

IFLA Section
**Environment,
Sustainability and Libraries**

Tools for Green Libraries



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Introduction

The goal of this growing Green Libraries Toolbox is to provide resources and stories to help all people working in libraries to learn, investigate, find partners and discover ways to get involved with sustainability in libraries.

In this first version we have divided the document into five large sections: *Clarifying concepts*, includes concepts we consider important to know and often difficult to understand the reference; *International framework*, includes guides, documents and resources made by the United Nations and IFLA as well as a list of international and national working groups in this field from different countries of the world; *Resources*, includes books, articles, videos, repositories, games, blogs, etc.; *Green Libraries in the World*, includes networks and inspiring experiences of sustainable libraries in different countries in their own language; *Annual International Days*, includes selected International Days of the United Nations related to the environment and we have connected them with the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda.

This first version of this document is based on a previous work carried out by Petra Hauke, current Secretary of IFLA's ENSULIB Section, whom we thank for her great compilation work.

We welcome anyone who wants to submit references and resources for this open publication. Please send an email to: rtoril@oapn.es.

1. Clarifying concepts

1.1. Green Library

- IFLA, ENSULIB Section. (2022, January). *What is a Green Library?* <https://www.ifla.org/ifla-green-library-definition/>
- New World Encyclopedia. (n.d.). *Green library*. https://www.newworldencyclopedia.org/entry/Green_library
- Reitz, J. M. (n.d.). *Sustainable library*. ODLIS, Online Dictionary for Library and Information Science. https://products.abc-clio.com/ODLIS/odlis_s.aspx

1.2. Sustainability

- Sustainability. (2022). *Wikipedia*. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainability>

1.3. Sustainable Development

- *Sustainable Development*. (n.d.). IISD, International Institute for Sustainable Development. <https://www.iisd.org/mission-and-goals/sustainable-development>
- Sustainable development. (2022). *Wikipedia*. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainable_development

1.4. United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. (n.d.). *Libraries, Information and the Sustainable Development Goals - Base Presentation*. IFLA. <https://repository.ifla.org/handle/123456789/2118>
- International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. (2018). Poster “*This Library Supports the SDGs*”. IFLA. (Available in all official IFLA languages and more). <https://repository.ifla.org/simple-search?query=%22This+Library+Supports+the+SDGs%22;Template> to carry out translations into your own language.
- International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. (n.d.). *IFLA Sustainable Development Goals discussion list* (Public, but restricted to subscribers). <https://mail.iflalist.org/wws/info/sdgs>
- University Global Coalition. *SDG Action and Awareness Week*. (n.d.). <https://universityglobalcoalition.org/sdgactionweek/>
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- Sustainable Development Goals. (2022). *Wikipedia*. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainable_Development_Goals
- United Nations. (n.d.). *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. <https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda>
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2. International framework

2.1. United Nations, UNESCO

- International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. (2016). *Access and Opportunity for All: How Libraries contribute to the United Nations 2030 Agenda*. IFLA. <https://repository.ifla.org/handle/123456789/243> (translations into other languages)
- UNESCO. (2017). *Education for Sustainable Development Goals: Learning Objectives*. UNESCO. <https://bit.ly/3NgIPYs>
- United Nations. (n.d.). *Make the SDGs a reality*. <https://sdgs.un.org/>
- United Nations. (2019, December 30). *The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in your language*. <https://unric.org/en/sdgs-in-your-language/>
- United Nations. (n.d.). *UNEP: United Nations Environment Programme*. <https://www.un.org/youthenvoy/2013/08/unep-united-nations-environment-programme/>

