

ISOC Armenia chapter activity plan for 2025

PROJECT 1. Transforming Rural Libraries into Community Internet Centers in the Kotayk and Syunik Regions of Armenia

Problem Statement

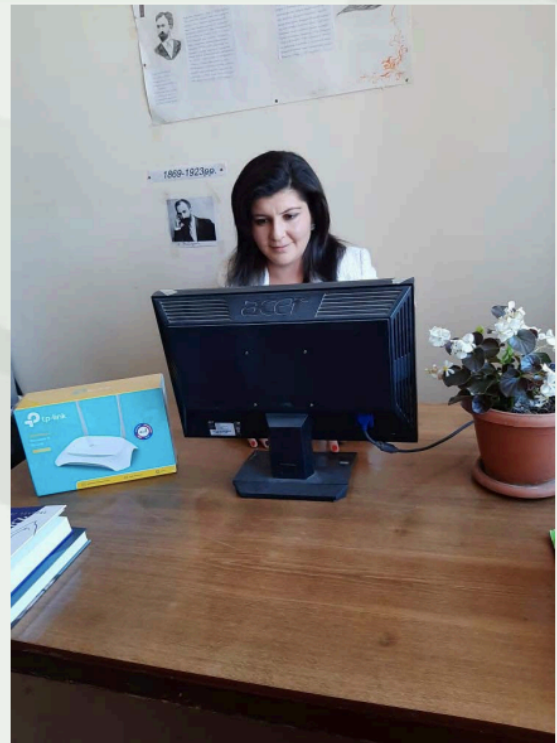
- The digital divide presents a significant barrier to economic opportunity, education, and social inclusion in rural Armenian communities. This is especially true in rural areas and low-income communities. This lack of access to the Internet, known as the digital divide, prevents people from participating fully in the digital economy and society.
- Libraries can play a vital role in bridging the digital divide by providing free or low-cost access to the Internet and computers. However, many libraries do not have the resources to provide these services.

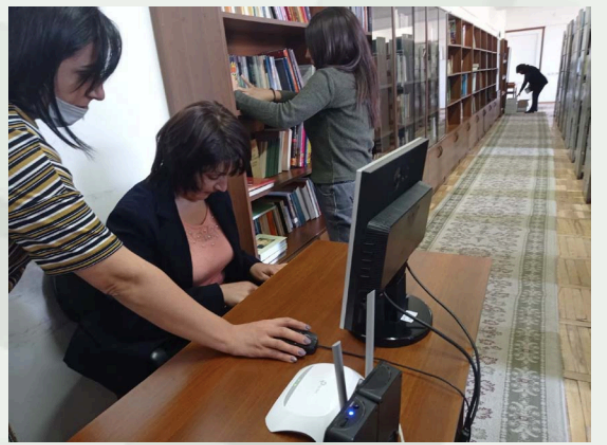
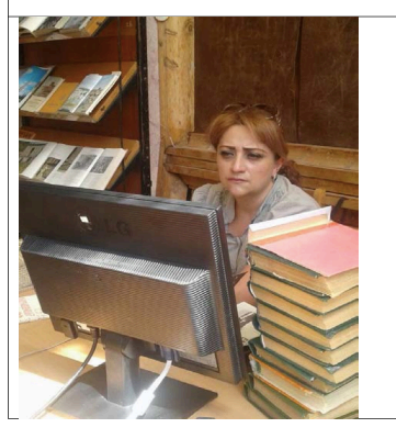
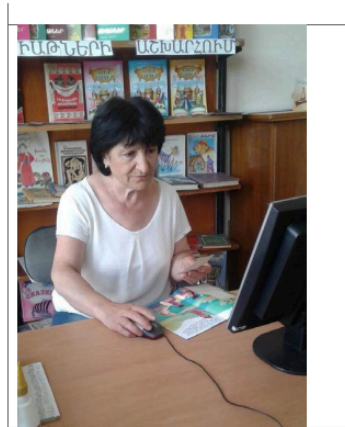
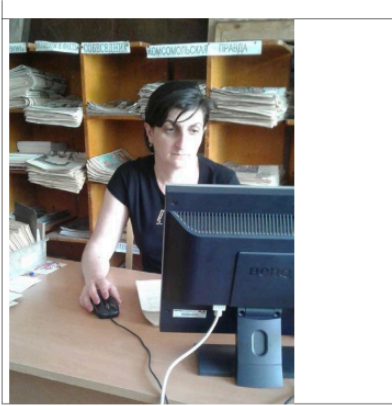
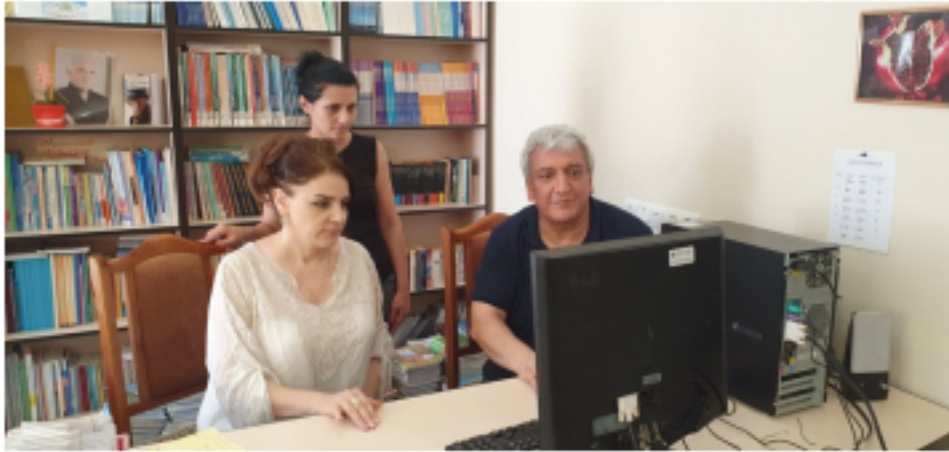
Rural libraries are the best places for setting a community Internet access centers as they already work as community cultural centers, have necessary infrastructure, knowledgeable staff, and willingness to serve the community. Providing libraries with broadband Internet, WiFi access points, and videoconferencing equipment will turn them into community centers.

