



20¹7

ANNUAL REPORT

Connecting Africa's library and information communities

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From the Executive Director



African Library and Information Associations and Institutions (AfLIA) is four years old and counting. So far, the association has made strides in the library and information sector in Africa through its human capacity building programs and activities with policy makers.

In May this year a new set of elected officials for the Governing Council took office, the 2nd time that this is happening which indicates that we are making use of our constitution to ensure that our governance structures are operational and are effective. The 2nd AfLIA Conference and 4th African Library Summit was successfully held in Yaounde, Cameroon also in May this year.

To ensure the sustainability of AfLIA, a Resource Development and Partnership position was filled at the beginning of the year with the brief to the person to seek new partners and diverse funding for AfLIA. Our training program demands increased so a Human Capacity and Training person was hired to see to the training needs of AfLIA's members. Similarly, to ensure that the work of the new partners of AfLIA in the ACAFI Program are well coordinated and operate according to agreed terms, another person was hired to fill that role and also oversee all other AfLIA projects and research work. Finally, a Research Coordinator who will work on the TASCHA/ AfLIA African Data Project and other research and data needs of AfLIA was hired getting to the end of the year. These new positions have come in to strengthen the workforce of AfLIA to enable it to deliver on its services, more effectively and with speed.

Our training programs are yielding the expected results as the participants are already impacting their communities with what they have learnt and this has encouraged us to start planning including seeking funding for diverse training programs.

We wish to express our gratitude for the great support we have received from the Global Libraries Initiative of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in making us to offer such great services at this short time of our existence. Our

services are speaking for us and building confidence of people in AfLIA and so bringing about increased membership, which is uppermost in our mind because we are a membership organisation. We in addition express our gratitude to our old and new partners who are effectively working with us to deliver on our mandate. Our Governing Council members, membership and our committed and hardworking staff.

Who We Are

AfLIA is an independent international not-for-profit organization which pursues the interests of library and information associations, library and information services, librarians and information workers and the communities they serve in Africa.

Our Vision

The trusted voice of the African library and information community in Africa's development.

Our Mission

To empower the library and information community to actively promote the African development agenda through dynamic services that transform livelihoods.

Our Values

AfLIA has the following as its core values:

- Professionalism & Inclusivity
- Integrity, Transparency & Accountability
- Innovation & Creativity
- Customer focused
- Access to Information as a Human Right.

Where We Work

AfLIA is a Pan African Association so its area of work is the whole geographic area known as Africa including its islands..

Membership

Currently AfLIA has members in 30 out of the 54 countries of Africa and is actively working to

expand membership to the rest of the Continent.

A membership service, the online Newsletter, continues to receive commendations and a member of AfLIA in Cameroon, expressed her joy in an email message to us that **"The University of Bamenda, Cameroon, is so grateful for the numerous information sent to us. This has motivated our library to work more than ever before in disseminating information to our community. Our membership in AfLIA is a great blessing. Thank you and God bless you"**. Such comments spur us on to provide more membership services.

What We Do

- We advocate for freedom and equitable access to information through improved facilities and human capacity of libraries for individual and national development in Africa
- Build Capacity of librarians to offer relevant services to communities.
- Support human, organizational and infrastructural development of the library and information profession and services by building capacity through training.
- Pursue partnerships and collaboration by forging and maintaining links with other relevant organizations and associations for mutual benefits and also for those of the African people through libraries.
- Advocacy with governments and agencies for favourable library policies to be included

in National Development Policy.

- Position libraries as information centres and partners on the national and global development agenda.
- Mobilise resources to support library projects and membership services in Africa.
- Organise fora for knowledge sharing and networking for librarians in Africa to support improved library and information service delivery.

We do all these with the cooperation of National Governments, National Library Associations, the different types of Libraries in Africa and our partners.

Summary of Objectives

Support and strengthen:

- Support the library and information profession that anticipates and responds to the needs of communities in Africa.
- Drive high standards in library and information services and professional practices in Africa.

Visibility & advocacy:

- Promote libraries and information centres as vital institutions that enhance people's lives through equitable access to knowledge, information and innovative services
- Put the library and information profession on the national and continental agendas.

Free access to information:

- Embrace the principles of freedom of access to information... enshrined in the Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Article 9 of the African Charter of People's Rights.

OUR PROGRAMMES

AfLIA in its strategic plan has indicated programs to build the capacity of librarians to satisfy the information needs of their communities. Its aim is to ensure that libraries support the development agenda of their countries, the African Union Vision 2063, 'Towards the Africa we want' and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, Agenda 2030.

Most of AfLIA's programs are structured along activities for the achievement of these development goals. Currently we have sent out several proposals for partnerships with Organisations and we are waiting for responses.

Biennial African Library Summits

AfLIA organises a biennial Library Summit to enable knowledge sharing of innovations and also for networking. The 4th African Library Summit and 2nd AfLIA Conference, a 4-day event was held from 16 - 19 May 2017 in Yaounde, Cameroon.



