



2018

INELI-MENA

2nd convening report



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Foreword

The Arab Federation for Libraries and Information (AFLI) as the main and biggest Professional organization in the Arab world that work both to serve librarians and information specialists and researchers in the field and empower libraries and library associations through innovative cooperative projects at the regional and national levels. AFLI sought to benefit from well-known organizations and apply innovation to support librarian, change librarianship practices through educating, training, and help creating new vision through supporting young librarian, and create a young leaders in the field and this is a way for positive change.

AFLI will continue to work with strong organizations sharing the same strategic directions and will strengthen the voice of libraries and librarians, and inspire and enhance professional practices. In addition to empowering the field and optimizing Arab library and information organizations. AFLI shares the vision and goals of international professional organizations such as IFLA and UNISCO and others to support librarians and libraries.

Prof. Hassan Alseraihy
President of AFLI
2019-2022



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Progress:

INELI-MENA program continues in the second year to deliver the e-training program as follows:

Modules:

1. INELI-MENA continues to provide the innovators with an Arabic updated version of GL-INELI online learning modules. Innovators finished training on:
 - 1.1. Conflict Management (Nov. 2016 – 15 Jan. 2017).
 - 1.2. Change Management (16 Jan. – 31 Mar. 2017).
 - 1.3. Advocacy (1 Apr. – 30 Jun 2017).
 - 1.4. Libraries & SDGs (1 Jul. – 31 Aug. 2017), which was fully designed by INELI-MENA staff. The module aims to raise the innovators level of awareness on the SDGs, promote the important role libraries can play in development by contributing to the UN 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, and stressed on the role of library associations and federation. The module included the following topics:
 - Sustainable Development: Goals and Objectives.
 - Country contributions to sustainable development.
 - The role of the libraries and knowledge Sector in Supporting Sustainable Development Plans.
 - The role of national, regional and international library associations and federations in achieving the SDGs.
 - My Thoughts on libraries & SDGs.
 - 1.5. Innovators projects (1 – 30 Sep. 2017): innovators were given 1 month to finalize their projects. They worked with the program consultants to develop their projects to be implemented in their libraries. INELI-MENA team followed up with the consultants the performance of the innovators through a monthly project progress report – based on a unified template which had been by Prof. Emad Saleh, the Learning Coordinator- to brief the ongoing effort by the innovators in their projects. The template includes the following elements: report no; project name; project assigned consultant; achievements of the work accomplished; approximate percentage of project completed; challenges and constraints; overall performance assessment of team members (communication, interaction, implementation of tasks entrusted to them, commitment to the schedule of tasks, etc.).

1.6. Added resources: it's worth mentioning that the Prof. Emad Saleh, learning coordinators added some additional resources to the following modules:

1.6.1 Innovation:

- 15 Types of innovation available at <https://thegentleartofsmartstealing.wordpress.com/types-of-innovation/>;
- Innovation in libraries: many links were provided for the innovators such as: Journal of innovation available at <https://sites.google.com/site/journaloflibraryinnovation/> ; Urban libraries innovation award available at: <https://www.urbanlibraries.org/innovations/>; EIFL program public library innovation award available at: <http://www.eifl.net/programmes/public-library-innovation-programme>; innovative libraries grant program from Elsevier available at: <https://www.elsevierfoundation.org/past-programs/innovative-libraries/>

1.6.2 Using Data:

- AFLI indicators for measuring the libraries' performance.
- The unified Arab standard for public libraries.

1.6.3 Risk Management

- Risk Attitudes Profiler: assessing your attitude towards risks available at: <http://www.humanmetrics.com/risk-taking/quiz>
- Risk-Taking Test: available at: <https://testyourself.psychtests.com/testid/2122>

1.6.4 Change Management

- Ibrahim Elfiky, Egyptian Human Development expert - Arabic video about change.
- The irrational side of change management available at <https://www.mckinsey.com/business-functions/organization/our-insights/the-irrational-side-of-change-management>

1.6.5 Advocacy:

- Professional usage for video sharing sites on the Internet: "YouTube model": a research by Prof. Emad Saleh.
- **Creating and Implementing an Advocacy Plan** (IFLA Leaders Programme: Library Advocacy Toolkit; The International Partnership for Advocacy and Library Services (iPals))
- **Training Curricula and Resources** (Turning the Page: Supporting Libraries, Strengthening Communities).

Webinar Services:

1. Prof. Hassan Alserehiy, the Local Expert provided a webinar on May 12th on “How to be a creative in attracting the customers back to our libraries: a practical dialogue”, the webinar lasts for two hours. Prof. Hassan spoke about the concept of services in libraries; library community; studying users’ need; the importance of exploitation of library space; experiences. The webinar was concluded by an open discussion between the innovators and Prof. Hassan. The webinar is available on INELI-MENA YouTube channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=btcgV8lthvI>
2. The webinar service was also used as a mean of communication between innovators in discussing their projects and in their meetings with the consultants.

Convening:

The 2nd convening was held in Egypt between Alexandria & Cairo governorates from 1-5 October 2016 and included many activities that supported the innovators through their leadership journey such as:

Day one (October, 1st)

Dr. Khaled Elhalaby Speech

The meeting began with a welcome speech from Dr. Khaled (AFLI President) to all the attendees, Prof. Raja Ahmed Ali, Vice Dean of the Faculty of Arts for Community Service; Ingrid Bon, IFLA Manger Development Programme; Jessica Dorr, Executive Vice President of Global Libraries at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; Carolyn Anthony, former President of the Public Library Association. He gave a brief overview of the previous meeting in Germany, and thanked INELI-MENA team for the efforts exerted during the previous two years and during the project period, and urged the innovators to continue their outstanding performance to serve the Arab community, and to make libraries a center of knowledge.



Dr. Khaled, AFLI president giving his speech

Welcoming speech- Information Systems and Service Research Center

Prof. Raja Ahmed, Vice Dean of Faculty of Arts stressed on the need to focus the attention on reading, libraries and information resources as it is considered the most important pillars of society

and how libraries are one of the components of culture. She thanked Information Systems and Service Research Center at the Faculty of Arts, Cairo University for its effective role in helping in organizing the convening.

Program Manager Speech

Heba welcomed all the attendees and reviewed some of the logistics related to the convening. All attendees were invited to the photo session.



INELI- MENA family



INELI- MENA family

Global Libraries: Background for INELI-MENA:

In her speech, Jessica Dorr addressed the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's projects for countries and emphasized on the Gates family's interest in libraries as institutions capable of changing societies and nations. As GL is winding down by the end of 2018, the BMGF officials asked to leave the field of libraries strong; she explained that this is happening through INELI, which is currently applied worldwide, and the great impact of the program on librarians, which contributes, to the improvement and benefit of communities. Jessica also stressed that the benefit of this project is mutual, as INELI has inspired the Foundation in managing other projects for the library sector. Jessica concluded her speech by emphasizing on working together to make the library an essential part of the communities value.



Jessica during her speech

Library Programming at Center Stage:

Carolyn Anthony began her speech by raising some questions to the innovators about what do they think when talking about library programs; how public libraries can survive under the current technology, and what functions and mission libraries seek to achieve. She referred to some statistics from the Institute of Museum and Library Service about US public libraries for 2014 such as increasing numbers of public library programs over the past ten year; increasing in the attendance rate in the programs during the same period (increased by 34%); programs that have been designed around the use of computers from learning the basics of the Internet or creating an e-mail account to use Microsoft Word and Excel or use databases or learning coding programming; increasing the use of computers by 55%.

She highlighted and discussed briefly six trends in public library programming: More programs for a wider range of ages; increased engagement of participants; programs in series or clusters; programs with partners; offsite and virtual programs; outcomes measurement.

Carolyn also highlighted several models of programs and projects such as Digital Media Lab; Homago Learning; Maker space; Fab Lab for digital Innovation; Coming together in Skokie Race.

At the end of her speech, she stressed on the need to measure the quantitative and qualitative outcomes of these programs. She also referred to the Public Library Association's Performance Measurement Task Force that identified 7 key survey areas that cover the broad range of programs and services libraries provide. Outcome measurement surveys were developed for each of these 7 areas: (literacy of young children; reading during summer vacations; work skills; civic / community participation; education / lifelong learning; digital learning), which are similar to the Community Impact Measurement System used by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Carolyn 'speech was very impressive and powerful, and many questions raised from the innovators which made us shift the next session "speed Geek" to the other day.

Impact assessment

Within the framework of the periodic evaluation of the program, Prof. Osama Al-Sayed interviewed the team projects innovators over the two days to evaluate their work. The evaluation questions included the following elements:

1. Distribution of work in their projects to find out the benefits they obtain from the team-building module.
2. Training modules that have been benefited from in the project; and what elements have not been added to them.
3. What the innovators intend to do when they return to their countries.
4. Obstacles that they may face and how to overcome them.
5. Ideas to advocate for library programs and services, and to prepare program-funding campaigns.
6. How to measure and assess the needs of customers.
7. Continuing cooperation and communication among the team members in the framework of the projects.



