

## SDG 10 - oriented projects

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## ESTONIA

### 1. Raamatud liikuma / Books on the move<sup>1</sup> (SDG 1, 4, 10, 11, 12)

The innovation project *Books on the Move* has set out to modernise the lending service and bring it into the 21st century. The project is driven by the wish to encourage better use of the physical book collections, and to render this body of knowledge relevant and conveniently accessible to the contemporary user. The idea behind the project is as simple as it is ambitious: to make the physical book collections of Estonian libraries universally available and discoverable in a one-stop search, so as to enable quick delivery of the desired book to the user.

After having found the required book, the user simply clicks "order", without having to consider the location of the book. An algorithm picks the most fitting, most expedient copy across all participating library holdings. With the help of our logistics partner, the book is then delivered to the user, either to a parcel locker, local store or directly to an address indicated. Library lending becomes conveniently integrated into the users' daily routines. Remote loans will no longer be interlibrary transactions – the physical book becomes mobile in Estonia, and the broader library network will serve as the home library for the user.

As a result of the project, we are creating a digital platform together with a mobile application for the end user, to be navigated seamlessly in its features of discovery and delivery: "find and order" books, "manage and monitor" orders, set delivery preferences, retrieve information on due dates, pay for delivery and settle overdue fines, and recommend books to friends.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nlib.ee/en/node/8181>

The project runs from 2020 to 2022. All relevant parties to the new lending service (libraries, users, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Education and Research, local municipalities) are included in the project through various advisory bodies. Books on the Move is funded by Enterprise Estonia and their Innovation Procurement Program in the amount of EUR 333,332.50.

### **MUIS2 15 (SDG 4, 9,10,11,12,16)**

The National Heritage Board is developing a new information system for museum collections, the aim of which is to provide better and more user-friendly access to Estonian museum collections and to create a modern solution for museums that supports the preservation and management of museum collections.

### **Bürokratt / KrattAI (SDG 1, 3, 4, 8, 10, 11, 16)**

#KrattAI is envisioning how digital public services should work in the age of Artificial Intelligence (AI). #KrattAI will be an interoperable network of AI applications, which enable citizens to use public services with virtual assistants through voice-based interaction. #KrattAI is not just an IT project to create an Estonian state virtual assistant, i.e. an user interface - although this may be necessary as an intermediate step. Instead, #KrattAI will, in the future, allow people to get everything they need from one device and through a virtual assistant in one communication session. #KrattAI is thus an interoperable network of public and private sector AI solutions, which from the user's point of view, acts as a single channel for public services and information.

Most of the time, people don't know which public agency to contact and they do not have an overview of their own obligations and of the opportunities offered by government.

Future benefits: People will communicate with the government 24/7; thanks to the interoperability of bots, it will be possible to have access to direct contacts efficiently between different government agencies.

#KrattAI will include the following steps:

- Analysis and PoC on the use of alternative channels,
- Classification of citizen messages: analysis and PoC,
- Analysis and PoC of eesti.ee national mobile app,
- Speech synthesis,
- Information extraction,
- Consent management platform,
- Cooperation with companies,
- Cooperation with Finland (#KrattAI and AuroraAI).

### **Massive digitalisation of Estonian cultural heritage, including printed material (books, newspapers etc) 16 (SDG 1, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16)**

The Ministry of Culture prepared an action plan for the digitisation of cultural heritage. Its objective is to make one third of the cultural heritage stored in our memory institutions digitally accessible by 2023 and to upgrade the infrastructure for storing information in the memory institutions.

The action plan largely focuses on the heritage from 1900 to 1940. Documents, publications, photographs, films and objects are being digitised. The objective is to make key choices in terms of cultural heritage, and not to digitise the entire cultural heritage.

The objective of the action plan is to make the following digitally accessible by 2023: 3% of the documentary heritage, 32% of artefacts; 60% of both film and photographic heritage and 28% of printed heritage; i.e. about 33% of our entire cultural heritage. The total cost of the project is €9.02 million, of which €8.19 million will come from the planned European Union structural fund investments. The action plan was prepared in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, and the Ministry of Education and Research.

The project runs from 2019 to 2021. All relevant parties to the new lending service (libraries, users, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Education and Research, local municipalities) are included in the project through various advisory bodies. Books on the Move is funded by Enterprise Estonia and their Innovation Procurement Program in the amount of EUR 333,332.50.

