The EBLIDA Newsletter is published monthly on European library & information society issues, programmes, news and events of interest to the library, archive and cultural heritage community.

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The President's Editorial

Dear colleagues,

After the EBLIDA Matrix, a new room is opening in the EBLIDA SDG European House: NewsGuard, as a tool to attain SDG 16, Sub-Target 10.

UN SDG 16 intends to "promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels." Sub-Target 10 aims to "ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements".

Based on true journalism's scrutiny, NewsGuard aims to fight fake news and misinformation by showing to what extent websites releasing information in the digital news-sphere are reliable. NewsGuard is an essential tool enabling the formation of a balanced and well-informed public opinion. And EBLIDA is pleased to ally with a private firm having a strong sense of social responsibility.

While being committed to this new challenge, we are not forgetting traditional EBLIDA concerns. An important article in this Newsletter is devoted to copyright, and namely on a set of Guidelines designed to help EBLIDA Members transpose the EU Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market into national legislation. Much awaited, these Guidelines are the natural follow up to the intense lobbying undertaken by EBLIDA and other library associations regarding the EU Copyright Directive. The Guidelines will allow EBLIDA Members to avoid major pitfalls in the implementation of the Directive.

with, EGIL Chair, as well as to **Ben White** (LIBER) and **Stephen Wyber** (IFLA). Thank you for having joined efforts in this difficult and extremely useful enterprise.

The EBLIDA ELSA (European Libraries and Sustainability Assessment) Working Group has just started operations. A paper is now being prepared on impact studies, i.e. studies assessing the impact of libraries on the society. A series of investigations have been carried out at institutional, local, and national levels. Their results are interesting and worth enjoying widespread diffusion.

And finally, we are continuing our review of SDGs. Under the lens are SDG 7 - Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all - and SDG 8 - Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. SDGs 7 and 8 are significant building blocks of the EU social and environmental policies.

The EBLIDA Matrix, our partnership with NewsGuard, the release of Guidelines for the implementation of the EU DSM Directive, as well as the progress of the ELSA Working Group were the directions approved by the EBLIDA Executive Committee last October. Brick after brick, we are erecting important pillars of the EBLIDA SDG European House.

All that's left is to wish you and your loved ones happy holidays and we look forward to next year when we will all meet again.

Yours sincerely,

Ton van Vlimmeren
EBLIDA President

Transposing the Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market: A Guide for Libraries and Library Associations' **published by EBLIDA, IFLA, LIBER and SPARC Europe**

Organisations representing libraries across Europe have launched guidance on the transposition of the European Union's Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market in Member States. The goal is to provide essential background to libraries, library associations, researchers and others involved in national discussions about the new rules, the choices that will need to be made, and goals that libraries can adopt.

The guidelines have been created jointly by EBLIDA, IFLA, LIBER and SPARC Europe, and cover 12 of the Articles in the Directive, looking at text and data mining, education, preservation, contracts and technological protection measures, out-of-commerce works, works of visual art in the public domain, press publishers rights and platform liability.

In each case, the guidelines set out what the Article is about, what the new provisions mean, where there is room for flexibility, what a good implementation would look like and suggests improvements that can be made if there is desire to go further.

The guidance is intended purely for the library and research community, and so is not openly

made when it works best for national campaign.

The guidelines are available from a [secure page](#).
Access will be granted to librarians, library associations, academics and research organisations interested in working to promote an implementation of the Directive that delivers a positive result for libraries. Please provide the relevant information requested on the page so that we can verify your affiliation and interest.

Barbara Stratton
Chair, [EBLIDA Expert Group on Information Law](#)

Announcing the EBLIDA – NewsGuard partnership

Agencies specialized in misinformation circulate fake news in their attempts to influence opinions. Secret service agencies detect fake news and retaliate. This is called information warfare.

But libraries do not wage wars. They diffuse certified information based on reliable sources. They contribute to the development of an informed and responsible citizenry and strive towards an equitable, democratic and sustainable society. And they tie partnerships with private firms with a strong sense of social responsibility.

EBLIDA and [NewsGuard](#) allied to attain the [UN Sustainable Development Goal 16](#), Sub-Target 10: *Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.* EBLIDA's mission is, among others, the promotion of **freedom of information and free access to information, education and culture for all citizens in Europe.** NewsGuard is a private firm with the mission of combating false news, misinformation and disinformation by doing what librarians have been doing since the invention of libraries: blocking nothing but providing information about everything.

How does it work?