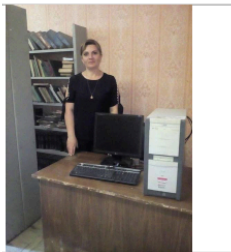
- There is also a need to digitize libraries and transform them into accessible hubs for digital inclusion.
- **Project summary**
For several years ISOC Armenia Chapter has been working with rural libraries, providing them computers, digitizing libraries with the Chapter developed software and training people in rural areas in computer and Internet literacy, social networks, and security. In our previous project, we turned rural libraries into community Internet centers by providing broadband Internet, Internet terminals, and WiFi access points to libraries in the Lori region of Armenia. Armenia has 11 regions, and we now plan to provide broadband Internet access to rural libraries in two more regions: Kotayk and Syunik. During an inspection trip to Lori region libraries, we discovered that they need more computers in their reading halls. Therefore, we have included additional computers for the Lori region libraries in this project.
- Community internet centers will be essential resources for rural communities. They will provide residents with access to information and services that would otherwise be unavailable to them. By converting libraries into community internet centers, we can help to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to succeed in the digital age.











Project Components:

- **Broadband Internet Connection:**
 - Partnering with local Internet service providers to establish broadband connections in target libraries.
 - Ensuring reliable and fast Internet access for the benefit of all library visitors.
- **Computer Terminals:**
 - Procuring and installing computers, tablets, e-book readers dedicated for public internet access.
 - Providing necessary software and security measures to facilitate safe browsing.
- **WiFi Connectivity:**
 - Deploying WiFi routers to enable library visitors to connect with their own devices, such as notebooks and smartphones.
 - Ensuring seamless and secure Internet access for all users.
- **Digitization and Library Management Software:**

- Providing computers with library management software to digitize catalog systems and streamline patron services.
- Training library staff on the effective use of the software for cataloging, searching, and lending books.

