



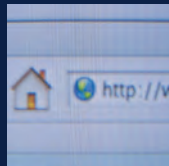
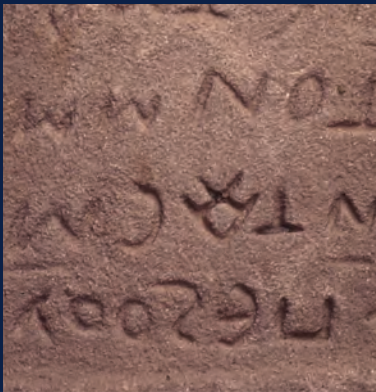
United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



IFAP

Information for All  
Programme

# INFORMATION FOR ALL PROGRAMME



IFAP  
REPORT  
2008-2013



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Report 2008-2013

UNESCO  
2014

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS

ANIE	African Network for Information Ethics
ACEIE	Centre of Excellence for Information Ethics
EFA	Education for All
EGOV	Electronic governance
FOSS	Free & open source software
ICT	Information and communication technology
IFAP	Information for All Programme
ITTK	Information Society and Trend Research Institute
IFLA	International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions
ISESCO	International Telecommunication Union Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
IGF	Internet Governance Forum
LPI	Linux Professional Institute
LTSP	Linux Terminal Server Project
MIL	Media and Information Literacy
MDGs	Millennium development goals
NGO	Non-governmental organization
OER	Open educational resources
SMEs	Small and medium enterprises
URL	Uniform resource locator
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNU	United Nations Universities
MAAYA	World Network for Linguistic Diversity
WSIS	World Summit on the Information Society



## INTRODUCTION

The Information for All Programme (IFAP) seeks to create equitable societies through better access to information. The intergovernmental programme, which was created in 2000, is therefore UNESCO's response to the challenges and opportunities of the information society. Technological developments in the past decades brought new ethical, legal and societal challenges. In a world increasingly using information and communication technologies, it is crucial to ensure equitable access for all people to new opportunities. As information plays a critical role in the global economy, it is central to development and therefore central to a peaceful society, to narrow the gap between information rich and information poor.

IFAP works closely with other intergovernmental organizations and international NGOs, supporting a wide variety of projects, whether they focus on individual capacity-building, on research or on thematic debates. In order to achieve its goals, the programme concentrates its efforts on five priority areas: information ethics, information accessibility, information literacy, information for development and information preservation. At its seventh meeting, the IFAP council identified another priority area: multilingualism, which is an essential aspect of the development towards an inclusive and pluralistic knowledge society.

This report will focus on IFAP activities from 2008-2013. Individual projects in the different priority areas will be presented, but each of them is only one example of the diversity of projects within the framework of IFAP during this period.



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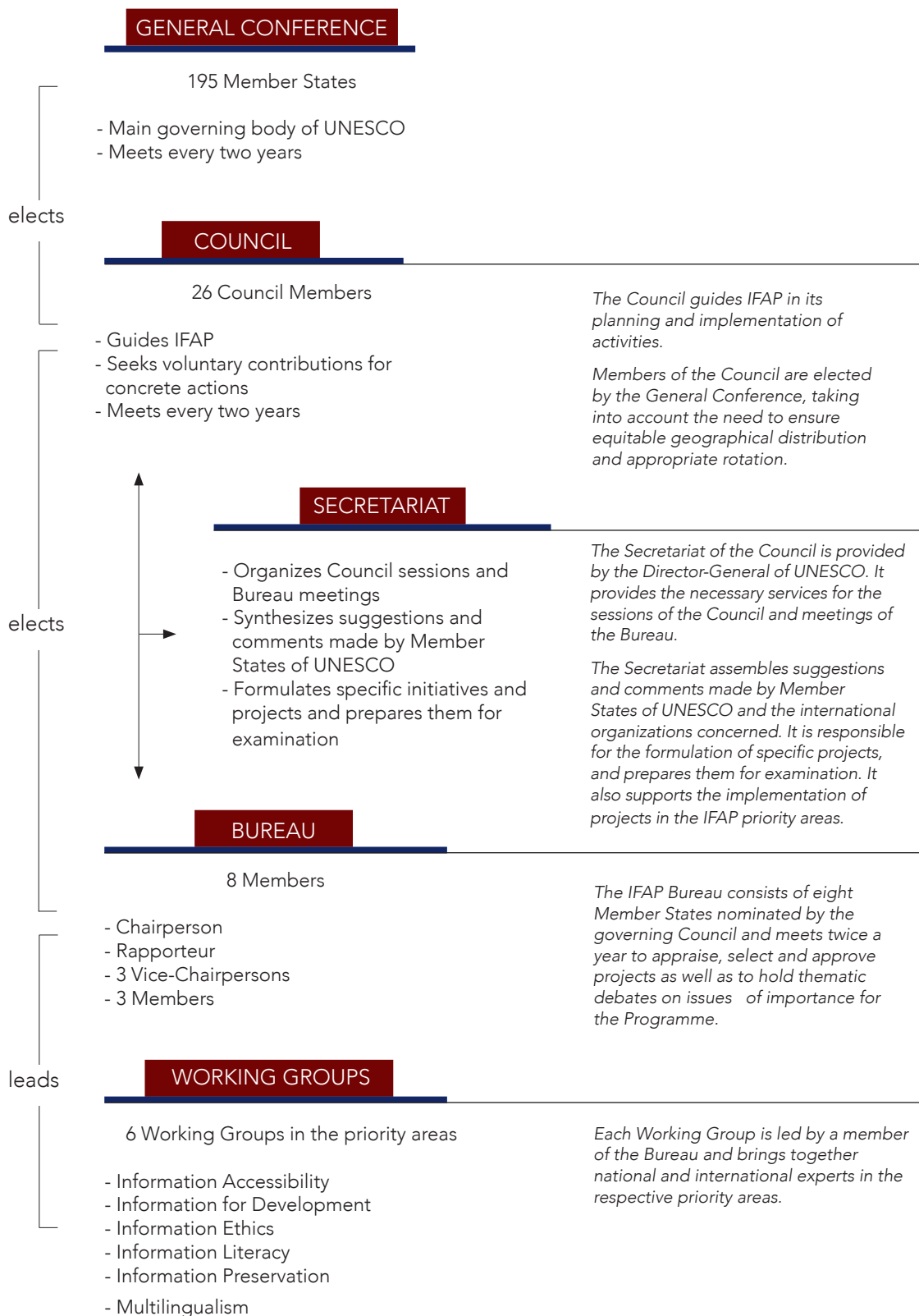
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# IFAP STRUCTURE





## MESSAGE FROM UNESCO'S DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

UNESCO has been actively promoting the concept of Knowledge Societies in the past decades. In particular, the Communication and Information Sector has drawn attention to the importance of this concept in the 21st century. We fully acknowledge that nowadays information has a significant impact on people's lives.

The sharing of knowledge, mainly through information and communication technologies (ICTs), has the power to transform economies and societies. In this sense, we believe that universal access to information is key to building peace, sustainable economic development and intercultural dialogue. UNESCO promotes the building of knowledge societies through awareness raising, policy formulation and capacity-building.

In this context, the intergovernmental Information for All Programme was established in 2001 to replace two former programmes, the General Information Programme and the Intergovernmental Informatics Programme, according to Decision 3.6.1 taken at the 160th session of UNESCO's Executive Board.

IFAP's primary aims have been to provide a platform for international policy discussions and guidelines for action in the area of information access and to support Member States in the development of national information policy and strategy frameworks. Since its creation, the programme has been working towards developing people through training initiatives and the promotion of partnerships and networking.

UNESCO is gratified by the interest shown by Member States and national and international organizations in IFAP's work and opportunities. We expect that the publication will contribute to raise awareness about key aspects relating to the programme's priorities and activities.



Getachew Engida  
Deputy Director-General  
UNESCO



## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE KNOWLEDGE SOCIETIES DIVISION

As the world undergoes radical technological, political and economic transformations, people, communities and nations have benefitted from faster and wider access to information and knowledge. At the same time, in spite of these advances, they also face new challenges relating to the social application of information and communication technologies (ICT).

In this constantly changing environment, UNESCO continues to promote the concept of 'knowledge societies'. This concept is built around a vision of an inclusive world in which all people have the ability to access and share content, freely communicate their viewpoints, collaborate, think critically and apply ICTs and other elements towards the achievement of sustainable human development. Various policy initiatives, capacity-building activities and projects have been carried out by UNESCO to support Member States in creating the conditions necessary to realize this vision. Significant contributions to this work continue to be made within the framework of the intergovernmental Information for All Programme (IFAP).

IFAP contributes to building knowledge societies through the promotion of international policy reflection and debate in the priority areas of information access, information for development, information ethics, information literacy and information preservation, in addition to the cross-cutting theme of multilingualism. By supporting the development of policy resources and their application, sharing experiences and implementing projects, IFAP provides tangible responses to the ethical, legal and societal challenges of the information society. Furthermore, these efforts serve to widen access to information, and support its preservation for future generations. Through the promotion and sharing of standards and best practice, IFAP fosters information and knowledge networking at the local, national, regional and international levels. These efforts in turn support the raising of awareness and capacity-building, and contribute to the empowerment of peoples and communities.

This publication provides an overview of the impact and scope of IFAP's work during the period 2008 - 2013 and offers an opportunity to reflect on the lessons learned during this time. We invite Member States and other stakeholders to learn about IFAP's work and support its efforts to assist them in realizing the creation of 'knowledge societies' in their nations and regions.



Indrajit Banerjee  
Director, Knowledge Societies Division,  
Communication and Information Sector, UNESCO



## OVERVIEW FROM THE IFAP CHAIRMAN

The intergovernmental UNESCO Information for All Programme (IFAP) was launched in 2001, when the concept of 'knowledge societies' was in its infancy. Much water has flowed under the bridge since then, and things that were until recently new concepts, both exciting and daunting, are now part of our daily routine, for better or for worse. Now, we have other hopes and must face other hazards.

Twenty years ago, IT corporation bosses announced again and again that the information technologies they were launching into mass production would change (i.e. improve) the world. However, only few foresaw the huge scale of this change. It was not merely the storage of cutting-edge devices that made life easier, labour more efficient, information and communication more accessible, and the horizons and opportunities of research and production unimaginably greater.

A new reality has emerged, one which demands thorough analysis. It is too late to limit our attention to the benefits ICTs provide for safe and efficient users. It is time for a closer study of the problems they breed, and for forecasts of their socio-cultural impact on life as they penetrate its every corner.

The benefits brought by the sweeping progress of ICT are self-evident, so I will speak about existential challenges which came to our attention in the later years of implementing IFAP, the world's only intergovernmental programme to study the essential aspects of the emergent global information society. Its comprehensive interdisciplinary studies closely follow its mandate and Strategic Plan priorities, and involve leading international experts representing all professions and almost all nations of the world.

Today, the creation and circulation of online information grows exponentially and the speed and ramification of information flows are almost limitless. Every year brings new textual information, the volume of which exceeds that of all books published throughout the history of civilization – and don't forget that verbal texts account for less than 0.1% of the overall information volume, with audio-visual materials, games, infographics, etc. making up the rest. This flood of information is open to everyone who possesses even the cheapest gadget and internet access. In other words, it will be available to each and every one of us in the near future.

The impact on individuals and communities caused by these fundamental changes to the information environment – the virtual 'replacing' the real in many cases, and an image-centred media culture – is very recent and little studied.

ICTs laid a breathtaking foundation for universal access to information, unlimited self-expression, and sweeping development of communication. The creation of generally accessible information resources is no longer the preserve of a limited circle of authors, publishers, traditional media outlets and research institutions. Now, the job is open to everyone in the world. Naturally, the digital content is snowballing. However, much of this new content is no longer subject to the stringent checks and methodical revisions previously carried out by teams of professional

editors, proofreaders, abstractors and reviewers. As a result, a great deal of potentially dangerous and irresponsible material is circulated freely on the internet, mingling unchallenged with useful and reliable information. As yet, we do not see this formidable danger as clearly as we see the danger of air, water and soil pollution.

Access to information was, until recently, a problem. Now, its overflow is the biggest threat. We may be underestimating the problem, since the impact of excessive information on the brain has been studied far less than, say, the destructive effect of obesity.

Access to quality information does not boil down to internet access. Serious academic materials, formerly freely exchanged through inter-library loans and other means, are much harder to obtain now that copyright legislation drawn up in the paper era was applied to the digital information environment without any consideration for its specifics. The public has found a way to access free, open research and educational resources. However, these resources are mostly inferior to those with limited access, which even major research institutions afford with difficulty, as charges begin to snowball.

The public information sector is shrinking. Leading experts cite the privatization, concentration and monopolization of information resources as among the biggest obstacles to information access. The potentially serious results of this situation have not been properly evaluated as yet.

All nations, with few exceptions, say they are building 'knowledge societies'. Paradoxically, many think civilization has entered a new developmental stage, even before a universally acceptable scientific definition of the phenomenon has been established. Depending on who uses the term, for what and where, a 'knowledge society' is now an inspiring ideal, now a propaganda cliché, now an ultimate goal, now a political subterfuge, now utopia, now reality. What is it we are building, after all?

Analysis often reveals clear distortions in the theory and practice of many countries' policies for building an information society, as they tend to accentuate economic efficiency and put technological and infrastructural development at the fore – often at the expense of information content, formation, storage and accessibility, the status of information institutions and, last but not least, the public and socio-cultural results of ICT development. The reason is that the contemporary world, dominated by neo-liberal ideology and striving for ever greater unification, is ruled for the most part by economic experts, financiers and lawyers, whose professional priorities are often at odds with the most general philosophical patterns of development.

Even this approach does not constitute the greatest concern in ICT. There is an even more significant danger – an ever-increasing worldwide use of information to influence public thinking, which is all the simpler, as entertainment becomes more prevalent as the motive for information searches, often at the expense of education, cognition, career and philosophical understanding of the world. People are ever more baffled by reality as it becomes more and more tangled and they cannot see into its depth. Many have difficulty in expressing relatively complex ideas in their native language. There are increasingly fewer people with an encyclopaedic education, capable of profound comprehensive analyses. Public interest in reading serious texts is subsiding, and reading in general is becoming a marginal pastime. This is also one of the principal global problems.

Instead of vigorously applying ourselves to intellectual work and the search

for independent decisions and self-expression, it has become easy to succumb to the temptation of borrowing others' ideas and words because contemporary culture provides every opportunity for compilation. Instead of hard facts, we are offered cosy, easily adaptable virtual reality and unassuming copies instead of scarce and long-awaited originals.

The internet and other ICTs have an impact on the creation, use and circulation of content, and a strong influence on the social and family lives of young people and their communities. Hitherto unheard-of means of communication paradoxically increase the generation gap, as they destroy the traditional methods of passing behavioural patterns, ethics, and moral and cultural values from the old to the young.

Universal access to good quality topical information would be impossible without a smooth system of digital preservation. If we don't do anything today to store and preserve digital information, we will have no access to it tomorrow.

No expert can say for sure how to select valuable information for storage and preserve it for future generations, as technologies rapidly replace each other. Vast amounts of information were lost irretrievably even before we realised its value. In the era of analogue information, people made a point of storing everything or almost everything. Now we have lost generally accepted criteria of selecting content for long-term storage. Besides, it's impossible to preserve everything. We have the right to forget just as we have the right to remember.

Technological solutions advanced by many companies often avoid answering the pivotal questions: who should store information, what information, where, when, how and for whom, and who should pay for storage. It's impossible to store digital information for ever – files cannot be shelved like books. Storage is an unbroken, consecutive and purposeful process which accounts for permanent changes of formats, equipment and technology. Digital information storage is not only a technical challenge, more a philosophical, political, organizational, financial and moral problem. It took several thousand years for humankind to learn how to preserve analogue information in libraries and archives. It created a formidable infrastructure for the purpose, with memory institutions, policies, laws, standards and a personnel training system, while the keepers of electronic information are just taking their first steps. If they are to go in the right direction, they need support from research and political action at national and international levels.

Normal life and work in the new information era demand the formation of public media and a certain level of reader competence, without which it is impossible to find one's bearings in the sea of information, search, comprehend, interpret, use and store information, realize who has created it and what for, who is circulating it and with what purpose.

Such competences promote social integration and bridge the gap between the informed and the under-informed. Media information competence allows access to knowledge about the functions and use of media and information systems and helps individuals, organizations and public institutions to meet technical, economic and social challenges, protect themselves from the impact of negative information, and improve their quality of life.

The formation of public media information competence – not only of school students but also employed adults who graduated years ago from universities – is one of our most recent top priorities.

We are facing many problems – access to ICT, environment, the legal regulation of the information field, the concentration of media outlets and their evolution into tabloids, the teaching of public media literacy and readership competence. Another problem is the availability of information in the users' main languages – universal access to information is largely dependent on this.

According to certain forecasts, 90% of the 7,000 languages spoken today will die out by the end of the 21st century, and with them, their knowledge and view of world culture. Linguistic monitoring in cyberspace shows that marginalization is the lot not only of minority languages, but also of nearly all the main European languages, in which world culture and science were created – French, Spanish, Russian, German, Italian and Portuguese. That's why it is crucially important to develop and use all kinds of tools for the preservation and promotion of multilingualism.

Swept up by ICT, globalization dooms languages to rapid extinction. This process can be stopped, or at least slowed, if we develop multilingualism in cyberspace. Meanwhile, only 7% of the world's languages are represented there.

The problem of languages must become more prominent in international political discussions. With this goal in mind, researchers from thirty countries drew up a resolution that clarified the need for a world summit on multilingualism at head-of-state level. It was adopted by the second international conference, Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace, in Yakutsk, Russia, July 12-14, 2011.

Due to ICT, public life is becoming increasingly transparent and easier to control – which is good, on the whole. However, when this also applies to private life, it is not so good. Many social media users give up privacy voluntarily, unaware of the destructive effect of such openness.

Several generations of access to the internet and communication services seriously test human behaviour, values and motivations. Traditional social patterns and national unity are also tested worldwide. This is especially pronounced in developing countries, as centuries-old moral precepts recede and crime involving ICT is skyrocketing.



International Conference on Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace, in Yakutsk, Russian Federation, 2011

© IFAP Russian Committee

In this age of virtual communication, humankind can no longer guarantee both security and privacy. We have to choose one of the two – at least today. The utter transparency of private life, real not virtual, is the lot of people who can no longer do without computers, the internet and mobile phones. This appears to be another formidable man-made challenge, no less important than the imperative of finding a reasonable balance between freedom and responsibility, and rights and duties in the information and communication sphere.

Establishing a new set of all-embracing ethics for the global information society is a burning issue. Many nations regard cyberspace as a source of hazard. Wary of alien cultural influence, they attempt to control their portions of cyberspace and work out ethical norms for information on their own. But then, cyberspace transcends political, administrative and other borders. If we are to preserve the unity and openness of the internet, we must make information society ethics a major research discipline and offer international support to the emergent universal ethical principles. To do this, influential world actors must look beyond their own economic, political and cultural issues.

In short, ICTs have given us services and opportunities which were unthinkable only 15 or 20 years ago. They have also given us huge global challenges that we must meet together. Convergent nano, bio and cognitive technologies, developing in close connection with ICT, have almost as great an impact on the world socio-cultural situation, and therefore on the formation of policies for the knowledge society.

How should we analyse the situation, integrate and generalize the results of so many narrowly-focussed studies, make due conclusions, evaluate them and act accordingly? How does the international interdisciplinary approach affect how we harness and build meta-knowledge from its fragmented steps across the borders of so many academic disciplines?

The Information for All Programme was launched 13 years ago in response to the emergence and consequences of the information society. Don't forget that response to particular processes and their repercussions was the formative goal of IFAP, and one which has been proved abundantly clear since its establishment. Suffice it to mention that 67% of nations taking part in the latest review of its work called for IFAP to step up its work.

IFAP is instrumental because it highlights the most general problems of the information society and helps all who need to avoid the ever-present risks – if not to overcome them in practice, then at least to become aware of them. The massive scale of the Programme is sometimes criticized, although it is its fundamental merit, along with its combined interdisciplinary and interdepartmental approach, which alone can help to develop a sound view of the global situation, single out the most topical trends, and store up pioneering knowledge, particularly in the ICT sphere.

Much has been done for today.

A wide community of professional experts from many countries has gathered round the Information for All Programme. Its close partner contacts have evolved into promising long-term cooperations, particularly with IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations) and MAAYA (World Network for Linguistic Diversity).

Diverse and numerous IFAP projects and events represent all the priorities of its Strategic Plan. Being implemented in almost all parts of the world, they involve political activists, government officers, researchers, librarians,



1. International Conference on MIL for Knowledge Societies, Moscow, 2012 - © IFAP Russian Committee

2. FOSSC-Oman, 2013 - © Information Technology Authority, Oman



writers, publishers, schoolteachers, university professors, service and content providers, media workers, businesspeople, and representatives of international organizations, national UNESCO commissions and NGOs from more than 150 countries.

IFAP events have many forms – conference, roundtables, expert meetings, seminars, workshops, consultations; the preparation, translation and publication of books, articles and analytical reports; the elaboration of global plans and concept-setting documents; research and scientific monitoring; organizing cooperation; the establishment of competence centres; public addresses and lectures and media publications; and, last but not least, the establishment of specialized virtual libraries, websites, portals and databases.

A framework policy for building an information society, collections of analytical and methodology materials, and recommendations on all IFAP priorities which make up the humanitarian dimension of the information society – information policy, accessibility and preservation, Media Information Literacy, information ethics, and multilingualism in cyberspace – have been published and are a great success.

It is no exaggeration to say that, to an extent, IFAP personifies entire UNESCO activities in cyberspace-related fields. No nation, no group of nations, and no specialized international agency feels as assured and efficient on their own in these fields as UNESCO, the world’s leading humanitarian organization inspired by noble ideals and attracting the world’s most brilliant minds to cooperate.



Evgeny Kuzmin  
Chairman of the Information for all Programme

## UNESCO MOURNS THE LOSS OF PAST IFAP CHAIRMAN, KAROL JAKUBOWICZ



Following a period of illness, Mr Karol Jakubowicz, former Chairman of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Information for All Programme (IFAP), passed away in hospital on Sunday 28 April, 2013 in his native city of Warsaw. From 2008 to 2010, Mr Jakubowicz served as Chairman of IFAP. He contributed freely of his time, energy and intellect to nurture IFAP's growth. This in turn led to the forming of international partnerships that advanced work in the IFAP priority areas, the holding of capacity-building events (especially in developing and transition regions), and the creation of tools and resources for building, reviewing and implementing national information policies. It was also under his watchful guidance that the current IFAP Strategic Plan was drafted. An internationally recognized expert, he brought to IFAP experience gained from years of distinguished service in many national and international positions. These included, amongst others, his roles as Director of Strategy and Analysis at the Polish broadcasting regulatory authority, and as Chairman of the Steering Committee on Media and New Communication Services at the Council of Europe. Mr Jakubowicz is mourned by his family. He will be greatly missed by the communities of information and communication professionals at UNESCO and other institutions where he served, by policy makers and countless others who benefitted from his professional insights, speaking appearances, Youtube videos and writings. Mr Jakubowicz's contribution and impact on the area of information policy will live on.

# PRIORITY AREAS AND PROJECTS

# 2008-2013

## ■ ■ LIST OF PROJECTS HELD WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF IFAP

1. Empowering rural livelihoods (China, 2008-2012)
2. Revitalizing Palestinian libraries through the deployment of open source software (Palestine, 2008)
3. Information literacy training-the-trainers workshops (International, 2008-2009)
4. Asia Pacific regional meeting on the ethical dimension of the information society (Vietnam, 2008)
5. Delivering universal access and public value of the internet: A goal of national information policy (India, 2008)
6. Team teaching English (Thailand, 2008)
7. E-Government model for World Heritage cities (Latin America, 2008)
8. International conferences on multilingualism in cyberspace (Russian Federation, 2008)
9. Writ of Habeas Data Forum (Phillipines, 2008)
10. Where there is a FLAME there is a fire (Namibia, 2008-2009)
11. Our city, our voices: Immigrant newscasts in the digital age (USA, 2008-2009)
12. First consultation meeting of National IFAP Committees (Russian Federation, 2009)
13. Promoting preservation and sharing of health information through the establishment of health information systems (Tanzania, 2009)
14. It's deafway! Deaf community creating a tool of their own for development (Brazil, 2009)
15. First Conference on Info-Ethics for Latin America and the Caribbean (Latin America and Caribbean, 2009)

16. Sub-regional Forum on Information for All 'Creating a responsive infostructure' (Philippines, 2009)
17. Information ethics and e-government high level seminar (South Africa, 2009)
18. Conference on 'Citizenship for the information society: Media education and civic participation' (Turkey, 2009)
19. Establishment of Open Source Archival Repository and Preservation System (International, 2009-2010)
20. IFAP Days at the Annual International Crimea Conference (Ukraine, 2008–2013)
21. Fifth consultation meeting on Action Line C10 (Switzerland, 2010)
22. Teaching information ethics in Africa: Current status, opportunities and challenges (Botswana, 2010)
23. Training workshop on information ethics and e-government (South Africa, 2010)
24. 5th session of the Asia Pacific Information Network: 'Information policy: Accessibility and information literacy' (Philippines, 2010)
25. Expert meeting on Media and Information Literacy indicators (Thailand, 2010)
26. National Information Society policy: A template (Argentina, 2010)
27. Access to information, accountability and transparency in the Andean region (Latin America, 2010-2012)
28. Digital cities: an opportunity for Ecuador (Ecuador, 2011)
29. Biblioteca Virtual (Latin America, 2011)
30. 2nd international conferences on Multilingualism in Cyberspace (Russian Federation, 2011)
31. Information ethics expert meeting (Mauritania, 2011)
32. Regional IFAP Conference 'Building Caribbean knowledge societies' (Grenada, 2011)
33. WSIS Action Line C10 meeting (Geneva, 2011)
34. International conferences on Digital Information Preservation (Russian Federation, 2011)
35. International conference on Media and Information Literacy for Knowledge Societies (Russian Federation, 2012)
36. Workshop on 'Information ethics and internet governance - identity, design, data and preservation' at 7th Internet Governance Forum (Azerbaijan, 2012)

37. Conference on 'The memory of the world in the digital age' (Canada, 2012)
38. 3rd International Symposium on Multilingualism in Cyberspace (France, 2012)
39. 'NetLang: Towards multilingual cyberspace' (International, 2012)
40. 7th international conference on 'Cooperation and promotion of information resources in science and technology / COINFO'12' (China, 2012)
41. Research study on the use of free and open source software (FOSS), open data and open standards (LA and the Caribbean, 2012-2013)
42. MIL capacity-building for young leaders in Burkina Faso (Burkina Faso, 2013)
43. IFAP special event: Information and knowledge for all, emerging trends and challenges - WSIS +10 Review (France, 2013)
44. Executive trainings on foundations of government information leadership for senior policy-makers from East African countries. (Uganda, 2013)
45. International conference: Internet and socio-cultural transformations in information society (Russian Federation, 2013)
46. WSIS C10 Action Line research study: Ethical and societal challenges of the information society presented at the WSIS +10 Review (France, 2013)
47. InfoEthics handbook for policy makers (International, 2013)
48. 'Emerging ethical issues in science and technology' at the 8th Ordinary Session of COMEST (Slovakia, 2013)
49. Global expert meeting on new disparities in the development of knowledge societies, respect for freedom of expression on the internet, and the creation of a fair and multicultural information society. (Latvia, 2013)
50. International Observatory on the Information Society (International, 2009-2013)
51. Information literacy for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation and mitigation in selected Asia-Pacific countries (Philippines, 2013)
52. Oman's first Free and Open Source Software Conference (Oman, 2013)
53. Translation: Policy guidelines for the development and promotion of open access (2013)
54. Regional Media and Information Literacy capacity-building event for Eastern Caribbean educators and policy-makers (Saint Lucia, 2013)

55. Capacity-building workshop for policy-makers to support regional implementation of UNESCO's Open Access Policy & Guidelines for 32 Member States and Territories (Jamaica, 2013)
56. Mapping MIL teaching strategies in selected ASEAN countries (Philippines, 2013)
57. Executive training in government information leadership (Myanmar, 2013)
58. Riga Global Meeting of Experts on the Ethical Aspects of Information Society (Latvia, 2013)
59. Safe and Secure Youth.Net (Macedonia, 2013)
60. International Conference on Theory and Practice of Electronic Governance (South Korea, 2013)
61. Digitization of Grenada's National Archives (Grenada, 2013)

# INFORMATION ACCESSIBILITY







## INFORMATION ACCESSIBILITY

This working group addresses a range of issues linked to ensuring the availability, accessibility and affordability of information, as well as addressing the specific needs of people with disabilities in order to facilitate their participation in knowledge societies. The working group's interventions include contributing to policy resources and guidelines, working with various stakeholders to support and promote open standards, conducting capacity-building and raising awareness amongst key stakeholders.



Omar Al Shanfari (Sultanate of Oman)  
Chair of the Working Group on  
Information Accessibility

*Mr. Omar Salim Al-Shanfari (Sultanate of Oman; [omar.alshanfari@ita.gov.om](mailto:omar.alshanfari@ita.gov.om)) is Bureau Member of the IFAP Intergovernmental Council and Chair of the IFAP Working Group on Information Accessibility. Currently, Mr. Al-Shanfari is the Deputy CEO of the Information Technology Authority (ITA) in the section of Infrastructure & e-Services in the Sultanate of Oman. In this position, he directs and leads the technical aspects of ITA's activities related to strategic planning, governance and advisory, e-government services, information security and infrastructure and e-services. From 1991 to 2007, Mr. Al-Shanfari worked as Project Manager, Senior Procurement Strategist and Consultant for Petroleum Development Oman. He is a board member of different SAOG and SOAC companies (publicly traded and private companies) and heads the Omani participation in the Scientific Cooperation Committee of the Gulf Cooperation Council.*

## NATIONAL EXPERTS NOMINATED BY MEMBER STATES TO THE WORKING GROUP ON INFORMATION ACCESSIBILITY IN 2012

### **BULGARIA**

Mrs Hristina Dobreva  
*Senior expert, Information Society Policy Expert, Ministry of Transport, IT and Communications*

### **CHINA**

Mr Ping Sun  
*Researcher & Editor-in-Chief, Research Integrity in China Website, Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China*

### **ETHIOPIA**

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*Head of Office for Government Communication Affairs*

Ms Haimanot Zeleke Workineh  
*Director, Information Service Directorate, Government Communication Affairs Office*

### **GUATEMALA**

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*Dean of the Faculty of Communication Science, University Mariano Galvez de Guatemala*

Ms Miriam F. Ramirez Pinto De Galvez  
*Professor, University of the Valley of Guatemala*

### **HUNGARY**

Ms Katalin Fehér  
*Senior lecturer and new media researcher, and senior research fellow, Taylor's University, Budapest Business School*

### **IRAN**

Mr Sirous Alidousti  
*Director of the Iranian Research Institute for Information Science and Technology, Ministry of Science, Research and Technology*

### **LESOTHO**

Dr Matš'eliso Moshoeshoe-Chadzingwa  
*Communication and Information Committee Chairperson & University Librarian & Associate professor, National University of Lesotho*

### **PAKISTAN**

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### **POLAND**

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### **SLOVAKIA**

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### **SLOVENIA**

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### **UKRAINE**

Mr Vladimir Gritsenko  
*Director of the International Research and Training Center For Information Technologies and System, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine*

# IFAP PROJECTS

## FEATURED PROJECTS

- ▶ Access to information, accountability and transparency in the Andean region (Latin America, 2010-2012)
- ▶ Oman's first Free and Open Source Software Conference (FOSSC-Oman 2013)
- ▶ It's deaf way! Deaf community creating a tool of their own for development (Brazil, 2009)
- ▶ Executive training in government information leadership (Myanmar, 2013)
- ▶ Executive training on foundations of government information Leadership (Uganda, 2013)

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Delivering universal access and public value of the internet: a goal of national information policy (India, 2008)
- ▶ E-Government model for World Heritage cities (Latin America, 2008)
- ▶ Seminars in the framework of the Annual International Crimea Conference (Ukraine, 2008–2013)
- ▶ 5th Session of the Asia Pacific Information Network: 'Information policy: Accessibility and information literacy' (Phillipines, 2010)
- ▶ All-Russian Programme on Universal Access from Public Libraries to Legal and Other Socially Significant Information (Russian Federation and Belarus, 2010-2011)
- ▶ Research study on the use of free and open source software (FOSS), open data and open standards (Latin America and the Caribbean, 2012-2013)
- ▶ Translation: Policy guidelines for the development and promotion of open access (2013)
- ▶ Capacity-building workshop for policy-makers to support regional implementation of UNESCO's Open Access Policy & Guidelines for 32 Member States and Territories (Kingston, Jamaica, 2013)

# ACCESS TO INFORMATION, ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY IN THE ANDEAN REGION

Improving public governance and promoting greater citizen involvement in Bolivia and Ecuador

In many countries, national norms have been established and various initiatives developed aimed at reinforcing access to information held by public institutions. However, at the municipal level, challenges of access to information and accountability persist and often limit the extent to which the policy initiatives are implemented.

In the Andean region, access to information and transparency are still pressing issues in public governance. From 2006 to 2008, UNESCO Quito, with the support of the Government of Spain, implemented the IFAP project 'Electronic Government Model for World Heritage Cities', which promoted an e-government model adapted to the context and reality of the cities of the Andean region. The project focused on three of these cities: Cartagena das Indias (Colombia), Cusco (Peru) and Quito (Ecuador).