## FINLAND

### **Sustainable Library 2030 road map (SDGs 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17)**

During the spring of 2020, the Oulu City Library prepared an action plan for sustainable development, the Sustainable Library 2030 roadmap. The plan is based on the objectives of the UN Agenda 2030 and the eco-promises prepared by the City Library in 2015. When preparing the roadmap, it was also ensured that it was in line with the objectives of the City of Oulu's environmental program, Towards a Carbon-Neutral Oulu 2026, which entered into force in autumn 2019.

The Sustainable Library 2030 roadmap recorded the most important areas for development in the near future (2020-22) and prepared a detailed implementation plan for them, as follows:

- a) Promoting environmental awareness. The aim is to increase the environmental awareness of both customers and staff through the various means of environmental communication available. The aim is also to increase library's visibility as an ecological actor by communicating externally about the library's own responsible activities;
- b) Reducing the environmental impact. The aim is to review the library's energy use, logistics, recycling and collection practices and to reduce the environmental impact of their activities, as well as to reduce the use of unnecessary plastic;
- c) Responsible construction. In order to reduce the ecological footprint of library properties, the aim is to take ecology into account in connection with renovations and new construction, in the entire construction process - from design to the building. The aim is to design and implement the most energy-efficient facilities possible and to pay attention to environmental friendliness in all solutions related to practical equipment and interior design. Responsibility in construction is also reflected in e.g. involving customers and staff in the planning of future facilities.<sup>2</sup>

### **Vihreä kirjasto (SDGs 3, 4, 10, 11, 12, 13)**

The Public Libraries' Environmental Awareness for the 2020s is a platform intending to share environmental information from the entire library field and to promote environmental work in libraries project, as well as environmental tools and training materials.

SDG 3: Reading promotes well-being and library card holders live longer.

SDG 4: Libraries support the reading and lifelong learning of children, young people, and adults alike. The environmental aspects are included in all library activities, from story time to art exhibition and events.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ouka.fi/documents/78400/596635/Kest%C3%A4v%C3%A4kirjasto+2030+-tiekartan-tiivistelm%C3%A4.pdf/542f3a4b-737e-4147-b3ad-3865a96dd074>

SDG 10: Public libraries provide free of charge basic services that are available to all. Libraries do not tolerate any form of bullying or discrimination. Libraries are responsible employers.

SDG 11: Libraries follow municipal environmental guidelines and many libraries have their own environmental programme, certificate or ecological subsidy system.

SDG 12: Libraries are pioneers in the circular economy and act as sharing economic platforms. Libraries offer premises and tools for sharing, reducing the need for consumption.

SDG 13: Libraries recycle and save energy. Libraries provide up-to-date and reliable information on environmental issues and help find information.

## FRANCE

### ENSSIB guide to implementing SDG's in libraries (SDGs 9,10, 11, 12)

The role of research, public and school libraries in the context of climate change is important, not only for the activities they can promote, but also in the advocacy they can raise with local elected officials and decision-makers. Climate change affects social, economic and ecological issues. This resource site, created by the Enssib library and the Enssib Sustainable Development working group, aims to give you access to a selection of documents on the 17 fields of global change that our societies are experiencing today, so that readers can draw on them for information and inspiration to implement their institutional sustainable development strategy.<sup>3</sup>

#### 4. Dialogues for Integration: Hamburg Libraries Help Refugees Find their Way (SDGs 4,8,9,10,11,17)

Since 2015, Europe has seen the arrival of an almost unprecedented number of people fleeing war and poverty. A particularly large number of them have come to Germany, with over a million registrations for asylum, and almost half a million more applications in 2015 alone. Between 2015 and 2017, the city-state of Hamburg in particular, with a population of around 1.83 million, received around 66,000 refugees. This number adds to an already diverse population, with over a third – and almost a half according to some estimates – coming from migrant backgrounds.

For these newcomers, a key priority after shelter, food and medical care is language acquisition. Yet many have no way of attending language classes as they are often expensive and not open to all refugees and migrants. This is where libraries can make the difference.

As a key part of the city's 'Refugee Help Forum', the Hamburg Public Library System, Bücherhallen Hamburg, joined forces with the Volkshochschule adult education centre to support refugee language acquisition. Bücherhallen Hamburg do this through their 'Dialog in Deutsch' volunteer project, which is the largest volunteer language acquisition project in Hamburg. Through 109 conversation groups across 33 libraries, refugees and migrants are able to apply and practice their German speaking skills.

