

CULTURE, KNOWLEDGE AND COMMUNITY: INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF LIBRARIES

Good practices workshop

1 Entity data

| |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Library name: Barcelona Provincial Council's Library Services Management Office In collaboration with Espai Tres. Territory and Social Responsibility. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Full address: Library Services Management Office C/Comte Urgell,187. Recinte Escola Industrial, Edifici annex al Vagó 08036 Barcelona |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Territorial sector, thematic area and population: Project aimed at the staff from the libraries of Barcelona Provincial Council's Municipal Library Network (Xarxa de Biblioteques Municipals, hereinafter XBM) to encourage reflection on the role of libraries within the context of climate emergency. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Name of the responsible person and position: Montserrat Alvarez-Massó. Head of Library Cooperation. Library Services Management Office. Barcelona Provincial Council |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Contact details of the person responsible: Email, phone and web: alvarezmm@diba.cat. Tel 648685042. https://www.diba.cat/web/Biblioteques/qui-som |

2 Type of presentation

| |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Oral presentation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Digital presentation |

3 Good practices project

| |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Title of the project Libraries for sustainability. Ecological transition laboratory |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">General description (300 words) Public libraries have regularly supported environmental awareness activities to promote environmental preservation and contribute to a more just and sustainable |

society. Examples of these initiatives include seed banks, lectures, workshops, visits, urban garden management, environmental education projects, and specialised documentary collections.

The environmental impact of a library is influenced by factors such as energy efficiency and the building's location (easy access on foot, by bicycle or public transport). In addition, there are many opportunities to improve sustainability in internal management, such as efficient use of water and energy, waste management, green purchasing and the creation of green spaces. It is also important to reconsider the management of the documentary collection (eliminating plastics, minor repairs, donations) and to adapt services for users with more sustainable tools, such as e-books and recycled paper.

Drawing inspiration from a project at the Médiathèque de la Canopée la Fontaine in Paris, the Library Services Management Office launched the Ecological Transition Laboratory. This project involved the active participation of professionals from 19 member libraries of the XBM. Under the guidance of a team of experts from Espai TReS · Territory and Social Responsibility, the participants contributed their knowledge and perspectives to the Laboratory, thereby fostering a collaborative learning community.

Developed throughout 2023, the project has culminated in the publication of a document entitled *Libraries for sustainability: How to transform your library into an agent of eco-social change*. This resource provides a valuable tool for libraries looking to address new challenges and incorporate sustainability values into their practices.

- Recipients

Barcelona Provincial Council Library Network

- Location and coverage (neighbourhood, district, city, town, country)

Staff from the following libraries have participated in the Laboratory:

Terrassa Central Library

L'Escorxador (Sant Celoni)

Bigues i Riells del Fai Library

Joan Avinyó Municipal Library (Cubelles)

Pompeu Fabra Library (Mataró)

Tecla Sala Central Library (L'Hospitalet de Llobregat)

Francesc Pujols Library (Martorell)

Caldes de Montbui Library

Manuel Serra i Moret Library (Pineda de Mar)

Joan Oliva i Milà Library (Vilanova i la Geltrú)

Vallcarca i els Penitents Library – M. A. Cot (Barcelona)

Santa Oliva Library (Olesa de Montserrat)

Cervelló Municipal Library
Sagrada Família Library – Josep M. Ainaud de Lasarte (Barcelona)
Collserola Library – Josep Miracle (Barcelona)
Santiago Rusiñol Library (Sitges)
La Cooperativa Library (Centelles)
Esteve Paluzie Library (Barberà del Vallès)
Josep Soler Vidal Library (Gavà)

- Activities and tasks

The project, designed by the Library Services Management Office with support from Espai Tres, was presented to all libraries of the XBM to introduce the workshop and offer them the opportunity to participate.

Once the registration process was completed a learning community was established, consisting of 19 library staff members and two technical experts in environmental management issues.

This working group met in person on four occasions throughout 2023. The meetings were designed to promote reflection on the relationship between libraries and sustainability. Between sessions, the libraries conducted independent work to experiment and organised virtual meetings for group tasks, supported and guided by the technical team from Espai TReS.

The document *How to transform your library into an agent of eco-social change. Ecological Transition Laboratory* is the outcome of the project "Laboratori de Transició Ecològica a les Biblioteques" (Ecological Transition Laboratory in Libraries). It describes key concepts related to sustainability in libraries, proposing practical recommendations and specific tools for libraries that seek to embrace sustainability as an integral part of their mission and activities.

The document is structured logically, beginning with a reflection on the relationship between libraries and sustainability, emphasising the vital role of libraries as key agents in promoting sustainable practices.

It then looks at sustainability in the specific context of a library, exploring areas where actions can be taken to improve this aspect. It highlights the essential role of the various stakeholders involved in this initiative.

Finally, the document presents a set of ten guiding principles for libraries to achieve sustainability, followed by a section detailing practical steps for moving forward in this direction.

To assess and improve sustainability, a checklist is also provided for use by library staff. The document contains two appendices at the end: one with the bibliography and reference documents used in the drafting of the document, and one with specific proposals for Library Service Management Office regarding sustainability.

- Resources (human, material, infrastructure, economic)

Human resources:

- Participation of library staff and the expertise of technicians from Espai TRES. Territory and Responsibility.
- Barcelona Provincial Council provides administrative and financial support and coordinates the various parties involved.

Infrastructure

- Meeting room
- comunitatXBM: Collaborative work and communication platform

Dissemination and promotion

- Publication of the document
- Promotional materials:
- Web portal for the publication of the resulting document

Budget

- Professional expert fees.
- Promotional material.
- Publication of the document.

- Scope (check 1 of the following 3)

Sustainability

Reading

Democracy

- Insert QR code (with the website and links to videos or photos)

Link to the document

How to transform your library into an agent of eco-social change. Ecological Transition Laboratory comunitatXBM. December 2023

Catalan version

https://www.diba.cat/documents/d/biblioteques/biblioteques-per-la-sostenibilitat_vf

Spanish version

https://www.diba.cat/documents/d/biblioteques/biblioteques-per-la-sostenibilitat_esp_vf

English version

https://www.diba.cat/documents/d/biblioteques/biblioteques-per-la-sostenibilitat_en_vf

Link to the comunitatXBM podcast

Ecological transition laboratory “libraries for sustainability”

Many of the good practices that have been carried out for years in libraries are an example of the commitment of Barcelona Provincial Council's Municipal Libraries Network with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In this chapter we explore the Ecological transition laboratory “libraries for sustainability”

https://www.ivoox.com/biblioteques-per-sostenibilitat-comunitatxbm-podcast-audios-mp3_rf_107370921_1.html