Algorithms can help detect fake news articles. NewsGuard does not work on text, but on context. NewsGuard provides credibility ratings and detailed "Nutrition Label" reviews for the news and information websites that account for 90% of online engagement with news in each country in which it operates (France, Germany, Italy, the U.K., and the U.S., with more coming soon). The ratings are conducted by trained analysts from diverse backgrounds, who review and describe the websites' adherence to nine journalistic criteria. Each news website receives a Green or Red

The EBLIDA Newsletter has gone under NewsGuard's scrutiny. The EBLIDA Newsletter does not repeatedly publish false content; gathers and presents information responsibly; handles the difference between news and opinion responsibly; avoids deceptive headlines; discloses the website's ownership and financing. The EBLIDA Newsletter, however, should reveal who's in charge of the website, correct or clarify errors regularly and provide names of content creators.

We are now working to fill the gaps and to reach, by 2020, the nine NewsGuard criteria of credibility and transparency.

The NewsGuard tool is free of charge for libraries. EBLIDA Members interested in adopting NewsGuard's News Literacy Program may visit newsguardtech.com or contact sarah.brandt@newsguardtech.com.

For further information about the EBLIDA-NewsGuard partnership, please contact: Giuseppe Vitiello, EBLIDA Director: g.vitiello@kb.nl

Impact assessment studies and the EBLIDA ELSA *(European Libraries and Sustainability Assessment)* Working Group

There may be two ways librarians can look at Sustainable Development Goals. The first is to select sets of library activities corresponding to the UN Agenda 2030 and put an SDG label on them. This operation seems very much like pouring old wine into new bottles but has its own justification. After all, aren't libraries, all libraries, sustainable agencies by definition? And isn't the mission of providing free access to information the best example of how libraries are meeting SDGs 4, 11 and 16?

Another way to look at SDGs is to radically re-think the concept of the library and to fully exploit the idea of libraries as "third place". The SDG library is not only a Green library, scrupulously adopting green parameters in its premises. It is a non-collection-centered public library that embarks itself in a "conversation", or a "movement" with the associations already operating within the community they refer to.

The implementation of Sustainable Development Goals is realized through a collective effort involving governments, local administrations, organizations of the civil society, and the private sector. Private companies of a philanthropic, activist, or charitable nature have a social responsibility that goes beyond traditional business. Their "bottom line" is not restricted to "profit" or "loss" accounting, but extends to social and environmental concerns. It is called the "Triple Bottom Line" (TPL).

What is the value of an SDG Library for society?

Impact studies measuring library outcomes help define and assess this value. On the basis of a number of studies carried out in North America and Europe, Svanhild Aabø concluded that *"for each dollar of taxpayers' money invested in public libraries, the libraries – on average – return a value to the citizens of 4 to 5 times more. […] "*
This is a strong message with policy implications. Many studies were carried out at institutional -

Latvia. As a whole, they confirm Aabø's findings.

It must be emphasized, however, that these indicators work for libraries operating in *this* society under *the current* model of development. *A sustainable society is a different kind of society where enterprises do not work for profit only, citizens are not only consumers and communities do not coincide with local administrations.* An SDG library is at the service of an SDG-oriented community; therefore, its policy has to encompass a wider range of services designed for the multiple needs of their public.

Indicators for libraries have to change, too. The number of voluntary and community groups normally linked to the library service or the proportion of hours used by libraries for organized activities apart from traditional library services - these are, for instance, internal indicators that could be used for SDG purposes. If the EBLIDA ELSA Working group were only able to create a link between current indicators evaluating library performances and indicators assessing SDG implementation - this would already be an extraordinary result for the ELSA Working Group.

Libraries and SDG 5.
Three questions to Ms Ulla Wimmer, Research Assistant at the Alexander-von-Humboldt University and ELSA Member

EBLIDA: We are witnessing a robust development of SDGs in European libraries. In France there are some 400 projects listed in the Agenda 2030 et Biblbiothèques – France, a website jointly created by ENSSIB, CFIBD, BPI and ABF. What is Germany doing in the SDG field?

Ulla Wimmer: In the German-speaking area the equivalente reference is the SDG_website developed in the DACH-area, which has begun gathering projects in Germany, Austria, Switzerland and SüdTyrol. I would also like to mention the Green Library Network. Their website is beginning to take shape. An important signal goes out from the almost 500 signatories - librarians and institutions in many countries - that have already signed the declaration of the "Libraries for Future" initiative.

EBLIDA: SDG 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls) is often mentioned as the reference SDG for libraries). Do you agree?

UW: I find that libraries have a big role to play in SDG 5 – Gender equality, and not because of the number of women being librarians. One reason is that reading is an activity that - according to all surveys - more women do than men. Libraries pay attention to children and to young people and are places that can be trusted by parents. Libraries are a space where they are allowed to go on their own and decide what to choose on their own very early in life. They can develop their own interests and world views. This has an emancipating effect - you decide what to read, watch, hear or play, without a teacher or parent. In some countries, this applies to older girls or even women, too: the library is one of the few public places they can visit on their own.