Human Library project innovators interviewed by prof. Usama

It is also worth mentioning that the Program Manager conducted an experimental study on her PhD thesis titled “E-training networks for public librarians: An experimental study to design a network for public librarians in Egypt”. The study was conducted on INELI-MENA innovators on specific modules (innovation, using data, risk management, conflict management, and change management) that form about (62.5%) of the total modules provided for the innovators during the program. The experiment was applied for approximately one year from 16 March 2016 to 31 March 2017. Heba used the Leadership Practice Inventory (LPI); it’s a questionnaire that contains 30 behavioral statements—six for each of the Five Practices of Exemplary Leadership (model the way; inspire a shared vision; challenge the process; enable others to act; encourage the heart) and applied a pre-survey before innovators start training on the dedicated modules and a post-survey after finishing the training. The results show that the training really has already made a difference in the lives of the innovators. The validity of the hypothesis has been proven. There are statistically significant differences between the measures of the overall leadership practice of the

training group before and after. This is evidenced by the success of the idea of the e-training network provided to public librarians in raising and increasing their leadership skills.

Leadership	Average	Frequency	Mean	Std. Deviation	T. Test	degrees of freedom	Significance Level
Leadership Practice Inventory (LPI)	Before	31	4.32	0.32	3.108	30	0.004
	After	31	4.50	0.33			

Team projects:

This is a parallel session with the impact session and innovators were given the time and space to work with each other face to face to finalize their presentation with the consultants and under the supervision of Prof. Hassan Alserehiy.



Prof. Hassan Alserehiy with the Human Library team



Prof. Amany Gamal (consultant) with part of her team

Day two (October, 2nd)

Speed Geeking:

Speed Geeking is a participation process used to quickly view a number of presentations within a fixed period of time. All the presenters were arranged in a large circle around the tables in the room. The remaining innovators stand at the center of the room. There was about 6-7 audience innovators for each presenter. Rasha Essmat, the Program Coordinator acted as the facilitator.

The facilitator rang a bell to start proceedings. The innovators split up into groups and each group goes to one of the presenters. Presenters had a short duration (about 5 minutes), to give their presentation and answer questions. At the end of the five minutes, the facilitator rang the bell. Each group moved over to the presenter to their right and the timer started once more. The

session ends when every group has attended all the presentations. Innovators provided many presentations as follows:

1. **Sahbeh Readership Initiative by Samar Jammoul (Lebanon)**

“Sahbeh”, The initiative is to offer participants a surprise text (an extract from a Book) in a form of a very attractive mini Booklet of 16 pages. The mini booklets would play the role of a teaser inspiring people to acquire the full book as well as raising awareness of public libraries in Lebanon and encouraging citizens to visit them.

“Sahbeh” was implemented at schools, we offered:

- 8 interactive sessions.
- Prizes awarded to participating students.
- 3 Activities organized and conducted by the Sahbeh Team, to keep up building the love of reading.

Activities:

- The Rope.
- Inspire a book that inspired you.
- Team building game.
- Find the book relates to you.
- Reading Circle.



Samar speaking about her initiative

2. **Libraries outside the walls: a marketing Plan (Joelle el Hage - Lebanon):**

A film about the library titled "outside the walls" was created in order to involve the children in the process of developing a marketing plan, make them part of it and to take into consideration their opinion and aspirations. The children worked as a group in cooperation and coordination with the public library team of Beirut Municipality- Assabil Public Library, they worked together to collect photos of their libraries from inside and outside the walls.

The children used the slang to be an easy language that simulates all ages, they also abbreviated the library in terms of: books - reading - culture / educate yourself / library - knowledge - science / read.

The film was viewed before the start of any activity, during a seminar, lecture or exhibition, and the children posted the film on social networking sites and sent it to as many of their colleagues as possible.

The film was viewed during the town festival in the late summer on LED screen so everyone could see it, what was noticeable during the implementation of the film was the interaction of children and their speed to highlight and promote for their libraries.

3. The reality of innovation and creativity in sustainable development by Wafa Tahri - Tunis, Djillali Chatane - Algeria)

Research sheds light on the reality of innovation and its role in achieving the SDGs in the Greater Arab Maghreb public libraries by focusing on the personal, professional and external conditions affecting the librarians in the process of innovation and seeking non-traditional solutions that support reading through a set of experiments and innovative activities.

4. Training course for non-specialized staff in cultural centers and public libraries by Amal Essid Ali (Libya)

The training course held in Tripoli, where about 20 employees from public libraries were trained for 3 weeks divided into 3 groups (one week per group) on library services and book registration; cataloguing using the Anglo-American cataloging rules; classification using Dewey Decimal Classification.



Amal describing the training courses

5. Awareness of the right conditions for using of smart technology devices by Mustafa Tuhami (Egypt)

A number of specialized research centers (e.g. Pew Research Center) had been engaged in the field of information to conduct some surveys to measure the trends and percentages of community members using these devices and the areas in which they are used in order to use the results of these studies to provide information services through smart technology devices for the community of beneficiaries. However, on the other hand, many institutions did not address the study of the negative effects of excessive use of smart technology on beneficiaries. The presentation aimed to:

- Focus on the negative effects of using smart devices with wrong physical conditions.

- Draw attention to some peaceful physical conditions for the use of these devices.
- Indicate the need for some simple exercises that extend the muscles and the rest of the ligaments of the body.
- Encourage colleagues to raise awareness of the effects and conditions and exercises in the Arab libraries participating in the convening.

6. Reading box initiative by Ruqia Hassan (United Arab Emirates):

Dubai Culture and Arts Authority announced the launch of its ‘Reading Box’ initiative that hold its first event at the Dubai Mall. This interactive public initiative run across Dubai from 11 – 24 October 2016 in support of the United Arab Emirates Government’s Year of Reading – a national initiative which was announced by His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, and supported by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of Dubai.



Jessica discussing the reading box with Ruqia

The ‘Reading Box’ initiative is organized under the theme of ‘Read, Enjoy, Thrive’ and aims to translate the Authority’s support of the national Month of Reading in October with a focus on promoting culture and reading to all communities in the United Arab Emirates. It also serving the overarching aims of the Dubai Plan 2021 to further establish Dubai credentials as a “city of happy, creative and empowered people”.

Dubai Culture is focusing on supporting the United Arab Emirates National Reading Strategy 2016-2026. The reading box will be delivering a number of activities to encourage everyone in the community to be motivated to pick up a book, draw inspiration from reading and be inspired to develop a life-long reading habit.”

A number of activities will be organized under the ‘Reading Box’ initiative, all of which are designed to promote and encourage strong reading habits across all community members, and with a core focus on children and youth.

It is worth mentioning that the project was honored from the Arab Federation for Libraries & Information in the its annual conference held last year in 2017.

I am an expert at:

An activity conducted by Prof. Emad Saleh, the Learning Coordinator. The idea is to let the innovators explore and reflect on just how amazing they are in certain subjects related to their work in libraries. This is matched with the ALA Libraries Transform campaign messaging that reflects the new emphasis on library expertise, with such messages as “Because the expert in the library is you,” and “Because the best search engine in the library is the librarian.”. Prof. Emad asked the innovators to write their expertise in piece of papers and gather all the innovators experience which was:

Projects management; KOHA Integrated Library System; creativity in children's libraries; preparing and implementing programs and activities for children; management of children's libraries; performance indicators; negotiation; indexing and classification; managing and coordinating training courses; preparing cultural activity plans; managing conflicts between colleagues at work; solutions to the employees’ problems with officials and each other; technical processing; communicating with customers; preparing statistical reports; evaluating databases; management of institutions and building teamwork; coordinating official receptions.

Due to the limited time for this session (1 hour); not all the innovators could present their expertise in this session.

INELI-MENA sustainability: Future steps

The session was moderated by Prof. Emad Saleh and Dr. Heba Ismail, it was a brainstorming for all innovators to think how they will establish and manage their own country network, how AFLI & INELI-MENA staff could contribute in supporting them.

Raya & Fahad (Oman):

1. Hoping to establish a small network in the Sultanate in cooperation with the Oman Library Association to contribute in transferring the knowledge to librarians and supporting libraries in achieving SDGs.
2. Permanent communication between innovators and the network's core team should be existing.
3. Seeking to meet the largest number of information specialists at the Learning Resources Centers of the Ministry of Education to discuss the network. It is worth mentioning that Raya established a group on WhatsApp to gather specialists and explain the way the network works.

4. Meeting with officials & responsible to continue the work of the network.
5. Coordinating with various public libraries and informing them of the importance of the network.

Khadija (United Arab Emirates):

1. Creating a key role for innovators in their countries and the possibility that AFLI issued a certificate / letter to prove the innovators is a certified trainer / representatives in their countries.
2. Opening an office of the network in the Arab Gulf countries or in each country; having an office in the national library of each country or just a corner or a poster about the network and its achievements.
3. The possibility of conducting training for colleagues in countries that did not participate in the network during this program, for example, Iraq
4. Annual meeting between members of the network in one country at a time.
5. Invite active colleagues in the network when there are any library events or related activity.
6. Introducing the network in different conferences like SAL - AFLI - IFLA - ALA and others by preparing a research paper.
7. Conducting webinars from time to time for the innovators.
8. Transfer of knowledge between innovators in the event.
9. Involve everyone with individual initiatives and personal efforts to benefit or apply them in our libraries.
10. INELI-MENA staff should raise awareness of any grants; exchange programs; competition and the participation of the innovators in such local, regional and international competitions and awards.

Nawaf (Saudi Arabia):

1. If the program will be implemented in Saudi Arabia, it should be implemented on short-term, to ensure the continuity and success of this project.

Ruqia (United Arab Emirates)

She raised questions like:

1. How to authorize the innovators to represent the network and to address the departments and institutions to work on the establishment of a training system for libraries' employees of at the country level?

