea was invited to apply for the IFLA Green Library Award.



The SDG goals committed by Oulu City Library; Photo credits: Maria Holappa, Oulu City Library

GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE LIBRARIES AND PROJECTS: FRANCE, PARIS

La Médiathèque de la Canopée : A Green Library in Progress

Sophie Bobet

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E-mail: sophie.bobet@paris.fr



Three years ago, the Canopée-la fontaine library in Paris decided to commit to an active ecological approach. In 2019, the library was chosen to pilot a circular economy project with a view to reducing its environmental impact, starting with a change to the library's internal professional practices, in addition to building a coherent offering of services to the public.

In 2018 the library had already developed a collection of documents specializing in Ecology, alongside different services such as a seed library, the "grainothèque", to enable the exchange of seeds amongst our patrons, and a "bouturothèque" for the barter of cuttings, etc. As part of the library's 2030 Agenda framework, workshops around recycling, as well as lectures, debates and urban walks are on offer to enable library users to understand the challenges of sustainable development.

We have started to think about setting up an Environmental management system (EMS) based upon the ISO 14001:2015 standard, to reduce and control our environmental impact. "Implementing an EMS means demonstrating compliance with current and future legal and regulatory requirements, as well as strengthening the involvement of management and employees by setting strategic environmental objectives", explains our intern Aurore Tessa. This intention to implement an EMS determined our action plan to improve indicators such as:

- The management of daily waste
- The plastic covering of books
- The management of weeded documents.

In parallel with this internal approach, we have produced a Green library guide to inform colleagues and librarians working in different sectors about this topic, and to encourage them to discuss these issues. This guide lists the different areas in which we have implemented eco-friendly procedures for office life, communication, the digital world, cultural programming, services to the public, and other ideas we have imagined for tomorrow. We have also developed English version of this Guide: <https://bibliothequecanopee.files.wordpress.com/2021/10/the-green-library-guide.pdf>

Through our reflection, we hope to gradually change our professional practices but also those of other actors in the book chain.



GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE LIBRARIES AND PROJECTS: GERMANY, BERLIN

Green FUBib: Sustainability at the University Library

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The GreenFUBib group is committed to sustainable action in everyday library life at Freie Universität. What have we already changed, and what do we still plan to do?

"The idea of sustainability is neither a brainchild of modern technocrats nor a brainwave of eco-freaks of the Woodstock generation. It is our most original world cultural heritage."

(Grober, Ulrich: Die Entdeckung der Nachhaltigkeit – Kulturgeschichte eines Begriffs, Kunstmann, 2010, p. 13)

Everywhere on this planet – no longer somewhere far away, but also on our own doorstep – severe changes are taking place in nature and the climate. The environmental guidelines of Freie Universität Berlin, have included responsible action and personal responsibility of all people in research, teaching,

studies and at the workplace both as a commitment and an appeal for many years. The university library with its 13 locations, has also specified in its strategy document that sustainability and responsibility should guide cooperation as one of seven values.

A workshop on "Sustainability in the Library System" in summer 2020 kicked off various working groups that dealt with sustainable digitisation, usage services, mobility, and procurement. At the beginning of 2021, the permanent working group GreenFUBib was founded.

GreenFUBib wants to contribute to filling the strategic terms of sustainability and responsibility with life in everyday library activities. In line with the 17 global sustainability goals, it not only keeps the ecological, but also the economic, social and cultural dimensions in mind. Against the background of the climate emergency declared by Freie Universität in 2019, it is aware that only joint efforts can lead to the desired goal of climate neutrality in the university sector by 2025.