As a follow-up to the earlier Andean project, a new regional initiative focused on promoting access to information, transparency and greater citizen involvement in local government in Bolivia and Ecuador was launched. This project concentrated its efforts on improving public governance in Bolivia and Ecuador and on identifying each country's specific needs. To accomplish this task, a baseline study was conducted in the municipalities of El Alto, Batallas, Coroico and Potosí, in Bolivia; and Ambato,

## ■ GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: Regional

REGION: Latin America and the Caribbean

COUNTRY: Bolivia and Ecuador

YEAR: 2006-2012

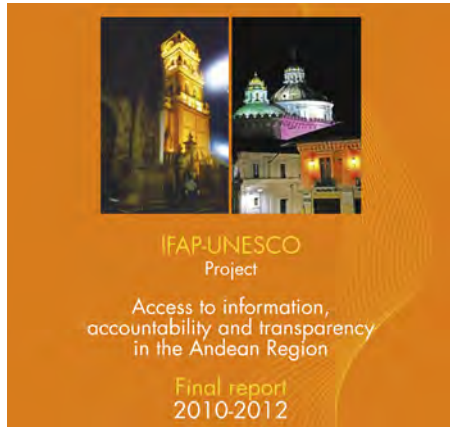
### PARTNERS:

- Ayni, Education with ICTs for development
- Colnodo, Strategic use of Internet for development
- Colombia Digital
- Fundación Redes, For sustainable development
- Fundación Jubileo
- Grupo Faro, Research and action for public welfare
- Imaginar, Research Center for the Information Society

### RESOURCES:

- Publication: Final Report "Access to information, accountability and transparency in the Andean region"
- Summary of Activities 2006-2008: Electronic Government Model for World Heritage Cities (Cartagena de Indias, Cusco and Quito)
- Videos on the Electronic Government Model for World Heritage Cities project





1. Project final report
  2. Event on public awareness about e-government
  3. Capacity-building for key stakeholders
- © UNESCO/IFAP



Cuenca, Guayaquil and Santa Cruz-Galápagos, in Ecuador.

The study revealed the need to standardize adoption processes for e-government in the public sector, which includes standardizing governmental websites and processes of sensitizing the citizenry about ICTs, access to information and e-government.

To implement this project, alliances were established with the public sector: in Bolivia with the Agency to Develop Bolivia's Information Society (ADSIB) and in Ecuador with the Ministry of Telecommunications and Ecuador's Information Society (MINTEL).

Municipal staff and citizens have benefitted from the delivery of capacity-building and out reach programmes and the development

of e-governance tools.

In Bolivia, one of the main outcomes of the project was a Citizen Guide on Public Budgeting, which helped municipal workers and civil society to understand the importance of the public budget in promoting transparency of the public administration.

In Ecuador, the Manual of Standards for Local Governments, promoted the use of international standards and best practices in management of public information. As part of the public awareness campaign on e-government and the Information Society, a major event Digital Cities: an opportunity for Ecuador was held in Quito, in November 2011, and brought together people from different national institutions.

The IFAP-UNESCO project 'Access to information, accountability and transparency in the Andean Region' has delivered tools, skills and provided recommendations for supporting municipalities in their efforts to implement e-government and enhance transparency. The activity has also served to improve dialogue and enabled citizens, civil-society organizations, academic institutions and other interested sectors to actively participate in public life.

## OMAN'S FIRST FREE AND OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE CONFERENCE

### Promoting FOSS solutions and training in the Arab region

The Free & Open Source Software (FOSS) Initiative has been part of the Sultanate of Oman's ICT strategy adopted in the last few years to develop the IT Sector in the country and region. The initiative focuses on raising awareness and capacity-building, as well as encouraging the development and deployment of FOSS solutions.

Since 2010, over five hundred entrepreneurs and professionals, as well as small and medium enterprises (SMEs), have received free specialized training on different FOSS technologies. In addition, several train-the-trainers programmes that targeted academic instructors and IT professionals from higher education institutions were conducted. This training has a multiplier effect as it enabled them to acquire various certifications from the Linux Professional Institute (LPI) and thereby position them to lead

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: Regional

REGION: Arab States

COUNTRY: Sultanate of Oman

YEAR: 2013

PARTNERS:

- Communication and Information Research Centre (CIRC) at Sultan Qaboos University (SQU)
- Information Technology Authority (ITA) of Oman

RESOURCES:

- FOSS Conference website

training programmes in the future.

Following the country's efforts in promoting FOSS initiatives, the Sultanate's first Free and Open Source Software Conference (FOSSC-



The Oman FOSS conference has attracted key international speakers

© Information Technology Authority, Oman

Oman, 2013) was held in Muscat, from 18-19 February, 2013. The event, which was jointly organized by the Communication and Information Research Centre (CIRC) at Sultan Qaboos University (SQU) and the Information Technology Authority (ITA), attracted both international and regional experts, ICT professionals, staff, students, and the broader FOSS community.

As a follow-up to the conference, three FOSS labs were launched during 2013 at national universities. A FOSS mirror server was also established at Sultan Qaboos University (SQU). These initiatives facilitated access to FOSS applications both in Oman and the Arab region, and have contributed to the wider sharing of knowledge about FOSS's local and regional developments. The mirror server is hosted by SQU at the URL: [mirror.squ.edu.om](http://mirror.squ.edu.om).

The FOSS Conference has served to catalyse training events in other Arab States and initiate efforts aimed at the establishment of a regional FOSS centre. These events have also provided a platform to present IFAP's work and recommendations in its information access priorities. As part of its effort to improve access to IFAP's policy resource and ensure that policy-makers and other key stakeholders in the Arab region benefit from IFAP's work the Government of Oman is supporting the production of

Arabic translations of various IFAP documents. The first two publications to benefit from this support are the 'National Information Society Policies: A template' and 'Policy Guidelines for the Development and Promotion of Open Access'. Once released regional capacity-building workshops and events to support awareness and their use will be conducted.

1. Free Open Source Software Conference, Muscat, Oman
2. Women had strong presence in the Oman FOSS conference
3. Over 800 people from academia, business, industry, and entrepreneurs have attended the Oman FOSS conference.

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## IT'S DEAF WAY!

### Deaf community creating a tool of their own for development

As part of its Information Accessibility mandate, IFAP is undertaking various actions to contribute to the development and empowerment of disadvantaged groups. People with disabilities often have difficulties accessing information due to factors relating to the accessibility, affordability and availability of information. For this reason, efforts focused on addressing the information needs of people with disabilities require specific attention. It is therefore important to inform people with disabilities of the role that information and knowledge plays in their social inclusion and to develop their capacities to access and use them. Building awareness of these concerns amongst civil society and local governments is another critical step towards creating the necessary enabling environment and dialogue required to ensure the full inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of community life.

IFAP's sponsorship of an initiative benefiting the deaf community in the north-east of Brazil provides an example of a practical response to this challenge. In order to strengthen the capacities of this community, IFAP cooperated with the International Service Brazil, the National Federation of Education and Integration of the Deaf (FENEIS), and the World Federation of the Deaf, under the initiative 'Practica de Projetos'. This initiative addressed the capacity-building needs of the local deaf community. It is led by a deaf group in Recife and aims at teaching and sharing knowledge about 'Project Development' and 'Project Cycles'.

#### ■ GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: National

REGION: Latin America and the Caribbean

COUNTRY: Brazil

YEAR: 2009

PARTNERS:

- International Service Brazil
- National Federation of Education and Integration of the Deaf (FENEIS)
- World Federation of the Deaf

RESOURCES:

- Video: guide on the preparation of projects by FENEIS

The initiative used the Brazilian sign language 'Libras' in conjunction with visual formats for deaf-to-deaf peer education via internet websites.

To support this project, IFAP provided a grant of USD 5,000 in order to share knowledge and train deaf citizens. In particular, the money was used to produce a guidebook including designs as well as a DVD manual with sign language, which were distributed in Brazil and other deaf communities around the world. Also, free website resources were updated and used to enable a wider distribution of accessible materials. Finally, with the aid of IFAP, the establishment of their own leading tools has enabled deaf citizens in Brazil as well as in other Portuguese speaking countries to develop and address the needs of disadvantaged and non-literate populations in rural areas.



## EXECUTIVE TRAINING IN GOVERNMENT INFORMATION LEADERSHIP

Providing access to information and building knowledge societies in Myanmar

The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) recognized that the appropriate use and application of information and communication technologies (ICTs) presents opportunities to support the achievement of international human development goals. Realizing this potential requires governments and stakeholders to map out and implement holistic, forward-looking, sustainable national information and knowledge strategies. These strategies must in turn be well integrated into broader national development plans. WSIS in its Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action has identified key areas relevant to the advancement of all countries, particularly the developing nations.

UNESCO's Executive Workshop on Government Information Leadership for the South Asia sub-region, held in Myanmar, contributed to the implementation of the WSIS goals. The event was organized within the framework of the Information for All Programme (IFAP) and in partnership with the United Nations University's (UNU), International Institute for Software Technology, and under the patronage of the Government of Myanmar's Ministry of Information and Ministry of Science and Technology. The event, held in Yangon from 4-8 November 2013, attracted participants from Mongolia, Thailand and from the host country Myanmar.

The workshop focused on ICT

### GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: Regional

REGION: South-Asia

COUNTRY: Myanmar

YEAR: 2013

#### PARTNERS:

- United Nations University's (UNU)
- International Institute for Software Technology
- Government of Myanmar's Ministry of Information and Ministry of Science and Technology

#### RESOURCES:

- National Information Society Policy: a Template

policy development and enhancing regional cooperation through the sharing of experiences and lessons. During the training, specific attention was given to the contribution that effective national policies and national Electronic Governance (EGOV) initiatives could make towards building knowledge societies.

IFAP's National Information Society Policy Template was an important resource for the workshop's activities. This publication was elaborated to support Member States in developing, reviewing and implementing their national information policy frameworks. Participants had the opportunity to apply the methodologies proposed in this guideline.

“ The highly interactive dialogue and exchange amongst the 30 senior policy makers participating in the event will enable emerging national and regional trends to be identified. The insights generated from these reflections will also provide valuable inputs to the Government of Myanmar as they begin crafting their first national E-Governance Master Plan and allow them to benefit from the experiences of their regional peers.

Rosa Gonzalez

UNESCO's Advisor for Communication and Information  
in the Bangkok Regional Office

The participants were mainly decision-makers and managers from government organizations in Myanmar and surrounding countries with responsibility for planning, managing and sustaining EGOV and IT initiatives in support of public policy objectives. A number of non-governmental stakeholders such as Chief Information Officers and CEOs from the private sector, as well as NGOs, also contributed to identifying emerging national/regional trends and needs. These insights provide useful inputs to the ongoing WSIS+10 review process, in

which UNESCO has responsibility for the global coordination of six Action Lines. Furthermore, they have also served to inform the preparation of Myanmar's new national information strategy.

The Yangon event was the second in a series of IFAP regional training events organized by UNESCO and UNU in 2013. The first event, held in Kampala, targeted East African countries and attracted participants from Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania and host country Uganda. Similar training events are planned for other regions in 2014.



Participants of the training 'Providing access to information, building knowledge societies', Yangon, Myanmar, November 2013.

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## EXECUTIVE TRAINING ON FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNMENT INFORMATION LEADERSHIP

Capacity-building and awareness-raising among policy makers in Kampala, Uganda

The event 'Executive Training on Foundations of Government Information Leadership' took place from 22-26 July 2013 in Kampala, Uganda. This important capacity-building forum targeted executive senior civil servants with key roles in directing national e-governance initiatives in Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania as well as the host country Uganda.

The event was conducted in cooperation with the Center for Electronic Governance at the United Nations University's International Institute of Software Technology (UNU-IST) and the Government of Uganda. Given its importance as an opportunity for senior-level operational regional cooperation, it was held under the patronage of the Ugandan Ministry of Information and Communication Technology, the Ministry of Local Government and the Ministry of Public Service. Key inputs to the event's technical preparation and coordination were also provided by the National Information Technology Authority and the Uganda Technology and Management University (UTAMU).

The Executive Training event focused on examining the enabling and facilitating role of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Electronic Governance (EGOV) programmes in supporting the implementation of government policies with a view to incorporating

### GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: Regional

REGION: Africa

COUNTRY: Uganda

YEAR: 2013

#### PARTNERS:

- United Nations University International Institute of Software Technology (UNU)
- National Information Technology Authority and the Government of Uganda
- Ugandan Ministry of Information and Communication Technology
- Ministry of Local Government
- Ministry of Public Service
- Uganda Technology and Management University (UTAMU)
- Center for Electronic Governance at UNU

#### RESOURCES:

- Training Manual: Uganda as a Knowledge Society

measures that improve the effectiveness and efficiency of programmes and the value they deliver to the public.

UNESCO provided substantive contributions in the form of two modules that focused on how the building of knowledge societies could be effectively integrated into national information policies and the e-Governance initiatives being

developed. The UNESCO approach is built on the methodologies developed by its Intergovernmental Information for All Programme (IFAP) and presented in the publication 'National Information Society Policy: A template'. The UNESCO sessions focused on the role of governments in supporting the development of knowledge societies. It also exposed participants to the analysis and use of e-readiness indicators as rapid assessment tools for understanding the current context. The roles of government interventions, public policy needs as well as adaptations that may be required in various sectors to foster the growth of knowledge societies were discussed. In addition, a number of exercises based on real-life case studies and scenarios served to deepen the reflection and learning process.

Most African governments have recently launched various initiatives aimed at developing and implementing policies, laws and plans that enhances their growth as knowledge societies. These developments have served to heighten recognition that in today's rapidly changing environment, public policies need to be constantly monitored, evaluated and updated in order to be effective and advance national strategic objectives. The IFAP Template was therefore seen as an important resource for ensuring policy relevance and enabling policy makers to effectively respond to the evolving national context.

Consequently, the executive training event supported participants in fulfilling their roles as national and regional champions of knowledge societies and key actors in the implementation of national information policy frameworks for universal access to information and knowledge in East Africa. In



Opening of the Executive Training on Foundations of Government Information Leadership in Kampala, Uganda, 22-26 July, 2013

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addition to building capacity around key themes central to their roles as public managers and decision/policy makers, the event made important contributions towards promoting awareness of national experiences as well as emerging trends. It also served to strengthen regional networks for cooperation in this important and rapidly evolving sector.

The training materials developed by UNESCO for this event have been disseminated as Open Educational Resources (OER). The use of the OER format is expected to facilitate the translation, local adaptation and re-use by others so as to increase the benefits of this training in Africa and potentially, across the whole world.

# INFORMATION FOR DEVELOPMENT





## INFORMATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

Information has an important role to play in addressing development issues, but this requires access to information as well as the availability of relevant and useful information. This Working Group has an important role to play in collecting case studies and supporting research on information development, promoting freedom of information and access to public information, as well as seeking to strengthen links between information and development policy.



Mohammed Sheya  
Chair of the Working Group on  
Information for Development

*Mr. Mohammed Shaaban Sheya (Tanzania; mssheya@hotmail.com) is an IFAP Bureau Member and chairs the IFAP Working Group on Information for Development. He is also the Deputy Permanent Delegate of the United Republic of Tanzania to UNESCO. He chaired Commission V during the 33rd Session of UNESCO's General Conference and the G77 + China Working Group on Communication and Information. Mr Sheya was Vice-Chairperson of the First Meeting of Experts on the Draft Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace and Vice Chairperson of the Executive Board of UNESCO. He has previously served as Director of the Centre for the Development and Transfer of Technology, Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology and as Associate Professor and Head of Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Dar es Salaam. He also taught microprocessor systems and telematics at the Abu Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics.*

## NATIONAL EXPERTS NOMINATED BY MEMBER STATES TO THE WORKING GROUP ON INFORMATION FOR DEVELOPMENT IN 2012

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### IRAN

Mr Sirous Alidousti  
*Director of the Iranian Research  
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Research and Technology*

### LATVIA

Mr Imants Freibergs  
*IT consultant, past president of the  
Latvian Information and Communications  
Technology Association*

### LESOTHO

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*Communication and Information  
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### LITHUANIA

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*Professor, Faculty of Informatics  
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*Executive Director of Foreign Office,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

### UKRAINE

Mr Vladimir Gritsenko  
*Director of the International Research  
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Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and  
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Ukraine*

### VENEZUELA

Mrs Irene Plaz Power  
*Researcher, Center for the Study of  
Social Transformations, Science and  
Knowledge, Venezuelan Institute for  
Scientific Research*

## IFAP PROJECTS

### FEATURED PROJECTS

- ▶ International conference on Internet and Socio-Cultural Transformations (Russian Federation, 2013)
- ▶ National Information Society Policy: a Template (International, 2010)
- ▶ Biblioteca Virtual (Latin America, 2011)
- ▶ Empowering rural livelihoods (China, 2008-2012)
- ▶ Revitalizing Palestinian libraries through the deployment of open source software (Palestine, 2008)

### OTHER ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Promoting preservation and sharing of health information through the establishment of health information systems (Tanzania, 2009)
- ▶ Where there is a FLAME there is a fire (Namibia, 2008-2009)



## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON INTERNET AND SOCIO-CULTURAL TRANSFORMATIONS

An attempt to develop a comprehensive understanding of the direction, dynamics, character, scope, driving forces, content and results of socio-cultural changes under the impact of the internet and other ICTs spreading worldwide

The internet has become a global, system-wide self-developing phenomenon, rather than a narrow functional technology, breeding a broad range of socio-cultural effects.

The international conference Internet and Socio-Cultural Transformations in Information Society took place in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk from 8–12 September, 2013 within the framework of the Russian chairmanship in the UNESCO Information for All Programme. This first-ever international forum on the topic was an attempt to develop a comprehensive understanding of the direction, dynamics, character, scope, driving forces, content and results of socio-cultural changes under the impact of the internet and other ICTs as they spread worldwide.

The conference's highlight was an interdisciplinary approach to discussing all these issues with the participation of both theoreticians and practical experts on information and communication, researchers in the social sciences and humanities – philosophers, sociologists, cultural anthropologists, historians and political scientists, as well as political and community activists, executives, creative writers, journalists

### ■ GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: International

REGION: Europe

COUNTRY: Russian Federation

YEAR: 2013

PARTNERS:

- Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation
- Federal Agency for Press and Mass Communications
- Government of the Sakhalin Region
- Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO
- Russian National IFAP Committee
- Interregional Library Cooperation Centre

RESOURCES:

- The Sakhalin Declaration on Internet and Socio-Cultural Transformations



and representatives of libraries, museums, archives, universities and other institutions of culture, science, education, civil society and the private sector from 46 countries around the world.

The participants focused their debates on the worldwide

Participants at the International conference Internet and Socio-Cultural Transformations in Information Society, Russian Federation, September 2013.

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socio-cultural changes in their educational, linguistic, legal and ethical aspects, nationally as well as internationally, emerging from the rapidly spreading use of ICTs, internet and communication services such as social networks and their impact and implications on individuals, communities and society as a whole.

During conference debates, participants pointed out the contradictory nature of social and cultural changes under the development of the internet in modern society, bringing both new opportunities for human development and previously unknown risks of dehumanization associated with the development of new technologies.

The Conference adopted the final document, The Sakhalin Declaration on Internet and Socio-Cultural Transformations, which has become the first ever international document to emphasize not only positive but negative consequences of the spreading use of the internet and other ICTs.

# PHOTO GALLERY

Press conference with  
Grigory Ordzhonikidze  
(Russian Federation)



Fuad Ali Al Yamani,  
UNESCO



Conference  
participants



Conference  
Opening



Alexander Khoroshavin,  
Governor of the Sakhalin  
Region

Photos: © Russian  
IFAP Committee



## THE SAKHALIN DECLARATION ON INTERNET AND SOCIO-CULTURAL TRANSFORMATIONS

International conference 'Internet and Socio-Cultural Transformations in the Information Society'

Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Russian Federation, 8-12 September, 2013

The International conference 'Internet and Socio-Cultural Transformations in the Information Society' was convened under the auspices of UNESCO's Information for All Programme (IFAP) in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Russian Federation, from 8 – 12 September, 2013. This conference is part of the activities of the Information for All Programme in the framework of the Russian Federation chairmanship of the IFAP Intergovernmental Council and is an important contribution to the implementation of the decisions of the World Summit on the Information Society (Geneva, 2003, and Tunis, 2005). The conference also contributes to the international review of this implementation (WSIS + 10 process), which was initiated at the beginning of 2013, in Paris.

The conference was organized in cooperation with UNESCO by the Russian Committee of the UNESCO Information for All Programme, the Interregional Library Cooperation Centre and the Government of the Sakhalin Region with the support of the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, the Federal Agency for Press and Mass Communications of the Russian Federation and the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO.

The interdisciplinary conference was attended by leading experts from 46 countries covering the fields of science, culture, education, communication and information, from international and national governmental and non-governmental organizations, researchers on philosophical, sociological and anthropological issues emerging from the growing use of the internet and other ICTs, governmental policy makers in the development of knowledge societies, managers of ICTs and media programmes from the private sector and civil society institutions, as well as executives from the Sakhalin political administration.

To accomplish their work, the participants held four plenary sessions, and five sessions divided into three specific themes:

Section 1. The internet as a socio-cultural phenomenon

Section 2. Contemporary socio-cultural processes

Section 3. On the road to knowledge societies

as well as two roundtables: Multilingualism in the Digital World and Libraries in the Digital World.

The participants focused their debates on the worldwide socio-cultural





changes in their educational, linguistic, legal and ethical aspects, nationally as well as internationally, emerging from the rapidly spreading use of ICTs, the internet and communication services such as social networks and their impact and implications on individuals, communities and society as a whole.

In conclusion of its work, the conference adopted the following Declaration:

During the last decades, humanity has experienced a true revolution in hitherto unknown ways and means of communication. The internet and other information and communication technologies are evolving and penetrating all realms of our life more intensely than ever. These advances generate new skills, ways of thinking and behavioural attitudes among individuals, especially among the younger generations, constantly leading to deeper, beneficial or disruptive, changes in society. However, research on these socio-cultural phenomena and their possible impact on future societies is lagging behind this rapid technological development.

The internet has become a global, system-wide self-developing phenomenon, rather than a narrow functional technology, breeding a broad range of socio-cultural effects.

Discourses related to concepts and policies of information and knowledge societies should take into account the following: ICTs are only one of the components of converging nano-, bio-, cognitive and other emerging technologies, which determine contemporary technological development and have an impact on global socio-cultural processes.

The internet and other contemporary information and communication platforms increasingly determine the process and forms by which culture is disseminated, and are increasingly becoming the most important media for group-based and individual interaction for a growing number of people, especially the younger generation.

This has a profound effect, not only on ways to create, use, consume and share information/content, but also on citizens, especially on both youth education and social life, offering new opportunities but widening the cultural gap and apparently increasing the loss of interconnection with traditional lines of conduct, moral and cultural values and ethical principles between generations.

Access to and use of ICTs, the internet and communication services among generations and countries are also challenging the values and behaviour of individuals, the social fabric of societies and even national integrity in much of the world, particularly in developing countries, with far reaching, impacts which are not yet fully understood, and consequences, which will increasingly require deeper interdisciplinary and inter-institutional public debates, research and studies.

The absence of a full and conceptual understanding of the specificities of the virtual world, leading to a direct transfer into a virtual environment of organizational models of interaction and governance established in the pre-digital era, creates a constantly widening range of problems. Ethical and legal bases for existence in cyberspace are not sufficiently analysed and studied, thus, creating room for abuse of technological capacities, which threaten the existing systems of social relations, in particular basic human rights and universal values.

The situation described above steadily increases the importance of promoting competencies (skills, knowledge and attitudes), encompassed by the term 'Media and Information Literacy', which guarantee safe and responsible use of networks, based on critical thinking, for free access to, production and exchange of information and knowledge across all linguistic, cultural and social groups. The necessity of developing these competencies becomes even more apparent in today's environment of information networks polluted with unreliable, unsafe and sometimes harmful content.

The traditionally established institutions and existing copyright laws guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights require major reappraisal with consideration to the specifics of using, consuming, sharing and creating works and services in the digital environment, in order to provide free access to information essential for survival, quality education, social participation and the development of research.

The conference agrees on the following recommendations:

All stakeholders should seek to facilitate the emergence of knowledge societies respecting human values and in line with the terms of the UNESCO Constitution based on four principles: promoting freedom of expression in traditional and new forms of media, including the internet; access to quality education for all; respect for cultural and linguistic diversity; and universal access to information and knowledge, especially in the public domain;

UNESCO, especially through the Information for All Programme (IFAP), should pursue in cooperation with relevant UN agencies, IGOs and NGOs the efforts for the elaboration and promotion of ethical, legal and societal principles and norms of conduct;

Member States and international organizations should follow this up by the implementation and monitoring of the recommendations of

all international and regional meetings of the post-WSIS period related to the ethical and socio-cultural changes and transformations in the emerging Global Information Society;

All stakeholders should encourage governments to enact and implement more effective national information society policies in support of inclusive social development and the promotion of intercultural dialogue, especially by reinforcing the right to use information and new means of communication (hardware and software) and by empowering citizens through the development of knowledge, skills and attitudes that would allow them to fully exercise those rights;

Member States should consider, and concerned international organizations should advocate for, updating national and international copyright and related rights legislation to operate better within the digital environment, adequately taking into account new ways to create, use, re-use and share contents and works. Amendments to copyright laws should facilitate non-commercial use of works; guarantee reasonable copyright terms; ensure the right to fully participate in culture; take into account new forms of expression; provide exceptions for libraries, museums, educational institutions and other public non-profit organizations to facilitate access to and preservation of works in the public interest. Member States should also adopt policies mandating the availability of works created with the support





of public funding in the public domain;

UNESCO and its Member States should continue to develop with the relevant IGOs and NGOs policies to enhance the presence (localization and content) of all languages in cyberspace, based on digital literacy, access to resources and promotion of participation, developing programmes of inclusion of knowledge from languages unrepresented on the internet, creating a comprehensive and sustainable set of indicators, and promoting a comprehensive view of the digital divide which encompasses the content and linguistic divide;

All stakeholders in cooperation with relevant IGOs, NGOs and UN agencies should undertake the creation of a global framework agreement of internet principles (including mechanisms for ensuring transparency and democratic accountability in the governance of the internet with a multi-stakeholder approach) as the basis for rebuilding the trust on which the internet necessarily rests;

All concerned stakeholders should engage with relevant information service providers in the development of decentralised, distributed socio-cultural network infrastructure and communication services which will respect the authenticity and reliability of the content, guarantee citizens' privacy, better quality/cost offers and provide alternative solutions to current centralised and controlled services;

Member States should strengthen existing discussion platforms involving all concerned stakeholders in a continuous interdisciplinary debate on socio-cultural transformations in knowledge societies. In particular, UNESCO/ IFAP should examine the possibility of creating an open forum to facilitate this global public discussion;

UNESCO and its Member States, in cooperation with relevant IGOs, NGOs, sister UN agencies and other stakeholders, should endorse the establishment of a permanent observatory on socio-cultural transformation due to the implementation of new technologies in order to monitor them and provide a picture of future changes and developments;

All stakeholders, especially in academia, and including students, should continue, starting from the full awareness of the state of the art, to engage in the development of interdisciplinary research and comprehensive study of the various socio-cultural challenges, especially in education, that are currently arising from technological progress, and the development of a global information society, its new institutions and social processes at local, national and international levels;

All stakeholders, especially governments, scholars and experts in academia, should strengthen the initiation of educational and awareness-raising programmes, especially among youth, on the socio-cultural transformations (ethical, legal, cultural and societal aspects of digital communication and media) caused by the use of ICTs and the internet, and on the definition of new terms linked to the emergence of the information society and knowledge societies, in order to raise citizens' capacities and competences in areas such as Media and Information Literacy for using ICTs and the internet effectively, safely and responsibly.

## NATIONAL INFORMATION SOCIETY POLICY: A TEMPLATE

The Tunis Agenda for the information society, adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), calls on 'those governments that have not yet done so to elaborate, as appropriate, comprehensive, forward-looking and sustainable national e-strategies, including ICT strategies and sectoral e-strategies, as an integral part of national development plans and poverty reduction strategies, as soon as possible and before 2010'.

As a concrete contribution to the WSIS decisions, IFAP has developed the publication National Information Society Policy: A template, a document designed to assist Member States in the formulation of national information policy frameworks.

The Template provides a toolbox to assist Member States in developing their National Information Society Policies (NISP). The template was developed under the guidance of IFAP's Intergovernmental Council and involved extensive consultation with broad-based stakeholders. The template is also aligned with the IFAP Strategic Plan (2008-2013) which was endorsed by UNESCO's Executive Board in October 2008.

The template provides a theoretical framework, which provides definitions of the main concepts used in this work and identifies sources of existing information that inform national information society policies. The template builds on this framework

### ■ GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: International

YEAR: 2010

PARTNERS:

- IFAP Information Society Observatory

RESOURCES:

- IFAP Strategic Plan (2008-2013)



and presents a methodology for the development of national information society policies, strategies and frameworks. Thus, the template offers a practical, capacity-building tool that enables diverse social actors (governments, enterprises, NGOs and other concerned stakeholders) to become effectively involved in the creation, implementation and updating of national information society policies.

The IFAP Information Society Observatory is continuously updated with new policy documents, best practice guides, books and other resources essential for informed policy-making. The IFAP Observatory and the template therefore have complementary and synergistic roles. The Observatory ensures that Member States can access the latest information from a wide global pool and the template provides the methodologies to support their efforts to adapt this information to their specific national needs.



## BIBLIOTECA VIRTUAL

### Design and publication of a digital library of youth policies in Latin America

Over the last few decades, Latin America has implemented a number of important youth-focused initiatives and youth policies. This has included the establishment of specialized government institutions such as secretariats, institutes and ministries, which have been undertaking the development of projects and strategic plans that address the needs of young men and women. One unforeseen consequence of this very positive and useful undertaking was the rapid growth and proliferation of studies and other assessment. However, although they contained considerable knowledge – best practices and relevant experiences essential for evidence-based policy-making – these resources were often dispersed and difficult to access.

Recognizing the critical importance of information management in ensuring efficient and effective access to this resource, Iniciativas para la Identidad y la Inclusion A. C., in cooperation with Portal de Juventud para América Latina y El Caribe, with the support of IFAP, established a digital library, the Biblioteca Virtual. Today, thanks to this project, access to high quality documents on youth policies in Latin America are readily available. In addition to supporting national youth endeavours, this has also contributed to the regional exchange of best practices and cooperation.

The Biblioteca Virtual contains over 640 documents from the following countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Cuba, Costa

#### ■ GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: Regional

REGION: Latin America and the Caribbean

COUNTRIES: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Cuba, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Uruguay and Venezuela

YEAR: 2011

#### PARTNERS:

- Iniciativas para la Identidad y la Inclusion, A. C.
- UNESCO and the Government of Spain
- Portal de Juventud para América Latina y El Caribe

#### RESOURCES:

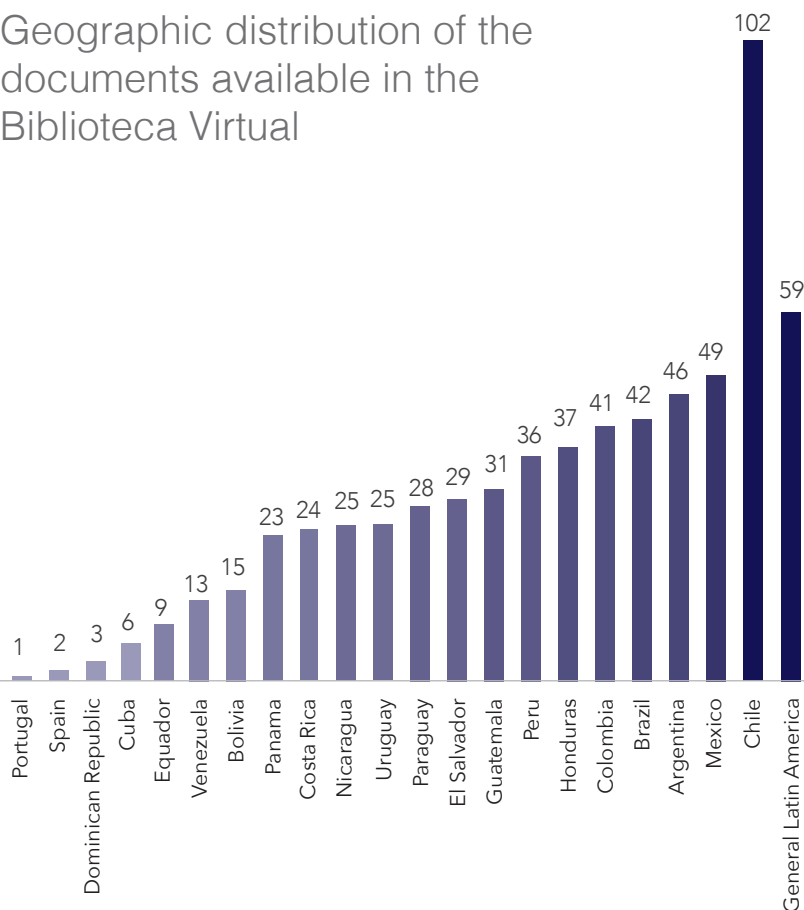
- Biblioteca Virtual website

Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Recognizing the considerable variation across the region with regard to ease of internet access, the digital library has been made available on two different platforms, through a website ([www.bibliojuventudal.org](http://www.bibliojuventudal.org)) and on CD-ROM.

The important contribution of this project as well as its tangible impacts has been greatly appreciated across Latin America by Governments, intergovernmental bodies, civil society and youth organizations.

## Geographic distribution of the documents available in the Biblioteca Virtual



## Message from the Secretary General of Ibero-American Youth Organization



The General Secretariat had the opportunity to search and utilize the Biblioteca Virtual on youth policies in Latin America and, therefore, I would like to express, on behalf of the Ibero-American Youth Organization, our esteem for the construction of this tool, which definitely bridges the gap in accumulated knowledge on the youth of this region.

We are completely convinced that the consolidation of this initiative will also also of enormous value for the international cooperation throughout the region, bringing priorities together, defining lines of institutional relevance and establishing routes for inter-institutional alignment and cooperation.