2. Can training be conducted within a single institution and for newly recruited staff even if they don't have experience in libraries?
3. How to evaluate participants in training if the qualifying team is not available?
4. What will be the role of the network in providing the necessary support?

Wafaa (Tunisia):

1. Shortening the training (dedicated courses for the librarians).
2. Holding international forum that gather all the innovators to bring ideas and opportunities.
3. Possibility of adding marketing officer to the network staff in Tunisia network.

Cosette (Lebanon):

1. Using what we learned in the training modules and try to apply it on the ground in the workplace.
2. Transferring the experience to my colleagues in the profession in my country.
3. Implementing UN SDGs, as we have already begun work with schools for the academic year 2018 on the goals of quality education and partnerships in addition to other goals, in partnership with the United Nations Information Center.
4. Networking with innovators colleagues from the Arab world across the network to exchange professional experiences and conducting joint projects together.

Amal (Libya):

She raised questions like:

1. How will we obtain the training materials and will it be available for the other librarians?
2. Who will be INELI-MENA-Libya staff and how can I consist them?

Badiaa (Morocco):

1. Creating a network of innovators in Casablanca as a start because it will be facilitate and expedite the process and then generalize it to all of Morocco because if the first experiment succeeds, it will be supportive to convince the other parties to participate.
2. Partnerships with donors working in development program.



Amal addressing Prof. Emad & Dr. Heba by her questions about sustainability

Rania (Jordan):

Rania questioned about the public libraries in Jordan? Where the National Library and what is its nature? Where are librarians? She gave a brief about Shoman Public Library within a large institution belonging to the private sector, she thought that for the success of the network in Jordan they have to:

1. Convince the senior management of our institution to sustain the network project, which is responsible to develop the capabilities of the public libraries and school libraries in line with the objective and strategy of the Foundation.
2. How public library officials will cooperate and are convinced of the idea.

It is worth mentioning that our library has experience in developing libraries by supporting the establishment of 13 libraries in all governorates of the Kingdom & providing books; furniture; equipment and courses for library staff, but none had a direct effect in the community because librarians are a public sector employee.

Samir (Yemen):

1. Building a strong and clear vision about the program of the Yemeni in coordination with the General Book Authority as it is the entity responsible for public libraries in Yemen and we already started this process by reaching out to the Chairman through personal communication, he welcomed the network and pledged to participate and provide all facilities, and help in advocating to implement the project with a group of partners relevant to the Authority to support the project, both government institutions and private institutions and organizations working in the same field.
2. Promoting the program vision through mass media, social media and communication with librarians to achieve the desired change.
3. Conducting a seminar on INELI-MENA and its role in developing the librarians and supporting libraries towards SDGs, partnership with the General Authority for Books and the Yemeni Association of Library and Information Professionals.
4. Conducting short training courses on specific learning modules in cooperation with the General book Authority, which will be held on our libraries or other provinces.
5. Advocating for the program and searching for prospective and potential partners for implementation of the program, build a strong working team and communicate with community leaders to achieve the required mobilization for project implementation.

All the basic stages leading up to the implementation of the project will be started at the end of the year, but it will depend on stabilizing the situation in Yemen in the near future.

Adel (Algeria):

1. Advocating to establishing the Algerian network by focusing on the following institutions: the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Youth, the public libraries, and some economic institutions interested in the field.
2. Training 35 librarians in Algeria within the program.
3. Obtaining supporting funds to hold the convening in one of the Arab or European countries such as France, for example.
4. Conducting a seminar on the network at the Algerian National Library to introduce it and to define its objectives.
5. The use of research laboratories in the Algerian universities to develop the network modules to match with the public libraries in Algeria.

Samar (Lebanon):

1. Committee from innovators that meet annually.
2. In some countries Cultures Ministries choose representatives to join professional development programs, so it's not possible for organization to nominate participants.
3. Regional plan to continue the program (INELI-MENA team).
4. INELI-MENA guide/manual (numbers of trainees from public libraries; criteria for selecting creators.....etc.)
5. Counting public libraries to communicate with them in each country.

Joelle (Lebanon):

1. The need to establish an official office for the network in the Ministry of Culture building for each country in order to reach all libraries easily and weave a strong bond between them. The network office is a point of contact between the Ministry and external organizations to secure support either in terms of funding or in terms of securing trainers and programs.
2. Organizing an annual meeting of librarians to keep pace with the progress of work in each country and to transfer knowledge between librarians and to benefit from using some ideas that are implemented to improve the gaps and weaknesses in our libraries.
3. Meeting with international or local institutions, organizations or associations to benefit from their services and offer the possibility of cooperation initiative.
4. Activate the role of the Library Association in each country by submitting a report to the network on the status and requirements of libraries.

Djillali (Algeria):

1. He gave a brief description with steps about the implementation of the innovators network in Algeria that included: trainers, mentors, sponsor, funds, convenings.

Lobaba (Bahrain):

1. Creating a local network in the Kingdom of Bahrain to train librarians on the most important modules we have addressed in INELI-MENA such as innovation and sustainable development, I will cooperate with my colleagues in the network and as mentors.
2. The project will be applied on a large scale.
3. The need to participate in international, regional and global conferences and mentioned the role of INELI-MENA in developing and improving the innovators' skills.

Impact assessment:

Prof. Osama Al-Sayed interviewed the team projects innovators to evaluate their work (this session was held twice through the day) to finalize the evaluation.

Team projects:

This is a parallel session with the impact session and innovators were given the time and space to work with each other face to face to finalize their presentation with the consultants and under the supervision of Prof. Hassan Alserehiy (this session was also held twice through the day).

Day three (October, 3rd)**Bibliotheca Alexandrina:**

All the convening attendees checked out from the hotel to travel to Cairo, but they didn't miss the chance of visiting one of the most amazing and inspiring libraries in Egypt 'Bibliotheca Alexandrina"! The library is dedicated to recapturing the spirit of openness and scholarship of the original Bibliotheca Alexandrina. It is much more than a library. It comprises the following:

- The Main Library (which can hold up to millions of books) and its affiliated libraries: the Francophone Library, the Depository Library, and the Maps Library.



INELI-MENA participants in front of Bibliotheca Alexandrina

- Six specialized libraries: The Arts and Multimedia Library; The Taha Hussein Library for the visually impaired; The Children’s Library; The Young People’s Library; The Microforms Library; The Rare Books and Special Collections Library.
- Four museums: The Antiquities Museum; The Manuscripts Museum; The Sadat Museum; The History of Science Museum.
- The Planetarium Science Center (PSC).
- The ALEXploratorium: an exploratorium for introducing children to science.
- The Culturama.
- Thirteen academic research centers.
- Fifteen permanent exhibitions:
- Four art galleries for temporary exhibitions
- The Conference Center (which can accommodate up to thousands of people)
- Hosted institutions: The Academia Bibliotheca Alexandrina (ABA); Arabic Society for Ethics in Science & Technology (ASEST); The Anna Lindh Foundation for Dialogue between Cultures – the first Euro-Med foundation based outside Europe; The HCM Medical Research Project; The Arab Regional Office of the Academy of Science for the Developing World (TWAS-ARO); The International Federation for Library Associations (IFLA) Regional Office; The Secretariat of the Arab National Commissions of UNESCO; The Middle Eastern and North African Network for Environmental Economics (MENANEE); The Arab Network for Women in Science and Technology (ANWST).

The participants took a quick tour in the library where they visited:

1. The main library.
2. The Culturama, which is a cultural panorama, projected over nine screens. It is the first ever-patented nine-projector interactive system, developed by CULTNAT, allows the presentation of a wealth of data layers; presenters can click on an item and go to a whole new level of detail. It is a remarkably informative and attractive multimedia presentation of Egypt’s heritage spanning over 5,000 years of history with highlights and examples of Ancient Egyptian and Coptic/Muslim heritage.
3. Selected artworks of Adam Henein.
4. Antiquities Museum
5. The Sadat Museum.

Day four (October, 4th)

Maadi Public Library:

Maadi Public Library is a unique model of the role that NGOs can play in the modernization and development of science and knowledge arenas. Maadi Public Library is one of Egypt's Society for Culture & Development (ESCD branch, it is the result of many years of volunteering efforts. Its opening coincides with the celebration of the ESCD' silver Jubilee. The library offers a wide range of information services; computer and language courses; cultural, scientific and artistic activities to benefit all segments of the community.

Innovators was welcomed by General Mohamed Ashour, the library Director who guide them through the tour to visit the reading halls for children & adults (the adult hall host the American and the Chinese corners); computer hall; Art and music halls



INELI-MENA participants in front Art hall at Maadi Public Library



INELI-MENA participants in Maadi Public Library entrance

Misr Public Library

Misr Public Library (MPL) System is one of the largest public libraries in Egypt, it is one of Egypt's leading cultural projects, which is the Egyptian-German international joint cooperation includes three parties: Egyptian Ministry of Culture; German Bertelsmann Foundation; Egypt's Society for Culture & Development "ESCD" (formerly Integrated Care Society). MPL opened its main branch in Giza, on Monday, March 21, 1995 and since that date, the library carried out a new concept in the provision of library services to a large group of the population in Egypt, it reflected this positive interaction between the library and the community. The building is located on three floors on an area of 600 square meters, surrounded by a garden thriving in an area of 2000 square meters,

the building was originally a "Villa" with a distinctive special architectural style, has been configured to meet the needs of the library, in terms of appropriate spaces for the halls, air conditioning, Lighting quality based on natural lighting, and furniture.

