



Invitation to submit an application for accreditation as an IFLA BSLA regional trainer

IFLA is seeking trainers to deliver training and other activities as part of the Building Strong Library Associations (BSLA) programme. IFLA is seeking trainers who have national association experience and the ability to put their knowledge into practice through training.

IFLA trainers are accredited to deliver training packages. They may organise cascade workshops in their own library communities, or be asked to facilitate IFLA workshops in other countries. IFLA will provide training and support to selected trainers.

Regional trainer workshop in Alexandria, Egypt

A workshop for trainers in Arab-Speaking countries will be held at the **Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Egypt, from March 21-23 2011**. During the workshop, participants will learn about the BSLA programme, take part in practical activities while learning the materials, and gain skills in facilitation and training. The workshop will be delivered in English language.

Expressions of interest are invited for participation in the workshop. After attending the workshop, participants will be accredited as regional IFLA BSLA trainers. Interested persons should note that while IFLA covers the cost of travel and accommodation to participate in the workshop, it does not pay staff or consultant costs during the period of travel.

What is the Building Strong Library Associations programme?

The Building Strong Library Associations programme is a comprehensive programme offering a strategic and coordinated approach to capacity building and sustainability of library associations. The programme benefits associations, libraries, and their communities.

The Building Strong Library Associations programme consists of:

- A modular, customizable training package on library association development
- IFLA's policy-based learning materials
- Mentoring and advice on forming partnerships
- Cross-association activities, to bring participants together
- An online platform to provide remote access to materials

The programme is delivered by the IFLA Action for Development through Libraries (ALP) programme.

Further information about the programme is available at: <http://www.ifla.org/bsla>

Who should participate in the workshops?

Participants should be working in either a paid or voluntary capacity for their library association. They may have recent, high-level association experiences such as membership of the association's leadership (President, Vice-President, other office bearers), or as staff. Some participants may be a promising emerging leader in the association.

Trainers need both association experience, and a strong network in their country to be able to plan and deliver cascade workshops.

Broader audiences are reached through cascade training in-country.

What is the role of IFLA trainers?

Trainers play a key facilitation and mentoring role by delivering workshops using IFLA content. Trainers are responsible for:

- Continuing to develop their knowledge of IFLA's training packages
- Planning the content of workshops using the BSLA materials, in collaboration with IFLA
- Delivering workshops and other activities in country
- Collaborating with colleagues to cascade learning throughout their country
- Communicating with other participants between meetings, primarily using the IFLA online platform
- Assisting with identifying contacts in other associations to serve as mentors for specific topics
- Contributing to the evaluation of BSLA activities and collecting participant feedback

What skills do trainers need?

Trainers who deliver workshops using IFLA materials need to have:

- Excellent English skills (the workshop will be presented in English)
- Excellent communication skills
- Confidence in their knowledge of topics covered by the IFLA training materials, and ability to deliver sensitive topics
- Ability to facilitate group discussions and activities
- Internet and computer skills, to be able to communicate with other trainers and use the IFLA online platform
- Strong contacts and networks within their own country
- Wide-ranging experience in library work, national library associations, other relevant organisations
- Ability to promote IFLA confidently and effectively in their country

IFLA Trainers deliver training and activities in both a face-to-face and online learning environment depending on the needs of each library community. The blended options could range from totally online or totally face-to-face to a mixture of face-to-face and computer mediated learning environments.

What skills and knowledge will I have after participating in a regional trainer workshop?

After participating in an IFLA core trainer workshop, trainers should be able to:

- Understand and apply training approaches best suited to meeting learner needs in the context of IFLA training
- Explain and use a range of learning activities appropriate to the BSLA content
- Understand and explain the BSLA programme and IFLA's policy-based training activities
- Understand the principles and purpose of impact assessment and the trainers' role in implementing the impact assessment framework
- Customise content for local cultural and language conditions, in consultation with IFLA
- Deliver the IFLA programmes in a range of delivery modes, face to face and online
- Participate in and actively contribute to a community of practice to support IFLA trainers

How do I apply?

Interested persons should submit a brief expression of interest addressing the following points by January 31 2011:

1. Your experience in working with and leadership of national library associations, either as an office bearer or staff member
2. Your experience in the development of library associations
3. Your knowledge and experience of delivering training
4. Your knowledge and experience of using online discussion and learning tools
5. Your experience and involvement with IFLA

Expressions of interest will be assessed by the IFLA ALP Programme Coordinator and the Director IFLA Centre for Arabic Speaking Libraries (IFLA-CASL).

The focus of the workshop programme is IFLA's Building Strong Library Associations programme. However, during the workshop IFLA's policy-based training materials will be introduced. In your expression of interest, please indicate whether you have any special interest or expertise in the following topics:

1. Public Access to Health Information
2. IFLA Internet Manifesto
3. Access to information on HIV/AIDS through Libraries
4. IFLA Manifesto on Transparency, Good Governance and Freedom from Corruption

Please submit your expression of interest by January 31 by email to: IFLA ALP alp@ifla.org and Dina Youssef: Dina.Youssef@bibalex.org

For further information about the workshop, the BSLA programme, and training contact IFLA ALP Programme Coordinator, Fiona Bradley by email: alp@ifla.org