



IFLA Regional Division  
Committee  
**Asia-Oceania**

*Regional Divisions 2021-2023*

*Asia Oceania*

***REGIONAL ACTION PLAN - UPDATED MAY 2022***

*\*\*\* This action plan is currently being updated \*\*\**

# 1. SDGs ENGAGEMENT

## THE GLOBAL ADVOCACY DEFINED BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL

### 1.1 Promote greater understanding of the importance of the SDGs, and how libraries can support work towards the SDGs in all the countries of Asia-Oceania

Expected Outcome	Outputs and Activities	Timeframe	Impact Measurement	RDC / IFLA Collaboration	Actors Involved	Partners (internal/external)
Librarians in all countries of Asia-Oceania are aware of the SDGs and involved in SDG-related initiatives.	A webinar in 'workshop' mode - a 'community of practice' workshop - in each sub-region of Asia-Oceania, facilitated by RDC-AO members in cooperation with library associations in the sub-region. Webinars will have a common agenda, and will produce summary reports.	2nd and 3rd quarters 2022 - aim to complete by end of December 2022.	Impact will be measured by: 1) Number of attendees. 2) Feedback in the form of comments in library sector media in the relevant countries or in the region. 3) Direct feedback from participants. 4) Assessment by means of a report from each WG.	Cooperation with other RDCs, by consultation with Chairs. Feed information from AO to Regional Council (cf. RC actions 1.1, 1.2.)	RDC-AO members and local library associations, with invited speakers from IFLA.  4 working groups of the RDC-AO. For: South Asia, South-East Asia, North Asia, Pacific. (Note: North Asia also covers Central Asia)  South Asia WG: all RDC members in S Asia, with Debal as lead. SE Asia WG: all RDC members in SE Asia, with Gene as lead. N Asia WG: all RDC members in N Asia, with Chen Ying as lead. Pacific WG: all RDC members in Pacific and Australasia: Nina is lead.	Representatives of UNESCO offices in the region, National Commissions for UNESCO, and other intergovernmental agencies as appropriate.
<b>Notes / Updates:</b>	Note from Chair 30 May 2022: the project as planned was paused while the opportunity was taken to engage with the ESCAP AP regional Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) in Bangkok at the end of March. The RDC arranged with IFLA to send 2 regional experts to ESCAP, and the RDC organised a hybrid workshop alongside the ESCAP APFSD programme. speakers at the workshop were a mixture of RDC-AO members and other experts from the Region. The project is now reverting to the original plan.					

## ***1.2 Mobilise national library associations to engage with relevant national authorities for reporting on the UN SDG Voluntary National Reviews***

<b>Expected Outcome</b>	<b>Outputs and Activities</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Impact Measurement</b>	<b>RDC / IFLA Collaboration</b>	<b>Actors Involved</b>	<b>Partners (internal/external)</b>
Increased awareness among national authorities of libraries' contributions to achieving the SDGs, and willingness to include data on libraries' contributions in reports. Increased references to libraries and their contributions in UN SDG reports.	Meet with executives of national associations to discuss how to engage with national authorities to achieve references to libraries in Voluntary National Reviews (VNR). Liaise with other professional and civil society organisations engaged in the same advocacy process. Propose a draft common approach for associations to follow.	End of December 2022	Impact will be measured by: 1) The number of countries covered. 2) The number of VNRs across AO each year which refer to libraries (target: 1 third). 3) Number of productive contacts with national authorities, as reported by associations.	Consultation with Chairs of other RDCs and Chair of RC: propose guidelines for a common approach to self-assessment (Voluntary Library Reviews) of how libraries themselves are working towards the SDGs.	RDC members; IFLA Regional Office; IFLA HQ.  All RDC members contribute to drafting guidelines for national associations, led by Chair and Vice-chair.	Staff of national commissions for UNESCO, national representatives of ICA and ICOM.
<b>Notes / Updates:</b>	Update from Chair 30-5-22: Chair has been in contact with director of National Library and Archives of Tuvalu, to provide advice regarding reflecting the role of libraries in the VNR which Govt of Tuvalu is due to submit this year.					