Mr. Ryiad Taher, the Library Manager welcomed the innovators in the library garden and gave them an overview about the building history; and guided them through the tour in each floor, they were able to see the Reception; Adult Hall; Digital Library Hall; Children's Hall; Children's Activity Hall and the Roof which hold the seminar or workshop hall.



INELI-MENA participants in reception at Misr Public Library



INELI-MENA participants in front of Misr Public Library building

Cairo University – Faculty of Arts

The Information Systems and Service Research Center at the Faculty of Arts, Cairo University headed by Prof. Faika Hassan played an effective role in helping organizing the convening and he managed a tour for innovators inside Cairo University.

The innovators, had a reception at Taha Hussein Hall, where they welcomed by Faculty of Arts Dean and vice Dean, then they headed to the Faculty of Archaeology museum at the old Central Library where they see the collection; they then took a tour at the dome building.



INELI-MENA at the Dome building, Cairo University



INELI-MENA at Faculty of Arts main building

Day five (October, 5th)

Reflections on library tours:

The session was conducted by Rasha Essmat, the Program Coordinator, the innovators gave their opinion about the libraries visited and the reflections were as follows:

Bibliotheca Alexandrina:

Pros:

1. The adequacy of the information explained.
2. Professional library staff.
3. Cultural diversity such as museums.
4. Preserve the cultural heritage of Egypt.
5. Donation of collections of private libraries.

Cons:

1. The visit was short.
2. Learn more about Arabic digital or electronic content.
3. The child's library is not functioning enough.

Maadi Public Library

Pros:

1. Effective library despite lack of resources.
2. Use of recycling in technical activities.

3. Customize the hall for activities.
4. Seeking to engage the community.
5. Local partnerships.
6. Suitable halls for activities.
7. A typical library.
8. Sponsored by NGO.
9. The spirit of tenderness and passion for work despite the lack of potential.

Cons:

1. The design of the halls is not suitable for children in terms of colors.
2. The general design of the halls allocated to the child is generally inappropriate.
3. Fewer customers compared to the population.

Misr Public Library:

Pros:

1. Combining potential and efficiency.
2. It has extensive power.
3. Large spaces and spacious Halls.
4. Collective loan.
5. Bookbinding.
6. Integration of global cultures.
7. Belonging and passion from the director and its employees.
8. Reading initiatives in all library branches.
9. Horizontal expansion.
10. Subscription fees are nominal.
11. Smart partnerships.
12. Comments from the customers are displayed on the screen.
13. Same level of services in all its branches.
14. Flexible loan system.

Cons:

1. Children on the top floor.
2. Lack of multimedia hall.

Cairo University Library

Pros:

1. Preservation of buildings with their ancient architectural identity.
2. Providing the means to preserve cultural heritage in the library.

Cons:

1. Didn't visit the modern library.

Teamwork presentation:

This session dedicated for innovators to present their projects that was conducted during the program, each teamwork was giving half an hours to express their work, it is worth mentioning that not all the innovators could attend the convening due to the visa issues.

1. Human Library:

Teamwork: Djillali Chatane (Algeria); Wafa Tahri (Tunisia); Mustafa Tuhami (Egypt); Doaa Abdallah (Egypt); Abeer Saad (Qator); Musleh Saleh M Alamri (Saudi Arabia); Nawaf Abdulrahman (Saudi Arabia)

Objectives: Raising the awareness of community members through organizing individual sessions (or small groups) to convey the diverse human expertise in all fields, which improves the lives of individuals by developing them psychologically, economically and socially; Changing the community's view of the library from being a rigid place for reading and viewing only to being a "third place" for the members of the community, so that it becomes the link between different segments of society by creating an atmosphere of communication and participation; Work to preserve the human memory and to ensure the transfer and exchange of experiences at the national and regional levels

Implementation phases:

The innovators (supervised by their mentor) hosted expertise in their libraries -checking out expertise- to transfer experience and knowledge to the library customers through direct conversations.

Preliminary stage: (February-August 2017) a comprehensive survey of the libraries that applied the service internationally; SWOT analysis; preparation of promotional tools for the project (logo design, website design,



Human Library team with their mentor

printing of service logo on T-shirts, design and printing of a service banner, creating a Facebook page for the service); creating a database that includes expertise in different field like Business; law; agriculture; special needs; health.....etc.; preparing data collecting tools to measure user satisfaction and service impact.

Phase I: (September - October 2017) Developing the project plans and initial implementation of service and reporting on the impact of the service on the customers.

Phase II: (November 2017 - June 2018) Implementation of the project on a wider scale and solve the problems that were occurring in phase 1.

Phase III: (July 2018) - Mainstreaming the experiment.

Outcomes: The implementation of the program took place in Egypt, Tunisia, Qatar and Saudi Arabia, but one of the most amazing things that worth mentioning that Musleh from Saudi Arabia implemented the project on his own restaurant, so the library can outreach more people in the community!. The following programs were implemented:

1. Psychological and educational counseling 5 programs in Egypt (Individual sessions).
2. Family Counseling 6 programs in Egypt (Small groups).
3. Professional Development in Information Services 4 programs in Egypt (Small Group) - online from Tunisia.
4. Modifying Children's Behavior through Origami 3D Art 3 programs in Qatar (Small Group) -online from Egypt.
5. Professional Development in Information Services 2 programs in Tunisia (Small Group) - online from Algeria.
6. Human library in the restaurant 4 programs in Saudi Arabia (small groups).

2. Pre-school Children Preparation Program:

Teamwork: Ahmed A. M. Almaraaba (Palestine); Ilyes Rabhi (Tunisia); Amal Fadhel H A Alshammari (Qatar); Marwa kamel (Egypt). Unfortunately not all the team couldn't attend the last convening due to the visa issues.

Target group: Children from 3 to 7 years

Objectives: The idea of the Preschoolers Preparation Program is to prepare the child in a proper manner to start the school program. The project aims to achieve several objectives, including skills to write the Arabic letters and



Pre-school children representative with her mentor

holding the pen and the book correctly as well as develop the child's self-confidence and help him for social adjustment and configuration to have the ability to express his feelings.

About the project:

- **Spatial Limits:** the workplace of each project member.
- **Time:** A minimum of 6 months has been set for the implementation of the first and second phase of the program from March to August 2017.
- **Human:** 2 specialists in the field of kindergartens and 1 in the field of librarianship.
- **Physical requirements:** Based on the available resources at the library.

Implementation phases:

A sample of the children from each of the leading libraries was selected as one of the most important cultural institutions in the Arab countries: Egypt, Qatar, Tunisia, and Palestine.

The duration of the practical application of the program from (March - May 2017) and from (June - August 2017) for the selecting the sample participating in the program, which was determined to be 30 children in the first stage and then 60 children in the second phase in each library.

Outcomes:

1. Noticeable Language development of the child.
2. The child's ability to think logically and solve problems.
3. The program contributed to helping children acquire some life skills.
4. The program helped the children to bear the idea of failure and the continued hope of achieving success.

3. Talent Adoption:

Teamwork: Raed J. I. Alwaheidi (Palestine); Adel Ghezal (Algeria); Hesham Waro (Yemen); Badiia Rahmoni (Morocco)

Objectives: Providing an attractive environment for the adoption of different talents in children; help talented children in developing their talents and abilities; giving more attention to different aspects of talents such as painting, art, literature, music, games and others.

The idea of the program was initially based on the mobile library and has now been evolved, but the mobile library is still the foundation. The innovators moved to various primary and middle schools, accompanied by a specialized staff, also teachers helped in guiding the innovators to talented children. Innovators supported this talented by offering various books,

references.....etc. and provides a workshop to prepare the talented children to a local contest in August and then chose the winners to participate in the international competition in some countries.

The implementation of the program took place in Algeria; Morocco; Palestine and Yemen at the same time

Outcomes:

1. For children: the formation and building the child's personality, developing of their positive behavior, enhancing their creativity and openness to the outside world, the acquisition of new skills and refining their talents.
2. For employees: a feeling of performing a noble task towards the children, renewing activity and determination by doing different work with a different audience, commitment in a new way.
3. For the society: the development of the children's creative abilities and talents creates a distinct and strong generation of the community.

4. Homeless children's libraries:

Teamwork: Lamyaa Mohamed ALI (Sudan); Modather Abdalla Abdaltif Alhag (Sudan); Hassan Abdalrhman Alsidig (Sudan); Khadija Muhsin Ali Abraham (United Arab Emirates); Fahad AL Rawhi (Oman).

Target group: Street children, homeless children without support.

objectives: To highlight the leading role of the public library in solving many problems of the society, including homelessness and emphasize the concern of the public library to all segments of the society, even disadvantaged groups; raising behaviors of those people through the awareness programs along with the Library activities; treat a gap in the Sudanese society and draw the official's attention to take care of this category; encourage such initiatives to emphasize and care of the homelessness problem; Mobilize advocacy for public libraries by adopting such initiatives.



Talent Adoption team



Homeless children team with their mentors

About the project: The project was implemented in partnership with some of the relevant authorities including: Faisal Cultural Center, Ministry of Social Development, and Child Welfare Council - Khartoum State - Mojaddidon Organization. The project was also implemented in: Theba House for rehabilitation and developing the capacity of homeless children. Several activities have been carried out including lectures, training courses, educational, recreational, cultural and athletic programs.

