



Library and Information Association of Zambia

“Linking People with Information”

Library and Information Association of Zambia

(LIAZ)

Country Report

2016 - 2018

Presented by

Charles Banda (PhD)

LIAZ PRESIDENT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Library and Information Association of Zambia is happy to present the Annual report for the period May 2016 to July 2018.

The association received a lot of support from members and other stakeholders in the library profession.

2.0 LIAZ COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The following are the current office bearers in the committee.

PRESIDENT	-	Dr. Charles Banda
VICE PRESIDENT	-	Jabulani Moyo
SECRETARY GENERAL	-	Mwanza Aggie Kaite-Mumbi
TREASURER	-	Leslie Moono Chikuta
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	-	Allan Mudenda Hagwelele
PUBLICITY SECRETARY	-	Constance Miyoba Chilipa
PROJECT'S OFFICER	-	Prudence Mutale
EDITOR	-	Raymond Sikanyika
COMMITTEE MEMBERS	-	Casious Makalashi McDonald Mwiinga Robinson Bwato (ex- officio) Velenasi Mwale Munsanje (ex-officio)

3.0 ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

The Association has seen a steady rise in the past few years of fully paid up members. There has also been an increase in members who participate in Association activities and assignments.

The following shows the rise in full membership figures:

Year	Members
2013	52
2014	76
2015	110
2016	137
2017	152
2018	104* as at 27 th April, 2018

*Note: the numbers are expected to go over 200 in 2018, seeing that before mid-year, over hundred (100) members have already paid.

4.0 LIAZ STRATEGIC PLANNING

LIAZ continues to follow the current strategic plan which was done in 2015 and ends in 2019. Annual reviews are done to ensure conformity to the initial plans and also taking care of other activities that are cardinal to the profession.

4.1 Vision

A professional Association promoting excellence and innovation in library and information services.

4.2 Mission

To be an Association that will promote professional development and excellence in library and information services through advocacy, training, research and networking.

4.3 Strategic goals

1. Enhance Membership Portfolio of the Association
2. Improve Administrative and Management structures
3. Develop and Implement a Communications Strategy
4. Champion the Library and Information Services Act Process
5. Develop Capacity Building Strategies for Innovative library services
6. Improve financial base for LIAZ

5.0 COMMUNICATION MODES

LIAZ has in the period under review been able to update the professional database to capture as many people as possible.

1. Through the postal address:

LIAZ Secretariat

P. O. Box 50183

Ridgeway

Lusaka

- 2. Use of emails:** LIAZ official email is liaz@zambia.co.zm with about 443 active email addresses for members Association.

Year	Members
2014	85
2015	298
2016	400
2017	422
2018	443*

3. Facebook

Facebook account name: **Library and Information Association of Zambia.** Currently, the use of Facebook is among the most reliable modes of communicating to members. The number of members on our Facebook page has been increasing. Participation in discussions using this forum has also increased. The following table shows the statistics of members on our Facebook page:

Year	Members
2014	356
2015	683
2016	781
2017	1.2k
2018	1.2k*

- 4. Twitter:** Twitter handle: **Liazzambia.**

- 5. Contact Number:** LIAZ official contact line is **+260 965 024914.**

- 6. Website:** LIAZ official website is: www.libraryassociationofzambia.org

- 7. Telegram Group:** facilitates quicker communication with members.

- 8. Print Media:** LIAZ makes use of the daily newspapers to reach a wider audience of its members.

6.0 CONFERENCES

Zambia has been fairing quite well in attending national and international professional conferences, though there is more that needs to be done especially in convincing government agencies and other organizations to support their staff.

LIAZ is affiliated to and continues to be represented at the International Federation of Library Institutions and Associations (IFLA), Standing Conference of Eastern, Central and Southern Africa Library and Information Associations (SCECSAL) and the African Library and Information Association and Institutions (AfLIA).

6.1 National Conferences

*** LIAZ Annual General Conferences**

LIAZ has, for many years, successfully held its Annual General Conferences. LIAZ has also continued to ensure professional development workshops take place prior to the conference. In 2016 the training workshop was on Customer care and customer service in libraries and in 2017, the training was on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and how librarians can tailor their services in helping achieve them.

