This chapter provides an overview of the process of the Global Vision discussions held in 2017 which brought together the global library field for the first time to collaboratively identify the values, strengths and challenges shared by libraries. This chapter explains the process IFLA undertook to conduct the Global Vision discussion, identifies the major groups involved and the different dimensions how data was analysed.
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

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GLOBAL VISION COMMUNICATIONS .................................................. 134
Global Vision data comes from two diverse sources:

- Global Online Vote which had six questions with ten answer options each.
- Workshops and meetings where the same questions were discussed and Top-5s for each question were submitted in reports.
- In total, more than 30,000 participants provided input in defining the Global Vision.
- Two data sources were merged resulting in a huge Excel sheet with 600,000 lines of data.
Being a highly-coordinated effort, the IFLA Global Vision has offered a variety of ways for IFLA members and the larger global library field to participate at the individual, national or regional level or through IFLA unit involvement.

In total, more than 30,000 participants provided input in defining the Global Vision. Two data sources were merged resulting in a huge Excel sheet with 600,000 lines of data.

More specifically, with literally thousands of contributors – more than 30,000 people – to the global vision discussion, IFLA analyzed input using the following categories of participants to better compare input across key stakeholders, geography and its own organizational structure.

The IFLA Global Vision discussion in 2017 has been a discussion of 31,000 people! This unique material has provided the basis for the IFLA Global Vision Report.

Pic. 1.2
IFLA Global Vision kick-off workshop in Athens, Greece
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

WORKSHOPS

The workshops and meetings around the Global Vision discussion are specifically:

- workshops and discussions organised and led by IFLA
- workshops that librarians all over the world were asked to facilitate.

All workshops focused on how to strengthen the ties within the library field, helped identify future challenges and opportunities for the library field, and prioritise actions that the library environment could take in response to the fast-pacing changes in societies.

ONE VOICE
ONE GOAL
ONE VISION

IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in North America

Global Vision discussions led by IFLA

Starting with the leaders of its Professional Units, IFLA brought together a body of experts in Athens, Greece for a kick-off meeting, involving the IFLA Governing Board, Officers and representatives from IFLA Sections, Special Interest Groups, Strategic Programmes and Review Groups. A series of questions were posed and through discussion, consensus and voting, thoughts and answers were accumulated. The kick-off discussion took place in April 2017 at the Lighthouse building of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center in Athens, Greece, where the National Library of Greece is hosted. With the torch lit, following this meeting the Global Vision discussion visited six continents gathering participants from 140 countries during six high-level regional workshops held in Washington D.C., USA; Yaoundé, Cameroon; Alexandria, Egypt; Buenos Aires, Argentina; Singapore and Madrid, Spain.
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

Kick-off Meeting

33 countries
1 report
133 participants
3,485 years of library experience

Pic. 1.3 Statistics from the kick-off workshop 2017

Regional Workshops

137 countries
6 reports
202 participants
4,728 years of library experience

Pic. 1.4 Statistics from the Regional workshops 2017
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

Discussions by other organisations: the snowball effect

The heart of this conversation has been the more than 9,000 library professionals who engaged in discussions with their peers. These discussions took place in person and online and tapped a hunger to connect more. Numerous meetings and online threads under #iflaGlobalVision led by librarians from all over the world—with active participation of library associations—built on the momentum started in Athens, Washington D.C., Yaoundé, Alexandria, Buenos Aires, Singapore and Madrid. The meetings followed a similar format to the one used in the kick-off and the six regional workshops and were focused on a set of questions designed through a collaborative process, e.g. What are libraries exceptionally good at? What are the main challenges to libraries? What would be the characteristics of a united library field?

To make this discussion a true global brainstorm, it needed to be continued and amplified in regions, countries and various library professional communities, according to the objectives of the project.

Therefore, the participants of the seven workshops organised by IFLA—the kick-off and the six regional workshops—were asked to facilitate their own workshops within their communities, countries and library networks.
Therefore, IFLA prepared supporting materials and guidelines to organise and self-facilitate Global Vision workshops, following the principal that all meetings organized under the Global Vision discussion should have a similar framework.

A toolkit for librarians and library friends interested in organising self-facilitated Global Vision meetings was made available in the seven IFLA official languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Russian and Spanish.

The toolkit described the context, group process, workshop structure, outcomes of the meeting as well as questions that participants were called to answer – a key component that ensured consistency of the IFLA Global Vision discussion.

The Global Vision toolkit consisted of a manual for facilitators and a manual for organizers, including a set of useful tips about the organization of the IFLA Global Vision discussion, as well as supporting materials, such as a presentation template, a report template and a communications package with various templates of graphic materials, invitation letter templates, posters and guidelines on promotion of the meetings.  

Following the completion of each workshop led by IFLA, the relevant resource package was sent to each participant, and other follow-up emails have followed as well with each participant to track their progress and help them along their process of facilitating a Global Vision discussion in their own countries and sections.

While keeping the Global Vision discussion going, this was also an opportunity to practice facilitation skills and strengthen the connections within each one’s library community.

---

1 The Global Vision 2017 Toolkit is no longer current for the Global Vision discussion analysis. Nevertheless, you may still find a light version of the toolkit which has been uploaded on the IFLA website, in case you would like to use this material in order to run a creative, educational workshop with your library community. You may access this light version of the IFLA Global Vision 2017 Toolkit here: [https://www.ifla.org/node/11906](https://www.ifla.org/node/11906)
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

Over 9,000 library professionals participated in these meetings.

And following these discussions, almost 200 written reports were submitted to IFLA with details on the challenges faced by libraries, thoughts on potential solutions, and ideas for opportunities for a united library field.

Fifty-seven reports were submitted by IFLA professional units, 121 reports were submitted by national associations or institutions and various groups of interest.

Since the kick-off meeting in Athens in spring 2017, each workshop has contributed its own droplet into an ever-expanding river of ideas.
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

Kick-off Meeting

33 countries
1 report
133 participants
3,485 years of library experience

Pic. 1.7 Statistics from the kick-off workshop 2017

Regional Workshops

137 countries
6 reports
202 participants
4,728 years of library experience

Pic. 1.8 Statistics from the IFLA-led Regional workshops 2017

Professional Units

57 reports
1,178 participants
16,041 years of library experience

Pic. 1.9 Statistics from the IFLA Professional Units’ discussions

National Workshops

85 countries
121 reports
7,778 participants
88,214 years of library experience

Pic. 1.10 Statistics from National Global Vision workshops

25
THE GLOBAL ONLINE VOTE

Finally, more than 21,000 people from 190 out of the 193 UN Member States, overall from 213 countries and areas of the world, provided input through the online survey. To make participation in the discussion even easier, an online voting platform was launched in August 2017 during IFLA’s World Library and Information Congress in Wrocław, Poland. The platform included the set of questions used in the workshops/meetings and the survey answer options were based on the outcome of the kick-off workshop and of the regional meetings in six continents. The voting was completed on 16 October 2017. In total, we had received 21,772 votes from 213 countries and areas of the world, from 190 out of 193 UN Member States.
Pic. 1.12 The Participation Statistics of the Global Vision online voting

