

## 2021-2022 Unit Annual Report Form: E4GDH SIG

### Unit Information

#### Evidence for Global and Disaster Health [E4GDH] special interest group

The Evidence for Global and Disaster Health [E4GDH] special interest group contributes to IFLA's mission with a focus on strengthening the evidence-based practice of librarians in global and disaster health through advocacy, skills development, and capacity building, plus partnerships.

SIGs were able to set up a formal committee of convenor plus up to 8 self-nominated members for the first time as part of the April 2021 elections. The new E4GDH committee [<https://www.ifla.org/units/e4gdh/committee/>] was established in late January 2022. This process was overseen by IFLA Health & Biosciences Libraries section [HBS] as the sponsoring section; both E4GDH and HBS are part of IFLA Division G. Our new formal E4GDH committee continues to be supported by a strong Advisory group.

*The following text is from our internal Annual Report:*

### Successes/Accomplishments/Achievements

**Briefly describe the project, activity, or output you accomplished during the period August 2021 - August 2022**

#### 1. Evidence Ambassadors for Evidence-based Healthcare Day 2021: 20th October 2021

As Evidence Ambassadors for Evidence-based Healthcare Day 2021, on 20th October 2021 we held a joint webinar with our HBS colleagues. 'Librarians Lead in Times of Crisis: Specialised Evidence-Based Information Services Support Infodemic Management' was presented by Caroline De Brún from E4GDH and Feili Tu-Keefner from HBS, with an introduction from Helen Mandl. [recording: <https://t.co/ifNYSEvkVK?amp=1>; over 170 views to date]

**Do you have a URL to this accomplishment to share?**

<https://www.ifla.org/events/webinar-librarians-lead-in-times-of-crisis-specialised-evidence-based-information-services-supportinfodemic-management/>

#### 2. Contribution to the health-themed IFLA Newsletter in January 2022

Our session for the 2021 virtual WLIC was a provocation on 'Health Information as a Human Right: A Global Call to Action and Practical Steps'. Recognising the importance of this topic, IFLA supported us by making the recording freely available. This was announced as part of an article we wrote with Stephen Wyber for the IFLA newsletter, 'Health information by right: making the case for ensuring access to reliable information'.

E4GDH also wrote a joint piece with HBS on our activities, and promoting the ICML+AHILA congress entitled 'Looking Ahead on Health'. Both pieces featured as news items on our E4GDH webpages [<https://www.ifla.org/news/health-information-by-right-making-thecase-for-ensuring-access-to-reliable-information/> ; <https://www.ifla.org/news/looking-ahead-on-health/> ]

**Do you have a URL to this accomplishment to share?** <http://eepurl.com/hSoxTL>

#### 3. Friends of the ICML+AHILA hybrid congress, 15th - 19th March 2022

E4GDH continued to support preparations for the ICML+AHILA congress in the period covered by this report. This included: representation on the Workshops and CEPD subcommittee, with several workshops supporting evidence-based practice; facilitating joint learning about virtual conferences by connecting the local organising committee with IFLA and AfLIA (The African Library and Information Associations and Institutions); liaising with IFLA President as invited speaker. Emma Farrow gave a poster presentation on our work during the actual event.

**Do you have a URL to this accomplishment to share?** <https://icml2022.org/>

#### 4. Advocating for 'Trusted Evidence for All'

The call from Cochrane to improve evidence-informed decision-making before any future health crises aligns with our E4GDH objectives. After Anne Brice brought this to the attention of IFLA HQ, IFLA became a signatory [Evidence for all in times of health emergency: IFLA supports Cochrane Call for Action, <https://www.ifla.org/news/evidence-for-all-in-times-of-health-emergency-iflasupports-cochrane-call-for-action/> ] and E4GDH is leading on a response.

Our linked news item highlighted the current inequity in evidence [E4GDH SIG supports the call to

action on trusted #EvidenceforAll in health emergencies, URL below]. It also laid the foundations for our 2022 WLIC session.

**Do you have a URL to this accomplishment to share?** <https://www.ifla.org/news/e4gdh-sig-supports-the-call-to-action-on-trusted-evidenceforall-in-health-emergencies/>

## 5. Activities around the IFLA Congress in Dublin, July 2022

### 5.i Roundtable during WLIC 2022

Our roundtable event during WLIC 2022 [Session 142 Librarians as Evidence Intermediaries during Times of Crisis] responded to reports from Cochrane and the Evidence Commission, with the co-lead for the latter as one of our two speakers. Both reports issued a call to action to improve the evidence ecosystem after the pandemic brought a sharpened focus on the need for evidence that is accessible, transparent, and understood.

A linked [news piece](#) informed those discussions, and will form a platform for our statement in response. This aligns with the IFLA strategic theme 'Enable' - "...ensuring that libraries are recognised and supported as critical community assets essential to achieving development agendas."

Six members of the E4GDH Committee and Advisory Group facilitated the subsequent roundtable discussions. These will be shared with the 40 participants signing up to hear more about our work (alongside our existing circulation list) with a short report on our webpages.

**Do you have a URL to this accomplishment to share?**

<https://www.ifla.org/news/evidenceforall-join-our-round-table-in-dublin/>

### 5.ii Satellite Meeting

E4GDH contributed to the planning of a successful joint Satellite Meeting with IFLA Health and Biosciences Libraries section and the Health Sciences Libraries Group (HSLG) of the Library Association of Ireland. Three E4GDH representatives took part in the actual event, which took place after the congress.

**Do you have a URL to this accomplishment to share?**

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/ifla-health-and-biosciences-section-satellite-meeting-tickets-321227178137>

## Communications

How have you communicated your Unit's work to the following stakeholders?

	Unit members	General IFLA members	Section members	The field at large
Newsletter				
Webpage				X
Blog post				
Mailing list			X	
Social Media		X		X
Basecamp	X		X	
Articles in IFLA Newsletter		X		X

**Please comment on any communication or partnerships outside of your own Standing Committee**

E4GDH has had an occasional newsletter, created on mailchimp and circulated to our mailing list. With sufficient future capacity, this will be revived if supported by our communications review.

Collaborative partners include HIFA, EvidenceAID, Librarian Reserve Corps, WHO Research in Health Emergency Disaster Knowledge Hub, AHILA. Within IFLA alongside collaborative work with HBS, we are building upon existing links with ENSULIB, Public Libraries section, STL and CPDWL as well as building new links.