*Alejo Ramírez*  
Secretary-General of the Ibero-American Youth Organization

## EMPOWERING RURAL LIVELIHOODS

### Training events aimed at facilitating local economic and social development

Since 2003, more than 780 people in rural parts of China have been trained through initiatives undertaken within the framework of IFAP. These annual training events, which focus on developing regions in China, are being implemented by the Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China (ISTIC), acting in conjunction with the Ministry of Science and Technology of China, the Chinese National Commission for UNESCO, as well as local municipalities. The training is having a multiplier effect, bringing significant and tangible improvements to the lives of communities. It has focused on addressing local demand and needs by providing skills and information relevant to the problems that citizens and institutions in China's developing regions face. Trainees have been helped to acquire skills and information that directly impact their effectiveness, output and livelihoods. Subsequent skill transfers

#### ■ GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: National

REGION: Asia-Pacific

COUNTRY: China

YEAR: 2003-2013

#### PARTNERS:

- Ministry of Science and Technology of China
- Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China (ISTIC), the IFAP Focal Point in China
- Chinese National Committee for UNESCO
- Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of the Tibet Autonomous Region

#### RESOURCES:

- Chinainfo website
- Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China (ISTIC) website



Opening ceremony of the 2011 annual Chinese training event of IFAP, delivered by ISTIC, Longyan City, Fujian Province, China

© Longyan Municipal Government/Deng Shuiming

to other community members have, in turn, served to foster wider social improvements.

For example, farmers involved in fruit and animal production have been able to gain practical knowledge to improve crop and livestock yields, and to identify new markets for their produce. Local doctors have also been able to benefit from opportunities to improve their clinical skills and to provide various types of new emergency interventions, thereby enhancing the quality of healthcare they deliver.

From 2003-2012, eight IFAP

training activities have been organized in eight developing regions.

In 2012, the first Chinese training event was launched in Tibet. The event's primary target was to enhance the information literacy and information accessibility of research institutes and personnel in the Tibet region. It focused on five areas: the creation of a resource and services guide at the National Science and Technology Library of China; the introduction and utilization of the trans-regional information platform Chinainfo ([www.chinainfo.gov.cn](http://www.chinainfo.gov.cn)); the launching of a number of innovation initiatives at public scientific and technical information institutes to support the roll-out of improved products and services; as well as providing basic knowledge around the use and analysis of patents.

The training event was attended by more than 80 trainees from over 40 organizations. The event attracted significant media coverage with reports appearing in mainstream media outlets such as the Chinese media 'Science and Technology Daily', 'Tibet Daily', 'China Tibet News Website' and 'China Tibet Online' as well as micro-blogs. The growing awareness and the tangible impact of these training events in the districts where these events have been organized has in turn generated increased demand for further capacity-building events.

The training undertaken by ISTIC has yielded positive social effects, raised awareness of IFAP and is playing an important role in the process of disseminating information, essential for knowledge-based development in China's rural districts.



Participants of the 7th ColInfo Conference in Nanjing on 24 November 2012.

© UNESCO/ISTIC

# REVITALIZING PALESTINIAN LIBRARIES THROUGH THE DEPLOYMENT OF OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE

Enhance service delivery in Palestinian libraries by increasing productivity of their information systems

By working closely with national and regional partners to identify useful national experiences, IFAP is facilitating through its network the dissemination of best practices, and their replication. In Palestine, IFAP has supported the development of a manual which demonstrates how the useful life of computer hardware can be extended and its productivity increased. In many developing countries, post-conflict and post-disaster regions, organizations are simply unable to acquire new equipment. In such cases, strategies for extending the life of this equipment may be the only feasible solution. This approach is also environmentally friendly; by extending the useful life of equipment, the need to dispose of it may be significantly delayed.

On returning home from a workshop on free and open source software (FOSS) for libraries during the eIFL.net General Assembly in Vilnius in October 2005, Library Director Diana Sayej-Naser was inspired to approach the electrical engineering department at Bizreit University, near Ramallah, who were running a FOSS project. Within a few months, the library had transformed their old computers into a new high-speed network with access to the internet, online databases, the library catalogue and Ritaj, the university's academic web portal.

## ■ GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: National

REGION: Arab States

COUNTRY: Palestine

YEAR: 2008

PARTNERS:

- Electronic Information for Libraries: eIFL.net
- Birzeit University

RESOURCES:

- Extending the Life of Older Computer Hardware in Your Library Guide



As Ms. Sayej-Naser explained, 'The library terminals are always in high demand, so the students were delighted to have ten more computers available. However, at first it was hard to convince them to work with Pentium 1 and 2 computers which date back to 1993, because they expected them to be slow and unworkable'. The reaction of Nizar Khalil, one of the project beneficiaries, was typical, 'I found no difference between this Pentium 2 and the Pentium 4 computer located in the main hall of the library. The speed is great! What have you done with them to make them so fast?', said the fourth year arts student.

The answer is simple according

to Dr. Wasel Ghanem, head of the Electrical and Computer Systems Engineering department, 'We switched to free and open source software. All the computers run Linux and the memory was upgraded. One Pentium 4 acts as a server to the ten older computers which operate as thin clients. Now they perform just as well as the new computers running proprietary software'.

Dr. Ghanem believes that OSS offers great potential, especially for developing countries. 'OSS can provide significant cost savings, especially in the education sector. Hardware costs can be reduced by as much as 65% and licensing fees are eliminated'. But for Dr. Ghanem, it is not just about cost, it is also about quality. 'FOSS is flexible and sometimes superior to propriety solutions. Most importantly, it stimulates local innovation and transfer of knowledge by providing Palestinian software developers with the opportunity to contribute to the global OSS community, as well as OSS systems and applications'.

IFAP was instrumental in providing funding to support the capturing of these experiences. This work involved three distinct phases: Firstly, the drafting of a guide on how to set up and install a software solution in order to maximize the usable life of computer hardware. Secondly, the translation of the guide

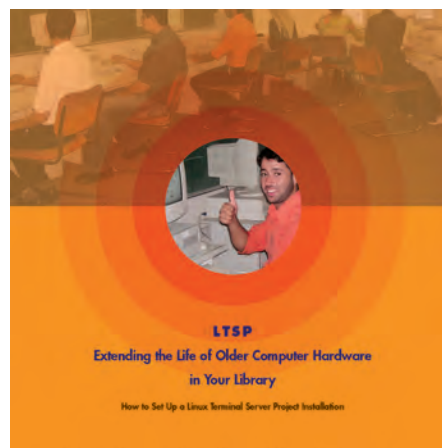
into Arabic, French, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish; and finally, the dissemination of the guide and promotion of its content.

In 2008, the project was presented at the eIFL.net General Assembly in Sofia, Bulgaria, where around 50 librarians from developing and countries in transition were in attendance. This guide has been taken to universities across the West Bank in Palestine to be distributed at dissemination events and workshops on how to implement a Linux Terminal Server Project (LTSP) solution. In order to reach even more countries and encourage further dissemination and replication, the guide has been made available via the eIFL.net website. eIFL.net has played an important role in this project by hosting the guide on their website and disseminating it through the discussion email list of the eIFL-OSS country coordinators.

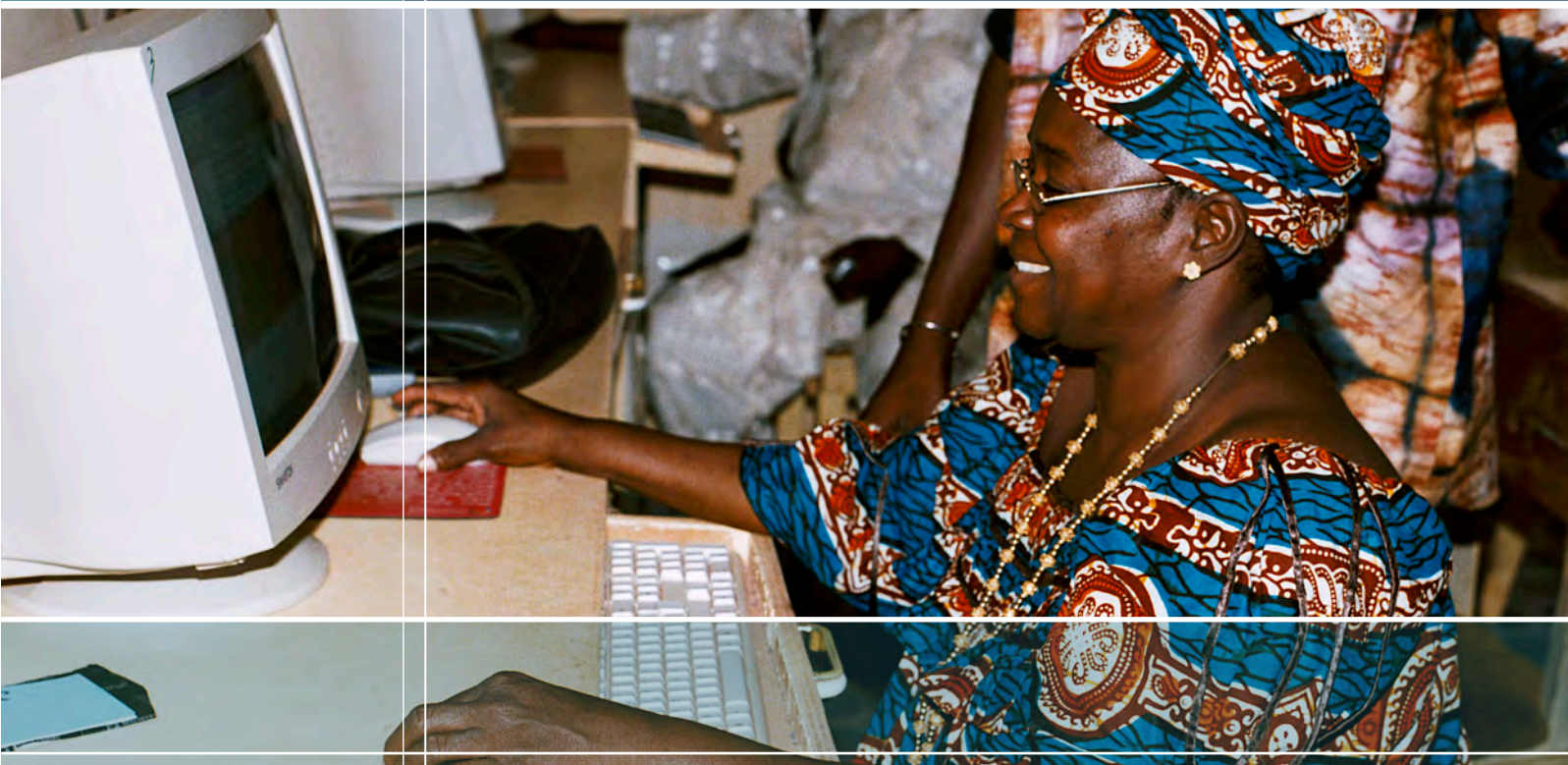


Students at Birzeit University Main Library, Palestine; and the Extending the Life of Older Computer Hardware in Your Library Guide cover.

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Asad Tom



# INFORMATION ETHICS





## INFORMATION ETHICS

Information ethics covers the ethical, legal and societal aspects of the applications of ICT and focuses on the realization of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in the information society. The working group seeks to better understand and raise awareness of the impacts of emerging technologies, contribute to enlarging the international debate on information ethics and support the development of guidelines in this field. By identifying emerging trends, the working group seeks to assist policy makers in developing appropriate responses to the evolving social use and application of ICT and content.



*Andrejs Vasiljevs*

Chair of the Working Group on  
Information Ethics

*Mr. Andrejs Vasiljevs (Latvia; [andrejs@tilde.lv](mailto:andrejs@tilde.lv)) is a Bureau Member of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Council for IFAP and Chair of the Working Group on Information Ethics. Mr. Vasiljevs is the co-founder and chairman of Tilde - a leading European language technology company specializing in machine translation and other technologies for smaller languages. Mr. Vasiljevs takes an active role in the development of the inclusive information society in Latvia in his role as Vice President of the Latvian Information and Communication Technology Association (LIKTA) and through his participation in the knowledge society programmes of the Latvian National Commission for UNESCO. His specific professional interests are in the application of technologies to overcome language barriers and foster language diversity in cyberspace. He is also a member of the Commission of the State Language of Latvia and a board member of the European Language Resource Association.*



## NATIONAL EXPERTS NOMINATED BY MEMBER STATES TO THE WORKING GROUP ON INFORMATION FOR DEVELOPMENT IN 2012

### **BULGARIA**

Mrs Zlatina Nikolova  
*Chief expert, Ministry of Transport, Information Technology and Communication*

### **CHINA**

Prof. Ms Fang Wang  
*Professor, Nankai University*

### **ETHIOPIA**

Mr Motuma Temesgen Dessisa  
*Head of Office for Government Communication Affairs*

Ms Haimanot Zeleke Workineh  
*Information Service Directorate Director, Government Communication Affairs Office*

### **GUATEMALA**

Mr Moisés Jerez  
*Dean of the Faculty of Communication Science, University Mariano Galvez de Guatemala*

Ms Miriam F. Ramirez Pinto De Galvez  
*Professor, University of the Valley of Guatemala*

### **HUNGARY**

Mr László Ropolyi  
*Lecturer, Department of History and Philosophy of Science, Eötvös University, Budapest*

### **IRAN**

Mr Sirous Alidousti  
*Director of the Iranian Research Institute for Information Science and Technology, Ministry of Science, Research and Technology*

### **LESOTHO**

Dr Percy Mangoela  
*Communication and Information Committee Member & Chairman of Lesotho Communication Authority*

### **PAKISTAN**

Mr Javed Akhtar  
*Assistant Director, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting*

### **POLAND**

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*Director, archivist, National Digital Archives*

### **SLOVAKIA**

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*Professor, Faculty of Informatics and Information technology, Slovak University of Technology*

### **THAILAND**

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### **UKRAINE**

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*Director of the International Research and Training Center For Information Technologies and System, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine*

### **VENEZUELA**

Ms Ximena González Broquen  
*Political Philosopher & Researcher & Director, Center for the Study of Social Transformations, Science and Knowledge, Venezuelan Institute for Scientific Research*

# IFAP PROJECTS

## FEATURED PROJECTS

- ▶ International IFAP Information Ethics Activities
  - Information Ethics Expert Meeting (Mauritania, 2011)
  - WSIS Action Line C10 Meeting 'Cyber and information ethics: Freedom & security, privacy, malice & harm, property' (Geneva, 2011)
  - Workshop on 'Information ethics & internet governance - Identity, design, data and preservation' at 7th Internet Governance Forum (Azerbaijan, 2012)
- ▶ Information ethics activities in Africa
  - Information ethics and E-government high level seminar (South Africa, 2009)
  - Teaching information ethics in Africa: Current status, opportunities and challenges (Botswana, 2010)
  - Training workshop on information ethics and E-government (South Africa, 2010)
- ▶ InfoEthics Handbook for Policy Makers (International, 2013)
- ▶ Riga Global Meeting of Experts on the Ethical Aspects of Information Society (Latvia, 2013)
- ▶ Safe and Secure Youth.Net (Macedonia, 2013)
- ▶ International conference on Theory and Practice of Electronic Governance (South Korea, 2013)

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Asia Pacific regional meeting on the Ethical Dimension of the Information Society (Vietnam, 2008)
- ▶ Writ of Habeas Data Forum (Phillipines, 2008)
- ▶ First Conference on Info-Ethics for Latin America and the Caribbean (Latin America and Caribbean, 2009)
- ▶ Series of workshops on information ethics (2009-2012, Russia, Ukraine)
- ▶ 'Emerging ethical issues in science and technology' at the 8th Ordinary Session of COMEST (Bratislava, 2013)

## INTERNATIONAL IFAP INFORMATION ETHICS ACTIVITIES

### Promoting international meetings and debates on info-ethics worldwide

IFAP has been involved in a number of activities aimed at stimulating international debate around information ethics. In line with this intention, events have been organized in a number of UNESCO regions.

In Geneva on 18 May 2011 at the WSIS Forum, a session entitled 'Cyber and information ethics: Freedom & security, privacy, malice & harm, property' was organized by UNESCO. It was attended by an expert panel from academia, civil society and the intergovernmental sector. Additionally, virtual participants representing international organizations, NGOs and academics followed the session. The event facilitated a rich debate on the ways in which evolutions in the development, use and application of information and communication technology was contributing to dynamic societal changes which are not yet well understood. These interactions are changing our understanding of what it means to be human as well as our perceptions of and relationship with technology.

On 30 September 2011, UNESCO and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) organized a workshop on the unintended consequences of participation in the digital environment. This event was held in Nairobi, Kenya within the framework of the Internet Governance Forum. The debate was stimulated by

#### ■ GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: International

REGION: Africa, Arab States, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia Pacific

COUNTRY: Azerbaijan, Kenya, Mauritania, Switzerland, Latvia

YEAR: 2011-2012

#### PARTNERS:

- United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)
- Internet Governance Forum
- WSIS Forum
- Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO)
- Mauritanian Commission for Education, Culture and Sciences
- Latvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

#### RESOURCES:

- Code of ethics for the Information Society
- "UNESCO and information ethics" newsletter

an expert panel, drawn from academia, civil society and policy-making communities in Africa. During the discussion, challenges concerning the diversion of resources, trust and safety, E-waste and linguistic diversity and survival were addressed.

In addition, UNESCO's Rabat Office and the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO), in cooperation with the Mauritanian Commission for Education, Culture and Sciences,

# INFORMATION ETHICS EVENTS WORLDWIDE

2010



NAIROBI, KENYA

30 September

Session on unintended consequences of participation in the digital environment. (UNESCO and IGF)

2011

GENEVA,  
SWITZERLAND

18 May

Cyber and information ethics: Freedom & security, privacy, malice & harm, property.



# TIMELINE OF MAJOR SESSIONS, WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS HELD WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF IFAP IN THE PAST YEARS



## BAKU, AZERBAIJAN

06 November

Information ethics & internet governance – Identity, design, data and preservation (UNESCO and IGF)

2012

2013

## NOUAKCHOTT, MAURITANIA

14-16 November

Expert meeting on the ethical dimensions of the information society in the context of freedom of expression and human rights.



## RIGA, LATVIA

16-17 October

Meeting of experts on the Ethical Aspects of the Information Society



IFAP Information ethics regional consultation for Arab states, Mauritania, 2011  
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organized an expert meeting on the ethical dimensions of the information society in the context of freedom of expression and the respect for human rights. The event took place in Nouakchott, Mauritania from 14-16 November 2011. Leading experts from Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia and Mauritania examined current legislative and institutional policies in the context of promoting freedom of expression and human rights on information networks. Furthermore, interrelations between freedom of expression and ethical responsibility were discussed.

In conjunction with UNECA, IFAP organized a thematic session on information ethics and internet

governance in Baku, Azerbaijan. The session 'Information ethics and internet governance – identity, design, data and preservation' took place on 6 November 2012 as part of the seventh annual Internet Governance Forum (IGF). Experts from policy making, academia and the private sector contributed to the debate, enriched by an interactive session with both live and virtual audiences.

The Riga Global Meeting of Experts on the Ethical Aspects of Information Society, held in Latvia in 2013, was another important event with regard to the information ethics priority of IFAP. Further information on this meeting will be provided in a later section of this report.

# INFORMATION ETHICS ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA

## Activities on information ethics related to the planning and implementation of e-Government systems and services in sub-Saharan Africa

In the framework of IFAP, UNESCO supported and co-organized various Information Ethics activities in Africa. The World Summit on the Information Society identified information ethics in its Action line C 10 as a critical component for building a people-centred, development-focused and inclusive information society. As the region with the highest growth rate in mobile-based internet penetration, stimulating debate to raise awareness of information ethics at all levels of African society is of great importance. This subject must be kept in focus and should be a key element in the development review and implementation of national information and knowledge strategies.

In February 2007, the first African Information Ethics Conference took place in Tshwane, South Africa. The attendees agreed to form a network of professionals interested in information ethics from an African perspective the African Network for Information Ethics (ANIE) to further research Information Ethics and to contribute to meet the aims detailed in the 'Tshwane Declaration on Information Ethics in Africa' which was released during the course of this event.

With the support of the South African government, UNESCO organized an Information Ethics and e-Government high level Executive Seminar followed by a training workshop from 23-26 February

### ■ GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: Regional

REGION: Africa

COUNTRIES: Botswana, Central African Republic, Ghana, Kenya, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe

YEAR: 2007-2013

#### PARTNERS:

- African Network for Information Ethics (ANIE)
- Centre of Excellence for Information Ethics (ACEIE)
- University of Pittsburgh School of Information Sciences Institute for Information Ethics and Policy (USA)
- University of Pretoria (South Africa)
- University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (USA)
- South African Government: Presidential National Commission on the Information Society and Development (PNC)
- International Centre for Information Ethics (Media University, Stuttgart, Germany)

#### RESOURCES:

- African Network for Information Ethics website
- Information Ethics in Africa: Past present and future activities (2007-2010), by Rafael Capurro
- Tshwane Declaration
- 'UNESCO and the ethical dimensions of the information society'



Participants of the Information Ethics and e-Government high level Executive Seminar, South Africa, 2009

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2009, in Tshwane, South Africa. The training workshop was attended by 40 participants from 14 African countries: Botswana, Burundi, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ghana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Senegal, Republic of South Africa, Swaziland, Union of the Comoros and Zambia. It was co-developed with a team of leading international academic institutions with expertise in the field of information ethics, including the International Centre for Information Ethics (Germany), the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (USA) and the University of Pretoria (South Africa), along with other leading practitioners in the field of e-Government.

Another international conference in this context was organized by ANIE in cooperation with UNESCO and took place in Botswana a year later. The conference 'Teaching Information Ethics in Africa: Current Status, Opportunities and Challenges' was hosted by the University of Botswana from 6-7 September 2010 in Gaborone. The event focused on research and the future development of African information ethics curricula. Forty-five experts in information ethics from Africa, North America and Europe participated in this event. Representatives of African universities from Central African Republic, Ghana, Kenya, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe gave an insight

into the information ethics debate in their institutions. The need for information ethics curricula in Africa was presented from the perspective of governments, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and UNESCO. The outcome of this conference was a roadmap for developing the first ever information ethics curriculum for Africa.

This target was further elaborated in 2011, within another workshop that was organized in the framework of ANIE activities and UNESCO. In Pretoria, South Africa, from 4-5 July, an information ethics research workshop took place. The event was organized by the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (USA), the International Center for Information Ethics (Germany), the University of Zululand, the University of Botswana and the University of Pretoria.

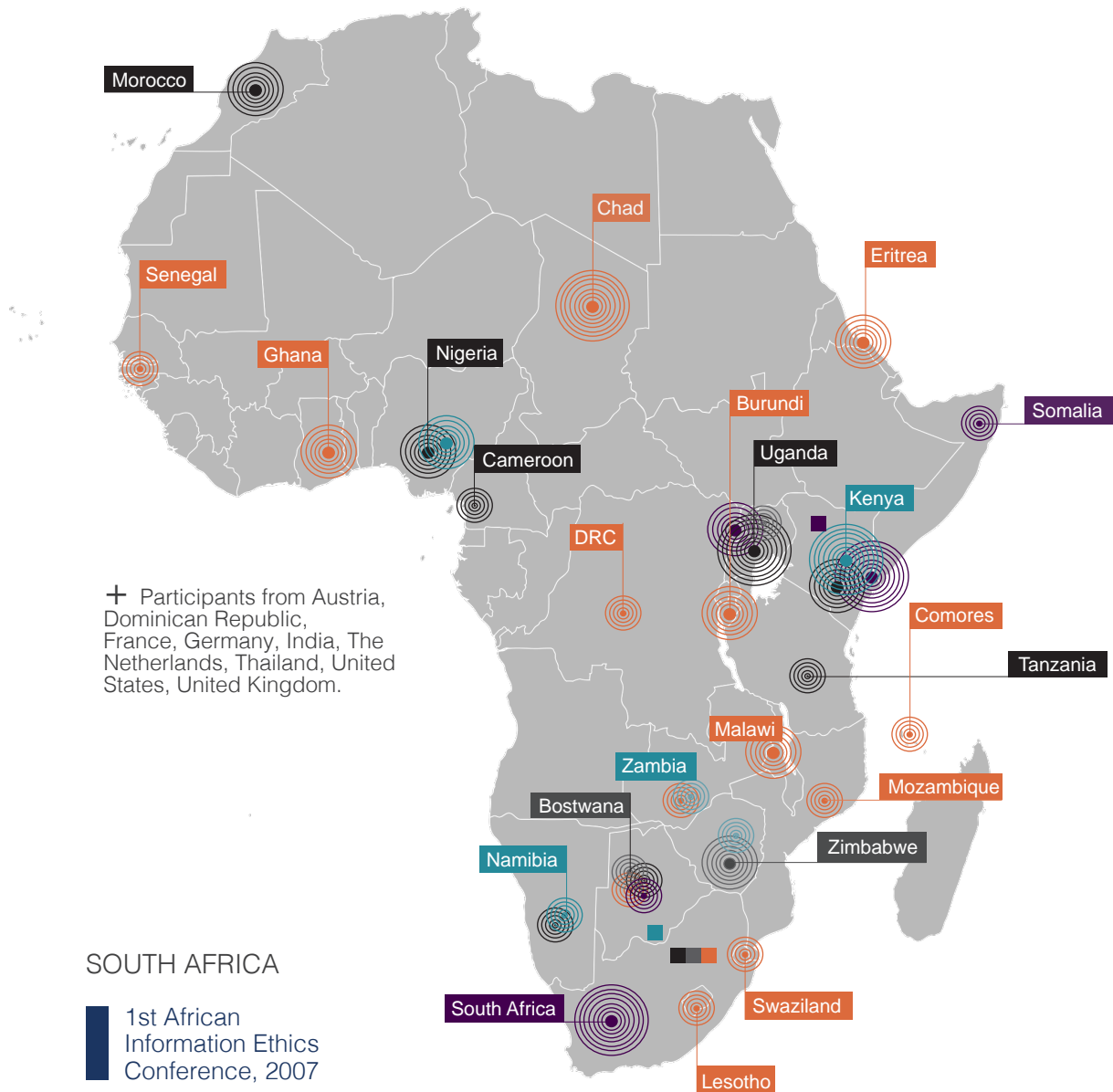
In 2012, the ANIE activities led to the formal establishment of the African Centre of Excellence for Information Ethics (ACEIE) on 17 May. The purpose of the ACEIE is to formally reflect on the activities and history of information ethics in Africa. One of its main objectives is to develop a curriculum to teach information ethics in Africa.

Later in 2012, under the patronage of UNESCO and the ACEIE, together with the University of Pretoria (South Africa), the Department of Communications of South Africa, the University of



# PARTICIPANTS FROM AFRICA

Countries participating in five Information Ethics events held in Botswana, Kenya and South Africa from 2007 to 2012.



+ Participants from Austria, Dominican Republic, France, Germany, India, The Netherlands, Thailand, United States, United Kingdom.

## SOUTH AFRICA

- 1st African Information Ethics Conference, 2007
- Information ethics and e-government high level executive seminar and training workshop, 2009
- Information ethics research workshop, 2011

## BOTSWANA

- Conference 'Teaching information ethics in Africa: Current status, opportunities and challenges', 2010

## KENYA

- Workshop on matters related to information ethics in Africa, 2012

Wisconsin-Milwaukee (USA), the International Center of Information Ethics (Germany), and the Capurro Fiek Foundation organized the third ANIE-Conference on Information Ethics. A pre-conference workshop and the conference itself were held in Pretoria, from 3-7 September. In the workshop, the development of a curriculum to teach information ethics at universities in Africa was discussed. At the conference, an additional focal point was the information ethics and social media use by Africa's youth.

Apart from its engagement in regional support of the information ethics debate, ANIE is contributing to the WSIS C10 Action line review. By implementing case studies on how ethical dimensions can be addressed, research in this area is stimulated. As part of its post 2013 work, the ACEIE has also begun to undertake a feasibility study on the viability of

its becoming a UNESCO Category II Institute.

There are also a number of on-going and planned activities in the area of information ethics. For example, in 2013, IFAP directed efforts to release ethics related content on UNESCO iTunes University. By this means open source documents will be freely available in the form of an open university.



First African Information Ethics Conference, South Africa, 2007

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#### THE AFRICAN CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR INFORMATION ETHICS (ACEIE)

The centre was established in the Department of Information Science at the University of Pretoria on 17 May 2012, as a result of a series of activities and events by various stakeholders involved in information ethics.

The purpose of the ACEIE is to reflect on the activities and history of information ethics in Africa, contributing to research on the topic and allowing networking with other academics in the field.

One of the main objectives of the Centre is to develop a curriculum to teach information ethics in Africa. During the first three years, the ACEIE is developing a curriculum structure and is implementing the content at universities in Africa. A group of more than 30 international academics are working together on this pilot project.



## IFAP CODE OF ETHICS FOR THE INFORMATION SOCIETY

The Intergovernmental Council of the Information for All Programme of UNESCO,

Committed to the full implementation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other universally recognized legal instruments;

Recalling the Preamble of the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) which underlines the need "to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law and for the human rights and fundamental freedoms which are affirmed for the peoples of the world, without distinction of race, sex, language or religion";

Recognizing the central role UNESCO plays in promoting people-centred, inclusive, development-oriented knowledge societies as agreed during the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), as well as in respecting peace and upholding the fundamental values of freedom, equality, solidarity, tolerance and shared responsibility;

Acknowledging the multifaceted nature of the information society, especially with regard to inclusiveness, accessibility, the promotion of common good, privacy and personal data protection as well as the need to take appropriate actions and preventive measures, as determined by law, against abusive uses of information and communication technologies (ICTs), such as illegal and other acts motivated by racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance, hatred, violence, all forms of child abuse, including paedophilia and child pornography, and trafficking in, and exploitation of, human beings;

Emphasizing that ethical principles are relevant to all stakeholders of the information society, collectively or individually, and that existence and implementation, at all levels, of the ethical principles is essential to ensure an all-inclusive information society;

Agrees upon a set of values, basic rights and obligations in the information society which should guide the actions and be observed by the members of the information society.

1. Internet in particular and ICTs more generally should be recognized as a key public service for building a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society and are crucial to promote the exercise and enjoyment of universally recognised human rights and fundamental freedoms.

2. Every person, irrespective of where they live, their gender, education, religion, social status shall be able to benefit from the internet and the use of ICTs. Everyone shall be able to connect, access, choose, produce, communicate, innovate and share information and knowledge on the internet.

3. Affordable access to the internet should serve as a tool for development,

social cohesion and for enabling everyone's potential. Active social participation in public life through the use of internet and other ICTs shall be enabled on a non-discriminatory basis.

4. Information should be made available, accessible and affordable across all linguistic, cultural and social groups and to both genders, including people with physical, sensory or cognitive disabilities, and people who speak minority languages. Internet and other ICTs shall serve to reduce the digital divide and deploy technology and applications to ensure inclusion.

5. Technological and methodological standards, access solutions, portability and interoperability shall allow the widest possible access to content and content production, and encourage the evolution and improvement of the internet and other ICTs to bring about greater inclusion and overcome forms of discrimination.

6. Creation, preservation and processing of, and access to, educational, cultural and scientific content in digital form should be encouraged, so as to ensure that all cultures can express themselves and have access to the internet in all languages, including indigenous and minority languages.

7. Everyone should have a freedom of association on the internet and ICT-mediated assembly. Member States should take preventive steps against monitoring and surveillance of assembly and association in a digital environment.

8. Member States and respective stakeholders should take all steps to develop trustworthy internet and other ICTs ensuring security, reliability and stability of critical and pervasive applications and services.

9. Member States should encourage and extend the availability of information in the public domain, recognize and enact the right of universal online access to public and government-held records, including information relevant to citizens. Publicly-relevant information should be placed in the public domain and disseminated online in an easily accessible way using compatible and open formats.

10. Media and Information Literacy is a fundamental prerequisite for access to information, the exercise of cultural rights and the right to education through use of internet and other ICTs. It is essential to ensure that all user groups have the knowledge and skills to act and make informed and clear consent-based choices using the internet and ICTs so that they can be fully responsible members of the information society.

11. Everyone has a right to freedom of expression, participation and interaction on the internet that should not be restricted, except in those narrowly defined circumstances that are based on internationally recognized laws and universal human rights standards.

12. Everyone has a right to the protection of personal data and private life on the internet and other ICTs. Users should be protected against the unlawful storage, abuse or unauthorized disclosure of personal data, and against the intrusion of their privacy.

13. All stakeholders shall work together to prevent abusive uses of ICTs, protection of private data and privacy and violation of human rights on the internet and other ICTs by a combination of legislative measures, user education, including the use of Media and Information Literacy skills, self-regulation and co-regulation measures and technical solutions without





disrupting the free flow of information.

14. Member States should implement preventive measures and coordinate strategies to ensure security on the internet and the protection of society against cybercrime, including acts motivated by racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, hatred, violence, all forms of child abuse, and trafficking and exploitation of human beings.

15. All members of the information society, either collective or individual, should be free to develop and distribute new content and applications on the internet. Freedom of expression and creative use of ICTs should not be restricted, except when impinging upon the basic human rights of others. The basic technical standards used on the internet and other ICTs must always be open to allow interoperability and innovation.

16. Member States should support the use of the internet and other ICTs to enhance the effectiveness of democracy and democratic institutions, providing to the public opportunities for effective public deliberation and participation in the democratic process, and promoting transparency, accountability, responsiveness, engagement, inclusiveness, accessibility, participation, subsidiary and social cohesion.

17. Intellectual property of the creations in a digital environment should be a subject of and shall be protected under the intellectual property rights legislation. Unauthorized copying and distribution of copyrighted materials must not be condoned. Legal frameworks facilitating owners of intellectual property to share their knowledge and creations should be supported to promote open access to knowledge and foster creativity. Application of international intellectual property conventions should be based on the fair balance between the interests of the rights holders and of the public.

18. Member States are responsible for ensuring an inclusive, relevant, up-to-date and legal environment for the development of the information society.

