



International Federation of
Library Associations and Institutions

IFLA Statistics & Evaluation Section Strategic Plan 2012 – 2013/2014

Our Mission

We promote the use and development of statistics, evaluation and assessment in libraries and information institutions, because these methods are essential

- to improve the quality of their services to the user,
- to demonstrate their value to the public, parent institutions and funding agencies and
- to manage them successfully.

Our Goals

1. We help librarians understand and make use of statistics

To achieve this goal, we will:

- Demonstrate ways to use statistical data in an accessible and understandable way, e.g. by combining statistical data with visual or intuitive information (“statistics and stories”)
- Demonstrate the use of data for advocacy purposes
- Promote a problem-solving, workplace-related approach to teaching statistics
- Promote, use and develop the Statistics for Advocacy course module of BSLA
- Promote open discourse on the development and interpretation of tools and results, including our own.

2. We help librarians find and use the statistics and evaluation tools they need

To achieve this goal, we will

- Establish a way to provide information on practical evaluation tools for library management, i.e. by gathering and providing easy access to tools and best practices on current themes and topics.

The most important topics in the next 2-3 years will be

- projects and tools to document the outcome and impact of libraries
- projects and tools that help libraries assess their digital services, e.g. measure their use.

3. We advocate and support meaningful library statistics on an international level

To achieve this goal, we will

- Follow the developments in ISO and UNESCO, assist IFLA in statistics-related cooperation
- Promote the Library Statistics Manifesto to foster support of statistics
- Provide the section's statistics data model as a first guideline to standardized library statistics
- Solicit feedback and open discussion about the data model and start a revision process in 2014
- Monitor and promote the Globalstats module of the IFLA world report database.

4. We help other bodies – inside or outside IFLA – deal with statistical questions

To achieve this goal, we will

- Work with other IFLA groups, library associations and relevant bodies that approach us with questions, according to the resources available
- Establish cooperation with other IFLA groups wherever possible.

We support IFLA's Key Initiatives:

We support the Digital Content Programme by

- helping librarians assess their digital collections via the E-metrics SIG programmes and other information.

We support the International Librarianship Leadership Development Programme by

- further development and implementation of the statistics module of the BSLA Programme.

We support the Outreach Programme for Advocacy and Advancement of the Profession by

- implementing a new information line / wiki on current statistics tools
- monitoring and promoting the Global Library Statistics Module of IFLA's world report

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