The groups are open and free of charge and are currently run by around 270 volunteers; no enrolment or registration is required. The 'Dialog in Deutsch' volunteers do not give language lessons, do not hold tests but rather gives topics to discuss during a 'Dialog in Deutsch' session to enhance oral skills.

Every year around 40,000 participants, from all migrant backgrounds benefit from the 'Dialog in Deutsch' conversation groups. In order to meet the dramatic increase in demand from refugees and migrants, 25 groups especially for beginners had been added in 2016 and 2017. To support language acquisition, the library also expanded its media collection to include books for children and young

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<sup>3</sup> <https://enssib.libguides.com/c.php?g=682683>

adult in Arabic, boxes of games, dictionaries, board books, and other materials for learning German. In addition, the library introduced a scheme using donations to allow refugees to gain access to varied library e-media services and WiFi. This provides a key means of keeping in contact with family and friends, especially given that many accommodation facilities do not have WiFi access.

Meanwhile, 600 professionally trained and supervised volunteers work in the Bücherhallen and play a key role in integrating refugees in other areas.<sup>4</sup>

## GERMANY

### **Stadtbibliothek Bremen provides Future Training Opportunities for refugees and other newcomers (SDGs 4,8,10,17)**

In 2010, the Bremen City Library (Stadtbibliothek Bremen) anchored a diversity strategy in its mission statement. The Library expanded its intercultural offerings to patrons, carried out an extensive series of training courses for intercultural openness for all employees and implemented a staff position for diversity management. For these endeavours, in 2015, the Library was awarded the Bremen Diversity Prize.

Even though the library excelled in serving its population, the community's cultural diversity was not represented in the library team. In 2015, 28% of the Bremen population held a migrant background, the Bremen public service rate was around 13% of employees, and the library's rate was only at 2.5%.

It can be challenging for people with a migrant background to enter skilled professions, such as librarianship, especially if they speak little German. Applicants must speak and read German at a B1-level before institutions will offer a job on contract, and applicants must have qualified vocational training to secure a position that is paid an appropriate, living wage. Labour and residence laws pose additional challenges for refugees in Germany, as many young people are not offered trainings without a determined residence status.

In 2014, the city of Bremen developed a project called “Future Training Opportunities” (Zukunftschance Ausbildung), targeted to help those with refugee status gain entry-level qualification (EQ, Einstiegsqualifizierung) with accompanying language lessons and socio-educational support. In addition to acquiring language skills, the vocational qualification is essential for successful and sustainable integration into the labour market in Germany. The EQ prepares refugees and asylum seekers for an apprenticeship and a dual training programme in Bremen public service and in private companies. The library joined this city-wide project as an apprenticeship site in 2015.

For those who choose to apprentice in the Library, it means training to become qualified specialists in media and information services. During their dual-study programme, apprentices work three days per week in the library, and spend two days at the vocational school to learn necessary theoretical knowledge and to study the German language. After completing the programme, newly-qualified media and information specialists can begin working on contract at the library.

Since the beginning of the project, six people have selected the library for their apprenticeship – a woman from Syria and a woman from Turkey, and four men who came to Germany from Guinea, Syria, Afghanistan, China – all six trainees have completed their entry qualification. Three of them have

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<sup>4</sup> <https://librarymap.ifla.org/stories/Germany/DIALOGUES-FOR-INTEGRATION:-HAMBURG-LIBRARIES-HELP-REFUGEES-FIND-THEIR-WAY/131>

already completed their dual training programme and are now working as members of the Bremen Library team.”<sup>5</sup>

### **German Library Associations’ initiatives**

Two programmes that are implemented through the DBV provide funding projects that can be seen in relation to the SDGs (they were not however originally conceived with SDGs in mind):

- The emergency aid programme "Vor Ort für Alle" (On Site for All), GLA promotes contemporary library concepts in municipalities with up to 20,000 inhabitants nationwide. The aim is to strengthen libraries as "third places" also in rural areas and thus contribute to equal living conditions.<sup>6</sup> (SDG 11)
- "Total Digital!" provides funding opportunities for the creation of digital scavenger hunts, the discovery of picture books using multimedia, programme robots or the elaboration of original stories to be filmed.<sup>7</sup> (SDG 4, 10, 11)

The German Library Association and the regional Library Associations of the Bundesländer play a coordinating role in the implementation of SDGs in libraries. As a result, SDGs are implemented in a convincing and active way; more and more libraries are interested in the topic. Nevertheless, the German library picture is quite heterogeneous and therefore this statement does not apply to all libraries. There is no overall data on libraries' activities in the field of the SDGs. The only institution where a great amount of data is available is the German Digital Library (DDB) in relation to the preservation of cultural heritage.