Excited participants at the beginning of the day's work at the 4th African Library Summit & 2nd AfLIA Conference, in Yaounde, Cameroon. May 2017



INELI -SSAf innovators from Uganda and Zimbabwe in Seychelles with their mentor from South Africa - unity of purpose to develop public libraries in Africa

INELI-SSAf Program

The International Network for Emerging Library Innovators- Sub-Saharan Africa (INELI-SSAf) program is a flagship program of AfLIA which is currently being run with support from Global Libraries of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. It is a two- year program with three (3) face-to face meetings of 4 days each and continued with online tutorship. The first cohort with 32 participants from 14 African countries mentored by 8 experienced public librarians took off in June 2016 and it will end in May 2018. The second cohort, with 34 participants from 11 African countries will be mentored by 8 experienced public librarians and it will take off in May 2018 and end in 2020. The mentors are expected to assist in building the capacity of these participants to play the expected roles as the providers of relevant and timely information to the community to meet their needs and improve their livelihoods.

Some Impact Stories

Several impact stories are constantly being received. For instance, the 1st cohort of INELI-SSAf is building up a vibrant connected community of African Public Librarians. Kalaba Mweni of Zambia Library Services at the 2017 Seychelles Convening learned of the assignment club run by Farida Alhassan of Ghana Library Authority and has started offering the Service to both children and students of Adult Education classes with successes which is making great impact.



INELI-SSAf 2nd Convening in Seychelles in February in session



All work and no play... INELI-SSAf mentors hitchhiking after a hard day's work at the 2nd convening in Seychelles in February 2017

Also, the Public and Community Libraries Section organised a Cultural Fiesta from 24th April- 13th May, 2017 with the theme **"My Africa, Your Africa, Our Africa"**. Where Public libraries were enjoined to put up displays that will showcase our cultural identity as Africans. Libraries in Namibia, Ghana, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda, South Africa and Kenya participated. After the fiesta, the Kenya National Library Service, has carved out a corner permanently for **'My Africa, Your Africa, Our Africa'** in their headquarters in Nairobi displaying traditional ornaments, utensils, materials and weapons.

Programs with Partners

The African Collaborative Action for Impact (ACAfi) program, the planning of which started in 2016 in Swaziland took off this year. 5 organisations, Electronic Information for Libraries (EIFL), International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) Public Library Association (PLA) of the American Library Association (ALA), World Reader (WR) and Technology for Social Change Group of the University of Washington, USA (TASCHA) came in as partners of AfLIA to collaborate in activities towards the further strengthening of the African library field. These partners are already involved in different activities in Africa so the Global Libraries of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, as part of their winding down activities and wishing to strengthen the library field in Africa, brought them together for the purpose.

ACAfi has identified gaps in the public library

environment and intends to fill them to bring about achievement of greater impact by supporting training of middle level manpower for public libraries who will be focused on user - centered services ; pulling together data about status of libraries and their services in Africa; exposing public librarians to services from other parts of the world to replicate /confirm their services ; bring basic and pertinent information to young children in Africa in new reading modes relevant to the world of today; and cooperate with related global organizations to offer services to meet the needs of the African community. The specific activities are as follows:

EIFL/ IFLA/AfLIA Program

The programme known as Initiative Young African Library Innovators (IYALI) is managed by EIFL in collaboration with AfLIA, and IFLA and with support from the Global Libraries Initiative of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. This is one of the African Collaborative Action for Impact (ACAfi) programmes. It builds the capacity of public librarians by connecting young librarians with their peers elsewhere in Africa and in transitional and developing countries to assist expand their outlook and also help them gain new ideas and create a network that will assist them support each other in their work. The ultimate aims of IYALI are to empower young and forward looking African public librarians with leadership potential to embrace, set and realize ambitious expectations for innovative

library services that contributes to sustainable development and to give them confidence and vision to continue transformation of library services and ensure that libraries across Africa are constantly evolving to meet individual and community needs in a rapidly changing environment. Back home after the tour, they will be expected to replicate what they learned in their libraries and have the opportunity of making presentations of the impact they have made in their libraries and communities at AfLIA conferences immediately following the tour.

There will be two batches during the program. The 1st batch of 19 participants were selected on a competitive basis through an open call for applications and were able to attend the Young African library innovators pre-conference and tours of libraries in Lithuania, interacted with their contemporaries in Lithuania and Poland, before travelling to Wroclaw, Poland to attend the IFLA World Library and Information Congress in August 2017.

The second batch will be selected through the same process in 2018. They will have a pre-conference as well as tour libraries in Indonesia before proceeding to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia to attend the IFLA World Library and Information Congress in August 2018.



IYALI 2017 participants in Action in Lithuania learning how to use recycled, donated, repurposed “junk” in Lithuania to create a makerspace.

PLA and AfLIA Program

The AfLIA Leadership Academy (AfLAc) another leadership Program of AfLIA has been established in partnership with the Public Library Association (PLA) of the ALA in USA. This is also one of the African Collaborative Action for Impact (ACAfI) programmes The Academy will provide in-service training for middle managers of African Public Libraries to enable them to effectively manage libraries of the twenty

first century. The training is expected to bridge the gap between managing libraries and linking them to communities on one hand and making libraries vibrant centres of communities, connecting people, information and services, on the other hand. It intends to embed the library in the community, making it a community asset by the people that it serves. The Academy will feature pre-meeting webinars, a five-day intensive residential

training with speakers and a series of follow up webinars as well as a project implemented by each participant at his/her library and a presentation about the learning at an AfLIA Summit. They will be guided by Coaches and a Facilitator. The first batch of leaders, 12 in all, will begin their nine - month program with a face-to-face meeting in January 2018 in Nairobi, Kenya and thereafter work on a project to be presented at a pre-conference of the African Public Libraries Summit in July 2018. It is expected that a second batch of 25 leaders will take off in January 2019.