The GreenFUBib working group is concerned with the following questions: What can be done for sustainability and climate protection in the everyday work at the library? Which measures are low-threshold and effective? Which ideas can be implemented for all, or at least most, library locations? Among other things, the following changes have taken place in recent years:

- Introduction of reusable library baskets instead of plastic bags
- Exclusive use of 100% recycled paper
- No receipt slips for borrowing and returning books

- Book transport between library locations by e-transporter
- Climate-neutral delivery by local bookshops by bicycle, public transport or e-car
- Setup of an electricity-generating bicycle ergometer for more exercise in the learning environment at the Philological Library
- Establishment and maintenance of a library garden in the Library of Social Sciences and Eastern European Studies, including a thermal composter for organic waste
- Re-use of furniture in the Geosciences Library
- Binding agreements on plastic-free book deliveries with a number of domestic and foreign bookshops
- Annual participation in climate-neutral commuting as part of the city cycling campaign
- Regular expert discussions with trainees on the topic of "Green Library"

GreenFUBib working group works closely with the following partners:

- [Unit for Sustainability and Energy Management](#)
- [Freie Universität Berlin Environmental Policy Research Centre](#)
- University Library Communication Team

The regular documentation and dissemination of sustainability activities and topic-related training via newsletters, wikis, biblioblogs, websites as well as events for library staff are important to us. Starting this year, a library colleague has been working part-time in the area of sustainability and its communication.

The following projects are being planned:

- Sponsorship of a flower meadow in front of the University Library
- Examination of a drinking-water dispenser concept at the individual library locations
- Planning a campus tour about sustainability via app
- Scanning instead of copying: Scan tents as an environmentally friendly alternative to copying and printing.

For optimal inter-department and inter-house communication and networking, the

GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE LIBRARIES AND PROJECTS: LATVIA

Awareness-raising and capacity building of librarians in Latvia on SDGs

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The Latvian library community has been talking more about SDGs since 2017, when the first two lectures-workshops on the topic were held for library directors and other leading field specialists. To encourage librarians to look more in-depth at the SDGs and help libraries to see their role in the sustainable development of their communities, the [Latvian Library Report](#) prepared by the Library Development Center of the National Library of Latvia includes a section on SDGs, that summarises and analyses the experiences of Latvian libraries in the area of SDG implementation.

In 2019, the National Library of Latvia, the Latvian National Commission for UNESCO and



Visualization of the Republic of Latvia contour with SDG pictures (author: Kristīne Deksnē)

the Library Association of Latvia launched a seminar series “Libraries and Sustainable Development: we build this world ourselves”, which aimed to highlight the role and involvement of libraries in achieving SDGs, discuss the opportunities for libraries to improve the lives of their communities, and share stories of activities that have already been implemented. The seminar series started with an introductory seminar on 4 April 2019 at the National Library of Latvia and continued with four regional seminars to facilitate the inclusion of as many librarians as possible in the exchange of information and experiences regarding SDGs. Two regional seminars were held in 2019 and two in 2020.

The seminar series was rounded off by a major conference for Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian museum and library staff “Localising the Sustainable Development Goals through Baltic museums and libraries” which was watched online by over 1000 participants on 23–24 September 2021. The conference offered presentations by local and international sector experts and practical workshops to gain knowledge, try out useful tools and network with colleagues from the Baltics. [The conference website](#) provides useful resources ([conference conclusions](#), [a conference video](#), etc.)



Promotion picture of the conference “Localising the Sustainable Development Goals through Baltic museums and libraries”



The discussion in the first day of the conference “Localising the Sustainable Development Goals through Baltic museums and libraries”



The discussion in the second day of the conference “Localising the Sustainable Development Goals through Baltic museums and libraries”

Also in 2021, representatives of the Latvian library sector have started to participate in IFLA and European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations (EBLIDA) Special Interest Groups, which are involved with sustainable development: The Secretary of the Library Association of Latvia, and chief specialist in the Library Development Center of the National Library of Latvia Kristīne Deksnė is a member of the [IFLA Environment, Sustainability and Libraries Section \(ENSULIB\)](#) and the [EBLIDA European Libraries and Sustainable Development Implementation and Assessment \(ELSIA\)](#).

As a result of the seminar series project “Libraries and Sustainable Development: we build this world ourselves” a special SDG section will be created on the [Latvian Library Portal](#), where, together with other information about SDGs, stories and examples of Latvian library SDG performance experience will be housed, as well as [a summary in English of the experience of Latvian libraries in the field of SDGs](#).

GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE LIBRARIES AND PROJECTS: SLOVENIA

Franc Ksaver Meško Ormož Library: Uniting Local Community on Its Road to Sustainability

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Franc Ksaver Meško Ormož Library is one of the four best green libraries in the world in according to IFLA Green Library Award 2021. It is one of only two Slovenian green libraries that actively chose to embark on the road to sustainability in 2015 after moving to renovated energy-efficient premises with extensive green areas, and starting to build new partnerships in the local community.



Franc Ksaver Meško Ormož Library



Green interior – large windows enable the use of natural light and ventilation



Various corners of the library are filled with plants, which contribute to the well-being of visitors, users of our services and the employees



Library garden with patio

With the help of local experts and visitors, sustainable herb and flower beds have been planted and marked.



Herbal and flower beds were planted with the help of local experts and library visitors as part of the Green Library project



In 2021, with the help of the Thursday Green Afternoons' guest and library visitors, herbal plants were marked with their names

Each year, a certified herbalist prepares a variety of herbal tea blends from herbs, picked and dried by the library staff.



Herbs are picked up and dried by the library staff

The vine trellis on the library's patio offers pleasant shade for outdoor reading and the local winemaker produces grape juice from the picked grapes, which is served at library events. Occasionally, grapes are used to make jam.



Vine trellis offers shade and local winemaker produces grape juice from grapes

In a remote corner of the library garden the Beekeepers' Association Ormož has set up a beehive.



Library's beehive and beekeeping are introduced to library visitors at various events

The organically produced honey is used as a promotional gift for literary guests and lecturers, as are the tea blends and grape jam. The products contain information about local authors, encouraging reading and promoting domestic literary creativity. The library also offers its premises for education and lectures by the Beekeepers Association and helped the Municipality of Ormož to obtain certificate of the most bee-friendly municipality in 2020.



Promotional gifts for lecturers and literary guests: library honey, tea blends and grape juice

The library garden is often visited by various animals, birds, squirrels, hedgehogs, and even endangered species such as storks, nesting not far from the library.



Herbal and flower beds attract various animals and present a rich bee pasture



The garden is visited by endangered species like storks

On the patio the library organizes most of its green program, various events and activities for adults and children and is also used as a place for recreation. Visitors can play table tennis and every morning, in all seasons, physical exercise called 1000 movements is performed by the School of Health association.



Table tennis tournament



School of Health – Book and their morning exercise

Ormož Library also provides quality green program - green events and many opportunities for informal and lifelong learning and is dedicated to improving ecological awareness, the physical and mental health of people of all ages in the local community, to preserving tangible and intangible cultural heritage along with natural heritage and to raising the quality of life in general. It's currently in the process of establishing its own seed library.

GREEN PROGRAM FOR ADULTS	GREEN PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH
free lectures	Green Library for Children
Thursday Green Afternoons (lectures, conversations, cooking and creative workshops, guided observation of nature, visits to good practices ...)	fairy tale lessons (green topics, accompanied by dance, yoga, exercises, fairy tales with herbalist ...)
workshops	workshops (use of natural and recycled materials ...)
book presentations	virtual fairy tales filmed outdoor/with green content
Wine Stories	exploration of the library garden
exhibits	presentation of the green library to schools and kindergartens and various partnership projects
PRESERVATION OF CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE	GREEN INTERIOR
intangible cultural heritage (beekeeping, apitherapy, Reading Badge Movement, traditional pottery, basket weaving, Slovenian bobbin lace making ...)	worn out library equipment renovated by the local craftsmen, use of natural materials, large windows: use of natural light and natural ventilation ...
natural heritage (exhibitions, cooperation with Nature Reserve Ormož Lagoons and Središče ob Dravi Landscape Park, literary hike ...)	waste separation and recycling, saving paper and energy, greenery, reuse of scrapped books, upgrading of old computers, bibliobike ...



