

Institutional library budgets set to increase, global study concludes

Boston, MA, May 31 2016 – Institutional library budgets across the globe will increase by 1.4 per cent overall this year, reports the **Annual Library Budget Survey**, carried out by the Publishers Communication Group (PCG), Ingenta's publishing consultancy arm.

The worldwide study, which interviewed senior librarians in 686 institutional libraries across the globe about their budget spend predictions for 2016, discovered that libraries in the Middle East and Africa region expect the highest levels of budget growth at 4.2 per cent, followed by Asia Pacific (+2.8 per cent) and South America (+2.1 per cent).

In contrast, the survey found that the outlook in more mature markets was far less optimistic, with North American libraries predicting a very modest 1 per cent rise in budget spend, and European libraries anticipating a decrease in spend of 0.1 per cent.

Across the main budget lines, spend on materials (all information content provision) was expected to increase by a total of 1.2 per cent, with expenditure on serial set to rise by 1.4 per cent and on books by 1.3 per cent. In North America, librarians estimate their book budgets will grow by 1.9 per cent, while investment in serials will only see a marginal increase of 0.2 per cent.

The survey also examined the usage of institutional search and discovery tools such as EBSCO Discovery, Summon and Google Scholar, as well as reference management tools like Mendeley, Zotero and EndNote. While 76 per cent of respondents claimed to be aware of discovery tools, only 28 per cent said they'd purchased such a service, with a further 10 per cent stating they planned to invest in this area in the near future. Reference management tools appear to be better embedded with 58 per cent of libraries already providing a service.

Melissanne Scheld, Managing Director at PCG, commented: "The findings from our Annual Library Budget Survey are extremely compelling. Despite showing growth in most geographical areas, librarians are generally being much more conservative with their

predictions this year, with several markets estimating less budget growth than they did in last year's survey. Significantly, emerging markets are upping their investment while mature markets are remaining pretty static and showing limited expansion, and this is a trend we're noticing across almost every continent. We're delighted to make the results of our survey, which provides the most comprehensive insight into institutional library spending, available today."

To view the complete survey, click [here](http://www.pcgplus.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Library-Budget-Prediction-2016-Final.pdf) (<http://www.pcgplus.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Library-Budget-Prediction-2016-Final.pdf>).

How the Annual Library Budget Survey was compiled:

- A global telephone survey was carried out at 686 institutional libraries in North America, South America, Europe, Asia Pacific and Middle East and Africa
- Senior librarians with control over and knowledge of library budgets for 2016 were contacted
- Academic institutions were split into categories reflecting the size and research focus level of their institute
- The data in this study has been weighted to reflect the global contribution of each country to library spend. All counts in the report are based on the weighted number of responses, rather than the actual number

-Ends-

Notes to Editors:

For more information, please contact:

Emily Taylor Gregory, Ingenta

+44 1865 397973

emily.taylor.gregory@ingenta.com

About PCG:

Publishers Communication Group, Inc., an Ingenta company, is a full-service marketing and sales consulting firm with locations in Boston, Oxford, São Paulo, New Delhi and Beijing. PCG was established in 1990 as a resource for scholarly publishers to more effectively work with the global library market. PCG offers international multi-lingual telemarketing services, qualitative and quantitative marketing research, customer services operations based in the UK, US, Brazil, India and China, sales representation and strategic consulting. Visit pcgplus.com, or follow on Twitter @pcgplus.

About Ingenta:

Ingenta is the world-leading provider of content solutions that transform business. We cover the publishing process from end to end with our suite of commercial products, CMS and advertising solutions and content services packages. Combining our unmatched publishing knowledge, global operations and customer support with our extensive technology and service products, we offer the industry's only full spectrum of solutions to help publishers manage and monetise their content effectively. Listed on the AIM market of the London Stock Exchange, the company operates jointly from Europe (Oxford) and North America (Boston and New Jersey), with local offices in Brazil, India and China. Assisting 450 trade and scholarly publishers for nearly 40 years, Ingenta solves the fundamental issues content providers face. Visit ingenta.com, follow [@WeAreIngenta](https://twitter.com/WeAreIngenta) on Twitter, or connect on LinkedIn.