

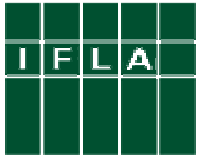
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BOTSWANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

IFLA /BSLA GLOBAL MEETING
MANILLA ,PHILLINES
30th MAY-2ND JUNE 2016





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Country and association profile

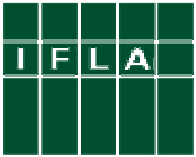
Botswana

- landlocked
- borders :South Africa,Namibia,Zambia

Zimbabwe

Population stands at 2, 285,856 (2016 estimate)

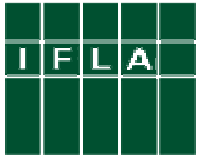




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Map of Botswana



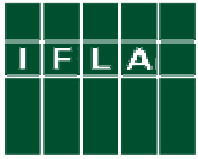


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Country and association profile

- Founded in 1978 BLA is a national association; membership stands at 175 individual & 45 Institutions
- Open to all library and information workers (LIS)
- Public Libraries in Botswana fall under the Ministry of Youth Sport and Culture, Special Libraries: their respective Ministries
- Ministry of Education and Skills Development (MOESD) in charge of School libraries
- Botswana National Library Service(BNLS) established in 1967 by an act of parliament runs public libraries with 105 public libraries,66 with internet access and computers



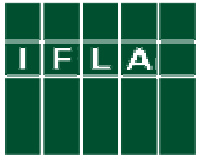


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Association objectives

- To improve the status of the LIS profession
- To advocate for an improved LIS service
- Promote and encourage research
- To monitor any legislation affecting LIS workers
- To publish on regular basis journal and newsletters



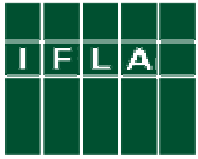


Background to the BSLA Project

- BLA mainly visible in the city
- Executive committee dominated by officials residing in Gaborone.
 - Programs restricted to these environments
- Membership drive not routinely undertaken
- No institutionalized governing mechanism
- Constitution not revised since 1978, deemed out of tune with current development

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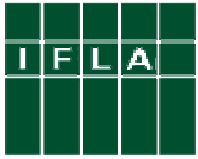


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BSLA Project

Project Title: Restructuring of Botswana Library Association (BLA)

- To undertake critical analysis of the current status of BLA
- To acquire skills of establishing regional branches across the country
- To plan a professional trip to inform the restructuring
- To review the constitution with the view to incorporate the changes thereon
- To develop a Bill to present to Parliament towards providing a legal recognition for BLA
- Establish a TWG
- To work/visit to Nigeria & SA in order identify areas of strength and weakness and strategize towards building a stronger organization



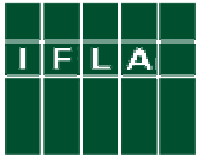
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BSLA Project ...

METHODOLOGY

- Stakeholder meeting
- Professional visit
- TWGs on the Bill and the Constitution





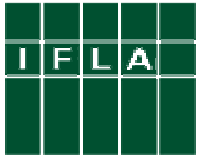
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BSLA Project

Expected Outcomes

- To understand the processes of running an active association including but not limited to:
 - Revised governance structure
 - Bill on BLA
 - Revised Constitution





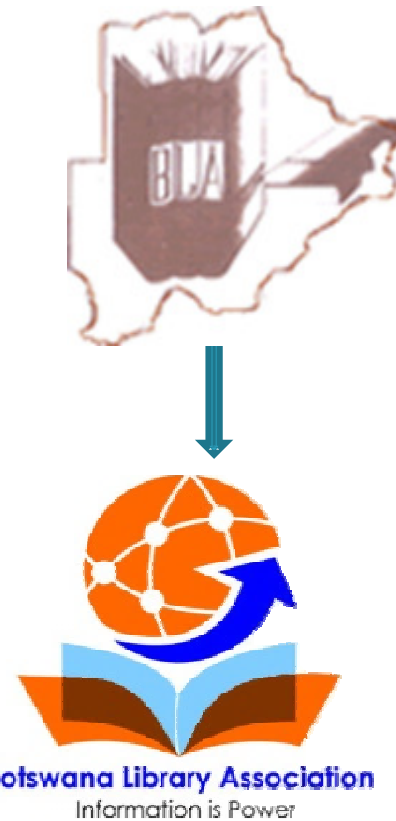
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Success Stories

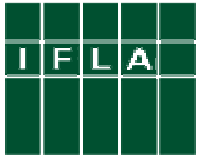
- Professional visits to the Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA) and Nigeria
- Stakeholder engagement
- Hosting by the BLA of the Africa Section Meeting in Gaborone attended by the IFLA Secretary General, Ms. Jennifer Nicholson
- International BLA Patron: Ms. Nicholson
- Advocacy for Teacher Librarians
- Rebranding & new logo



Rebranding & new logo



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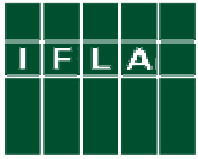
Success Stories: Advocacy

Professional seminar by Mr. Tsebe and Ms. Nicholson.

Meetings with:


- His Honor the Vice President Mokgweetsi Masisi, Mr Tsebe, Mrs. Raseroka, Dr Sebina
- Hon Minister of Youth Sports and Culture Hon Thapelo Olopeng and the Director BNLS:
- The Acting Permanent Secretary, Director of National Archives and Records Services
- Production of the newsletter

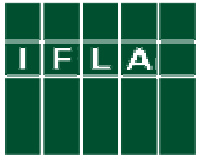




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Success Stories: Capacity Building

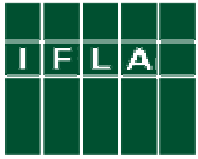
- Digital literacy training for Teacher Librarians
 - Workshop on paper development and publishing by Prof. Robert M Davison, a Professor in Information Systems from City University of Hong Kong for BLA members in preparation for the BLA conference in July
 - Seminar on digital work tensions & solutions by Prof. Davison
- 



Forthcoming activities – 2016/2017

- BLA annual conference in July – *themed* From Action to impact, connecting communities through library and information provision
- Fundraising dinner
- Capacity building workshop for branch leaders
- Advocacy visit to the Hon Minister of Education and Skills Development.
- Process to draft the Bill
- Process to revise BLA constitution
- Process to establish national structures

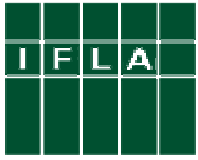




Challenges and how we are addressing them

- Limited Funding: engage govt for grant
expand membership, engage the private
sector
- Changing mind set: advocacy, conf
- Lack of operational space :letter to BNLS



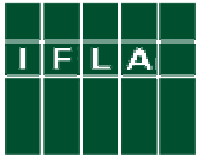


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The future of the association and libraries in our country

- To provide a dynamic leadership that advocates for a strong LIS profession in Botswana
- To be a leading professional association in Africa and the world
- To be regulatory body of the LIS profession in Botswana



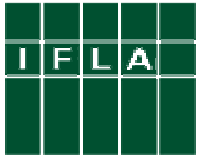


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Vision for the next 10yrs

- An enacted BLA
- Continuous inter-country exchanges to promote the Africa agenda
- Well defined structures for the association
- Good relations btwn BLA & Stakeholders



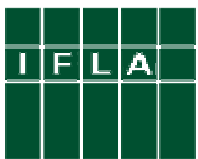


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Conclusion

Partnership, networking, collaboration between countries and the region are essential for stronger African Library Associations.





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THE END

Thank you

Merci

Jazakallah khair

Nagode

Kealeboga

