POINT-SCORING SYSTEM – STAGE 2010

The scoring system for applicant libraries was approved by the Program Working Group on August 31, 2009. It ensures the objective evaluation of the current condition of libraries and provides equal opportunities for inclusion of all libraries that fulfill the mandatory requirements. Each library is assigned a score based on the information submitted in the application form. Two groups of indicators are evaluated:

Group 1. Indicators based on library statistics and library activities – The performance of the library's main functions and its place within the community are evaluated on the basis of the completed Form 2.

Group 2. Demographic and socio-economic indicators – The potential of the library to effectively expand its outreach is evaluated according to the strategic considerations for selection of target libraries. Data is derived from the national statistics.

The scores accumulated in Group 1 and Group 2 are considered separately. First, libraries in each municipality are listed in descending order of points in Group 1. The draft list of eligible target libraries for Stage 2010 in each municipality is composed in accordance with the guiding principles of the program, the strategic considerations and the library score obtained in Group 2.

Calculation of the recommended cut-off score in Group 1 for inclusion in Stage 2010 is based on information gathered from all applications submitted in Stage 2010 and is subject to approval by the Program Working Group (the Expert Level of the Program Board).

The scoring scales for the indicators in Group 1 and Group 2 are updated annually on the basis of statistical information from all submitted applications and, if necessary, according to the strategic considerations for the respective stage. The revised scoring scales are approved by the Program Working Group.

Group 1 includes standard performance indicators for public libraries. They are set out in Form 2 of the application package:

Library statistics

- total number of library visits (year 2008, 2009) – Question 11, Form 2;
- number of registered users (year 2008, 2009) – Question 12, Form 2;

- number of circulated library materials (year 2008, 2009) – Question 13, Form 2;
- number of library acquisitions (year 2008, 2009) – Question 14, Form 2;
- total collection (year 2008, 2009) – Question 15, Form 2;

Ratios will be evaluated to allow the comparison between libraries with different initial data (for example, a library with a collection of 5,000 units serving 500 people and a library with a collection of 20,000 units serving 10,000 people):

- Population reached – shows the proportion of the population that the library has managed to reach (number of users divided by total population, multiplied by 100 – the result is a percentage) in 2008 and 2009, respectively;

- Library visits per capita – shows how many times a year a user has visited the library (number of visits divided by the number of registered users) in 2008 and 2009, respectively. This method of calculation was chosen because library documentation reports mainly readers' visits, and not just every visitor (for example, attendees at literary readings and other events);

- Loans per capita – shows the number of library units used by a user (number of loaned library units divided by the number of registered users) in 2008 and 2009;

- Acquired library materials (in 2008 and 2009, respectively) – this indicator is evaluated directly (not as a ratio). The low number of newly acquired library materials or the lack thereof is due to the restrictive, insufficient, and uneven financing of public libraries in recent years;

- Collection turnover – indicates the turnover dynamics of the library collection (the number of circulated library units divided by the total library collection) in 2008 and 2009, respectively.

Library Activities

Initial data submitted by the libraries in Form 2 are evaluated (the evaluation takes into account only initiatives and projects related directly to the library, not to the chitalishte in general).

- Successful public activities/initiatives, campaigns, donation efforts, etc. for the period 2008-2009 – Question 16, Form 2;

- Projects for which the library has applied in the period 2008-2009 - Question 17, Form 2;

- Significant projects awarded to the library in the period 2008-2009
  - Question 18, Form 2;

- Trainings in which the library staff has participated in 2008-2009
  - Question 19, Form 2.

Group 2 includes demographic and socio-economic indicators for all settlements according to data from the National Statistical Institute (NSI), the National Register of Settlements kept by NSI, the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works (MRDPW), and the General Directorate of Civil Registration and Administrative Services (CRAS), as of 31 December 2009 (if available) or 31 December 2008. The following indicators are included in this group:
- population size;
- category of the settlement in which the library is situated (according to categorization by MRDPW), which indicates its general level of development;
- age structure of the population in the settlement (proportion of population over active age according to data by CRAS – population tables by gender and age);
- presence of school/s.

SCORES – GROUP 1

Library Statistics

The maximum score that a library can receive is 50 points for 2008 and 2009, respectively, or 100 points in total. The total score is a sum of the points obtained for population reached, library visits per capita, loans per capita, acquired library units, collection turnover.

Population reached

$$Population\ reached\ _{year\ y} = \frac{Registered\ users\ _{year\ y}}{Total\ population\ _{year\ y}} * 100$$

where:

Population reached is calculated as a percentage.
Year y is the year for which the indicator is calculated (2008, 2009).