## HANDBOOK: ETHICAL AND SOCIETAL DIMENSIONS OF THE INFORMATION SOCIETY

In 2013, to mark the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the Plan of Action of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), UNESCO, in cooperation with ITU, UNDP and UNCTAD, hosted the first WSIS+10 Review meeting. In their role of co-facilitators of the WSIS Action Line on Ethical Dimensions of Information Society, the UNESCO Sectors for Social and Human Sciences and Communication and Information presented during this event a report on 'Ethical and societal challenges of the information society'.

To make this content widely available for world leaders, high-level government members, the private sector, civil society, and other stakeholders, a handbook was published by the organization in the same year. This user-friendly and policy-oriented handbook was produced for the benefit of a range of stakeholders, including in particular practitioners working in government and in outsourced policy analysis and formulation.

The handbook summarizes the main ethical and societal challenges of the information society articulated in the WSIS Action Line report and presents illustrative case studies designed to cement

these issues in real-life examples from the field and the community of practice. Each case study follows a standard structure, which focuses on contemporary issues, discussing their ethical aspects and proposing possible lenses and approaches that policy makers may use in assessing and responding to these challenges in light of their context, public policy goals and international human rights principles.

To ensure a multi-stakeholder perspective on each issue, submissions and feedback were solicited from stakeholders in government, industry, academia, and civil society in targeted jurisdictions. The case studies were selected against a set of criteria that include geographical representation and relevance to the overall exercise. Particular emphasis was placed on including in the handbook case studies from Africa and the Caribbean.

In addition to its direct benefits for potential users in policy communities and beyond, the handbook will thus also serve the broader purpose of raising awareness about and promoting ongoing debate on the ethical aspects of the practical issues arising from the information society.

## RIGA GLOBAL MEETING OF EXPERTS ON THE ETHICAL ASPECTS OF THE INFORMATION SOCIETY

Participants from around the world adopted a set of guidelines on information ethics issues

The rapid development of the internet and other information and communications technologies has brought about profound transformations and unprecedented ethical challenges. The Global Meeting of Experts, held in Riga, Latvia, from 16-17 October 2013, was an important step in the ongoing efforts by UNESCO's Information for All Programme to raise awareness, identify and reflect on the societal and ethical challenges of the Information Society.

The event was organized by IFAP, in cooperation with the Government of Latvia through its Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, and the Latvian National Commission for UNESCO.

The Expert Meeting examined new and emerging trends and also revisited the conclusions of previous events. These included the outcomes of the 'UNESCO Forum: Towards Knowledge Societies for Peace and Sustainable Development', held in Paris in February 2013; the IFAP Sakhalin Conference on Internet and Socio-Cultural Transformations in Information Society, held in the Russian Federation, in September 2013; the Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific on the Ethical Dimensions of the Information Society, which took place in Vietnam in 2008, as well as other UNESCO/IFAP Information Ethics events

### ■ GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: Regional

REGION: Europe

COUNTRY: Latvia

YEAR: 2013

#### PARTNERS:

- Latvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Latvian Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development
- Latvian National Commission for UNESCO

#### RESOURCES:

- Riga Guidelines on Ethics in the Information Society
- Meeting's website

organized in Africa and Europe in recent years.

One of the main outcomes of the Riga Meeting was a set of guidelines, which sought to capture the growing consensus that has emerged from numerous regional and international forums. The guidelines have also been informed by the insights and lessons gained from a variety of national and transnational experiences in addition to research activities.

The guidelines stress the importance of enhancing equitable access and inclusive multi-stakeholder processes, respect for freedom of expression and all human



This was a very successful event with a highly stimulating debate on a wide range of ethical challenges in the information society. The discussions reflected the diverse and urgent needs that internet users are facing. We must now use the momentum created in Riga to share these guidelines and launch related national and regional projects.

*Dr Andrejs Vasiljev,  
Chair of the IFAP Working Group on  
Information Ethics*

Participants of the  
Global Meeting  
of Experts, Riga,  
Latvia, October  
2013.

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of Foreign Affairs



rights both online and off-line. They also link the ethical dimensions of the information society to the issues of social and economic inclusion, peace and security as well as environmental sustainability thereby highlighting their relevance to the international development goals.

The event also refined important topics from the 'Handbook on Information Ethics for Policy-makers',

a resource aimed at enabling policy-makers to respond in a more timely and informed manner to technological innovations and their social impacts. Both the guidelines and the handbook are essential resources in helping to translate the societal values of the information age into principles and practices that guide individuals and governments in the 21st century.





## RIGA GUIDELINES ON ETHICS IN THE INFORMATION SOCIETY

Riga Global Meeting of Experts on the Ethical Aspects of the Information Society

Riga, Latvia, 16-17 October 2013

We, the participants in the Riga Global Meeting of Experts on the Ethical Aspects of Information Society, held in the framework of the UNESCO Information for All Programme in Riga, Latvia from 16-17 October, 2013,

Recognizing that information and communication technologies (ICTs) offer tremendous potential for contributing to global peace, human rights, progress and true mutual understanding which underpin UNESCO's mandate and its vision of a new humanism,

Committed to the full implementation in cyberspace of the human rights and fundamental freedoms proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the resolution 'The promotion, protection and enjoyment of human rights on the internet' adopted by the United Nations Human Rights Council A/HRC/20/8, and other universally recognized legal instruments,

Convinced that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights provides the universal set of values and principles including, inter alia, the right to freedom of expression, universal access to information, particularly to information in the public domain, the right to education, the right to privacy and the right to participate in cultural life that should inform ethical choices, practices and decision-making in the information society,

Acknowledging that advances in the technological development equally create risks for further entrenching and exacerbating existing inequalities, creating new forms of tensions, disadvantages and inequity and that the new forms and modes of interactions and social transformations boosted by ICT have impacts and consequences on societies' architecture that are not yet sufficiently conceptualized,

Recognizing that the information society is much more than its infrastructure and that it also comprises the social relationships and uses facilitated and driven by the infrastructure. In turn, these social relations constitute, and are constituted by, a set of behavioural norms based on underlying ethical values and principles, including respect of human autonomy, dignity, integrity and vulnerability,

Observing that freedom of expression and privacy on the internet are threatened by new technological means of mass surveillance, intrusion, exclusion and censorship, recognizing that freedom, safety and security in cyberspace are not incompatible but complementary values,

Taking into account the 'Report of the UN System Task Team on the post- 2015 Development Agenda: Realizing the future we want for all', and recognizing the contribution of an information society based on ethical values and principles, for setting and realizing the post 2015 global development goals

of social and economic inclusion, peace and security and environmental sustainability,

Recalling the Code of Ethics for the Information Society approved by the Intergovernmental Council for the UNESCO Information for All Programme (IFAP),

Supporting the implementation of the action plan adopted by the UNESCO Executive Board at its 190th session in the document EX/5 Part I (D), 'UNESCO and the Ethical Dimensions of the Information Society',

Recalling the provisions of the WSIS C10 Action and emphasizing that ethical principles are relevant to all stakeholders of the information society, collectively or individually, and that existence and implementation, at all levels, of human rights and the ethical principles is essential to ensuring an all-inclusive information society,

Agrees upon the following guidelines to uphold the ethical dimensions of the information society:

1. Affirm freedom of expression as a fundamental right and recognize and ensure that the same principles of freedom of expression apply equally to the internet and other uses of information technologies, as they apply to traditional forms of media.
2. Encourage international, regional and national reflection and debate on the ethical challenges of the information society and emerging technologies, in particular through the Information for All Programme (IFAP) and the work of the World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology (COMEST). Such reflection and debate should be inter-disciplinary and intercultural in nature and serve to inform policy and advisory bodies as well as all stakeholders. Particular attention should be given to the participation of Small Island and Developing States, indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities and other marginalized users, and prioritizing issues based on national contexts and needs.
3. Support the use of the internet and other ICTs as means for enhancing the effectiveness of democracy and democratic institutions, providing to the public opportunities for effective public deliberation and participation in the democratic process, and promoting transparency, accountability, responsiveness, engagement, inclusiveness, accessibility, participation, subsidiary and social cohesion.
4. Raise awareness about the ethical implications of ICT use and development, particularly among young people, along with life-long education initiatives to equip all citizens with the skills and competence to participate actively and knowledgeably in the information society. New info-ethical and info-civic pedagogical paradigms may be envisaged in this regard to support new modes of global citizenship, fully integrating digital media and virtual political spaces.
5. Support equitable participation of all stakeholders from all regions of the world, while acknowledging the diversity of cultures, in the discussion of information ethics and contributing to efforts to raise awareness,





analyze, discuss and respond to the ethical challenges of the information society.

6. Promote dialogue among all stakeholders to ensure legal protection and respect of human rights in social media, especially the rights for freedom of expression and privacy.

7. Share and promote best practices on the respect of freedom of expression and privacy protection.

8. Sensitize policy-makers to give consideration to the ethical principles that impact on technological and social issues in the information society and underlie specific regulatory frameworks, whether or not such principles are enshrined in existing normative instruments or codes of conduct.

9. Strengthen ability of policy-makers to identify and remove barriers to ensure that everybody can effectively participate in the information society.

10. Support capacity -building of policy-makers for the ethically informed development of frameworks and decision tools, based on universal human rights and ethical principles.

11. Invite policy-makers and other stakeholders to establish mechanisms for addressing the challenges of the concentration of quasi-regulatory power through intermediaries such as social networks and their role in setting of de facto standards for information access and exchange.

12. Support research focused on analyzing the gaps and lags that hamper policy in the face of the ethical challenges of the information society, with a view to supporting policy-makers and all stakeholders in addressing ethical implications of technological advances. Conduct ongoing research on multidisciplinary base to assess social transformations in the information society, including knowledge and education systems, individual attitudes and behaviour.

13. Increase awareness amongst all stakeholders of the sustainability of the information society related to the widespread use of ICTs and the pollution and health concerns that result from the improper disposal of e-waste, and promote ways to reduce energy consumption and pollution.

14. Promote broad-based multi-stakeholder partnerships aimed at addressing social cohesion and digital solidarity through the advocacy of human rights; the eradication of stigma, discrimination and xenophobia; the prevention of violence, especially against women and children; and the reinforcement of ethics and protecting online privacy.

15. Bridge the information and knowledge divide by improving access to information, promoting Media and Information Literacy and information ethics curricula for ethically informed use of ICTs, in addition to increasing availability of quality content, including in local languages.

## SAFE AND SECURE YOUTH.NET

### Fostering online safety through the exchange of practices, training materials and peer-learning

In 2013, in cooperation with the Interactive Education and Resource Network (IMOR), a national NGO in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Information for All Programme supported the Safe and Secure Youth. Net (SafeNet) Project, a youth-focused capacity-building initiative.

The SafeNet Project conducted youth tech camps in 12 cities, towns and villages that benefitted over 500 young men and women. The project gave priority to the needs of at-risk youth, especially those from disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, such as ethnic minorities. As a result, IMOR worked closely with local Red Cross Groups to identify and reach participants with this profile. Also, to promote inter-group understanding, help to remove stereotypes, discrimination and other social barriers that prevent youth from reaching their full potential, the project integrated collaborative approaches that enabled other youth from a wide range of backgrounds to also learn and develop shared experiences together with the target youth groups.

The project helped to reduce information accessibility barriers and to widen the opportunities for urban, suburban and rural youth to benefit from and use ICT. Through the tech camps, participants were helped to build their ICT and information literacy skills. In addition, the training served to raise awareness of online ethical challenges related to issues such as privacy and security, and to

#### ■ GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: National

REGION: Europe

COUNTRY: Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

YEAR: 2013

PARTNERS:

- Interactive Education and Resource Network (IMOR)

RESOURCES:

- SafeNet website
- SafeNet online platform of interaction



introduce social as well as technical approaches in order to address them. Much of the content used in the training was built around resource materials, including UNESCO and IFAP guidelines and publications, appropriately adapted to the needs of this audience.

Through facilitated group sessions, opportunities were provided for each participant to reflect on their experiences and share ideas. These sessions brought youths together, allowed them to make contacts, share ideas and develop their confidence. The interactive format and design of the workshop helped youths to develop communication and other life skills, benefit from mentoring and peer-to-peer explanations and also gain hands-on experience in the preparation of presentations, information flyers and to work with

“ *By building the capacity of these young people to use ICT, and providing them with opportunities and removing various knowledge barriers, this project has contributed to fostering more equitable opportunities for young people to access and benefit from the internet.*

*Jove Jankulovski, Director of IMOR*

on-line tools and resources.

To ensure the longer term sustainability of this initiative, the project also involved young people from local groups. By encouraging the further sharing of these experiences and developing co-learning practices, these youths were empowered to inform and raise the awareness of their peers about challenges in cyberspace. An online platform for ongoing interaction as well as a repository with downloadable training materials has been created to support this process.

An evaluation survey conducted after the workshops found that the training sessions had been well received with 77% of the youth participants indicating that they had gained a better understanding as well as the skills to practically address online ethical issues. In addition, 80% of the participants also indicated that they could now confidently manage their own online data. Many parents also expressed satisfaction with the attitudinal changes the training brought about.



Youth Tech Camp of the Safenet Project in Skudimje, 2013.

© Interactive Education and Resource Network (IMOR)

## ONLINE PLATFORM

The project also provided a website with the content, contributions and creations from participants, as well as results, recommendations and resources for youth on how to make the internet a safe and secure place for them. In addition, an online platform was also created to secure an environment where participants could maintain continuous contact and interaction. Available at <http://safeyouthnet.pbworks.com/w/page/70697078/ FrontPage>, this resource enables youth and adults to interact in the frame of this project and other related activities.

# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THEORY AND PRACTICE OF ELECTRONIC GOVERNANCE

## Advocating for access to information at the ICEGOV2013 in Seoul

UNESCO's Information for All Programme (IFAP) was one of the organizing partners of the seventh International Conference on the Theory and Practice of Electronic Governance (ICEGOV2013).

The event, which was coordinated by the United Nations University's Electronic Governance Center (UNU-IIST), was held from 22-25 October 2013 in Seoul, and hosted by the Korean National Information Society Agency.

The conference attracted over three hundred participants from more than sixty countries. 'Beyond 2015 Smart Governance, Smart Development' was the main theme of the conference, which included keynote lectures, plenary discussions, and more than ten thematic sessions on e-government practices and challenges, ranging from smart and participatory governance to e-transparency and accountability, e-government for development and open data policies and 'radical openness' ('open by default').

The event was aimed at raising awareness and stimulating thinking around electronic governance (EGOV) and its role in supporting the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals. The event therefore served to underscore the contribution that EGOV can make to post-2015 international development plans and actions. The event brought together researchers,

### ■ GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: International

REGION: Asia Pacific

COUNTRY: South Korea

YEAR: 2013

#### PARTNERS:

- United Nations University's Electronic Governance Center (UNU-IIST)
- Korean National Information Society Agency

#### RESOURCES:

- International Conference on the Theory and Practice of Electronic Governance



policy-makers, government officials, international civil representatives and business and civil society leaders who freely shared the insights from EGOV theory, as well as case studies that demonstrated how EGOV supports public policy and sustainable development goals.

The IFAP Secretariat co-organized and chaired a plenary town hall debate on the topic 'Is good governance a pre-condition or a consequence of the development of knowledge societies?'. The session was attended by about a hundred participants.

The IFAP session brought together panelists from Colombia,



International  
Conference  
on the Theory  
and Practice  
of Electronic  
Governance,  
South Korea,  
2013

© UNU/IIST

Ghana, The Republic of Moldova and The Republic of Korea, drawn from research centers, observatories, and national agencies dealing with information policies. The breadth and depth of experience and perspectives from a variety of regional contexts provided for a rich and lively exchange. Information on the IFAP event and other sessions

have been made available through the conference website, as well as other resources such as the ICEGOV2013 proceedings, which were published by ACM Press and made available in the ACM Digital Library. In addition, selected papers were also included in a special issue of the Government Information Quarterly publication.

# INFORMATION LITERACY







## INFORMATION LITERACY

Information literacy provides the competencies, skills and attitudes that enable people to seek, evaluate, use and create information, thereby empowering them to effectively participate in the knowledge societies. This working group has an important role in supporting capacity-building, the development of tools, resources and indicators for information literacy as well as in promoting the incorporation of information literacy in education curricula and national information policies.



**Sonny Coloma**

Chair of the Working Group on  
Information Literacy

*Mr. Sonny Coloma (The Philippines; sonnycoloma@gmail.com) is an IFAP Vice-Chairperson and also Chair of the IFAP Working Group on Information Literacy. Mr Coloma is the Secretary of the Presidential Communications Operations Office in the Republic of the Philippines and also the Don Jose Cojuangco Professor of Business Management at the Asian Institute of Management. Mr Coloma holds a Masters degree in Business Management and a Doctorate in Philosophy from the Southeast Asian Interdisciplinary Development Institute.*

## NATIONAL EXPERTS NOMINATED BY MEMBER STATES TO THE WORKING GROUP ON INFORMATION LITERACY IN 2012

### BULGARIA

Mrs Hristina Dobрева  
Senior expert, Information Society  
Policy Expert, Ministry of Transport, IT  
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### LATVIA

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### UKRAINE

Mr Vladimir Gritsenko  
Director of the International Research  
and Training Center For Information  
Technologies and System, National  
Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and  
Ministry of Education and Science of  
Ukraine

### VENEZUELA

Prof Nancy Zambrano  
Professor at the School of Computer  
Science, Central University of  
Venezuela

# IFAP PROJECTS

## FEATURED PROJECTS

- ▶ International conference on Media and Information Literacy for Knowledge Societies (Russian Federation, 2012)
- ▶ Information literacy training-the-trainers workshops (International, 2008-2009)
- ▶ MIL capacity-building for young leaders in Burkina Faso (Burkina Faso, 2013)

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Conference on 'Citizenship for the information society: Media education and civic participation' (Turkey, 2009)
- ▶ Seminars in the framework of the Annual International Crimea Conference (Ukraine, 2008–2013)
- ▶ 5th session of the Asia Pacific Information Network: 'Information policy: Accessibility and information literacy' (Philippines, 2010)
- ▶ Expert meeting on Media and Information Literacy indicators (Bangkok, 2010)
- ▶ The First All-Russian Conference on Media and Information Literacy in Information Society (Russian Federation and Belarus, 2010-2011)
- ▶ International Expert Group Meeting on the Adaptation for Russia of the Media and Information Literacy Curriculum for Teachers (2011, Russia)
- ▶ Information Literacy for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation and mitigation in selected Asia-Pacific countries (Philippines, 2013)
- ▶ Regional Media and Information Literacy capacity-building event for Eastern Caribbean educators and policy-makers (Saint Lucia, 2013)
- ▶ Mapping MIL teaching strategies in selected ASEAN countries (Philippines, 2013)

# INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MEDIA AND INFORMATION LITERACY FOR KNOWLEDGE SOCIETIES

Raising public awareness, identifying key challenges, outlining policies and strategies, and proposing possible responses to crucial MIL issues

Media and Information Literacy (MIL) is a prerequisite for peoples' full inclusion and participation in the emerging knowledge societies. To develop this increasingly important set of competencies, 130 participants from 40 countries and 5 continents gathered in Moscow for the International Conference on Media and Information Literacy for Knowledge Societies, held from 24-28 June 2012. The Conference focused on raising public awareness, identifying key challenges, outlining policies and strategies, and proposing possible responses to crucial MIL issues. The International Conference in Moscow was held within the framework of the Russian chairmanship of the Intergovernmental IFAP Council, and in close cooperation with UNESCO's Communication and Information Sector, the IFAP global network, and the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA).

## ■ GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: International

REGION: Europe

COUNTRY: Russian Federation

YEAR: 2012

### PARTNERS:

- Russian National IFAP Committee
- Interregional Library Cooperation Centre
- International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)

### RESOURCES:

- Towards information literacy indicators, UNESCO
- Understanding Information Literacy: A Primer, UNESCO
- MIL concept and strategic plan
- Moscow Declaration on Media and Information Literacy



Aleksandr Voropayev (Russian IFAP Committee), Irmgarda Kasinskaite-Buddeberg (UNESCO), Evgeny Kuzmin (IFAP Chair), Maria Carme Torras Calvo (IFLA Chair), Tatiana Manilova (Russian Federation) ©Russian IFAP Committee



Increasing complexity of environment leads to the need for more skills to select, retrieve and process information.

Albert K. Boekhorst  
University of Amsterdam

The Conference facilitated a rich exchange of global experiences and best practice amongst participants that focused on the conceptualization and application of MIL within knowledge societies. This work in turn led to the identification of processes and the development of a conceptual framework for effective dissemination and implementation of MIL practices. One of the major outcomes of the conference was the 'Moscow Declaration on Media and Information Literacy', which calls on governments, information and media professionals, educators, researchers, public and private organizations, as well as other stakeholders, to take into consideration the twelve MIL recommendations elaborated in the conceptual and strategic framework.

Media and Information Literacy is directly linked to UNESCO's mandate and strategic objectives required for building inclusive knowledge societies. Furthermore, Media and Information Literacy is essential for reaching international goals such as sustainable development, Education for All (EFA), the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), UN

Literacy Decade (2003-2012) and for supporting attainment of the World Summit on the Information Society's (WSIS) goals.



Working group sessions and participants of the International Conference in Moscow, 2012

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## THE MOSCOW DECLARATION ON MEDIA AND INFORMATION LITERACY

Moscow, 28 June 2012

The changing media landscape and the rapid growth in information are affecting individuals and societies now more than ever. In order to succeed in this environment, and to resolve problems effectively in every walk of life, individuals, communities and nations should obtain a critical set of competencies to be able to seek, critically evaluate and create new information and knowledge in different forms using existing tools, and share these through various channels. This literacy creates new opportunities to improve the quality of life. However, individuals, organizations, and societies have to address existing and emerging barriers and challenges to the free and effective use of information, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Limited capacities, resources and infrastructure;
- Censorship, limited information in the public domain, commercialization, privatization, and monopolization of information;
- Lack of respect for cultural and linguistic diversity;
- Excessive and inappropriate legal barriers to accessing, distributing and owning information;
- Lack of awareness of long-term preservation of information, particularly personal digital information; and
- Lack of cross-sectoral and interdisciplinary collaboration among stakeholders (between librarians and media educators, between mass media outfits and academic organizations, etc.)

With this context, the international conference Media and Information Literacy for Knowledge Societies that was held in Moscow on 24-28 June 2012 aimed to raise public awareness of the significance, scale and topicality of the tasks of Media and Information Literacy advocacy among information, media and educational professionals, government executives, and the general public; to identify key challenges and outline policies and professional strategies in this field; and to contribute to the improvement of the international, regional and national response to Media and Information Literacy (MIL) issues.

The conference was organized by the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, the Federal Agency for Press and Mass Communications, the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO, the UNESCO Information for All Programme and UNESCO Secretariat, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), the UNESCO Institute for Information Technologies in Education, the Russian Committee of the UNESCO Information for All Programme, and the Interregional Library

Cooperation Centre, within the framework of Russia's chairmanship of the Intergovernmental UNESCO Information for All Programme.

The conference attracted almost 130 participants from 40 countries representing all continents: executives and experts from key specialized international governmental and nongovernmental agencies and organizations; leading world experts in the field of the construction of knowledge societies; leading researchers and professors of journalism, librarianship and education; executives and representatives of government authorities responsible for educational institutions, libraries, and print and electronic media; representatives of international and national associations of Media and Information Literacy professionals; representatives of organizations and institutions engaged in publishing professional literature on Media and Information Literacy; and media practitioners.

The conference participants agreed on the following:

1. Media and Information Literacy (MIL) is a prerequisite for the sustainable development of open, plural, inclusive and participatory knowledge societies, and the civic institutions, organizations, communities and individuals which make up these societies.
2. MIL is defined as a combination of knowledge, attitudes, skills and practices required to access, analyse, evaluate, use, produce and communicate information and knowledge in creative, legal and ethical ways that respect human rights. Media and information-literate individuals can use diverse media, information sources and channels in their private, professional and public lives. They know when and what information they need and what for, and where and how to obtain it. They understand who has created that information and why, as well as the roles, responsibilities and functions of media, information providers and memory institutions. They can analyse information, messages, beliefs and values conveyed through the media and any kind of content producers, and can validate information they have found and produced against a range of generic, personal and context-based criteria. MIL competencies thus extend beyond information and communication technologies to encompass learning, critical thinking and interpretive skills across and beyond professional, educational and societal boundaries. MIL addresses all types of media (oral, print, analogue and digital) and all forms and formats of resources.
3. The MIL concept builds on previous international documents such as the Prague Declaration 'Towards an Information Literate Society' (2003); Alexandria Proclamation 'Beacons of the Information Society' (2005); Fez Declaration on Media & Information Literacy (2011); and the IFLA Media & Information Literacy recommendations (2011). MIL underpins essential competencies needed to work effectively towards achievement of the UN Millennium Development goals, the UN Declaration on Human Rights, and the goals promoted by the World Summit on the Information Society.
4. In order to achieve these goals, individuals, communities, businesses, organizations and nations continually need information about themselves and their physical and social environments, and an understanding of the many different media through which such information is found, understood and communicated. Yet the media are in a constant state of change. New





technological developments continue to alter the parameters of work, leisure, family life and citizenship. All around the world, people are living in an environment increasingly defined by the convergence of different media, interactivity, networking and globalization. Particularly (but not only) for younger people, the importance of media and peer networks has increased, and a greater part of growing up takes place outside the traditional learning environments. The creation of media today no longer lies in the hands of a limited group of professionals; now everyone can generate it.

5. At the same time, digital divides remain significant. Many people in developing countries have no access to information and media at all. Even in the developed world, limitations are placed on physical access to technologies and many people at all levels lack the critical and higher-order thinking skills needed to make informed decisions and solve problems in every aspect of life (e.g., personal, social, educational, professional aspects at local, national, regional and international levels).

Considering all the above, the participants of the International Conference on Media and Information Literacy for Knowledge Societies address heads of state, the UN system (particularly UNESCO), IGOs, NGOs, education and research institutions and professional associations, media institutions, cultural and social institutions, networks, and the business and industry sector with the following proposals:

- a. Recognize that MIL is essential to the well-being and progress of the individual, the community, the economy and civil society;
- b. Integrate MIL promotion into all national educational, cultural, information, media and other policies;
- c. Outline responsibilities, develop capacity and promote collaboration between and among the different stakeholders (government, educational, media and youth organizations, libraries, archives, museums, and NGOs, among others);
- d. Encourage education systems to initiate structural and pedagogical reforms necessary for the enhancement of MIL;
- e. Integrate MIL in the curricula, including systems of assessment at all levels of education, inter alia lifelong and workplace learning and teacher training;
- f. Prioritize support to networks and organizations working on MIL issues, and invest in capacity-building;
- g. Conduct research on and develop tools for MIL, including frameworks for understanding, evidence-based practices, indicators and assessment techniques;
- h. Develop and implement MIL standards;
- i. Promote MIL-related competencies which support reading, writing, speaking, listening and viewing;
- j. Encourage an intercultural dialogue and international cooperation while promoting MIL worldwide;



- k. Invest in processes which support long-term preservation of digital information;
- l. Promote and protect the rights to freedom of expression, freedom of information, right to privacy and confidentiality, ethical principles and other rights.

This document was produced through a collaborative process involving participants from the following 40 countries: Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brazil, Canada, Cape Verde, China, Croatia, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico, Moldova, the Netherlands, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Sudan, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and Zambia.





## IFAP-IFLA COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES IN THE PERIOD 2008-2013

Dr. Maria-Carme Torras i Calvo,  
IFLA Governing Board Member and Division Chair;  
Library director, Bergen University College, Norway

IFAP-IFLA collaboration for promotion of media and information literacy started in 2008. Through my engagement with the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), I have participated in these activities since 2010. As the global voice of the library and information profession, IFLA advances the interests of library and information associations, libraries and information services, librarians and the communities they serve throughout the world. The federation endorses the principles of freedom of access to information, ideas and works of imagination and freedom of expression embodied in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. IFLA is committed to universal and equitable access to information, ideas and works of imagination for the social, educational, cultural, democratic and economic well-being of individuals and communities. IFLA and UNESCO have had a history of collaboration since IFLA initiated formal consultative relations with UNESCO in 1947.

My collaborative activities with IFAP have been undertaken from my position as chair of the IFLA Information Literacy Section from 2010 to 2013, and as member of the IFLA Governing Board and chair of the IFLA Division of Library Services from 2013 to the present time. IFLA and UNESCO's collaborative activities have focused on one shared priority area, namely media and information literacy. The ultimate goal of IFLA and IFAP's collaborative activities has been to build up a strong and productive partnership in order to support all other stakeholders, including information professionals, in promoting media and information literacy (MIL) for all kinds of citizens, for all social sectors and in all geographical areas.

Common vision and goals led to the elaboration of an IFAP-IFLA joint action plan on information literacy (2010). These joint actions have the ultimate goal of supporting governments and other stakeholders in developing general and sector-specific policies for building inclusive knowledge societies. Building knowledge societies calls for a focus on a people-centred approach to actions, rather than on a technology-centred paradigm. These actions must aim at fostering freedom of expression, the right to information and equality, as well as ensuring citizens' privacy and security. The actions jointly carried out by IFAP and IFLA have targeted and involved a diversity of professional groups and government and civic society institutions.

IFAP and IFLA have engaged in the task of drawing up international recommendations on media and information literacy. The recommendations were prepared in consultation with UNESCO and IFAP experts, as well as media and information literacy experts from around the world. In April 2012, IFLA Media and Information Literacy Recommendations (<http://www.ifla.org/publications/ifla-media-and-information-literacy-recommendations>) were endorsed by the Intergovernmental Council for IFAP held in Paris. The 37th UNESCO General Conference recommended that all Member States endorse these MIL Recommendations at the 37th UNESCO General Conference (Paris, 5-20 November 2013). Endorsement is essential to raise the awareness of governmental and civil society institutions so that comprehensive MIL programmes are developed at all educational levels, research is commissioned and a wide range of MIL actions are collaboratively advocated and implemented worldwide.

The concept of media and information literacy calls for a deep understanding of the connections between media literacy, information literacy and other literacies. Such an understanding can only be gained by bringing together diverse expertise in order to identify challenges, recommend specific actions and urge stakeholders to commit to them. This was the aim of the International Conference on Media and Information Literacy for Knowledge Societies held in Moscow, 2012. The conference was co-chaired by IFAP, UNESCO and IFLA. The conference gathered over one hundred experts from forty countries in order to build a stronger foundation on which to lobby for and implement media and information literacy activities worldwide. The concept of media and information literacy, and of the ways it correlates with other literacies, was explored in depth. Key challenges were identified. Policies, professional strategies and measures to improve international, regional and national responses to media and information literacy issues were discussed. The diversity of professional groups and government and civic society institutions at the conference raised a common awareness of the significance, scale and topicality of the tasks of media and information literacy advocacy among information, media and educational professionals, government executives, and the public at large. The Moscow Declaration on Media and Information Literacy, which was endorsed by the conference, is a valuable document as it provides a comprehensive working definition of MIL and makes a clear call to action for all stakeholders. The proceedings of this conference are available online.

IFLA also participated in and contributed to the following projects and events:

- International Expert Meeting on the UNESCO MIL Curriculum for Teachers (Moscow, 2011);
- IFAP Special Event at the WSIS+10 Review Meeting (Paris, 2013);
- International Conference on Internet and Socio-Cultural Transformations (Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, 2013);
- First European Conference on Information Literacy (Istanbul, 2013).

To conclude, IFAP and IFLA's partnership over recent years has built upon the strong belief that MIL is essential for taking advantage of the democratic, social, educational, economic, cultural, health and sustainability opportunities provided by our quickly evolving information environment. Future collaboration must continue capitalizing on understanding trends from a multi-stakeholder perspective and policy development and implementation, which targets awareness raising, capacity building and other actions cutting across geographical borders, sectors and professional groups.

As new technologies emerge and converge, it is crucial to gain a more holistic understanding of their impact on the individual and on societies. Likewise, it is important to better understand how MIL relates to information ethics, information preservation and information accessibility in an increasingly complex environment. These are also IFAP priorities and issues addressed by the IFLA Trend Report (<http://trends.ifla.org/>). Amid this rapidly evolving information technology landscape, information ethics is clearly a pressing matter that needs to be researched, understood in depth and acted upon. IFAP can make an invaluable contribution to this area by ensuring that key stakeholders obtain and share the necessary insights to be able to develop and implement targeted policies for knowledge societies worldwide. IFLA hopes to expand our collaboration activities with IFAP in this area. IFAP has had and will continue to have global relevance and a unique role in (1) bringing together multistakeholder expertise that can provide us with a holistic picture of key challenges and possible lines of action to build knowledge societies, and (2) disseminating knowledge through publications and events in different regions of the world.



# INFORMATION LITERACY TRAINING- THE-TRAINERS WORKSHOPS

## Development of strategies for incorporating information literacy into teaching and learning processes

Information literacy provides the means to empower people in all walks of life to seek, evaluate, use and create information and knowledge effectively to achieve their personal and professional goals and to promote their sustainable development. As the world undergoes technological, social and economic transformations and all aspects of life become more information and knowledge-intensive, information literacy has become crucial.

In September 2007, the Bureau of the Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All Programme (IFAP) decided to embark on a global scale-up project on information literacy that would take place over the course of a 2-year period starting in 2008. It was agreed to focus this effort on a series of regional training-the-trainers workshops, so as to ensure the creation of the necessary human capacity to sustain and replicate training in this priority area.

