
A Preservação e Conservação no Âmbito da IFLA

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SERIA impensável publicar um número dedicado à Preservação e Conservação sem mencionar os esforços da IFLA neste campo.

Reproduzimos, pois, do Medium-Term Programme 1986-1991 e do IFLA Core Programmes os parágrafos dedicados ao P & C, sem tradução ou comentário por supérfluos.

Preservation and Conservation (PAC)

Programme Objectives

The IFLA PAC Core Programme has one major goal:

- to ensure that library materials, published and unpublished, in all formats will be

preserved in accessible form as long as possible.

The programme objectives are:

- to raise the consciousness level of library administrators, staff, and users about library preservation;
- to educate library administrators and staff about the theories and practices of library preservation;
- to inform users of the need for preservation and conservation of library materials;
- to encourage and facilitate the training of technicians and professional conservators in the preservation of books, paper, and other library materials;
- to encourage scientific research on the causes of deterioration

in library materials and on the application of science and technology to the prevention and treatment of deterioration; and

- to promote the development of national and international standards that pertain to the production, preservation, and treatment of library materials.

In the formulation of the core programme, the following principles have been taken into account:

- that the preservation of library materials is essential for the survival and development of culture and scholarship;
- that national and international interdependency exists in the preservation of library materials;
- that national strategy should be guided by the principle that each country must accept responsibility for the preservation of its own imprints and for the preservation of other library materials of its own civilization and culture.

Programme Orientation

Core programme attention is focused on issues of preservation that pertain not only to library materials that have already been produced (retrospective materials) but also to library materials that will be pro-

duced in the future (prospective materials).

The preservation of retrospective materials often involves conservation treatment, either on a mass scale or on an individual scale, of single items; it also frequently involves the transfer of informational content to new formats. The preservation of prospective materials involves the development of permanent materials, non-damaging treatment procedures, and the application of techniques, either on a mass or an individual scale, that prevent deterioration of unstable or fragile materials.

The preservation of all materials, prospective and retrospective, involves the development of sound administrative policies on preservation, the maintenance of appropriate environmental conditions for the storage and use of library materials, and the development of on-going collections maintenance programmes to assure the proper care and handling of library materials.

Programme Areas

The first programme area of PAC is to increase awareness of the need for preservation and conservation of the past and of the future among specialists and especially among government officials and decision-makers responsible for cultural policy.

The second programme area is to increase knowledge about the dura-

bility of books and other library materials and the use of alternative technologies for the production and preservation of library materials.

Programme Action

Coordination and Policy Matters

- to promote and encourage formulation of workable national preservation and conservation policies and strategies;
- to formulate an internationally acceptable policy for preservation and conservation of library materials;
- to coordinate international efforts on preservation and conservation of library materials and to establish working relations with international and national agencies or bodies responsible for preservation and conservation;
- to propose and promote international standards and guidelines indispensable for preservation and conservation of library materials;
- to cooperate with appropriate IFLA programmes, Divisions and Sections and to coordinate IFLA's action in this field;
- to develop plans for cooperation with information producers (books, serials, microforms, video materials, etc.) in order to assure the permanent dura-

bility of library materials in the future.

Studies and Research

- to encourage, promote and undertake studies on the methods of preservation and conservation of library materials and to make the results of such studies widely available;
- to study and evaluate the methods of preservation in formats other than the original and to encourage their application wherever necessary.

Raising Awareness

- to emphasize the role and necessity of preservation and conservation of library materials among government officials; library managers and library users;
- to encourage the creation of national agencies and regional centres for preservation and conservation of library materials;
- to encourage production of video materials on preservation and conservation treatment.

Training and Education

- to provide assistance for training of specialists in preserva-

tion and conservation of library materials and for meetings of groups of experts involved in training;

- to organize, in cooperation with national libraries, national and international conferences or seminars on preservation and conservation;
- to develop the most efficient methods of work, and solutions to the problems of training and education;
- to publish teaching material on preservation and conservation.

Pilot Projects

- to initiate and encourage pilot projects, in cooperation with other organizations involved in the preservation and conservation of library materials (use of modern methods and techniques of conservation).

In Medium-Term Programme 1986-1991. 2nd. ed. Compiled by The Professional Board of IFLA and edited by Irwin H. Pizer. The Hague, IFLA, 1988

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Preservation and Conservation (PAC)

All facets of the Programme are oriented toward establishing an in-

ternational milieu in which preservation activities can flourish and an international network of individuals and centres through which preservation information can flow.

The PAC Programme was officially launched at the first International Conference on the Preservation of Library Materials, held in Vienna, Austria in 1986.

The International Focal Point for PAC (Library of Congress, Washington DC, USA) is assisted by regional centres in Leipzig (Deutsche Bücherei, Germany), Paris (Bibliothèque Nationale, France), Caracas (Biblioteca Nacional, Venezuela), Tokyo (National Diet Library, Japan), and Canberra (National Library of Australia). The Regional Centres are essential to the success of the PAC Programme.

They communicate and work with the International Focal Point by assisting with its projects, by publicizing its goals and activities to others within the Centre's region, and by representing the preservation needs of the region to the International Focal Point. In addition, the Centres play the very important role of serving as Focal Points for specific international regions. As such, they can assess and address the particular preservation needs of a given region.

The PAC Core Programme sponsored a symposium on Managing the Preservation of Serial Literature in 1989 and expects to publish the proceedings of that symposium in 1991.

An audiovisual programme (in Spanish and English) on disaster preparedness, *Disaster Response and Recovery* was completed with Unesco's assistance in 1990. Together with the RAMP publications *Disaster Planning, Preparedness and Recovery for Libraries and Archives* (Buchanan; PGI-88/WS/6), *Vacuum Freeze Drying, a Method Used to Salvage Water-damaged Archival and Library Materials* (McCleary; PGI-87/WS/7), and *Prevention and Treatment of Mould in Library Collections with an Emphasis on Tropical Climates* (Lee; PGI-88/WS/9) the slide/tape programme package *Disaster Response and Recovery* completes an important set of training tools. These

publications are useful in themselves and can also serve as background and support materials for workshops and seminars that specifically deal with practical issues of disaster planning and response. All have been published by Unesco. However, the slide show can be obtained from IFLA Headquarters in The Hague, The Netherlands.

The challenge for IFLA and PAC in the 1990s is to keep up the momentum that has developed over the past five years thanks to generous financial support and cooperative effort.

In IFLA Core Programmes. The Hague, IFLA, ed. rev. 1991.