World Reader and AfLIA Program

This is a program to provide local language e-content for children between 1-12 years as a pilot program in three countries, Ghana, Uganda and Zambia. Another African Collaborative Action for Impact (ACAfI) programme. World reader is currently carrying out studies to identify the areas within a country to be used for the pilot.

World reader will lead this project with support from AfLIA and other local partners in Ghana, Uganda and Zambia. The project will be comprised of four primary phases per country spanning a 3-year period:

1. Landscape Review: The first phase will help stakeholders understand the state of local language publishing for early readers in the three target countries. The landscape review will focus on identifying what content exists in what languages, the main players publishing content for early readers, how well local needs are met, and where the local need is most acute.

2. Create, Curate, and Translate Content: The landscape review will be used to prioritize languages and stakeholders (including publishers and libraries) to work with. Availability of relevant content will determine how much content must be created, curated or translated to meet the needs of priority languages. There will be a target of 30 books to provide "coverage" for 2 languages in each geography.

3. Develop Toolkit: Toolkits for librarians help bring books to life by giving users tools for turning books into learning opportunities. This phase involves creating and testing reading and library outreach activities for various settings and populations. This toolkit will be the core of the replicable model and will be designed by World reader based on findings from local implementation partners during reading activity, community engagement, and content reviews.

4. Implement Demonstration Projects in Libraries: Customized project test sites will be designed and implemented in collaboration with implementation partners working in Ghana, Uganda and Zambia. These sites will be used to test toolkits, digital readers, and curricula. The libraries will also test the use of World reader's mobile reading application to engage parents and extended family members to read with their children in the home or outside of the library, and to assess a community outreach component of digital reading implementation. Partners will respond to a request for applications and design custom programs that adapt to and work with capacities

of local libraries. Demonstration projects will be evaluated for efficacy and ultimately scale. The primary program objectives for reaching this goal are:

- To understand the availability, diversity, and number of local language books available across Ghana, Uganda, and Zambia.
- To meet the literacy and learning needs of school-aged 1-12 children by providing accessible, age-appropriate books in native languages.
- To create a replicable, scalable, and evidence-based model for how to create and disseminate local content to people most in need.

TASCHA and AfLIA Program

This program known as the Africa Data Project (ADP), is basically to conduct a baseline study of status of libraries in Africa. This is one of the African Collaborative Action for Impact (ACAfI) programmes. A landscape study has been carried out to assist in the selection of 15 countries where the pilot baseline study will be conducted in 2018.

Currently, there is very little data about libraries in Africa, hampering efforts to develop the library sector. The ADP has five aims to:

- support AfLIA and the African library sector with data to develop programs and services based on local needs; build partnerships with government, international development organizations, private sector, NGOs; and to advocate for libraries at national, regional, and global levels.

- build an institutional and technical infrastructure for ongoing data collection and use
- make libraries and their services visible, so that community members can find relevant services
- enable integration of library data with community and other external data sources
- To build a culture of data at all levels of the African library ecosystem.

The project will be supported and guided by policy statements such as IFLA's Lyon Declaration, Cape Town Declaration of African Ministers responsible for Libraries, the UN 2030 Agenda and the Africa Union 2063, the Africa We Want agenda. The project will also engage key governmental and other stakeholders in Africa and elsewhere to raise interest in public libraries and support advocacy efforts.

New Partnerships

AfLIA has signed MoUs with five new partners, to assist her deliver on her mission. They are:

CLIR of USA

To promote public knowledge and pursuance of the development agenda in the continent of Africa; cooperate in research development programs and exchange of expertise in their different fields, in accordance with plans drafted in both institutions; cooperate in advancement of knowledge, especially in the area of preservation of cultural heritage in accordance with the goals of the "African Union: Agenda 2063"

Bibliotheca Alexandrina of Egypt

This collaboration has developed beyond the signing. An Action Plan has been drawn up creating areas of responsibility for both organisations. The two parties are busy with concept papers to facilitate fundraising.

The areas of cooperation are; creation of research development programs and exchange of expertise in the different fields of Library and Information science, the interlinking of libraries in Africa, in accordance with the plans drafted by both institutions ; creating and maintaining networks of African librarians/information specialists and libraries/information centres for the advancement of Egyptian and African librarianship and information services; organization of public lectures, trainings, conferences, exhibitions and other types of scholarly events in accordance with the plans of both institutions; Capacity building and providing continuing professional development in the field of Library and Information Science, Train the Trainer programs (especially in the fields of media and information literacy), digitization and preservation of heritage and restoration of rare books, manuscripts; Fundraising for mutual programs and activities.

Network for Information & Digital Access (NIDA)

The areas of cooperation are to foster access to information as a human right; promote public knowledge and pursuance of the development agenda in the continent of Africa; cooperate in promoting Science Literacy as a development imperative; and cooperate in advancement of

knowledge especially in the area of National Library Policy.

Electronic Information for Libraries (EIFL)

AfLIA and EIFL will collaborate in capacity building activities of Public libraries in Africa.

E-Learning Africa

The areas of cooperation are in enhancing support of Africa's education, including exploration of quality information that supports learning; conference information and to support each other's conference programmes; collaborate in the pursuance of GOAL 4 - Education - of the SDG agenda; cooperate in advancement of knowledge and other mutually beneficial programmes that advance education in Africa.

Global Libraries - Bulgaria Foundation (GLBF)

AfLIA and GLBF to collaborate in activities that will benefit the improvement of library services of the two organisations.

