eif KNOWLEDGE WITHOUT BOUNDARIES

# Electronic Information for Libraries



Strategic Plan: 2024-2026

#### Introduction

Access to knowledge is fundamental to education, research and sustainable development. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted global inequalities, the critical need for access to knowledge and information, and the benefits of open science.

Billions of people in developing and transition economy countries still cannot obtain the content they need due to the high cost of subscription-based e-resources, legal barriers to accessing and using information, and lack of digital infrastructure and digital literacy skills. At the same time, the creators of scholarly knowledge often encounter barriers to openly disseminating their work.

Well-resourced libraries can provide quality information services to people in every field, including healthcare, science and innovation, agriculture and education. They can provide free or affordable access to computers and the internet, and support the open sharing of knowledge. To properly provide these services, libraries need modern technology, up-to-date content and a supportive legal and policy framework. They also need staff with the knowledge and skills to support rapid changes in the scholarly communications landscape, and to lead the equitable transition to digital information and services.

EIFL partners with national library consortia and public library networks in Africa, Asia and Europe to ensure an enabling environment for the creation of knowledge and fair and sustainable access.

This Strategic Plan sets out EIFL's direction and goals for 2024-2026. To implement the Strategic Plan, EIFL's programme managers will generate annual operating plans with specific activities and success metrics for each objective.

#### Vision

A world in which all people have the knowledge they need to achieve their full potential.

#### Mission

EIFL enables access to knowledge through libraries in developing and transition economy countries to support their sustainable development.

#### Values

In pursuing its strategic directions, EIFL embraces the following core values:

- Collaboration
- Innovation
- Practicality
- Sustainability

#### Goals 2024-2026

# I. Advance a fair and sustainable transition from paywalled to open access content

Objective 1.1. Negotiate agreements directly with publishers to provide free or discounted access to paywalled journals and open access publishing terms.

Objective 1.2 Advance open access by supporting diamond open access journals (that do not charge Article Processing Charges), and by taking advantage of repositories to help ensure that authors are not excluded from open access publishing on economic grounds.

## II. Support research, teaching and learning

Objective 2.1. Help libraries to provide remote access to licensed e-resources by negotiating with service providers that offer technical solutions for remote access.

Objective 2.2. Negotiate discounted access to relevant research support services and tools.

Objective 2.3. Enhance open science and open research skills.

Objective 2.4. Foster the creation and maintenance of open public infrastructures that enable the publication and sharing of research in open access journals and open repositories.

Objective 2.5. Advocate for an enabling policy environment and research assessment reform that support open and reproducible research.

Objective 2.6. Advocate for copyright reform to ensure the adoption of modern copyright laws that maximize access to content.

### III. Foster digital transformation of public library services

Objective 3.1. Build capacity of national public library networks in Africa to integrate technology in library services that advance development.

Objective 3.2. Advance innovation in public library services through recognition by the EIFL Public Library Innovation Awards.

#### Contacts



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