- Online Votes: 21,772
- UN Member States on 7 continents: 190
- Generations and Library Types: ALL
Pic. 1.13.1 The Participation Statistics of the Global Vision online voting by region
**Chapter 1: The Visioning Process**

![IFLA Global Vision logo](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library Type</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Libraries</td>
<td>37.13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic and Research Libraries</td>
<td>33.71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Libraries</td>
<td>10.19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Libraries</td>
<td>7.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Types of Libraries</td>
<td>5.02%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Libraries</td>
<td>4.64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not a librarian</td>
<td>2.22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Pic. 1.13.2 The Participation Statistics of the Global Vision online voting by library type*
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

Pic. 1.13.2 The Participation Statistics of the Global Vision online voting by library experience

IFLA
Global Vision

GLOBAL ONLINE VOTE
% of participants
by library experience

1-10 36.83%
11-20 29.96%
21-30 20.84%
31+ 12.36%
Overview

IFLA has gathered and analyzed conclusions from the following discussions taking place in 2017:

1. A kick-off meeting with representatives from IFLA’s Professional Units in Athens.
2. Regional sessions on all continents with Library and Librarian Associations.
3. Meetings in Standing Committees facilitated by participants in Athens.*
4. National and local sessions facilitated by participants of the regional sessions.*
5. Digital interactions on a web platform allowing the wider library community to vote online and have their say.

* These meetings have been indirectly facilitated by IFLA, as they are part of the snowball effect
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

Global Vision Kick-off meeting: Athens, Greece

Pic. 1.16
The IFLA Global Vision kicked-off in 2017 at the Lighthouse Building of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Centre in Athens, Greece, where the National Library of Greece is hosted.
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

The IFLA Global Vision discussion was officially launched in Athens, Greece in April 2017. 250 librarians from around the world gathered together and brought great energy to the marvellous space of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center Lighthouse in Athens, which today hosts the new National Library of Greece. The first IFLA Global Vision workshop took place over two days, 4-5 April 2017, and followed the very successful IFLA President’s Meeting 2017, on the 3rd of April.

The IFLA President’s Meeting 2017 set the tone for discussion about the future of the library field. The IFLA Global Vision Discussion kick-off, with 133 library professionals, from 33 countries and representatives from 51 IFLA Professional Units ignited two days of reflection on changes and challenges that will be faced by the library field and enthusiastic discussions on the ways to jointly tackle them. During the IFLA Global Vision launch, IFLA also launched the Global Vision website: https://globalvision.ifla.org.

---

IFLA Global Vision kick-off workshop

Athens, Greece
4-5 April 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>IFLA Professional Units and Special Interest Groups</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>133</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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2 This new website was created for the purposes of the IFLA Global Vision launch and needs during 2017. This website is no longer available and all its information has been updated and now integrated into a website under the main IFLA’s website: https://www.ifla.org/globalvision.
The IFLA Global Vision kick-off workshop included participants from following countries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Australia</th>
<th>India</th>
<th>Italy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Botswana</td>
<td>Japan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Namibia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>Norway</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>Peru</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Poland</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>Serbia</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Singapore</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Islands</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>United States of America</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Participants of the IFLA Global Vision kick-off workshop represented the following IFLA Professional Units and Special Interest Groups:

- Academic & Research Libraries Section
- Acquisition and Collection Development Section
- Africa Section
- Art Libraries Section
- Asia and Oceania Section
- Audiovisual and Multimedia Section
- Bibliography Section
- Big Data SIG
- Cataloguing Section
- Committee on Copyright and other Legal Matters Advisory Committee
- Committee on Standards
- Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning Section
- Document Delivery and Resource Sharing Section
- Education and Training Section
- Environment, Sustainability and Libraries SIG
- Freedom of Access to Information and Freedom of Expression
- Government Information and Official Publication Section
- Government Libraries Section
- Health and Biosciences Libraries Section
- Indigenous Matters Section
- Information Literacy Section
- Information Technology Section
- ISBD Review Group
- Knowledge Management Section
- Latin America and the Caribbean Section
- Law Libraries Section Libraries for Children and Young Adults Section
- Libraries Serving Persons with Print Disabilities Section
- Library and Research Services for Parliaments Section
- Library Buildings and Equipment Section
- Library History SIG
- Library Services to Multicultural Populations Section
- Library Services to People with Special Needs Section
- Library Theory and Research Section
- Management and Marketing Section
- Management of Library Associations Section
- Metropolitan Libraries Section
- National Information and Library Policy SIG
- National Libraries Section
- National Organizations and International Relations SIG
- New Professionals SIG
- News Media Section
- Public Libraries Section
- Rare Books and Special Collections Section
- Reference & Information Services Section
- School Libraries Section
- Science and Technology Libraries Section
- Serials and Other Continuing Resources Section
- Social Science Libraries Section
- Statistics and Evaluation Section
- Subject Analysis and Access Section
- Women, information and libraries SIG
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

A VISION ON LIBRARIES

Participants designed the cover of a magazine of their choice from 2030 about a successful library field. When we look at the future, according to the debates in Buenos Aires, Argentina, this means that...

Pic. 1.18 From the IFLA Global Vision kick-off workshop in Athens, Greece.
Pic. 1.19 From the IFLA Global Vision kick-off workshop in Athens, Greece.
Pic. 1.20 From the IFLA Global Vision kick-off workshop in Athens, Greece.
Pic. 1.21 From the IFLA Global Vision kick-off workshop in Athens, Greece.
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

IFLA had the highest representation during the IFLA Global Vision kick-off. IFLA President, IFLA President-elect and IFLA Governing Board members were there, along with a number of IFLA HQ staff and representatives of the USA and Canada IFLA Preservation and Conservation Centre.

Furthermore, there was high representation of the Global Libraries of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, with its Director, Deborah Jacobs and its Executive Director, Jessica Dorr attending, while also other colleagues and external collaborators joined us in Athens, representing the following organizations:

- Conference of Directors of National Libraries
- Dysart & Jones
- Global Libraries, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Library and Archives Canada
- National Library of Greece
- National Library of the Netherlands
- Public Library Association
- Technology & Social Change Group at the University of Washington Information School
- VISSCH+STA

Pic. 1.22 IFLA Global Vision kick-off workshop
All together the 133 participants of the kick-off workshop, represent 3.485 years of library experience, and 1.372 years of experience with IFLA. The participants came from 33 countries and a cross-section of all library types and services.