All the above are new partnerships built within this year, adding on to what we already have.



Dr. Ismail Serageldin of Bibliotheca Alexandrina and Mr. John Tsebe AflIA President signing the Memorandum of Understanding



AflIA President signing the MoU with the Global Libraries- Bulgaria Foundation

Events 2017

January

- At the beginning of the year AflIA hired 3 additional staff members. Resource Development and Partnerships Director, to lead in fundraising and partnership development efforts of AflIA by forging new partnerships; pursuing grants to enhance the work of AflIA ; and to diversify AflIA's funding avenues to cover its operational costs and for cash reserves. Human Capacity and Training Director to lead in the implementation of AflIA's activity of building the capacity and training of librarians including INELI and the AflIA

Leadership Academy.

ACAfI and AflIA Projects Director to be responsible for the coordination of the ACAfI Projects between AflIA and PLA, TASCHA, Word Reader. IFLA and EIFL and all other AflIA projects.

These recruitments brought the number of AflIA staff to nine (9); seven (7) full time and two part-time.

- The AflIA membership database update which was ongoing was completed to ensure that Invoices were sent to current

officials of libraries and library associations since we found out that such officers change often.

- The Central African representative on the AflIA Governing Council, Mr. Alim Garga paid a four-day working visit to Antananarivo, Madagascar from 24-27 January 2017. The purpose of his visit among other things was to advocate for AflIA especially on the importance of Libraries and Information Associations registering to become members of the only continental Library Association in Africa; to

and Information Professionals on the 2nd AfLIA Conference and 4th African Library Summit scheduled from 14 to 20 May 2017 in Yaoundé Cameroon.

- The Program Officer of AfLIA developed a toolkit for National Library Associations in Africa. It is based on the IFLA-BSLA modules and it is meant to be used to strengthen Library Associations in Africa.
- AfLIA signed an MOU with Bibliotheca Alexandrina of Alexandria, Egypt. This was done by the AfLIA President, Mr. John Tsebe on behalf of AfLIA and Dr. Ismail Serageldin, Founding Director of the Bibliotheca Alexandrina, on behalf of Bibliotheca Alexandrina.

February

- On the 1st of February staff of AfLIA held their first online meeting to know themselves and discuss how best to work as a Team to achieve the objectives of AfLIA.
- The 2nd convening of INELI- SSAf was held at the Hotel Berjaya & Resort, from 18-23 February.
- The ACAfI partners met in Seychelles, from 24 – 28 February to further work out plans for the collaboration and also to put finishing touches to the suggested projects.

March

- Dr. Mbambo-Thata, AfLIA Resource Development Director and Ms. Gertrude

Mulindwa. Human Resource Development Director were in the United States between 18 – 30 March to attend series of meetings with the ACAfI partners, Global Libraries. World Reader and TASCHA, and also participated in the PLA Leadership Academy as Observers.

- Dr. Mbambo-Thata held business meetings in the USA with officials of Read Global, Room to Read, Smarter Good and Techsoup.

April

- The African Public Library Network (APLN) presence on Facebook continued to grow. By the end of this month membership had grown to 1,200.
- Election of officers to the AfLIA Governing Council as well as Chairpersons of Section to serve from mid- May 2017 to mid-May 2019 was completed. See page 19 for a list of the governing council members

May

- The City of Yaoundé in Cameroon from 14th-19th May 2017 played host to the 2nd AfLIA Conference & 4th African Library Summit. The venue was the Djeuga Palace Hotel, at the city centre. Librarians from all types of Libraries on the African continent and beyond came together to share knowledge and network. The conference theme was "Libraries in the Development Agenda: Repositioning African Libraries to deliver on the Future We Want" with "e-Africa: ICTs in the development of knowledge in Africa"; "The role of libraries in

building peace and justice in Africa"; "Preservation of Africa's culture and heritage"; African research for enhancing development; LIS education in promoting the Development Agenda; and National/Public/Community Library Services leading to the realisation of the Development Agenda as the sub-themes.

- There were One Hundred and Thirty-Seven (137) participants from twenty- seven (27) African countries, the United Kingdom and the USA, out of the one hundred and eighty people who registered online.

A pre-conference was organised from 14-15 May by the Mortensen Centre of the University of Illinois, USA, in collaboration with AfLIA for Public Libraries with the theme "Strengthening Innovative Library Leaders (SILL)", which was to strengthen the skills of young leaders. The two- day workshop brought together emerging librarians from all parts of Africa. The workshop was participatory, with presentations by the facilitators lasting just about five minutes. It covered the topics such as Library Leadership Styles; Library Leaders as Innovators; Library leaders with a plan, and Library Leaders as Communicators. There were a lot of interactions and networking which culminated in the creation of an online group, now linked to the African Public Libraries Network.

- Another pre-conference was organised by the International Federation of Library Associations & Institutions (IFLA) entitled the "IFLA Global Vision: Regional Workshop -Africa" which was Africa's turn in the new initiative of IFLA for an all-inclusive global consultation process with the expected outcome influencing a new and dynamic vision for IFLA. It was attended by Presidents of National Library Associations, some National Librarians and library leaders in Africa. The President and Executive Director represented AfLIA at the Workshop.

