



Draft Annual Work Programme 2008 (to be approved by Council)

As stated in the EBLIDA Strategy 2007-2010, EBLIDA's mission is to *secure access for all to the benefits of the information society in all formats* by:

- Lobbying at European level
- Providing relevant and up-to-date information about EBLIDA and European library issues
- By seeking involvement in European projects and by organizing seminars and workshops of interest to the library and information community.

Lobbying and monitoring Issues

Copyright and other legal issues

Copyright and issues of intellectual property rights remain high on the agenda and EBLIDA has been involved on a number of copyright issues related to the European Digital Library (now named Europeana.). Finding solutions for mass digitisation projects in European libraries is a high priority and EBLIDA through its involvement in the High Level Expert Group – Sub-group on copyright and in other sector specific working groups will continue to lobby for results which are in line with the best interests of the cultural sector, including responding to open consultations from the European Commission.

At the end of 2007 the European Commission published a staff working document regarding the implementation and application of the INFO SOC directive. However this document makes few, if any, recommendations as to what changes may be necessary in the future to ensure a European copyright framework that is in line with the need to distribute and disseminate online content. It is unlikely that we will see new legislation (or revision of legislation) in the area of the European copyright framework in the foreseeable future, but EBLIDA will continue to lobby for those changes that we feel are necessary, monitor developments and provide information to our members.

http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/copyright/docs/copyright-infso/application-report_en.pdf

At the beginning of 2007 the Copyright expert group and the expert group on trade and libraries merged and was renamed the Expert Group on Information Law, reflecting the broader scope of issues under its remit.

Digitisation and online access

For cultural institutions in Europe it is essential that there is substantial progress in the digitisation of content and giving access to online content (both that which has been digitised and that which is born digital) if libraries, archives etc are to provide relevant services to users. Fundamental issues of funding, technology, organisation and legislation remain challenges to be met – there is simply not enough online-content available in the public domain or/and accessible by end users. EBLIDA will work to promote Open Access to

publicly funded scientific material, support national policies for digitisation (including legal deposit for online material and web harvesting) and help to facilitate cooperation across Europe, not least within the community of national library associations.

Professional LIS education

The performance of LIS education in Europe is of central importance to the value that libraries can bring to the European user community and EBLIDA believes that the interaction between academic research and practice is vital in order to reach the goals of libraries in the knowledge society. EBLIDA will continue to monitor the Bologna process and to discuss how LIS education might be aligned in Europe. The following areas have been identified:

1. European Qualifications Framework. It is accepted that the LIS profession is not "regulated", however there are on-going issues with regard to the interchangeable nature of qualifications across Europe and monitoring and information sharing is essential.
2. The Bologna process is ongoing until 2010 and there is a need to remain informed and to advise members.
3. CERTIDOC. Whilst EBLIDA will probably not wish to be directly involved, it is important to be seen as interested and possibly to gather the views of members.
4. EUCLID. Co-operation with EUCLID has proved fruitful. There is a suggestion that a conference similar to that which has just taken place in Lisbon should be held every two years. A key role of this group would be to forward plan for this event and provide a clear strategic direction for the conference content.
5. There is something interesting research to be done around LIS curriculum delivery, rather than curriculum content. Issues such as the interface between research and practitioners, use of distance learning, use of ICT in course delivery etc. A group with the appropriate skills set and experience could progress this work.
6. ENGCARD. This European mobility pass for engineers has EC support. It might provide a useful template for other professions and it is therefore important that developments are closely monitored and any opportunities to develop a similar scheme in the LIS sector are grasped.

Culture and Information Society

(to be formulated after the first meeting of the expert group on culture and information society)

Education and Lifelong learning

(To be formulated after the first meeting of the expert group on culture and information society)

EBLIDA Knowledge Centre (KC)

In order to support the 5 key strategic areas outlined above EBLIDA will establish a knowledge centre to bring together information (political, cultural, professional etc) which will be a source of information for all stakeholders (government, ministries, local authorities and library professionals) in an edited/monitored environment. The knowledge centre should also be a tool to strengthen the communication, discussion and dialogue among the library associations of Europe, where interests and strategies of common interest can be discussed.

The knowledge centre will also act as a networking facility bringing experts within defined fields together and increase the commitment of members to the European library agenda.

The KC should also incorporate country editors/contacts from each EU country (+Norway, Switzerland and Iceland) to contribute with edited country reports on the 5 areas.

A preliminary structure for the KC has been discussed among the chairs of the expert groups and will be implemented in a series of stages in 2008:

Information law	Digitisation and online access	Culture and information society	Education and LLL	Professional education
Introduction/mission statement	Introduction/mission statement	Introduction/mission statement	Introduction/mission statement	Introduction/mission statement
Relevant European papers, directives, recommendations etc	Relevant European papers, directives, recommendations etc	Relevant European papers, directives, recommendations etc	Relevant European papers, directives, recommendations etc	Relevant European papers, directives, recommendations etc
Information on calls for projects on the different EU programmes	Information on calls for projects on the different EU programmes	Information on calls for projects on the different EU programmes	Information on calls for projects on the different EU programmes	Information on calls for projects on the different EU programmes
Lobbying activities / position statements and statements	Lobbying activities / position statements and statements	Lobbying activities / position statements and statements	Lobbying activities / position statements and statements	Lobbying activities / position statements and statements
Country reports, best practice etc	Country reports, best practice etc	Country reports, best practice etc	Country reports, best practice etc	Country reports, best practice etc
Expert Group members and contact details	Expert Group members and contact details	Expert Group members and contact details	Expert Group members and contact details	Expert Group members and contact details

The EBLIDA Executive Committee and Secretariat will investigate various funding models for the implementation of the knowledge centre)