Eleven regional workshops were organized in partnership with libraries, associations and institutions of higher education. The over-arching objectives were: a) the development of strategies for incorporating information literacy into teaching and learning processes; b) enhancing working relationships between librarians and facilitators of these processes; c) creating a common understanding and use of effective pedagogical methods for designing information literacy programmes and

### ■ GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: International

REGION: Africa, Asia Pacific, Latin America and Caribbean, Europe and North America

COUNTRIES: Canada, China, Egypt, Estonia, India, Jamaica, Malaysia, Peru, Spain, South Africa, Turkey

YEAR: 2008-2009

PARTNERS:

- Hacettepe University
- Directorate General of Press and Information
- Turkish International Cooperation and Development Agency
- EBSCO Information Services
- Taylor & Francis Group
- Kurukahveci Mehmet Efendi Mahdumları; İmren Lokumları

RESOURCES:

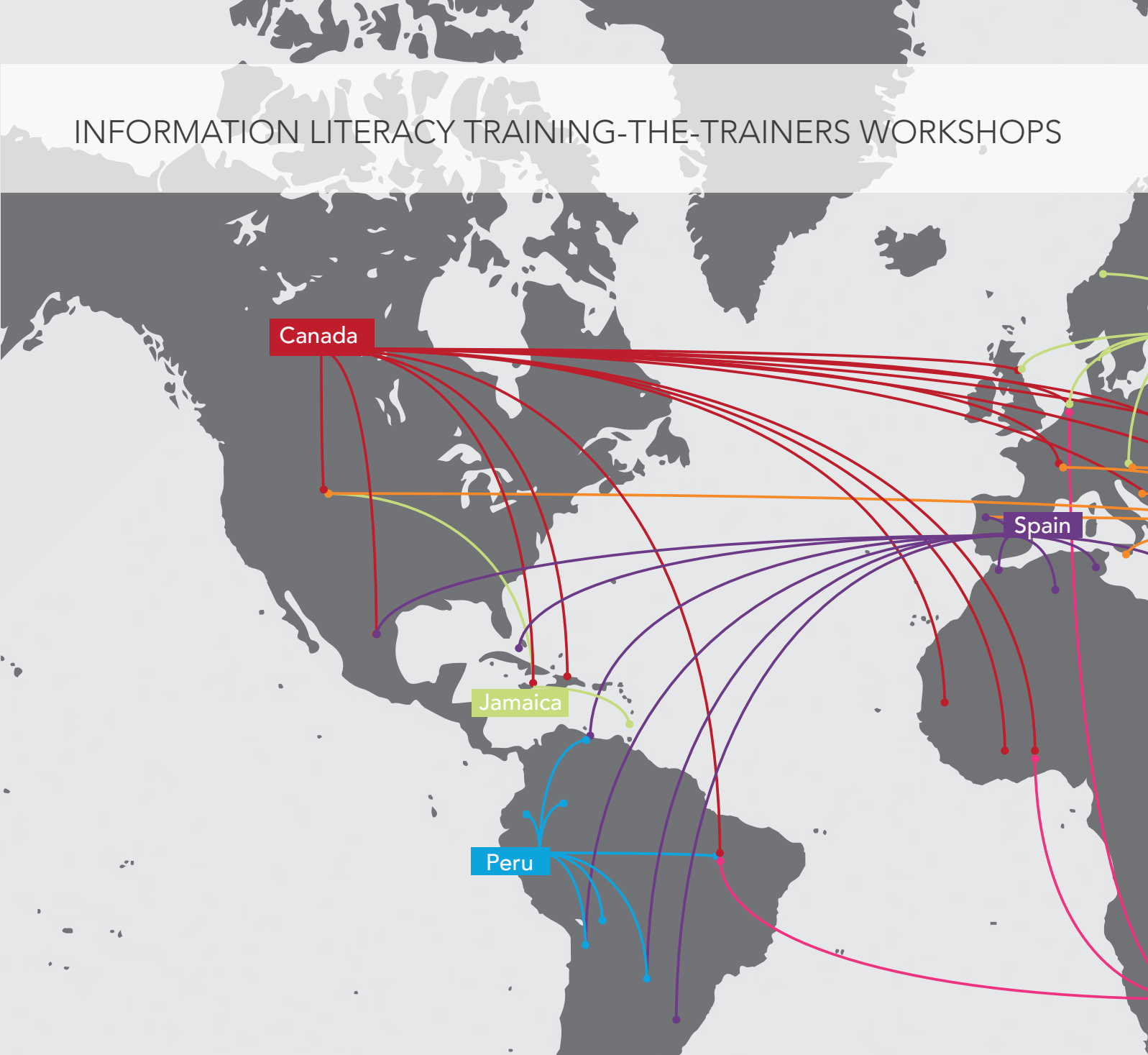
- Training-the-Trainers workshops website
- A detailed report of the workshop is available in special issue of the academic journal *The International Information & Library Review*, Volume 41, Issue 4, December 2009



d) promoting the use and awareness of information literacy.

In addition, the project sought to stimulate the exchange of experiences between information literacy expert-presenters and trainer-participants, and to develop regional and trans-regional networks that could improve the dissemination of this knowledge

# INFORMATION LITERACY TRAINING-THE-TRAINERS WORKSHOPS



**Canada**

**Jamaica**

**Peru**

**Spain**

**Canada**  
August, 2008

- Brazil
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Czech Republic
- Egypt
- France
- Ghana
- Haiti
- India
- Jamaica
- Mexico
- Senegal
- The Netherlands
- UAE
- UK
- USA

**Jamaica**  
May-June, 2008

- Trinidad and Tobago
- USA

**Malaysia**  
August, 2008

- Cambodia
- Indonesia
- Laos
- Thailand
- Vietnam

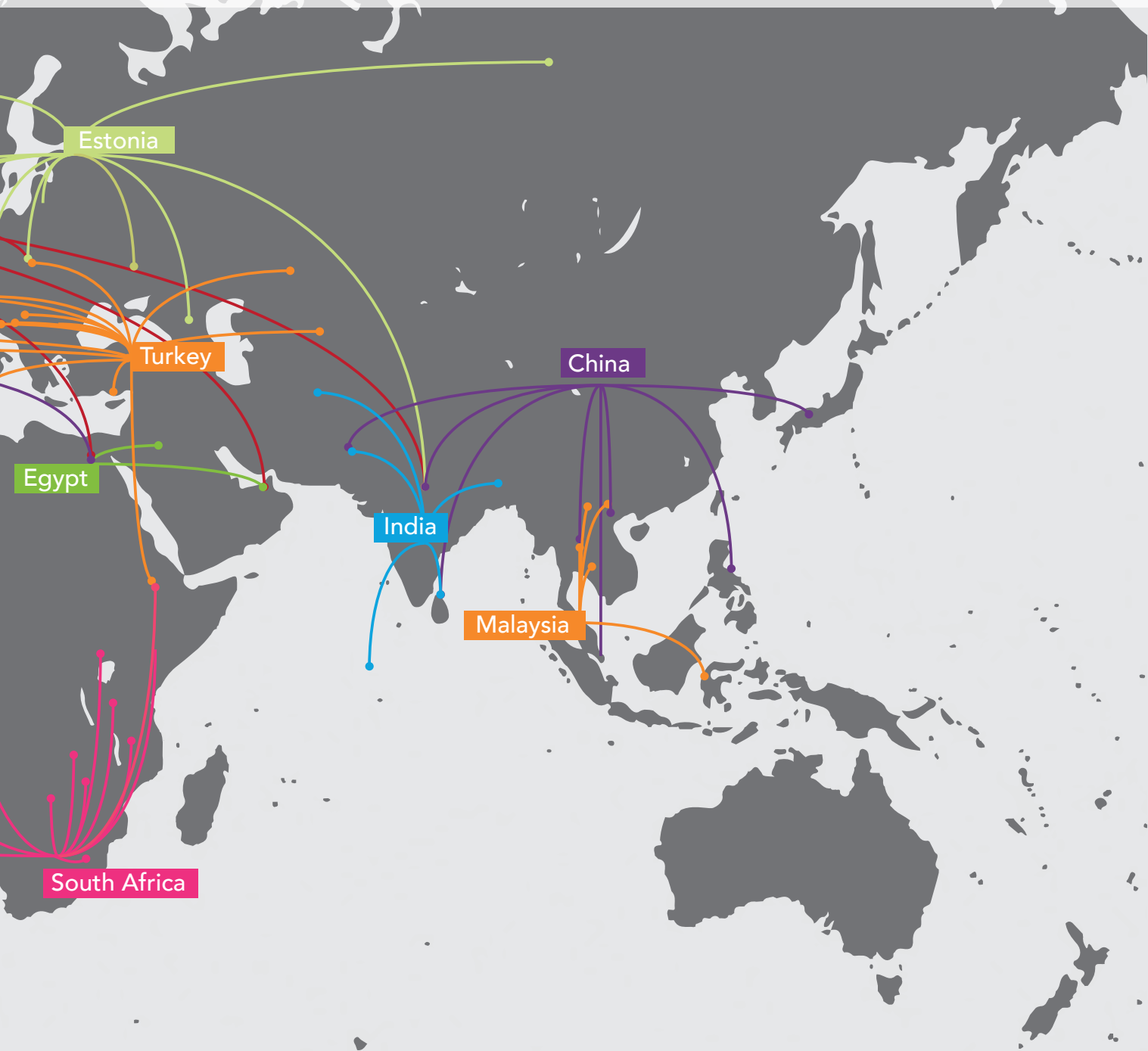
**Estonia**  
August, 2008

- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Georgia
- India
- Lithuania
- Norway
- Russia
- Slovenia
- The Netherlands
- UK
- Ukraine

**Turkey**  
September, 2008

- Croatia
- Czech Republic
- Ethiopia
- France
- Kazakhstan
- Macedonia
- Malta
- Northern Cyprus
- Portugal
- Romania
- Serbia
- Slovenia
- USA
- Uzbekstan

# Promoting international cooperation through capacity-building



## China October, 2008

India  
Japan  
Pakistan  
Philippines  
Singapore  
Sri Lanka  
Thailand

## South Africa October, 2008

Botswana  
Brazil  
Ethiopia  
Kenya  
Lesotho  
Malawi  
Tanzania  
The Netherlands  
Uganda  
Zambia  
Zimbabwe

## Spain October, 2008

Algeria  
Argentina  
Chile  
Cuba  
Egypt  
Morroco  
Mexico  
Portugal  
Tunisia  
Uruguay  
Venezuela

## Egypt November, 2008

Bahrain  
UAE

## India November, 2008

Bangladesh  
Maldives  
Pakistan  
Sri Lanka  
Turkmenistan

## Peru January, 2009

Argentina  
Bolivia  
Brazil  
Chile  
Colombia  
Ecuador  
Uruguay  
Venezuela



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I understand that the workshop was a great success and the participants were very satisfied with what they learned, enabling them to become information literacy trainers themselves. This was the major expected result and outcome of the global workshop series project.

*Abdul W. Khan, former Assistant Director-General for Communication & Information at UNESCO*

to all sectors of society.

Workshops were held in Canada, China, Egypt, Estonia, India, Jamaica, Malaysia, Peru, Spain, South Africa and Turkey. A total of 761 participants benefitted from the training, which was delivered using both face-to-face and on-line modalities. The eleven face-to-face workshops resulted in 627 participants being trained with a further 134 participants trained through an on-line workshop. Participants were drawn from 99 different countries, representing all of the major geographic regions of the world.

The skills developed have in turn enabled these trainers to provide vital information literacy training to key groups including women, youth, unemployed and under-employed adults, migrant and refugee populations, people with disabilities, as well as rural and isolated populations.

Besides its initial goal of capacity-building, the training-the-trainers workshops have also served to catalyse the creation of global networks and communities of practice. These have fostered the sharing of experiences and the creation of fruitful, mutually beneficial partnerships amongst

*“I am so very happy it was such a big success!”*

*Forest Woody Horton, USA*

*“It was wonderful to have been invited for such a precious and informative session. It provided us with the opportunity to learn something quite fresh in the field of education”*

*Ashok Kumar Chauhan, Sri Lanka*

researchers and professionals. These global collaborations have spurred innovation in the field of information literacy, resulting in the translation and adaptation of training materials, organization of international conferences, seminars, research projects and a host of other activities around the world.

## INFORMATION LITERACY NETWORK

'In my country (Croatia), I have offered a range of workshops and training seminars on information literacy (IL). These were offered to school librarians and academic librarians. Right after the IFAP TTT Workshop, I started a course on IL at the faculty, which was offered not only to students from the Department of Information Sciences, but also to students from other departments, for example students entering the teacher profession etc. Also, based on insights gained through the IFAP TTT workshop, I have developed several regional projects on Media and Information Literacy.

Although there were many partnerships I have made and many colleagues who have since then become part of my professional and research network, the most fruitful connection was most definitely the established contact with the main organizer, Professor Serap Kurbanoglu during this workshop. It is not easy to list or classify all the different things and projects we have worked on since our first meeting at the TTT workshop, but the Grundtvig and Erasmus-funded projects and programmes are some major outcomes of our work areas.

We both had colleagues, friends and networks before. The great thing about our contact is that people from my network are now part of Serap's network and contacts too, so I would say that both our professional connections have multiplied. The result is that we now have a conference with a distinguished board of information literacy experts; probably the most representative list of IL experts in the world.'



Prof. Sonja Spiranec  
Assistant Professor

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb, Croatia



'The Training-the-Trainers workshop was certainly a great opportunity to expand my knowledge and my network in the field. It was just a start. After organizing this UNESCO workshop, I have made many presentations regarding Information Literacy (IL) in Turkey and shared most of the material I developed for UNESCO workshop with Turkish colleagues who did not have a chance to attend it (and also for those who do not speak English).

I still keep contact with most of the participants. These contacts bring new opportunities. I think my partnerships with Prof. Sonja Spiranec, Prof. Albert Boekhorst and Prof. Woody Horton were the most fruitful. We are involved in many cooperative activities. The two Erasmus Intensive Projects developed with Prof. Sonja Spiranec, are good examples of outcomes of our partnership.

Our biggest project to date was the organization of the European Conference on Information Literacy (ECIL), that was held in October 2013.

Woody Horton has also supported me and Sonja through his network. He helped to convince Paul Zurkowski, one of the first promoters of IL, to be our keynote speaker for the conference. I am also working with him on his Multilingual Information Literacy Resources project.

Albert Boekhorst is also a great support for ECIL. He has been a member of the Scientific Committees of other international conferences that my Department organizes. We have also worked together on the Moscow Declaration on Media and Information Literacy.'

Prof. Serap Kurbanoglu  
Organizer of Training the Trainers Workshop in  
Turkey Hacettepe University, Turkey



## IFLA MEDIA AND INFORMATION LITERACY RECOMMENDATIONS

In cooperation with UNESCO's Information for All Programme (IFAP), the IFLA Information Literacy Section drafted this document, which is available in several languages. In December 2011, these recommendations were formally endorsed by the IFLA Governing Board. The recommendations were also a topic at the international conference of Media and Information Literacy for Knowledge Societies in Moscow, Russia.

In order to survive and develop, make decisions and solve problems in every walk of life personal, social, educational, and professional, individuals, communities and nations need information about themselves as well as their physical and their social environments. This information is available via three processes: observation and experimentation, conversation (with other people), and consultation (with memory institutions). The competence to do this effectively and efficiently is called 'Media and Information Literacy'.

Media and Information Literacy consists of the knowledge, the attitudes and the sum of the skills needed to know when and what information is needed, where and how to obtain that information, how to evaluate it critically and organize it once it is found and how to use it in an ethical way. The concept extends beyond communication and information technologies to encompass learning, critical thinking, and interpretative skills across and beyond professional and educational boundaries. Media and Information Literacy includes all types of information resources: oral, print and digital.

Media and Information Literacy is a new emerging field of human rights in an increasingly digital, interdependent and global world, and promotes greater social inclusion. It can bridge the gap between the information-rich and the information-poor. Media and Information Literacy empowers and endows individuals with knowledge of the functions of the media and information systems and the conditions under which these functions are performed. Media and Information Literacy is closely related to lifelong learning. Lifelong learning enables individuals, communities and nations to attain their goals and to take advantage of emerging opportunities in the evolving global environment for the shared benefit of all individuals, not just a few. It assists them and their institutions and organizations to meet their technological, economic and social challenges, to redress disadvantages, and to advance every individual's well-being.

Under the umbrella of the developing information/knowledge society at all levels local, regional, national and international, we urge governments and intergovernmental organizations as well as private institutions and organizations to pursue policies and programmes that advocate for and promote Media and Information Literacy and lifelong learning for all. In so doing, they will provide the vital foundation for fulfilling the goals of the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the World Summit on the Information Society.

In particular, IFLA recommends that governments and organizations do the following:

Commission research on the state of Media and Information Literacy and produce reports, using the Media and Information Literacy indicators as a basis, so that experts, educators and practitioners are able to design effective initiatives;

Support professional development for education, library, information, archive, and health and HR personnel in the principles and practices of Media and Information Literacy and lifelong learning;

Embed Media and Information Literacy education in all lifelong learning curricula;

Recognise Media and Information Literacy and lifelong learning as key elements for the development of generic capabilities which must be demonstrated for accreditation of all education and training programmes;

Include Media and Information Literacy in the core and continuing education of information professionals, educators, economic and government policy-makers and administrators, as well as in the practice of advisors to the business, industry and agriculture sectors;

Implement Media and Information Literacy programmes to increase the employability and entrepreneurial capacities of women and disadvantaged groups, including migrants, the underemployed and the unemployed; and,

Support thematic meetings which will facilitate the acquisition of Media and Information and Lifelong learning strategies within specific regions, sectors and population groups.



## MEDIA AND INFORMATION LITERACY TRAINING FOR YOUNG LEADERS IN BURKINA FASO

### IFAP supports African Youth Network in the popularization of ICTs

The rapid rise in the use of new information and communication technologies has provided new opportunities and tools to enable countries to realize their development goals. In a constantly changing environment, it is essential that communities, especially their young people, have access to training and basic skills on the internet and technology. Some African countries, however, still face challenges in accessing information and lack a critical mass of people skilled in the use of web 2.0 tools.

For this reason, the African Youth Network, with the financial support of the Information for All Programme, organized the development of information literacy training materials and conducted a training programme from December 2012 to November 2013. This programme targeted young female and male leaders affiliated with youth associations and civil society groups in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger. To ensure the longer-term sustainability of this initiative and to provide a multiplier effect, the project included a train-the-trainer component. In addition to their theoretical preparation, the 20 participants in the train-the-trainer programme were also actively involved as trainers in the second phase of the project where they were able to collectively train an additional 270 young men and women.

This project has supported the

#### ■ GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: Regional

REGION: Africa

COUNTRIES: Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger

YEAR: 2013

PARTNERS:

- African Youth Network

capacity-building of a total of 380 young men and women and provided the key enabling elements which will allow these youth networks to continue to build the skills of other youths. Furthermore, the augmented skills now available to the youth associations and NGOs with whom these trainees are affiliated will enable these organizations to more effectively respond to contemporary development challenges such as HIV/AIDS, unemployment and desertification. In a region threatened by conflict and instability, IFAP's efforts to empower young people to use information and knowledge and become personally involved as positive change agents is an important investment towards regional peace and prosperity.

The first phase of the project took place in the conference room of Yam Pukri NGO and brought together around a hundred young leaders



The internet and traditional media, such as television, radio, newspapers etc., are channels through which young people can not only access information, but also produce and disseminate their own information.

*Daniel Da Hien, Coordinator,  
African Youth Network*

from Burkina Faso and Niger.

In addition, there was complementary training in preparation for the project's second phase, which has strengthened the knowledge and skills of eight young Nigerians, four Malians and eight Burkinabés in technical ICT training.

In the second phase, the 20 young people who have benefited from the training activity conducted training sessions for other young people in their respective countries. The overall objective of this phase was to train 300 young people to enable them to acquire, use and disseminate information and knowledge through ICTs.

The General Coordinator of the African Youth Network, Daniel Da Hien, in his opening remarks, encouraged young people to take an interest in ICTs, as this is a way through which people can not only access information, but also produce and disseminate it. He also emphasized that ICTs contribute to bringing people together, promoting an intercultural understanding and dialogue, as a prerequisite for the maintenance of peace and democracy.



1. Training session in Niger
  2. Project's official opening ceremony
  3. Gender balance was respected
- © Réseau Afrique Jeunesse

# INFORMATION PRESERVATION





# INFORMATION PRESERVATION

The increasing rate of information production coupled with changes in technologies, formats as well as the fragility of new data storage media is putting at risk our future ability to access digital knowledge. This working group interacts closely with the Memory of the World Programme to build the capacity of information professionals to develop and implement digital preservation standards and techniques as well as to support the exchange of best practice. Other roles include working with professional communities and policy-makers to raise awareness of this threat.



*Dietrich Schüller*

Chair of the Working Group on  
Information Preservation

*Mr. Dietrich Schüller (Austria; [dietch.schueller@oeaw.ac.at](mailto:dietch.schueller@oeaw.ac.at)) is a Vice-Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Council for IFAP and Chair of the Working Group on Information Preservation. He is the former director of the Phonogrammarchiv of the Austrian Academy of Sciences. Since 1989, he has been an expert in the Austrian Delegations to UNESCO's General Conferences. Mr. Schüller has been actively involved in international preservation activities as a trainer, consultant to audiovisual archives, as a member of the IASA Technical Committee and in the work of UNESCO's Memory of the World Programme since its inception. He is the author of numerous publications and guidelines on audiovisual preservation and is a lecturer at several Austrian Universities.*

## NATIONAL EXPERTS NOMINATED BY MEMBER STATES TO THE WORKING GROUP ON INFORMATION PRESERVATION IN 2012

### **BULGARIA**

Mrs Zlatina Nikolova  
*Chief expert, Ministry of Transport, Information Technology and Communication*

### **CHINA**

Mr Jie Zhou  
*Deputy Director of Information Resource Center, Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China*

### **EGYPT**

Dr Sherif Mahdy Abdou Essawy  
*Associate Professor, Faculty of Computers and Information, Cairo University*

### **ETHIOPIA**

Mr Motuma Temesgen Dessisa  
*Head of Office for Government Communication Affairs*

Ms Haimanot Zeleke Workineh  
*Information Service Directorate Director, Government Communication Affairs Office*

### **GUATEMALA**

Mr Moisés Jerez  
*Dean of the Faculty of Communication Science, University Mariano Galvez de Guatemala*

Ms Miriam F. Ramirez Pinto De Galvez  
*Professor, University of the Valley of Guatemala*

### **HUNGARY**

Mr Andras Sipos  
*Senior archivist, Budapest City Archives*

### **IRAN**

Mr Sirous Alidousti  
*Director of the Iranian Research Institute for Information Science and Technology, Ministry of Science, Research and Technology*

### **LATVIA**

Mr Andris Vilks  
*Director of National Library of Latvia*

### **LESOTHO**

Mr Tsebo Mats'asa  
*Communication and Information Committee Member & National Director of Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA)*

### **PAKISTAN**

Mr Javed Akhtar  
*Assistant Director, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting*

### **POLAND**

Mr Wojciech Wozniak  
*Director, archivist, National Digital Archives*

### **SLOVAKIA**

Mr Alojz Androvič  
*Director of the Section Informatics & Deputy General Director, University Library of Bratislava*

### **THAILAND**

Mrs Usanee Sritanyarat  
*Executive Director of Foreign Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

### **UKRAINE**

Mr Vladimir Gritsenko  
*Director of the International Research and Training Center For Information Technologies and System, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine*

### **VENEZUELA**

Mr Santos Himiob  
*Head of the Centre for Documentation and Research in Library and Information Science, National Library of Venezuela*





## OVERVIEW OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE WORKING GROUP ON INFORMATION PRESERVATION

The Working Group on Information Preservation is composed of experts covering all fields of information preservation – from preservation and restoration of traditional materials like palm leaf documents to digital information and electronic databases. The core of the working group is formed by the Sub-Committee on Technology of the Memory of the World Programme, augmented by representatives from NGOs of the Libraries and Archives Sector. Working group members are permanently engaged in matters related to information preservation in their respective countries and regions, as well as in conferences and workshop worldwide. In the UNESCO context, specific inputs have been made to the conference on 'Multilingualism in cyberspace', Yakutsk, July 2011, and to the Moscow Conference on 'Preservation of digital information in the information society', October 2011. Major contributions have been made to the planning, organization, and the programme of the conference 'The Memory of the World in the digital age', Vancouver, September 2013.

As a think tank, the working group has been monitoring the situation of information preservation worldwide related to urgent problems in the field of information preservation for inclusion in UNESCO's regular programme.

## FOUNDING MEMBERS OF THE IFAP WORKING GROUP ON INFORMATION PRESERVATION

### Members of the Memory of the World Sub-Committee on Technology (SCoT)

Jonas Palm (Chair of Sub-Committee)  
 Arkivråd (Director, Head of Division) - Norway  
 Riksarkivet (National Archives) - Sweden  
 Bevarandebyrån (Division of Preservation) - Sweden  
*Jonas Palm is a specialist in photography preservation and general issues of digital preservation*

Michael Alexander (Rapporteur) United Kingdom  
*Michael Alexander, formerly of the British Library, is a specialist in electronic document preservation*

Kevin Bradley - Australia  
 Sound Preservation and Technical Services  
 National Library of Australia. *In addition to sound preservation, Kevin Bradley is also a specialist in the design and structure of digital preservation for documents of all kinds*

Fernando Osorio - Mexico  
 Director of Conservation of the Imaging and Audiovisual Collections  
 Fundacion Televisa, AC  
*Fernando Orsorio is a specialist in photography and film preservation and an Associate of the Image Permanence Institute, Rochester, a leading body in this field*

Lai Tee PHANG - Singapore  
 National Archives of Singapore  
*Lai Tee Phang is a specialist in the preservation of traditional document materials*

### Representatives of NGOs

Coordinating Council of Audiovisual Archives Associations (CCAAA)  
Kurt Deggeller - Switzerland  
CCAAA represents 7 NGOs in the field of audiovisual preservation. Kurt Deggeller is the founding director of the Fonoteca Nazionale Svizzera, and Memoriav, the Swiss Working Party of Audiovisual Archives

International Council on Archives (ICA)  
David Leitch – United Kingdom  
Secretary General  
International Council on Archives  
*David Leitch is a specialist in archive administration and currently Secretary General of the ICA*

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)  
Ute Schwens - Germany  
Permanent Deputy of the Director General of the German National Library  
Director of German National Library Frankfurt am Main  
Ute Schwens is a specialist in Digital Libraries

### Nominated by IFAP Council Member France (French National Commission for UNESCO)

Christine Deschamps - France  
*Christine Deschamps, a specialist in library automation, was inter alia IFLA President from 1997-2003*

## IFAP INFORMATION PRESERVATION WORKING GROUP PROPOSALS;

### 1) World Report on information preservation

A solid overview on the global situation of information preservation is the indispensable prerequisite for effective action planning, e.g. a roadmap for digital preservation, as recommended by participants of the UNESCO conference 'Memory of the World in the Digital Age: Digitization and Preservation', September 2012. As explicitly outlined, this project shall, in contrast to former World Reports, be designed to deliver relevant information in an economic way.

### 2) Safeguarding the hidden documents of linguistic and cultural diversity

This topic has been addressed in a keynote speech at the UNESCO conference 'Memory of the World in the Digital Age. Digitization and Preservation', September 2012 and is part of the recommendations of the Vancouver Declaration, the final document of the conference (recommendations to UNESCO Secretariat, paragraph g). It is of the greatest urgency, as the time window of availability of replay equipment for analogue and digital audiovisual documents is shrinking rapidly, and may already be many fewer than the 15 years originally quoted.

### 3) Open source software for digital preservation and data management

Open source software for digital preservation and data management was one of the issues of the UNESCO conference 'Memory of the World in Digital Age: Digitization and Preservation', September 2012. It plays a crucial role in assisting developing countries to effectively meet the challenges of digital preservation.

### 4) Promoting international cooperation in format registries

This proposal reflects the underlying principles of the UNESCO conference 'Memory of the World in Digital Age: Digitization and Preservation' It is specifically addressed in its final document, the Vancouver Declaration (Recommendations to UNESCO Secretariat, paragraph d).

## MAGNETIC RELAY TAPE EQUIPMENT FADING OUT



Replay head of a standard magnetic audio tape player  
©UNESCO/ Nadja Wallaszkovits

Audio and video recordings capture humanity's linguistic and cultural diversity. Most of these recordings are still in their original state, in small and scattered collections around the world. Digitization is the only way to preserve and make them accessible to future generations. Action is urgently needed! Magnetic audio and video tape

formats are now obsolete, and equipment for playing them is disappearing rapidly. Recently, a final production order for 600 replay heads used in a standard audio tape player was made. Magnetic tape heads have a typical lifespan of 2,000-3,000 hours. Once the tape heads are worn out, then even the best-preserved tapes will become unplayable. Urgent action is needed NOW!

## IFAP PROJECTS

### FEATURED PROJECTS

- ▶ International conferences on digital information preservation
  - Preservation of Digital Information in the Information Society: Problems and Prospects (Russian Federation, 2011)
  - Memory of the World in the Digital Age: Digitization and Preservation (Canada, 2012)
- ▶ Establishment of Open Source Archival Repository and Preservation System (International, 2009-2010)
- ▶ Digitization of Grenada's National Archives (Grenada, 2013)

### OTHER ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Series of workshops on the preservation and development of linguistic diversity in cyberspace (2008–2012, Ukraine)
- ▶ Series of workshops and round tables on the preservation of digital content (2009–2013, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation, Ukraine)
- ▶ Establishment of the Centre for the Promotion of Multilingualism in Cyberspace in the Northeastern Federal University in Yakutsk (Russian Federation, 2010)
- ▶ Two All-Russian conferences on preservation of digital information (Russian Federation, 2012, 2013)

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES ON DIGITAL INFORMATION PRESERVATION

Digital information has a central role in contemporary society. As a cultural product and a source of knowledge, it impacts the economic, social and cultural aspects of life. Digital information also provides an important contribution to achieving sustainable development as personal, governmental and commercial information is increasingly created exclusively in digital format. Digitized assets contain enormous societal wealth and provide a means for shaping the transmission of this knowledge and legacy to future generations.

IFAP has therefore been undertaking actions to support the preservation of digital information. At policy level, IFAP has supported the development and implementation of the UNESCO Charter on the Preservation of Digital Heritage. In the area of capacity-building, the IFAP Working Group on Information Preservation, which also serves as the technical committee of UNESCO's Memory of the World Programme, has been supporting training, the diffusion of best practice and regional as well as international exchanges.

Despite these successes, IFAP has recognized that the rapid evolution in information and communication technologies, which are facilitating the creation and storage of digital information, are paradoxically a challenge to preservation efforts.

In 2011, to mark the start of the year-long celebrations of the 20th Anniversary of the Memory of the World Programme, IFAP organized an international

### ■ GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: International

REGION: North America & Europe

COUNTRIES: Russian Federation and Canada

YEAR: 2011-2012

PARTNERS:

- UNESCO's Memory of the World Programme
- University of British Columbia
- Russian Committee of IFAP

RESOURCES:

- Charter on the Preservation of Digital Heritage
- Moscow Declaration on Digital Information Preservation
- Vancouver Declaration 'The Memory of the World in the Digital Age: Digitization and Preservation'



conference "Preservation of Digital Information in the Information Society: Problems and Prospects" which was held in Moscow, from 3-5 October 2011. The event brought together over 150 leading experts from 37 countries representing stakeholder groups such as libraries, archives, museums, research and educational institutions, international organizations, governmental bodies, mass media, publishing houses as well as centres for scientific and technical information involved in the long-term preservation of digital information. Attendees reflected on a number of challenges in this field and approaches to improved sharing

experiences and raising awareness of the risk of the loss of digital heritage.

Participants developed and unanimously adopted the Moscow Declaration on Digital Information Preservation. The Declaration underscores the importance of the issues raised at the conference and offers a set of measures and efforts to be taken in different spheres of society, such as politics, education, scientific research, economics and the ICT industry, among others.

The Moscow conference was also the first preparatory event for UNESCO's international conference Memory of the World in the Digital Age: Digitization and Preservation, which took place from 26-28 September 2012 in Vancouver, in cooperation with the University of British Columbia. In Vancouver, more than 500 participants from 110 countries had the opportunity to find solutions at a global level and to address the range of legal, technological, social, financial, political and other obstacles to ensure the digital continuity of content.

IFAP made significant contributions to the Vancouver conference, serving as a member of the International Steering and Organizing Committees in addition to chairing the conference track on international cooperation.

The Vancouver Declaration identified strategies for contributing

to the greater protection of digital assets and offered a set of recommendations to UNESCO, its Member States, and industry and professional organizations. The outcomes of these international conferences are expected to advance efforts aimed at ensuring permanent access to digital documentary heritage.

IFAP is actively supporting the implementation of recommendations from both the Moscow and Vancouver conferences and has initiated follow-up programmes targeting Africa and the Caribbean.

Participants of the International Conference on Digital Preservation, Moscow, 2011

© Russian IFAP Committee



# PHOTO GALLERY

Alfredo Ronchi,  
Secretary  
General, MEDICI  
Framework of  
Cooperation  
(Italy)



Dietrich Schüller,  
Vice Chair,  
Intergovernmental  
Council of the  
UNESCO Information  
for All Programme



Peter Lor,  
Extraordinary  
Professor,  
University  
of Pretoria  
(South Africa)



Visit to the State  
Tretiakov Gallery

Photos: © Russian  
IFAP Committee



Sinikka Sipilä, President-  
Elect, IFLA; Secretary  
General, Finnish Library  
Association



## THE MOSCOW DECLARATION ON DIGITAL INFORMATION PRESERVATION

International conference Preservation of Digital Information in the Information Society: Problems and Prospects, Moscow, October 3–5, 2011

The preservation of digital information – a new problem of our era – concerns the whole world, and every man and woman. It comes at a time when electronic gadgetry is used in every sphere of life; when the volume of digitally-transmitted or digitized information is growing exponentially; when the variety of formats of information presentation, and the types and classes of digital objects is increasing apace; technology and software are being rapidly updated; the lifetime and reliability of present-day digital media do not meet the challenges of long-term information preservation; and last but not least, the virtual space of digital information impedes law enforcement and obliterates the borders between national jurisdictions. Despite all efforts, the preservation of digital information lags behind technical development and social changes.

