

## **ERLAND KOLDING NIELSEN GRANT – Application Form**

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*The Erland Kolding Nielsen Grant celebrates the enormous contribution Erland Kolding Nielsen has made to the development of European libraries throughout his long and distinguished career.*

*The Erland Kolding Nielsen Grant is a grant of up to €5 000, which is awarded to a CENL member library project that promotes international collaboration and strengthens bonds between CENL libraries.*

### **Application eligibility criteria:**

- Your employer is a CENL member
- Your national library is up to date with CENL membership fee payments
- All collaboration activities are in partnership with other CENL members and will foster international collaboration

### **Grant application proposal (maximum of 2 pages)**

The Grant can focus on any aspect of international library collaboration. The first part of your proposal should provide details of the actual international collaborative aspect. This could be in a multitude of ways such as:

- Development of collections (physical and digital)
- Improving research
- Educational or cultural services including exhibitions
- Promoting interlibrary staff communications
- Infrastructure development
- Staff development

In consideration of international travel restrictions put in place in response to the global pandemic, applications will be accepted for in-person and/or virtual activities and events. If you are proposing an in-person event, please outline the health and safety protocols you will be establishing for the event and detail any related costs. If you are proposing a virtual event, you may include the relevant costs in the budget, for example, equipment for producing video recordings, publicity costs, fees for virtual event hosting platforms, or tools to increase accessibility of the event (live captioning).

The second part of your proposal should outline the anticipated benefits of the proposed collaborative activity, and provide an estimation of the costs for carrying out the activity. The main proposer should complete this form and provide details of other collaborators.

If you meet the criteria above and would like to apply for this grant, please complete this form, including your proposal, and submit it to the CENL Secretariat at [cenl@dnb.de](mailto:cenl@dnb.de) by **10 March 2023**. Applications will be reviewed by the Executive Committee and the outcome will be announced by the end of April 2023.

### **Conditions of grant**

- Outputs of the grants have to be publicly demonstrable and shareable.
- The successful applicant will submit a report to the CENL Secretariat after the proposed event has taken place. This report will be published on the CENL website.
- The successful applicant (or a representative from their institution) will give a presentation to the CENL membership at the next Annual General Meeting following the completion of the project.
- Statement of costs must be provided estimating the anticipated costs, and if approved your organisation will receive 80% of the grant upfront with the remainder of the grant being paid upon completion of the project.

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- Details of expenses, with original receipts, must be provided to verify all costs incurred. Final payment will only be made if the relevant documentation is provided.
- Where the grant is not used, any underspend must be repaid to the CENL Secretariat.
- Grant payments will be paid into the main proposer's account. The main proposer will be responsible for ensuring that collaborators are reimbursed for appropriate expenses.

## GRANT APPLICATION FORM

### 1. Organisation Details

Applicant information				
	Name	Organisation	Job Title	email and phone
Main proposer	Rahmetula Kuqi	National and university library St. Clement of Ohrid	General director	director@nusbk.edu.mk
Collaborator 1	Maja Micevska Rizova	National and university library St. Clement of Ohrid	Librarian Project writer / manager	kliment@nubsk.edu.mk
Collaborator 2	Jovica Tasevski	National and university library St. Clement of Ohrid	Deputy director conference facilitator	jovica@nubsk.edu.mk
Collaborator 3	Mariana Palashevska	National and university library St. Clement of Ohrid	Librarian Logistics	mariana@nubsk.edu.mk
Collaborator 4	Darko Leshoski	National and university library St. Clement of Ohrid	Librarian Logistics	darko@nubsk.edu.mk
Confirm that you meet the grant application eligibility criteria (listed above)				Yes/No
Signed:				
Date: 14/02/23				



## **2. Proposal for international collaboration**

### ***The Roles of Libraries as Change Agents in Society on Sustainability Practices***

Sustainability practices can be a powerful tool for improving research, educational, and cultural services in national libraries. Our proposal is aimed at improving the library supports for sustainable development across our SEENL partner libraries (all national libraries from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Romania, Serbia, Montenegro, Slovenia, Turkey, Kosovo, Greece, Bulgaria, and North Macedonia). We, the National and University Library St. Clement of Ohrid in North Macedonia, want to organize an international and collaborative workshop, focusing on strengthening interlibrary staff communications, research, and staff development on sustainability. In this project proposal, we will explore the literature on how sustainability practices can help improve these services, using the leading examples in the field of sustainable development in libraries and the United Nations Sustainability 2030 agenda, to create a conference where all SEENL library representatives will learn and discuss ideas on sustainability and literacy. To begin understanding how national libraries can make a larger impact regarding sustainability practices, we will situate this proposal within the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) from the United Nations and focus on practical ways to implement these goals in the context of the SEENL members.