#### 1. Energy upgrading of the Geisser public library under PON METRO TORINO<sup>8</sup> (SDGs 7,10,11)

The main objective of this initiative is to reduce the energy consumption of municipal buildings, among others the Geisser library, in order to reduce the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions through an energy upgrading of the building. Apart from energy upgrading the goal is also to improve the comfort of the final users and to promote as much as possible the acquisition of innovative solutions.

At the end of the intervention:

- energy saving will be in the order of 20% less than current thermal and electrical consumption);
- innovative solutions will be implemented to adapt to different situations and conditions of use of the library.

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<sup>5</sup> IFLA Library Map of the World, <https://librarymap.ifla.org/stories/Germany/STADTBIBLIOTHEK-BREMEN-PROVIDES-FUTURE-TRAINING-OPPORTUNITIES-FOR-REFUGEES-AND-OTHER-NEWCOMERS/167>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.bibliothekerverband.de/dbv/projekte/vor-ort-fuer-alle.html>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.bibliothekerverband.de/dbv/projekte/totaldigital.html>

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.comune.torino.it/ponmetro/pon-metro-torinopresentazione>

# ITALY

## **PON METRO BOLOGNA<sup>9</sup> (SDGs 4,5,10,11)**

Within the framework of the European Structural and Investment Funds 2021-2027 several initiatives have been set in motion.

- a) City area school, which provide tailored courses where there are no teachers, but educating communities, no desks, but neighbourhoods, no pupils, but girls and boys. These schools are based on real community needs and aim at improving the well-being of citizens and combating social exclusion and educational poverty.
- b) Hamelin, a cultural association, has set up a course to train reading experts in a two-year course. The training is structured in two phases and foresees for the participants a compensation for the months in which they will be involved.
- c) Enhancement of the Salaborsa (Bologna City Library) with laboratories and multidisciplinary courses on research and experimentation in the field of reading, coding, robotics, fablab, digital literacy and information literacy courses, as well as orientation courses addressing STEM disciplines (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). Workshops are organised which offer a creative approach to digital and technology, thus encouraging original and critical paths of thought and imagination through coding and robotics.
- d) Equipping each library in the sector with RFID technology development of augmented reality software for immersive visit paths to historical buildings (Archiginnasio, Salaborsa, Casa Carducci); application of machine learning (ML) techniques for collection review and management; creation of a platform to support Customer Relationship Management (CRM), useful to improve strategies for listening and responding to users' requests and needs.
- e) Full implementation of the Faro Convention, where knowledge and use of cultural heritage are a human right and encourage the construction of a peaceful and democratic society.

## **DigEDUCATI<sup>10</sup> (SDGs 4,5,10,11)**

A commitment to combating educational poverty by developing actions aimed at the problem of the digital divide in the 6-13 age group, through the "DigEducati" project, selected and financed by Impresa Sociale Con i Bambini as part of the Fund for combating educational poverty among minors with a contribution of € 1,250,000 and by Fondazione Cariplo with a further contribution of € 1,250,000.

Creation of widespread workshops in the city libraries where equipment, skills, experts and tutors will be made available, offering a creative approach to digital and technology that encourages original and critical paths of thought and imagination through coding and robotics.

## **Sapere digitale (Digital knowledge)<sup>11</sup> (SDGs 4,5,10,11)**

The project, supported by the Piedmont Region - Libraries Sector and by the Compagnia di San Paolo, I luoghi della Cultura 2019, aims to stimulate the crucial role that libraries can play in supporting digital civic education and the spread of an increasing awareness in the proper use of digital technology, first of all for teachers in local schools and as a spin-off for the entire citizenry.

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<sup>9</sup> <http://www.comune.bologna.it/ponmetro/pon-metrobologna>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.fondazionebergamo.it/news/parte-ilprogetto-digeducati>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.saperedigitale.org>

It is a training course that is intended to be both an activation method and a research opportunity to take stock of the technological equipment and digital skills in the libraries (and schools) willing to be promoting an active role of libraries in digital civic education.

