# Action plan 2019 – 2021

**Name of Professional Unit:** Information Technology Section

## Focus Area 1

Advance the awareness, knowledge and implementation of IT innovations with potential impact on and value for library operations and services.

### IFLA Strategic Direction

2. Inspire and enhance professional practice.

### Key Initiatives

| 2.1 | Produce, communicate and distribute key resources and materials that inspire the profession.  
| 2.4 | Provide tools and infrastructure that support work of libraries. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Needed</th>
<th>Projects/Activities</th>
<th>Tasks &amp; Responsibility</th>
<th>Timeframe</th>
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</table>
| ☐ | Organize a WLIC joint open session on *The future of the library and library systems: outsourcing, cloud, and new tech impact of user communities* together with the Knowledge Management Section. | 1. Identify organizing team, theme, etc.  
2. Organize call for proposals, review, select, and finalize list of speakers.  
3. Send notices, etc. to lists. | 2020 |
| ☐ | Organize a WLIC joint open session on *Preserving complex digital objects in libraries* together with the Preservation & Conservation Section. | 1. Identify organizing team, theme, etc.  
2. Organize call for proposals, review, select, and finalize list of speakers.  
3. Send notices, etc. to lists. | 2020 |
| ☐ | Organize a WLIC joint satellite on *Artificial Intelligence in Discovery and User Experience* together with Reference and Instruction Services Section (RISS). | 1. Identify organizing team, theme, etc.  
2. Organize call for proposals, review, select, and finalize list of speakers.  
3. Local organizers and local arrangements following IFLA policy.  
4. Send notices, etc. to lists. | 2020 |
| ☐ | Organize a WLIC joint session on *Enabling open science, open access, and artificial intelligence to advance and support healthcare practice and scientific discovery* together with Health and Biosciences section. | 1. Identify local organizer, organizing team, theme, etc.  
2. Organize call for proposals, review, select, and finalize list of speakers.  
3. Local organizers and local arrangements following IFLA policy.  
4. Send notices, etc. to lists. | 2020 |
| ☐ | Participate in the realization of the publication by DeGruyter of the WLIC2019 IT Section satellite conference on *Robots in Libraries*. | Frank Seeliger of TUAS Wildau Library volunteered to be the editor. | 2020 |

**How will you communicate your activities and results?**

IFLA and IT Section websites, social media channels, and mailing lists.

**How will you measure the impact of your activities?**

Participation at event (head count, feedback, etc.).

**Identify other Unit(s) which may be interested in this Focus Area, or with which you could collaborate on projects/activities.**

Knowledge Management Section; Preservation & Conservation Section; Reference and Information Services Section

## Focus Area 2
Develop guidelines, principles, best practices and/or training materials on up-to-date Information and Communications Technology (ICT) topics applicable to a wide range of libraries and information services.

**IFLA Strategic Direction**

2. Inspire and enhance professional practice.

**Key Initiatives**

2.1 Produce, communicate and distribute key resources and materials that inspire the profession.

2.3 Develop standards, guidelines, and other materials that foster best professional practice.

2.4 Provide tools and infrastructure that support work of libraries

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| ☐              | Produce a set of guidelines/principles on cybersecurity for libraries and communicate them (continued from 2018). | 1. Finalize first draft for review by IT-SC  
2. Produce final version for Policy & Research Office | 2020 |
| ☐              | Plan and produce a series of webinars on IT related topics | 1. Identify topics  
2. Plan and communicate  
3. Run the webinars  
4. Evaluate | 2020 |
| ☐              | Develop training manuals to advance the Digital Skills of Library staff. | 1. Identify a group that together can define the area and the scope  
2. Scan the current landscape and identify the biggest skills gaps and reviewing existing training materials  
3. Prioritizing a list of skills that are most needed.  
4. Develop training materials.  
Request IFLA funding in 2021 to support this | 2021-2022 |
| ☐              | Create standards that certify interoperability for technologies that are part of the Open Knowledge ecosystem of tools that underpin library infrastructure platforms. | 1. Discuss with IFLA Committee on Standards and other potential units/people involved in this area to see whether, where and how it fits with IFLA. | 2020 |

**How will you communicate your activities and results?**

IFLA and IT Section websites, social media channels and mailing lists.

**How will you measure the impact of your activities?**

Obtain data on downloads of the document and follow up on use and value.

**Identify other Unit(s) which may be interested in this Focus Area, or with which you could collaborate on projects/activities.**

IFLA Policy & Research Office; Education & Training Section; Committee on Standards
Focus Area 3
Support and strengthen IFLA activities and groups in areas of technological challenges.

IFLA Strategic Direction
1. Connect and empower the field.

Key Initiatives

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<tr>
<th>[KI No.]</th>
<th>[Describe how your planned activities align with this Key Initiative]</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>Provide excellent opportunities for face-to-face networking and learning.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>Support virtual networking and connections.</td>
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<td>3.3</td>
<td>Empower the field at the national and regional levels.</td>
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<td>3.4</td>
<td>Provide targeted learning and professional development.</td>
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Funding Needed | Projects/Activities                                                                 | Tasks & Responsibility                                                                                      | Timeframe |
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<td>☐</td>
<td>Investigate producing/publishing a document on developing enhanced IT services maintaining or reducing resources consumption.</td>
<td>1. Connect with ENSULIB SIG for possible collaboration and/or inclusion in the SIG Action Plan.</td>
<td>2020</td>
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<td>☐</td>
<td>Research data and libraries - state of the art, best practices, infrastructures, data security, data curation, accessibility, interoperability, assistance to small institutions.</td>
<td>1. Connect with DH/DS SIG for discussion and possible collaboration.</td>
<td>2020-2021</td>
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| ☐             | Update IT Section Skills Register and promote its wider use to IFLA SCs               | 1. Contact HQ for latest copy  
2. Update the document  
3. Publish on Basecamp                                                                                      | 2020      |
| ☐             | Big data competency and how to encourage and empower librarians to take a leading role in its curation | 1. Connect with Big Data SIG.                                                                                | 2020-2021 |

How will you communicate your activities and results?
IFLA and IT Section websites, social media channels, and mailing lists.

How will you measure the impact of your activities?
Obtain data on downloads of documents and follow up on use and value.

Identify other Unit(s) which may be interested in this Focus Area, or with which you could collaborate on projects/activities.
Environment, Sustainability and Libraries (ENSULIB) SIG; Digital Humanities/Digital Scholarship (DH/DS) SIG; Big Data SIG