The LIAZ AGC for 2018 is scheduled for 17 to 20 July, 2018 and will be held at Chrismar Hotel, in Livingstone under the theme "*The Role of Information Professionals in Accelerating Development Efforts Towards Vision 2030.*"

6.2 International Conferences

*** IFLA**

LIAZ continues to put the library profession visible with the mother body IFLA. Other than just subscribing to IFLA, LIAZ has, in the recent years been recognised and been invited to participate in IFLA activities. LIAZ seeks to participate fully in IFLA related activities in a quest to provide better library services in Zambia.

For example, when IFLA embarked on a Global Vision discussion through a series of meetings and workshops in different parts of the world, Zambia was one of the participants. In 2017, face-to-face and online future-oriented conversations took place in various places around world including the regional workshop for Africa held from 14 - 15 May, 2017 in Yaoundé, Cameroon where, African library community leaders representing 37 countries met to discuss how a united library field can tackle challenges of the future together. The gathering represented a strong community from the African continent to the global discussion. Zambia was represented by Mrs. Velenasi Mwale Munsanje, the then President of Library and Information Association of Zambia.

In this regard, LIAZ held its local IFLA Global vision workshop in July 2017 where about 115 librarians and records officers gave input into the global vision. This was during one of the sessions for the 2017 Annual General Conference, at Lake Safari Lodge in Siavonga, Southern part of Zambia.

*** AfLIA**

LIAZ is greatly benefitting from its affiliation with AfLIA by receiving guidance from a continental body that understands the development of libraries from an African perspective, as well as participating in different capacity and professional building programmes. For instance, AfLIA ran the first cohort of a 2-year program of emerging public library leaders from Sub-Saharan Africa. LIAZ was pleased to have one public librarian on the programme. The purpose of the programme is to sharpen

public librarian's leadership and innovative skills to enable them offer innovative services in their libraries. Our only delegate, then, Ms. Kalaba Mweni Kolandi has since graduated and has been instrumental in sharing the knowledge gained with other librarians in Zambia. In March, 2017 Ms. Kalaba facilitated a workshop in Monze to train 25 public librarians on innovation in libraries. During the 2017 LIAZ Annual General Conference, Ms. Kolandi also shared with 115 conference delegates on how to build community partnerships. In the second INELI cohort scheduled to commence this year, Zambia is expected to have five participants.

Zambia also has representation on the AfLIA governing board. Mrs. Velenasi Mwale Munsanje, the immediate past President of LIAZ is the Chairperson for National Library Associations Section of AfLIA for the period 2017 -2019.

* **SCECSAL**

Member states of SCECSAL commenced reviewing the SCECSAL constitution to ensure that it remained relevant and meet member countries expectations. LIAZ has since made submissions on this process and also participated in an online discussion regarding the review.

7.0 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

LIAZ has lived by its vision of promoting professional development and excellence in library and information services. In the period under review, LIAZ conducted the following training workshops/ programmes:

1. Locally, LIAZ organized two training workshops in order to build capacity of its members. In November, 2016, 23 members benefited from a training the Association organized with InfoWorld Limited. This saw LIAZ members acquiring skills that included amongst others, Koha and electronic records management.
2. Lubuto Library Partners (a USAID funded Non-Governmental Organisation that supports community and Public Libraries) and LIAZ collaboratively planned, scheduled, and funded a week-long training opportunity for provincial and council librarians from 20 – 24 March 2017, that was held at the Mumuni Lubuto Library outside of Monze (Southern Province). The training attracted public librarians from across the country. A total of 26 public librarians including representatives from partner organizations participated in the training.

In order to encourage full participation, this workshop was fully funded and participants were not requested to make any form of payment. LIAZ is thankful to Lubuto Library Partners and OSISA for this generous gesture and partnership. LIAZ surely looks forward to more of such activities.

3. LIAZ has a Memorandum of Understanding to train 24 librarians from 12 public libraries. The objective of this capacity building programme is to equip the 24 librarians with competencies, and skills that support the adoption of technologies in public libraries to create new services addressing community needs. One training out of three has been conducted for the 2017 project.
4. In the period under review, four members of LIAZ participated in three different international training programmes both being conducted by AfLIA and IFLA in partnership with other organizations.

