

E4GDH Newsletter

November 2018



IFLA Special Interest Group Evidence for Global and Disaster Health

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Welcome message

This is our first occasional newsletter, designed to keep you updated on the work of our IFLA special interest group. This issue features some highlights since the group was formerly approved in January, then looks ahead to future activities.

Don't miss future updates, opt in via the link below.

Anne Brice, E4GDH convenor

E4GDH highlights from 2018 IFLA congress, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



"Evidence for Global & Disaster Health - Where are we now and where do we need to be?"

E4GDH satellite meeting, 23 August 2018



Our inaugural satellite meeting was a great success, with Prof Virginia Murray, Consultant in Global Disaster Risk Reduction at Public Health England, setting the scene. Virginia's opening remarks highlighted the role librarians can play in disaster risk reduction within the context of the UN Sendai Framework and Sustainable Development Goals.

Themes in the 6 presentations that followed included:

- Initiatives to build and share the evidence base for global health and disaster risk reduction
- Lessons learned from public libraries response during catastrophic floods
- Mapping research and creating frameworks for global information sharing
- Disaster evaluation typologies
- The role of librarians in developing countries in facilitating sustainable development

Librarians and other professionals shared perspectives and experiences from Australia, Philippines, South Africa, USA and the UK. A practical workshop on knowledge management and finding evidence for global and disaster health followed in the afternoon. Participant feedback was very positive, with 93% of respondents finding it a good or very good use of their time.

Find out more: Presentations and training materials from the meeting have been added to the satellite meeting [website](#), with a link to the [full papers](#) on IFLA Library.



Thank you to our local partners, Medical Librarians Group Malaysia for all their advice and support before, during and after the event.

Thank you to CABI [Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International], who publish Global Health database, for enabling us to offer 10 sponsored places.



Other perspectives on the day:

- Isla Kuhn (2018) *Evidence for Global and Disaster Health*.
<https://ilk21.wordpress.com/2018/08/27/evidence-for-global-and-disaster-health/> [Accessed 18.10.2018]
- Phil Segall (2018) *Librarianship in the eye of the storm*.
<https://www.rcn.org.uk/news-and-events/blogs/librarianship-in-the-eye-of-the-storm> [Accessed 18.10.2018]

IFLA Open Session, Wednesday 29 August: “Library Roles in Disaster Preparedness”

Our 2 hour session during the IFLA congress included a personal story from a UK university medical librarian on the benefits of volunteering with the charity [Evidence Aid](#), an international initiative championing an evidence-based approach to natural disasters and other humanitarian emergencies.

Participant feedback via Mentimeter informed our 2018-19 Action Plan; highlights from this will be in the next issue.

Other Updates

IFLA briefing paper on Disaster Risk Response

E4GDH convenor Anne Brice contributed to IFLA's latest briefing paper [Disaster Risk Response – A brief on Libraries and the Sendai Framework](#). Key points include the major role libraries have to play as repositories and disseminators of health information, and as providers of secondary emergency service to communities.

Our new E4GDH guide: Finding the Evidence for Global and Disaster Health

We are pleased to announce our new [guide](#), featuring information sources to support evidence-based global and disaster health. This highlights specific resources which have been tailored to meet the needs of relief workers delivering support in the field.

Suggestions for additional resources are welcome, and will be considered for future updates. Please send these to E4GDHteam@gmail.com.

Starting in November: E4GDH Webinar series

The webinar series will feature several of our presenters from IFLA 2018, to ensure that this important work is shared more widely. The first webinar, in partnership with Evidence Aid, took place during Humanitarian Evidence Week (19th - 23rd November). The slides and recording from this practical session on finding the evidence for disaster health are available [here](#).



Join us on the planning team for E4GDH 2019 in Athens!

- Planning is already underway for the 2019 [IFLA Congress](#), which will be held in Athens, 24 - 30 August. There will be an update on our plans for this in the next newsletter.
- Our core working group and advisory group is continuing to grow. Please get in touch if you would like more information on joining. We are particularly seeking support with our communications, but any expressions of interest are welcome.

Visit our [IFLA E4GDH](#) webpages for more information about the group and our activities.

We would love to keep in touch

If you would like to receive future newsletters by email, please [opt in here](#) by adding your email. Your name and email address are stored on a database and will only be used for this purpose. You may opt out at any time by emailing E4GDHteam@gmail.com