



National Library of South Africa		
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IFLA PAC Regional Centre Southern Africa
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The IFLA Regional Preservation and Conservation Centre for Southern Africa is based at the National Library of South Africa (NLSA). Purpose of the centre is to raise awareness among library professionals, the public and authorities of the urgent need to preserve endangered library collections.

The NLSA continued to conduct local preservation training. A two day disaster planning and bookmaking workshop was presented by the NLSA in partnership with the Africana Library Trust in Kimberley (South Africa). The purpose of the workshop was to prepare library workers and managers to deal with library disasters, ranging from fire, flooding, pest infestation and the challenges of extreme climate regions with high temperatures and humidity. The workshop included practical demonstrations, disaster equipment and the content of disaster boxes. The workshop was concluded with a bookmaking session. Participants each bound their own copy of a 2015 diary. The workshop took place from 26-27 February 2015 at the William Humphreys Art Gallery, the Kimberley Africana Library and the Paper Conservation, Bookbinding and Training Centre in Kimberley. The workshop was attended by 23 participants from the Northern Cape, North-West and Gauteng.

Other disaster management, bookmaking and book repair workshops were held in partnership with the Library and Information Association of South Africa SLYSIG (School Library and Youth Services Interest Group) in Cape Town (8-9 April 2015) attended by 18 participants, and public libraries in Tzaneen, Limpopo Province (27-28 May 2015) attended by 24 library workers. Delegates each received a manual, covering topics such as cleaning of books and shelves, climate control, pest management, a recommended disaster management plan, repairing books and salvage of wet books. Useful contact details of service providers and recommended products were included.

In partnership with the IFLA Office for Africa and the Mount Kenya University (Kakamega Campus) a two day Preservation and Conservation workshop for participants from Anglophone countries was held in Kenya from 3-4 February 2015 at the Kenya National Library Service in Nakuru. The workshop was attended by senior staff and decision makers from academic, national and public libraries and archives in Mombasa, Nairobi, and Nakuru.

The NLSA participated in the South African Digitisation Initiative (SADI), attending meetings in Gauteng and the Western Cape province as well as a workshop on building institutional digitisation skills through collaboration with other cultural and academic institutions. The NLSA and the High Commissioner of India signed an

agreement to digitise the South African newspaper Indian Opinion for the years 1930-1949.

A flooding incident in June 2015 caused water damage to approximately 5 000 books at the Pretoria Campus of the NLSA. Drying of books was done to prevent the development of mould. Minor repairs consisted of the replacement of spine labels. Further damage to individual books still needs to be assessed to determine repairs required.

The NLSA contributed to a special issue of the IFLA Journal on cultural heritage. The preservation of cultural heritage is an interdisciplinary problem that requires collaboration amongst practitioners, professionals, researchers, and policy makers to identify and develop solutions to the most pressing issues concerning cultural heritage today. The IFLA Journal invited papers for a special issue focused on cultural heritage to be published in 2015 (Volume 42:3). In particular, the main goal of the special issue is to gather research on tangible and intangible cultural heritage and the use of new technologies in protecting, restoring, and preserving cultural heritage.

As part of the Carnegie Continuing Professional Development programme for qualified librarians offered by the Department of Information Science at the University of Pretoria, groups of students from Nigeria (21), Uganda (30), Ghana (17) and Tanzania (13) visited the IFLA PAC regional Centre in November 2014, March and June 2015. IFLA PAC brochures were distributed at the AfLIA conference that took place in Ghana in June 2015. Two visitors from Uganda visited the Centre in July 2015.