The LSDP provides leadership to libraries, associations and government bodies for the development of specialized services to those groups within the community who are unable to make use of conventional library services.

**PUBLICATIONS**
- Guidelines for library services to prisoners
- Guidelines for library services to persons with dyslexia
- Guidelines for library services to deaf people
- Guidelines for libraries serving hospital patients and the elderly and disabled in long-term care institutions
- Guidelines for easy-to-read materials
- Guidelines for library services to persons with dementia (in process)
- Access to libraries for persons with disabilities

Besides the official IFLA languages, some of the Professional Reports are also available in one or more of the following languages: Swedish, Danish, Norwegian, Croatian, Japanese, Italian, and Portuguese-Brazilian.

**K. G. Saur Verlag series**
- Resource Book for Libraries Serving Disadvantaged Persons

**Newsletters, plans and guidelines**
www.ifla.org/VII/s9/index.htm

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**EQUAL ACCESS TO LIBRARY SERVICES**

**UNIVERSAL DESIGN**

**ACCESS TO ALTERNATIVE MATERIALS AND SERVICES**

**TOOLS AND METHODS TO FACILITATE ACCESS**

**GUIDELINES AND SUCCESSFUL PRACTICES**

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**Patients’ libraries**

**Prison libraries**

**Library services to the disabled**

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**75th anniversary**

**Seoul**

**2006**
The IFLA Section for Libraries Serving Disadvantaged Persons (LSDP) celebrates its 75th birthday this year. Established on August 29, 1931, as the Sub-committee on Hospital Libraries (patients’ libraries), it was the seventh sub-committee IFLA formed and the first to focus on library services for a special user group. The Sub-committee’s initial work centered on promoting professional library services to hospitalized people who, because they were confined, could not make use of regular library resources. Bibliotherapy, or the use of books and reading as aids to healing, was an added focus. But, the Sub-committee soon saw that, due to various disabilities, some of the hospitalized required special materials and services, as did others in the community, incarcerated or not. Concerned with those needs, it in time expanded its work to include people who for whatever reason were unable to use conventional library services, people needing assistance in using such services and people needing materials and services adapted to their own circumstance. Remaining over the years remarkably true to its mission, the Section today continues to advocate for library services to those who are hospitalized or imprisoned, to the elderly and others in nursing homes and care facilities, to the homebound, to the deaf, and to the physically and developmentally disabled. Blessed with standing committee members having broad expertise in their fields, LSDP continues to systematically develop guidelines for library services to disadvantaged groups. In the aggregate, those guidelines have been translated into twelve languages and are used in many parts of the world. They currently constitute more than fifty percent of IFLA’s Professional Report series.

From the Section’s history

“...the stimulus of learning of developments elsewhere by involvement in an international role creates a need and initiative to develop one’s own national services.”
Joy Lewis, chair 1969 - 1972 (Then: Sub-section of Libraries in Hospitals)

“It was hard work, but it was worth it.”
Phyllis Noaks, chair 1981 - 1985 (Then: Section of Library Services to Hospital Patients and Handicapped Readers)

“Taking out my IFLA files from the store-room I was overwhelmed with memories of all the fantastic, dedicated people that I met from all over the world during my IFLA years.”
Gunilla Malmgren-Neale, chair 1985 - 1989