- **Development and delivery of training programs on:**

- Computer and internet literacy
- How to manage digitized library
- How to use social media
- Cyber hygiene





This initiative goes beyond mere infrastructure provision. We will provide digital literacy training workshops to empower residents with essential online skills. We will also collaborate with local organizations to host community events and online learning initiatives, maximizing the impact of this project.

Project Objectives:

- Increase internet access in rural areas by equipping libraries with broadband and Wi-Fi routers.
- Provide public computers for individuals without personal devices.
- Digitize rural libraries by providing them computer with the preinstalled library management software.
- Empower residents with digital literacy skills through training workshops.
- Foster community engagement and learning through online initiatives and events.
- Promote economic development and social inclusion through improved digital access.

Project Activities:

1. **Equipment procurement and installation:** Acquire and install broadband internet connections, computers, and Wi-Fi routers in selected libraries.
2. **Digital literacy training:** Organize workshops on basic computer skills, internet navigation, and online safety for diverse community members.
3. **Community engagement events:** Host events like online learning sessions, job search assistance, and telemedicine consultations.
4. **Partnerships and outreach:** Collaborate with local organizations, schools, and government agencies to ensure sustainability and community ownership.
5. **Monitoring and evaluation:** Track project impact through user surveys, internet usage data, and community feedback.

Expected Outcomes:

Digital Inclusion: Empowering community members with access to essential online resources, educational materials, and professional development opportunities.

Enhanced Library Services: Digitization of library catalogs will streamline operations, improve search capabilities, and enable efficient resource lending.

Education and Empowerment: Offering workshops and training programs will elevate digital literacy levels, equipping individuals with essential skills for the digital age.

1. Kotayk region

Connecting libraries to the Internet

Computers Core2Duo	30
Digitized library	15
Wi-Fi routers	15
USB WiFi Adapters	45

2. Lori region

Training in library management, digital skills, and social media

Computers Core2Duo	24
Wi-Fi routers	2
USB WiFi Adapters	24
Switches	4



3. Syunik region

Training in library management, digital skills, and social media

Connecting libraries to the Internet

Computers Core2Duo	30
Digitized library	15
Wi-Fi routers	15
USB WiFi Adapters	45

2. Project 2. All-Armenian Rural Libraries' Online Catalog and Librarian Network

Project Summary:

This project aims to revolutionize the digitization process of rural libraries in Armenia by developing a comprehensive online catalog and a secure librarian network. By creating a centralized repository of book descriptions and facilitating seamless collaboration among librarians, we will significantly accelerate the creation of digital libraries, expand access to information, and enhance the overall efficiency of rural library services.

The project will contribute to bridging the digital divide by providing essential digital resources and tools to rural communities

Problem Statement:

The digitization of rural libraries in Armenia is a time-consuming and resource-intensive process. Manually inputting book descriptions into individual library catalogs is inefficient, repetitive, and hinders the overall progress of digital library development. Moreover, the lack of a centralized platform for librarians to connect and share resources hampers collaboration and knowledge exchange.

To create a digitized library each librarian inputs a book description to the catalog. It is a routine and time-consuming process that slows down the creation of the electronic catalog and digitization of a rural library. This process is common to all rural libraries. In order to speed up the process of creation of a digitized rural library catalog there is a need to develop an all-Armenian rural libraries' on-line catalog. Having such a catalog and an access to it each librarian can download a book description from that on-line catalog and immediately input it in its own catalog. Had all librarians an access to such a catalog they can easily replenish it with a book description that is not yet in the catalog.

Having such all-Armenian rural libraries' on-line catalog will drastically speed up the process of digitizing rural libraries.

The project "All-Armenian Rural Libraries Online Catalog and Librarian Network" aligns strongly with the Internet Society's goals of promoting the open Internet and supporting Internet infrastructure.

Here's a breakdown of the alignment:

Promoting the Open Internet:

- **Access to Information:** By creating an online catalog, the project improves access to information for rural communities, a core principle of the open Internet.
- **Digital Inclusion:** The project contributes to digital inclusion by providing tools and resources to librarians and library patrons, fostering digital literacy and skills.
- **Knowledge Sharing:** The librarian network component promotes knowledge sharing and collaboration, essential elements of an open Internet.