2.2. IFLA, International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions

- International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. (n.d.). *ENSULIB, Environment, Sustainability and Libraries Section*. IFLA. <https://www.ifla.org/environment-sustainability-and-libraries>
- International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. (2017, August). *IFLA Toolkit: Libraries, Development and the United Nations 2030 Agenda*. IFLA. <https://bit.ly/3aLwyw2>
- International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. (n.d.). *Library Map of the World, SDG Stories*. IFLA. <https://librarymap.ifla.org/stories>
- International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. (2022). *Library Policy and Advocacy Blog*. <https://blogs.ifla.org/lpa/>
- International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. (2021, January 21). *MLAS & LMW Webinar: Library Map of the World: Engagement for Advocacy*. IFLA. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rU9AgSi6I50>
- International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. (n.d.). *Sustainability is Libraries' Business: Libraries and Sustainable Development*. IFLA. <https://www.ifla.org/DE/publications/node/81763> (translations into other languages)
- International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions. (2021, January 28). *Using Library Map of the World Data as SDG Indicators*. Library Policy and Advocacy Blog. IFLA. <https://blogs.ifla.org/lpa/2021/01/28/using-library-map-of-the-world-data-as-sdg-indicators/>
- Werner, K. U. & Latimer, K. *The Green Library: Sustainable buildings, equipment, and management - A checklist*. (2014, January). IFLA. <https://repository.ifla.org/handle/123456789/1658> (with translations into many other languages)

2.3. International and national working groups

Africa

- United Nations Economic Commission for Africa. (2022). *Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development*. <https://bit.ly/3aODY1y>

Europe

- European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations. (n.d.). *ELSIA - Expert Group European Libraries and Sustainable Development Implementation and Assessment*. EBLIDA. <https://bit.ly/3ciSUWd>
- European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations.(n.d.). *SDG-KIC: Knowledge and Information Centre - European 2030 Agenda for libraries*. <http://www.eblida.org/activities/sdg-kic/>
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- European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations. (n.d.). *Implementing Sustainable Development Goals in European Libraries*. EBLIDA. <http://www.eblida.org/activities/libraries-un-sdgs-matrix.html>
- European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations. (n.d.). *The EBLIDA Matrix*. EBLIDA. <http://www.eblida.org/activities/the-eblida-matrix.html>
- ELSA, European Libraries and Sustainable Assessment Working Group. (2020, November). *Towards the implementation of SDG indicators in European libraries*. EBLIDA. <https://bit.ly/39KS2Z2>

Australia

- Australian Library and Information Association. (n.d.) *ALIA Sustainable Libraries (ALIA Green)*. <https://bit.ly/3RNvOrc>

Croatia

- Croatian Library Association. (n.d.). *Working Group for Green Libraries*. https://www.hkdrustvo.hr/en/strucna_tijela/50/

France

- Association des bibliothécaires de France. Commission Bibliothèques Vertes. (2022). <https://www.abf.asso.fr/4/210/981/ABF/bibliotheques-vertes>
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Germany

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Italy

- Associazione Italiana Biblioteche. (2021). *Osservatorio Biblioteche e Sviluppo Sostenibile (OBISS)*. <https://www.aib.it/struttura/osservatori/obiss/>

Spain

- Consejo de Cooperación Bibliotecaria. Ministerio de Cultura y Deporte. (n.d.). *Bibliotecas y Agenda 2030*. <https://bit.ly/3aLGgyu>

- Red de Centros de Información y Documentación Ambiental (RECIDA). (n.d.). <http://recida.net/>

Switzerland

- *BiblioSuisse*. (n.d.). *Kommission Biblio2030*. <https://bibliosuisse.ch/Aktivitaeten/Biblio2030>

United Kingdom

- Green Libraries.(n.d.). *CILIP: the library and information association*. <https://www.cilip.org.uk/page/GreenLibraries>

United States of America

- ALA American Library Association. (n.d.). *IRRT International Sustainable Library Development Interest Group*. <http://www.ala.org/rt/irrt/irrtcommittees/isld/isld>
- ALA American Library Association. (n.d.). *Sustainability Round Table*. <http://www.ala.org/rt/sustainrt>
- Sustainable Libraries Initiative. <https://sustainablelibrariesinitiative.org/>