EBLIDA: Is it perhaps because there are more women librarians than men librarians?

UW: Being a woman's profession (i.e. more than 70% women) is generally not regarded as a positive thing, as it enforces gender-related division of labor and has negative effects on pay and reputation. The aim should be here to increase the number of men in the profession.
The gender problem must always be regarded both ways: in Germany, quite a few libraries work at narrowing the gender gap the other way round. They promote reading especially to boys as a

EBLIDA: Ms Wimmer, thank you very much for your interesting insights.

EBLIDA Matrix – European Union SDG policies / indicators and possible library policies in SDGs 7 and 8

We continue our reviews of SDGs. Previous Newsletters have dealt with SDGs 1 and 2 (September 2019 Newsletter), SDGs 3 and 4 (October 2019 Newsletter) and SDGs 5 and 6 (November 2919 Newsletter).

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Focus on SDG 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services consists of increasing substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix and doubling the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency. Access to clean energy research and technology together with the promotion of investment in energy infrastructure and clean energy technology require an overall re-orientation of International financial flows in support of clean energy research and development and renewable energy production.

Goal 7 calls for ensuring universal access to modern energy services, improving energy efficiency and increasing the share of renewable energy. The EU still relies heavily on fossil fuels for its energy and faces a number of challenges in securing affordable, reliable and sustainable energy supplies.

The EU strategy pursues security & efficiency, integrated energy market and decarbonisation of the economy. Following the 2020 energy and climate package, the EU has set the following targets: 40% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, at least a 27% renewables share in the EU's energy mix, and at least 27% increase of energy efficiency. With a new Commission having sustainable development as its main priority, these targets are going to be revised upwards taking into consideration the climate emergency.

EUROSTAT Indicators for SDG 7 include "Primary & final energy consumption", "Final energy consumption in households per capita", and "Energy intensity". It should not be forgotten that there are parts of Europe where energy does not reach households in an adequate way. A social indicator concerning the number of people "unable to keep home adequately warm" illustrates the areas where the EU effort should be focused. Environmental indicators in use by Eurostat concerns the "Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption", the level of "Energy

How can European libraries be relevant in the Europe 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?

Two instruments are fundamental in the strategy towards clean energy: the 2030 Climate & Energy Framework and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change (December 2015). The Framework acts in two ways: through the integration of climate action into the various EU spending programmes and an ad hoc programme: the "LIFE climate action", which develops and implements innovative ways to respond to climate challenges. The objectives are reached through the enforcement of EU climate change policy and legislation as well as a better environmental and climate change governance at all levels. More specific funds are provided to contribute to the shift towards a low-carbon and climate-resilient economy.

Another direction is to combat waste. The EU Waste Framework Directive has two key objectives: to prevent and reduce the negative impacts caused by the generation and management of waste and to improve resource efficiency. The Directive defines a 'hierarchy' to be applied by EU Member States in waste management. Waste prevention and re-use are the most preferred options, followed by recycling (including composting), then energy recovery, while waste disposal through landfills should be the very last resort. Common EU targets include recycling 65% of municipal waste by 2035 and 70% of packaging waste by 2030.

Most importantly, the European Commission Circular Economy Action Plan sketches out future challenges to shape the EU economy towards a climate-neutral and circular economy where pressure on natural and freshwater resources as well as on ecosystems is minimised.

Three priority areas are envisaged:

- Climate change mitigation, where greenhouse gas emissions are reduced;
- Climate change adaptation, where resilience to climate change is increased; and
- Climate change governance and information, where awareness and communication activities are enhanced.

The most important application of SDG 7 in libraries is what is called the Green library - a library where construction, internal spaces, sanitation and heating systems meet green standards. Green libraries are "designed to minimize negative impact on the natural environment and maximize indoor environmental quality by means of careful site selection, use of natural construction materials and biodegradable products, conservation of resources (water, energy, paper), and responsible waste disposal (recycling, etc.)" (*Green Libraries,* Online Dictionary for Library and Information Science). IFLA has set up a Checklist, covering the green building project planning, financing, site selection, structure, construction, materials, climate, energy management, recycling as well as green information and communication technology (Green IT), User services, library facility management, strategic goals, marketing and PR, green building certificates and more.

Library activities pursuing SDG 7 mainly concern awareness on zero-, low-carbon

styles and on exhibitions about future energy policy.

Public libraries can also be useful in implementing citizens' science project, where scientists can test new solutions through the support of an active and well informed citizenry. Experiences have focused on assigning public library users devices or sensors able to test air quality and the level of emissions.