June

- Dr. Joel Sam, ACAFI-AfLIA Projects Director and Dr. Buhle Mbambo- Thata, the Resource Development Director attended the Next Library® Festival 2017 from 11-14 June 2017 in Dokk1, Aarhus, Denmark.
- A 2-day pre-conference was held between AfLIA and TASCHA from June 10-11, 2017 at DOKK1, Aarhus, Denmark. It was attended by 6 persons (2; Joel Sam, Buhle Mbambo-Thata from AfLIA and 4; Chris Coward, Chris Jowaisas, Chris Rothschild and Maria Garrido from TASCHA). The main purpose was to plan for activities towards the kick-off for the Africa Data Project in 2018.



SILL Participants in Yaounde , Cameroon, engaging in an activity to build the tallest balloon tower



Broad smiles and happy faces after a successful presentation - Group 1 IFLA Global Vision Workshop held in Yaounde, May 2017

- Dr. Buhle Mbambo -Thata, the Resource Development & Partnerships Director and Ms. Gertrude Mulindwa, Human Capacity & Training Director attended the ALA Conference held in Chicago, from 22nd to 27th. They also held meetings with the PLA Board and Leadership and also the Consultant for the PLA Academy, Professor Adam Goodman.
- Dr. Buhle Mbambo-Thata, the Resource Development & Partnerships Director made a presentation at the ALA conference with the title "Transforming communities through libraries: towards the Africa we want"
- AfLIA signed MoUs with CLIR of the USA and NIDA (details can be found under Partnerships in this report)

July

- From the 2- 4 AfLIA held a retreat for its members of staff at the City Escape Hotel, in Accra, Ghana. It was facilitated by two Consultants, Joan Fanning and Phoebe Lipkis from Luma Consulting of Seattle, USA. The goals were as follows:
Team and culture building; Building a shared understanding of AfLIA's current state; Agree on AfLIA's future priorities and work:
- Dr Helena Asamoah-Hassan, the Executive Director was invited by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) to be part of their delegation to the UN High Level Political Forum in New York, from 12-18 July. On the 13th of July she made a presentation titled

"Contributions of Libraries to Development in Africa" at a side event organised by IFLA at the Dag Hammarskjold Library, UN headquarters at the High Level Political Forum and attended plenary sessions and side events and then the formal launch of IFLA's new report on Development and Access to Information on the 17th of July.

- AfLIA organized a working visit of its representative in Central Africa, Mr. Alim Garga to Libreville, Gabon from 24 to 27 July. The purpose of the visit was to meet with Gabonese Library Association (ADG), discuss and speak to their members to bring Librarians into the committee at the country level to support the country's activities for the realization of the SDG Goals / UN agenda 2030 as well as the Africa Union Agenda 2063 "Africa we want". The first day was devoted to a meeting with the executive board of ADG led by its president Antoine MBADINGA. He also invited the Library Association to join AfLIA in order to work together for desired results.

August

- The Executive Director of AfLIA who is one of the Counsellors for the Associates of the IFLA International Leaders Program, the Resource and Partnership Director of AfLIA, some Council members and members of AfLIA, attended the IFLA World Library and Information Congress held in Wroclaw, Poland from 19 -25. AfLIA is a member of IFLA.

- AfLIA had a poster stand at the IFLA World Library and Information Congress held in Wroclaw, Poland which was manned by the Program Officer of AfLIA.
- AfLIA Governing Council took the opportunity of several Governing Council members attending the IFLA conference to hold its 5th Council meeting at Conference Room C, Wroclaw Centenary Center on 20th August.

September

- AfLIA's Training and Capacity Building Committee held a meeting at the Airport View Hotel, Airport Junction, in Accra, Ghana from 18-22 September to review and approve the Content and other matters of the AfLIA Leadership Academy; select the 12 participants for the maiden AfLIA Leadership Academy; discuss 3rd convening of the first cohort of INELI-SSAf ; 1st convening of the 2nd Cohort; Mentors for 2nd Cohort and the future plans for the INELI-SSAf.

October

- Mr. Stanley Boakye - Achampong joined AfLIA as a Research Coordinator to work on the AfLIA /TASCHA African Data Project.
- The AfLIA /TASCHA African Data Project planning workshop was held in Pretoria, South Africa from 23- 27. It was held to develop a comprehensive project plan and detailed work plan for 2018.



IFLA Team at the UN High Level Political Forum in New York, from 12-18 July



AflIA Council Members with Observers at the 5th AflIA Council Meeting held at Conference Room C, Centenary Center, Wroclaw, Poland

November

- AfLIA in conjunction with the Mortenson Centre of the USA organised a 2-day Workshop for young, vibrant public and community librarians from Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe from 1st-2nd November in Lusaka, Zambia. There were 25 participants. The 5 Facilitators and the AfLIA Program officer had attended the first SILL workshop in Yaounde, Cameroon and now acted as Facilitators, mentored by Susan Schnuer and Rebecca McGuire of the Mortensen Center. The title of the workshop was Strengthening Innovative Library Leaders (SILL). It was an interactive, foundational leadership training meant for librarians working in public or community libraries in any capacity. The training focused on Leadership Styles, Problem-Solving, Communication, Innovation, and Planning.
- Global Libraries of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation which put together the ACAFI partners, convened a meeting with four of them, AfLIA, EIFL, TASCHA and PLA in Cape Town, South Africa from 27 - 30 November to discuss the projects.
- AfLIA President, Mr. John Tsebe, Chairperson of the Public Libraries Section of AfLIA, Dr. Nkem Osuigwe and the Director for Resource Development and Partnerships for AfLIA, Dr. Buhle Mbambo-Thata were invited by the Global Libraries - Bulgaria Foundation (GLBF) to attend their 2017 Summit which was held at Ramada Hotel, Sofia, Bulgaria,



Happy participants and facilitators after Day One of the SILL workshop in Zambia

from 9-11th November, 2017. On the 8th of November at a formal dinner, The AfLIA President signed a Memorandum of Agreement on behalf of AfLIA with the GLBF. On the 9th and 10th of November at the GLBF Summit the President of AfLIA made a presentation on the "AfLIA vision for African Public Libraries" and Dr. Nkem Osuigwe made a presentation on the 10th of November on the "Beyond Access project in Nigeria" respectively.