Implementation phases:

The start-up phase: The project is to be studied and chosen in terms of: the possibility of implementation and identification of the partners (Faisal Cultural Center, Mojaddidon Organization). The project's proposal was also prepared.

Project Definition Phase: Defines objectives, liabilities, expected results, and ways of implementation.

The design Phase: This phase included the conditions that must be met for implementation in terms of: determining the locations where the project will be implemented such as (Social City, Mojaddidon Organization, Theba House); the work policy on these sites in terms of: setting work schedules, developing a workflow for the program and identifying materials, trainers needed to implement the programs.

Implementation phase: The project implementation timetable was set and the project's parameters began to appear on the ground.

Outcomes:

1. A direct integration of street children with their peers was achieved through their visit to the children's Library at the Faisal Cultural Center, resulting in a number of them regularly visiting the library after their first visit.
2. The implementation of the project "Homeless children's libraries" through the associated programs, which included cultural and religious lectures, recreational and educational programs, which resulted in the training of 20 children in a chess game and 30 children on recycling program, as well as to create a puppet theater script from the materials produced in the same program with Mojaddidon organization children.

5. Develop a marketing plan for public libraries

Teamwork: Samar Hicham Jammoul (Lebanon); Sameer Qasim (Yemen); Cosette Al Kazzi (Lebanon); Joelle el Hage Obeid (Lebanon); lobaba salman naser (United Kingdom of Bahrain).

Target group: the community in all age groups

Objectives: Developing and disseminating the knowledge culture about the library and spread it outside the familiar framework in a period of time not exceeding 6 months; transforming the public library in its current concept into a comprehensive cultural information center within one year of the project's inception; attracting diverse age groups of beneficiaries with different interests; innovating and launching new services and marketing for the old services within two months of starting the project.



Marketing plan team with their mentors

Implementation phases:

3. Collecting of information about the categories to be accessed, eg schools, associations, clubs, universities and others.
4. Put a suggestion box on the reception desk.
5. Cooperation agreements between non-profit organizations, universities and schools, municipalities and foreign embassies that have cultural attaché representatives, which concern of the cultural exchange and building bridges between countries. These partnerships aim to: participation in the plans; exchange of experiences; participate in risk tolerance; coordination in programs;
6. Developing the library Facebook page.
7. Issuing leaflets and posters to identify the library, its resources, and services and distribute them to the public.
8. Using free license software to prepare a short movie about the library and its services.
9. Presence in cultural festivals, book fairs and public places such as theaters and gardens in order to reach the largest number of people and implementing educational programs suited to the external environment of the library.

Outcomes:

1. Access to the largest number of beneficiaries and increase the number of library members.
2. Public awareness of advanced technological services and cultural activities carried out in public places and festivals
3. Show the library as a place for sustainable development.

4. Marketing Plan for Public Libraries "Promoting Reading in the Community:

Teamwork: Tahani M. H. Abuhattab (Palestine); Ruqaya Hussain (United Arab Emirates); Rania el Yatim (Jordan); Amal Abu Abboud (Liyba);

Target group: Public libraries that carry out activities and programs for children and teenagers from 3 to 18 years.

Objectives: The project' idea is to spread the cultural awareness in the community by encouraging people to read and learn, especially the children and young people through providing activities, programs and services that are based on

encouraging reading habit and then marketing them to the society in an attractive and interesting way to advocate and support, the project aims to encourage and raise the awareness of reading importance especially for children and young people. Also to benefit from Information technology in providing services to beneficiaries and as well as advertising these services.

Implementation phases:

First: Program planning:

The program has been planned to implement the objectives. New programs have been proposed for the project in addition to other programs implemented by the libraries periodically. They have been used to serve the project in the marketing for public libraries to promote reading habit in the community, especially young children and young people, through expansion of programs and activities, and venues.

Second: Needs and Requirements: the requirements for each program of human resources, material and technical resources have been identified and all necessary requirements for implementation have been met.

Third: media marketing requirements: a list of all the marketing and media requirements for each program to define the activities and to promote them through various forms of social and media communication.

Fourth: Implementation: the programs were implemented as planned, where the work was distributed to the members of the project, the tasks and responsibilities of each member was determined to be implemented according to what was planned.



Marketing plan team with their mentors

Fifth: results and program evaluation: the evaluation of the programs during the implementation period is carried out through oral or written notes in the guest registration and evaluation and opinion forms, also after the end of the programs the preparation of reports containing statistics about the numbers of participants, advantages and disadvantages as well as recommendations for future programs.

Outcomes:

1. Four programs at Qattan Foundation in Palestine targeting children aged 3- 7 years; 11- 15 years.
2. Three programs in United Arab Emirates.
3. Two programs at the National Central Library in Libya.
4. Two workshops for 65 children at Sultan Qaboos Higher Center for Culture and Science in Sultanate of Oman.

Project E-book:

It is worth mentioning that an E-book is currently being produced to include a brief about the projects conducted with a link to the full report in Arabic language, it will be available on Moodle learning platform.

Closing ceremony:

The closing ceremony was amazing! It was held at Grand Nile Tower Hotel on October 5th and attended by many distinguished guests like Egypt Culture Minister Helmy el Namnam (ex-Minister in 2017); Dr. Mostafa El Feki, Director of Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Prof. Ahmed el Sherbini, Dean of Faculty of Arts, Cairo University; Prof. Raja Ahmed, Vice Dean of the Faculty of Arts and numbers of professors from the Departments of Librarianship & Archives across Egypt, Representatives; Ms. Helen LaFave; Minister Counselor for Public Affairs- U.S. Embassy, Cairo; Ms. Suzanne Miller, Regional Public Engagement Specialist- U.S. Embassy, Cairo; Mrs. Eman Mansour, Director of American Center Cairo- U.S. Embassy, Cairo; William Kopycki, Library of Congress-Cairo overseas office Director; Directors of Public Libraries, AFLI executive board members



Dr. Khaled during his speech

The Ceremony Began with a welcome speech from Dr. Khaled El Halaby, followed by a PowerPoint presentation from Dr. Heba Ismail, the Program Manager that demonstrate the program goals, target, timeframe, partners, innovators, components, outcomes. The guests watched a film prepared by Prof. Emad Saleh available at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9jRWDY8dt4A> that brief in photos all success story since the agreement was signed with GL in 2015.

Dr. Khaled honored Prof. Ahmed el Sherbini, Prof. Faika Hassan, president of Information Systems and Service Research Center for the effort exerted in supporting the convening, Also AFLI partners during the program ALzad & Naseej Academy, Egypt's Society for Culture & Development and all professional Library Associations that supported the program.



Heba telling INELI-MENA success story

The innovators were honored by giving AFLI shield and a certificate for their performance during the program, the mentors also was honored.

It is worth mentioning that for those who did not attend the convening, certificates and shields were sent to them via DHL to share with them their success & their distinguished performance during the program.



INELI-MENA team with AFLI president



Ex-Minister of Culture reading the INELI-MENA promotional material carefully



Innovators' honoring shields & certificates



Closing ceremony attended (Team & guests)

Dr. Khaled also honored the first three innovators for the best performance during the program and it goes to:

1. Wafa Tahri (Tunisia);
2. Tahani M. H. Abuhattab (Palestine);
3. Mustafa Tuhami (Egypt).

After honoring the innovators, Dr. Khaled surprised the audience by dedicating AFLI conference attendance grant for 6 innovators to attend the annual conference in 2017.

Prof. Hassan Hassan Alserehiy Award for Innovation & Creativity:

The teamwork project was like a competition between the innovators as Prof. Hassan Alserehiy dedicated prizes for the best three projects.

Prof. Hassan began his speech by announcing that the first prize is \$1000, the second and the third prizes were honoring shields and in-kind prizes, he then let Prof. Emad Saleh talks about the criteria for selecting the first three prizes and announced the winners, the prizes went to:

1. First: Homeless children.
2. Second: Human Library.
3. Third: Adopting talented children.



Prof. Emad announcing the winners



Homeless Children libraries (1st. winner)



Human Libraries (2nd. winner)



Adopting talented children (3rd. winner)

INELI-MENA advocacy (Team efforts)

1. IFLA WLIC 2017 – Wroclaw, Poland – Libraries. Solidarity. Society.

INELI-MENA team submitted an application to present a poster about INELI-MENA @ IFLA WLIC 2017 and it was accepted. The poster discussed the INELI-MENA program that aims to cultivate and develop future Arab public library leaders and build a strong professional network to advocate for all libraries. The poster focused on 6 themes: objectives; activities; assessment; beneficiaries; structure & partners. The poster is available through IFLA Library at: <http://library.ifla.org/1900/>



Poster presented @IFLA WLIC 2017



Heba, Emad & Rasha during the poster session @ IFLA WLIC 2017

2. Sharjah International Book Fair/ American Library Association Conference (SIBF-ALA)

SIBF-ALA became one of the most important conferences that held annually in United Arab Emirates and gather many librarians from the region. INELI-MENA seized this opportunity and had a booth in the Exhibit booth that contains many promotional materials about INELI-MENA. Our booth received many conference attendees who were eager to know about the program.

INELI-MENA team submitted an application to present a poster about INELI-MENA @ SIBF-ALA 2017 and it was accepted. The poster discussed INELI-MENA program in Arabic language in order to give the community an idea about the program.