## 2. ENGAGEMENT IN OTHER GLOBAL ADVOCACY PRIORITIES

### 2.1 Develop a libraries workshop for proposal to the Asia-Pacific regional Internet Governance Forum (APrIGF) for the programme of its 2022 conference in September 2022? -date TBC

Expected Outcome	Outputs and Activities	Timeframe	Impact Measurement	RDC / IFLA Collaboration	Actors Involved	Partners (internal/external)
The proposal is accepted, the workshop is held; new contacts are developed, the profile of library services in the region is raised, and the importance of key issues (such as human rights, equitable access to information, etc.) highlighted.	Draft a proposal for a libraries workshop (with a panel of 3-4 speakers and a moderator) drawing on experience with IFLA workshops at previous APrIGF events.	Proposal: the event and its theme will likely be announced in March/April 2022, with the event held in Sept 2022: the exact timeframe will be determined by APrIGF planning.	The impact will be measured by: 1) the number of participants attending the workshop; 2) the quality of input to Q&A and assessments by organisers; 3) the good examples and evidence that the workshop can feed into the APrIGF Synthesis Document which will be submitted to the global IGF 2022.	Maintain contact with other RDCs who may be proposing library workshops at regional IG events (EUR? SSAF?); discuss the possibility of developing a common template for such workshops. Note that the IFLA Section on IT is interested in cooperating with the RDC-AO for involvement in APrIGF.	RDC-AO Working Group on Internet Governance will be set up. Membership: Atarino, Nina, Tina, Mamun, Dilara, Tulia, Premila, Misako, with Rei as lead. Winston as Chair will be an adviser (NB: Winston is member of the Multi-stakeholder Group governing APrIGF). RDC-AO members in Japan will liaise with national host of the IGF 2023. IFLA HQ, Regional Office and other RDC-AO members.	IFLA HQ staff responsible for IGF liaison. Need to approach the Advisory Committee of FAIFE regarding the themes of access to information, human rights and diversity.
	Call for speakers/panellists from the library sector.				Regional Office, RDC-AO members.	
<b>Notes / Updates:</b>	UPDATE from Chair 30 May 2022: Confirmed dates are 12-14 September, in Singapore. RDC-AO Working Group has submitted a proposal for a workshop: now waiting to learn if it has been accepted by APrIGF.					

## 2.2 Prepare a proposal for an IFLA side event in conjunction with the global IGF in Japan in 2023

Expected Outcome	Outputs and Activities	Timeframe	Impact Measurement	RDC / IFLA Collaboration	Actors Involved	Partners (internal/external)
Draft proposal ready by mid-2022 for IFLA to discuss with IGF Secretariat, Geneva.	Submit proposal to IFLA Regional Council.	By July 2022	Number of participants in the side-event; quality of speakers who accept invitations; assessments by IFLA HQ and the IGF Secretariat; mutual reinforcement of themes of side-event and IGF relating to IFLA Strategy to 2024, our assessment of increased opportunities for	Exchange information with RDC SSAF regarding their proposal for a side-event at IGF Ethiopia in 2022, take account of lessons learned in making RDC-AO proposal for Japan 2023.	RDC-AO members in Japan to liaise with national host of the IGF 2023. IFLA HQ, Regional Office and other RDC-AO members. Working Group on IG to draft proposal, advised by Winston as Chair, in consultation with Headquarters.	UNESCO; Internet technical community in the region: APNIC, PICISOC, other ISOCs; civil society organisations concerned with human rights and information society (Article 19, APC, et al); IFLA Advisory Committees for CLM, FAIFE.
Aim for a longer-term outcome in line with IFLA Strategy to 2024, and UN plans for the IGF.	IFLA HQ to submit proposal to IGF.	By October 2022	IFLA to work with UN agencies on policy development.			
	If proposal accepted, RDC-AO to prepare detailed plans in consultation with HQ and Japanese host organisation.	By end 2022. Planning during 2023 for implementation of event at date of IGF in late 2023 (date TBC)		Speakers nominated by Regional Council, Governing Board, FAIFE Advisory Committee.	IFLA leaders, Regional Council, HQ, library sector leaders in Asia-Oceania and other regions.	
<b>Notes / Updates:</b>	UPDATE from Chair 30 May 2022: IG matters were raised at FAIFE Mid-term meeting, and with HQ. AGREED to hold a discussion at WLIC & set up an IFLA WG for the side-event proposal for IGF 2023.					