Focus on SDG 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Inclusive green economic growth and decent employment are of key importance for the development and prosperity of European countries and for the well-being and personal realisation of individuals. For economic growth to be truly sustainable, it needs to be accompanied by eco-efficiency improvements, climate control and resilience measures. An active labour market goes together with social inclusion policies, with a view to avoiding harm to the natural environment.

Strategic investments of EUR 500 billion are expected by 2020 through the Investment Plan for Europe. The EU 2020 Strategy for growth and jobs aims to put 75% of the 20-64 year-olds in employment. Economic productivity should also be achieved through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, and the encouragement of the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises. An important step (Sub-target 8.4) is to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation.

Economic growth cannot be established without full and productive employment and decent working conditions for all women and men. The eradication of forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child slavery is a priority issue. Full employment is also achieved through the reduction of young people who are not in employment, Education or Training (NEET). Sustainable tourism creating jobs and promoting local culture and products (Subtarget 8.9) can also represent an opportunity for historical and public libraries.

Eurostat indicators for SDG 8 include standard economic measurements, such as "Real GDP per capita", "Investment share of GDP", as well as standard labour targets: "Employment rate", "Long-term unemployment rate", "Young people neither in employment nor in education and training". Other social indicators are "People killed in accidents at work". Supplementary indicators also valid for other goals are "In work at-risk-of-poverty rate", "Inactive population due to caring responsibilities" and "Resource productivity and domestic material consumption (DMC)".

How can European libraries be relevant in the Europe 2030 Agenda for

EU programmes aim towards sustainable growth. An example is "Blue Growth", a long term strategy aimed to support sustainable growth in the marine and maritime sectors (5.4 million jobs and a gross added value of almost €500 billion a year). Aquaculture, coastal tourism, marine biotechnology, ocean energy and seabed mining **have a high potential for sustainable jobs and growth**, and receive funding from the EU's maritime and fisheries policies (2014-2020).

Sustainable growth cannot develop if there is no substantial investment in research and if researchers, scientific knowledge and technology are not enabled to circulate freely. The new Cohesion policy (2021-2027) includes activities aimed towards a Smarter Europe, a **greener, carbon-free Europe, a** more **connected and more social Europe.**

A more social Europe invests in human capital and in particular in new skills, providing opportunities for adults and young people and enhancing digital skills and vocational education and training. A European Globalisation Adjustment Fund provides support to people losing their jobs as a result of major structural changes in world trade patterns due to globalization. A more social Europe also consists of tackling discrimination at work, fighting trafficking in human beings, and helping persons with disabilities.

Awareness about and commitment to sustainable growth cannot be realized without the support of culture-oriented programmes. *Creative Europe* is the European Commission's framework Programme for support to the culture and audiovisual sectors.

Three programmes are included:
a) Culture,
b) Media and
c) Cross-sectoral cultural programmes aimed to support creation.

a) Funding for Culture promotes:

1. European Platforms;
2. European networks;
3. European cooperation projects;
4. Literary translation.

b) Funding for Media regards:

1. Initiatives to promote the distribution of works and the access to markets;
2. Initiatives for the development of projects or a set of projects (slate funding);
3. Support for the production of television programmes or video games;
4. Activities to increase interest in and improve access to audiovisual works;
5. Activities that promote interests in films, such as cinema networks or film festivals;
6. Measures that facilitate international co-production and strengthen the circulation and distribution of works;
7. Activities to build skills and capacities of audiovisual sector professionals.

 c) Funding for cross-sector cultural programmes is allocated to:

sized enterprises (SMEs) in the cultural and creative sectors;
2. **Transnational policy development,** designed to support the exchange of experiences and know-how relating to new business and management models;
3. **A network of Creative Europe Desk** designed to provide information about the Creative Europe and assistance to projects as well as stimulating cross border cooperation.

Libraries are already intensively working towards the attainment of SDG 8. Many of them act as liaison agents between employers and job-seekers. Job desks where librarians or experts help unemployed persons to file job applications are frequently hosted in libraries. Free access to the Internet provided by libraries help people find new opportunities and make use of advanced technologies, far beyond what any ordinary citizen could realistically hope.

In collaboration with the private sector libraries could intensify the quality of their activity in times of stagnation and poor job opportunities. By providing access to information on European Funds (also Structural Funds) libraries can act as a glass window and transparency centres, thus increasing citizens' awareness on how European money is spent and supports equal, environment-friendly and sustainable European investments. Finally, libraries are main stakeholders in the Creative Europe programme.

JOIN US!

EBLIDA European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations

Become a Member! Sign up today!

Events and Dates in December

December 12-13
16th Conference of the Serbian Library Association
Place: Belgrade, Serbia
Organizer: Ministry of Culture and Media & National Library of Serbia

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