For two millennia – ever since the Library of Alexandria was established – humankind has been learning to preserve information on analogue carriers. By the mid-20th century, with that goal in mind, all developed countries had established a ramified network of comprehensive and specialized libraries, archives, museums and scientific and technical information centres. They shared basic functions and actively interacted on their own level and between levels nationally and transnationally. They were all part of a sophisticated infrastructure comprising the press, research institutes, method-setting centres, the educational and personnel retraining system, national and international professional associations, equipment manufacturing industries, standardizing organizations, etc. The methods and criteria for information source selection, and sophisticated and globally standardized methods of information accounting and storing and metadata creation were regularly updated.

Unlike the situation in analogue data storage, a majority of countries have not yet:

- elaborated the philosophy of long-term preservation of digital information;
- established a regulatory legal basis and efficient policies leading to its establishment; or
- created an infrastructure for digital information preservation (all too often, its relevance is not even realized).

Traditional memory institutions of these countries – libraries, archives and



museums – cannot cope with the snowballing amount of digital information, and are making public their alarm.

The international conference 'Preservation of Digital Information in the Information Society: Problems and Prospects' was initiated to enhance the understanding of the importance, scope and topicality of preserving digital information in the professional milieu, at the political level and among the general public, to promote the evaluation of priority problems and political and professional strategies in the sphere of digital information preservation and to streamline global, regional and national policies, legislation and practical activities in this field.

Convened in Moscow, the conference took place on 3–5 October, 2011, and brought together approximately 150 participants representing 37 countries: heads and leading experts of major libraries, archives, museums, research institutes, universities, international organizations, government bodies, media outlets, publishers, research and technical information centres, the ICT industry and other entities interested in the elaboration of the theme of digital information preservation.

The Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, the Federal Agency for Press and Mass Communications, the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO, the Russian Committee of the UNESCO Information for All Programme, the Interregional Library Cooperation Centre, and the State Tretyakov Gallery jointly organized the conference within the framework of Russia's chairmanship of UNESCO's Information for All Programme.

The conference concluded on the necessity of urgent political and practical measures. Otherwise, the world may discover in the near future that:

- a huge amount of internet and other information, including information pertaining to history, culture and research (the content of portals, websites, blogs, social networking sites, celebrities' electronic correspondence, private and institutional electronic archives, etc.) has never been collected and so is irretrievably lost to future generations;
- a vast amount of digitized information has been lost, either because its digitization had no adequate support, or it was not catalogued correctly and in time, and so cannot be retrieved, or it was not properly stored or, again, was not transferred into new digital formats in due time.

By guaranteeing the reliable passage of information from person to person and from generation to generation, we can prevent the advent of the so-called 'Dark Information Age', also described as 'digital Alzheimers' and 'digital amnesia'. Efforts to preserve digital information should start the instant a piece of information emerges.

Building on the above, conference participants declared the following measures necessary in the following spheres:

1. Politics. Support of the formation and development of the philosophy, strategy and policy of preserving digital information at the national and international level, which comprise socio-cultural, ethical, legal, economic,



administrative, personnel, technical, technological and other aspects. The preservation of digital information must become an inalienable part of cultural and educational research and information policy, and the policy of information society building.

2. Information/education. Promotion of the awareness of decision-makers and the general public on the potential risks and basic principles pertaining to digital information storage, including long-term storage.

3. Education. Promotion of the elaboration, development and circulation of educational curricula and training courses of varying levels for the heads and experts of memory institutions (mainly libraries, archives, museums and scientific and technical information centres) and other institutions that are (or should be) involved in activities toward the preservation of digital information. Inclusion of basic knowledge and competences connected with digital information preservation in activities/programmes/curricula, enhancing the Media and Information Literacy of professionals in the information field and the general public.

4. Research. Promotion of research in the philosophical, political, economic, socio-cultural, organizational, legal, personnel, technological, methodological, method-setting, ethical and other aspects of the preservation of digital information. Support of national and transnational cooperation to elaborate decisions and standards, and experience exchanges for the preservation of digital information.

5. Economy. Elaboration of basic organizational principles of funding the long-term preservation of digital information by traditional memory institutions. Inclusion of the evaluation of efforts, approaches and decisions from the point of feasibility in the number of mandatory components of strategies and activities in the preservation of digital information, and raising relevant public awareness.

6. Cooperation. Promotion of interdepartmental cooperation of memory and educational institutions and administrative bodies with private businesses and other stakeholders of digital preservation processes, including public and private initiatives and projects; development of international cooperation.

7. ICT industry. Establishment and strengthening of cooperation with the ICT industry to include procedures promoting/guaranteeing long-term preservation of digital information in operating systems and basic supplementary packages. Promotion of the elaboration and implementation of free and open software for the preservation of digital information.

The conference addresses the following proposals:

to UNESCO:

- To use the UNESCO Information for All Programme, which includes information preservation, in its five top priorities as an international interdisciplinary and interinstitutional platform for the formation of the political framework, for discussions and experience exchanges.
- To update the Charter on the Preservation of Digital Heritage, and upgrade it as a regulatory instrument of a high political level.
- To consider the preparation of a World Report on the Preservation of Digital Information with the following goals in view:





- all-round and fully comprehensive definition of problems and challenges connected with the preservation of digital information;
- analysis of the present state of activities to preserve digital information that seeks to meet such challenges and addresses problems arising; identification of the perpetrators of these activities; assessment of their goals, and means and methods of such activities;
- awareness of the actual/desirable patterns of coordinating relevant efforts at the national, regional and global levels;
- assessment of the level of familiarity with and apprehension towards the various aspects of information preservation by decision-makers, heads and experts of memory and other relevant institutions, and the general public;
- elaboration of action plans at various levels and on various approaches pertaining to the sphere of digital information preservation, and of a system of indicators of the success of the implementation of such plans.

to IFLA:

- In cooperation with UNESCO, to contribute to the elaboration and circulation of quality educational programmes and curricula on the preservation of digital information for library managers and personnel.
- To encourage the inclusion of components pertaining to the preservation of digital information in information literacy programmes and curricula.
- To actively participate in research aimed at:
  - elaboration of criteria for the evaluation and selection of electronic content for long-term storage;
  - responsibility delineation of memory institutions;
  - exposure of gaps (unprotected digital heritage);
  - creation of a regulatory framework for activities at various levels to preserve digital information and exchanges of work experience, methods and technologies.

to national governments:

- To include the preservation of digital information as an inalienable part of cultural, educational, research and information policy, and as part of any national information society policy;
- To support research into the various aspects of the preservation of digital information.

to governmental and non-governmental institutions involved in digitization projects:

- To include the long-term preservation of digital content produced by digitization projects as an integral component of project planning and execution.

## DIGITIZATION OF GRENADA'S NATIONAL ARCHIVES

### Recovering, treating and preserving national historical documents

For many years, Grenada's National Archives have been endangered by weather conditions and the lack of preservation action and proper storage. Following UNESCO's efforts to support Member States' capacities in Africa and the Caribbean in the priority areas of IFAP, and to give effect to the Recommendations made in the Vancouver Declaration adopted at UNESCO's 'The Memory of the World in the Digital Age: Digitization and Preservation' conference, held in Vancouver in 2012, IFAP supported an information preservation project in Grenada in 2013.

The project was undertaken by the Grenada National Library, with the support of the Grenada National Commission for UNESCO, in Saint George's. The objectives were to provide equipment and knowledge to reinforce the capability of the Grenada National Library to

#### ■ GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: National

REGION: Caribbean

COUNTRIES: Grenada

YEAR: 2013

PARTNERS:

- Grenada National Library
- Grenada National Commission for UNESCO

RESOURCES:

- Guidelines for the Preservation of Digital Heritage



preserve, digitize and safeguard their collection. In addition to technology for preservation actions, the project also included the training of local staff in digitization and preservation techniques, as well as the elaboration of a plan of use to safeguard national documentary heritage.

The documents of the national archives – parliamentary records, minutes of Cabinet meetings, committee proceedings, deeds, land registries, colonial government documents, periodicals, newspapers etc. – are stored in different sites, such as the Office of the Governor General, the National Museum and the Fort George Police Station. They have an enormous value and some of the historical records date back to 1764, just after the British capture of the island in 1762. Efforts

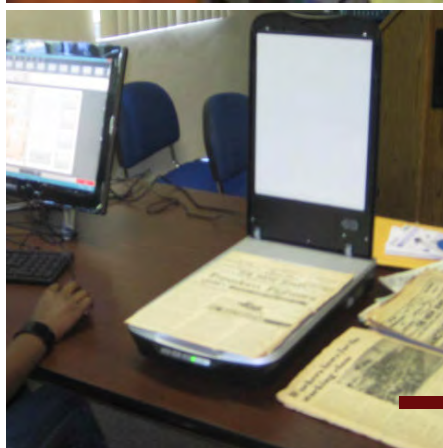
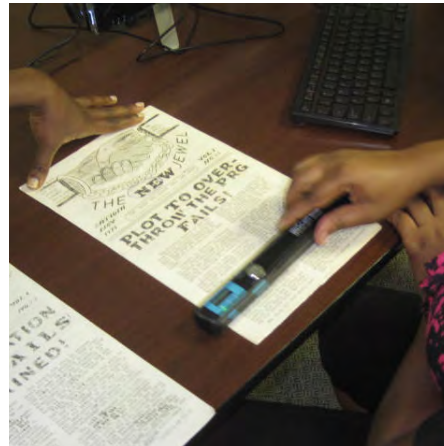
Camera studio station for digitizing national documents

© Grenada National Commission for UNESCO



concentrated on the identification, treatment and proper storage of these valuable records. As a follow-up, these sensitive documents have been digitized to ensure that their valuable content can be accessed without putting the originals at further risk.

This process has been guided by UNESCO's 'Guidelines for the Preservation of Digital Heritage', as well as the recommendations of relevant archival professional bodies such as the International Council on Archives (ICA) and the International Association of Sound and Audio-visual Archives (IASA).



1. Equipment used to digitize documents
2. Camera studio station
2. Training for the project implementation
3. Scanning and archiving documents

© Grenada National Commission for UNESCO

## ESTABLISHMENT OF AN OPEN SOURCE ARCHIVAL REPOSITORY AND PRESERVATION SYSTEM

The IFAP priority area of information preservation is of even greater importance today in light of the rapid growth in the volume of digital content and the fragility of this content. Digital content has tremendous cultural, scientific and social value and should be a legacy safeguarded for future generations. As part of its work, the IFAP Working Group for Information Preservation has undertaken a concerted effort aimed at investigating ways to reduce both the challenges and costs of preservation in the digital era. A report on this work was published in 2007. The report revealed that affordable tools, technology and training were essential for the digital preservation of digital objects and also that with little effort a practical open-source system for digital preservation could be constructed. The study further argued that such a system would provide enormous advanced and reduce the cost barriers of preserving digital heritage.

As part of the effort to support the implementation of the report's recommendations, a project aimed at developing an open source archival system was conceived and implemented by IFAP in cooperation with the International Council of Archives (ICA). The project focused on extending an on-going open source project initiated by the City of Vancouver Archives and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The open, collaborative development process adopted has served to facilitate the involvement

### ■ GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: International

REGION: North America

COUNTRIES: Canada

YEAR: 2009-2010

#### PARTNERS:

- City of Vancouver Archives
- International Monetary Fund
- Artefactual Systems Inc.
- International Council of Archives (ICA)

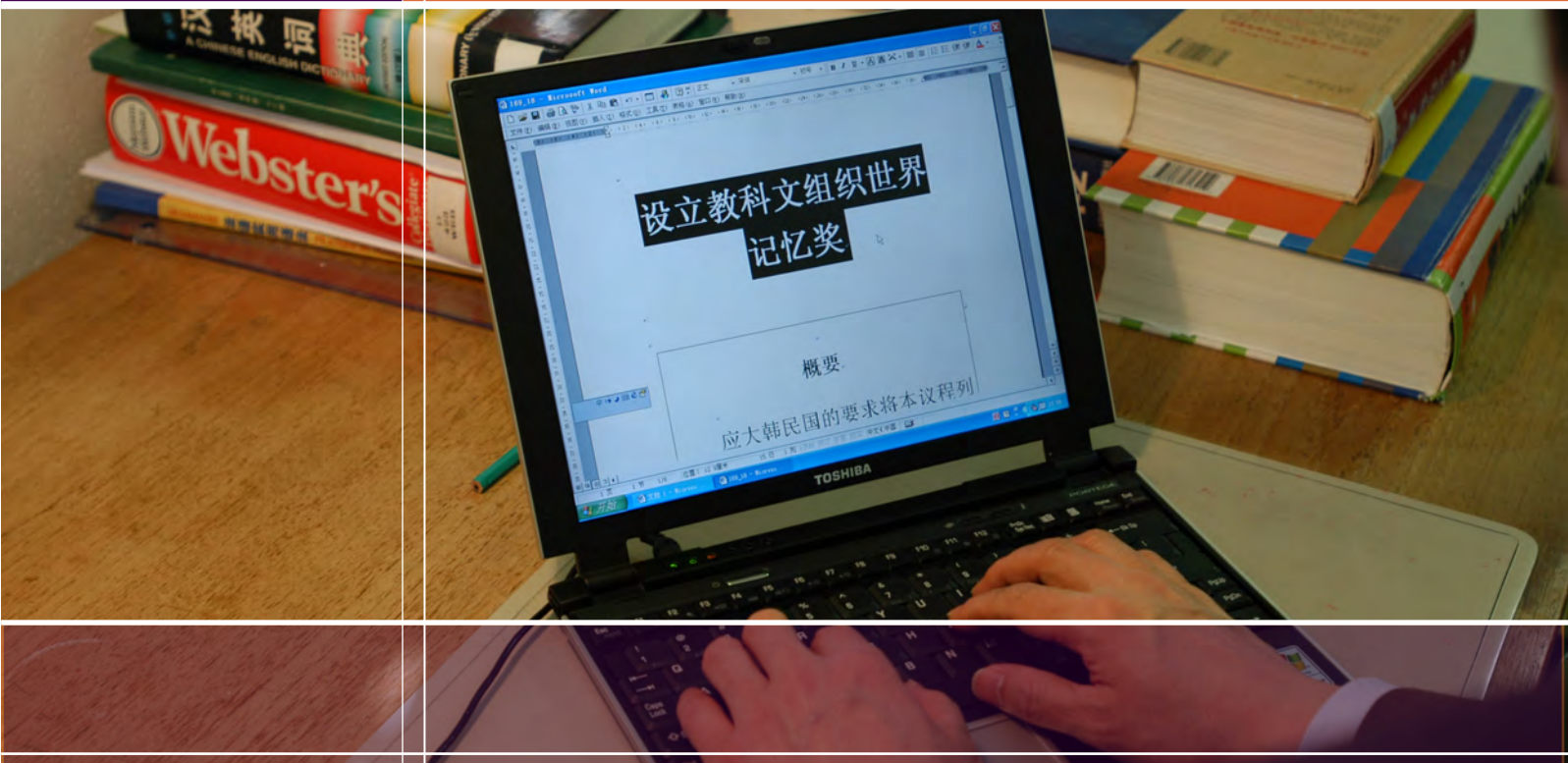
#### RESOURCES:

- Archivemtica website
- International Council of Archives website



of a range of partners from civil society, the private and the public sector spanning both institutions and individuals. The eclectic mix has in turn stimulated innovation. IFAP's support has served to enable the rich and extensive network of partners to conduct research and prototype development activities that are necessary for the open source archival repository and preservation system. Although the task is still ongoing, IFAP's intervention brought additional impetus, greater global awareness and recognition amongst policy-makers for the urgent need to address digital preservation. In addition, the software, networks and research generated by this IFAP intervention provide a solid base for affordable solutions to address the digital preservation challenge.

# MULTILINGUALISM





## MULTILINGUALISM

Language is a primary means for communicating information and knowledge, therefore the ability to access content on the internet in a language which one can use is a key determinant of the extent to which one can participate in knowledge societies. Through its work with various international partners, this working group is promoting international exchanges and research, in addition to the development of tools and resources that contribute to realizing multilingualism on-line, capacity-building and raising awareness amongst policy-makers and key stakeholders.



*Evgeny Kuzmin*  
Chair of the Working Group  
on Multilingualism

*Mr. Evgeny Kuzmin (Russian Federation; kuzmin@ifapcom.ru) is the Chairperson of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Information for All Programme (IFAP) and Chair of the Russian National IFAP Committee. Throughout his career, he has made important contributions to international cooperation in the IFAP priority areas, organized numerous regional and international conferences and serves as an international expert. From 1992 to 2005 he was Head of the Library Department of the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation and was instrumental in the implementation of national programmes for modernizing libraries, promoting reading and providing free access to information. From 1997 to 2001, he was a member of the International Advisory Committee of the Memory of the World Programme. Since 2005, he has been a member of the Russian Federation's Commission for UNESCO. Other international cooperation and expert roles include serving as a member of the International Federation of Library Associations' (IFLA) Governing Board. Mr Kuzmin is also the President of the NGO Interregional Library Cooperation Centre and the author, compiler, science editor and publisher of some 60 books on cultural and information policy.*



## NATIONAL EXPERTS NOMINATED BY MEMBER STATES TO THE WORKING GROUP ON MULTILINGUALISM IN 2012

### **BULGARIA**

Mrs Anelia Dimova  
Information Society Policy Expert,  
Ministry of Transport, IT and  
Communications

### **CHINA**

Mr Junsheng Zhang  
Associate Professor, Institute of  
Scientific and Technical Information  
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### **ETHIOPIA**

Mr Motuma Temesgen Dessisa  
Head of Office for Government  
Communication Affairs

Ms Haimanot Zeleke Workineh  
Information Service Directorate  
Director, Government  
Communication Affairs Office

### **GUATEMALA**

Mr Moisés Jerez  
Dean of the Faculty of  
Communication Science, University  
Mariano Galvez de Guatemala

Ms Miriam F. Ramirez Pinto De Galvez  
Professor, University of the Valley of  
Guatemala

### **IRAN**

Mr Sirous Alidousti  
Director of the Iranian Research  
Institute for Information Science and  
Technology, Ministry of Science,  
Research and Technology

### **LATVIA**

Ms Inguna Skadina  
Professor at Liepaja University; Senior  
researcher at Institute of Mathematics  
and Computer Science, University of  
Latvia; Chief Scientific Officer at Tilde

### **LESOTHO**

Mr Tieho Rankhone Communications  
and Information Programme  
Coordinator, Lesotho National  
Commission for UNESCO

### **LITHUANIA**

Ms Vilma Bačkiūtė  
Chief Officer, Ministry of Education  
and Science

### **PAKISTAN**

Mr Javed Akhtar  
Assistant Director, Ministry of  
Information and Broadcasting

### **POLAND**

Mr Wojciech Wozniak  
Director, archivist, National Digital  
Archives

### **THAILAND**

Mrs Usanee Sritanyarat  
Executive Director of Foreign Office,  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

### **UKRAINE**

Mr Vladimir Gritsenko  
Director of the International Research  
and Training Center For Information  
Technologies and System, National  
Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and  
Ministry of Education and Science of  
Ukraine

### **VENEZUELA**

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## IFAP PROJECTS

### FEATURED PROJECTS

- ▶ **International conferences on Multilingualism in Cyberspace**
  - International conference on Multilingualism in Cyberspace (Russian Federation, 2008)
  - 2nd international conferences on Multilingualism in Cyberspace (Russian Federation, 2011)
- ▶ **Team-teaching English (Thailand, 2008)**
- ▶ **Our city, our voices: Immigrant newscasts in the digital age (USA, 2008-2009)**

### OTHER ACTIVITIES

- ▶ **3rd international symposium on Multilingualism in Cyberspace (Paris, 18-20 November 2012)**
- ▶ **'NetLang: Towards Multilingual Cyberspace'**

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES ON MULTILINGUALISM

UNESCO has been warning the world that more than half of the 7,000 live languages may become extinct within several generations. Wise ethno-linguistic policies and modern information technologies offer a chance to, at the very least, slow down these processes. The loss of these languages with their cultural content and knowledge could inflict a great deal of harm on humankind. Securing languages' presence and development in cyberspace is an important step in ensuring their preservation. Therefore, one of IFAP's major goals is to face these challenges and promote possible ways to overcome language marginalization.

During the 2008–2013 period, IFAP organized two international conferences on multilingualism in cyberspace. The first 'International Conference on Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace' took place from 2-4 July 2008 in Yakutsk, Russian Federation. The conference aimed to support and develop linguistic and cultural diversity in cyberspace and political, cultural, social, ethical and technological aspects of research and development in this area were discussed. In addition, issues related to the use of information and communication technologies to safeguard all languages were examined. The event was organized by the Government of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) and the Russian Federal Agency for Culture and Cinematography, in cooperation with the UNESCO Office in Moscow and the Russian National IFAP Committee.

The Conference resulted in the adoption of the Lena Resolution,

### ■ GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: International

REGION: Europe

COUNTRIES: Russian Federation

YEAR: 2008/2011

PARTNERS:

- Interregional Library Cooperation Centre
- Government of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)
- National Library of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia)
- National Committee of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) for UNESCO
- The North-Eastern Federal University
- The MAAYA World Network for Linguistic Diversity
- Latin Union
- Russian Federal Agency for Culture and Cinematography
- Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation
- UNESCO Moscow Office
- Russian Committee for IFAP

RESOURCES:

- Lena Resolution
- Yakutsk Call for action
- Net.Lang
- Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in the Cyberspace
- Securing a place for a language in cyberspace



which established the foundations for a series of future initiatives and provided concrete recommendations for advancing linguistic diversity in cyberspace. Following the Lena Resolution, the Multilingualism in Cyberspace Centre was established in Yakutia in 2010, at the North-

Eastern Federal University under the auspices of the Russian Committee of IFAP and UNESCO's Moscow Bureau.

The second conference was again held in Yakutsk and took place from 12-14 July 2011. This conference resumed the discussion of the first conference and focused on policies, standards and instruments for the preservation and development of linguistic and cultural diversity in cyberspace. It was organized by the Russian Committee of IFAP, the North-Eastern Federal University, the Interregional Library Cooperation Centre, the MAAVA World Network for Linguistic Diversity, and Latin Union, with the support of the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, UNESCO and the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO.

During the conference, an important policy resource, the publication 'Net.Lang: Towards the Multilingual Cyberspace', prepared by the MAAVA World Network for Linguistic Diversity with the support of UNESCO, Latin Union, the African Network for Localization and the International Development Resource Centre was presented to conference participants. The publication contains articles prepared by representatives of 15 countries. The conference also unanimously adopted an action plan – Yakutsk Call for Action: a Roadmap

towards the World Summit on Multilingualism (2017).

While the first conference was attended by over 100 participants from 15 countries, the second conference gathered about 100 experts from more than 30 countries and all continents, including Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Brazil, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, China, Dominican Republic, Egypt, France, Japan, India, Kazakhstan, Korea, Kyrgyzstan, Mali, Mexico, Nigeria, Norway, Russia, South Africa, Thailand, the UK and the USA.

Both conferences were attended by heads and leading experts of intergovernmental and international organizations, NGOs, government bodies, agencies and institutions of culture, education, science, information and communications, private companies, civil society and media.



1. Jan Henry Keskitalo (Norway) and Evgenia Mikhailova (Russia)

2. Virach Sornlertlamvanich (Thailand) and Marcel Diki-Kidiri (CAR)

3. Adama Samassekou (Mali) and Nadezhda Zaikova (Russia)

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# PHOTO GALLERY

Daniel Prado  
(France)



Bailey Dwayne (South  
Africa) and Katsuko  
Tanaka Nakahira  
(Japan)



Conference  
opening gala in  
the Government  
House of the  
Republic of  
Sakha (Yakutia)



Meeting  
conference  
participants at  
Yakutsk airport



Adama Samassekou,  
Evgenia Mikhailova, and  
Nicolay Zhirkov



Photos: © Russian  
IFAP Committee



## LENA RESOLUTION

International conference on Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace  
Yakutsk, Russian Federation, 2-4 July 2008

The international conference on Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace was held under UNESCO auspices in Yakutsk, Russian Federation, from 2 – 4 July, 2008. This conference represents the Russian Federation's contribution to the United Nations International Year of Languages.

The conference was organized by the Government of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), the Russian Federation's Federal Agency for Culture and Cinematography, the UNESCO Moscow Office, the Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO, the Russian Committee of the UNESCO Information for All Programme, the Interregional Center of Library Cooperation, the National Library of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), and the Committee of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) for UNESCO.

The conference gathered together more than 100 representatives from 15 countries and all continents—leaders and staff members of intergovernmental and international nongovernmental organizations, government bodies, agencies and institutions of culture, education, research, information and communications, business, civil society and the mass media, as well as political and community leaders and leading experts.

The conference discussed the political, cultural, social, ethical and technological aspects of research and development of linguistic and cultural diversity in cyberspace, and examined issues related to the use of information and communication technologies to safeguard all languages.

The participants held three plenary meetings and five thematic sections: Political, Ethical and Legal Aspects of the Development of Multilingualism in Cyberspace; The internet and Other Media; The Role of Libraries in the Preservation of Linguistic Diversity; Languages and Education; and The Preservation and Development of Cultural Diversity.

In concluding its work, the conference agreed on the following resolution: The participants of the international conference on Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace (Yakutsk, Russian Federation, 2 – 4 July, 2008),

1. Recalling the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity, adopted at the 31st session of the UNESCO General Conference in 2001, which says that 'cultural diversity as a source of exchange, innovation and creativity is just as indispensable for humanity as biological diversity for Nature, and is a treasure shared by the entire human race',
2. Recalling further the Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace, adopted at the 32nd session of the UNESCO General Conference in 2003,

3. Taking into account the key documents of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action (first phase in Geneva, 2003) and Tunis Commitment and Tunis Agenda for the Information Society (second phase in Tunis, 2005) which all emphasize the importance of the preservation of cultural and linguistic diversity and suggest a set of measures necessary to achieve this goal,
4. Emphasizing the need to continue preserving multilingualism because languages are stores of a rich and vast amount of human heritage and knowledge, as well as necessary instruments for social life, the expression and dissemination of social and cultural traditions, self-identification and preservation of the human dignity of their speakers,
5. Recognizing that the dissemination of multilingual information on the history, languages and culture of different nations contributes to the promotion of tolerance and mutual understanding and guarantees a peaceful sustainable development of contemporary civilization,
6. Taking into account that the current absence of certain languages in cyberspace contributes to the widening of the already existing digital information gap,
7. Considering that the current information and communication technologies offer new opportunities for the preservation of linguistic and cultural heritage for equal and universal access to knowledge,
8. Bearing in mind the messages of the Director-General of UNESCO on the occasion of the International Year of Languages in 2008, the World Day for Cultural Diversity, for Dialogue and Development on 21 May, and the International Mother Language Day on 21 February,
9. Thanking the Director -General of UNESCO for his message at the opening of the current international conference on Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace,
10. Thanking also the Government and the people of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) for their hearty hospitality, which ensured the success of the conference,

Consider it necessary:

- (a) to use every opportunity to promote the preservation of linguistic and cultural diversity in cyberspace and elsewhere;
- (b) to stress the importance of implementing the Recommendations of the World Summit on the Information Society (Geneva, 2003, and Tunis, 2005), the international conference 'UNESCO between Two Phases of the World Summit on the Information Society' (St. Petersburg, 2005), in particular action C8 (Cultural Diversity and Cultural Identity, Linguistic Diversity and Local Content), and the thematic meeting on 'Multilingualism for Cultural Diversity and Participation of All in Cyberspace', organized by UNESCO in preparation for the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (Bamako, Mali, 2005);
- (c) to invite the UNESCO Intergovernmental Council of the Information



for All Programme to examine the possibility of creating an expert group on multilingualism in cyberspace;

(d) to suggest to UNESCO and MAAYA (World Network for Linguistic Diversity) to convene a World Summit on Linguistic Diversity in Cyberspace;

(e) to support the ACALAN (African Academy of Languages) and MAAYA initiative for a World Forum on Multilingualism.

Suggest in particular,

(f) inviting all interested organizations and private people to contribute to the UNESCO website 'Languages Matter!', dedicated to the International Year of Languages, and to the discussion forum 'Communication and Information', organized by UNESCO as a follow-up to the decisions of the World Summit on the Information Society in action line C8 (Cultural Diversity and Identity, Linguistic Diversity and Local Content), by submitting information on their own projects in support of linguistic diversity;

(g) to invite the national committees of the UNESCO Information for All Programme to elaborate indigenous and minority linguistic programmes promoting linguistic and cultural diversity in cyberspace;

(h) to call to the attention of governmental and other organizations regulating television, radio and mobile telephones environments the necessity of considering the opportunity of using the latest technologies for broadcasting in minority languages during the media switch to digital broadcasting;

(i) to continue searching for fair and balanced solutions between the international copyright and intellectual property legislation and regulatory frameworks for the formation of digital libraries responsible for cultural and linguistic diversity;

(j) to increase support for libraries, museums and archives in the access to and preservation of multilingualism and dissemination of information representing cultural and linguistic diversity;

(k) to promote the elaboration and dissemination of relevant free open source software, fonts and other technical means necessary for the use of languages in cyberspace;

(l) to promote the elaboration and dissemination of a unified and universally accessible set of fonts and diacritic marks supporting the languages of all cultural groups in the Russian Federation, along with Unicode enhancements as necessary;

(m) to continue promoting the activities aimed at documenting, preserving and developing languages, mainly minority languages, through the latest information technologies;

(n) to continue promoting the elaboration of multilingual thesauri and dictionaries and the inclusion of minority languages into internationally accepted thesauri on cultural heritage such as UNESCO, HEREIN, ICONCLASS, Getty, Garnier etc.;

(o) to continue the study of ethical aspects of the preservation of







linguistic and cultural diversity in cyberspace, and their consideration in the activities aimed at preserving and promoting such diversity;

(p) to step up activities for the introduction, promotion and enhancement of minority languages in the educational systems and the expansion of their application and use (in the government sector, the sphere of research and art, on television, radio, etc.);

(q) to suggest to the participating countries the monitoring of language diversity on the internet;

(r) to extend international cooperation with all interested organizations including the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA), the Conference of Directors of National Libraries (CDNL) and the International Indigenous Librarians Forum (IILF);

(s) to invite the Government of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) to consider establishing a competence centre for the study and promotion of multilingualism in cyberspace and for sharing its experiences with the world at large.



## YAKUTSK CALL FOR ACTION

### A roadmap towards the World Summit on Multilingualism (2017)

2nd international conference on Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace

Russian Federation, 12-14 July, 2011

#### PREAMBLE

The 2nd international conference on Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace was held in Yakutsk, Russian Federation, from 12 – 14 July, 2011 in the framework of the Russian chairmanship of the UNESCO Information for All Programme. The event was organized by the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, Commission of the Russian Federation for UNESCO, UNESCO, Russian Committee of the UNESCO Information For All Programme, the North-Eastern Federal University, the Interregional Library Cooperation Centre, MAAYA World Network for Linguistic Diversity, and Union Latine.

The conference, which held several working sessions and plenary meetings, attracted over 100 participants from more than 30 countries and all continents. It was attended by leaders and experts of intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations, government bodies, agencies and institutions of culture, education, research, information and communications, representatives of private sector, civil society and the mass media.

The conference tackled the three major themes dealing with 1) Instruments for language preservation and promotion in cyberspace, 2) Institutes to promote linguistic and cultural diversity, and 3) Creating a positive environment for the promotion of linguistic and cultural diversity in cyberspace.

A roadmap towards the World Summit on Multilingualism has been proposed and approved by the participants.

#### I. Achievements since the Lena Resolution (Yakutsk, Russian Federation, 2008)

The Lena resolution was adopted at the 1st conference on Linguistic and cultural diversity held in 2008, proclaimed by the UN as the International Year of Languages. It introduced the idea of holding the World Summit on Multilingualism and supported a series of initiatives. Since then, several activities have taken place, including the Bamako International Forum on Multilingualism 2009 (BIFM), the creation of the Centre to Advance Multilingualism in Cyberspace under the North-Eastern Federal University (Russian Federation), the development of DILINET project on

indicators of linguistic diversity in cyberspace by MAAYA and partners, and the preparation of the 2nd international conference on Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace (July 2011, Yakutsk).

## II. The roadmap to the World Summit on Multilingualism (2017)

We, the participants and organizers of the 2nd international conference on Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace, inspired by the Lena Resolution and Bamako commitment on universal multilingualism, invite all interested individuals and organizations concerned in the support and promotion of linguistic and cultural diversity to participate in the preparation of the World Summit on Multilingualism. We therefore propose the following roadmap.

2012: Expert meetings and consultations in various regions of the world

2013: Ministerial conference on multilingualism

2013: Proposing a draft resolution on the World Summit on Multilingualism to the UNESCO General Conference. Possible creation of an international commission to prepare a report on multilingualism

2014: Possible adoption of a draft resolution on the World Summit on Multilingualism by the UN General Assembly based on the report

2015-2017: Thematic meetings and regional conferences to prepare for the Summit

2017: World Summit on Multilingualism

All the stakeholders (governments, international organizations, private sector, and civil society, including the academic and research community) are encouraged to commit themselves to the preservation and promotion of linguistic and cultural diversity worldwide and are invited to contribute to the success of the World Summit on Multilingualism which could lead to the adoption of an international Charter on the governance of linguistic diversity in the world.

## ENGLISH TEACHING IN RURAL REGIONS OF THAILAND

Fostering the use of English at local high schools, demonstrating alternative ways of teaching and distributing information material

Languages are a primary vehicle for information and knowledge creation, transmission, preservation and use. In today's globalized world information and knowledge are playing an increasingly decisive role in all aspects of societies' lives. Multilingualism is therefore essential for active participation in the information and knowledge societies at the local, national, region and global levels.