Supporting Internet Infrastructure:

- **Digital Infrastructure:** While the project doesn't directly build physical infrastructure, it strengthens the digital infrastructure of rural libraries by providing them with essential tools to function in the digital age.
- **Human Capacity Building:** By training librarians on using the online catalog, the project invests in human capital, a crucial component of a robust Internet infrastructure.

In essence, the project serves as a catalyst for digital transformation in rural Armenia, aligning with the Internet Society's mission to foster the growth and development of the Internet. By empowering libraries and librarians, the project contributes to a more inclusive and connected society.

Project Objectives:

1. **Develop an All-Armenian Rural Libraries' Online Catalog:** Create a centralized online platform where librarians can access, download, and contribute book descriptions, streamlining the digitization process and fostering knowledge sharing.

Որոնել գիրքը համացանցում

Նարեկացի

ՀՀ	Գրքի հեղինակը	Գրքի վերնագիրը	Թվականը	Գրքի թեման
3676	Նարեկացի Գրիգոր	Մատենան ողբերգության	0	
6369	Սարգսյան Մկրտիչ Դիվինի	Գրիգոր Նարեկացի	0	
6465	Նարեկացի Գրիգոր	Տաղեր	0	
6371	Նարեկացի Գրիգոր	Մատենան ողբերգութեան	0	
6370	Նարեկացի Գրիգոր	Մատյան ողբերգության	2013	Պոեմ
14787	Նարեկացի Գրիգոր	Ներբողներ և գանձեր	2017	Պոեզիա
6236	Թամրազյան Հրանտ Ամբաստի	Գրիգոր Նարեկացին և նորայատոնականությունը	0	
15442	Նարեկացի Գրիգոր	Մատյան ողբերգության	1979	Հայ գրականություն
15768	Նարեկացի Գրիգոր	Մատենան ողբերգութեան	1977	Հայ գրականություն
16496	Նարեկացի Գրիգոր	Մատենան ողբերգութեան	1985	Հայ գրականություն

2. **Provide Librarian Access and Support:** Grant all librarians access to the online catalog, offering training and technical assistance to ensure effective utilization of the platform.
3. **Connect libraries participating in the project to the Internet.**
4. **Establish a Secure Librarian Network:** Build a closed online database containing contact information for subscribed librarians, facilitating collaboration and communication among library professionals.

Բաժանորդագրություն

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Ունայնու:

Համաձայնություն: Ես տեղեկացված եմ և համաձայն եմ առաջարկված պայմաններին, ակն է՝ արգելվում է նամակներում օգտագործել ձայնը ստեղծ կամ ուսուցող, մաշկի

Համաձայն եմ, որ նշված տվյալները հասանելի լինեն բոլորին:



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Շեղինակ Վահան Մխչադյան

Project Activities:

- Conduct a comprehensive assessment of existing rural library systems and identify key challenges and opportunities.
- Design and develop the All-Armenian Rural Libraries' Online Catalog, incorporating user-friendly features and robust data management capabilities.
- Establish a secure online platform for librarian registration and network building.
- Implement a comprehensive training program for librarians on utilizing the online catalog and network.
- Monitor and evaluate the project's impact on library digitization efforts and librarian collaboration.

Expected Outcomes:

- A centralized online catalog accessible to all rural libraries in Armenia, significantly reducing data entry time and improving data consistency.
- A strengthened network of rural librarians, fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing.
- Increased efficiency and effectiveness of rural library digitization processes.
- Expanded access to information resources for rural communities.

Development of the All-Armenian Rural Libraries' Online Catalog
Provide Internet connection to libraries not connected to the Internet
Training librarians to work with the catalog
Supervising and correction of the catalog
Building an online database of contact information for subscribed librarians
Training librarians to use the database

PROJECT 3. Co-organize National 2024 Internet Governance School (ArmSIG).

PROJECT 4. Co-organize National 2024 Internet Governance Forum (ArmIGF).

PROJECT 5. Co-organize National 2024 Youth Internet Governance Forum (YIGF).

PROJECT 6. Co-organize UA day event.

PROJECT 7. Co-organize Global Encryption Day event.