# 3. BUILDING REGIONAL ADVOCACY CAPACITY AND IMPACT

## 3.1 Advocate for support for libraries, schools and cultural heritage facilities in zones prone to natural disasters

Expected Outcome	Outputs and Activities	Timeframe	Impact Measurement	RDC / IFLA Collaboration	Actors Involved	Partners (internal/external)
<p>The RDC-AO will prepare key elements of an outline draft 'Resilience Plan' for use initially by libraries in the Asia-Oceania region, then for extension to other regions with the support of the IFLA Regional Council. The plan will take into account the needs of SIDS (small island developing states) and vulnerable mainland areas, and the 'profile' of the natural disasters typically experienced in various A-O subregions.</p>			Impact will be measured by: (see 3.1.1., 3.1.2, and 3.1.3 below).		<p>The RDC will set up a Working Group on Resilience. Membership: Christophe (lead), Togi, Mamun, Elvira, Tulia, Dilara, Jayshree.</p>	
	<p>Carry out a high-level/meta-survey of reports on the effects of recent disasters and action taken. The survey may focus on such areas as: early warning systems, building standards, training staff as first responders, transport, availability of emergency preservation facilities, integrated planning in the cultural heritage sector for longer term response.</p> <p><i>Update from Chair 30-5-22: Project has been delayed: a report is awaited from the Lead.</i></p>	By mid 2022	<p>3.1.1 The response to the survey, including from archives, schools, local and national authorities should identify at least 1 specific example of technical documentation from (or relating to) each country in the region covering each of these: a) the country's overall response to a recent event, b) description of technical facilities and their capacity to respond to events, c) evidence of planning for civil defence, d) evidence of planning for protection of cultural property.</p>			

Expected Outcome	Outputs and Activities	Timeframe	Impact Measurement	RDC / IFLA Collaboration	Actors Involved	Partners (internal/external)
(cont.)	Prepare an interim report, recommending actions including potential areas for closer study. These may include: drafting of interim guidelines for libraries on preparation for/mitigation of natural disasters, technical requirements for protection of collections, facilities and personnel, and collaboration with public authorities for recovery/reconstruction after events.	A draft by July 2022 (WLIC), with a full report by end 2022.	3.1.2 The response to the survey report, including feedback from government authorities (culture, education, libraries/archives and civil defence).		IFLA HQ, Regional Council.	
	Prepare a plan for advocacy for resources. Start advocacy.	March 2023. Then ongoing action.	3.1.3 Feedback from RDC-AO members undertaking advocacy. Detailed impact assessment to be completed in 2024			
<b>Notes / Updates:</b>	<p><b>Update from Chair 30-5-22: Project has been delayed: a report is awaited from the Lead.</b>  <i>(same as above mentioned)</i></p>					

## 4. SUPPORTING OUTREACH

### 4.1 Encouraging libraries in the region to join IFLA

Expected Outcome	Outputs and Activities	Timeframe	Impact Measurement	RDC / IFLA Collaboration	Actors Involved	Partners (internal/external)
<p>IFLA membership in the region will increase, among all types of libraries. Library leaders in the region will gain a better idea of the benefits of membership. New young professionals will continue to come forward to take part in IFLA activities.</p>	<p>This action is ongoing core business for the RDC, and Committee members should maintain liaison with associations in the region to ensure that opportunities for promotion and advocacy are 'on the radar' of the RDC, and that associations understand that IFLA committee members are available to speak at events. IFLA HQ will provide membership data analysis. RDC-AO members will identify 'gaps' in membership (countries or associations not represented), national institutions maybe need to be contacted as proxies. RDC-AO members will develop presentations (partly based on templates and data from IFLA HQ) providing arguments for the professional benefits which associations &amp; institutions (&amp; individuals) gain from IFLA membership, and the cultural/social/economic benefits which would then flow on to their countries (research, education, access to information, etc.).</p> <p><b>Events at which RDC-AO members have spoken: Bangladesh, education webinar, Sept 2021; ESCAP AP forum on SDGs, March 2022; various national association events in Malaysia: 2 professional events are planned in Sri Lanka before end 2022.</b></p>			<p>The RDC will keep in contact with the Regional Office and HQ, for exchange of information on events. HQ staff will advise the WG lead on procedures for posting AO regional information on the IFLA website.</p>	<p>The RDC will set up a Working Group on Communication and Outreach. Members are: Sabine, Labibah, Rei, Debal, Chen Ying, with Elvira as lead.</p>	<p>Executives of national library associations.</p>