Currently, the English language is a major lingua franca in the regional and international exchanges of information and knowledge. While city dwellers may have access to English foreign language classes, opportunities for rural areas are often limited. Therefore, IFAP in cooperation with the Office of National Buddhism supported an English teaching project in Thailand's rural Watphrathatwittaya region.

The project focused on providing teachers of English with additional support to enhance the quality and

### GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: National

REGION: Asia-Pacific

COUNTRIES: Thailand

YEAR: 2008

PARTNERS:

- Office of National Buddhism
- Watphrathatwittaya Temple School

RESOURCES:

- Teacher's Guide: Active English Learning Made Easy

impact of their language training programmes. Over 150 teachers participated in the training, which emphasized active language use.

The Watphrathatwittaya Temple School was one of the high schools that benefitted from the programme. It is typical of other beneficiary schools serving students in the 11-18 year age-

First UNESCO Speaking Contest. Sempittayakom in Nongkhai Province, Thailand, 2009

©UNESCO/ Pramaha Tharabun Kuchinda



## PROJECT OUTCOMES

- 3 papers presented and published at 5 regional education conferences (2008 - 2012)
- Publication of a Thai/English Teachers' Guide with CD-ROM for 500 Temple Schools including teaching tips, picture library, games and complete step-by-step lesson plans for 10 projects
- 150 teachers benefitted from training sessions
- A one-day-workshop with a speaking contest for 100 adults learning English
- Preparation for evaluating, revising and republishing the book for general distribution, and developing a national teacher training programme

group from disadvantaged families. In the past, students at this school had struggled in their English classes. Much of the learning material was complex and had little relevance or connection with experiences of daily rural Thai life. IFAP's financial support enabled teachers and English-speaking volunteers to elaborate a curriculum adapted to the interests, needs and experiences of students. It focused on question and answer games, research projects, speaking contests and public presentations. These adaptations significantly raised students' motivation and commitment to their English classes. This in turn resulted in a marked improvement in their level of achievement. Students from the Watphrathatwittaya School were placed first amongst 430 participating temple schools in an English language speaking contest.

Apart from the positive effects observed in the Watphrathatwittaya region, the IFAP funding has also supported the exchange of best practice and contributed to the possible replication of this pedagogical approach in other regions and countries. At the first international conference on Learning

& Teaching: EDUCA 2009, held in Bangkok in October 2009, a paper entitled 'UNESCO IFAP Project in Thailand' was presented. In addition, with the support of the Office of National Buddhism, a teachers' guide based on the IFAP project, which includes a CD-ROM, was published and distributed to 500 Temple schools. The guide contains teaching tips, a picture library, games, detailed lesson plans and other pedagogical resources. The IFAP funding has also enabled the expansion of the project's scope, with one-day workshops and speaking contests organized for adult learners.



Final of the speaking contest, Watphrathatwittaya in Nongkhai Thailand, 2010

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## OUR CITY, OUR VOICES: IMMIGRANT NEWSCASTS IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Videonews and online broadcast made by and for communities of immigrant workers in Philadelphia

Migration is high on the public agenda of many countries, and the international community is committed to ensuring the respect of migrants' human rights, and to contributing to their full integration in society. Promoting cultural and linguistic diversity fosters migrants' integration and enables them to participate in the knowledge society, empowering their actions both in the new country and their hometown.

Today, as in the past, migration is an important defining factor in American society, although not without challenges. On the one hand, it has created inter-cultural exchange and understanding and new economic opportunities. On the other hand, many problems have also arisen owing to the ignorance, fear and stigma associated with newcomers.

Hispanics constitute one of the largest groups of immigrants and

### GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: National

REGION: North America

COUNTRIES: United States

YEAR: 2008

#### RESOURCES:

- Our City, Our Voices website
- Project's blog



have had to grapple with challenges such as limited availability of Spanish media content and community spaces and offerings that respond to their cultural needs. These factors provided the necessary catalyst for the creation of the 'Our City, Our Voices' project.

With the support of IFAP, this project organized a series

Project participants, Philadelphia, USA

© Our city, our voices / Gabriel Berríos



of workshops across the United States, aimed at developing audiovisual productions about the lives of Hispanic immigrants. Forty community journalists, many of them undocumented immigrants, have produced videos relating to their cultures, their points of view regarding their adopted home, and the problems they face as newcomers or undocumented immigrants. Simultaneously, the participants created the means for disseminating information about their rights as well as available social services, and how and where they could be accessed.

Each video was produced in Spanish and subtitled in English and has been shown at public screenings in parks and community centres. The bilingual format has helped to build bridges between newcomers, and their adopted communities by developing understanding, fostering cooperation and building respect. The project also has a website that hosts the videos and provide access for other

communities and neighborhoods as a way to break down racial, cultural and linguistic barriers that keep communities separated. 'Our city, our voices: Immigrant newscasts in the digital age' creates strong communities by training immigrants and other workers in the use of digital visual technology in order to build the necessary skills to make their own media. Through this initiative, participants gain both the tools and opportunities to share their opinions, hopes, dreams and challenges.



Participants in shooting activities

© Our city, our voices / Gabriel Berríos

ALL PRIORITY AREAS  
BUILDING KNOWLEDGE SOCIETIES





# IFAP PROJECTS

## FEATURED PROJECT

- ▶ Regional IFAP conference 'Building Caribbean Knowledge Societies' (Grenada, 2011)
- ▶ International Observatory on the Information Society (International, 2009-2013)
- ▶ IFAP special event: Information and Knowledge for All, Emerging Trends and Challenges - WSIS + 10 Review (Paris, 2013)

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Asia Pacific regional meeting: 'The ethical dimension of the information society' (Vietnam, 2008)
- ▶ First consultation meeting of IFAP national committees (Moscow, 2009)
- ▶ Sub-regional Forum on Information for All: 'Creating a responsive infostructure' (Philippines, 2009)
- ▶ Conference on 'Citizenship for the information society: Media education and civic participation' (Turkey, 2009)
- ▶ IFAP Days at the Annual International Crimea Conference (Ukraine, 2008-2013)
- ▶ Fifth consultation meeting on Action Line C10 (Geneva, 2010)
- ▶ 7th international conference: 'Cooperation and promotion of information resources in science and technology / COINFO'12' (China, 2012)
- ▶ International conference: 'Internet and Socio-Cultural Transformations in Information Society' (Sakhalin Island, 2013)
- ▶ WSIS C10 Action Line research study: 'Ethical and societal challenges of the information society' presented at the WSIS + 10 Review (Paris, 2013)
- ▶ Global expert meeting on new disparities in the development of knowledge societies, respect for freedom of expression on the internet, and the creation of a fair and multicultural information society. (Latvia, 2013)

## BUILDING CARIBBEAN KNOWLEDGE SOCIETIES

The concept of knowledge societies is founded on the notion of societies that use information and communication tools and resources in a manner that is people-centred, inclusive and equitable. In knowledge societies everyone can freely create, access, utilize, share and disseminate information and knowledge, so that individuals, communities, and peoples are empowered to improve their quality of life and achieve their full potential.

The First IFAP regional conference for Dutch and English speaking Caribbean countries brought together over 50 delegates from 13 Caribbean countries in Saint George's, Grenada, on June 2011. Participants came from Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Trinidad & Tobago, British Virgin Islands, Curacao and Cuba. Held under the theme 'Building Caribbean knowledge societies', the conference's goals

### ■ GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: Regional

REGION: Caribbean

COUNTRY: Grenada

YEAR: 2011

PARTNERS:

- Government of Grenada

RESOURCES:

- St. George's Declaration for Building Caribbean Knowledge Societies
- St. George's List of Actions for Building Caribbean Knowledge Societies

■ ■ ■  
were to address their development needs and foster the creation of knowledge societies in the region. The event, organized by UNESCO in collaboration with the Government of Grenada, examined how IFAP could better support Caribbean Member States in this endeavour. Attention was also given to IFAP's



Participants at the Conference Building Caribbean Knowledge Societies

© Government of Grenada

“ We cannot continue to run in analogue mode when the world is digital. To build an effective knowledge society, we must bridge the digital divide. It is hoped that the IFAP conference will help to develop a Caribbean action plan with well-articulated policies to close the digital divide, aid the regional movement toward knowledge-based societies and build awareness and understanding of the role of IFAP.

*Senator the Honourable Franka Alexis-Bernadine  
(former Minister of Education and Human Resources)*

role in implementing the World Summit of Information Society (WSIS) Action Lines entrusted to UNESCO.

The conference's outcomes included a political declaration, the St. George's Declaration for Building Caribbean Knowledge Societies, produced by the delegates participating in the meeting. In addition, participants also developed an action plan that would enable efforts to build Caribbean knowledge societies. In 2012 and 2013, a number of follow-up capacity-building activities, research studies and regional consultative meetings have been launched to implement the decisions made in St. George's.



Conference Building Caribbean Knowledge Societies, Grenada, 2011  
© Government of Grenada

# ST. GEORGE'S DECLARATION FOR BUILDING CARIBBEAN KNOWLEDGE SOCIETIES

First UNESCO/IFAP conference on Building Caribbean Knowledge Societies

St George's, Grenada, 15-17 June, 2011



We, the representatives of the participating countries of the Caribbean meeting in St. George's, Grenada from 15-17 June 2011 at the first meeting on Building Caribbean Knowledge Societies,

Recognising that policies towards building a knowledge society must take a developmental approach and provide opportunities for all, and facilitate the reduction of the digital divide,

Restating our conviction that information and communications technologies are not an end in themselves, but an instrument in the quest for a more equitable and sustainable form of human development that paves the way for greater economic growth, better employment conditions and enhanced competitiveness leading to social inclusion,

Reiterating the principles and objectives agreed upon during the first and second phases of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva in December 2003 and in Tunis in November 2005, with a view to channeling the potential of information and communication technologies to promote the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);

Recognising the existence and agreement of sub-regional, regional and international plans which facilitate the development of knowledge societies,

Accepting that information and communication technologies will play a primary role in the development of economies, preservation of culture and heritage, and will lead to an enhanced standard of life for our citizens,

Restating the will to build a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented knowledge society where everyone can create, access, utilise and share information and knowledge, enabling individuals, communities and peoples to achieve their full potential in promoting their sustainable development and improving their quality of life,

Conscious of the need to continue to develop information and knowledge societies in the Caribbean,

We commit to implementing the draft plan of action developed at this First Meeting of Caribbean Knowledge Societies for the benefit of the citizens of our countries.

We, the participants, express our sincere gratitude to the Government of Grenada and UNESCO for hosting this meeting and encourage UNESCO to continue to support regional cooperation and development, namely in the framework of the Information for All Programmes.



## IFAP INFORMATION SOCIETY OBSERVATORY

IFAP, in its Strategic Plan (2008-2013), recognized the need for a mechanism that would enable Member States to stay informed and abreast of new policies, strategy documents, research, models and other developments in the rapidly advancing information society. Such a resource is essential for assisting countries in creating national information policy frameworks, as well as for supporting periodic reviews and policy updates. Previously, UNESCO had maintained an Information Society Observatory, however the needs of the service had reached the limits of the available resources. Given the relentless pace of technological change and innovation coupled with the urgent need for an up-to-date observatory, Member States decided to outsource this function.

The Information Society and Trend Research Institute (ITTK) at the Budapest University of Technology and Economics in Hungary was selected as the new home of the observatory for the information society. ITTK, which was established in 1998, had the necessary experience, resources and mandate for undertaking the activities. With a senior research staff with the necessary ICT support skills and resources, ITTK was particularly well placed to support the current and foreseen operational needs of the information society observatory.

Since its establishment in 2009, the observatory team has been diligently conducting its activities

of research, analysis, indexing, archiving and communicating its resources. This work has been carried out on various fronts: monitoring trends in the information society, examining on-line reports and other resources, reviewing them and then adding them to its database. This database has been growing at a rate of around 50 items per month. In addition, the observatory team tracks some 500 news sources that focus on the social, technological, legal, political and economic impacts of the use



Team of the Information Society Observatory project, Budapest, Hungary, 2013.

Photo: Anita Molnár

and application of information and communication technology.

The analytical work of the observatory team is captured in the quarterly newsletter it publishes as well as the Annual Report on Information Society Policy Trends. The Annual Report, written by these experts provides a global snapshot of data, facts, trends, technologies, experiences and developments of the information society policies and landscape. As of the end of 2013, 24 newsletters and four annual reports, each around 220 pages, had been prepared and published on the observatory website.

In addition to observing, analyzing and reporting on the emerging technologies and trends, the IFAP observatory team has also been integrating the new technologies and innovations into its operations to enhance its ability to more effectively serve its growing user community. Improving the observatory's graphical user interface and search tools has helped made its content more user-friendly and accessible. The integration of tools

such as RSS feeds to alert users to new content, the creation of a blog animated by invited guest editors from different parts of the world and the launching of its Twitter account @ifap\_observat are serving to enhance its engagement with users and expand the reach, timeliness and relevance of the services that the observatory provides.

According to Rab Arpad, Director of the IFAP Information Society Observatory 'we are proud of what we have achieved since the observatory was established, we now have more than 4,000 RSS subscribers and more than 40,000 unique visitors to our home page. Our main goal for the year 2014 is to further build the reputation of the observatory. In addition, we will be seeking to increase the number of communication channels by making the Annual Report available in ePub format for mobile phone users. We also want to increase the number of our regular readers by at least 50% and of course, to continue to deliver our services free of charge to all users'.

# INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE FOR ALL: EMERGING TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

## IFAP Special Event within the First WSIS+10 Review Meeting

The IFAP special event, 'Information and knowledge for all, emerging trends and challenges', was held at UNESCO's headquarters in February 2013, during the WSIS +10 review. The event attracted distinguished experts from a range of disciplines representing governments, civil society, the private sector and media from every continent.

Discussions between the participants at the IFAP Special Event served to identify new emerging issues, opportunities and interventions where Member States require IFAP's support. These findings served to catalyze and orient new initiatives and actions such as the Riga Global Meeting of Experts on Ethical Aspects of the Information Society, held in Riga, Latvia in October 2013 and the International Conference

### ■ GENERAL INFORMATION

SCOPE: International

REGION: Europe

COUNTRY: France

YEAR: 2013

#### RESOURCES:

- IFAP Special Event Handout
- WSIS+10 Review Meeting programme (Day 3, February 27)
- Final WSIS+10 Review Meeting Statement

on Internet and Socio-Cultural Transformations in Information Society, held in Sakhalin, Russian Federation in September 2013. The outcomes of these two meetings in turn served to provide pointers to additional areas where Member States require IFAP's support.



Participants at the IFAP Special Event within the WSIS +10 review meeting

© Russian IFAP Committee



Various documents presented to UNESCO's 37th General Conference also benefitted from the discussions during the IFAP special event.

This event was a clear demonstration of IFAP's ability to support the international exchange of experiences, stimulate debate and bring together diverse stakeholders to address common challenges. IFAP thus provided a significant contribution to the international discussions at the WSIS+10 review and to informing the outcome statement adopted by this important global meeting.

1. Opening ceremony of the WSIS +10 event, UNESCO HQ, Paris, 2013
  2. Maria-Carme Torras Calvo, Chair, IFLA Information Literacy Section; Library Director, Bergen University College (Norway)
  3. Participants at the IFAP special event within the WSIS +10 review meeting
- ©UNESCO/Russian IFAP Committee



# NATIONAL IFAP COMMITTEES



## ■ NATIONAL IFAP COMMITTEES

National IFAP committees play a key role in pursuing and realizing the goals of IFAP at the national level and in implementing activities informed by global experiences and adapted to the local context. More than 60 national IFAP committees have been established, most of them within the UNESCO National Commissions or other governmental bodies. Some committees have undertaken internal restructuring to better respond to and strengthen IFAP's mandate at the national level. These efforts are enabling them to more effectively disseminate IFAP's concepts, build capacity and contribute to their national information policy frameworks and debates. Collectively, these activities support the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS).

From 2008 to 2013, national IFAP committees and focal points have been established and/or strengthened in Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Grenada, Iran, Moldova, Mongolia, Paraguay, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uruguay and Zambia.

### First meeting of National IFAP Committees in 2009

The first meeting of national IFAP committees took place in Moscow on 7–8 December 2009. It was organized by the Intergovernmental Council for IFAP, the UNESCO Secretariat, the Russian IFAP Committee and its working body – the Interregional Library Cooperation Centre – with support from the Russian National Commission for UNESCO and the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation.

The meeting was attended by chairs and representatives of 17 national IFAP committees – from Austria, Chile, China, Cuba, France, Germany, Israel, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Lithuania, Moldova, Nigeria, the Philippines, Poland, Russia, Slovakia and Thailand.

On the first day, the chair of the Russian IFAP Committee Evgeny Kuzmin presented a survey of the Russian IFAP Committee's work. In the following sessions, speakers from governmental and scientific institutions and organizations gave an insight into their experience with the activities and implementation of IFAP. Subsequently, the national IFAP committees presented their work and activities.

In addition, major problems and challenges of national IFAP committees were identified. Therefore, a new version of the guidelines for the establishment and operation of national IFAP committees, their development and improvement, was discussed and presented. It was concluded that despite major organizational, administrative, economic

and political differences in their work, the national IFAP committees share major challenges – in particular, the search for sources for project and expert remuneration funding, enhancing publicity and extending the information available to decision-makers in information, communications, education and culture about IFAP ideas and achievements. The importance of stepping up information exchanges on practical achievements, work forms and methods and available and blueprinted projects was emphasized.

On the second day, the participants discussed in two ad hoc groups issues concerning the implementation of the IFAP Template for National Information Society Policy, prospects for new synergies and enhanced multilateral collaborations in the framework of IFAP publicity and visibility, as well as funding.

For the first time, national IFAP committees had the opportunity to meet and discuss their role in the programme and were thereby encouraged to further develop procedures and activities in their national committees. Also, assistance was provided for the creation of new national IFAP committees in Africa, Asia-Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and in Europe.



Participants of the first meeting of National IFAP Committees, Russian Federation, 2009

© Russian IFAP Committee

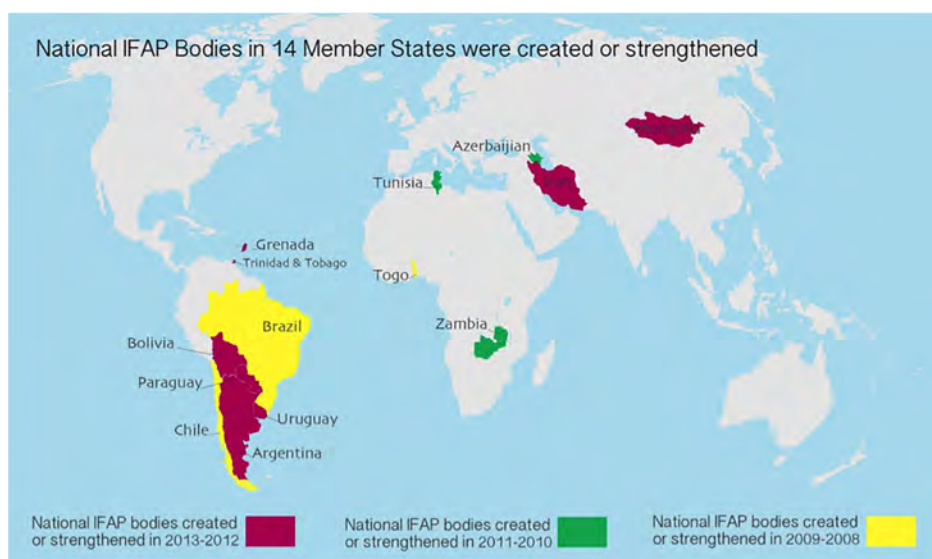
## ■ RELATED RESOURCES

Guidelines for the Creation and Operation of national Committees of the Information for All Programme

Report on the First Consultation Meeting of National IFAP Committees



## ■ NATIONAL IFAP BODIES CREATED OR STRENGTHENED (2008 - 2013)



During the 2008-2013 period, the IFAP Secretariat in conjunction with the UNESCO Field Office, UNESCO National Commissions and other IFAP network partners, undertook a variety of activities aimed at building the capacity of IFAP network actors.

These efforts focused on enhancing these national entities' ability to contribute to their national policy needs within the IFAP priority areas. Together, this has contributed to the establishing and/or strengthening of national IFAP bodies in 14 Member States in Africa (Togo and Zambia), Arab States (Tunisia), Asia (Azerbaijan, Iran and Mongolia) and Latin America and the Caribbean (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Grenada, Paraguay, Uruguay and Trinidad & Tobago).

## SOME NATIONAL IFAP COMMITTEE ACHIEVEMENTS

### CHILE

The Chilean National Committee was established in March 2009, convened by the Chilean National Commission for Cooperation with UNESCO and UNESCO's Regional Bureau of Education for Latin America and the Caribbean. Since its establishment, several activities have been promoted in the country, including training on information access and events related to the Memory of the World Programme.

### CHINA



CI's team of the UNESCO Beijing Office visiting members of the Chinese IFAP National Committee, Beijing, 2012.

© ISTIC/UNESCO



The national focal point of IFAP in China (recognized as such by MOST and China National Commission for UNESCO) is ISTIC: The Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China. It is the state S&T information centre under the Ministry of Science and Technology. There are also 31 provincial level institutes, and more than 100 city/county level institutes, which are called local STIs. The major functions of ISTIC and local STIs are to provide information services to the public

and policy decision support services to governments.

ISTIC has a very long history of cooperation with UNESCO. Major IFAP activities in China focus on two areas. The first is the research and investigation of National Information Literacy, in particular the digital divide between the developed and developing regions. The second is information knowledge training in less developed regions. From 2003 to 2008, five IFAP training courses were conducted in Beijing (a poor region); Guangxi (Nanjing); Hubei (Yingshan); Shaanxi (Ansai and Yanan). From 2008 to 2013, several other training events were held in rural parts of the country.

In 2010/2011, the IFAP Special Account received \$40,000 from the Government of China.

### GRENADA

Grenada is playing an active role in leading IFAP's work and visibility in the region. In June 2011, UNESCO and the Government of Grenada co-organized the first Regional IFAP Conference for English and Dutch-speaking Caribbean countries held under the theme of 'Building Caribbean

knowledge societies' from 15-17 June 2011, in St George's, Grenada. The event served to initiate the establishment of focal points and national IFAP committees in the region. These are essential for continuing and developing IFAP's activities in the region. A regional action plan and a political declaration were produced, committing the attending Member States, to support the creation of development-oriented knowledge societies.

Grenada is also one of the first national IFAP committees to have a dedicated website on Unesco.org. It contains news and current developments on the committee's work. The committee's chair, Terence Moore Herre, gives a short welcoming speech in a video message. It is planned to enhance these websites step by step for each national committee.

### IVORY COAST

In April 2008 the National Committee of Ivory Coast was established. It has 26 members and consists of public and private national institutions working closely with UNESCO, such as representatives of the ministries of Communication, Education and Culture, libraries and archives, universities, human right associations, etc.

At the first plenary meeting on 8 May 2008, the president Mme Anne Marie Konan-Payne, Director of the Governmental Centre of Information and Communication was elected. The Bureau of the National IFAP Committee consists of nine members: one president, three vice-presidents, three members and two rapporteurs.

Other resources: Ivory Coast National Committee on Unesco.org

### MONGOLIA

The first meeting of the Mongolian National Committee for IFAP took place in 2012 and gathered together all 16 members of the committee. The participants actively discussed issues such as the working plan, charter, goals, and financial situation of the Mongolian National Committee for IFAP, and the visibility of IFAP. Choosing the most crucial sector to implement the project and programme was essential at the outset, because members of the committee came from different backgrounds in the communication, information and technology sectors, such as leaders from the Globe International NGO, the second channel of the Mongolian National Public Television, the National Information Technology Park, the Communications Regulatory Commission of Mongolia, the Press Institute and the Policy Department of ICTPA (Information, Communications, Technology and Post Authority). The next essential step for the IFAP Mongolian National Committee will be to decide on its financial situation.



The first meeting of the Mongolian National Committee for IFAP, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, 2012

© Mongolian National Commission for UNESCO



## THE PHILIPPINES

1. Competencies for developing ICT Literacy workshop.
2. Workshop discussions on IFAP's five strategic programme areas adopted by the IFAP Council in October 2008.

© UNESCO  
NatCom PHL and  
AIJC



The Philippines National Committee was organized in June 2007 and has since been active in pursuing country initiatives in policy development in the five areas based on UNESCO IFAP's medium-term strategy for 2008-2013. The National Committee has convened two national policy fora: Policy Forum on the Right to Information and the Forum on the Writ of Habeas Data in 2007, which highlighted the Supreme Court's promulgation of the writ of habeas data.

Many of the IFAP officers are actively involved in the advocacy for the passage of a Freedom of Information Act. In addition, through the Asian Institute of Journalism and Communication (AIJC), IFAP Philippines completed the study 'Philippine policies on information access and transparency.' The research covered 182 policy documents from 29 national government agencies.

The Philippines also hosted the Sub-Regional Forum on Information for All, 'Creating a responsive infostructure,' in March 2009. The forum, which was the first IFAP meeting for a sub-region, gathered participants from the ASEAN countries to discuss the highlights of the IFAP Strategic Plan and to review IFAP's five priorities vis-à-vis their relevance in Southeast Asia.

## POLAND

The Polish National IFAP Committee was established in September 2008. From the very beginning, the Committee has been making active contributions to the debates on information/content accessibility standards and educational aspects of information society development in Poland.

In June 2009, the committee organized a high-level conference, under the auspices of the Speaker of the Lower Chamber of the Polish Parliament and the relevant government departments, devoted to the topic 'Digital heritage: Culture for the future'. It brought together 150 participants representing all the institutions involved in the digitization of the cultural heritage and reviewed all the major programmes and activities in this field.

The committee also brought together around 80 experts in Warsaw, in March 2013, at the seminar 'The Processes of digitisation of audio-visual resources (films and TV production)'.

## RUSSIAN FEDERATION

The Russian Committee of the Information for All Programme was established in 2000. Committee members represent government agencies, educational, research, cultural and communication establishments, public organizations and commercial companies. As the Committee is not a legal entity it has a working body, and Moscow-based NGO Interregional Library Cooperation Centre has been fulfilling

its functions since 2006.

The Committee's various and numerous projects and events, organized and delivered in 2008–2013, reflected all the priority lines of action of the IFAP Strategic Plan.

The activities included organizing and holding conferences, round tables, expert meetings, workshops, training courses, and consultation meetings that took place in Russia and a number of CIS countries; preparing, translating and disseminating publications, analytical reports and papers; carrying out research studies; organizing cooperation; establishing competence centres; giving public lectures; creating specialized websites in Russian ([www.ifapcom.ru](http://www.ifapcom.ru)) and English ([www.ifapcom.ru/en](http://www.ifapcom.ru/en)).

Holding five major breakthrough forums can be seen as Committee's most significant contribution to the IFAP implementation: two International Conferences on Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace (2008, 2011, Yakutsk, Russia); the first-ever interdisciplinary International Conference on Preservation of Digital Information in the Information Society (2011, Moscow); International Conference on Media and Information Literacy for Knowledge Societies (2011, Moscow); and International Conference on Internet and Socio-Cultural Transformations (2013, Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Russia).



Members of the IFAP Russian Committee

© IFAP Russian Committee

## ZAMBIA

The initiative to establish an national IFAP committee in Zambia was led by the Zambia National Commission for UNESCO with financial and technical support provided through UNESCO's Harare Office in Zimbabwe. After Botswana, Zambia is the second country in the UNESCO cluster to establish a national IFAP committee.



Participants of consultation meetings in Mumbwa District, Zambia

© UNESCO/Neddy Chibuve

From its inception, a decision was made by the Zambian National Commission for UNESCO to base activities of the national IFAP committee on existing needs and to ensure that the committee was representative and brought together the best national expertise in this field. A number of national consultation meetings were held with users of information drawn from a range of stakeholders, including media and broadcasting, libraries and archives, the private sector, education and agricultural sector amongst others. These meetings also included rural provinces in order to obtain their input and see how best to prioritize and address their concerns. 'There is a lot of information and knowledge that needs to be shared to add value to our existing institutions, empower women and enhance national developmental activities, our national IFAP committee must contribute to this process', said Ronald Kaulule, Secretary-General of the Zambia National Commission.

Other resources: News 'IFAP expands activities in Zambia'

## SOME SELECTED NATIONAL IFAP-RELATED ACTIVITIES

### CHILE

In the framework of IFAP's priority area of information access, the Regional Bureau of Education for Latin America and the Caribbean (OREALC/UNESCO Santiago) has been supporting a number of activities on information access in Chile.

In 2009, UNESCO and partners organized the first Free Software National Congress, with the participation of Richard Stallman, president of the Free Software Foundation (FSF). The following year, another event was organized in association with the 'Consejo para la Transparencia'. The international seminar 'Transparency law implementation and the right to public information access' took place on April 2010. In addition, UNESCO supported the realization of a workshop on transparency law for foreign correspondents in 2012. Organized by the 'Fundación Pro Acceso y la Asociación de Corresponsales Extranjeros en Chile', the event contributed to the reinforcement of information access in the country.

In addition to these events, UNESCO Santiago has been actively promoting the Memory of the World initiatives in Chile, including the registration of Che Guevara's diary and La Lira Popular in the programme. In 2013, the Chilean National Committee of the Memory of the World announced a call for experts to gather information and set up a state of the art document archive.

### COLOMBIA



1. Brigada Digital event

2. SoyTIC programme

3. En TIC Confío programme

© Ministerio de Tecnologías de la Información y las Comunicaciones



From October 2010, Colombia has implemented a series of actions in the field of Information Technology and Communications (ICTs). The plan 'Vive Digital', ([www.vivedigital.gov.co](http://www.vivedigital.gov.co)) responds to the challenge of the Colombian Government to achieve democratic prosperity via the use and appropriation of technology.

Information access, one of IFAP's priority areas, is considered essential to poverty reduction in Latin America. For this reason, 'Vive Digital' aims at encouraging and expanding the use of the internet in Colombia.

As part of the implementation of the 'Plan

Vive Digital', the ICT Ministry of Colombia is committed to intensify efforts to ensure that all people, especially the vulnerable population, may benefit, on equal terms, from the increasing use of ICTs, enabling their full participation in shaping political, economic and social development and improving living conditions.

In this context, certain activities, among over 80 initiatives, are particularly important for IFAP priorities: the ICT Training Programme (Digital Literacy), the Digital Citizenship Programme, the National Strategy 'Women have rights', ICTs and disabilities, 'Government Online', ICTs and ethnic communities, Journalism Today Network, among others.

## POLAND

The Polish National IFAP Committee has been constantly stimulating the national information society debates in such areas as digital information and content accessibility and digitisation, as well as Media and Information Literacy.

In March 2013, the Committee brought together some 80 experts in Warsaw at the seminar 'The processes of digitisation of audio-visual resources (films and TV production)'. This event fostered an exchange of practices, discussions on the state of the art and national policies for the preservation, dissemination and transmission of information and cultural heritage in Poland.

The seminar was organized under the auspices of the Polish Minister of Culture and National Heritage, by the Polish National Commission for UNESCO and the Polish National IFAP Committee, in collaboration with the Head Office of State Archives. The event generated considerable national interest and brought together information professionals from public institutions and the private sector, involved in publicly-funded digitization projects.

The Warsaw seminar is a tangible IFAP response to new tendencies and builds on national expert meetings organized in June 2010 by the Polish IFAP Committee as well as international IFAP and UNESCO conferences on digital preservation organized in 2011, in Moscow, and in 2012, in Vancouver.

In addition to supporting the exchange of national best practices, the seminar yielded a number of recommendations, which will serve to advance the ongoing digitization efforts and contribute to broader national information society policies, frameworks and strategies.

## SERBIA

Following a series of workshops on Media and Information Literacy in Serbia, national institutions have been calling for the promotion of IFAP priorities in their country. Three initial workshops were organized in 2013, with Prof.



Seminar on 'The processes of digitisation of audio-visual resources (films and TV production)', Warsaw, 2013



© The Head Office of the State Archives of Poland

Albert Boekhorst, an IFLA officer and UNESCO expert in information literacy.

In order to decentralise the dissemination of knowledge, three cities were chosen as workshops sites: Sremska Mitrovica (for participants from Voivodina Autonomous Region), Belgrade (the capital and seat of Belgrade University LIS Department, of the National Library, and a city with a system of nearly one hundred public libraries), and Uzice (for participants from regions south of the Sava and Danube rivers).

Activities related to information literacy are carried out through the Library Plus platform, in a private area on their website for primary participants to meet, comment, cooperate, contribute and make arrangements for forthcoming events.

In addition to promoting domestic activities related to IFAP priorities and the knowledge society, national institutions have shown interest in the establishment of a national committee for UNESCO/IFAP within the Serbian UNESCO Commission. It would open international perspectives, connect Serbian stakeholders with their counterparts worldwide, enable them to be in touch with current information society issues, and to present Serbian activities internationally.

## URUGUAY

Twenty years  
of the Memory  
of the World  
Programme event,  
Montevideo, 2012

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Presidency of  
the Republic of  
Uruguay



The Government of Uruguay, together with UNESCO, has been promoting important initiatives in the field of information preservation, mainly through the Memory of the World Programme.

In September 2012, UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova attended the opening ceremony of the Regional Meeting on Memory Archives, within the framework of the 20th commemoration of the Memory of the World Programme: Human Rights Archives, Memory and Truth in the Southern Cone.

The ceremony was opened by the Minister of Foreign Relations, Mr Luis Almagro, the Minister of Education and Culture, Mr Ricardo Ehrlich, the Director of UNESCO Montevideo, Mr Jorge Grandi, and other government officials.

The Memory of the World Programme serves as UNESCO's flagship activity to promote and protect archives, libraries and museum collections worldwide so that they can be consulted by later generations. Guaranteeing the continuity of documentary heritage helps to ensure the survival of memory, build the basis of truth and support human rights. This continuity is evidenced in the many items listed on the Memory of the World Register, which includes, among others, documents of the violation of human rights during dictatorial regimes and others that narrate slavery and the slave routes. Both themes are deeply meaningful for the Latin American and Caribbean region.