**Kick-off Meeting**

- 33 countries
- 1 report
- 133 participants
- 3,485 years of library experience

*Pic. 1.23 Participation Statistics from the IFLA Global Vision kick-off workshop in Athens, Greece.*
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

Look back over the highlights of the three days in the IFLA news and in our wonderful Flickr album, through the links below. We hope they produce many fond memories!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IFLA News:</th>
<th>IFLA President’s Meeting 2017 and a Global Vision for a united library field</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IFLA Global Vision takes off!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Photos:   | IFLA Global Vision Kick-off 2017 in Athens, Greece                           |

Pic. 1.24 IFLA Global Vision kick-off workshop
GLOBAL VISION REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

During a 3-month period from 3 May to 6 July 2017, IFLA organised and held six Global Vision regional workshops, in six different regions:

1. **North America**
   3-4 May, Washington, D.C., USA

2. **Africa**
   14-15 May, Yaoundé, Cameroon

3. **Middle East and North Africa**
   21-22 May, Alexandria, Egypt

4. **Latin America and the Caribbean**
   8-9 June, Buenos Aires, Argentina

5. **Asia Oceania**
   28-29 June, Singapore

6. **Europe**
   5-6 July, Madrid, Spain
The IFLA Global Vision Regional workshops have focused on how to strengthen the ties within the library field and respond to the fast-pacing globalisation that is opening new opportunities and challenges. From the very first kick-off meeting in Athens, each workshop has contributed its own droplet into an ever-increasing river of ideas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>IFLA GLOBAL VISION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KICK-OFF &amp; 6 REGIONAL WORKSHOPS IN 2017</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of participants</td>
<td>335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years of library experience</td>
<td>8.213</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Participants at the IFLA Global Vision Kick-off and 6 Regional Workshops came from a vast range of countries:

- Algeria
- Angola
- Argentina
- Armenia
- Aruba
- Australia
- Austria
- Azerbaijan
- Bahamas
- Bahrain
- Belgium
- Belize
- Benin
- Bermuda
- Bhutan
- Bolivia (Plurinational State of)
- Botswana
- Brazil
- Brunei Darussalam
- Bulgaria
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cambodia
- Cameroon
- Canada
- Chad
- Chile
- China
- Colombia
- Congo
- Costa Rica
- Côte d’Ivoire
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Denmark
- Ecuador
- Djibouti
- Dominican Republic
- Egypt
- El Salvador
- Estonia
- Fiji
- Finland
- France
- Gambia (Republic of The)
- Germany
- Ghana
- Greece
- Guatemala
- Guinea-Bissau
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Hungary
- Iceland
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran (Islamic Republic of)
- Iraq
- Israel
- Italy
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Jordan
- Kazakhstan
- Kenya
- Kuwait
- Lao People’s Democratic Republic
- Latvia
- Lebanon
- Liberia
- Libya
- Lithuania
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Malaysia
- Maldives
- Mali
- Mauritius
- Mexico
- Micronesia (Federated States of)
- Mongolia
- Morocco
- Myanmar
- Namibia
- Nepal
- Netherlands
- New Zealand
- Nicaragua
- Nigeria
- Norway
- Oman
- Pakistan
- Panama
- Papua New Guinea
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Philippines
- Poland
- Portugal
- Puerto Rico
- Qatar
- Republic of Korea
- Romania
- Russian Federation
- Rwanda
- Saint Lucia
- Senegal
- Serbia
- Seychelles
- Singapore
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- South Africa
- Spain
- Sri Lanka
- State of Palestine
- Sudan
- Swaziland
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Thailand
- The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- Timor-Leste
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Tunisia
- Turkey
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Islands
- United States
- Uruguay
- Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
- Vietnam
- Yemen
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe
The IFLA Global Vision exciting journey commenced in North America on 3 May, with our first regional meeting being held at the iconic Library of Congress in Washington D.C., in the United States of America.

IFLA President Donna Scheeder and IFLA Secretary General Gerald Leitner hosted an interactive workshop that gathered together senior representatives from different types of libraries in the United States and Canada.

For the first time, 22 major representatives from different types of libraries from Canada and the USA were gathered by IFLA for two days to discuss how a united library field can tackle the challenges of the future.

Pic. 1.25
Together with the IFLA President and the IFLA Secretary General the session was also greeted by the Deputy Librarian of Congress. IFLA Headquarters Staff Members attending included the IFLA Project Officer, Despina Gerasimidou.

Furthermore, Robin Kear from the IFLA International Leaders Programme, the USA PAC Centre Director and Jane Dysart, an external partner also attended. IFLA legacy partners attending included Global Libraries Executive Director Jessica Dorr and Chris Jowaisas from TASCHA.

Pic. 1.26 the IFLA President, Donna Scheeder

Pic. 1.27 the IFLA Secretary General, Gerald Leitner
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

All the participants of the North America workshop represented 665 years of library experience, and 134 years of experience with IFLA.

They represented two countries in North America, and a cross-section of at least 10 library types and services, for instance law libraries association, special libraries, national libraries, public libraries, rural and small libraries, universities, academic libraries, library associations, regional networks, special libraries, museum libraries, library schools, consortia, medical libraries, libraries for the blind etc.

Pic. 1.28-1.29 IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in North America
Participants designed the cover of a magazine of their choice from 2030 about a successful library field. Let’s see what does it mean, when we look at the future of libraries, according to the debates in Washington, D.C.

One voice, one goal, one vision

“Libraries are different across countries and they are united in certain parts. We can all play our own role, towards the same score. You might have solos, but it is better together, rather than alone.”

IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in North America
ONE VOICE

“We saw the library field as jazz.

In a jazz ensemble you need various instruments: a clarinet and a saxophone for instance. All players are interpreting a score, but they do it in their own individual way and they all together come with one musical voice. Playing together creates a universal music. When you are playing, your voice is being heard and you are at the table! Jazz also means that you have individual scores. We can all play instruments, and someone needs to be in the front as the jazz singer but in line with a united team. Music is a universal language, but we are moving in different tempos. We can all play our own role, towards the same score and in that way work to create a universal music.

Music is harmony, but also dissonance which creates energy and makes you move on; it is also score, improvisation, trust, passion.

Libraries are different across countries, but they are united in certain respects. We all celebrate when one sector plays well. And it is better together rather than one band. You might have solos, but it is better playing together. Together you achieve it. No one can do it alone.”

Pic. 1.30 The participants at the Global Vision Regional Workshop in North America imagined the united library field as a jazz ensemble.
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

ONE GOAL

“We came up with this sports analogy. Soccer is a global sport. IFLA is international. Everyone on the team is important and we all need a common goal, a vision. In this game, we all have a different role. And we have to recognize the challenges in order to move things forward, having leaders and goals and knowing what we are trying to achieve. There are coaches and mentors. There is always someone in the team who wants to score the goals: the inspiring champions.

People on the bench are waiting to support the team, whenever there is a need to, and the coaches can at any time bring in more people with the right strengths to fill the gaps where the team is lacking.

Soccer is constantly adaptable and reforming. It is fast, adapting and moving quickly based on way society changes. It is also a game that you can play with just a ball but also in a million-dollar stadium. Anyone can make a difference and, as with the World Cup, someone whom you don’t expect to can win.”