3. Resources

3.0. General compilations

- ALA American Library Association. *Sustainability and Libraries*. (n.d.) <https://libguides.ala.org/SustainableLibraries/sustainability>
- Antonelli, M. (2009). *Green Libraries: A Website for Information about Green and Sustainable Libraries*. <http://greenlibraries.org/resources>
- Bezerra Cardoso, N. (2021). How is your library contributing to sustainable development? <https://libraryscience.de/calculator/> [Calculator] <https://libraryscience.de/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/CheckList-ENG.pdf> [Checklist] (different languages)
- Bibliosuisse. (n.d.). *Biblio2030 : der Werkzeugkasten*. <https://padlet.com/biblio2030/Werkzeugkasten>
- CILIP The Library and Information Association. (n.d.). *Green Libraries Resources*. <https://www.cilip.org.uk/page/GreenLibrariesResources>
- CILIPS, Scotland's Library and Information Professionals. (n.d.). *CILIPSGoGreen: Environmental Resources for Libraries and Librarians*. <https://www.cilips.org.uk/cilips-go-green/>
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- Edtech Primary. (n.d.). *17 SDGs Books & Videos*. <https://gess.padlet.org/edtechprimary/17goalsBooks>
- European Environmental Bureau. (n.d.). *SDG Toolkit to engage European NGOs at National and European level on the Sustainable Development Goals*. EEB. <https://sdgtoolkit.org/inspire-me/environment-targets-and-goals/>

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- Microsoft. (2022). *Sustainability tools and resources*. <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/sustainability/tools-resources/>
- Scottish Library and Information Council. (n.d.). *Climate Resources*. <https://scottishlibraries.org/staff-development/climate-resources/>
- UNESCO. (n.d.). *Education for sustainable development for 2030 Toolbox*. <https://en.unesco.org/themes/education-sustainable-development/toolbox>
- University of Nebraska Oklahoma. (2022). *Sustainability Research Guide*. <https://libguides.unomaha.edu/c.php?g=312346&p=6718172>
- United Nations. (n.d.). *SDGBookClub: SDG15: Life on Land*. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sdgbookclub/>
- United States Department of Agriculture. Forest Service. (n.d.). *Greening Your Events: Resources & Support*. USDA. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/about-agency/greening-your-events/resources-support>

3.1. Publications

3.1.1. Bibliographies

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- Hauke, P, Latimer, K. & Werner, K. U. (2015). Bibliography 2000-2012. In P. Hauke, K. Latimer, & K. U. Werner (eds.), *The Green Library*. (pp. 403-421). München: De Gruyter Saur (IFLA Publications, 161). <https://doi.org/10.18452/17881>
- Netzwerk Grüne Bibliothek. (n.d.). *International Bibliography Green Library*. <https://www.netzwerk-gruene-bibliothek.de/bibliografie/>

3.1.2. Repositories

- American Library Association (n.d.). *Sustainability Round Table’s repository library of sustainable resources*. <https://www.zotero.org/groups/2154386/sustainrt/library>
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3.1.3. Monographies

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- Hauke, P., Charney, M., & Sahavirta, H. (eds.). (2018). *Going Green: Implementing Sustainable Strategies in Libraries Around the World; Buildings, Management, Programmes, and Services*. De Gruyter Saur. (IFLA Publications, 177). <https://repository.ifla.org/handle/123456789/1097>

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- McBane Mulford, S., & Himmel, N. A. (2010). *How Green is My Library?*. Libraries Unlimited.
- Miller, K. (2010). *Public Libraries Going Green*. American Library Association. (ALA Public Library Handbook Series)
- Pun, R., & Shaffer, G. (eds.). (2019). *The Sustainable Library's Cookbook*. Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association. (ACRL Cookbook Series)
- Tanner, R., Ho, Adrian K., Antonelli, M., Smith Aldrich, R. (eds.). (2021). *Libraries and Sustainability: Programs and Practices for Community Impact*. ALA Editions.

3.1.4. Journals, Special Issues

IFLA

- IFLA ENSULIB. (2021-). Newsletter. <https://www.ifla.org/the-ifla-ensulib-newsletter-project/>

English

- UCLA Library. (2022). *Electronic Green Journal*. https://escholarship.org/uc/uclalib_egj

