



Newsletter

eIFL Newsletter - SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2003

We would like to welcome everybody back after summer holiday. This additional newsflash covers the period until we meet at the General Assembly.

Minutes of the Board meeting

The minutes of the second eIFL Advisory Board Meeting, which was held on 02-03 August 2003 in Berlin, are now available on our member's only section.

Very detailed discussions on Board elections as well as country membership took place during the meeting. Within couple of days, you will receive a document outlining nomination process for the elections which will take place at the General Assembly in October. Start thinking about the candidates.

News about the partnership with Goethe Institute

The Goethe Institute is impressed with the eIFL approach to encourage affordable and sustainable access to electronic information by libraries in developing countries and wants to cooperate with eIFL to export the eIFL model to Latin America and the Middle East. The Goethe Institute representative will attend General Assembly as an observer.

Collaboration with similar initiatives

During the summer, meetings were held with INASP, Biomed Central and TIB, the German National Library of Science and Technology, on how to collaborate and how eIFL consortia could make the best use of the resources that are being offered by those initiatives. All of them have been invited to give presentations at the General Assembly.

eIFL.net at IFLA

Lots of visitors came to eIFL's stand that also served as a meeting point for those coordinators who were attending the conference.

We had a lot of interest from African and Latin American countries that are not presently members of eIFL. Preliminary discussion was held with Ross Shimmon, secretary general of IFLA, about formal cooperation between eIFL and IFLA in bringing sustainable access to electronic information to libraries in developing countries. It was useful and fun to have a stand and we are planning to do the same at the next IFLA conference in Buenos Aires in August 2004.

Guidelines for Conducting Effective Focus Groups

We are pleased to provide you with a guideline on focus group. A focus group is a discussion among a small group of individuals to help an organization gather information. Where surveys usually are qualitative forms of research used to gather a breadth of information from a statistically significant portion of the client population, a focus group is used to yield deeper and more comprehensive information regarding the thoughts of your clients.

This document is available on our website on the member's only section
:http://www.eifl.net/members/members_knowledge.html#report

Update on Science and Technology

On 20 of June 2003, eIFL has signed an agreement with Proquest for 3 years for Science and Technology databases.

More information is available at: http://www.eifl.net/services/services_sci_proquest.html
We are also pleased to announce that on the 15 of August 2003, eIFL has signed an agreement with IOP.
More information is available at: http://www.eifl.net/services/services_sci_iop.html

Just to let you know, the agreement with CUP for Science and Technology titles is being concluded this week.

Free trial of e-books

Free trials are available for eIFL countries from e-books vendors. Our colleague Jan Andzej Nikisch has prepared a report and also stated in last paragraph of this report information on how to get trial access. The following vendors have been reviewed: Netlibrary, Questia, Ebrary, Kluwer, Wiley, Taylor and Francis, Safari Tech Books Online, Knovel and Benetech. We are planning to invite few e-book vendors to the General Assembly and have a discussion on models and access to e-books.

We encourage you to use this opportunity to get familiar with e-books before the meeting.

The report of Jan Andzej Nikisch is available on our website at:

http://www.eifl.net/members/members_publishers.html

eIFL expansion

We would like to welcome Laos and it's coordinator Mr. Chansy Phuangsouketh to the eIFL family.

As a result of the workshop held in August, Laos is defining next steps towards building consortia and already started using EBSCO databases.

We would also like to welcome Sudan and it's coordinator, Mr. Khalid Abusin. With his own initiative, and central support from eIFL office, Sudan Universities consortium has been established, and they already started making use of electronic resources offered through eIFL.

We welcome our new coordinator for Albania, Farfuri Xhaja.

New development of legal consortium

We would like to congratulate Slovenians and Armenians. Slovene Electronic Collections (COSEC) and Electronic Library Consortium of Armenia (eLCA) were legally registered this summer.

Aren't we lucky?

eIFL is hosting an intern from the American University of Rome for one year. Lilli Banholzer, German studying international relations, will receive credits at her university for her work and time that she will be spending for eIFL.

Events

- Second consortium building event on developing concrete plans for the way ahead in Namibia took place 8-9 September. Buhle Mbambo from Zimbabwe and Hannie Sander from South Africa attended this workshop as facilitators.
- Monika Segbert joined Bosnia's library community on the 10th of September to discuss on the possibility of building a consortia and making better use of electronic resources by Bosnian library community.
- Workshop on electronic resources available for a newly created Armenian consortium eLCA will be held 11-12 September.

Coming events in October

ISSYK-KUL Conference

Issyk-Kul Lake, 1-6 October 2003, Kyrgystan

The Organizational Committee of the IV International Conference Issyk-Kul 2003 will be having a round table on eIFL.net 's project development in Central Asian countries. A theme of the Conference is "Libraries as a basis of Development of Democracy, Culture, and Civilization".

Workshop on copyright and licenses

St Petersburg, Russia, 8-9 October 2003

Tuula Haavisto and Emilia Banionyte, president of Lithuanian consortium, will deliver a workshop on copyright and licenses for russian consortium members.

Workshop in China

Beijing, 9-11 October 2003

An international Seminar on the Collaborative Management of Electronic Resources on consortia, negotiation and licensing will be held within the Chinese Academy of Science in Beijing. Monika Segbert, Arnold Hirshon, Hannie Sander, Alexander Kuznetsov, Kriistina Hormia and Melissa Hagemann will serve as resource people.

The programme of the workshop is available at: http://www.eifl.net/events/events_related.html

General Assembly

Sardinia, 17- 22 October 2003

We will see of all you soon. Draft programme is available at:

http://www.eifl.net/members/members_assembly.html

Advisory Board Meeting

Cagliari, 22 October 2003

The Board will meet after the General Assembly.

EICOLC

Comwell Borupgaard, Elsinore, Denmark, 23-25 October 2003

International Coalition of Library Consortia in Europe

On the 24, there will be an eIFL presentation by Rima Kupryte on building up a consortium. As it is European ICOLC event, special focus will be given to EU accession countries and eIFL presentation time will be shared with the coordinators from Poland, Czech Republic, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Slovenia, Slovakia , who will have a chance to report on their activities. The programme is available at: <http://www.deflink.dk/e-icolc/>

Looking forward to receiving updated information about the activities and events organised in the country members of eIFL.net.

The eIFL Team