Pic. 1.31 The participants at the Global Vision Regional Workshop in North America imagined the united library field as a soccer game.
ONE VISION

“This is a Venn diagram with no solid lines, but rather blurred ones, because all libraries share common values and goals:

1. Closing the digital divide
2. Social justice
3. Equitable access
4. Lifelong learning

Furthermore, this image relates to all different kinds of libraries and society itself, which contains everything: the whole community: students, astronauts, politicians, faculty, immigrants, business, marginalised, media, homeless, families, researchers - the whole society.”

Pic. 1.32 The third group of participants at the Global Vision Regional Workshop in North America imagined the united library field as a Venn diagram with no solid lines.
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

Regional Workshop
North America

2 countries
1 report
22 participants
665 years of library experience

Pic. 1.33 Participation Statistics from the North American Global Vision Regional Workshop
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

Look back over the highlights of the two days in the IFLA news and in our wonderful Flickr album, through the links below. We hope they produce many fond memories!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>IFLA News:</strong></th>
<th>Exciting IFLA Global Vision journey around the world starts with Regional Workshop in North America</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Photos:</strong></td>
<td>IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Pic. 1.34 IFLA Global Vision Regional workshop in North America*
IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Africa: Yaoundé, Cameroon

Following a very successful meeting in Washington D.C., the exciting Global Vision journey continued from 14 to 15 May, in Africa, where African library community leaders representing 37 countries have gathered in Yaoundé, Cameroon to discuss how a united library field can tackle to challenges of the future together.

The regional workshop was very successfully held with the partnership and strong and enthusiastic support of the Cameroon National Assembly/ABADCAM, high representation of the protocol and a Welcome from the Secretary General of the National Assembly Cameroon, Mr. Victor Yene Ossomba.
In order to bring together participants from both the French and the English-speaking parts of Africa, the workshop was realised with simultaneous interpretation French – English and vice-versa.

IFLA GB and HQ staff members attending were IFLA President-Elect Glòria Pérez-Salmerón, IFLA Governing Board Members Victoria Okojie, Viviana Quiñones, Ellen Ndeshi Namhila, IFLA Secretary General Gerald Leitner, IFLA Manager Member Services Helen Mandl, IFLA Project Officer, Despina Gerasimidou.

“When I joined the library association, I found out that there were people, a family that could help me.”

IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Africa
Furthermore, Mandiaye Ndiaye from the IFLA International Leaders Programme and the PAC Centre Directors from South Africa and Cameroon also attended the workshop.

IFLA legacy partners attending included the Global Libraries Director Deborah Jacobs and Global Libraries Senior Program Officer Darren Hoerner and Chris Coward, Director of TASCHA.

The IFLA Regional workshop took place in conjunction with the 4th AFRICAN LIBRARY SUMMIT & 2nd AfLIA CONFERENCE, which was held from 16th to 20th of May in Yaoundé, Cameroon. IFLA Governing Board members and staff attending this meeting were the IFLA President-elect Glòria Pérez-Salmerón, IFLA Secretary General, Gerald Leitner and IFLA’s Manager of Member Services, Helen Mandl. During this conference, all three aforementioned gave a speech about IFLA to the African community about the Global Vision and IFLA’s new projects and work.

“EVERYBODY IS CONNECTED. NO ONE IS EXCLUDED. IF WE DON’T HAVE CONNECTIONS AND NETWORKS, WE CANNOT ACHIEVE ANYTHING.”

IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Africa
Participants designed the cover of a magazine of their choice from 2030 about a successful library field.

**MAGAZINE TITLE: LIBRARIES CONNECT**

The theme of this particular edition is one community, many libraries. What we are trying to convey here is that each and every one who lives in the world has access to as many libraries as possible, wherever they are, virtual or in buildings.

We used the picture of a globe with all the continents. What is happening around the globe? Each one of them is connected in all directions. Everybody is connected. No one is excluded. If we don’t have connections and networks, we cannot achieve anything. There are five happy faces, holding the globe. Libraries: tools of global society. The message for inclusivity is very strong. Free and equal access to information and ICTs.”

Pic 1.38 Libraries connect the global community. One community, many libraries. From the IFLA Global Vision Regional workshop in Africa.
I AM BECAUSE WE ARE

If you have a pain on your shoulder, this impacts on your whole body. If one part is suffering, is not good, it is going to impact the whole library field. We cannot be separated and the profession cannot be divided. Everything is linked and what is happening in one library, reflects in other libraries as well.

So, the first thing is: **COLLABORATION!**

**IN UBUNTU WE SAY I AM BECAUSE WE ARE.**

*United we stand.*

*Divided we fall.*

Pic 1.39 I am because we are. From the IFLA Global Vision Regional workshop in Africa.
HOW DO WE UNITE THE LIBRARY FIELD?

“How do we unite the library field? We need to connect the libraries and we can only do that if we break the walls that are hidden among us.

But how do we lead ourselves? You cannot frame a united field, if your house is not in order. So, we begin from the national level, then we go regional, continental, and the world.”

Pic 1.40 You cannot frame a united field, if your house is not in order. So, we begin from the national level, then we go regional, continental, and the world. From the IFLA Global Vision Regional workshop in Africa.
The participants together represented 998 years of library experience, and 355 years of experience with IFLA. They also represented a cross-section of eight library types and services, such as public libraries, NGOs, Associations, Academic libraries, school libraries, special libraries as medical or prison libraries, parliamentary libraries, volunteer libraries. This report focuses specifically on libraries and the library field in Africa, their challenges and future.

*Pic. 1.41 IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Africa*
Regional Workshop Africa

37 countries
1 report
43 participants
998 years of library experience

Pic. 1.42 Participation Statistics from the IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Africa
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

Pic. 1.43 IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Africa
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

Look back over the highlights of the two days in the IFLA news and in our wonderful Flickr album, through the links below. We hope they produce many fond memories!

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<th><strong>IFLA News:</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Photos:</strong></td>
<td>IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Yaoundé, Cameroon</td>
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</table>

Pic. 1.44 IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Africa
IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Middle East and North Africa: Alexandria, Egypt

The next IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop took place from 21-22 May 2017 at the Bibliotheca Alexandrina in Alexandria, Egypt. Over the course of those two days, 27 distinguished representatives from the Middle East and North Africa library community, representing 17 countries, gathered at the spectacular Bibliotheca Alexandrina in Alexandria, Egypt to discuss how a united library field can tackle challenges of the future together.

Pic. 1.45 IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in the region of Middle East and North Africa
The regional workshop was very successfully held with the partnership of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, which was the local host of the meeting. During the workshop, we had the strong support of the IFLA Arabic Language Centre which helped with the translations of the documents, developed during the workshop. Additional to that, the workshop was realised with simultaneous interpretation Arabic – English and vice-versa.
Participants designed the cover of a magazine of their choice from 2030 about a successful library field.

