



ALA

international  
relations  
round table



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► <http://www.ala.org/irrt>

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# Guide to Being a Global Librarian



## Global in the Library:

1. Create a sister library. Your area may already have a sister city. If not, use the **IRRT's** Sister Libraries database to find a match:

▶ [http://wikis.ala.org/sisterlibraries/index.php/Main\\_Page](http://wikis.ala.org/sisterlibraries/index.php/Main_Page)

2. Form a book club that focuses on international books and join forces with a book club from another country.

3. Create a multicultural collection in your library. Offer your patrons a window to the world through books, film, and music.

4. Invite international speakers and visitors to your library.

5. Adopt a library in a developing country. Encourage patrons to donate money or books for your new friends. Raise funds for an international library project and help your patrons track its progress through newsletters and presentations. Get the kids involved, too!

## Global at Home:

1. Attend international events at conferences. Get involved!

2. Read global news related to libraries.

3. Open your door to visiting librarians. Consider hosting a librarian from another country in your library or even your home! Visit **ALA** for links to exchange programs:

▶ <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/irrt/irrtcommittees/irrtintlexc/exchangessupport.cfm>

4. Visit **IRRT** for global job leads, exchanges, and other international opportunities:

▶ <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/irrt/irrtcommittees/irrtintlexc/international.cfm>

5. Visit **IRRT Free Links** for library advocacy resources and free professional development tools.

▶ <http://sites.google.com/site/irrtfreelinks/home>

6. Join **IRRT**:

▶ <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/irrt/index.cfm>

## Global on the Road:

1. When traveling, visit libraries in your host country. Talk to the librarians and make a connection! If possible, contact the library before your visit so the librarians can make time to show you around.

2. Volunteer on the road. Libraries in developing countries may benefit from your expertise.

### Links for volunteer opportunities:

#### Big Brother Mouse (Laos)

▶ <http://www.bigbrothermouse.com/>

#### Books Open to the World

▶ <http://www.booksopentheworld.org/>

#### Ethiopia Reads

▶ <http://www.ethiopiareads.org/>

#### Hester J. Hodgdon Libraries for All Program in Central America

▶ <http://librariesforall.org/?Home>

#### Libraries for South African Schools

▶ <http://www.sapartners.org/programs/libraries.php3>

#### Lubuto Library Project

▶ <http://www.lubuto.org/?home>

#### READ Global (Nepal, India, and Bhutan)

▶ <http://www.readglobal.org/>

#### Room to Read

▶ <http://www.roomtoread.org/Page.aspx?pid=183>

#### Rupununi Learners Foundation

▶ <http://www.rupununilearners.org/default.htm>

#### Rwanda's First Public Library

▶ <http://www.kigalilibrary.org/index.html>



Source: C. VanHook, Iowa Teacher Librarian

