

WHO WE ARE

EIFL (Electronic Information for Libraries) is an international not-for-profit organization that works with libraries in developing and transition countries to enable access to knowledge for education, learning, research and sustainable community development.

Our strategy has three goals:

To advance a fair and sustainable transition from paywalled to open access (OA) content

Major achievements in 2025 —

- By the end of the year, 15 agreements with publishers were in place enabling authors from EIFL partner countries to publish for free or at reduced prices in OA in 2,927 journals. 2,945 articles were published in OA in 2025. Savings in Article Processing Charges amounted to US\$6,345,895.
- To increase the availability of OA content, we published a new model provision on secondary publication rights (SPR) in the EIFL Draft Law on Copyright, and promoted SPR as efficient policy and legal instruments for making articles available in OA via repositories.
- We contributed to strengthening Diamond OA journal publishing in Africa, Europe and Latin America. Diamond OA is a scholarly communications model in which journals do not charge fees to either authors or readers —
 - We awarded 16 grants to strengthen the efficiency, quality and sustainability of over 100 Diamond OA journals in nine countries in Africa.
 - Created training courses and useful resources for Diamond OA publishers: 13 courses available on the European Diamond Capacity Hub; guides such as 'Quality in Diamond OA Publishing'; 'Generative AI in Diamond Open Access Publishing'; 'Diamond Open Access Standard (DOAS) Guide for Journals', and 'Optimise your operations: Guide for Diamond Open Access Publishers'.

- Launched Diamond OA publishing communities of practice in Africa and Europe.

To support research, teaching and learning

Major achievements in 2025 —

- We continued to negotiate agreements with publishers for free or affordable pricing for paywalled e-resources. By the end of 2025, 84 commercial e-resources from 24 vendors were available through EIFL, including journals, e-books, reference works and aggregated databases covering a broad range of subject areas.
- We advocated for national copyright law reform to encourage the adoption of modern copyright laws that maximize access to content. We participated in copyright law reviews in Armenia, Malawi, Moldova, Uganda and Ukraine.
- We contributed to ending the book famine for persons with print disabilities by supporting ratification and domestication of the Marrakesh Treaty in Kenya, Lesotho, Nigeria and Maldives.
- We advocated for an enabling policy environment to support open and reproducible research. As a result of our policy work, two national (Estonia and Uganda) and eight institutional (Latvia, Serbia and Ukraine) open science policies were adopted.
- We supported the creation and maintenance of open public infrastructures that enable the publication and sharing of research in OA journals and repositories:

- Helped to improve the quality of services of 82 OA journals in Africa, Armenia, Ukraine and Uzbekistan, and five repositories, including three national repositories in Armenia, Georgia and Myanmar.

- Organized 10 webinars on best practices in using Open Journal Systems journal management software and four webinars for repository managers.

- We strengthened open science training:
 - Continued monthly virtual meetings of the EIFL Open Science Trainers Community of Practice, which now has over 80 trainers from 20 EIFL partner countries.
 - Co-facilitated two OpenAIRE open science train-the-trainer bootcamps.
 - Developed useful resources for trainers, including the 'EIFL Digital Research Literacy Training Programme Outline for Librarians' (third edition).
- We launched a campaign to promote the registration of research organizations with ROR (the Research Organization Registry) for accurate recognition and attribution of research, and developed the EIFL guide 'How to check whether your organization has a ROR ID and get one if it doesn't'.

To foster digital transformation of public library services

- We continued to build training, facilitation and digital skills of public librarians in Ghana as part of the 'Digital learning @ Ghana public libraries' project. By the end of 2025 —

- Thirty trained public library staff from 15 regional and branch libraries managed by the Ghana Library Authority had provided digital literacy training to over 11,300 students. Skills learnt included word processing, graphic design, coding, web development, misinformation and online safety.

- We advocated with governments and the private sector in Ghana, Malawi and Zambia for resourcing of public libraries with digital technology:
 - In Ghana we organized two partnership-building events for Government officials and other stakeholders to present the results of the Digital learning @ Ghana Libraries project.
 - In Malawi the Ministry of Information and Digitalisation allocated 40 computers to 17 branches of the National Library Service.
 - In Zambia, Airtel Zambia donated 26 wireless routers with two months' unlimited data to 20 public libraries.
- We continued to produce online learning material for public librarians, including six more short videos in the EIFL-PLIP 'Small Bites' series, on the topics library project development and organizing library training.
- To advance innovation in public libraries, we selected four libraries (China, Colombia, Croatia and South Africa) to receive the 19th EIFL Public Library Innovation Award. The award recognized exceptional STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics) programmes.