Library Support

The Raoul Wallenberg Institute has since the early 1990s been providing support to institutions in developing countries as regards developing functional library capacity in relation to work to promote and protect human rights, in particular by means of human rights education, training and research.

Activities have included: advice on library management; training for librarians and resource centre personnel in relevant areas; literature support; developing and acquiring electronic resources; and setting up, installing and maintaining different Open Source software, platforms for sharing information and resources electronically, including websites, as well as libraries and resource centres as such. Since the early 2000s, these library support activities have in many cases constituted an integral part of institutional capacity development programmes implemented on bilateral and regional level.

The overall objective of these activities is to enhance the capacities of libraries and resource centres at institutions to effectively support human rights related teaching and learning, research, outreach, and other relevant activities within the area of human rights and the mandates of the institutions.

The methodologies developed since the inception of these library support activities, and in particular since the mid-2000s, are in many respects unique to RWI, and draw upon the many years of experience in this area combining library support with broader institutional capacity development support in the human rights field as well as the role of our own library as a resource centre for human rights promotion work.

We have moreover found library support activities of high importance to achieve greater effects of and sustain other capacity development initiatives. RWI's experiences as accounted for above in this respect have been collected in the publication *Developing a Human Rights Library* (http://rwi.lu.se/app/uploads/2015/06/ManualWEB.pdf).