



“Linking People with Information”

Library and Information Association of Zambia

(LIAZ)

Country Report

2020 - 2022

Presented by

Mutinta Mweemba Nabuyanda

LIAZ PRESIDENT

1.0 Introduction

The Library and Information Association of Zambia is happy to present the country report for the period May 2020 to September 2022.

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

President	-	Mutinta Mweemba Nabuyanda
Vice President	-	Mubanga Lumpa
Secretary General	-	Allan Mudenda Hagwelele
Treasurer	-	Mwamba Lesa
Vice Treasurer	-	Jacqueline Mubanga Chibiya
Membership Secretary	-	Dominic Bwalya Chitondo
Media & Publicity Secretary	-	Bedson Williams Nyoni
Projects Officer	-	Alice Musonda Mwape
Editor	-	Matuka Chimpembele
Committee Members	-	Milimo Mweemba Buumba Dubeka Dr. Charles Banda (Former President)

3.0 Association Membership

The Association has seen a steady rise of fully paid-up members in the past few years. 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
2018	182
2019	208
2020	150
2021	171
2022	257*

*Note: the number may go beyond the stated by end of the year.

4.0 LIAZ Strategic Planning

LIAZ strategic plan came to an end in 2021 and the committee is working on having it reviewed and it is hoped that the new plan will soon be ready. While this is the case, we have continued using the strategic plan which just ended to provide strategic direction for the Association.

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 Legislation Update

Since the shift of focus to pursuing a Professional Bill, the Association has made several strides to have the document ready and submitted to the Ministry of Education as guided by Attorney General. A draft Bill was submitted to the Ministry in March 2022 and feedback was received to make some minor changes to the draft. The Document was resubmitted to the Ministry after the edits. Feedback is yet to be received after the second submission.

In the same vein, the Association was invited to meet the Minister of Education on 9th August, 2022 where the issue of the Bill was tabled. There is good will from the office of the Minister and we are hoping that the bill would be realised in the shortest possible time.

6.0 Communication

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

Our postal address:

Library and Information Association of Zambia
(LIAZ)
P.O. Box 50183

Ridgeway
Lusaka, ZAMBIA.

We have the following media of communication:

1. Use of emails

The official email is liaz@zambia.co.zm and secretariat@liaz.org.zm

Our emailing database now has currently about 1140 members. We have continued to update our database as we capture more emails for members. The following shows the increase in our email database.

Year	Members
2018	457
2019	486
2020	497
2021	517
2022	1140

The constant updating of our database has helped us to ensure that many of our professionals have access to information about LIAZ and activities that affect them. We hope to further update the emailing database after capturing members who attended the 2022 general conference.

2. Facebook

Our Facebook account name: **Library and Information Association of Zambia**

Currently, the use of Facebook is among our most reliable mode of communicating to our 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
2018	1338
2019	1601
2020	1843
2021	2059
2022	2187*

A facebook page named Library and Information Association of Zambia –LIAZ was opened with 1038 followers. Members are encouraged to follow the page.

3. Twitter

Our twitter handle: Liazzambia
Please follow us!

4. Contact Number +260979805780

5. WhatsApp

The Association is currently using WhatsApp to communicate with members. The association contact (+260979805780) is also being used as a WhatsApp contact. There are 711 active members on LIAZ WhatsApp groups.

6. Website

The current website is:

www.libraryassociationofzambia.org

We have also secured a new domain name where we will build a new website. The domain name is liaz.org.zm

7. We are also piloting the use of a membership management platform known as Glueup. This is the platform that was used to register during the 2022 general conference.

7.0 Association with International Professional and Regional Bodies

LIAZ is fully affiliated to International Federation of Library Institutions and Associations (IFLA), SCECSAL and the African Library and Information Association and Institutions (AFLIA)

7.1 IFLA

LIAZ continues to put the library profession visible with IFLA. LIAZ seeks to participate fully in IFLA related activities in a quest to provide better library services in Zambia. A LIAZ member, Mr. Allan Mudenda Hagwelele is a committee member in the Sub Saharan Africa Regional Division. (SSA-RD Committee)

7.2 AFLIA

We are benefitting from our affiliation with AFLIA as we continue receiving guidance from this continental body that understands the development of libraries from an African perspective. Zambia has representation in African Library and Information Institutions and Association as Ms Fatima Demohey is a Secretary to the Public and Community Library Section.