French

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- A.D.B.S. (2016). Dossier "Développement durable : des services d'informations responsables". *I2D - Information, Données & Documents*, 53. <https://bit.ly/3x83Bl8>
- Bibliosuisse & Association des Archivistes Suisses AAS. (2021). Der Nachhaltigkeit verpflichtet. *Arbido*, 3. <https://arbido.ch/de/ausgaben-artikel/2021/nachhaltigkeit>
- Bibliosuisse & Association des Archivistes Suisses AAS. (2021). Engagé dans la durabilité. *Arbido*, 3. <https://arbido.ch/fr/edition-article/2021/nachhaltigkeit>
- Bibliosuisse & Association des Archivistes Suisses AAS. (2020). Vague verte. *Arbido*, 3. <https://arbido.ch/fr/edition-article/2020/vague-verte>
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German

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- Bibliosuisse & Association des Archivistes Suisses AAS. (2020). Grüne Welle. *Arbido*, 3. <https://arbido.ch/de/ausgaben-artikel/2020/vague-verte>
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- BuB, Forum Bibliothek und Information. (n.d.). Klima + Umwelt. <https://www.b-u-b.de/themen-dossiers/klima-umwelt>

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- Büchereiverband Österreichs. (2020). UN-Agenda 2030: Nachhaltigkeit in der Bibliothek. *Büchereiperspektiven*, 2. <https://www.oefse.at/fileadmin/content/Downloads/Buechereiperspektiven.pdf>

3.1.5. Articles

- Bonnet, V. & van Neygen, V. M. (2009, April 23). *How green is my library? Exploring Sustainability and Libraries in a Global World*. 4th Madurodam Conference, The Hague, Netherlands. <https://www.ifla.org/news/how-green-is-my-library/>
- Bustamante Rodríguez, A.T. (2020). Bibliotecas sostenibles: Objetivos 2030. *Desiderata*, 14, 133-135. <https://bit.ly/3rXEejJ>
- Charney, M. & Hauke, P. (2020). Global action on the urgency of climate change: Academic and research libraries' contribution. *College & Research Libraries News*, 81(3), 114–117. <https://crln.acrl.org/index.php/crlnews/issue/view/1574>
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- Ghorbani, M. (2018). Designing a Green Library Evaluation checklist. *IFLA news*. <https://bit.ly/3LUg4hD>
- Hauke, P. (2020). Bibliothèques dans le monde: exemplaires, formatrices, engagées en faveur du développement durable. *Bibliothèque(s), revue de l'Association des Bibliothécaires Français, ABF*, no. 102/103, Nov., 5-9. <http://www.abf.asso.fr/bib102-103>

3.1.6. Videos & Webinars

IFLA

- IFLA ENSULIB. (2022-). *Webinar Series*. <https://bit.ly/3E3ziRQ>

International

- Bezerra Cardoso, N. (2020, October 21). *Libraries' Role in Making a Better World: Agenda 2030*. Youtube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s-MqBHD3UJI>
- Cyclo-biblio. (2013, August 16). *Cycling for Libraries*. YouTube.
- <https://bikesy.co.uk/features/cycling-for-libraries/>
- OCLC Global Council Area of Focus. (2021). *Sustainable development and libraries* [Webinars]. <https://www.oclc.org/en/membership/area-of-focus.html>

French

- Bibliosuisse. *Biblio2030*. (2020, December 16). YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ihqQZ7N22AE>
- Le bureau des acclimatations. (2022). YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCu06NrsQ_4CT4iSByQ5p-xw

German

- Deutscher Bibliotheksverband Germany. (2022). *dbv Online-Seminare*. <https://www.bibliotheksverband.de/online-seminare#Nachhaltigkeit>
- Netzwerk Grüne Bibliothek. (2021-). „Ideen-Café Grüne Bibliothek“. <https://www.netzwerk-gruene-bibliothek.de/ideen-cafe-gruene-bibliothek/>