# APPENDIX

## ■ LIST OF INSTITUTIONS IN ASSOCIATION WITH IFAP

IFAP also maintains close working relations with its NGO and institutional partners such as:

- African Academy of Languages (ACALAN)
- African Network for Information Ethics (ANIE)
- Council of Europe
- International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMRC)
- International Association of Scientific and Technological University Libraries (IATUL)
- International Association of Sound and Audiovisual Archives (IASA)
- International Center for Information Ethics (ICIE)
- International Council of Archives (ICA)
- International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP)
- International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)
- International Federation of Film Archives (FIAF)
- International Federation of Television Archives (IFTA)
- International Association of Technological University Libraries (IATUL)
- Interregional Library Cooperation Center
- LINKS Asociación civil para el estudio y la promoción de la sociedad de la información
- MAAYA World Network for Linguistic Diversity
- International Committee for Social Science Information and Documentation
- Internet Society (ISOC)
- South-East Asia-Pacific Audio Visual Archive Association (SEAPAVAA)
- Union Latine \*
- United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)

These institutions participate in the meetings of IFAP Council and are often invited to attend meetings of the Bureau to provide specific expertise.

They play a critically important role in providing expert advice to the Council, Bureau and working groups and in supporting the implementation of the programme.

\* The permanent secretariat of Union Latine was closed on 31 July, 2012

## ■ LIST OF ONLINE RESOURCES

### INFORMATION ACCESSIBILITY

*Report: Access to information accountability and transparency in the Andean Region.* <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002167/216786e.pdf>.

*Website: Free and Open Source Software Conference in Oman.* <http://fossco-oman.net/2013/>

*Video: Guide on the preparation of projects by FENEIS.* [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KVFSr4\\_nUHM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KVFSr4_nUHM)

*Video: IFAP project electronic government model for World Heritage cities.* <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ogrWPc6SGA> (English) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5RWmIQ9xovM> (Spanish)

*Report: Summary of activities 2006 - 2008: Electronic government model for World Heritage cities (Cartagena de Indias, Cusco and Quito).* <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0019/001902/190258e.pdf>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5RWmIQ9xovM> (Spanish)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dav5jamu9cE> (Spanish)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fYAMcK-mEt4> (Spanish)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z9hXQUG5TKM> (English)

### INFORMATION FOR DEVELOPMENT

*Website: Biblioteca Virtual.* [www.bibliojuventudal.org](http://www.bibliojuventudal.org)

*Website: Chinainfo.* <http://www.chinainfo.gov.cn>

*Guide: Extending the life of older computer hardware in your library.*

<http://www.eifl.net/ltsp-howto-guide>

*Website: Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China (ISTIC).* <http://www.istic.ac.cn/>

*Publication: National Information Society Policy: a Template.* <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001871/187135e.pdf>

*Document: The Sakhalin Declaration on Internet and Socio-Cultural Transformations* [http://ifapcom.ru/files/News/Images/2013/sakhalin/sakh\\_decl\\_eng\\_final.pdf](http://ifapcom.ru/files/News/Images/2013/sakhalin/sakh_decl_eng_final.pdf)

### INFORMATION ETHICS

*Website: African Network for Information Ethics.* <http://www.africainfoethics.org>

*Document: Code of ethics for the information society.* <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002126/212696E.pdf>



*Ethical implications of emerging technologies: a survey.* <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/resources/publications-and-communication-materials/publications/full-list/ethical-implications-of-emerging-technologies-a-survey/>

*Publication: Capurro, R. Information ethics in Africa: Past, present and future activities (2007-2010).* [http://www.capurro.de/wsis2010\\_africa\\_infoethics.html](http://www.capurro.de/wsis2010_africa_infoethics.html)

*Website: International Conference on the Theory and Practice of Electronic Governance.* <http://icegov.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/ICEGOV-Series-Poster.pdf>

*Website: Riga Global Meeting of Experts on the Ethical Aspects of Information Society.* <http://iseforum.org/>

*Riga Guidelines on Ethics in the Information Society.* [http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/news/riga\\_meeting\\_ethics\\_guidelines.pdf](http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/news/riga_meeting_ethics_guidelines.pdf)

*SafeNet online platform for interaction.* <http://safeyouthnet.pbworks.com/w/page/70697078/FrontPage>

*SafeNet website.* <http://imor.org.mk/programmes/SafeNet/>.

*Document: Tshwane Declaration.* <http://www.africainfoethics.org/tshwane-declaration.html>

*UNESCO and the ethical dimensions of the information society.* <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/flagship-project-activities/unesco-and-wsis/implementation-and-follow-up/unesco-and-wsis-action-lines/c10-ethical-dimension-of-the-information-society/>

*Newsletter: UNESCO and information ethics.* [http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/CI\\_Information\\_Meetings/activities\\_infoethics\\_2010-2011\\_en.pdf](http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/CI_Information_Meetings/activities_infoethics_2010-2011_en.pdf)

## INFORMATION LITERACY

*IFLA Media and Information Literacy Recommendations.* <http://www.ifla.org/files/assets/information-literacy/publications/media-info-lit-recommend-en.pdf>

*Publication: The International Information & Library Review, Vol. 41 (4), December 2009.* <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/10572317/41>

*Publication: Media and Information Literacy for Knowledge Societies* [http://ifapcom.ru/files/News/Images/2013/mil\\_eng\\_web.pdf](http://ifapcom.ru/files/News/Images/2013/mil_eng_web.pdf)

*Media and Information Literacy for Knowledge Societies.* <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/resources/news-and-in-focus-articles/in-focus-articles/2012/media-and-information-literacy-for-knowledge-societies>

*Image: MIL concept and strategic plan.* [http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/images/In-focus/mil\\_concept.gif](http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/images/In-focus/mil_concept.gif)

*Moscow Declaration on Media and Information Literacy.* <http://www.ifla.org/publications/moscow-declaration-on-media-and-information-literacy>

*Document: The Moscow Declaration on Media and Information Literacy.* [http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/In\\_Focus/Moscow\\_Declaration\\_on\\_MIL\\_eng.pdf](http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/In_Focus/Moscow_Declaration_on_MIL_eng.pdf)

*IFAP-IFLA Recommendation on Media and Information Literacy Promotion.* <http://www.ifla.org/publications/ifla-media-and-information-literacy-recommendations>

*Towards Information Literacy Indicators.* [http://portal.unesco.org/ci/ev.php?URL\\_ID=26596&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201](http://portal.unesco.org/ci/ev.php?URL_ID=26596&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201)

*Publication: Towards information literacy indicators, UNESCO.* <http://www.ifla.org/publications/towards-information-literacy-indicators>

*Website: Training-the-trainers workshop.* <http://en.tttworkshop.net>

*Understanding Information Literacy: A primer.* [http://portal.unesco.org/ci/ev.php?URL\\_ID=25956&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201](http://portal.unesco.org/ci/ev.php?URL_ID=25956&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201)

*Publication: Understanding information literacy: a primer, UNESCO.* <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/resources/publications-and-communication-materials/publications/full-list/understanding-information-literacy-a-primer/>

*UNESCO-IFLA Digital Library Manifesto.* <http://www.ifla.org/digital-libraries/manifesto>

## INFORMATION PRESERVATION

*Website: Archivemática.* <https://www.archivematica.org/>

*Document: Charter of the Preservation of Digital Heritage.* [http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL\\_ID=17721&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=17721&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

*Document: Guidelines for the Preservation of Digital Heritage.* <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0013/001300/130071e.pdf>

*Website: International Council of Archives.* <https://www.ica-atom.org/>

*Moscow Declaration on Digital Information Preservation.* [http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/ifap/adoption\\_moscow\\_declaration\\_digital\\_information\\_preservation\\_en.pdf](http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/ifap/adoption_moscow_declaration_digital_information_preservation_en.pdf)

*Vancouver Declaration 'The Memory of the World in the Digital Age: Digitization and Preservation'.* [http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/mow/unesco\\_abc\\_vancouver\\_declaration\\_en.pdf](http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/mow/unesco_abc_vancouver_declaration_en.pdf)

*Publication: Preservation of Digital Information in the Information Society* [http://ifapcom.ru/files/News/Images/2013/dig\\_pres\\_is\\_eng.pdf](http://ifapcom.ru/files/News/Images/2013/dig_pres_is_eng.pdf)

## MULTILINGUALISM

*Document: Lena Resolution.* <http://www.ifapcom.ru/files/Documents/>

lena\_resolution\_eng.pdf

*Lena Resolution on Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace.* [http://www.ifapcom.ru/files/Documents/lena\\_resolution\\_eng.pdf](http://www.ifapcom.ru/files/Documents/lena_resolution_eng.pdf)

*Publication: Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace. Proceedings of the 2nd International Conference* [http://www.ifapcom.ru/files/News/Images/2013/Yakutsk\\_web.pdf](http://www.ifapcom.ru/files/News/Images/2013/Yakutsk_web.pdf)

*Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace.* [http://www.ifapcom.ru/files/Documents/multiling\\_eng.pdf](http://www.ifapcom.ru/files/Documents/multiling_eng.pdf)

*Publication: Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in the Cyberspace.* [http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/ifap/meetings/bureau/Annex%20%20\(Yakutsk%20conference%20on%20linguistic%20diversity\).pdf](http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/ifap/meetings/bureau/Annex%20%20(Yakutsk%20conference%20on%20linguistic%20diversity).pdf)

*Publication: Net.Lang.* [http://net-lang.net/lang\\_en](http://net-lang.net/lang_en)

*Website: Our City, Our Voices.* <http://www.ourcityvoices.org/>

*Blog: Our City, Our Voices.* [http://ourcityourvoices.blogspot.com.br/2008\\_06\\_01\\_archive.html](http://ourcityourvoices.blogspot.com.br/2008_06_01_archive.html)

*Publication: Securing a place for a language in cyberspace.* <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0014/001497/149786E.pdf>

*Twelve years of measuring linguistic diversity in the internet: balance and perspectives.* <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/resources/publications-and-communication-materials/publications/full-list/twelve-years-of-measuring-linguistic-diversity-in-the-internet-balance-and-perspectives/>

*Yakutsk call for action: a roadmap towards the World Summit on Multilingualism (2017).* <http://www.ifapcom.ru/en/news/1235>

## BUILDING KNOWLEDGE SOCIETIES

*St. George's Declaration for Building Caribbean Knowledge Societies.* [http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/ifap/meetings/bureau/ifap19\\_st\\_george\\_declaration\\_en.pdf](http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/ifap/meetings/bureau/ifap19_st_george_declaration_en.pdf)

*St. George's List of Actions for Building Caribbean Knowledge Societies.* [http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/ifap/meetings/bureau/ifap19\\_building\\_caribbean\\_knowledge\\_societies\\_en.pdf](http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/ifap/meetings/bureau/ifap19_building_caribbean_knowledge_societies_en.pdf)

## NATIONAL IFAP COMMITTEES

*Guidelines for the creation and operation of national Committees of the Information for All Programme.* <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001870/187069e.pdf>

*IFAP expands activities in Zambia.* [http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/resources/news-and-in-focus-articles/all-news/news/ifap\\_expands\\_activities\\_in\\_zambia/](http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/resources/news-and-in-focus-articles/all-news/news/ifap_expands_activities_in_zambia/)

*Ivory Coast National Committee on Unesco.org.* <http://www.unesco.org/new/fr/communication-and-information/intergovernmental-programmes/information-for-all-programme-ifap/about-ifap/ifap-national-committees/>

africa/cote-divoire/

*Report on the First Consultation Meeting of National IFAP Committees.*

[http://www.unesco.org/pv\\_obj\\_cache/pv\\_obj\\_id\\_9779245FE4440FE35DA-77AAECDBF0986CCE00400/filename/ifap\\_meeting\\_report.pdf](http://www.unesco.org/pv_obj_cache/pv_obj_id_9779245FE4440FE35DA-77AAECDBF0986CCE00400/filename/ifap_meeting_report.pdf)

*Russian Committee for IFAP website.* <http://www.ifapcom.ru/en>

## ■ STATUTES OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL FOR IFAP

### Article 1 – Establishment

An Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All Programme, hereafter called the Council, is hereby established within the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

### Article 2 – Membership

1. The Council shall be composed of twenty-six Member States of UNESCO elected by the General Conference, taking into account the need to ensure equitable geographical distribution and appropriate rotation.

2. The persons appointed by Member States as their representatives on the Council shall preferably be specialists in the fields covered by the Information for All Programme.

3. The term of office of members of the Council shall extend from the end of the ordinary session of the General Conference during which they are elected until the end of its second subsequent ordinary session.

4. Notwithstanding the provision of paragraph 2, the term of office of thirteen members designated at the first election shall cease at the end of the first ordinary session of the General Conference following that at which they were elected. These members shall be chosen by lot by the President of the General Conference after the first election. Each retiring member shall be replaced by a member belonging to the same regional group.

5. Members of the Council shall be immediately eligible for re-election.

6. The Council may make recommendations to the General Conference concerning its own membership.

### Article 3 – Sessions

1. The Council shall normally meet in regular plenary session once every two years. However, the Council may meet in extraordinary session at the request of the Director-General or of the majority of its members.

2. During the first three years of existence of the Information for All Programme, the Council should meet every year.

3. The Council will be entitled to hold virtual meetings.

### Article 4 – Rules of Procedure

1. The Council shall adopt its own Rules of Procedure including those for virtual meetings.

2. Under its Rules of Procedure, the Council may establish whatever working groups it considers appropriate, provided that the necessary financial resources are available, the Bureau being considered as a subsidiary body of the Council.

#### Article 5 – Functions

Within the framework of the decisions of the General Conference concerning the Information for All Programme, the Council shall guide its planning and implementation. This shall, in particular, include:

- (a) considering proposals on the development and adaptation of the Information for All Programme;
- (b) recommending the broad lines of action that the Information for All Programme could take;
- (c) reviewing and assessing achievements and defining the basic areas requiring increased international co-operation;
- (d) promoting participation of Member States in the Information for All Programme;
- (e) supporting all fundraising efforts for the implementation of the Information for All Programme.

#### Article 6 – Bureau

1. At the beginning of its first session, and subsequently whenever the membership of the Council is modified by the General Conference in accordance with Article 2 above, the Council shall elect a chair, three vice-chairs, three other members and a rapporteur; these shall form the Council's Bureau.
2. The members of the Bureau who are representatives of Member States of UNESCO shall remain in office until a new Bureau has been elected.
3. The Bureau shall discharge such duties as the Council may confer upon it.
4. Meetings of the Bureau may be convened between meetings of the Council at the request of the Council, or of the Director-General of UNESCO or of the majority of the members of the Bureau.
5. The Bureau will be entitled to hold virtual meetings.

#### Article 7 – Observers

1. Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO, which are not members of the Council, may send observers to all meetings of the Council or its working groups, except meetings of the Bureau
2. Representatives of the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system may take part, without the right to vote, in all meetings of the Council and its working groups, except meetings of the Bureau.

3. The Council shall lay down the conditions under which other international governmental or non-governmental organizations may be invited to participate in its proceedings without the right to vote. The Council shall also lay down the conditions under which certain particularly well-qualified persons might be consulted on matters within their competence.

#### Article 8 – Secretariat

1. The Secretariat of the Council shall be provided by the Director-General of UNESCO, who shall place at the Council's disposal the staff and other means required for its operation.
2. The Secretariat shall provide the necessary services for the sessions of the Council and meetings of its subsidiary bodies.
3. The Secretariat shall fix the date of the Council's sessions in accordance with the Bureau's instructions, and shall take the steps required to convene such sessions.
4. The Secretariat shall assemble all suggestions and comments made by Member States of UNESCO and the international organizations concerned, with regard to UNESCO's Information for All Programme as a whole and the formulation of specific projects, and shall prepare them for examination by the Council.

#### Article 9 – Funding

1. The servicing expenses of the Council, its Bureau and its working groups shall be covered by an appropriation voted for this purpose by the General Conference of UNESCO.
2. Member States shall bear the expenses of the participation of their representatives in sessions of the Council, its Bureau and working groups with the exception of representatives of Least Developed Countries (LDC) whose expenses shall be covered by an appropriation voted for this purpose by the General Conference of UNESCO.
3. Voluntary contributions to the Information for All Programme may be accepted and established as trust funds, in accordance with the Financial Regulations of UNESCO, and administered by the Director-General.

#### Article 10 – Reporting

1. The Director-General shall submit to the Council, at each of its sessions, a report on the implementation of the Information for All Programme.
2. The Director-General shall submit to the General Conference at each of its sessions, through the Executive Board, a report on the implementation of the Programme, particularly as it relates to the activities of other UNESCO programmes and of other members of the UN system, other intergovernmental organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations.
3. The Council shall re-submit to the General Conference, at each of its sessions, a report on its activities.

**UNESCO MEMBER STATES ELECTED TO THE  
IFAP INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL DURING  
THE PERIOD COVERED BY THIS REPORT**

	Members States elected from 33rd to end of 35th session of the General Conference (2005 - 2009)	Members States elected from 34th to end of 36th session of the General Conference (2007 - 2011)	Members States elected from 35th to end of 37th session of the General Conference (2009 - 2013)	Members States elected from 36th to end of 38th session of the General Conference (2011 - 2015)	Member States elected from 37th to end of 39th session of the General Conference (2013 - 2017)
Group I	Canada Germany	Austria France Israel		Austria* Belgium Israel	Switzerland Turkey
Group II	Czech Republic Hungary Poland		Latvia* Russian Federation* Ukraine		Lithuania Russian Federation Slovakia
Group III	Jamaica	Brazil Grenada Venezuela	Colombia*	Grenada* Peru Uruguay	Venezuela
Group IV	China Indonesia	DPR Korea Thailand Viet Nam	China Philippines*	Indonesia Iran (Islamic Rep.of) Kazakhstan Mongolia	China
Group V (a)	Congo Ethiopia United Republic of Tanzania	Kenya Nigeria Côte D'Ivoire	Ethiopia Madagascar Mali	DR of the Congo Niger United Rep. of Tanzania*	Botswana Guinea Senegal
Group V (b)	Egypt Sudan	Libya	Kuwait United Arab Emirates	Oman*	Bahrain Sudan

\* Members of the Bureau elected from April 2012 to 2014



## ■ KEY DOCUMENTS AND TOOLS

- *Ethical implications of emerging technologies: a survey.* <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/resources/publications-and-communication-materials/publications/full-list/ethical-implications-of-emerging-technologies-a-survey/>
- *Guidelines for creating National IFAP Committees and use of logo.* <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001870/187069e.pdf>
- *IFAP Code of Ethics for the Information Society.* <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0021/002126/212696e.pdf>
- *IFAP Strategic Plan (2008-2013).* <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0016/001618/161860E.pdf>
- *IFAP-IFLA Recommendation on Media and Information Literacy Promotion.* <http://www.ifla.org/publications/ifla-media-and-information-literacy-recommendations>
- *Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace.* [http://www.ifapcom.ru/files/Documents/multiling\\_eng.pdf](http://www.ifapcom.ru/files/Documents/multiling_eng.pdf)
- *Media and Information Literacy for Knowledge Societies.* <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/resources/news-and-in-focus-articles/in-focus-articles/2012/media-and-information-literacy-for-knowledge-societies>
- *National Information Society Policy: A Template.* [http://portal.unesco.org/ci/fr/files/29360/12602731983IFAP\\_Template\\_en.pdf/IFAP\\_Template\\_en.pdf](http://portal.unesco.org/ci/fr/files/29360/12602731983IFAP_Template_en.pdf/IFAP_Template_en.pdf)
- *Reports and documents of IFAP Council and Bureau Meetings.* <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/intergovernmental-programmes/information-for-all-programme-ifap/meetings-documents/>
- *Towards Information Literacy Indicators.* [http://portal.unesco.org/ci/ev.php?URL\\_ID=26596&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201](http://portal.unesco.org/ci/ev.php?URL_ID=26596&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201)
- *Twelve years of measuring linguistic diversity in the internet: balance and perspectives.* <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/resources/publications-and-communication-materials/publications/full-list/twelve-years-of-measuring-linguistic-diversity-in-the-internet-balance-and-perspectives/>
- *Understanding information literacy: a primer.* [http://portal.unesco.org/ci/ev.php?URL\\_ID=25956&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201](http://portal.unesco.org/ci/ev.php?URL_ID=25956&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201)
- *UNESCO-IFLA Digital Library Manifesto.* <http://www.ifla.org/digital-libraries/manifesto>

Various proceedings and outcomes of IFAP international and regional conferences such as:

- *Asia-Pacific Information Network (APIN) documents.* <http://www.unescobkk.org/communication-and-information/information-society/apin/>
- *Information Society Observatory (IFAP Observatory newsletter, Information Society Policies Annual Report).* <http://ifap-is-observatory.ittk.hu/>
- *Lena Resolution on Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Cyberspace.* [http://www.ifapcom.ru/files/Documents/lena\\_resolution\\_eng.pdf](http://www.ifapcom.ru/files/Documents/lena_resolution_eng.pdf)
- *Moscow Declaration on Digital Information Preservation.* <http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/ifap/Moscow%20Declaration.pdf>
- *Moscow Declaration on Media and Information Literacy.* <http://www.ifla.org/publications/moscow-declaration-on-media-and-information-literacy>
- *Sakhalin Declaration on Internet and Socio-Cultural Transformations*
- *St George's Declaration and Action Plan for Building Caribbean Knowledge Societies.* [http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/ifap/meetings/bureau/ifap19\\_st\\_george\\_declaration\\_en.pdf](http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/CI/CI/pdf/ifap/meetings/bureau/ifap19_st_george_declaration_en.pdf)
- *Yakutsk call for action: a roadmap towards the World Summit on Multilingualism.* <http://www.ifapcom.ru/en/news/1235>

These and others documents are available online at the IFAP website (<http://www.unesco.org/webworld/ifap>) and through UNESCO's UNESDOC search tool (<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/ulis/>).

Kindly contact [ifap@unesco.org](mailto:ifap@unesco.org) for any assistance you may need in obtaining these resources or for further information on the programme.

## GUIDELINES FOR CREATING NATIONAL IFAP COMMITTEES

### IFAP GOALS AND MANDATE

The Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All Programme (IFAP) was established in 2000 as – in the words of the Executive Board – ‘a key participant in the fulfilment of UNESCO’s mandate to contribute to “education for all”, to the “free exchange of ideas and knowledge” and to “increase the means of communication between peoples”’. The programme is to contribute to narrowing the gap between the information-rich and the information-poor and to provide a platform for international policy discussions and guidelines for action on the preservation of information and universal access to it, on the participation of all in the emerging global information society and on the ethical, legal and societal consequences of ICT developments.

As a transverse UNESCO programme, IFAP is to provide a framework for international cooperation and international and regional partnerships and to support the development of common strategies, methods and tools for building a just and free information society. It also provides a framework for intersectoral cooperation within UNESCO.

In order to achieve its objectives, IFAP requires effective collaboration and liaison with a diverse and increasing number of interested parties. Therefore, the programme should emphasize and enhance the role of external collaboration and partnering in its work within UNESCO and in its support of external programmes. Collaboration with stakeholder NGOs and the private sector should be established in order to create a multiplier effect from improved communication and collaboration to contribute to achieving the objectives of the programme.

At its origin, the programme was composed of five areas: development of international, regional and national information policies; development of human resources and capabilities for the information age; strengthening institutions as gateways for information access; development of information processing and management tools and systems; information technology for education, science, culture and communication.

The IFAP Strategic Plan for 2008-2013, endorsed by the UNESCO Executive Board, defines the main focus of the programme’s activities as execution of UNESCO General Conference 34 C/Resolution 48 for Major Programme V, contained in the Approved Programme and Budget 2008 – 2009 (34 C/5) that authorizes the Director-General to ‘assist in the formulation of national information policy frameworks, in particular within the framework of the Information for All Programme (IFAP)’. Resulting from IFAP’s work so far, and that envisaged for the entire planning period, these frameworks will be complemented by more detailed policy orientations in five priority areas – information for development, information literacy, information preservation, information ethics and information accessibility. This standard-setting policy-oriented approach and these foci of interest are the distinguishing features of IFAP. National IFAP Committees should be established in all UNESCO Member States, and especially in those that are elected to the

Intergovernmental Council of IFAP.

The following guidelines were developed, based on the results of discussions during the First Consultation Meeting of National Committees for the Information for All Programme (Moscow, 7-8 December 2009). They indicate an extensive range of possible forms of activity and forms of organization of National Committees that will usually be implemented in ways adjusted to local circumstances and opportunities.

## ROLE AND TASKS OF NATIONAL IFAP COMMITTEES

The role of national IFAP committees is to pursue the goals of IFAP as a whole at the national level in ways adjusted to the local situation and to the opportunities of the given committee. Given the fact that many government, private sector, academic and civil society bodies are already involved in developing, implementing and analysing information society policies, or their particular elements, a national IFAP committee can provide added value by:

- serving as a meeting point for these diverse stakeholders and thus creating a pool of expertise for the purpose of consolidating existing knowledge as a basis for formulating advice on policy and its implementation;
- serving as an avenue for the transfer of knowledge and expertise from the international to the national level, and across borders, and for knowledge-sharing, by drawing on the work of national IFAP committees in other countries (e.g. in the form of expert missions);
- consolidating existing sectoral plans and programmes of action in the information/knowledge society field into a comprehensive, future-oriented vision, promoting public understanding of the unfolding process of change and its ramifications for society and individuals;
- developing an action plan, including short-and long-term goals, as well as benchmarks of success, focusing on the needs of the country in the area of core IFAP priorities, as well as on forms of regional and international cooperation within the programme;
- spreading information and knowledge about information society issues, and publicizing its own activities, as well as those of IFAP in general, and UNESCO, to ensure visibility for the programme and for the national committee in order to generate interest in, and support for, the committee's work.

Forms of activity undertaken by national IFAP committees should include:

1. contributing to the implementation of IFAP's national information society policy template, adjusted to the needs and circumstances of their countries, especially in the areas covered by IFAP's priorities;
2. engaging in a constant dialogue with government agencies and other stakeholders on the development and implementation of information and knowledge policies and strategies; facilitating (or engaging in)

high-level collaboration among government agencies to help develop national information policies and contribute to implementation of goals adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society;

3. creating multistakeholder forums (with the involvement of government officials, the private sector, NGOs and academia) for an ongoing debate on national information and knowledge policies and strategies, their development and implementation; establishing partnerships with civil society and private sector organizations;

4. convening multistakeholder conferences or thematic discussions on IFAP priority areas: information for development, information literacy, information ethics, information accessibility and information preservation;

5. involvement in the international debate on information and knowledge society issues, contributing ideas developed at national or IFAP programme level; promotion of a public dialogue on these issues, inter alia by recognizing or awarding the work of media or journalists specializing in them;

6. identifying and undertaking national or regional projects that respond to the needs of other stakeholders in their countries or regions;

7. maintaining contacts and cooperation with other national IFAP committees on questions of mutual interest, for the purposes of exchanging best practices and creating, and participating in, regular or task-oriented networks of national IFAP committees;

8. participating in, and contributing to, the IFAP working groups;

9. raising funds for their own activities and for supporting IFAP projects;

10. providing information and data for inclusion in the online IFAP Information Society Observatory;

11. regularly disseminating information about IFAP objectives and activities provided by the UNESCO/IFAP secretariat, including via a national IFAP webpage, separately and on a common website designated by the IFAP Bureau, so as to create inter alia an information bank on work conducted by national IFAP committees and its results and on national experts who could assist institutions or other countries with their expertise;

12. organizing periodic national IFAP meetings and preparing an annual report on national activities to be addressed to the UNESCO/IFAP secretariat for publication by UNESCO and consideration by the IFAP Intergovernmental Council;

13. facilitating appropriate national inputs to, and participation in, as a member or as an observer, the sessions of the IFAP Intergovernmental Council, and IFAP-related international and regional meetings;

14. maintaining relations and cooperation with UNESCO field offices;

15. reporting annually to the IFAP Intergovernmental Council on activities and keeping the National Commission for UNESCO informed about them.

## STRUCTURE AND LOCATION

1. The national IFAP committee should include representatives of all major national stakeholder groups in the information society, including ministries; parliamentary committees; libraries and archives; informatics, telematics and telecommunication infrastructure entrepreneurs and service providers; education and training institutions in the areas of information science and informatics; users of information and information and communication technology services in education, science, culture and communication; producers of information and digital content; local communities and civil society.
2. Given the transversal and multisectorial nature of information society policy and programmes, and the need for the national IFAP committee to incorporate all stakeholders and operate across administrative and other divisions, it would be best if it could be established and operate under the auspices of a government body of equally comprehensive competences.
3. A national IFAP committee could also be established, for example:
  - within a national advisory board or committee on the information society, information resource development, or ICTs;
  - as a specialized committee of the National Commission for UNESCO.
4. Regardless of its location, the national IFAP committee will work closely with the National Commission for UNESCO and, where appropriate, cooperate with the local Memory of the World Committee, as well as with other UNESCO national coordination frameworks in the sphere of communication and information.
5. The legal status of the national IFAP committee will depend on its location and method of its creation and will be decided at the national level.
6. Many UNESCO National Commissions already have committees dealing with communication and information. An IFAP national committee is needed to: (i) concentrate on information society issues, (ii) have a mandate and resources to contribute more substantively to IFAP, and (iii) as a platform for regular informal as well as formal consultation with the UNESCO/IFAP Secretariat and with other IFAP national committees.
7. For a national coordination framework to be effective, specific responsibilities should be agreed in terms of information flow between national coordination entities and UNESCO, the expected contributions of the national coordination entities to IFAP, and the support function of UNESCO vis-à-vis these entities.
8. The national IFAP committee should have statutes which clearly define its membership, mandate, legal status and procedures.

## FUNDING

1. The national IFAP committee needs a budget to fund its own functioning and activities. This should, where possible, come from a central government allocation.
2. The committee also needs funds for national IFAP activities and

national participation in regional and international IFAP meetings.

3. Any of several methods of financing could be used, depending on national circumstances, alone or in combination, for example: Structural funding:

- allocations from concerned ministries and public agencies (including, in industrialized countries, the agency responsible for international development assistance); this should be oriented towards the implementation of the committee's action plan;
- contributions of institutions represented on the national committee (though this should not be a condition for their involvement in the work of the committee for institutions unable to make such contributions);
- fees, where appropriate (and again not as a barrier to participation), for attendance at national IFAP activities;

#### Project-related funding

- voluntary sponsorship, including of the private sector, especially in relation to joint projects;
- funding from government and other institutions for sector-specific projects in their areas.

## ■ GUIDELINES ON THE USE OF LOGOS FOR NATIONAL IFAP COMMITTEES

### 1. PURPOSE

National committees of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All Programme (IFAP) are invited and encouraged to use the UNESCO IFAP logo in order to demonstrate their association with UNESCO and to promote, facilitate and monitor the implementation of the programme within their countries.

### 2. GRAPHICAL PRESENTATIONS

- a) The UNESCO IFAP logo includes two elements:
- The UNESCO logo;
  - The IFAP logo;

An example of the use of the logo is shown below:



- b) The UNESCO IFAP logo for national committees includes three elements:

- The UNESCO logo;
- The IFAP logo;
- The text: National IFAP Committee for + country name

An example of the use of the logo is shown below:





### 3. GENERAL CONDITIONS

The use of the UNESCO IFAP logo and the UNESCO IFAP logo for national committees is subject to the following provisions:

- The UNESCO IFAP logo and the UNESCO IFAP logo for national committees are logos of UNESCO and are governed by the 'Directives Concerning the Use of the Name, Acronym, Logo and Internet Domain Names of UNESCO'. The Directives can be consulted on the internet at <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/name-and-logo/general-principles/reference-documents/>. In general the UNESCO IFAP logo may be used for any activity which is organized by or jointly organized by the UNESCO Secretariat. The UNESCO IFAP logo for national committees should be used for activities independently organized by national IFAP committees.
- The conditions for the use of these logos is determined by UNESCO and they cannot be changed without prior written agreement of UNESCO.
- The logos must be cautiously used so as not to cause any misinterpretation by the public about the respective status of UNESCO and the national IFAP committees.
- The UNESCO IFAP logo and the UNESCO IFAP logo for national committees should not be used for any commercial purposes. The sale of goods or services bearing the UNESCO/IFAP name and logo is regarded as commercial use.
- Communication materials bearing the UNESCO IFAP logo for national IFAP committees produced by national committees should feature a disclaimer such as 'xxx National Committee is responsible for the choice and presentation of views contained in this [material] and for opinions expressed herein, which are not necessarily those of UNESCO and do not commit UNESCO'.
- National committees are fully responsible for the consequences arising out of their use of these logos.
- National committees may use the UNESCO IFAP logo for national committees as specified above, but they cannot authorize others to use these logos.

### 4. STEPS FOR OBTAINING THE UNESCO IFAP LOGO

National committees wishing to create their own logo may create the logo themselves by obtaining an electronic copy of the UNESCO IFAP logo from UNESCO Secretariat and adding in the necessary text for their committee. The UNESCO Secretariat will be pleased to validate the logo if requested. National Committees can also ask UNESCO Secretariat to develop the logo for their national IFAP committee.

Please contact the UNESCO Secretariat for clarification or assistance in the use of these logos.

## 5. CONTACTS AT UNESCO

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## ■ CONTRIBUTING TO IFAP AND ITS ACTIVITIES

UNESCO has established a Special Account for the Intergovernmental Information for All Programme (IFAP) to support activities in the IFAP priority areas. Contributions to this Special Account will serve to extend the scope and impact of IFAP's work.

Technical cooperation in the development and implementation of focused activities provides another important avenue by which IFAP's goal can be advanced.

For more information and to discuss how you can contribute to IFAP's actions at the international, regional and national level, we invite you to contact the IFAP Secretariat:

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