(Once approved by the EC a road map for the establishment of the KC will be drawn up and included as an annex to the WP 2008)

Expert Groups

In line with the 5 strategic areas of EBLIDA, 5 expert groups have been established to support the work of the organisation, direct its policy initiatives, formulate strategic goals and contribute to the professional development of the KC. The 5 expert groups are:

- Expert Group on Information Law/ EGIL (Chair: Toby Bainton)
- Joint Expert Group on digitisation and online access/JEGDO (Chair: Bas Savenije)*
- Expert Group on Professional Education (Chair: Jill Martin)
- Expert Group on Culture and Information Society (Chair: Barbara Lison)
- Expert Group on Education and Lifelong learning (Chair: Pernille Drost)

* The JEGDO is a joint expert group with LIBER

Each expert group appoints a secretary and information coordinator. Each expert group will formulate a strategic plan for the group, in line with the overall strategy for EBLIDA, and contribute information and expertise to the KC (strategic plans for all expert groups will be presented, discussed and adopted by the EC at its autumn meeting).

The composition of the expert groups should bring together experts within their chosen fields and attempt to have a geographical spread ensuring that north/south – east/west are represented in the expert groups.

The expert groups will meet twice a year – from 2009 one of these meetings will be held in conjunction with the EBLIDA Annual Council Meeting.

EBLIDA Cooperation with other organizations

IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations)

EBLIDA will continue cooperation with IFLA on issues relevant to libraries and archives. EBLIDA and IFLA will continue to hold informal meetings with IFLA representatives and work closely together on IPR issues. EBLIDA and IFLA will co-host two one day workshops in 2008.

ICA (International Council on Archives)

EBLIDA will cooperate with ICA on archive-related matters.

EUCLID (European Association for Library and Information Education and Research)

In collaboration with EUCLID, and the Portuguese Library Association (BAD) EBLIDA organized and co-hosted a conference on LIS education in September 2007 in Lisbon. EBLIDA will continue to have informal contact with EUCLID and investigate the possibility of a joint conference in 2009.

LIBER (Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche)

In 2007 a memorandum of understanding was signed between the two organizations and we will continue to hold meetings twice a year to discuss issues of common interest, e.g. open access initiatives and digitization projects and initiatives. EBLIDA and LIBER have established a joint expert group on digitisation and online access.

In collaboration with LIBER, EBLIDA organized and co-hosted a workshop on digitization in Copenhagen in October 2007, focusing on national and European policies for digitization, as

well as more practical issues. A set of recommendations regarding digitisation activities in Europe from these workshops were formulated by the participants and sent to the European Commission, which will be followed with a meeting with Commission representatives in 2008.

NAPLE (National Authorities on Public Libraries in Europe)

EBLIDA President and Director attended the NAPLE conference in Madrid in September 2007 and will continue to explore issues of common concern in relation to the role and position of public libraries in Europe.

CENL (Conference of European National Librarians)

EBLIDA will cooperate with CENL in areas of common interest, not least the establishment of the EDL and as a partner in EDL net. EBLIDA and CENL will hold informal meetings, if and when required.

Right holders

EBLIDA will continue to participate in discussion forums with right holders and publishers, including bi-annual meetings with the Federation of European Publishers (FEP) and as a member of the Frankfurt Group.

EBLIDA Strategy and Organisation

EBLIDA Strategy

The EBLIDA strategy 2007-2010 was adopted at the Annual Council Meeting in Reykjavik, May 2007 and will be reviewed by the newly elected EC at the Annual Council Meeting 2009.

EBLIDA Secretariat

In 2007 EBLIDA reduced its staff by 25%, due to changes of some routines at the secretariat. This has worked well and EBLIDA does not see the employment of additional staff as necessary in 2008. The book keeping for EBLIDA was outsourced in 2007 and as this has worked to the satisfaction of the secretariat we will continue with this in 2008.

Communication

EBLIDA News will be published twice monthly in electronic format and distributed to all EBLIDA members. The newsletter will also be available on the EBLIDA website. The newsletter will continue with its present frequency in 2008.

As a result of the establishment of the KC and new expert groups EBLIDA will introduce new features to the website which will allow for working areas for the EC and expert groups (where EC and expert group members can access agendas, minutes and meeting documents in a controlled environment)

EBLIDA will publish a brochure about EBLIDA and its aims. This brochure will be presented at the Annual Council Meeting in The Hague/Amsterdam.

EBLIDA Membership and Sponsors

EBLIDA is dependent on membership fees and a small number of sponsors for its revenue. The last years have seen a small decrease in membership (partly due to the decision to delete members who are more than two years in arrears) and EBLIDA will continue to monitor these developments closely. By bringing relevant information to EBLIDA members and the European library and archive community, it is hoped that we can stabilize and increase the membership of EBLIDA.

EBLIDA Annual Council Meeting 2008

This year EBLIDA will hold its Annual Council Meeting in The Hague on the 8th of May. The second day (9th May) will be held in cooperation with the Dutch Library Association (VOB) and the Dutch Library Umbrella (FOBID) at the Amsterdam Public Library.

The 2009 Annual Council meeting will take place in Vienna and planning for this will start in the second half of 2008.

EBLIDA Workshops

In cooperation with IFLA/FAIFE, EBLIDA will co-host two one day workshops to be financed or partly financed with support from the Swedish Development Agency. The first of these will focus on issues of copyright, while the second will focus on information technology and privacy.

European Projects

EBLIDA has joined two European projects – ENTITLE and COMMUNIA (both are described in more detail in the Annual Work report) during 2007 and 2008. Both projects are in line with the overall strategy for EBLIDA and will provide insight and information to the Executive Committee and the expert groups.