

# IFLA Africa Section

## Newsletter. December 2017

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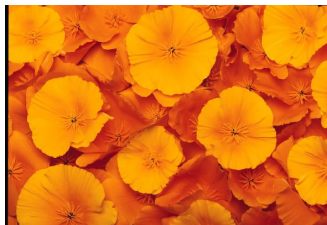
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### **Bibliotheca Alexandrina Information for Africa (BAIFA) by Nabil Reda.**

At the dawn of the twentieth-first century, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina (BA) assumed its leading role in the world as a center of excellence in knowledge and intellect. The BA has embarked on a new journey to connect those with common interests and expertise with the aim of facilitating knowledge development and enabling immediate and collaborative knowledge sharing, thus becoming a leading library and institution for the digital age and the new millennium.

As part of its regional efforts toward achieving this goal, the BA has placed a special focus on the African Continent. A new information service, the Bibliotheca Alexandrina Information for Africa (BAIFA), was launched in 2016 to

focus on promoting African research and enhancing the role played by information services for African countries. By adopt-



ing an innovative approach towards research and professional development, BAIFA aims to establish a distinguished platform for sharing experiences among peers and experts within Africa.

Through BAIFA, the BA is capitalizing on a former effort started by the Royal Tropical Institute of the Netherlands (KIT) together with Elsevier based on two memoranda of understanding signed by both

parties with the BA in 2013. These two memoranda serve the best interest of both researchers and research institutions in African least-developed and low-income countries.

In order to achieve its objectives and address the needs of its users, BAIFA offers through its website free access to a large number of e-resources on diverse themes, such as culture, knowledge transfer, decentralization and local governance, health, and sustainable economic development. BAIFA also offers full access to two of Elsevier's databases (ScienceDirect and Scopus) for eligible researchers that meet BAIFA membership criteria, through its official website.



Researchers, Librarians and Information professionals are invited to join the BAIFA trainings to learn from the very best professionals in their fields from anywhere and at any time, in an accessible and convenient manner.

Within the same context, BAIFA also launches a number of programs and activities in several fields of interest. Through these programs, BAIFA connects those with common interests together, provides varieties that best fulfill the different needs and preferences, helps raise awareness and stimulate action, engages professionals, and supports building and developing capacity-building.

Through these different services provided, BAIFA contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Africa which are in direct alignment with the African Union's Agenda 2063. Marking the Goal "4: Quality Education" and Goal "17: Partnerships for the Goals", BAIFA takes on its responsibility

the role of ensuring equitable quality education through equitable access of information by increasing the international co-operation which is achieved through building up networks of professional partners. BAIFA works on keeping the thriving research community alive in low-and middle-income countries in Africa, and improves the quality and quantity of African scientific research; which consequently helps narrowing the gap of knowledge between high-income countries and low-and middle-income countries by providing access to the best of science.

Join us now! Sign up, to enjoy our different services we offer to Africans on our website and on our official Facebook page [www.bibalex.org/baifa](http://www.bibalex.org/baifa) [www.facebook.com/BAInformationForAfrica](https://www.facebook.com/BAInformationForAfrica)





IFLA's Global Vision discussion brought together thousands of representatives of the library field worldwide to explore how a connected library field can meet the challenges of the future. IFLA needed us to act and on 6 September 2017 at Alberton Public Library, LIASA: Gauteng South Chapter in South Africa joined the global vision discussion to create the future we want to see. Global Vision Discussion required our expertise input and participation so we can make the library field as ready as possible for what tomorrow might bring

The Regional Manager for Africa facilitated the meeting under the auspices of LIASA: Gauteng .

Engaging on the Global Vision exercise was fun with active participation of all in the meeting.

It also elicited a good communication in the room especially that the choice of responses from the website were not exposed to participants before the start of the meeting.