The library garden is a perfect place for various activities for children



Cooperation with schools and introduction of the green library and its project to students



Fairy tale lesson and preparation of herbal tea blends with the local herbalist



From the beginning of July to the end of August the library organizes Thursday Green Afternoons, green activities for adults – the project began in 2016



During the year, various free lectures, book presentations and workshops by experts on nature protection, ecology, horticulture, healthy lifestyle, maintenance and preservation of psychophysical health and quality of life are held



Through lectures and guided tastings by oenologists, the library educates and makes users aware of the culture of wine drinking and thus helps reduce risk factors and the negative consequences of inappropriate wine consumption on health, family and social relations



Preservation of intangible cultural heritage in the form of traditional basket weaving

The activities are accessible to all visitors and have a significant impact on the perception of the library not only as the most important cultural institution in local community, but also as an important factor of raising awareness and acquiring new knowledge.



Visit to Središče ob Dravi Landscape park (Thursday Green Afternoons 2021)



Guided exploration of the library flower and herbal beds by children



Library activities are accessible to everyone - guided tour of the Botanical Garden of the University of Maribor



Successful local partnerships represent the foundation of Ormož green library



The visitors acquire a variety of practical skills



Cooperation with and promotion of local experts also contributes to the development of the local green tourism (Destination Jeruzalem Slovenia)

The library cooperates and strengthens ties with local experts, associations, institutions and companies that cultivate similar green values. It has contributed to the quality and positive development of the local community, the empowerment of the population, the raising of the quality of life through implemented independent or partnership projects and noticeably improved green and reading literacy in the local environment.



The rural area contributes to popularity of topics about sustainable, organic, biodynamic, permaculture plant cultivation, conservation of indigenous varieties and seeds, and organic food processing



Hike with a botanist and green literature - getting to know the medicinal plants found in unspoiled nature



Cooperation with Nature Reserve Ormož Lagoons – preservation of natural heritage

Franc Ksaver Meško Ormož Library has also developed close ties with Croatian Green Library movement, especially with the City Library “Juraj Šižgorič” Šibenik, has participated on several Croatian festivals and conferences and presented the natural heritage of the Središče ob Dravi Landscape Park and the Nature Reserve Ormož Lagoons at the exhibition in Šibenik Library and continues to have a great impact on promotion of green libraries and green projects in Slovenia with sustainable development being one of its core values.



A photographic exhibition the Beauty of Ormož was set up in the Šibenik library in Croatia it presented the natural heritage of the Središče ob Dravi Landscape Park, the Nature Reserve Ormož Lagoons and the diversity of animal and plant species



Franc Ksaver Meško Ormož Library – Runner-up in Category Green Library at IFLA Green Library Award 2021

GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE LIBRARIES AND PROJECTS: SPAIN



Climate change in the spotlight of RECIDA, the Spanish Network of Green Libraries

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Group photo of the face-to-face participants showing the shirt with the logo of the network; with online participants on the top screen

The [Twentieth Seminar of Environmental Documentation Centers and Protected Natural Areas](#) was held from 20 to 22 October 2021. This year it has been coordinated by the [National Center for Environmental Education \(CENEAM\)](#) of the Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge (Spain) and the [Center for Documentation and Resources for Environmental Education of Cantabria \(CIMA\)](#).

After the COVID19 pandemic, we resumed our in-person annual meeting in Valsaín, Segovia (Spain). This year, it has also been possible to attend the meeting online, since, for the first time, it has been held in a hybrid way. Ninety participants were registered, including heads of centers, experts and professors from universities in the seventeen regions of Spain and from thirteen national parks, in addition to other natural areas.

During the Seminar, the heads of the represented institutions told us their news and experiences in different cases and settings, as well as about their collaboration and exchanges through the [RECIDA network](#).

We began the meeting with [Petra Hauke](#), Secretary of IFLA's Environment, Sustainability and Libraries Section (ENSULIB), who informed us of its organization and activities, as well as of the German Green Library Network, of which she is a co-founder.