Heba is explaining INELI-MENA program to a colleague



Emad & Heba in front of INELI-MENA poster

3. Sharjah International Book Fair

As part of the efforts of Dubai Culture and Arts Authority to promote reading and to disseminate knowledge among the community in the United Arab Emirates, Dr. Khaled El Halaby; Prof. Emad Saleh and Dr. Heba Mohamed Ismail were invited on Wednesday, November 8, 2018 to present a seminar on "The role of libraries in Sustainable Development Goals & the role of INELI-MENA".



Presenters with innovators from United Arab Emirates and attendees

INELI-MENA advocacy (Innovators efforts)

1. Arab Federation for Libraries & Information annual conference 2017:

It was time for INELI-MENA innovators to shine and glow! Dr. Khaled announced providing 6 grants to attend the annual conference in 2017 during the closing ceremony of INELI-MENA convening. The recipients of the grants were selected according to the following criteria:

Choose a representative from each team project to be the highest score among his colleagues.

- Do not choose two innovators from the same country, even if they are in different team projects to allow the opportunity to represent a larger number of attendees.
- INELI-MENA team agreed to select 2 from marketing plan for public libraries project due to the visa issues.
- Seven participants were chosen instead of 6 individuals to attend the conference with full funding including accommodation and airline tickets.



Innovators in front of their posters

The winners were:

1. Human library: **Wafa tahri (Tunisia)**.
2. Pre-school Children Preparation Program: **Marwa kamel (Egypt)**.
3. Talent adoption: **Adel Ghezzal (Algeria)**.
4. Homeless children' libraries: **Lamyaa Mohamed ALI (Sudan)**.
5. Develop a marketing plan for public libraries: **Joelle el Hage Obeid (Lebanon)**.
6. Marketing Plan for Public Libraries "Promoting Reading in the Community": **Tahani M. H. Abuhattab (Palestine); Ruqaya Hussain (United Arab Emirates)**. Unfortunately Tahani couldn't attend because of the visa issue.

The session was two hours and half, it began with a presentation by INELI-MENA Program Manager who gave a brief about the program and its goals, implementation and the outcomes. The innovators gave their presentations about their participation in INELI-MENA and the projects they implemented during the program.

2. School Libraries as Spaces of Creativity and Innovation

The Human library project was captured by Mrs. Huda Abbas, Director of the HRH Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid AL Maktoum Library when she was attending INELI-MENA session at

AFLI annual conference. She asked the Program Manager to nominate a speaker for School Libraries as Spaces of Creativity and Innovation conference that held in Jordan, Saturday, March 10, 2018, Mustafa Tuhami was nominated.



Mustafa presenting INELI-MENA & Arab Human library @the right corner speaking with the conference guest



This one day conference brings together educators and librarians from around the country to discuss creative new ideas and innovations for school libraries that will enhance library services in general, and schools in particular. The conference aims to provide school librarians with the professional skills needed to develop their performance as creativity promoters.

Mustafa had the opportunity to present INELI-MENA and his team project Arab Human Library. INELI-MENA had a booth in the conference where he spoke to the conference attendee about “Arab Human Library”.

3. Public Library Association Conference

The Public Library Association held its conference from 20 to 24 March 2018 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA. It was a good opportunity for Djillali Chatane & Wafa Tahri to highlight the innovative programs being undertaken by INELI-MENA leaders.

Wafa & Djillali gave presentation on Thursday, March 22 at PLA booth presentation area titled: "Innovation in Public Library: INELI-MENA program", which included a brief about INELI-MENA; Alsereihy Award for creativity and innovation; Team projects in details and the sustainability of INELI-MENA.

The program of the conference was very fruitful, especially, pre-conference workshop on "Project Outcome Training Workshop: Tools for Measuring Patron Outcomes"

It is worth mentioning that INELI-MENA team is very grateful for GL sponsoring and for Carolyn Anthony guidance & escorting during the conference. The only cons in presenting in the PLA booth presentation area were no microphone was provided so the voice was not clearly heard, especially, was a neighbor who represent at the back with a microphone.



Wafa presenting @PLA annual conference



Carolyn Anthony with INELI-MENA representatives

The innovators used what they learned in the modules and recruit it in the following ways:

Djillali Chatane (Algeria):

1. **Event Title:** Research paper presented in "The Third Maghreb Conference for Reading and Books"

Research title: Innovation and its role in Arabic Maghreb Public Libraries: Tunisia and Algeria as Model”

Date: January 25/26/27, 2017

Event venue: Ben Arous – Tunisia

Objectives: Identification of creative skills and personal preparations for innovation for Maghreb public librarians; Identify the professional and external factors in the public libraries and whether they help to provide an appropriate motivational environment for the Maghreb libraries.

Summary: This study sheds light on the reality of innovation in Maghreb Public Libraries (Algeria & Tunisia) and its role in finding solutions to stimulate interest in reading. This is done through an emphasis on the personal, professional and external circumstances that influence librarians in the innovation process and their endeavors to provide unconventional solutions to support reading.



Djillali giving his presentation

Attendees: Public librarians and researchers from Tunisia, Algeria, Libya, Morocco and Mauritania.

Outputs: The study found that Although Maghreb Public Librarians possess creative skills; the daily pressures and the lack of motivational organizational environment impede them to operationalize their potential capabilities. Furthermore, the absence of management innovation strategy is considered one of the most important obstacles, along with the lack of effective communication and interaction to share experiences and innovative programs between them at national level or Maghreb level (North Africa).

Lamyaa Mohamed ALI (Sudan)

1. Event Title: An interactive meeting about INELI-MENA.

Date: July 2017

Event venue: Alzaiem Alazhari University.

Objectives: Shed light on the INELI-MENA program.

Venue: International Conference Hall - Alzaiem Alazhari University

Number of Attendees: 100

Hassan & Modather (two innovators from Sudan) participated in presenting about INELI-MENA.



Modather giving his presentation and sharing in the 1st & 2nd activity



Lamyaa giving her presentation

2. **Event Title:** The Experiment of INELI-MENA (2015-2017) presented at the opening session of the 7th scientific conference of the Sudanese Association for Libraries & Information (SALI).

Date: November 2017

Event venue: Police House

Objectives: Shed light on the INELI-MENA experience from the innovators point of view

Venue: International Conference Hall - Alzaiem Alazhari University.

Number of Attendees: 350

3. **Event title:** workshop on public library as a change tool to achieve the sustainable development in society.

Date: May 2018

Event venue: Al Faisal Cultural Center.

Number of Attendees: 120 participants

Wafaa Tahri – Tunisia

1. **Event title:** Workshop on innovation and measuring the quality of service & presentation of the Arab Human Library Project

Venu	No. of attendees
National Library	50 librarians
Higher Institute of Documentation Tunisia-Manouba	40 students
Public Libraries in Manouba State	25 librarians
Public Libraries in Sfax	30 librarians
Public Libraries in Gabes	30 librarians
The First Maghreb convening (Feb. 14, 2018)	30 librarians

Amal Abou Abboud -Liyba

Event title: INELI-MENA program on the sidelines of the "Scientific Conference of Libraries and Information Profession in the Age of Digital Knowledge: Challenges, Preparedness, and Trends"

Date: 16 - 17 October 2017.

Event venue: Omar Al-Mukhtar University - Libya.

Summary: A presentation was made to introduce INE-MENA, with an explanation of its sustainability in Libya and the attempt to establish a local network under the umbrella of AFLI. Amal presented her experience and the benefits of it, that can be summarized below as follows:

- Establishing professional relations and building and exchanging experiences with librarians in the Arab countries participating in INELI-MENA.
- Training on how to face risks and difficulties in the work environment.
- Creating sustainable ideas for the activities of public libraries through the vision of IFLA and the SDGs.

It is worth mentioning that another presentation are currently under processing that will be presented in Tripoli, Libya, targeting librarians of public libraries and cultural centers on the sidelines of the “public Libraries and Cultural Centers convening” under the supervision of the Libyan Library, Information and Archives Association.

Doaa Abdullah - Egypt

Event title: Creativity and innovation in public libraries

Attendees: 8 Librarian from public & school Library

Date: April 10 – 11, 2018

Summary: the workshop that lasted for two days discussed the creativity in library environment; definition of creativity or innovation, creativity & and innovation in public libraries; creative thinking strategies; the importance of creativity and innovation for libraries.



Doaa with the trainees

It is worth mentioning that Doaa was invited to provide a presentation on "innovation in Public Libraries" for students in third & fourth grade at the Department of Librarianship & Archives, Faculty of Arts, Ain Shams University.

Badiaa Rahmouni - Morocco

4. **Event Title:** Research paper presented in " Maghreb Libraries Day to build leaders librarians convening"

Research title: The Role of Libraries in Investing in Children's Talents and Innovations: The project of adopting Arab talent as a model"

Date: April 27, 2018

Event venue: Tunisia

Samar Jammoul - Lebanon:

Event title: Annual meeting of the Lebanese Ministry of Culture – the sustainability INELI-MENA in Lebanon

Event date: June 2018

Event venue: Municipality of Baakleen

Summary: In June 2018, the Lebanese Ministry of Culture organized its annual meeting with Lebanese Librarians from public libraries, municipalities and private associations in the municipality of Baaklin, where a number of topics of practical interest to the libraries were addressed and presented.