The libraries that apply for it adhere to the training pact and will be able to participate in the courses, which are free of charge, host a course, propose a topic or a project and start digital civic education initiatives, with the support of the project.

The project is open to all libraries in Piedmont, especially civic libraries, but school and university libraries and archives can join, too. Themes are: the stimulation of information skills in readers, Internet and the ongoing change, information education, media education, data and artificial intelligence and digital culture and creativity.

### **Smart-In - Community Library<sup>12</sup> (SDGs 4,5,7,10,11)**

Through the regional Smart-In strategy, the Apulia Region promotes the revival of Apulia's cultural heritage, enhancing it and improving its use. With this in mind, the Community Library issued a public bid aimed at supporting libraries of local authorities, schools and universities, projecting a positive impact on the community and expanding access to cultural resources available in Puglia. Projects for the qualification of libraries include the provision of suitable spaces and the acquisition of advanced equipment and technologies, with sustainable and innovative management models.

### **SKYLibrary, the largest Digital Corporate Library in Italy!<sup>13</sup> (SDGs 4,5,8,9,10,11)**

CSBNO, has created for Sky Italia the SKYLibrary, a digital library dedicated to its employees and collaborators. It is based on the MLOL platform, the first and most important public digital library. The agreement enables the company to offer a vast catalogue of e-books, over 37,000 titles, continuously updated with the latest publications, from fiction to non-fiction, to fairy tales.; a true and complete library at the click of a button; A project that has been met with widespread approval and is destined to become increasingly popular... SKYLibrary is Cultural Welfare!

The pandemic crisis has not stopped the project, indeed it has been able to continue with great satisfaction thanks to the digital services, and especially thanks to the MLOL digital library, which has generated growing attention and interest from the business world. The digital corporate libraries managed in collaboration with the CSBNO in 2020 recorded over 1,400 e-book loans and 5,300 consultations, made by 1,733 users!

### **Things to do (Cosedafare)<sup>14</sup> (SDGs 4,5,8,9,10,11)**

The Panizzi Library System in partnership with Fondazione Cariplo, Consorzio Sistema Bibliotecario Nord Ovest (MI), Sistema Bibliotecario del Vercatese (MB), Sistema Bibliotecario della Valle Seriana (BG) and Comunità Montana di Valle Trompia (BS) have committed themselves to realize the digital platform "Cose da fare" that allows to manage in a participatory way the educational opportunities and the cultural and leisure offers, both temporary and permanent, available in their respective territories.

The information on the platform is available free of charge, accessible and organised in a website characterised by common elements for the partners, but customised locally.

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<sup>12</sup> <https://por.regione.puglia.it/-/smart-in-community-library>

<sup>13</sup> <https://webopac.csbno.net/home/csbno-per-l-impresa/ilprogetto-csbno-per-l-impresa>

<sup>14</sup> <https://csbno.cosedafare.net>

Users can:

- consult a database of what is available in the reference territory concerning courses, events, museums, routes, tourist attractions;
- search for profiled and filtered information on the basis of personal interests;
- autonomously make bookings and payments;
- check the actual availability of spaces where leisure activities are carried out.

### **Shake'n<sup>15</sup> (SDGs 4,5,10)**

People come together to exchange knowledge, in a neighbourly and supportive way. This is Shake'n, a project based on networks, relationships and community. The 'Shakers' are people eager to share their passions, skills and abilities and make them available to anyone looking for new stimuli to satisfy their curiosity, learn, discover and grow with others. The meetings take place online and are free of charge. Each meeting is facilitated by a librarian or librarian, who helps the dialogue and opens the door to all possible connections to the information resources of the CSBNO libraries. What is a Shaker doing? They share knowledge, skills and abilities, making them freely available to the community in one or more online meetings.

## LATVIA

### **7. Zenit stāsti<sup>16</sup> (SDGs 10, 11)**

The project ran from August 2020 to January 2021. The main aim of the project “Zenit stories” was to encourage the sense of belonging of the minorities living in Latvia, especially those, who live in Daugavpils, Jelgava and Liepāja, through encouraging a dialogue and deepening an understanding between generations in minority families and in-between Latvian speaking and Russian speaking people. In practice – students from minority schools asked for photographs of the time between 1960s and 1980s with objects, events or places from their parents, grandparents or other well-known persons and interview the owner about the photography. The photos was digitised, and the students analysed the stories - what has changed and how the story makes them feel? - and share their stories during storytelling evenings in each city and encourage their parents and other elder people to attend the storytelling evenings and participate as well. A more socially cohesive society has been encouraged through the connection between students, their parents or different people that they interviewed and local librarians by working together to analyse and digitise the photos and information.