Petra Hauke, IFLA/ENSULIB Secretary

RECIDA, the network of green libraries, which has been working for sustainability for 20 years, was present at COP25 in Madrid with a stand in the green area. RECIDA's Action Plan commits to keep raising awareness about how to mitigate climate change and to reach its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In this area, we can highlight activities such as:

- Reading Clubs in environmental information centers that allow citizens to bring environmental readings closer to the public to raise awareness of the climate emergency



MCNB, Barcelona



CDAMAZ, Zaragoza

Reading Clubs in environmental information and documentation centers

- Parks and libraries which raise awareness and provide education for the better preservation of natural and cultural heritage within the framework of the public library and natural parks



Pedagogical suitcase of "Parks and Libraries project". Diputació de Barcelona

- Literary Ecomenu, which encourages users to read, gaze, feel and marvel at nature through words and books—reading and nature linked in a restaurant menu card



People participating in Literary Ecomenu. CEIDA-Galicia

- Resources for a sustainable diet



Guide of resources to work on healthy, fair and sustainable food at educational centers".

Ajuntament de Barcelona

- Educational materials for eco-social education aimed at solving social, economic and ecological problems



Educational materials for eco-social education.
FUHEM

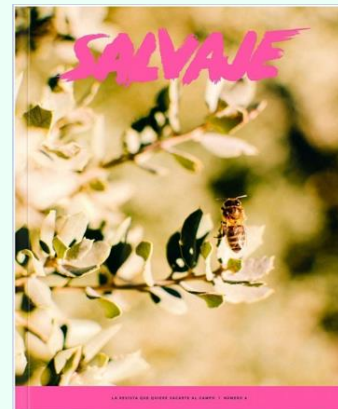
- Application of nature-based solutions for local adaptation of educational and social buildings to climate change
- [Environmental education in waste management](#)
- [Interviews on YouTube for the dissemination of books and environmental projects that sensitize all citizens](#)



Nature based solutions. Real Jardín Botánico de Madrid

- The creation of a Climate Library
- [Natural Areas Conservation Experiences](#)
- The 2030 School Agenda based on the SDGs, the purpose of which is to develop skills, knowledge, attitudes, motivation and commitments to take part in the eco-social transformation.

We also got to hear about the [magazine "Salvaje"](#) thanks to its director. This publication focuses on natural and rural values, giving voice to new initiatives that are revitalizing the rural environment. And we participated in the live broadcast of the videoblog on Twitch "[En plan Planeta: Educación Ambiental en la trinchera](#)".



Magazine Salvaje



Videoblog on Twitch "En plan Planeta: Educación Ambiental en la trinchera"

Representatives of some of our strategic alliances were also present, such as the [Association of Environmental Journalists \(APIA\)](#), which deals with accurate reporting,

[International Association for Impact Assessment \(IAIA\)](#) with its SDGs wool books. These books are made by elderly, people with mental illness, intellectual disabilities or women in prison. These stories are used in educational centers and libraries in environmental awareness workshops (Bees, Climate change, Wool), so that children learn through experiences with wool. We also heard from [Teachers for Future Spain](#) with its Plan 28,000 for the climate, and from the [International Network of SDGs Promoters](#) about its awareness, dissemination, communication and SDG promotion activities aiming at social transformation and citizen participation.



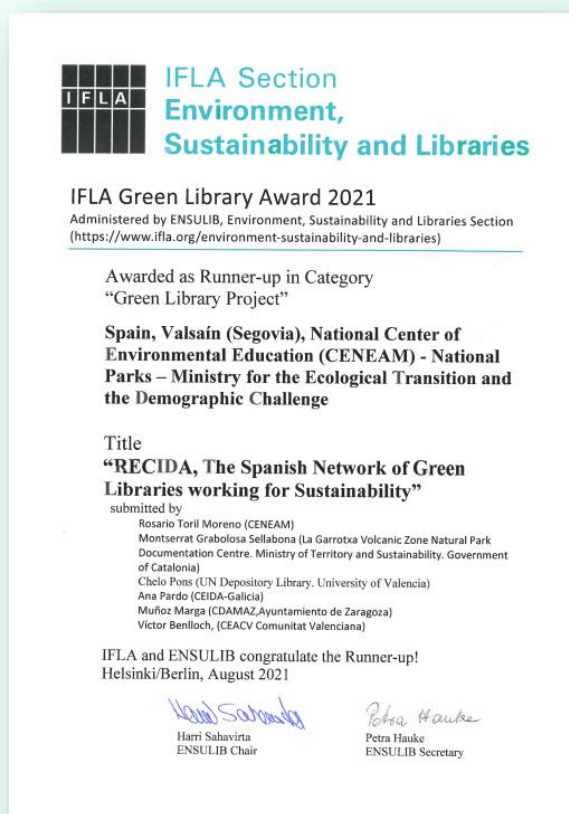
Wool books made by elderly, people with mental illness, intellectual disabilities or women in prison