Samar, Cosette and Joelle (innovators from Lebanon) presented INELI-MENA and the role it has played in developing and training librarians through Moodle platform under the supervision of AFLI. They put up the idea of linking libraries in Lebanon to each other through the establishment of the local network

The idea got the attention of all the attendees, led by the Director General of the Ministry of Culture. They agreed to start work and write the project proposal for the establishment of the international network - Lebanon, and the project was submitted to the Ministry and it's now under consideration.

Mustafa Tuhami – Egypt:

No.	Event title	Venu	No. of participants	Date	Country
1.	The role of data in achieving the quality of services and activities.	Online	15		Tunisia
2.	Statistical Data and Quality Measurement	Public Library in Dandan, Manouba (Online)	22	21 Nov. 2017	Tunisia
3.	"Statistical Data and Quality Measurement"	Sfax (Online)	29	12 Dec. 2017	Tunisia
4.	Introduction about INELI-MENA: supporting the launch of the local network INELI-MENA-BAHRAIN	Isa Cultural Center Center (video recording)	20	28 May 2018	Bahrain
5.	A study day "identifying how data and performance indicators are used to achieve the quality of services in the national libraries"	National Library of Tunisia (video recording)	18	27 Jun. 2018	Tunisia

It is worth mentioning that a conference will be held for Misr Public Library system staff in December & Mustafa will demonstrate INELI-MENA-Egypt program and the steps have been taken to establish the network.

Ahmed A. M Almaraaba – Palestine

1. **Event Title:** Speech about INELI-MENA.

Date: 16 April 2017.

Event venue: Al - Bireh Municipality Public Library – Palestine.

Objectives: Explain INELI-MENA to Palestinian librarians, its objectives, ideas gained....etc.

Summary: one day workshop, a number of topics were presented, including the subject of the international network.

Attendees: 70 librarians.

Outputs: The participants became acquainted with INELI-MENA program, and had the desire to participate in the program.

Raed Alwaheidi – Palestine

Event Title: Workshop on "Innovation in Libraries"

Date: October 2017



Mustafa during his online presentation



Ahmed talking about INELI-MENA activities

Event Venue: Faluja Secondary School for Girls - Palestine.

Objectives: Educate librarians about the importance of innovation in developing libraries and encourage readers.

Summary: The definition of innovation in libraries was discussed and a range of new experiences were presented in this field and the exchange of ideas with the participating librarians.

Attendees: School Librarians

Lobaba Salman- Bahrain:

1. **Event Title:** seminar on INELI-MENA

Date: June 10th, 2018

Event Venue: Isa Cultural Centre-Bahrain.

Objectives: shed the light on INELI-MENA and its role in developing & educating librarians.

Summary: along with the presentation from Lobaba about her participation in the network, a video film was viewed from Badiaa, Wafa and Mustafa talked about their experience in INELI-MENA.

2. **Event title:** publishing an article in the Bahrain Library & Information Association's periodical "Alwrraq".

Summary: The article shed the light of INELI-MENA program in the region



Lobaba's article



Lobaba during the seminar

INELI-MENA Sustainability:

Giving INELI-MENA six months was an opportunity that worth praise! The extension enables the team & the innovators to conduct more activities:

1. Use the e-training platform to train public librarians on the MENA region on one of the most interesting and effective module which is “innovation” to advocate more about the network, motivate innovators, along with stakeholders to establish their own country's network, as well as increasing the number of trained librarians who will be the potential supporters for the network in each country with relying on graduated innovators from INELI-MENA to serve as mentors.
2. A good opportunity for innovators to gain more knowledge and expert to run their own network.
3. Organizing workshops in a number of countries to introduce the network and its implementation mechanisms, and to participate in events held by the network innovators, to librarians, stakeholders and partners.
4. Conducting short training activities (1-2 days) on the most important training modules in countries where the network is difficult to be implemented in the near future.

In order to organize the efforts of the innovators, INELI-MENA Program Manager develop a unified proposal template to be used by them when writing their own network proposal and delivered it to INELI-MENA team and AFLI.

INELI-MENA Team

- **Online training courses**

INELI-MENA team conducted two e-training courses on "Innovation"

- A. From 23 January – 31 March (16 participants from Algeria; Jordan; Egypt; Tunisia; Sudan; Oman; Palestine; Iraq)
- B. From 19-March – 15 May (28 participants from Egypt; Sudan; Iraq; Palestine)

INELI-MENA by innovators

- **Online training courses**

Ahmed A. M Almaraaba (INELI-MENA innovator) conducted two "innovation" courses for his colleagues in Palestine, aiming to:

1. Develop the skills of public librarians;
2. Exchange and develop ideas; building a Palestinian sub - network to communicate with each other;
3. Extend the perceptions of librarians and update them about different experiences.

He coordinated with INELI-MENA team to provide the training for his colleagues and taking advantage of his presence in the network to disseminate this idea, and delivered it to as many Palestinian to improve their performance and encourage innovation and creativity in their libraries, the two courses conducted from:

- A. 20 March – 5 June 2017 (this was parallel to the his e-training in INELI-MENA), the course was attended by 25 librarians. It was really an effort that worth praise!
- B. 19 March – 15 June 2018 (this group joined the course conducted by INELI-MENA staff mentioned above) attended by 17 librarians.



Distributing certificates among trainees



Distributing certificates among trainees

Ahmed held a closing ceremony for the trainee by applying what he learned in the advocacy module and ask for funds to support the ceremony.

Ahmed continues supporting his colleagues as he currently began training, public librarians in Palestine on Advocacy module that started from October 1st, 2018 and will last till December 30, 2018.

INELI-MENA country network:

It is a golden opportunity for the innovators play a major role in making the change and be the advocate for the program and reach out to key people and stakeholders in their areas with our support and presence.

INELI-MENA

• Morocco

In her effort to establish a network in Casablanca, Morocco, Badiaa Rahmoni coordinated a convening to introduce INELI-MENA to librarians; stakeholders and officials.

Event Title: First convening for advocating & establishing the International Network for Emerging Library Innovators- Middle East & North Africa (Morocco-Casablanca)

Date: February, 22 - 23 2018.

Objectives:

1. Introducing INELI-MENA.
2. Advocating for establishing the Moroccan network.
3. Developing the capacities and professional skills of Moroccan librarians in the field of innovation and change management.

Convening program:

- ✚ Opening and welcoming words, Dr. Khaled El Halaby.
- ✚ Introduction about INELI-MENA by Rasha Essmat, Program Coordinator.
- ✚ Thinking outside the box: ways of innovation and creativity in providing library services by Prof. Emad Saleh, Learning Coordinator.
- ✚ Field visits to some public libraries.
- ✚ Change Management strategies in libraries by Prof. Hassan Alserhiy, the Local Expert.
- ✚ Open discussion on the establishment of the Moroccan network of emerging library leaders by Dr. Khaled El Halaby & Badiaa Rahmoni.

Attendees: 86 leaders and decision-makers related to the library sector; city council; district councils; Ministry of Culture officials; directors and librarians from civil society organizations supporting cultural development and stakeholders.



INELI-MENA representatives with the attendees



INELI-MENA representatives

Outputs:

1. Convince officials of the importance of the program and the benefit that will return to the community from it.
2. Promoting the program through media channels (journals, social networking sites, radio, civil society involvement ...)
3. Bring financial support to the Program either from the city council or from the National Initiative for Human Development
4. Involvement of the active civil society associations in the cultural and social fields.
5. Involvement of volunteers in the field to train staff.
6. Search for partners from institutions and private companies.
7. To establish a network of relations between librarians in public libraries for joint work and the exchange and transfer of experiences.

It is worth mentioning that Badiia's effort will be completed after establishing a professional association to launch INELI-MENA Morocco.

- **Tunisia**

1. **Proposal:**

Objectives:

- Strengthening the role of library professional associations in Tunisia -with the support of AFLI- for the preparation of an integrated training program for librarians.
- Developing and improving the skills of 24 emerging leaders in public libraries through:
 - Encourage innovation and transformation in Tunisian public libraries to ensure their success and sustainability.
 - Develop librarians' skills and help those using innovative tools and services to respond to the changing needs of the surrounding community and thus improve the level of services in public libraries.
 - Training on Leadership, innovation, creating and testing new service models, involving the community members and other stakeholders in the design and evaluation of library services.
 - Building an active network of library leaders based on the culture of participation and exchange of experiences among the Tunisian public libraries and the professional associations.

Program modules: Building successful teamwork; Innovation in public libraries; Change management.

Program Activities:

INELI-MENA-Tunisia will follow the steps taken by INELI-MENA in designing activities to help participants become future leaders and acquire the leadership skills:

- **In-person activities**

INELI-MENA-Tunisia will hold a convening in March 2019. Participants will have the opportunity to meet and present their group projects and identify issues and challenges facing public libraries.

- **Online activities**

The network will use INELI-MENA e-learning site on Moodle to provide participants with educational modules that include the following topics:

- Building a successful team (two months); Innovation (two and a half months); Change management (two months).

The participants will work in teams and groups with consultants (INELI-MENA innovators). The learning coordinator will monitor the site to ensure the quality of the e-learning platform and test its performance.

• **Combined In-Person and Online Activities**

The participants will work in a working group during the convening that will be held in March 2019 and through the e-learning environment to create new services / programs and implement them in their public libraries. Each group will be given a work space on Moodle, to connect with each other to work on their projects. All project teams will be asked to present a presentation of their projects and final reports.