- The Executive Director attended the meeting of WIPO following the approval of Observer status for AfLIA. This was the 35th Session of WIPO held in Geneva, Switzerland from 13 -18 November.
- AfLIA President, Mr. John Tsebe, from 14 – 20 visited Senegal to take part in the 50th anniversary celebrations of EBAD, the Library School in Dakar from 14 - 16; PAC-IFLA International Conference from 17 -19 ;

and in the company of the President of the Library Association of Senegal, ASBAD Mr. Mandiaye Ndiaye, the Director of Archives of Senegal, the Director of EBAD, the Director of the IFLA PAC Center, the representative of ALA and the Minister of Francophone Affairs in Senegal, visited the Secretary General of the Government of Senegal and held a meeting which resulted in a decision that AfLIA, ALA and ASBAD will send a joint letter through the Minister of Francophone Affairs to the President of the Republic of Senegal noting the need for the

Senegalese authorities to expedite action on the national library and National Archives building project.

- The Program Officer attended the Kenya Library Association Conference held in Mombasa, Kenya from 22-24, where she made a presentation on AfLIA and its activities in Africa.
- AfLIA joined the Global Giving Platform, a crowd funding source, to raise funds for future INELI-SSAf programs

December

- The Global Libraries team, Deborah Jacobs and Darren Hoerner held a one-day meeting on the 4th with the Executive Director and Directors of Resource Development & Partnerships, AfLIA and ACAFI Projects and Human Capacity and Training at the Fiesta Royale Hotel in Accra to follow up on the discussions held a week earlier at the Cape Town meeting.
- The Program Officer attended the African Internet Governance Forum which was held at Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt from 4 -6 December. She made a presentation titled "Connecting the next Billion" at a session organised by IFLA/AfLIA/EIFL.
- The Executive Director made presentations on "IFLA: The trusted global voice of the library and information profession" and "AfLIA and its Activities" at the Ghana Library Association Conference held at the Balme Library Conference Room, University of Ghana on 7th December.



AfLIA President, Mr John Tsebe with Colleagues on a visit to the Secretary General of the Government of Senegal

OUR PARTNERS

AfLIA has different types of relationships with these partners as follows:

- **Bibliotheca Alexandrina (BA)** - promotion of cooperation in the field of library and information sciences, capacity building and establishing African libraries networks and disseminating information among African libraries.
- **Council on Library and Information Resources and its Digital Library Federation** program (CLIR/DLF) - digitization of knowledge and artifacts in order to promote research and learning in Africa.
- **eLearning Africa (eLA)** - promotion of research and learning in all fields.
- **Electronic Information for Libraries (EIFL)**- capacity building of African public librarians.
- **Global Libraries of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** - capacity building for African public librarians and strengthening of AfLIA to strengthen the library field in Africa.
- **Goethe Institute Regional Office in South Africa** – capacity building of librarians.
- **International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)** – joint projects to strengthen the library field in Africa.
- **International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications (INASP)** – capacity building for academic and research librarians.
- **Network for Information & Digital Access (NIDA)** - promotion of research and learning in Africa.
- **Public Library Association (PLA)** of the American Library Association – capacity building of African public librarians.
- **The Technology & Social Change Group (TASCHA)**, University of Washington- research into status of libraries in Africa.
- **World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)** – intellectual property rights and access to information.
- **Women's Global Education Project (WGEP)** promotion of research and learning in Africa.
- **WorldReader** – local e-content for young children.

GOVERNING COUNCIL MEMBERS (May 2017 – May 2019)

- Mr. John Tsebe**
- President
- Mr. Mandla Ntombela**
- Vice President
- Mr Alim Garga**
- Central African Representative
- Dr. Sarah Kaddu**
- East African Representative
- Ms. Rania Shaarawy**
- North Africa Representative
- Mrs. Segamesti Molawa**
-Southern Africa Representative
- Mrs. Matilda Johnson**
- West Africa Representative
- Mr. Antonin Benoit Diouf**
- French speaking West Africa Representative
- Mr. Iaguba Djalo**
- Portuguese speaking Africa Representative
- Prof. Rocky Ralebipi-Simela**
Chair: National Libraries Section Network
- Dr. Nkem Osuigwe**
- Chair: Public Libraries Section /African Public Libraries
- Mrs. Velenasi Mwale Munsanje**
- Chair: National Library Associations Section
- Mrs. Nthabiseng Kotsokoane**
- Chair: Academic and Research Libraries Section
- Mr. Jasper Lee Maenzanise**
- Chair, Library Consortia Section
- Dr. Bernard Dione**
-Chair, Education & Training Institutions Section
- Dr. Helena Asamoah-Hassan**
- Executive Director
- Dr. Rosemary Shafack**
-Chair: IFLA Africa Section
- Doreen Appiah**
-Secretary to the Council