**MAGAZINE TITLE: KNOWLEDGE IS LIGHT**

“in the Koran, honey can cure many diseases. This cover tells the story of taking knowledge and transferring it to the bee’s place, which is the honey place. So, if you use your mind, your memory and your thinking develop. We encourage people to walk their dreams, and following that way, the sun feeds you with letters and then you can reach the goal, which is the UN 2030 agenda. The Middle East and North Africa region has a lot of conflicts and problems. Therefore, we put here the pigeon of peace and the olive leaf which has a library on it. We need peace. We need also to read.”

*Pic 1.48 The IFLA Global Vision Regional workshop in Middle East and North Africa.*
“Anything you want to reach you’ll need knowledge, and everything you want to build needs a base. So, here we put knowledge, along with books and technology, as the base. Anyone who wants to develop needs to have knowledge and information to proceed, hence the big heads, and then people will follow you. We also put here the map of the world. Because we are united. Libraries should work towards development. The pair of glasses symbolizes technology and development.”

Pic 1.49 The IFLA Global Vision Regional workshop in Middle East and North Africa.
“We created this magazine in three languages, because we are international and it is not possible to access the whole world in Arabic alone. We looked to the agenda of 2030 as all librarians here are working towards this. It may not be 100% reachable, but we can reach a percentage.”

Pic 1.50 The IFLA Global Vision Regional workshop in Middle East and North Africa.
During the Global Vision Regional Workshop in Middle East and North Africa, a mutual agreement was signed among 13 library Associations from 13 Arab countries, with it being a strong link between the MENA and the rest world through IFLA.
This meeting built upon discussions held earlier this month in the United States and Cameroon. The meeting in Egypt was particularly exciting, with all participants declaring their engagement spirit through active participation and interaction.

Participants at the vibrant meeting in Egypt were not only exploring the unification and strengthening the library field, but also took a concrete step and signed a Manifesto establishing stronger cooperation among libraries in the MENA region.

Pic. 1.5 IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in the region of Middle East and North Africa
IFLA Governing Board and Headquarters staff members attending were IFLA President-elect Glòria Pérez-Salmerón, IFLA Secretary General Gerald Leitner, IFLA Governing Board Member Andrew McDonald and IFLA Project Officer, Despina Gerasimidou. Furthermore, Mahmoud Khalifa from Cairo, Egypt, Associate of the IFLA International Leaders Programme also attended the workshop. IFLA legacy partners attending included Global Libraries Director Deborah Jacobs.
The participants together represented 623 years of library experience, and 186 years of experience with IFLA. We represented 17 countries in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), and a cross-section of seven library types and services, such as University libraries, special libraries, public libraries, school libraries, academic libraries, national libraries, associations.

Pic. 1.56 IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in the region of Middle East and North Africa
The participants together represented 623 years of library experience, and 186 years of experience with IFLA. We represented 17 countries in the Middle East and North Africa, and a cross-section of seven library types and services, such as University libraries, special libraries, public libraries, school libraries, academic libraries, national libraries, associations.

Pic. 1.57 IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in the region of Middle East and North Africa
Regional Workshop
Middle East North Africa

17 countries
1 report
27 participants
623 years of library experience

Pic. 1.58 Participation Statistics from the IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Middle East and North Africa
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

Look back over the highlights of the two days in the IFLA news and in our wonderful Flickr album, through the links below.

We hope they produce many fond memories!

| IFLA News: | IFLA Global Vision Middle East lands in Alexandria, Egypt |
| Photos:    | IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Alexandria, Egypt |

Pic. 1.59 IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Middle East and North Africa
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Latin America and the Caribbean: Buenos Aires, Argentina

The next IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop took place from 8-9 June 2017 at the historic Library of the National Congress in Buenos Aires, Argentina (La Biblioteca del Congreso de la Nación) and started with an inspiring address by Vice President of Argentine Republic, highlighting the key role of libraries in providing free and democratic access to information fostering economic and social development. With the strong partnership, support and excitement of the IFLA LAC Regional Office partners and the Library of Congress in Buenos Aires as the local host, the two-days meeting in Buenos Aires was held with remarkable success, full of inspiration and provoking discussions.

Pic. 1.60 IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Latin America and the Caribbean
IFLA Governing Board and Headquarters staff members attending were IFLA President-elect Glòria Pèrez-Salmerón, IFLA Secretary General Gerald Leitner, IFLA Advocacy Communications Officer Maria Violeta Bertolíni and IFLA Project Officer, Despina Gerasimidou.

Furthermore, David Ramírez-Ordóñez from Colombia and Jonathan Hernández Pérez from Mexico, both Associates of the IFLA International Leaders Programme and María Soledad Abarca De la Fuente from Chile, the IFLA PAC Centre Director also attended the workshop. IFLA legacy partners attending included Global Libraries Program Officer Pilar Pacheco.

Pic. 1.61 - 1.64 IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Latin America and the Caribbean
The challenges faced by the library field from ever-increasing globalization can only be met and overcome by an inclusive, global response from a united library field. In Buenos Aires, Argentina, we contributed to this united library field and created an image of what this might look like.

“A United Library Field

“Together everything is possible. Technologies are the pillars supporting librarians. If we associate, if we get together, we come together, we will have a stronger force.”

IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Latin America and the Caribbean
THE WORLD AND THE CONCEPT OF WAVES IN THE CARIBBEAN

“Those waves show fluidity.

We wanted to celebrate the freedom of movement and the unified voice. Everybody is moving along from one place to another without any problems, training, networking, innovation. In the Caribbean, we are unable to have access to a lot of paid resources.

So, thinking about libraries, we have been looking to communities and to shared ICT resources. We will go along on our waves and we are going to have some bumps, but we are going to get there.

We have a lot of issues, but the issues are shared. When we speak, we speak as a united body. We are going to get there over the rough waters and it is going to get calm here and there.”

Pic. 1.65 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Latin America and the Caribbean.
IF WE GET TOGETHER, WE WILL HAVE A STRONGER FORCE

“Together everything is possible. Technologies are the pillars supporting librarians. If we associate, if we get together, we come together, we will have a stronger force.”

Pic. 1.6 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Latin America and the Caribbean.
THE IDEA OF UN IS SIMILAR TO THE IFLA STRUCTURE

“Here you see a ring. In this ring, there are different levels of power and different theme groups. One group, for example, is collecting all the worries and concerns out of the ring. In the middle, there is a government, which works in a decentralised system. Above, you see the Latin America and the Caribbean continent.

This system is similar to the internet governance forum and the UN structure. The idea of UN is similar to the IFLA structure. IFLA will continue to be the single global voice of libraries.

The need that we might really come together to strengthen it and be self-sufficient and not be dependent on external funds and aid, this will be the new structure, without a centralised governance.”

Pic. 1.67 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Latin America and the Caribbean.
OPEN AND UNITED FOR FREE ACCESS

“Our proposal is on a united library field. You see a circle, an interactive circle of the library field with arrows, continuity and movement. Elements come in and out of this circle. That allows continuity and change. It is not a closed circle. It is open, looking to other aspects of the societies.

The elements include: libraries, information, information industry, librarians or people working in libraries, technology, publishers.