7.3 SCECSAL

The 2022 SCECSAL conference will be held in October 2022 in South Africa. The Association has submitted a bid to host SCECSAL in the year 2026. LIAZ will be sending representation to go and defend the bid. Members are encouraged to attend the conference.

8.0 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 our members. In April 2022, 62 members benefited from a training the association organized on Digital Marketing.

2. The second training targeted librarians in schools and trainings were conducted in Ndola and Chongwe. A total number of 57 librarians attended the training. It is hoped that the librarians would make good use of the skills attained in the said training.
3. Two virtual trainings / information sharing sessions facilitated by Dr V Chifwepa and Mr B Njobvu was attended by a total of 150 participants.

9.0 Partnerships

Other than the partnerships LIAZ has with IFLA and AfLIA, we have also had the following partners;

9.1 Ministry of General Education (Zambia Library Service)

LIAZ has also continued partnering with ZLS in the National Library Week awareness campaigns.

LIAZ has been participating in the drafting of the National Library Policy being spearheaded by the Ministry of Education.

9.2 Priya Education Solution

Support towards AGC given in form of books, branded caps and drinks. We are grateful for the support we received.

9.3 Kwilanzi Farm & Fisheries

Provided financial support to one attendance grant award recipient. There is a proposal that this special grant be named Professor Lundu Award in his honor

10.0 National Library Week Celebration

The association has been observing the National Library Week to create awareness to the entire country about the importance and role of libraries and librarians. The association has been working closely in collaboration with the Ministry of Education particularly the Zambia Library Service in ensuring that these activities are a success. While the 2021 National Library Week was held virtually, the 2022 National Library Week was held in Kabwe where the President Mrs Mutinta Nabuyanda represented the Association. Various institutions attend this important national event at the invitation of the association.

National Library Week is an annual event commemorated around the world at different times. The significance of this event is to create public awareness on the importance of libraries by giving an opportunity to libraries, documentation/information centers to showcase their resources, facilities, events and services through different programs and events to the community. The event also provides the community with the opportunity to find out about the wide range of services which libraries and information services offer as well as recognize the vital role they play in research and education

LIAZ has been instrumental in organizing libraries to exhibit at the official venue. To encourage more participation, in collaboration with Zambia Library Service, an award is given to best library institution during the exhibition. LIAZ has also taken an advantage of this event to engage government on various issues of interest to the LIS sector.

11.0 LIS students

LIAZ has continued to market the profession to LIS students and encourage early participation in association activities. In order to promote visibility and encourage hard work in our LIS

training institutions in Zambia, LIAZ has continued to award the best graduating student at Diploma and First degree levels at Evelyn Hone College and University of Zambia respectively and National Institute of Public Administration. In addition, LIAZ continues to fully sponsor one student on a rotational basis among the three LIS institutions, to attend the LIAZ Annual General Conference.

- The sponsoring of the best graduating student by LIAZ has continued with best graduating students at NIPA and University of Zambia being awarded. The President, Mrs Mutinta Nabuyanda presented awards to the students on behalf of the association.
- Sponsorship (full) of one student to attend the AGC on a rotational basis has continued. The Rotation has been mainly between UNZA and Evelyn Hone College and NIPA has been added to the list since they have Records Management Degree course on offer. Mr Leonard Simukoko from UNZALISA attended the 2021 conference.

12.0 Publications

The association has continued to promote research of professionals by publishing the annual LIAZ Journal. This has given library professionals in Zambia an opportunity to publish their research findings. The LIAZ newsletter has been published annually in the period under review. We still have a challenge of members not submitting scholarly works for publication.

13.0 Other Activities

LIAZ has among others participated and contributed to the following activities:

- Provide professional guidance during the recruitment of library staff.
- Participated in the commemoration World Read Aloud Day in February 2022. This was done in partnership with One Child Foundation.
- LIAZ donated paint and assorted materials to Lusaka City Council towards repainting of the City Council Main Library.
- Held a fundraising Golf Tournament in October 2021
- Celebrated International Women's day on 8th March 2022. Donations were made to selected orphanages and mother Shelters.

14.0 Conclusion

The above are some of the current and past activities that LIAZ has been actively engaged in to promote and support the Library and Information Profession at the local, national, and international platforms. We look forward to engaging more with stakeholders to benefit the Association and its membership.