STAFF

- Bless K. Dzah**
Accountant
- Buhle Mbambo - Thata**
Resource Development & Partnerships Director
- Doreen Appiah**
Program Officer
- Eunice Jones - Arthur**
Administrative Assistant
- Gertrude Kayaga Mulindwa**
Human Capacity & Training Director
- Helena Asamoah-Hassan**
Executive Director
- Joel Sam**
AfLIA & ACAfI Projects Director
- Michael Thompson**
Webmaster
- Richard Lamptey**
Communications Officer
- Rachel Ojo**
Learning Coordinator, INELI-SSAF
- Stanley Boakye-Achampong,**
Research Coordinator

**AFRICAN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION ASSOCIATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS (AfLIA)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2017**

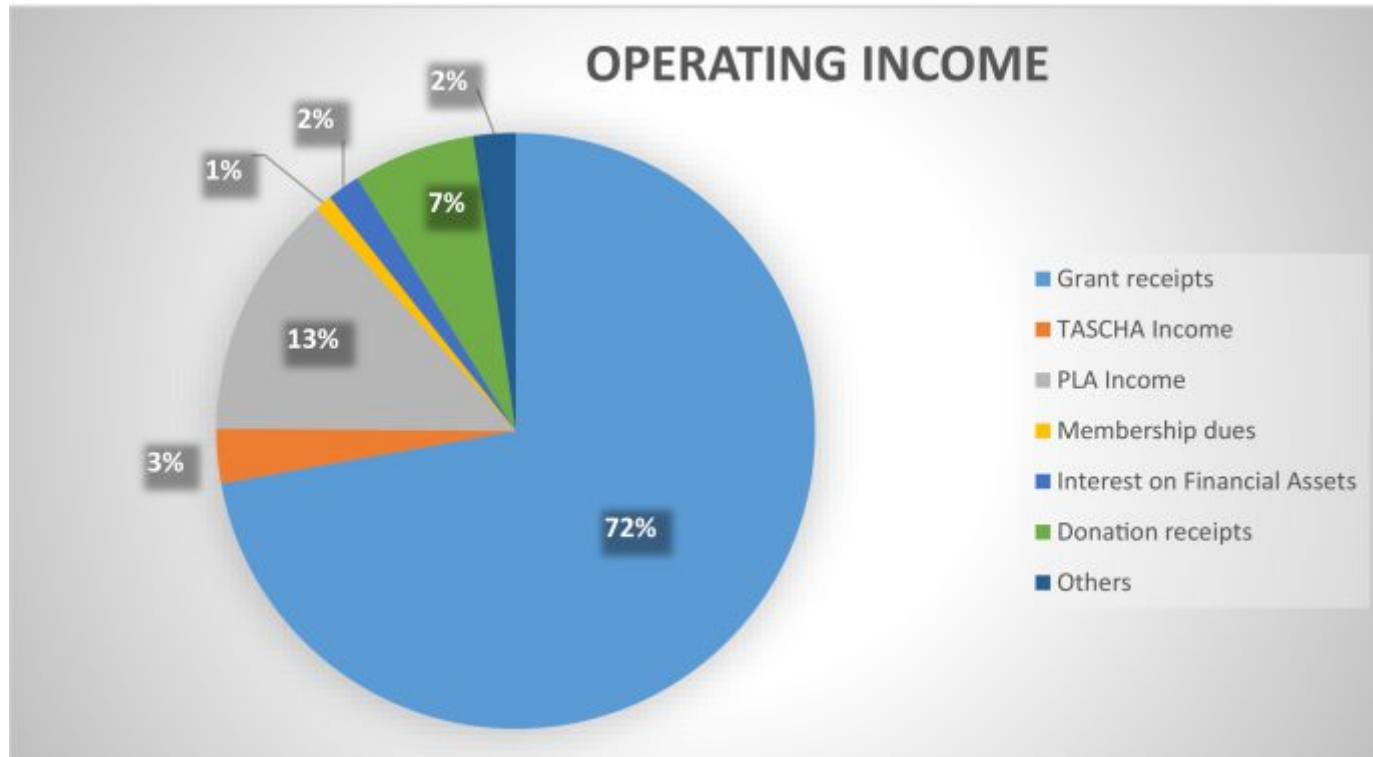
	2017	2016
NON CURRENT ASSETS	US\$	US\$
Properties, Plant & Equipments	<u>3,440.20</u>	<u>6,870.10</u>
CURRENT ASSETS		
Financial Assets	<u>428,173.60</u>	475,317.75
Cash & bank balances	<u>2,149,143.61</u>	1,384,852.99
Accounts receivables	<u>11,605.58</u>	5,539.24
	<u>2,588,922.79</u>	<u>1,865,709.98</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>2,592,362.99</u>	<u>1,872,580.08</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Account Payable	<u>72,000.00</u>	1,000.00
NET ASSETS	<u>2,520,362.99</u>	<u>1,871,580.08</u>
EQUITY	US\$	US\$
Accumulated Fund	1,871,580.08	567,033.43
Excess of Income over Expenditure	<u>648,782.91</u>	1,304,546.65
TOTAL EQUITY	<u>2,520,362.99</u>	<u>1,871,580.08</u>

**AFRICAN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION ASSOCIATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS (AfLIA)
STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017**