The united library field will support culture, science, policies, civil society, technology and economy. United for free access.”

Pic. 1.68 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Latin America and the Caribbean
The participants all together represented 651 years of library experience, and 239 years of experience with IFLA.

Pic. 1.69 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Latin America and the Caribbean
The participants represented 27 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, and a cross-section of 16 library types and services, such as information industry, school, academic, national, special, private, public, technical, research, parliamentary, community, language schools’ libraries, Community libraries, military libraries, presidential libraries, independent professionals.

Pic. 1.70 - 1.72 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Latin America and the Caribbean
Regional Workshop
Latin America and the Caribbean

27 countries
1 report
34 participants
651 years of library experience

Pic. 1.73 Participation Statistics from the IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Latin America and the Caribbean
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

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<td><strong>Photos:</strong></td>
<td>IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Buenos Aires, Argentina</td>
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*Pic. 1.74 IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Latin America and the Caribbean*
IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Asia and Oceania: Singapore

From 28 to 29 June, the fifth IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop was held at the modern National Library of Singapore. 40 participants from 27 countries in Asia Oceania joined their voices to explore together how a connected library field can tackle the challenges of the future.

Pic. 1.75 IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in the region of Asia and Oceania
With the keen support from the local host, the National Library of Singapore and the IFLA Regional Office in Asia Oceania, IFLA held a successful meeting in Singapore.

Pic. 1.76 – 1.77 IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in the region of Asia and Oceania
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

Pic. 1.78 – 1.81
IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in the region of Asia and Oceania
Once again, all participants expressed their excitement about this new journey that IFLA has launched, hearing everyone’s voice and trying to get each and everyone on board, for this journey in the effort to unite the library field.
IFLA GB and HQ staff members attending were IFLA President Donna Scheeder, IFLA Secretary General Gerald Leitner, IFLA Governing Board Member Ngian Lek Choh, IFLA Governing Board Treasurer Christine Mackenzie, IFLA Governing Board Member Allen Margaret and IFLA Global Vision Project Officer, Despina Gerasimidou. Furthermore, Yan Zhao from China, Associate of the IFLA International Leaders Programme and Philip Alex representing the IFLA PAC Centre in Australia, Zhanat Seidumanov the IFLA PAC Centre Director in Kazakhstan and Lee Jaesun, the IFLA PAC Centre Director in the Republic of Korea also attended the workshop. IFLA legacy partners attending included Global Libraries Program Executive Director Jessica Dorr.

Pic. 1.83 – 1.84 IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in the region of Asia and Oceania
Participants designed the cover of a magazine of their choice from 2030 about a successful library field. Let’s see what does it mean, when we look at the future of libraries, according to the debates in Singapore.

“Welcome to 2030.
I am the Secretary General of the United Nations.
We’ve reached the sustainable goals and we’ve done that through libraries.”

IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in the region of Asia and Oceania
EVERYONE ON EARTH HAS A LIBRARY CARD

“Everyone on earth has a library card.

A baby just born and on the hand a library card. Headline: 8.5 billion +1 library card presented to baby joy.

“Born on 1st January 2030, baby joy became the latest child to receive a universal library card. She joins the rest of the world in having access to all the information and resources in our 4.6 million libraries across our globe.”

Pic. 1.85 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Asia and Oceania.
INFORMATION FUTURE

“We do not stop at 2030 but we go beyond. Information is for all. There is a digital divide for communities from rural areas in developing and underdeveloped countries. But the future has to be that everyone has access.

We have tried to depict it here by putting gadgets in their hands. They don’t even have electricity in some underdeveloped communities.

We are trying to bridge this divide. Information empowers people which is why we have placed it at the top of the house. Information is available anytime, anywhere. People need to be empowered.”

Pic. 1.86 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Asia and Oceania.
WELCOME TO 2030!

“I am the Secretary General of the United Nations. We’ve reached the sustainable goals and we’ve done that through libraries. Access to information to achieve literacy around the world. Libraries democratization. They promote technology for social good, innovate, focus on culture and increase literacy and harness potential.”

Pic. 1.87 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Asia and Oceania.
ONE LIBRARY

“One library.
We have in the Pacific, we have in the entire world as well. That is when we start to speak about one library in the world. Intelligence people = robots. Access to all. Archives.
United into collaboration.”

Pic. 1.88 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Asia and Oceania.
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

**A UNITED LIBRARY FIELD**

The challenges faced by the library field from ever-increasing globalization can only be met and overcome by an inclusive, global response from a united library field. In Singapore, we contributed to this united library field and created an image of what this might look like.

“We believe, as individuals, everyone should support to make it happen. We, as librarians, all need to be change agents to make this happen.”

IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in the region of Asia and Oceania
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

IFLA KITCHEN’S INGREDIENTS

“We identified three faces or three aspects of it. We came up with a pie from IFLA’s kitchen.

**Untied for the community**
One stop-shop
Easy to go
Known in the world as a safe place, welcome

**United for the profession**
Sharing our expertise and taking the strengths that each one has, sharing of ethics, practice. International mentoring and exchange. Embrace diversity. We could learn from that and strengthen from that. Sharing stories of success and challenges

**United for advocacy**
Share ideas, peer to peer support, focus on SDGs
Enjoy the pie!”

Pic. 1.89 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Asia and Oceania.
WE SHARE ALL THE HEARTS AND WE BECOME ONE

“We can have a ULF! United Library field. We have a lot of hearts, in which we represent the core values of libraries and there are many others.

When we have a united library field, we have better access. We have good collaboration. We will have cultural heritage, a better understanding of that. And, lifelong learning.

Better resources, better influence, skills, better policy, trusted, better service. Hyper connectivity. With all those hearts, we become one.

We share all the hearts and we become one.”

Pic. 1.90 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Asia and Oceania..
WE BELIEVE AS INDIVIDUALS, EVERYONE SHOULD SUPPORT TO MAKE IT HAPPEN

“Our image is a united library field, and that is why we drew a picture of ourselves.

We believe as individuals, everyone should support to make it happen. Underneath, the ground to support this vision.

We are hoping globally for collaboration internationally. We know how to access information, we thought unifying advocacy is extremely important, advocating at an international level. Librarians as change agents.

We all need to be to make this happen.”

Pic. 1.91 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Asia and Oceania.
OUR CLOUD BECAME LIKE FINGERS TO REACH ONE ANOTHER

“If you want to be united, what does it mean? It’s about love. We created a simple image. Our cloud became like fingers to reach one another.

We share mindsets, we share resources, we believe in one catalogue idea.

The two clouds represent the developed countries and the developing countries, reaching each other.”

Pic. 1.92 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Asia and Oceania.
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

The participants all together represented 849 years of library experience, and 320 years of experience with IFLA. We represented 27 countries in Asia and Oceania, and a cross-section of at least 12 library types and services, eg. public, University/Academic, National, Special, Government, School libraries, Library Associations, Library Education, Library Suppliers, Archives, Private, Community libraries.