Expected Outcome	Outputs and Activities	Timeframe	Impact Measurement	RDC / IFLA Collaboration	Actors Involved	Partners (internal/external)
(cont.)	RDC members will take opportunities to speak at national and regional library events (physical and online). If appropriate, they may also suggest the participation of experts from other IFLA units, or staff of HQ. They will offer to speak on a) topics reflecting their personal expertise, or b) best practice and library policy in their country, or c) the aims, policies and activities of IFLA.	Ongoing	RDC-AO members will send brief reports to IFLA on events they participate in, indicating numbers of effective contacts made and feedback received. RDC, RO and national associations will monitor media reports in countries in the region. Impact will also be measured by: 1) numbers of new members in each category; 2) numbers of persons who come forward as active participants in WLIC; 3) numbers of persons in the region who stand for election to IFLA positions in 2023.	HQ and RO will consider publishing summaries of these reports in their respective newsletters.	RDC-AO Chair and Vice-chair will advise the RDC on such matters. Note: all general matters relating to the RDC's progress with its action plan will be regularly assessed by a Working Group on the action plan - members of this WG are: Winston, Debal, Misako, Nina, Labibah, Edzan.	
<b>Notes / Updates:</b>	<p>Events at which RDC-AO members have spoken: Bangladesh, education webinar, Sept 2021; ESCAP AP forum on SDGs, March 2022; various national association events in Malaysia: 2 professional events are planned in Sri Lanka before end 2022.  <i>(same as above mentioned)</i></p>					

## 4.2 RDC-AO will organise short webinars alongside national and regional meetings of organisations in the fields of libraries, archives, literacy promotion, and cultural heritage preservation and access

Expected Outcome	Outputs and Activities	Timeframe	Impact Measurement	RDC / IFLA Collaboration	Actors Involved	Partners (internal/external)
There will be a multiplier effect in terms of mutual awareness, networking opportunities, new contacts.						
	<p>RDC-AO members will keep the Chair, Vice-chair and Regional Office regularly advised of meetings that they hear about, at an early planning stage, so that the RDC can consider if side events in webinar form can be arranged.</p> <p>An event may be held alongside CONSAL (details TBA).</p>	Ongoing	Reports in professional media, including the RO Newsletter and national associations' newsletters.		RDC-AO, Regional Office.	Library and other organisations in the region, e.g. CONSAL, CDNL-AO, regional consultations of UNESCO and other UN bodies.
<b>Notes / Updates:</b>	An event may be held alongside CONSAL (details TBA). (same as above mentioned)					

### ***4.3 RDC-AO members will work with library institutions and associations in the region to facilitate the translation of key IFLA documents into local languages (in addition to the official 'IFLA languages')***

<b>Expected Outcome</b>	<b>Outputs and Activities</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Impact Measurement</b>	<b>RDC / IFLA Collaboration</b>	<b>Actors Involved</b>	<b>Partners (internal/external)</b>
Translations may be for internal or external use: translations of technical standards and guidelines can be effective tools for continuing professional development. Translations of policy and position statements can be used for advocacy to policy-makers and decision-makers.	RDC members may, if requested, advise national associations on managing the process of finding volunteer translators and quality control of their work, however this must be done in close cooperation with IFLA HQ.		The value and quality of translations of IFLA documents will be measured by the use that is made of them.	RDCs engaged in such work will need to take advice from HQ staff and the PC's Committee on Standards.		
<b>Notes / Updates:</b>						

## 5. ENRICHING THE LIBRARY MAP OF THE WORLD

### 5.1 Build a stronger presence of countries across the region

Expected Outcome	Outputs and Activities	Timeframe	Impact Measurement	RDC / IFLA Collaboration	Actors Involved	Partners (internal/external)
As of now (late 2021), only 33% of countries in Asia & Oceania have updated in Library Map of the World. Expect about 70% of countries in Asia & Oceania to have inputs by the end of 2 years.	Hold an experience-sharing session on collecting library data and stories, and relating these to the countries' profiles.	Workshop by March 2022	Impact to be measured generally by feedback from countries participating in the session, and specifically by 1) number of country profiles produced; 2) number of libraries in the AO region which are newly located on the LMW.	Collaborate closely with IFLA HQ staff responsible for the LMW.	RDC will set up a Working Group on the Library Map of the World (WG LMW). Members are: Jayshree (lead), Gene, Christophe, Atarino, Premila, Edzan, Nina, Chen Ying. RDC & IFLA Regional Office will organise the workshop & the WG will invite selected countries to share their experience.	Participation in the workshop will be open to all libraries. However leaders of national library associations will be encouraged to take part in the workshop and then cascade the information down to their members.
	Identification of priority countries and activities; draft new country profiles where needed.  <b>Notes/Updates: Priority is to strongly encourage new participation from countries and/or institutions who have not contributed to LMW.</b>	Prioritisation by April 2022	Commitment from prioritised countries and/or institutions		RDC	