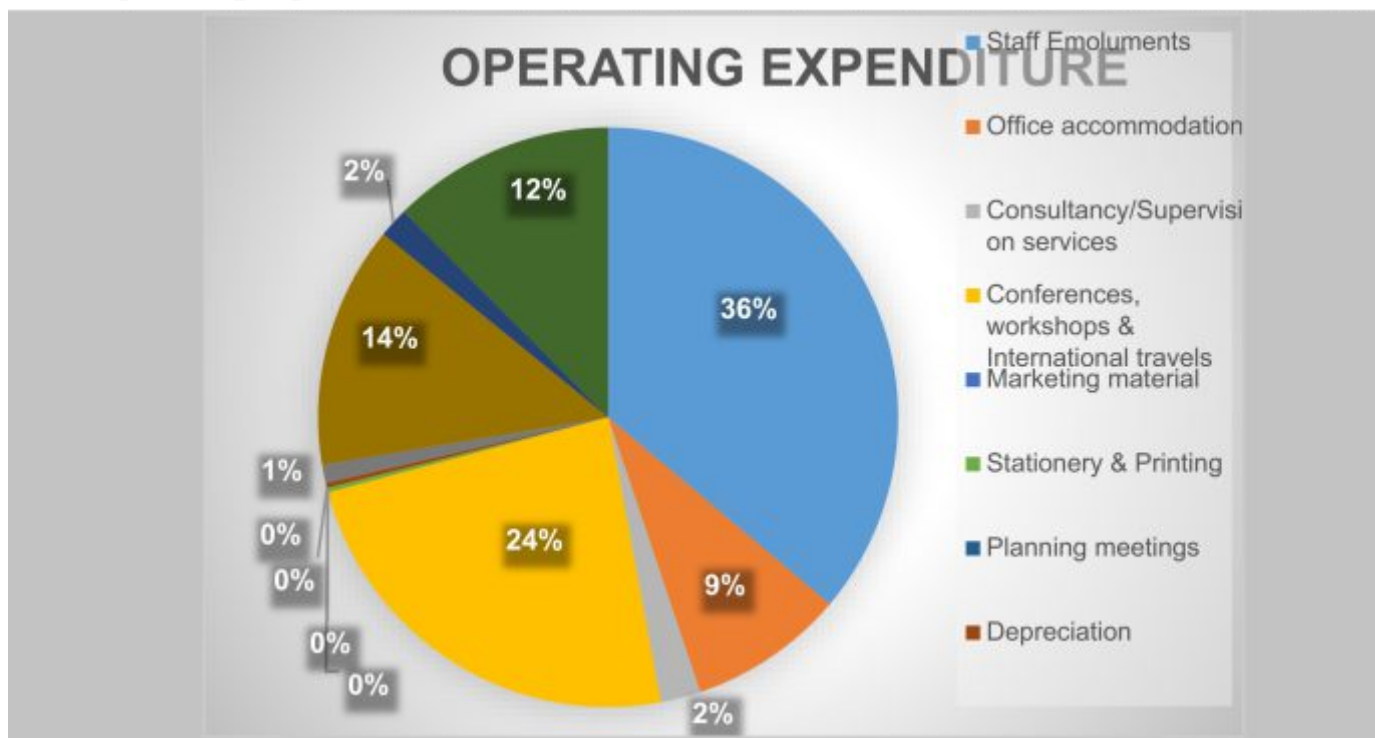
	2017	2016
	US\$	US\$
OPERATING INCOME		
Grant receipts	1,381,539.00	1,570,000.00
TASCHA INCOME	56,400.00	
PLA INCOME	254,985.00	
Membership dues	17,285.45	13,165.06
Interest on Financial Assets	34,253.89	33,052.37
Donation receipts	126,214.19	94,780.64
Others	43,633.00	33,126.13
	1,914,310.53	1,744,124.20
 OPERATING EXPENDITURE	 US\$	 US\$
Staff Emoluments	457,581.92	103,600.00
Office accommodation	110,000.00	6,172.84
Consultancy/Supervision services	28,415.00	4,000.00
Conferences, workshops & International travels	300,278.00	304,182.40
Marketing material	-	16,400.00
Stationery & Printing	3,197.19	256.41
Planning meetings	-	536.00
Depreciation	3,429.90	3,429.90
External Audit fees	13,000.00	1,000.00
PLA Expenditure	171,122.27	
TASCHA Expenditure	21,009.00	
Indirect expense	157,494.34	
	1,265,527.62	439,577.55
	648,782.91	1,304,546.65

**AFRICAN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION ASSOCIATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS (AfLIA)
STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2017**

OPERATING INCOME	US\$	%
Grant receipts	1,381,539.00	72.17
TASCHA Income	56,400.00	2.95
PLA Income	254,985.00	13.32
Membership dues	17,285.45	0.90
Interest on Financial Assets	34,253.89	1.79
Donation receipts	126,214.19	6.59
Others	43,633.00	2.28
Total Operating Income	1,914,310.53	100.00



OPERATING EXPENDITURE	US\$	%
Staff Emoluments	457,581.92	36.16
Office accommodation	110,000.00	8.69
Consultancy/Supervision services	28,415.00	2.25
Conferences, workshops & International travels	300,278.00	23.73
Marketing material	-	0.00
Stationery & Printing	3,197.19	0.25
Planning meetings	-	0.00
Depreciation	3,429.90	0.27
External Audit fees	13,000.00	1.03
PLA Expenditure	171,122.27	13.52
TASCHA Expenditure	21,009.00	1.66
Indirect expense	157,494.34	12.44
Total Operating Expenditure	1,265,527.62	100.00



Notes

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CONTACTS

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