## NETHERLANDS

### **Ouderen in de wijk (Elderly in the neighbourhood) - by the libraries of Utrecht, Den Haag, Rotterdam, Amsterdam (ESF)<sup>17</sup> (SDGs 1, 4, 10)**

The project is supported by the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD) and carried out by the public libraries in Utrecht, The Hague, Rotterdam and Amsterdam, in cooperation with Mira Media. The overarching goal of the OP is "to reduce the social exclusion of older people in the

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<sup>15</sup> <https://webopac.csbno.net/home/shake-n>

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.lnb.lv/lv/projekti/projekts-zenit-stasti>

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-d&q=1.+Ouderen+in+de+wijk>

Netherlands with low disposable income.” Material assistance needs to go hand in hand with social inclusion measures, such as guidance and support to lift people out of poverty and to improve the integration of the most deprived people into Dutch society. .

Three specific objectives have been set up: a) to make the target group aware of local support; b) to strengthen the social network of the target group; and to c) strengthen the competences of the target group.

The target value is associated with the following indicators:

- 65% of the elderly should still be in the picture with aid organisations and/or municipalities after their participation organisation and/or municipality after participation;
- 40% of the elderly should indicate having a strengthened social network after participating;
- 40% of the elderly must indicate having a strengthened social network at their disposal;
- 60% of the older people must indicate that they have strengthened competences at their disposal.

### **ProActive - by FlevoMeer Bibliotheek (AMIF-project) (SDG 3, 4, 10)**

The FlevoMeer Library project ProActive has focused on 5 municipalities in the Dutch province Flevoland. Municipalities where libraries take an active role in the integration of people from non-western countries and their relatives in the Dutch society. Despite corona measures, good results have been achieved and new follow-up routes have been developed. From practice, it is demonstrated that participation quality and integration can be achieved through non-formal education. The activities were organised in close cooperation with volunteers and the library as a central meeting point. The project has resulted in the empowerment of more than 400 migrants and the development of interesting methods and instruments. Some examples are online training tools to learn basic skills (language-, social- & digital- competencies, see [www.flevowijzer.info](http://www.flevowijzer.info)), impact monitoring and summer schools with the combination of theatre and learning Dutch.

## ROMANIA

### **Sustainable Romania<sup>18</sup> (SDG 4; SDG 10)**

The aim of the project is to implement the National Strategy for Sustainable Development of Romania 2030 (SNDDR 2030) by ensuring the appropriate implementation framework, increasing the institutional capacity of central authorities, streamlining inter-institutional communication and collaboration, ensuring consistency of implementation by monitoring progress and presenting Romania's development trends, allowing evidence-based public decisions in a projective manner, anticipating systematic developments and risks.

The strategy mainly addresses the following areas: access for all children to early education, fair and quality primary and secondary education, leading to relevant and effective outcomes, substantial increase in the number of young people and adults with relevant professional skills, which facilitates employment to decent jobs and entrepreneurship. It ensures that all students acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development.

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<sup>18</sup> <https://www.romaniadurabila.ro>

## **Get up and goals! - Time for global education: an international learning network and active schools for the SDGs<sup>19</sup> (SDG 4, 10 and 17)**

Coordinated by NGO C.I.S.P. (based in Rome, Italy), partnerships include 13 other NGOs from 12 different European countries, whose Ministries of Education have joined the project. In Romania, project implementor is the Association "European Academy". The overall objective of the project is to enhance curricula in relation to SDGs in order to encourage global citizenship education and sustainable development.

Being implemented in a selected group of schools at national level (wide dissemination in all regions of Romania) in 12 EU countries, beneficiaries are main actors in the local school: teachers, pupils aged 11-16, school principals, education institutions and address some of the key objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:

- International inequalities (see SDG 10);
- Climate change (see SDGs 7, 11, 12 and 13);
- Migration (see SDGs 1, 2, 10 and 13);
- Gender equality (a topic addressed in the SDGs).

