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**IFLA INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY PROGRAMME**

**LIBRARIES, DEVELOPMENT, AND THE UN 2030 AGENDA**

**TOPIC 2: THE ROLE OF LIBRARIES IN THE UN 2030 AGENDA**

**ACTIVITY 2.4: HOW YOUR LIBRARY ALREADY CONTRIBUTES TO THE SDGs**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

Refer to the IFLA Booklet *Access and Opportunity for All* and the IFLA handout *Libraries can drive progress across the entire UN 2030 Agenda*, and think about how your current library activities can be mapped to the SDGs and associated targets

### Step 1: Make a list of the programmes and services your library offers (or libraries in your country offer)

A **programme** might be training or classes that you offer at your library or across a city or country. It might be a series of classes, or a one-off event.

A **service** includes all of the materials, resources, technology and functions of the library online and as a safe physical space.

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| **Programme** | **Objective of this programme** |
| Example: ICT training for seniors | Example: To support digital inclusion amongst seniors so they can communicate with their family |
| Example: Storytime classes for babies and young children | Example: to support early literacy interventions |
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| **Services** | **Objective of this service** |
| Example: Access to Open Access research | Example: to enable researchers to have the latest knowledge in their field |
| Example: The library as a physical community space, meeting rooms | Example: to make sure everyone has access to a safe space |
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### Step 2: Review the list of SDGs and choose one or two key topics

There are 17 Goals and 169 targets[[1]](#footnote-1). Identify one or two Goals that are most relevant to your library or association, or your country. This could be a Goal that, for example, your government has highlighted in their policies or the media. If one of the Goals is a priority for government they are more likely to commit resources and support to it.

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| **We have chosen these Goals:** | **We chose these Goals because:** |
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**Step 3: Using the list of programmes and services you made above, and the Goals you   
 chose, start to map the library’s activities against the Goals**

The Sustainable Development Goals are very broad, and the targets within each Goal are more specific. In some cases, you might be able to identify a specific target that your programme or service supports. But it is more likely that you can support a more general Goal.

To build your message, try combining the Goal, activity, and objective:

Our library contributes to **[Goal]** by **[programme or service]** that supports **[objective]**

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| Goal | Library programme or service that supports this Goal | Message |
| Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all | Storytime classes for babies and young children | Our library contributes to Goal 4 on quality education by providing storytime classes for babies and young children that supports early literacy interventions |
| Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation | ICT training for seniors | Our library contributes to Goal 9 on innovation and infrastructure by providing ICT training for seniors that supports digital inclusion amongst seniors so they can communicate with their family |
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**Step 4: Do you have evidence?**

You can support your message with evidence about how effective your programme or service is. Local decision makers, community members and others will appreciate stories, statistics or other information that shows how meaningful your work is.

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| Goal | Library programme or service that supports this Goal | Message | Evidence |
| Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all | Storytime classes for babies and young children | Our library contributes to Goal 4 on quality education by providing storytime classes for babies and young children that supports early literacy interventions | Examples: 150 children have attended this programme in 2016. A survey of teachers found that children who participated in the programme before they started school showed improved reading skills than their peers. |
| Goal 9: Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation | ICT training for seniors | Our library contributes to Goal 9 on innovation and infrastructure by providing ICT training for seniors that supports digital inclusion amongst seniors so they can communicate with their family | Examples: 50 seniors have participated in at least one class to learn how to use a computer or create a social media account. One of the participants shared that she had moved to the country 10 years ago, and not been able to travel to her home country. Now with the skills gained at the library, she is able to email and talk with her family on a more regular basis. |
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**Step 5: Share your message – tell everyone how your library contributes to the SDGs**

Contact your national library association and share your messages with them – they need stories for their own advocacy work at the national level.

Share your messages in your own community: make posters in your library sharing your local messages and stories.

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| **Some ideas for messages** |

1. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)