

2025 IFLA LBES Mid-Year Program in China

In April 2025, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) Library Buildings and Equipment Section (LBES) will make its inaugural visit to China. This Mid-Year IFLA LBES Program is proudly supported by the Library Society of China (LSC) and organized by Beijing Library, with the collaborative efforts of Shanghai Library/LBES of LSC and the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (Guangzhou) Library.

Program Highlights

● Beijing

The LBES delegation will commence its journey with a [pre-activity visit](#) to Hong Kong before moving on to Beijing. In Beijing, delegates will attend a conference hosted by the Library Society of China (LSC) at the Beijing Library, [winner of the IFLA/Baker & Taylor Public Library of the Year Award 2024](#). The conference, themed "Building a Sustainable Library", will explore innovative practices in advancing sustainable development within libraries and discuss future service models.

On April 14, Mr. Philip Kent, Chair of the IFLA LBES, will deliver a congratulatory address during the opening ceremony. Following Mr. Kent's speech, Mr. Jakob Guillois Lærkes, Chair of the IFLA Best Public Library Award Selection Committee and Director of Gladsaxe Library, Denmark, will deliver a talk on "Trends and Tendencies in New International Public Library Buildings".

In the afternoon, the IFLA LBES Seminar, moderated by Philip Kent, will feature presentations by LBES members highlighting library building developments from various countries. The seminar will conclude with an interactive discussion among LBES members and invited guests.

● Shanghai and Neighboring Regions

Following the Beijing program, the visit will continue with a series of exchange and knowledge-sharing activities in Shanghai and nearby areas. Delegates will visit a range of notable libraries, including the Shanghai Library East (a 2023 finalist for the IFLA Public Library of the Year Award), Xujiahui Library, Shanghai Children's Library, Duke Kunshan University Library, Ningbo Nottingham University Library, and Ningbo Public Library (a 2021 finalist for the IFLA Public Library of the Year Award). These visits aim to showcase cutting-edge library infrastructure while fostering professional exchanges between LBES members and local institutions.

Sponsors

We extend our deepest gratitude to our generous sponsors, including [Princeton University Press](#), [Gale](#), [Clarivate](#), [Wiley](#), [Elsevier](#), [Springer Nature](#), and [De Gruyter Brill](#), for their invaluable support in making this program possible.

Winner and finalist of IFLA Public
Library of the Year from China



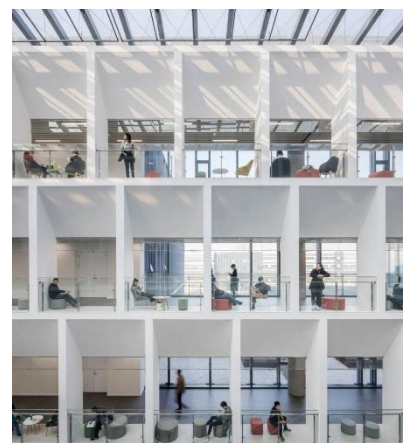
Beijing Library (2024) Winner



Shenzhen Library North (2024)



Shanghai Library East (2023)



Ningbo Public Library (2021)