



# GET INTO... **SDG Action Week**

## 2022 Edition

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Action Week takes place around the anniversary of the agreement of the United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda in 2015.

Organised by the UN and civil society platforms, it is an opportunity both to raise awareness around the SDGs and show how different actors – including libraries – are delivering on them.

This year, the focus is on ‘flipping the script’ – demonstrating that change is possible, despite how far we still need to go in order to achieve the SDGs. Climate, justice and peace will be on the agenda.

With the half-way point in the 2030 Agenda imminent, it is a great opportunity to offer a reminder of their commitments made in 2015, and an illustration of the actions taken by libraries and others to deliver progress. This guide explains more about the celebrations, and about how libraries can get involved, and get their contributions noticed.



## What is SDG Action Week?

SDG Action Week – or the Global Week to Act for SDGs – takes place from 16 to 25 September 2022. This coincides with the United Nations General Assembly in New York, as well as the International Day of Peace on 21 September, World Development Information Day on 24 September, the anniversary of the SDGs' agreement on 25 September.



As set out in the introduction, the aim is to motivate and mobilise governments and stakeholders alike to change radically their approach to delivering development. The UN itself has warned – both in specific policy areas such as education, and across the board – that the COVID Pandemic has caused progress to stop, or even reverse. What was already an ambitious programme has become harder.

SDG Action week is supported by the United Nations, and in particular the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). As the name suggests, it does emphasise the importance of action – either on the initiative of individual institutions, organisations and people, or drawing on the materials prepared and promoted by the campaign.

These actions can be focused on raising awareness, advancing discussion, delivering the SDGs, or encouraging governments to accelerate their own efforts. The actions taken can be registered on a global map on the SDG Action Week website – see below for more!





## Why Is It Relevant for Libraries?

SDG Action Week will involve all types of organisations and actor, in order to show the breadth of engagement in delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals.

However, as IFLA has underlined over the past years, libraries have a particular role to play, both in raising awareness of the 2030 Agenda, and in delivering on it. Our institutions have the potential to be showcases for the SDGs, letting people find out more about what the goals mean, as well as to support their achievement by providing access to information from the local to the global level.

Libraries around the world have answered the call, organising hundreds of meetings, training sessions and other activities. In a number of cases, this engagement has been recognised, with libraries mentioned in official government strategies or reports on the SDGs, or invited to join coordinating committees.

SDG Action Week is a chance therefore both to join with other institutions and organisations who support the achievement of the SDGs, and to underline what libraries in particular are doing. It will lead, hopefully, to stronger commitments by government, and stronger recognition of the work of our institutions.

## How is IFLA involved?

IFLA supports SDG Action Week and will be communicating about the role of libraries contributing to the SDGs. In particular, we will be highlighting the importance of access to information – and the libraries that guarantee it – as accelerators of strong, equitable and sustainable development.

While taking place outside of the week itself, International Day for the Universal Access to Information falls on 28 September 2022, and will provide further opportunities to highlight the connections between libraries, access to information and development.

## What Can I Do?

The below are just suggestions on how you could get involved – you do not need to do all of them! Maybe you have a better idea for your situation! Do share your actions on the SDG Action Week website though – see Action 8 for more!

1) **Look at the list of examples of actions on the SDG Action Week website**, as well as their [suggestions on how to take action](#). Think about whether you could do something similar

2) **Look at what libraries have already been doing to talk about, and deliver, the SDGs**, for example in our [2018](#) and [2019](#) Great Ideas for Advocacy sessions at the World Library and Information Congress, or our growing set of examples of [how library associations are working with the SDGs](#).

### 3) Share your action globally!

You can do this on the [SDG Action Week website](#), and so make your work and contribution more visible!



4) **Use the logo and other communications tools on the SDG Action Week website**. Following the instructions there, you can use these on your own website and social media presence.

6) **Write a letter to a newspaper talking about how libraries support the SDGs**. Start from the [Powering Sustainable Development page](#) on our website in order to find ideas and examples.

6) **Download our [This Library Supports the SDGs](#) poster** and hang it in your library. If it isn't available in your language, let us know and we can share the editable file.

7) **Post photos or other relevant messages on social media** using the [materials](#) produced by the campaign.

8) **Launch an [SDG Book Club](#).** IFLA is one of the organisers of this initiative, which invites libraries and others worldwide to use books to raise awareness of the SDGs and the issues they cover.

9) **Think about whether your action could become an SDG Story.** If you can demonstrate the impact of what you're doing, you could submit an example of your work and have it featured on the [Library Map of the World!](#)

# This library supports the SDGs



[ifla.org/libraries-development](http://ifla.org/libraries-development)

#Lib4Dev

#DA2I

#GlobalGoals

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PROGRAMME

**IFLA** International  
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