Data from the library survey for 2005 indicate that the average percentage of population reached by chitalishte libraries, which account for the majority of applications submitted, was 7.1%. Therefore the following points are assigned to this indicator:

Percentage of population reached under 5% of total population   0 points

Percentage of population reached between 6-10% of total population   5 points
Percentage of population reached over 11% of total population   10 points

The final score for this indicator is derived as a sum of the points obtained for 2008 and 2009. The maximum score is 20 with a maximum annual score for 2008 and 2009 at 10 points each.

Library visits per capita

$$\textit{Library visits per capita}_{\textit{year y}} = \frac{\textit{Number of library visits}_{\textit{year y}}}{\textit{Number of registered users}_{\textit{year y}}} \quad \text{where:}$$

Library visits per capita is calculated as the average number of visits per user.
Year y is the year for which the indicator is calculated (2008, 2009).

Data for 2005 indicate that the average number of library visits for the chitalishte libraries was 10.7 per year. Therefore the following points are assigned to this indicator:

Library visits per capita under 6 per year   0 points
Library visits per capita between 7-10 per year   5 points
Library visits per capita over 10 per year   10 points

The final score is derived as a sum of the points obtained for 2008 and 2009. The maximum score for this indicator is 20 with a maximum annual score for 2008 and 2009 at 10 points each.

Loans per capita

$$\textit{Loans per capita}_{\textit{year y}} = \frac{\textit{Number of loaned library materials}_{\textit{year y}}}{\textit{Number of registered users}_{\textit{year y}}}, \quad \text{where:}$$

Loans per capita are calculated as the average number of circulated materials per user.
Year y is the year for which the indicator is calculated (2008, 2009).

Data for 2005 indicate that the average number of loans per capita was 19.7 annually. Therefore the following points are assigned to the indicator:

Loans per capita under 12 units* per year   0 points
Loans per capita between 13-20 units per year   5 points
Loans per capita over 20 units per year   10 points
* loaned library materials per user

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Suggestion:

Under 12 loans per capita per year

Between 13-20 loans per capita per year

Over 20 loans per capita per year

The final score is derived as a sum of the points obtained for 2008 and 2009. The maximum score for this indicator is 20 with a maximum annual score for 2008 and 2009 at 10 points each.

Acquired library materials

Data from the survey questionnaire filled out by the applying libraries, is evaluated directly, without any additional calculations, based on information from the library survey carried out in June 2008 presented in Table 1.

Table 1.
Number of library acquisitions in 2007
(Source: Glob@l Libraries – Bulgaria Survey, June 2008)

	Percentage
No data available	7.9
No acquisitions	9.9
from 1 to 20	12.0
from 21 to 50	15.8
from 51 to 100	18.2
from 101 to 200	16.9
from 201 to 500	13.1
over 500	6.2
Total	**100.0**

On this basis the following points are assigned to this indicator:

Fewer than 20 acquisitions	0 points
Between 21 and 50 acquisitions	5 points
Between 51 and 100 acquisitions	7 points
Over 101 acquisitions	10 points

The final score is derived as a sum of the points obtained for 2008 and 2009. The maximum score for this indicator is 20 with a maximum annual score for 2008 and 2009 at 10 points each. The library is assigned the following points for each year:

Collection turnover

$$\text{Collection turnover}_{\text{year y}} = \frac{\text{Number of loaned library materials}_{\text{year y}}}{\text{Total collection}_{\text{year y}}} * 100 \quad \text{where:}$$

Collection turnover is calculated as a percentage.
Year y is the year for which the indicator is calculated (2008, 2009).

Data for 2005 indicate that the average collection turnover for chitalishte libraries was 32%. Therefore the following points are assigned to this indicator:

Collection turnover under 10% of total collection	0 points
Collection turnover between 11% and 20% of total collection	5 points
Collection turnover between 21% and 30% of total collection	7 points
Collection turnover over 30% of total collection	10 points

The final score is derived as a sum of the points obtained for 2008 and 2009. The maximum score for this indicator is 20 with a maximum annual score for 2008 and 2009 at 10 points each.

Library activities

The maximum score that a library can receive is 50 points for 2008 and 2009, respectively, or 100 points in total. The total score is a sum of the points obtained for public activities, project applications, awarded projects, the ratio of project applications and projects awarded, and participations in training.