Spanish

- Asociación Andaluza de Bibliotecarios. (2020, October 30). *IV Jornadas Técnicas de Bibliotecas "Bibliotecas Sostenibles: Objetivos 2030*. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/V3tjJ6FZGyY>
- BiblioTeConecta 65. (2022, March 10). *Bibliotecas sostenibles*. <https://youtu.be/3wrRyTP5198>
- Centro de Documentación y Recursos para la Educación Ambiental de Cantabria. (2022). *Sinapsis ambiental*. CEDRAC. YouTube. <https://bit.ly/3yKJdbz>
- Centro Nacional de Educación Ambiental (CENEAM). (2021). *Ratones de Bibliotecas Verdes*. YouTube. <https://bit.ly/3D0gPo8>
- Fundación Musol. (2020, November 6). *Bibliotecas Sostenibles y Superpagër contra el Doctor No*. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/pZxePn8pZc8>
- Instituto Cervantes. (2019, March 19). *III Jornadas Sostenibilidad e Instituciones Culturales*. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/qwdNALwXqLA> - <https://youtu.be/qwdNALwXqLA>
- Muñoz García, Laura. (2021, February 26). *Bibliotecas Sostenibles: un marco para la Agenda 2030*. Asociación Andaluza de Bibliotecarios. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/VWJav3E3enY>
- Ministerio de Cultura y Deporte. (2021, May 25). *Seminario: Las bibliotecas y los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible de la Agenda 2030*. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/RbxhaishbE0>
- Novalbos Ruiz, J. (2020, November 17). *¿Aplican hoy las bibliotecas los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible, ¿sí pero no?*. IV Jornadas Técnicas de Bibliotecas. Asociación Andaluza de Bibliotecarios. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/sqkSuVJRGQE>
- Sellés Carot, A. (2020, November 10). *Agenda 2030 y bibliotecas: oportunidades y retos*. IV Jornadas Técnicas de Bibliotecas. Asociación Andaluza de Bibliotecarios. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/QttAv2p0Ffg>
- Sociedad Española de Documentación e Información Científica (SEDIC). (2022, April 28). *XXIII Jornada Gestión de la Información: Sostenibilidad y medio ambiente desde instituciones culturales*. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/s6NQCNNHF30> https://youtu.be/c1_EC2qc5xY
- *Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia (UNED)*. (2017, Decembe, 15). *Biblioteca sostenible*. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/0LkWEMeeO8o>

3.1.7. Podcasts

- Goethe-Institut Côte d'Ivoire. (n.d.). *Episode 6: Le développement durable à travers la bibliothéconomie* [Audio podcast in French and German] . <https://www.goethe.de/ins/ci/fr/kul/sup/pon/episode-6.html> (french)

3.1.8. Games

- Centro de Documentación y Recursos para la Educación Ambiental de Cantabria. (2019, November 12). *Juego de escape sobre ODS paso a paso (Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible)*. YouTube. <https://youtu.be/C9GvqYeB7G4> <https://bit.ly/3yLCm1g>

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5. Annual International Days


In this section we have selected some International days set by the United Nations that are more closely related to the environment and sustainability. We have also included the SDGs that are connected to each day.

[Complete list of the official Annual International Days, that are observed or declared by the United Nations.](#)

JANUARY	
24 January International Day of Education	
26 January World Environmental Education Day (not observed by NU)	 

FEBRUARY	
2 February World Wetlands Day	 
11 February International Day of Women and Girls in Science	
MARCH	
3 March World Wildlife Day	   
21 March International Day of Forests	
22 March World Water Day	
23 March World Meteorological Day	
APRIL	
7 April World Health Day	
22 April Earth Day	
MAY	
14 May World Migratory Bird Day	
20 May World Bee Day	
22 May International Day for Biological Diversity	
JUNE	
3 June World Bicycle Day	 
5 June World Environment Day	

7 June World Food Safety Day	   
8 June World Oceans Day	
18 June Sustainable Gastronomy Day	
29 June International Day of the Tropics	
JULY	
11 July World Population Day	 
15 July World Youth Skills Day	   
30 July World Day Against Trafficking in Persons	
AUGUST	
09 August International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples	  
12 August International Youth Day	   
19 August World Humanitarian Day	
29 August International Day against Nuclear Tests	 
SEPTEMBER	
16 September International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer	 
27 September World Tourism Day	     
28 September International Day for Universal Access to Information	

OCTOBER	
16 October World Food Day	   
NOVEMBER	
6 November International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict	 
10 November World Science Day for Peace and Development	  
19 November World Toilet Day	 
20 November World Children's Day	    
25 November International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women	  
DECEMBER	
5 December International Volunteer Day	 
5 December World Soil Day	
10 December Human Rights Day	 
11 December International Mountain Day	
20 December International Human Solidarity Day	 

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