## Breakdown of actions for 5.1 Build a stronger presence of countries across the region

Expected Outcome	Outputs and Activities	Timeframe	Impact Measurement	RDC / IFLA Collaboration	Actors Involved	Partners (internal/external)
(cont.)	5.1.1 Identify 'gaps' (countries not on the LMW, countries without a 'country profile'); identify associations and institutions which can help provide data and gather stories. Undertake the collection of data and stories.  <b>Notes/Updates: Respective RDC members to take lead for their own countries or sub-regions.</b>	May - Jul 2022	Assist countries on putting up stories and data, and refer them to IFLA HQ for submission		RDC, IFLA HQ and RO	
	5.1.1 The review is to refocus list after the first round of collation.	Aug - Sep 2022	Revised prioritisation list		RDC	
		Oct - Dec 2022	Assist countries on putting up stories and data, and refer them to IFLA HQ for submission.		RDC	
	5.1.1 Review list of countries	Jan - Feb 2023	Feedback from countries to participate.		RDC	
	5.1.2 Experience-sharing session on collecting library data and stories.	Workshop by March 2023	Feedback from countries to participate.		RDC & IFLA RO to host & selected countries to share experience	
	5.1.2 Identification of priority countries and activities; draft new country profiles where needed.  <b>Notes/Updates: Priority is to strongly encourage new participation from countries and/or institutions who have not contributed to LMW.</b>	Prioritisation by April 2023	Commitment from prioritised countries and/or institutions.		RDC	
	5.1.3 Collection of data and stories  <b>Notes/Updates: Respective RDC members to take lead for their own countries or sub-regions.</b>	May - Jul 2023	Assist countries on putting up stories and data, and refer them to IFLA HQ for submission.		RDC, IFLA HQ and RO	
	<b>Notes/Updates: The review is to refocus list after the first round of collation.</b>	Aug - Sep 2023	Revised prioritisation list		RDC	
		Oct - Dec 2023	Assist countries on putting up stories and data, and refer them to IFLA HQ for submission.		RDC	

## 6. OTHER PROJECTS

### 6.1 INCLUSION: assessing the impact of library and information services on indigenous and vulnerable communities

Lead partner	Expected Outcome	Timeframe	Impact Measurement	Actors Involved	RDC / IFLA Collaboration	Partners (internal/external)
RDC-AO will consult with partners on a possible research project, to gather data useful for authorities operating library services at grassroots community level, and also useful more broadly to policy and decision-makers. The project should be designed to be replicable in other regions.	RDC-AO members will consult with their national library associations on the scope of such a project in their country or their sub-region, and whether there are issues needing to be explored and for which research funding is needed. RDC-AO will then consider assisting with funding applications, or with advocacy.	Consultations: Dec 2021-Jan 2022. UPDATE MAY 2022: work has not started; RDC will review the concept in mid-2022 and decide what action to take.	Impact will be measured upstream by success in obtaining funds to do research, feedback from the whole library community expressing support for the project, and support from associations to help identify issues for investigation. Downstream impact will be measured by: 1.) sector agreement with the project plan; 2.) active involvement of indigenous librarians and those from disadvantaged communities; 3.) production of a report proposing a framework for assessing issues with library services at grassroots level, taking into account wider policy	RDC will set up a WG on Community Impact to run this action - proposed membership: Sabine, Nina, Christophe, Atarino, Tulia, Togi.	RDC-AO, Regional Council, coordination with the Professional Council to facilitate the participation of the IFLA sections on: Indigenous Matters, Public Libraries, Multicultural Services.	IILF (International Indigenous Librarians Forum); relevant NGOs in each country (e.g. services for migrants). NOTE: Funding opportunities might include UNESCO national Commissions' programmes and the regional offices of UNESCO. Various national funding organisations should be researched.

			issues and the level of satisfaction experienced by consumers who are members of indigenous and vulnerable communities.			
<b>Notes / Updates:</b>	UPDATE. Note from Chair 30-5-22: work has not yet started: the project is being reviewed and the working group re-formed. The project is now expected to start following the IFLA Congress in July 2022.					
<b>Lead partner</b>	<b>Expected Outcome</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Impact Measurement</b>	<b>Actors Involved</b>	<b>RDC / IFLA Collaboration</b>	<b>Partners (internal/external)</b>
(cont.)	EOI for funding from NZ.	February 2022				
	Further consultations and possible funding applications.	Mid 2022				
	(6.1.1) Progress may be reported by means of a webinar, reports to funders, and news items in IFLA newsletters.	Late 2022 to mid-2023.	Research data and reports.			