Expected outcomes:

- Enhancing the role of professional associations in Tunisia through a national program in Arabic, matching with the requirements of Tunisian public libraries.
- Developing and improving the leadership skills of 24 emerging library leaders in Tunisian public libraries.

2. Convening:

Wafa coordinated with the officials in Tunisia to hold the "First Arab meeting on the Professional Development of Library and Information Professionals: Leadership-innovation – change" on April 16-18, 2018.

Convening program:

- ✚ Opening and welcoming words Dr. Khaled El Halaby
- ✚ Libraries: preparing for the Future, Prof. Usama el Sayd.
- ✚ Workshop on "change management in libraries", Prof. Hassan Alserehiy.
- ✚ INELI-MENA: a success story, Dr. Heba Ismail.
- ✚ INELI-MENA-Tunisia, Wafa Tahri.
- ✚ Homeless children's libraries, Hassan Abd el Rahman.
- ✚ Arab Human Library, Wafa Tahri.
- ✚ Talent Adoption, Adel Ghezzal & Badiia Rahmoni.
- ✚ Conflict management in libraries, Rasha Essmat



INELI-MENA representatives



Attendees and two of INELI-MENA innovators appear in the front

INELI-MENA

• Egypt

1. **Proposal:**

The program will develop skills and knowledge of 21 emerging public library leaders in Egypt, which will effect in improving the standard and services of public libraries.

Program activities:

• **Online activities**

The network will use INELI-MENA e-learning site on Moodle to provide participants with educational modules that include the following topics:

1. Mandatory training modules: Innovation; advocacy; change management.
2. Optional training modules: Building a successful team; conflict management; using Data; risk management; libraries & sustainable development (at least 4 participants per module).

The participants have to enroll in the three mandatory modules and select one module from the optional modules. Three additional modules may be added, the subjects include (knowledge economy - writing reports – developing English for Librarians)

• **In-person activities**

INELI-MENA-Egypt will hold (2 convening per program, one in Egypt and the other is in one of these countries: United Arab Emirates, USA, Denmark, or Malaysia). Participants will have the

opportunity to meet and work together on group projects and identify issues and challenges facing public libraries. The most important activities of the participants will be:

- ✚ Transfer of experiences (through collective group presentations) to colleagues who have not been exposed to the same educational modules.
- ✚ Brainstorming sessions to identify teams projects to be implemented in conjunction with the progress of the training program,
- ✚ Identify one charity project for all participants and determine the type of their participation,
- ✚ Evaluate the participants' performance to measure the benefits from the program.

• **Combined In-Person and Online Activities**

The participants will work in teams during the convening held in Egypt and one of the countries mentioned above and through the e-learning environment to produce new services / programs and implement them in their public libraries. Each group will be given a dedicated workspace on the Moodle (E-learning environment), to communicate with each other to work on their projects. The teams will be asked to demonstrate a PowerPoint presentation about their project & final report.

2. **Convening:**

INELI-MENA-Egypt held its first convening on June 18, 2018, the convening aims to:

1. Introducing INELI-MENA and the tangible results achieved by the innovators.
2. Launching INELI-MENA-Egypt program (timing, stages, and participation criteria).
3. Advocating INELI-MENA - Egypt.
4. Highlighting the role of public libraries in development, community transformation and participation.
5. Highlighting the need to transform public libraries to meet the community needs.
6. Giving the attendee a glimpse about INELI-MENA modules through the workshop sessions conducted during the convening.

The convening program included:

- ✚ Welcoming speech by General Mohamed Ashour, Director of Maadi Public Library.
- ✚ Speech by the Secretary General of Egypt's Society for Culture & Development (ESCD), Mrs. Ashnadelle Hilmy who highlighted the role of ESCD and its libraries spread in 4 governorates.

- ✦ Speech of the Arab Federation for Libraries & Information (AFLI) by Dr. Khaled Al-Halaby, President of the AFLI.
- ✦ Speech of the Egyptian Library Association (ELA), Dr. Amany Gamal, Chairman of the ELA Board of Directors.
- ✦ “Public libraries and their effective role in change”, by Mr.Riad Taher, Director of Misr Public Library.
- ✦ “Regional INELI-MENA and its impact on the innovators”, Dr.Heba Ismail.
- ✦ INELI-MENA projects, Doaa Abdullah.
- ✦ INELI-MENA-Egypt, Mustafa Tuhami, Director of INELI-MENA Egypt.
- ✦ Innovative strategies and solutions in Public Libraries, Prof. Emad Saleh.
- ✦ Risk Management”, Dr. Heba Ismail.
- ✦ “Conflict Management”, Rasha Esmat.
- ✦ Data Management (INELI-MENA innovators), Mustafa Tuhamil Doaa Abduallah.



INELI-MENA staff with Egypt innovators (INELI-MENA-Egypt)

INELI-MENA

• Sudan

1. Proposal:

Goals:

1. Develop skills and knowledge of 20 emerging public library leaders in Sudan, which will effect in improving the standard and services of public libraries.
2. Enhance the leadership, innovative and creative skills of the trainees.
3. Leading the public library towards change through training on various modules.
4. To highlight the new roles of public libraries
5. Advocating for Public Libraries.
6. Enhancing the role of public libraries and the National Library in achieving the objectives of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

Program activities:

• Online activities

The network will use INELI-MENA e-learning site on Moodle to provide participants with educational modules that include the following topics:

Building a successful team; Innovation; Change management; Libraries & Sustainable Development Goals; Advocacy for libraries, team projects.

It is worth mentioning that Prof. Emad Saleh suggests that since we have Joint modules between the two networks INELI-MENA-Sudan & Egypt and since they are going to begin the training almost in the same month, so it's better to conduct the training for the innovators from both networks together, which will lead to the exchange of experiences & transferring the ideas between the innovators.

• In-person activities

INELI-MENA-Sudan will hold (four convenings at: Berber Public Library / Palace Public Library / Sinnar Public Library / Misr Public Library "Egypt"). Participants will have the opportunity to meet and work together on group projects and identify issues and challenges facing public libraries.

Combined In-Person and Online Activities

The participants will work in teams during the convening held in Berber Public Library / Palace Public Library / Sinnar Public Library / Misr Public Library to produce new services / programs and implement them in their public libraries. Each group will be given a dedicated workspace on the Moodle (E-learning environment), Moodle, to communicate with each other to work on their projects. The teams will be asked to demonstrate a PowerPoint presentation about their project & final report.

2. Convening:

INELI-MENA-Sudan held its first convening on June 27-28, 2018, the convening aims to:

1. Introducing INELI-MENA.
2. Launching INELI-MENA-Sudan program (timing, stages, and participation criteria).
3. Highlighting the role of public libraries in development, community transformation and participation.
4. Giving the attendee a glimpse about INELI-MENA modules through the workshop sessions conducted during the convening.

The convening program included:

- ✦ Speech by Dr. Khaled El Halaby, AFLI President.
- ✦ Speech by Dr. Nadia Mustafa, AI - Aidros President of the Sudanese Association of Libraries and Information (SALI) - Sponsor of the project.
- ✦ Speech by Lamyaa Mohamed ALI, INELI-MENA-Sudan Director.
- ✦ Speech by His Excellency the Minister of Culture - Tayeb Hassan Badawi
- ✦ Speech by His Excellency the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research - Dr. Sumaya Abu Kashwa
- ✦ INELI-MENA: steps on the road to sustainability, Dr. Heba Mohamed Ismail.
- ✦ Change factors in libraries and leadership requirements, Prof. Usama Al-Sayed.
- ✦ The role of the National Library in supporting and developing public libraries, Dr. Ibrahim Osman Secretary General of the National Library.
- ✦ Libraries and Sustainable Development: the way to integrate the library into society, Dr. Khaled Al-Halaby.
- ✦ Innovative solutions and creativity in public libraries, Prof. Emad Issa Saleh.
- ✦ Public libraries readiness to implement the United Nations Agenda 2030, Dr. Mahasin Bela Noor Bilal - Director of Documentation and Information Center - National Committee for UNESCO.
- ✦ Risk Management, Dr. Heba Mohamed Ismail.



President of AFLI, Minister of Culture, President of SALI & INELI-MENA-Sudan Director @INELI-MENA-Sudan



Prof. Emad during his workshop "Innovation solutions & Creativity"



Part of INELI-MENA-Sudan convening's attendees



Prof. Usama al Sayed & Dr. Heba Ismail during their presentation

INELI-MENA

- **Algeria- Lebanon - Libya**

✚ Algeria:

Adel & Djillali submitted INELI-MENA-Algeria proposal to the Program Manager, they presented INELI-MENA program idea to the Minister of Culture and he approved initially to cover all the expenses for INELI-MENA-Algeria & the first convening that will be held next year at the National Library. The Minister asked Adel & Djillali to submit the financial budget of the conference and of the network as a whole.

✚ Lebanon:

Samar Jammoul submitted INELI-MENA-Lebanon proposal to the Program Manager and she is currently trying to approach supporters, stakeholders and funders to launch the network.

✚ Libya:

Amal Aboud submitted INELI-MENA-Libya proposal and it is currently being reviewed.

After demonstrating all the efforts exerted from the innovators, it's worth mentioning that all the innovators are working voluntary to establish their own country network with total support & help from INELI-MENA staff who are currently working voluntary to provide them with guidelines, experience & providing the platform and the training modules.