Collaboration and connectivity prevailed in the room as participants walk around to plot their ideas

Lesson learned: wherever in the world you are situated, the LIS

- o share the same sentiments about the profession
- o share the same challenges
- o Unfortunately we don't share this information and through the Global Vision we have connected

In closing, all participants we encouraged to cast their vote online. It was noted that most of them have already done so and also encouraged their colleagues in their respective organizations to vote

<b>TOGETHER WE CREATE THE FUTURE!</b>	<b>SAAM SKEP ONS DIE TOEKOMS!</b>	<b>RI ROTHE RI FHATA VHUMATSHELO!</b>	<b>SISONKE SAKHA IKUSASA!</b>	<b>MOHO RE AHA BOKAMOSO!</b>	<b>HINKWENI HINA HI AKA VUMUNDZUKU</b>
#iflaGlobalVision	#iflaGlobalVision	#iflaGlobalVision	#iflaGlobalVision	#iflaGlobalVision	#iflaGlobalVision

By Lindi Nhlapho. Regional Manager ( IFLA Africa)



# LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

Take a book, leave a book little library outside the University of South Africa, Science Library, Florida Campus stands in the middle of two busy entrances, the Science Library and the entrance of the main auditorium at Florida Campus

The Little Library was created from an unused access door from the Science Library. The Free Little Library was created as a display towards the 2014 LIS Research Symposium hosted by Unisa Library Services at Florida Campus in July 2014. Since then, it was never removed and has become a permanent feature.

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## Call for corresponding membership. IFLA AFRICA Section 2018-2019



The IFLA Africa section invites candidates to be corresponding members to the section for the duration of 2018-2019.

The roles of corresponding members are as follows

To represent countries in geographical areas, which might not otherwise be represented, and provide expertise in a specific subject field. Being a member also is a great way to introduce individuals to the work of the Committee who might then later stand for election.

Corresponding Members receive the Standing Committee papers and are expected to maintain regular contact with the Officers and other Standing Committee members.

Such members shall be appointed (by the Standing Committee) for an initial two-year term, renewable for one further term of two years on the decision of the Section's Chair.

The Standing Committee might appoint Corresponding Members to work on particular projects, or to provide input on certain activities. Corresponding Members have no voting rights in Standing Committee meetings, but if they are able to attend a meeting of the Committee, they are entitled to speak but they do not contribute to the quorum.

CV's should be sent to the Chair and the Secretary of the section using the emails below.

[nthabiseng.kotsokoane@monash.edu](mailto:nthabiseng.kotsokoane@monash.edu)  
(Secretary) IFLA Africa Section  
[roshafack@gmail.com](mailto:roshafack@gmail.com) (Chairperson) IFLA  
Africa section.

# IFLA Africa Section Satellite Meeting Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 2018 - Call for Papers



The [IFLA Africa Section](#) is seeking proposals for a satellite meeting to be held at the IFLA 84th World Library and Information Congress in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia .

Proposals chosen for presentation will examine how Libraries:

- Have developed community information literacy programmes and partnerships
- Liaised with other community groups to achieve national development.
- Collaborated with national governments to achieve the United Nations 2030 Agenda. Collaborated with national governments working towards realising Agenda 2063 and achieving the Africa we want.

#### Themes

- **Public Libraries and community engagement**
  - **Information Literacy for Development.**
  - **ICTs for LIS Development**
  - **Information Literacy for Empowering the community**
  - **Quality information empowers society**
- Exploration of the way in which local libraries can contribute to community development.**

The proposal must be the original work of the author(s) and should be written in either English or French. Each abstract must contain:

1. Title of proposed presentation
1. Outline of the proposed presentation (no more than 350 words)
2. Position or title of presenter(s)
3. Presenter(s) employer or affiliated institution
4. Email address, Telephone/fax numbers
5. Short biographical statement of the presenter/s, with digital photograph.

All proposals will be evaluated by a refereeing team of the Standing Committee of the IFLA Africa Section.

Please note

At least one of the paper's authors must be present to deliver a summary of the paper during the program in Malaysia. Abstracts should only be submitted with the understanding that the expenses of attending the conference will be the responsibility of the author(s)/ presenter(s) of accepted papers.

All papers that are presented at the WLIC 2018 will be made available online via the IFLA Library under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 license.

Authors of accepted papers must complete the IFLA Authors' Permission Form.

## Africa Section Satellite Meeting – IFLA 2018



### Libraries as Centers of Community Engagements for Development .

The [IFLA Africa Section](#) will be holding a satellite meeting at the IFLA 84<sup>th</sup> World Library and Information Congress in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Date : 23 August 2018

**Venue : Monash University Malaysia**

Jalan Lagoon Selatan  
47500 Bandar Sunway  
Selangor Darul Ehsan  
Malaysia .

**Contact the IFLA, Chairperson and Secretary for more details.**

*See you there,*

