

2022-2023 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.

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 2022 - August 2023

1. Healthcare Information for All global consultation

As noted in E4GDH Action Plan, our profession's contributions as developers and mobilisers of 'Trusted Evidence for All' are often unrecognised and not resourced. Higher level advocacy is important, together with a multisectoral approach, to engage people outside our sector. In early 2023, the opportunity for E4GDH to become technical partner on phase 1 of a global consultation with HIFA and WHO arose 'to identify best practices, opportunities and challenges from relevant health related stakeholders, towards pursuing universal healthcare information' This is a major piece of work, and an important advocacy piece for the role of librarians - particularly as the consultation will be launched in a number of languages during the 2023 IFLA congress.

Do you have a URL to this accomplishment to share?

<https://www.hifa.org/projects/hifa-who-global-consultation-2023>

2. Resources and publications in support of evidence-based practice

Our guides signposting high quality resources in support of evidence-based practice were updated. 'Finding the Evidence for Global and Disaster Health' (updated 11/2022) and 'Multilanguage tools for evidence-based practice' (updated 12/2022) have both been added to IFLA Repository.

Do you have a URL to this accomplishment to share?

<https://repository.ifla.org/handle/123456789/2437>

3. WLIC 2023

3.i. E4GDH Open Session: Global equity in access to healthcare information

Our open session was a hybrid discussion between some key organisations working to remove existing barriers to universal, reliable healthcare information: Healthcare Information for All [HIFA], The Pan American Health Organization [PAHO] and Research4Life as well as IFLA's Policy and Advocacy lead. The format worked well, with two remote and two in-person presenters, ending with a call to complete the HIFA global consultation (launched during the congress) and with plans to continue collaborating on this issue.

Do you have a URL to this accomplishment to share?

<https://www.ifla.org/news/global-equity-in-access-to-healthcare-information/>

3.ii. WLIC joint E4GDH and HBS workshop: Libraries Catalyze Communities in Times of Crisis

65 participants joined our in-person workshop, which focused on the role of libraries as catalysts during crises. Research findings were shared, particularly the leadership qualities of librarians, alongside short examples from E4GDH committee members. A longer session would have enabled more discussion, but participants will receive access to a set of resources from a shared google drive and will be invited to share their own examples.

Do you have a URL to this accomplishment to share?

<https://www.ifla.org/news/e4gdh-and-hbs-workshop-wlic-2023-libraries-catalyze-communities-in-times-of-crisis/>

3.iii. Virtual panel discussion, satellite event to WLIC 2023.

"It's getting hot in here! Information Professionals Contributing to Open Science towards Climate Empowerment": 173 registered for our virtual panel discussion with 58 joining live (34%). There were registrants from all IFLA regions, including 2 from Netherlands.

Lower than expected registrations were turned into an opportunity to widen participation by turning the satellite into a shorter online event. The timing, 10.00 - 12.00 CEST, was deliberately chosen to enable colleagues based in Asia-Oceania to join as this region is heavily affected by the climate crisis. Our event links to the overarching goal of Action for Climate Empowerment, empowering all members of society to engage in climate action.

Do you have a URL to this accomplishment to share?

<https://www.ifla.org/news/climate-empowerment-and-the-role-of-evidence/>

3.iv. E4GDH presenter in WLIC Asia and Oceania regional committee open session

Committee member Edison Ricket presented on the Sarawak State Library, Malaysia experience during this regional session, "Asia-Oceania responses to environmental challenges to the sustainability of library services". Presentations and subsequent discussions focused on how library services respond to environmental challenges and improve resilience and sustainability in a region vulnerable to disasters. This tied in with our earlier workshop and subsequent satellite event.

Do you have a URL to this accomplishment to share?

<https://iflawlic2023.abstractserver.com/program/#/details/sessions/296>

4. Advocacy: contribution to IFLA advocacy work with UN

E4GDH participated in an IFLA side-event at the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for Europe; SIG convenor presented on the role of librarians in providing best available evidence during times of crisis.

A case study was also written for an IFLA policy brief on the UN website, "A Permanent Science-Policy Interface: Realising the Potential of Libraries to Integrate Science into Policy-Making". These support our action plan objective "to increase the visibility of librarians in the field of disaster and global health, and showcase their impact".

Do you have a URL to this accomplishment to share?

<https://www.ifla.org/news/adapting-activating-enabling-libraries-making-the-difference-in-times-of-crisis/>

5. Evidence Ambassadors for Evidence-based Healthcare Day 2022: 20th October 2022

SIG convenor submitted a vLog in support of World Evidence-Based Healthcare Day 2022 on October 20th 2022, enabling the SIG to be recognised once again as an Evidence Ambassador in support of this annual event.

Do you have a URL to this accomplishment to share?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h7DdxqomT6s>

Communications

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

	Standing Committee Members	IFLA members registered to your Section	Other IFLA Committees	The field at large
Newsletter				
Webpage	X		X	X
Blog post				
Mailing list				
Social Media	X		X	X
Basecamp	X		X	
IFLA Newsletters (contributed to 4 issues)	X		X	X
Action plan and annual report summaries in IFLA Repository	X		X	X

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

Our advocacy work this year has been particularly strong. The SIG has formed partnerships with PAHO (Pan American Health Organization) and R4L (Research for Life), as we worked together on the WLIC Open Session. We were invited to participate in the Evidence Commission Implementation Council meetings; a presentation about our work there led to exploratory meetings about collaborating with Sense about Science. Our role as Technical Partner has strengthened an existing link with HIFA (Healthcare Information for All).

Within IFLA, we have begun some work with the Asia & Oceania Regional Committee - participating in their first regional forum, with a commitment to share our new Evidence Briefing on the role of librarians during times of crisis once finalised. We are also supporting IFLA HQ's Action for Climate Empowerment work.