The three international programmes to which our members benefited include:

- The Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) Fellowship
The programme is funded by IFLA-OCLC and provides early career development and continuing education for library and information science professionals from countries with developing economies. It is jointly sponsored by IFLA and the OCLC. LIAZ was proud to be represented by Ms. Patience Gizi Hara for the 17th class of 2017.
- The International Network of Emerging Innovators in Sub-Saharan Africa (INELI-SSAf)

The programme commenced in 2016. This is a programme comprising 32 African innovators. Luapula Province Provincial Librarian, Ms. MweniKalaba-Kolandi has since graduated from this programme and in February, 2018, she represented Zambia in Washington D.C., in the same regard. The programme included among others the following areas of interest; Advocacy, Innovation, Change Management, Conflict resolution, Community Information Needs, Risk Management, Team Work and Team Projects.

- The Initiative Young African Library Innovators (IYALI)
This programme, Initiative Young African Library Innovators (IYALI) is being managed by Electronic Information for Libraries (EIFL), to connect young librarians with their peers elsewhere in Africa and in transitional and developing countries. It is envisioned that this will expand their outlook and also help them gain new ideas and create a network that will assist them support each other in their work.

LIAZ was privileged to have two representatives in the 2017 group. Two young LIAZ innovators, Allan Hagwelele Mudenda – Provincial Librarian for Southern Province and Ms. Given Besa – Library Manager for Lubuto Library in Ngwerere represented LIAZ and Zambia. In 2018, Ms Pezo Given Kajimalwendo, Librarian at Ndola Public Library, which

serves the town of Ndola, the main centre for Zambia's copper mining industry, will be among the 15 young Public Librarians that will travel to southeast Asia for an intensive IYALI learning experience.

5. Two young public librarians, Yvonne Kabamba (Lusaka City Council) and Musha Chanda (Ndola City Council) attended the Strengthening Innovative Library Leaders (SILL) training workshop in Cameroon from 15 – 16th May, 2017. AfLIA also sponsored them to attend the 2017 AfLIA conference in Cameroon. The aim of the training workshop was to promote willingness among librarians and leaders to challenge the status quo in order to provide valuable services to users, with their own appreciation of their own leadership skills, strategies of problem solving, and plans to implement their own innovative ideas in their libraries.
6. AfLIA conducted a two-day SILL training workshop in Lusaka for 20 public librarians. Ten came from Zambia and the rest from Malawi and Zimbabwe.
7. Two librarians, Sharon Liato and Mary Mamba attended two-day training on Library Statistics and Evaluation from 22-23 May 2017 in Nairobi, Kenya. This training was conducted with the support of Electronic Information for Libraries.

8.0 PARTNERSHIPS

Other than the partnerships LIAZ has with IFLA and AfLIA, LIAZ is working with other supporting partners to build capacity in Zambian libraries, especially Public and School libraries.

LIAZ is working on signing a Memorandum of Understanding that will pave way for an opportunity to partner with Worldreader to promote reading through the provision of digital content for children from 0 - 12 years. Worldreader is a global non-profit organization that provides people in the developing world with free access to a library of digital books via e-readers and mobile phones. Worldreader works with device manufacturers, local and international publishers, Government agencies, educational officials and local communities, to support reading. Their aim is to empower millions of people to read and learn from early childhood through their adult lives. Their reading programs leverage relevant digital books, impactful partnerships, and appropriate technology. Worldreader believes in a world where everyone can be a reader.

Currently, Worldreader is working in three (3) countries in Sub Saharan Africa - Ghana, Uganda and Zambia. As such, ten libraries from Lusaka and Copperbelt Provinces have since been identified to benefit from this partnership.

LIAZ has also been successfully collaborating well with the Zambia Library Service (ZLS) under Ministry of General Education, in promoting the National Library Week

annually. This partnership has worked well for the Association as ZLS is the institution mandated to look into the welfare of provincial public libraries in the country. ZLS, therefore, has support of the Ministry of General Education and this becomes helpful in conducting national library activities with LIAZ.

9.0 PUBLICATIONS

The Association has continued to promote research of professionals by publishing the annual LIAZ Journal. This has given library and information professionals in Zambia an opportunity to publish their research findings. The LIAZ Newsletter is also published bi-annually.

10.0 CONCLUSION

The foregoing are some of the current and past activities that LIAZ has actively engaged in to promote and support the Library and Information Profession at the local, national and international platforms.