Hellenic Economic Library Network (H.E.L.I.N.): A partnership against the economic crisis

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Presentation Overview

- Economic Information and Library Partnerships
- H.E.L.I.N.’s History
- Basic principles
- Innovative Structure
- Actions
- Evaluation
- Communication
- Conclusions – Future Goals
Rapidly expanding information environment vs. global economic crisis

Activities, acquisitions, subscriptions reduction

H.E.L.I.N. = cooperation among libraries providing sources and information services in the field of economics

H.E.L.I.N. in 2012

Need for synergies, cooperation
Economic Information & Library Partnerships (2/3)

- Core offer
- Reading
  - Benefits mental health
  - Benefits literacy (including health lit.)
  - Supports prevention agenda
- Cost savings to the state

Targeted service (e.g. cCBT, bibliotherapy, workshops)

Beneficial context (non-clinical, inclusive)

- Benefits mental & physical health
- Supports service partners

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Economic contribution of libraries in health and well being. Reprinted from Evidence review of the economic contribution of libraries, 2014, p.31

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H.E.LI.N.’s History (1/3)

2012

Creation of a network to promote collaboration between libraries in the field of economics

- Reduced budgets /staff
- Providing high-quality services
- Economic /social difficulties
H.E.L.I.N.’s History (2/3)

10 Libraries

collections, resources and information services related to economic studies

Universities
• Athens University of Economics and Business
• Harokopio University
• University of Piraeus

Banks
• Alpha Bank
• Bank of Greece
• National Bank of Greece
• Piraeus Bank Group Cultural Foundation

Research center
• Centre of Planning and Economic Research

Government
• Hellenic Ministry of Economy and Development
• Hellenic Statistical Authority
H.E.L.I.N.’s History (3/3)

1. Legislative background
2. Administrative authorities
3. Organizational culture
4. Staff number
5. Dissimilar mission
6. Dissimilar budget

CHALLENGES
Basic Principles (1/2)

Mission
- Promote cooperation among the member libraries in order to exchange services & resources
- Provide higher quality & more effective services to their user communities

Objectives
- Value-added information services
- Interlibrary loan of printed/electronic material
- A possible joint purchase of electronic resources
- Common policy for collection development
- New members
Essential pillars

• Information services provided from all the member libraries to the users of the whole Network.
• Interlibrary loan of printed material (books and journal articles) and usage of electronic sources according to contracts that each library has signed with its database providers.
• Common collection development policy.
• Addition of new members in the Network after discussions with them and taking into consideration the benefits for everyone.
Innovative Structure

- Horizontal administrative scheme
- No financial contribution
- Right to withdraw
- Use of existing forces

Equality

Volunteering

Independence

Exploitation
Actions (1/6)

H.E.L.I.N. EVENTS 2015-2018

35 EVENTS

1,470 PARTICIPANTS

2 conferences

3 book presentations

9 visits to libraries, museums & places of culture

21 lectures on economics for libraries

76 speakers

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Actions (2/6)

- Initiation
- Logo
- Printed Newsletter
- Website (Greek/English)
- Facebook/Twitter
Actions (3/6)

  March 6, 2015, Bank of Greece
  (11 Lectures, 17 Speakers, 207 Participants)
Actions (4/6)

2016

• 1st Circle of Lectures on Economics for Libraries
  (13 lectures, 12 speakers, 333 participants)
Actions (5/6)

• 2nd Circle of Lectures on Economics for Libraries (3 Lectures, 5 Speakers, 104 Participants)

• Educational Visits to Libraries-H.E.L.I.N. Members (7 visits, 157 participants)
Actions (6/6)

2018

• Educational Visits to Libraries- H.E.L.I.N. Members
• Book Presentations on Economics
  June 6, 2018, Harokopio University
  (10 Lectures, 13 Speakers)
Evaluation

**QUESTIONNAIRE (for every action)**

- **Effectiveness**: of the communication channels that H.E.LI.N. uses
- **Motivation**: to participate (what kind of need they want to cover by attending H.E.LI.N.’s actions?)
- **Satisfaction**: of the events’ organization (space, speakers, accompanying material)
- **Raise an agenda**: Actions that can be implemented by the network in the future
H.E.L.I.N. members share the cooperation burden depending on their capabilities, resources, benefits and the success or failure risk.

There are:

• specific roles distributed in each project,
• equal participation, and
• shared responsibility in an attempt to work not as one organization but as corporate linked organizations.
Conclusions (2/2)

This cooperation has

- offered us the opportunity to familiarize with colleagues coming from
  - different working environments and cultures,
  - different kind of thought and different ways of working,
  and at the same time
- has broadened our knowledge and resources, so to be able to respond in our daily routine.

While there are still respected differences, a balance has been achieved between organizations and network priorities.
Future Goals (1/2)

➢ Accurate and reliable specialized information on economic topics in the form of training seminars, webinars, conferences, lectures, meetings and presentations of books about economics.
➢ Fill in the existing bibliography (e.g. wikipedia) with economic concepts and definitions.
➢ Approach of new concepts, such as financial literacy, statistical literacy, organizational behavior and fake news, by providing instructions and/or seminars.
➢ Develop an "Ask a librarian" service.
Future Goals (2/2)

➢ Common collection development policies.
➢ Development of promotional, informative and educational material.
➢ Utilization of the social media not only for H.E.LI.N.'s events, but for the diffusion of information on economic subjects as well.
➢ Joint presence of H.E.LI.N. member libraries in all events they can participate, which is very important to promote the Network's and consequently its members' work and vision.
Basic ingredients of the Network

COOPERATION

ATTITUDE

WILLINGNESS

TEMPER
Thank you for your attention!

http://diovi.lib.unipi.gr/
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Twitter: diovi_helin
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