Public activities

This indicator evaluates the library track record of public initiatives, campaigns, donation efforts, etc. for the period 2008-2009. The maximum score for this indicator is 20 points assigned as follows:

No public activity/initiative	0 points
One public activity/initiative	10 points
Two public activities/initiatives	14 points
Three public activities/initiatives	20 points

Project applications

This indicator evaluates the library track record of project applications for the period 2008-2009. The maximum score for this indicator is 20 points assigned as follows:

No project applications	0 points
One project application	10 points
Two project applications	14 points
Three project applications	20 points

Awarded projects

This indicator evaluates the library track record of awarded projects for the period 2008-2009. The maximum score for this indicator is 20 points assigned as follows:

No projects awarded	0 points
One project awarded	10 points
Two projects awarded	14 points
Three projects awarded	20 points

A ratio of project applications and projects awarded (project success)

$$Project\ success = \frac{Number\ of\ significant\ projects\ awarded}{Number\ of\ applications\ for\ significant\ projects} *100 \quad where:$$

Project success is calculated as a percentage.

If the ratio of project applications and projects awarded is more that 100%, it is considered to be 100%. The maximum score for this indicator is 20 points assigned as follows:

The library has not applied	0 points
Project success of 0% (the library has applied, but no projects were awarded)	6 points
Project success of 33% (3 applications – 1 project awarded)	10 points
Project success of 50% (2 applications – 1 project awarded)	14 points
Project success of 66% (3 applications – 2 or 3 projects awarded)	20 points

Training

This indicator evaluates the number of training activities where library staff has participated in 2008 and 2009.

The maximum score for this indicator is 20 points with a maximum annual score for 2008 and 2009 at 10 points each. The library is assigned the following points for each year:

No trainings	0 points
One training	5 points
Two, three or more trainings	10 points

SCORES – GROUP 2

This group includes 5 indicators related to the specific local context of the settlement in which the library is situated. Each indicator can add to the total score of the library a maximum sub-total of 10 points. The total score in this group cannot exceed 50 points. The points are assigned as follows:

Population and type of settlement
The maximum score a library can obtain for this indicator is 10 points.

For district cities and towns with population over 20,000 people	0 points
For towns with population between 10,000 and 20,000 people	1 point
For towns and villages with population between 5,000 and 10,000 people	2 points
For towns and villages with population between 2,000 and 5,000 people	5 points
For towns and villages with population between 1,000 and 2,000 people	7 points
For villages with population between 500 and 1,000 people	10 points
For villages with population under 500	5 points

Category of settlement

The adopted categorization follows the Methodology for Categorization of Administrative–Territorial and Territorial Units in the Republic of Bulgaria[1]. The categories of settlements are from 0 to 8: the higher the category, the lower the level of development. The method of integral evaluation is used and the level of development is assessed based on the following criteria:

1. **Demographic indicators** – population:
   - Population number;
   - Age dependency ratio [2] - % (population under 15 and over 65 per 100 people aged 15-64).

2. **Urbanization:**
   - residence buildings with steel-concrete basic constructions as a percentage of total number of residence buildings.

3. **Infrastructure:**

Technical infrastructure (transportation, energy, water supply, communications), including the following indicators:
   - % of population served by highways and roads of class I and II;
   - % electrification;
   - water supplied by the public supply system (water supply and sewerage networks);
   - % of population served by public drinking & domestic water supply and sewerage networks;
   - % of population served by postal, telegraph and telephone stations.

Social infrastructure, including the following indicators:
   - Number of healthcare institutions (including hospitals and clinics);
   - Number of functioning kindergartens, schools and servicing units.

The maximum score a library can obtain for this indicator is 10 points.

For category 8	7 points
For category 7	7 points

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[1] Approved with Order No. RD-02-14-256 of 31 May 2004 by the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works. An update of the categorization of settlements was expected by October 2009 in accordance with the same methodology.

[2] The age dependency ratio (V) indicates the ratio of the number of persons under 15 and over 65 years old (in "dependent" age) to 100 persons of "independent" age (between 15 and 65).

For category 6	10 points
For category 5	10 points
For category 4	7 points
For category 3	5 points
For category 2	3 points
For category 1	0 points
For category 0	0 points

Age structure

According to NSI data, by 31 December 2008 people over 65 years (i.e. not in working age) accounted for 17.4% of Bulgaria's population. They made up 14.0% of urban population and 25.6% of village residents. The highest value of 25.6% is adopted as a benchmark. The maximum score a library can obtain for this indicator is 10 points. Points for proportion of population over 65 years are assigned as follows:

Over 40.01% of total population	0 points
Between 30.01% and 40.00% of total population	3 points
Between 20.01% and 30.00% of total population	5 points
Under 20.00% of total population	10 points

Presence of schools

The maximum score a library can obtain for this indicator is 10 points.

Settlements without schools	0 points
Settlements with at least 1 school	10 points