Activities include training of teachers, at national level, on Agenda 2030 and Global Citizenship Education; training and exchange of best practices among teachers (participation in European seminars with teachers from partner countries); experimentation with Learning Units on issues related to the SDGs; production and experimentation of a global geo-historical textbook; creating awareness on SDGs targeted at local communities and implemented by students; measuring the impact of global citizenship and sustainable development education initiatives. The website resulting from the project will act as a tool for the implementation of a dedicated campaign, involving more teachers all over Europe.

## **SPAIN**

### **Biblioteca de Acogida (SDG 4, 5, 10)**

"Biblioteca de Acogida" (First Prize Social Library 2017) is a project that turns the Public Library of Purchena into a space of peace and exchange between young immigrants / young people at risk of social exclusion and local young people. The project is promoted by the Biblioteca Pública Municipal de Purchena.

A room of one's own. A space for equality: a meeting and awareness-raising space (SDGs 3, 4, 5, 10)

"A room of one's own" is an open and free space for meeting and awareness-raising for all audiences having a specialised background in equality and gender violence. Its proximity to the community makes the room a fundamental piece in the fight against inequality and a challenge for a more democratic and egalitarian society, Municipal Library 'Rafael Azcona' Location (Province): Logroño.

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<sup>19</sup> <https://www.getupandgoals.ro/proiect.html>

# SWEDEN

## Library's Digital Centre closes the digital gap for elderly citizens<sup>20</sup> (SDGs 4, 9, 10, 11, 17)

Digitisation is no longer a new phenomenon in Sweden and the pace of social transformation is increasing with each passing year. Since 2017, through their [Digitalisation Strategy](#), the Swedish Government has been working to become the world's leader at creating opportunities through digitisation. One of the five main pillars of the Strategy is to ensure everyone is offered the opportunity to improve [digital competencies](#).

An [annual survey of the internet habits of Swedish people](#) reveals that as many as 95% of Swedes use the Internet, 9 out of 10 own a smartphone, and more than 90% have a computer at home. Digital exclusion is diminishing but is still significant, with about a million Swedes living with limited access. Exclusion is particularly clear when analysing the use of public digital services, such as e-services in health care or tax authorities. The elderly are one of the main vulnerable groups who are at risk of digital exclusion.

Within Helsingborg, a city in the south west of Sweden, the Helsingborg Public Library is working intensively to bridge the digital divide among its 150,000 inhabitants. The library provides access to digital information and technology on site, as well as supervision and training by the library staff.

In 2018, as the result of collaboration with the Helsingborg Digitalisation Department, the library opened its Digital Centre, equipped with trained staff and technology such as computers, scanners, printers, and tablets. Serving approximately 200 visitors per day, the Centre is located on the library's premises and keeps the same service hours. In collaboration with the Helsingborg Healthcare Department, the Centre's staff also works off-site to reach the elderly at senior citizens' meeting points, such as recreational facilities, pop-up events and the library's bus, among others.

The Library's staff explained what drove the Centre's creation: "Simply providing access to ICT and broadband is not sufficient to close the digital gap. Instead, citizens need access to a place where tools are located as well as hands-on training, such as using a computer and other tools, surfing the internet, and accessing online public services. Access to the Digital Centre helps increase digital literacy of this and other target groups and creates stronger civic engagement by involving citizens in the co-creation of new services. As part of the collaboration with [HBG Works Innovation Hub](#), our Centre also functions as a test site for new digital services developed by the municipality. While our primary target groups are senior citizens, those with a migrant background, children, and young adults, we are open to all groups."

Programme evaluation results show that a major portion of the Centre's users are becoming increasingly self-sufficient when it comes to the use of technology and digital services. The value of the Digital Centre's services is especially high among seniors. A 70-year-old user shared her experience: "As a senior citizen it is harder to be updated when it comes to all things digital. The Digital Centre at the Library is perfect for me and I can easily get the help I need."

While the Library's Digital Centre did not close during the pandemic, in addition to regular services it began offering digital courses like Talk Digital, covering content on a variety of topics and skill levels. In 2020, a [national survey](#) revealed that during the COVID-19 pandemic older people in particular started using digital services more frequently than before, or tried them for the first time. Elderly people have also used digital healthcare services more during the pandemic with 7 out of 10 accessing a digital health care service.

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<sup>20</sup> <https://librarymap.ifla.org/stories/sdg/0/Country/Sweden>.

The library's Digital Centre has contributed to an increased use of digital tools and expanded the possibilities of the internet and technical upskilling among elderly people in Helsingborg.