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**FOBID**

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netherlands

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library

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forum

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[WWW.FOBID.NL](http://WWW.FOBID.NL)

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# International relations and the development agenda

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**Marian Koren**

**FOBID Netherlands Library Forum**

National Organisations International Relations, Special Interest Group

Cape Town, IFLA 2015

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# About FOBID

## Netherlands Library Forum

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- Umbrella organisation of all national Library Associations
  - Includes public, Higher Education, University libraries, National Library, library and information specialists
  - National and International advocacy, copyright
  - International Relations
  - Office in National Library
  - The Hague -World Library Capital (network)
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# **International Office**

- International visits, programmes
  - Queries about Library landscape in The Netherlands
  - Mediation: finding a Dutch speaker, expert for International conference abroad
  - 2x a year: International Matters Update for NL colleagues
  - International projects/development
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# International Development

- Case study : Biblionef in Ghana
- UN Development agenda, role of libraries
- Biblionef: every child should have acces to books
- Non profit, partly volunteer organisation
- New books, on requests of schools and libraries
- Biblionef NL based in National Library (KB)
- (learning exchange in KB's coffee corner ...)



# Biblioneef in various countries

- France, Netherlands, South Africa, Caribbean and also Ghana
- Ghana, set up in 2013, local representative, P. Arthur (served in Ghana Library Association, GLA)
- 2013-2014 Biblioneef distributed 12.000, access for 40.000 children
- GLA president sets up Reading Clubs, with book donations by Biblioneef.
- Reading clinics by Patricia Arthur
- 8 schools in NKwantanang benefit from cooperation



# Questions regarding development/ donation projects

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- Biblionef: looking for increased impact
- Are books well used?
- Absence of Reading Culture, trained teachers, trained Library staff
- Practice: training 1-2 teachers from every school: in 2 years: 80 had a two-day training.
- Support during 3 year programme



# **Sustainability**

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- The need for trained staff
- Resources?
- Strategic aim
- Local self support, responsibility, sustainability
- Investment in materials, knowledge, experience



# Cooperation

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- Need for trained professionals locally
  - Cooperation with association of professionals
  - Synergy for sustainable services
  - Models for true cooperation between Library Associations, regarding development/ Library projects
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## Alertness: UN 2030 development agenda

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- Possibly increased popping up of projects related to books, reading, libraries, education in developing countries
- Increased need for professional input and guidance
- Role of librarians and their Associations
- Support of IFLA network?

**Transforming our world: the  
2030 Agenda for Sustainable  
Development**



- National Organisations International Relations  
NOIR
  - Checklist for International cooperation
  - Checklist for International projects
  - Missing: ' The other point of view' (non Western)
  - Needed: feedback from other sections
  - Needed: incorporation in overall strategy of  
Library Associations
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