Pic. 1.93 Participation Statistics from the IFLA Regional Workshop in Asia and Oceania
Regional Workshop
Asia and Oceania

27 countries
1 report
40 participants
849 years of library experience

Pic. 1.94 Participation Statistics from the IFLA Regional Workshop in Asia and Oceania
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

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<td><strong>Photos:</strong></td>
<td>IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Singapore</td>
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Pic. 1.95 IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Latin America and the Caribbean
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Europe: Madrid, Spain

On 6 July 2017, Phase 1 of the Global Vision project was completed, with the conclusion of the last Global Vision regional workshop. The final Global Vision regional workshop was held in Madrid, Spain, from 5 to 6 July 2017 at the library of the historic Prado Museum. 34 participants from 34 countries in Europe travelled to Madrid to contribute to the IFLA Global Vision discussion.

Pic. 1.96 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Europe
The Spanish Federation of Archivistic, Biblioteconomy, Documentation and Museum Societies (FESABID) has been the local host organisation for this workshop in Spain, Madrid. FESABID, providing its powerful support to IFLA. The workshop opened with a welcome speech from a high representative, the Secretary of State of Culture of the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport, Mr. Fernando Benzo Sáiz who welcomed the participants and organisers, by declaring that there is nothing more important than libraries.

Pic. 1.97 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Europe
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

Once again, all participants were excited and very much engaged in the Global Vision discussion and process, celebrating the exchange of ideas and opinions among themselves.

Pic. 1.98 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Europe
Pic. 1.99 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Europe
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

Pic. 1.100 – 1.103 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Europe
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

IFLA Governing Board and Headquarters staff members attending were IFLA President Donna Scheeder, IFLA President-elect Glória Pérez-Salmerón, IFLA Secretary General Gerald Leitner, IFLA Governing Board Member Barbara Schleihagen, IFLA Manager Member Services Helen Mandl and IFLA Global Vision Project Officer, Despina Gerasimidou. Furthermore, the IFLA European PAC Centre Director Tomasz Gruszkowski, also attended the workshop. IFLA legacy partners attending included Global Libraries Director Deborah Jacobs.

Pic. 1.104 – 1.106
The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Europe
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

All participants together represented 942 years of library experience, and 366 years of experience with IFLA. We represented 36 countries in Europe, and a cross-section of at least 15 library types and services, eg. Public libraries, University libraries, National libraries, Parliamentary libraries, Children libraries, special libraries, music libraries, hospital/medical libraries, archives, research libraries, documentary/newspapers, special Union libraries, school libraries, associations, NGOs.

Pic. 1.107 Participation Statistics of the IFLA Regional Workshop in Europe
Participants designed the cover of a magazine of their choice from 2030 about a successful library field.

Let’s see what does it mean, when we look at the future of libraries, according to the debates in Madrid.

“TIME magazine is not celebrating a person of the year, but the citizens of the world and library users as the persons of the year. The idea is that libraries are sustainable partners during our whole life. And libraries will meet the needs of the future users in all possible ways. Universal literacy has been achieved in time for 2030!”

IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Europe
“Libraries make you choose better. It is the result of a global survey and you can find here correlation in numbers of how many people go to libraries, to how many people have a good life, how many readers we have, how many people have access to education, etc.

So, this is the new cosmopolitan magazine and it is about lifestyle. It is about changing the lifestyle of population in each country. And here we can see that libraries matter.”
THE CHAMPION

“Here you see a sports magazine: The Champion. It includes all kinds of fascinating stories about sports and libraries. Because you also need brains to do good sports, not just muscles! A special edition, for Libraries versus Google, and as you can see, libraries have won 10 to 1.

IFLA has come to a great Global Vision result already. The solar system describes the united library field. Libraries are not only global, but also intergalactic champions.”

Pic. 1.109 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Europe.
WELCOME TO 2030!

“In order to prove the value of libraries, you should really concentrate on users. We focus on the users. In empowering all users, all inhabitants in the world.

This time, TIME magazine is not celebrating a person of the year, but the citizens of the world and library users as the persons of the year.

The idea is that libraries are sustainable partners during our whole life. And libraries will meet the needs of the future users in all possible ways. Universal literacy has been achieved in time for 2030.”
A UNITED LIBRARY FIELD

The challenges faced by the library field from ever-increasing globalization can only be met and overcome by an inclusive, global response from a united library field.

In Madrid, we contributed to this united library field and created an image of what this might look like.

“The main idea is the united library field as an ecosystem. An ecosystem is a community of living organisms, acting as a system. Its ultimate goal is life. Libraries are for people, so this is life.”

IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Europe
THE SPIDER AND THE METAPHOR OF A BRIDGE

“We came up with the idea of a spider web and with the metaphor of a bridge. Combining those two ideas, this is the result. We bring together staff, institutions and partners. Libraries are basically a bridge.

And, of course, we went global, to a united library field; to a connected world. We wrote down the global players, who influence the global library field: education, media, science and so on. There are a lot of different players.

And all of them are connected through bridges, which are two dimensional and go in two directions. Like an atom. In the middle, we have the users and our values.

Imagine a single librarian lost in the office. Imagine now that he is not alone, but part of this big universe. You think “who is going to help me?”. Then those bridges come to your mind. Who might help me? You will see there are other players and then you’ll see that there might be someone who can help me”
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

THE UNITED LIBRARY FIELD AS AN ECOSYSTEM

“The main idea is the united library field as an ecosystem. An ecosystem is a community of living organisms, acting as a system. Its ultimate goal is life. Libraries are for people, so this is life!

We decided to illustrate it like a tree. Each tree makes soil, from which it takes energy, and this is the external environment for libraries. Very vital for each healthy tree: librarians who work in libraries and also sponsors, government, who help libraries survive and offer better services. The main pillar is IFLA, the international association. There are many more associations that support this pillar, such as EBLIDA, NAPLE etc., who work in the world.

The users pick the fruits. These are the services we offer. We also have a snake and the copyright symbol. We produce the tree and it is like we produce oxygen, which is important for life. We also help the ecosystem to change from the soil: the water goes back to the sky and from the sky, rain comes. This entire system works together.

All the fruits, all the side products the tree produces are very useful for the system as a whole. So, of course, in this soil there could be many more stakeholders, many more institutions or many more individuals, who help as part of the ecosystem. This is a very brief description how a united library field works as an ecosystem.”
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

**A WORLD LIBRARY PASSPORT**

“The idea is that the untied library field is illustrated as a world library passport, with standards for services and a strong international structure.

As a united library field, we need to have world standards for our work, our common actions. We need to have professional information for librarians and an international legal framework. Libraries need to have a united law to assist their services and to act, while it is also very important for communication.”

*Pic. 1.113 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Asia and Oceania.*
OUR CLOUD BECAME LIKE FINGERS TO REACH ONE ANOTHER

“This is a user and researcher oriented system. There are partners, vendors and suppliers etc.

24/7 connected and sharing all resources, experiences. The “why” is all around, because it is something that we should keep thinking about.