We learned about open access information sources that can be used on social networks, as well as how the digital magazine "[Actualidad Jurídico Ambiental](#)" is managed. We were also given news of the updating of the ISBD standard for the bibliographic description; and about the environmental bibliographic resources of the [Ministry of Defense](#).

Workshops were provided on content creation with light metadata, a first contact with Scimago Graphica and how to make tables that represent communicative efficiency in the visualization of data. The meeting was closed

with an exchange of ideas between working groups and the new commitments were made for the next Action Plan.

It should be noted that the presentations demonstrated the optimal use of RECIDA resources and the ability of managers to innovate in difficult situations. This was either because of the pandemic or because of the limited resources, developing methodologies and using technology in the most efficient way possible, always with the aim of giving the best support to environmental education and promoting the best use of the natural resources of our environment and of the planet.



RECIDA Project wins Runner-up at IFLA Green Library Award 2021

GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE LIBRARIES AND PROJECTS: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Florida Environment & Natural History Portal

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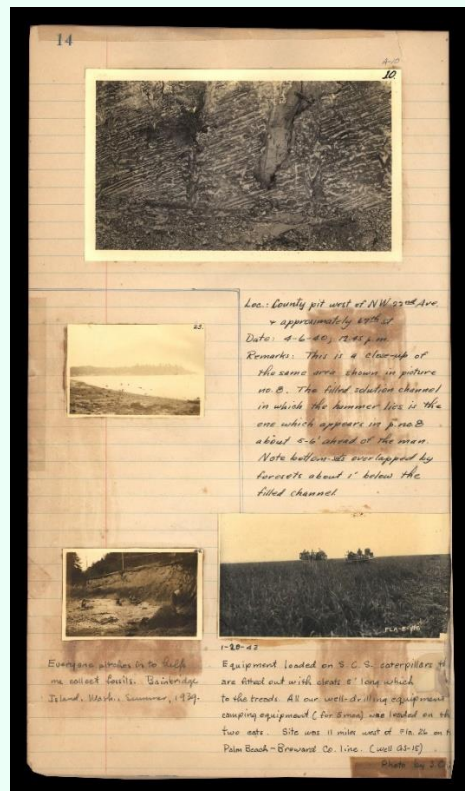


As climate change, pollution, and the loss of wildlife and habitats due to human development have become some of the most decisive and pressing issues on the planet, environmental concerns increasingly define our present era and have deeply influenced both public and academic landscapes. Situated with three campuses along Florida’s gulf coast, the University of South Florida (USF) has a unique vantage point on and interest in issues related to the local environment and sustainability.

In support of research on these topics and the university’s core commitments, USF Libraries formally launched the Florida Environment and Natural History (FLENH) collections initiative in 2020. This endeavor positions USF as a leader among U.S. academic institutions collecting in environmental and natural history by establishing a central repository for historic and contemporary scientific data and providing sustainable institutional support for the ingest, creation, and distribution of archival and

secondary research resources centered on the impacts to, and effects on, Florida’s natural environment.

Information about the collections and their reach across library units can be found on our FLENH Portal. The USF Libraries’ FLENH collections are growing with an eye on promoting knowledge and awareness through a unique combination of open-access resources and a team of dedicated experts who are committed to developing and sustaining the infrastructure, collections, and professional connections. In order to fulfill the mission of FLENH, Special Collections personnel build and foster relationships with faculty, researchers, organizations, and community donors to collect, preserve, and provide access to books, artifacts, and archival materials.