Literacy and sustainability are concepts embedded in the United Nations Sustainability 2030 agenda, and libraries play a role in how the public becomes aware of these world-wide initiatives. Following the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development initiative, we are enthused to begin implementing steps through library outreach programs that will serve our communities more equitably and responsibly (Vaughn et al., 2020), which is why we see this SEENL conference as the steppingstone to promoting sustainable literacy initiatives in the Western Balkans. Researchers in the field have platformed libraries as instrumental collaborators in said initiatives to enhance public literacy on sustainability (Hauke, 2017). Two recent studies support this idea. For example, Kosciejew (2020) explored the relationship between public libraries and the wider communities and proposes ideas as to how libraries can be spaces for community engagement and support the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through monitoring and evaluation of resources, staff readiness, and the programs that libraries offer. Further, Bradley (2016) contends that libraries can support universal literacy initiatives, which connect to life-long literacy practices on sustainability, such as continued education classes focusing on digital and media literacy. Utilizing key ideas from these researchers in the field, we are proposing to organize a conference where all SEENL library representatives will take part in envisioning practices to expand our outreach as libraries to our wider communities with a focus on sustainability. Ultimately, by creating access to information, library visitors and users at the SEENL member institutions can benefit and engage in practices of sustainability, utilize digital materials, participate in a collaborative community of learners, and visioning (Vaughn et al., 2021), and take part in equitable literacy practices centered on supporting the cultural identities of the community members (Sotirovska& Elhess, 2021). To do so, we must create opportunities for professional development for the SEENL library directors, librarians, and other team members to begin implementing the UN sustainability initiative in our day-to-day practice. To communicate the results of our project to wider audiences, we will create opportunities for follow-up meetings to ensure that all SEENL members are taking steps towards reaching the conference goals, which are as follows:

- 1. Educating and preparing SEENL library representatives to take steps towards sustainability**
- 2. Establishing resources and spaces for enacting sustainability within the SEENL libraries**
- 2. Crafting a vision for community outreach in each SEENL library**

Below, we propose the two-day conference that will be held in Ohrid, North Macedonia from 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> of October 2023, agenda that will address these objectives with our library partners:

What is Sustainability? (Session 1 working with the Library Directors )On day 1 of the conference entitled, *The Roles of Libraries as Change Agents in Society on Sustainability Practices*, we plan to focus on sustainability as a factor in literacy, culture, and art as factors in social change (PPT Introduction live or zoom)

Activity: Cultural and literacy funds and suitability practices

- How do you envision sustainability in your library?
- Write down on a poster keywords explaining what sustainability looks like in your library.
- KWL (what I know, what I want to know, what I have learned) chart on sustainability (all national library directors from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Romania, Serbia, Montenegro, Croatia, Slovenia, Turkey, Kosovo, Greece, Bulgaria, and North Macedonia participate)
- Name at least 3 resources that you have currently in your library that meets this sustainability goal.
- Activity: Centering on: what is sustainability?
- Brainstorming: What does sustainability look like for you in the library that you manage?
- Possibility for activity engagement participation with youth from local schools; envision what is the role of your library community outreach initiatives on sustainability.
- Small group discussion:
- What types of resources do you have that can help prepare library staff on sustainability practices? How can you transform your work into a multimedia project?
- Exit Slips (Questions and Comments)

On day 2, we will introduce literature from the field on the roles of libraries in sustainability practices and establish various ways the SEENL library directors can engage their staff in enacting these principles. Our facilitator will assist the library directors in crafting visions for sustainability in their libraries and map out library staff activities for the upcoming year. Our facilitator will also provide templates and schedules for monitoring progress so that said directors can keep track of the progress the library is making. Also, at this conference, we will schedule three key library events to promote raising the public's awareness of sustainability. These activities will be context and culture-dependent and their implementation will vary from country to country.

## References

- Bradley, F. (2016). 'A world with universal literacy' The role of libraries and access to information in the UN 2030 Agenda. *IFLA journal*, 42(2), 118-125.
- Hauke, P. (2017). Green libraries towards green sustainable development-best practice examples from IFLA Green Library Award 2016–2019.
- Kosciejew, M. (2020). Public libraries and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. *IFLA journal*, 46(4), 328-346.
- Sotirovska, V., & Elhess, M. (2021). Negotiating intersectional identities through visioning. *Peabody Journal of Education*, 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0161956X.2021.1965445>

### **3. Previous Collaborations**

The project will create new connections between the SEENL partner members, and we envision the following collaborative activities and next steps. At the conference, we will provide access to resources (academic articles, best practices from other libraries, workshops, and presentations) that will help our library partners begin this very important work. We plan to invite leading scholars from CENL institutions in the field of literacy and sustainability and provide a platform for discussion on how we can raise awareness of sustainable literacy practices. Thus, this professional development workshop will establish new connections between CENL institutions, bringing experts and novices to work together on envisioning how libraries can be the change agents in ensuring sustainability. In the context of the Western Balkans, such professional development is not only beneficial but necessary in achieving equitable literacy practices. With our CENL library partners, we can create interlibrary community awareness, and begin setting goals for education and collaboration in the field of sustainable development.

The topic of sustainability is novel within the SEENL library association, particularly in North Macedonia, and this conference will be a step towards education and future collaboration with CENL experts and representatives. Hence, at this conference we would like to invite Dr. Petra Hauke from the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, who is an expert in the field of sustainable libraries, to be the keynote speaker.

### **4. Benefits**

In the context of the SEENL conference, we have set three objectives focusing on sustainability, including two that will target education and one that will focus on community outreach. These objectives are in line with CENL's goals of raising universal literacy awareness.

1. Educating librarians and library staff on sustainability practices such as digitization of library materials, lifelong learning initiatives, and creating a green library corner
2. Establishing a resource center as a space for learning and utilization of resources that the library already possesses and actualizing these resources on the library's social media platforms to raise awareness of connections between sustainability and literacy
3. Connecting the library with the community, including two collaborative projects involving students from the local public universities and establishing partnerships with NGOs, whose focus is sustainability.

### **5. Estimated cost of proposal**

Acquiring publications focusing on green libraries and sustainability - €1200

Accommodation – €1000

Logistics and conference facilitator – €600

Keynote speakers – €600

Literacy and language expert – €400

Graphic design and photographer – €400

Transportation and tourist guide – €500

Equipment and supportive materials - €300

Total: €5000