Why have libraries, why should libraries continue to exist? What is it that libraries actually do or provide? Why are they important? Who are they working for? What is the benefit to society and users."

Pic. 1.14 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Europe.
Regional Workshop
Europe

36 countries
1 report
34 participants
942 years of library experience

Pic. 1.115 Participation Statistics of the IFLA Regional Workshop in Europe
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

Look back over the highlights of the two days in the IFLA news and in our wonderful Flickr album, through the links below. We hope they produce many fond memories!

| **IFLA News:** | Stage 1 complete! IFLA’s Global Vision Discussion reaches 140 countries across six regions. Now it’s your turn! |
| **Photos:** | IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Madrid, Spain |

*Pic. 1.116 The IFLA Global Vision Regional Workshop in Europe.*
WORKSHOPS & GLOBAL ONLINE VOTE: PARTICIPATION STATISTICS PER REGION

In the pages that follow, you see the participation per each of the six Global Vision regions. The participation shown represents both
- the participation at the workshops/meetings -led by IFLA and run by countries and library groups around the world- and
- the participation at the global online voting.

The six Global Vision regions:
1. North America
2. Africa
3. Middle East and North Africa
4. Latin America and the Caribbean
5. Asia Oceania
6. Europe
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

North America

In North America, IFLA Global Vision received:

- 2,574 votes in the Global Online Vote. 73% of them were from United States of America, and 27% from Canada.
- 3 reports – 7 from organisations and different groups in Canada, and 6 from USA. In total, 305 librarians participated in those workshops and meetings.

**PARTICIPATION STATISTICS**

**North America**

**WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS**
- 7 reports from organisations/groups in Canada
- 6 reports from organisations/groups in USA
- 13 reports from North America
- 305 workshop/meeting participants

**GLOBAL ONLINE VOTE**
- 695 (27%) responses from Canada
- 1879 (73%) responses from USA
- 2574 survey respondents from North America

Pic. 1.117 Participation Statistics to the Global Vision discussion from North America
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

Africa

In Africa, IFLA Global Vision received:

- 991 votes in the Global Online Vote. Librarians from all 42 UN member states in Africa region participated in the global online voting.
- 18 reports from 15 countries were received. In total, 533 librarians participated in those workshop and meeting discussions.

Pic. 1.118 Participation Statistics to the Global Vision discussion from Africa
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

Middle East and North Africa

In Middle East and North Africa, IFLA Global Vision received:

- 682 votes in the Global Online Vote. Librarians from all 23 UN member states in MENA participated in the global online voting
- 8 reports from 5 countries were received. In total, 213 librarians participated in those workshops and meetings.

Pic. 1.119 Participation Statistics to the Global Vision discussion from Middle East and North Africa
Latin America and the Caribbean

In Latin America and the Caribbean, IFLA Global Vision received:

- 1,583 votes in the Global Online Vote. Librarians from all 33 UN member states in LAC participated in the global online voting.
- 18 reports were received from 18 countries, 16 of which are UN member states. In total, 1,698 librarians participated in those workshops and meetings.

**Pic. 1.120 Participation Statistics to the Global Vision discussion from Latin America and the Caribbean**
Asia and Oceania

In Asia and Oceania, IFLA Global Vision received:

- 2,951 votes in the Global Online Vote. Librarians from 45 of 46 UN member states in Asia and Oceania region participated in the global online voting.

- 29 reports from 20 countries were received. In total, 3,581 librarians participated in those workshop and meeting discussions.

**PARTICIPATION STATISTICS**

**Asia and Oceania**

**GLOBAL ONLINE VOTE**

2,951 responses from 45 of 46 UN member states in AO

**WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS**

29 reports from 20 of 46 UN member states in AO

**REPORTS from:**

Australia / Bhutan / Cambodia / China / China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region / India / Kazakhstan / Lao People’s Democratic Republic / Malaysia / Maldives / Micronesia (Federated States of) / Mongolia / Nepal / New Zealand / Pakistan / Philippines / Republic of Korea / Singapore / Sri Lanka / Thailand

Pic. 1.121 Participation Statistics to the Global Vision discussion from Asia and Oceania
Europe

In Europe, IFLA Global Vision received:

- 12,961 votes in the Global Online Vote. Librarians from all 49 UN member states in Europe participated in the global online voting.
- 29 reports from 25 countries were received. In total, 1448 librarians participated in those workshops and meetings.

**PARTICIPATION STATISTICS**

Europe

**GLOBAL ONLINE VOTE**
responses from all (49) UN member states in Europe

**WORKSHOPS/MEETINGS**
29 reports from 25 of 49 UN member states in Europe

**REPORTS from:**
Armenia / Azerbaijan / Belgium / Bulgaria / Croatia / Cyprus / Czech Republic / Estonia / Finland / Germany / Greece / Israel / Italy / Lithuania / Poland / Portugal / Romania / Russian Federation / Serbia / Slovakia / Slovenia / Spain / Sweden / The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia / Ukraine

*Pic. 1.12 Participation Statistics to the Global Vision discussion from Europe*
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

The Global Vision Participation Statistics in total

Since its first day, the IFLA Global Vision communications has been a key issue.

During the IFLA Global Vision launch, IFLA launched the Global Vision website: https://globalvision.ifla.org/. Through the website, we also supported consistent communication by those who are preparing their own self-facilitated workshops.

“Together we create the future. Join us!” has been the Global Vision motto, being the main message for communication purposes, while since the very beginning the main hashtag has been created #iflaGlobalVision.

This hashtag #iflaGlobalVision reached in one month 140,000 posts.

The Global Vision Summary Report that was launched by the IFLA Secretary General in March 2017 in Barcelona, Spain has been livestreamed through the main IFLA’s Facebook page.

The Global Vision Summary Report launch reached out to 29,600 people.

The motto of the campaign has been translated in the seven IFLA official languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Russian and Spanish and in 20+ additional languages and dialects, for each IFLA Global Vision regional workshop.

IFLA has created a Flickr account to be the main aggregator for all the IFLA Global Vision activities. It can be found here.

#iflaGlobalVision

Pic. 1.124 The IFLA Global Vision hashtag
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

Five videos have been created for the IFLA Global Vision in 2017, in order to raise awareness about the Global Vision process and encourage people to take part in the Global Vision discussion by casting their online votes. They can be found in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>VIDEO NAME</th>
<th>VIDEO LINK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• IFLA Global Vision</td>
<td><a href="https://vimeo.com/238579216">https://vimeo.com/238579216</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• About IFLA Global Vision</td>
<td><a href="https://vimeo.com/229551467">https://vimeo.com/229551467</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Thank you from IFLA Secretary General</td>
<td><a href="https://vimeo.com/239438409">https://vimeo.com/239438409</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Save the date</td>
<td><a href="https://vimeo.com/256378039">https://vimeo.com/256378039</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 1: The Visioning Process

Pic. 1.125 The IFLA Global Vision 2017 motto in the seven official IFLA languages.