Page from hydrology field notebook. Geological Investigations (1939-1943), Dr. Garald Gordon Parker Collection

FLENH materials have been collected for decades at USF, driven by a partnership with Audubon Florida and their research outposts and sanctuaries across the state. In total, the library is home to the archives of seven Audubon society archival collections with more to be added in 2022. In total, FLENH archival collections currently number twenty-four, with crossover themes present in other holdings. In addition to ornithology, other areas of specialty include research into coastlines, coral reefs, and environmental education.



Plate 73, Phoenicopterus. Natural History of Carolina, Florida, and the Bahama Islands: Containing the Figures of Birds, Beasts, Fishes, Serpents, Insects and Plants

In addition to hard sciences and data, Special Collections has also sought to leverage existing collections to underscore how deeply interwoven environmental issues are in research material scholars might not at first consider. Focusing on the papers of state politicians, policymakers, scholars, and journalists, the natural history aspect of FLENH reveals connections between the environment and

areas such as lobbying and legislation, labor and economy, tourism, public health, infrastructure, advocacy and activism, and industrial agriculture.

Rare books and historic texts on botany and the discovery of new species allow for inquiry into the evolution of scientific practice and teaching. Although only at the beginning, USF's FLENH initiative has already brought together interdisciplinary partnerships to foster education both on and off the university's campuses. FLENH materials have been embedded in course curricula in disciplines such as history and literary studies, been utilized for a graduate intern's field work experience, funded undergraduate scholarships, and been the focus of grant opportunities for a cross-campus faculty learning cooperative. We look forward to future expansion and contribution to the professional discourse surrounding libraries and the environment.

Website: <https://flenh-usflibrary.hub.arcgis.com/>

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1. *Catesby, Mark, and George Edwards. Natural History of Carolina, Florida, and the Bahama Islands: Containing the Figures of Birds, Beasts, Fishes, Serpents, Insects and Plants: Particularly the Forest-Trees, Shrubs and Other Plants, Not Hitherto Described, or Very Incorrectly Figured by Authors. ...To Which Are Added, Observations on the Air, Soil, and Waters: With Remarks upon Agriculture, Grain, Pulse, Roots, &c.. London: Printed for C. Marsh [etc.], 1754. Rare Books Collection, Special Collections Department, Tampa Library, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida.*
2. *Dr. Garald Gordon Parker Collection. Special Collections Department, Tampa Library, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida.*

2022 International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development

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In late 2019, the UNESCO General Conference adopted a resolution to proclaim 2022 as the International Year of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development (IYBSSD). The action was proposed by several world scientific institutions, which realize the importance of basic research, also called “curiosity driven”, and the need to emphasize its role, which is generally underestimated. Most governments are mainly committed to financing applied science rather than basic science.

The Covid pandemic has shown to the world the relevance of basic science. The quick production of vaccines against Coronavirus was possible because of the basic scientific research on SARS diseases and related fields, which researchers have been conducting for a long time.





Basic science is therefore essential *to ensure balanced, sustainable, and inclusive development of the planet*, as the IYBSSD website states.



IYBSSD website

<https://www.iybssd2022.org/en/home/>








INTERNATIONAL DAYS OBSERVED BY THE UNITED NATIONS JAN-JUN

January 07 World Braille Day   
24 International Day of Education 

February 02 World Wetlands Day  

March 03 World Wildlife Day    
21 International Day of Forests 
22 World Water Day 
23 World Meteorological Day 

April 07 World Health Day 
02 Earth Day 

May 20 World Bee Day 
22 International Day for Biological Diversity 
31 World No-Tobacco Day 

June 03 World Bicycle Day  
05 World Environment Day 
07 World Food Safety Day    
08 World Oceans Day 
18 Sustainable Gastronomy Day 
29 International Day of the Tropics 

Above are taken from [Annual International Days: List of the official annual international days, that are observed or declared by the United Nations](#)