



## **MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

This Newsletter provides summarized information on the activities of the Glob@l Libraries - Bulgaria Program in **October 2010**

### **A CONTRACT ON THE DELIVERY, INSTALLATION AND WARRANTY SERVICE OF THE ICT EQUIPMENT IN THE TARGET LIBRARIES SIGNED**

Following an internationally advertised tender procedure, early October saw the signature of a contract with the Bulgarian company STEMO Ltd on the delivery, installation and warranty service of ICT equipment for the envisaged number of 900 target libraries. The drafting of the schedule for the ICT equipment delivery in the 455 target libraries under Stage 2009 was launched.

### **ICT COMPONENT**

On 25 – 27 October, a meeting of the Program Management Unit (PMU) of Glob@l Libraries – Bulgaria Program with the Regional IT Specialists and the District Coordinators took place in Velingrad to discuss the forthcoming activities on the delivery, installation and receipt of the ICT equipment. The meeting specified the details of the equipment receipt procedure and the necessary documentation.

The Field Coordinators, the District Coordinators and the representatives of the target libraries under Stage 2010 agreed on a list of ICT packages as compiled for each library. The list was approved by the Program Board and publicized on the program's web portal: <http://glbulgaria.bg/page.php?c=89>.

The Program Management Unit continued to work on the preparation of tender procedures for ICT equipment insurance and software support.

### **TRAINING COMPONENT**

The preparation for the first thematic training of trainers under Component 1 "Information and Communication Technology (ICT)" continued. The design and parameters of the training of trainers were specified.

The electronic versions of the training materials were uploaded on the program's web portal and availability to the trainers was ensured.

### **COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY**

In October, the meetings of representatives of the Program Management Unit with the library community across the country continued.

On 4 October, PMU representatives took part in the celebrations of the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of library activities in Razgrad, organized by Prof. Boyan Penev Regional Library.

On 6 October, Parteniy Pavlovich Regional Library in Silistra hosted the National Conference "The Libraries: a Shared Responsibility" – a joint initiative of the Municipality of Silistra, the Glob@l Libraries – Bulgaria Program and the Regional Library in Silistra. The conference was in line with the celebrations of the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of library activities in Silistra. Trendafil Mercevev, Program Manager, presented the topic "Glob@l Libraries: the Change is Possible".



140 years of library activities in Silistra  
5 – 6 October 2010

On 14 October, PMU representatives attended a meeting with representatives of the target libraries under Stages 2009 and 2010 and the administrations of municipalities in Montana District. The meeting was organized by Geo Milev Regional Library in Montana.

At the meeting, the PMU representatives presented the key components of the Glob@l Libraries – Bulgaria Program with a special focus on: the forthcoming delivery of the ICT equipment; the training program and the interactive approach to its implementation; the opportunities for and the significance of advocacy campaigns that can be implemented by the libraries.

The meeting in Montana also presented the forthcoming basic survey to measure the output values of impact assessment indicators.



The working meeting at Geo Milev Regional Library in Montana  
14 October 2010

Petko R. Slaveykov Regional Library in Veliko Tarnovo hosted the National Round Table "Present State and Future Perspectives of Interlibrary Loan in Bulgaria. International Practices and Instruments", organized by the Bulgarian Library and Information Association. The event took place on 14 – 15 October. The conference was attended by the PMU members Diana Andreeva, Training Specialist, and Natalia Georgieva, PR Specialist.

On 28 October 2010, on the eve of the Day of the Leaders of the Bulgarian National Revival, Dora Gabe Regional Library in Dobrich celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The conference "The Library: a

Welcome Partner” was attended by the PMU representatives Diana Andreeva, who presented the training program and the specific features of the training of experienced people, and Natalia Georgieva, who contributed to the topic “Advocacy: a Chance for Bulgarian Libraries”.

In October, the implementation of Project “Libraries and Journalists Keep Vigil on the Rule of Law, Civil Rights and Social Inclusion” continued. The project is a joint initiative of the Center for Independent Journalism and Glob@l Libraries – Bulgaria Program, funded under the MATRA/KAP Program of the Netherlands Government.

Another couple of two-day meetings were hosted by Stoyan Chilingirov Regional Library in Shumen on 8 – 9 October and by Zahari Knyazhevski Regional Library in Stara Zagora on 29 – 30 October. The meetings presented the book “Separation Failed: from the History of a Social Disease”, followed by a discussion on the conflict of interest as a prerequisite for corruption behavior and the ways the society could counter them. Investigating journalists from national and regional media, representatives of local communities and NGOs took part in the discussion.

The project libraries are about to compile a database of contact details of national and regional level investigating journalists, as well as a database of journalist materials on topics like conflict of interest and corruption practices, which will be made available to library users.



8 – 9 October 2010, Shumen



29 – 30 October 2010, Stara Zagora

In October, PMU representatives participated in two national conferences where the Glob@l Libraries – Bulgaria Program was showcased.

Trendafil Meretev, Program Manager, took part in the Sixth National Conference “E-education: Innovations for Successful Public-Private Partnership”, held on 28 October 2010. The conference was organized by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Science, the Council of Rectors, the Parliamentary Committee on Education, Science, Children, Youth and Sports of the 41<sup>st</sup> National Assembly, the Municipality of Sofia. It focused on the innovative practices and technological opportunities for making education a product of added value, education in the 2.0 era, new policies and effective partnerships in the field of training.

On 28 October, Iliya Popov, Administration Manager of the PMU, presented the key components of the Glob@l Libraries Bulgaria Program at the European Day of the Entrepreneur organized by the Municipality of Sofia and St. Kliment Ohridski University of Sofia. This year, the event was held under the motto “Innovations: Meeting of Science and Business in the City of Sofia”.

In October, a contract on conducting a basic survey to measure the output values of impact assessment indicators was signed. The survey and the analysis will be conducted by ESTAT Company. Following the signature of the contract, the preparation of questionnaires was launched and assisted by an international consultant of The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

The Glob@l Libraries – Bulgaria page on Facebook continued to provide useful information and opportunities for communication between the representatives of the target libraries and library users across the country. Currently, the Facebook page has more than 400 friends who use it to communicate 90 times a week and publish about 20 comments on the average. The program's profile on Twitter (<http://twitter.com/GlobalLibraries>), where the team shares mostly good practices from library communities outside Bulgaria, has also been successful and already has more than 100 followers.

**In November 2010, we expect to accomplish the following:**

- Launch of the delivery of ICT equipment to the target libraries under Stage 2009 as per the approved schedule
- Meeting of the Glob@l Libraries – Bulgaria Program Board
- Preparation of a tender procedure for insurance of the ICT equipment in the libraries
- Preparation of a tender procedure for software support of the equipment
- Preparation of the thematic training of trainers under Component 1 “ICT”
- Signature of a contract with an agency on the production and delivery of promotional materials
- Signature of a contract with an agency on the production of national radio campaign spots
- Preparation of a tender procedure for the selection of a media shop
- Participation of PMU participants in the 9<sup>th</sup> National Scientific Conference “Libraries, Reading, Communication” to be held on 17 – 18 November in Veliko Tarnovo
- Meetings with representatives of the library communities in Plovdiv (12 November) and Varna