



MZANSI LIBRARIES ON-LINE (MLO)

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

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MZANSI LIBRARIES ON-LINE BACKGROUND

MLO is based on the reality that public libraries and librarians have the potential to serve and engage communities through targeted outreach programmes aimed at improving the lives of information – deprived communities who lack adequate access to information needed to live healthy and productive lives.

Mzansi Libraries On-Line is one of the outreach projects of the National Library of South Africa, in collaboration with the Department of Arts and Culture, the library services in the nine provinces and LIASA.

The aim is to strengthen and enhance the public libraries in the country through access to information via existing, new and alternative technologies, services and spaces.



MZANSI LIBRARIES ON-LINE OBJECTIVES

OBJECTIVES		OUTCOMES	
1.	Increased access to ICT	 Relevant infrastructure to enable delivery, installation and activation of equipment. New services that respond to specific needs of the community. Appropriate spaces , designed or redesigned according to community needs Technologies that strengthen and enhance access. 	
1.	Increased opportunities for the community	Opportunities to access educational resources Information leading to economic opportunities. Information on health issues.	
1.	Enhanced skills and capacity building for public library staff	Library staff that provide better customer service to the community. Library staff that better understand and respond to community needs. Continued professional development opportunities forlibrary staff. Communities that are empowered to utilise technology to improve quality of life.	
1.	Ensuring sustainability of the public library sector	 Highlighting the important role of the public library in community development. Public libraries that are aligned to and support the national development agenda. Equitable sustained and appropriate resources provided to the public libraries A strong LIS professional association that will take the sector into the future. 	



IMPLEMENTATION STATUS: UPDATE/SUMMARY

PROGRAMME	ACTIVITIES	PROGRESS	COMMENTS
ICT	Phase 1 procurement of ICT equipment	Delivery completed on 20 September 2017 SITA process followed. Equipment provided: Computers: Tablets	Currently monitoring installation and activation. • Attending to individual provincial/library issues/challenges
	Phase 2 procurement of ICT equipment	Process underway and delivery to commence shortly.	Also completing the verification of the recently submitted lists.
	 Ensuring state of readiness (infrastructure, bandwidth, furniture, etc). 	Cut-off date for provinces to meet the minimum criteria. • 30 September 2017	Equipment, quantities, etc, to be determined based on the state of readiness of each site.
	1. Providing ICT access to the visually impaired.	SLA with the South African Library for the Blind finalized (SALB). Provincial coordinators have been appointed. The SALB is currently busy with the tender processes to procure equipment.	



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TRAINING

MLO "Trainers-in-Training: Phase 1

This programme started in July 2017.

The training focused on Advocacy as well as Impact Planning and Assessment.

To date 524 staff members from participating MLO sites have been trained.

The next phase will start in October.

Number to be trained: 810

National training programme

UKS has been appointed as the national training provider.

Nationwide programme started on 18 September 2017

Focus of the training:

Advocacy

IPA

ICT

Soft Skills

To date 1049 staff members from participating MLO sites have been training.

The next intake of 1283 staff members will start the programme in October 2017.



The next round of the training programme will resume in the next quarter.

The whole rollout will end in May 2018.

NLSA /BCX Internship Programme

The programme is primarily aimed at exposing the unemployed youth to job opportunities whilst assisting the public libraries as Cyber Cadets. The programme is the outcome of a multi-stakeholder collaboration with partners from the private sector.

65 unemployed youth with tertiary ICT qualifications were trained and deployed in June 2017.

Some of these young people have already found permanent job opportunities whilst others have either started their own businesses or have decided further their studies in the field.

Talks are underway to extend the programme in the rest of the country



ADVOCACY AND MARKETING

Youth Job Readiness Programme

The programme is aimed at connecting the unemployed youth with prospective employers.

A partnership has been established with Lulaway. The programme was launched in Sharpeville by the Gauteng MEC for Sports, Arts and Culture on 12 September 2017

Appointment of Marketing Service Provider FLASHMOB has been appointed to render marketing services. The service provider's role is primarily to ensure project visibility.

Production of marketing materials

These are intended for use in the participating materials

All participating libraries must contact Mr Harry Matolong to arrange delivery logistics.



MLO local launches

The project has been launched in the following provinces/municipalities Rustenburg

Ekurhuleni

Three sites (Winnie Mandela, Germiston and Tsakane) were simultaneously launched by linking them via video.

Everton North

Similar launches in other provinces and municipalities are being encouraged to create or raise awareness and participation at community level.

International Advocacy Programme (IPA)

The programme part of MLO's collaboration with LIASA (via "LIASA Seminars") as part of empowering the sector for sustainability purposes. All provinces, (except the Free State and the Western Cape which will be done in due course) have been covered.

LIASA as the professional body, is considered to be key in the long-term sustainability of the sector.





International conferences/exhibitions

Intended for sharing of experiences and exchanging of ideas. Exhibition at AFLIA in Cameroon: May 2017 Poster presentation in collaboration with LIASA: IFLA Conference in Poland, August 2017.



IMPACT PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT

Appointment of an IPA service provider. S24 Business Group was appointed in June 2017.

The newly appointed service provider has already been briefed by the Foundation's IPA Consultant, David Streatfield, with purpose of;

Revising and reworking the IPA plan in order to produce a catch-up plan.

Re-activating the Impact Work Group (IWG) nationally. LIASA is represented in the IWG.

S24 has also been introduced to MLO counterparts in Romania and India with the purpose of sharing experiences.

This has resulted in the adoption by MLO of the "Pop-up Survey" approach as one of the data collection methodologies.



S24 is currently conducting the Community Needs Assessment, which is aimed at fine-tuning MLO's understanding of the community needs.

S24 will rely on the support and cooperation of LIASA, among others, to ensure a successful rollout of the IPA programme.



3.1 FINANCIAL UPDATE (SUMMARY)

TOTAL GRANT RECEIVED	CURRENCY GAIN	% EXPENDITURE TO DATE (AUGUST 2017)		
US\$ 10,002,209	US\$ 623,00	46%		



STAKEHOLDERS/PARTNERSHIPS/COLLABORATIONS

Provinces

Project implementation, co-funding, oversight SLAs: signed

LIASA

Project implementation: Advocacy, IPA, Training

SLA: pending

SABINET

ICT Training co-funding

SLA: signed

Africa!Ignite

Community ICT Training

SLA: signed

Department of Basic Education

Curriculum Access Points (CAPs)

SLA: pending



Lulaway

Economic youth empowerment

SLA: signed

Pretoria University: African Centre of Excellence for Information Ethics

Training: Digital Wellness

SLA: Not applicable

BCX

ICT Internship Programme (65 interns)

SLA: signed

South African Library For the Blind

Project implementation

SLA: signed

Department of Justice and Correctional Services

Co-funding: Siloe School for the Blind Project

SLA: signed via Limpopo Province



India Public Library Movement (IPLM): India

Knowledge sharing: IPA

SLA: Not applicable

Ministry of Information and Communications: Vietnam

Knowledge sharing: Implementation

SLA: Not applicable



SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK/OVERVIEW (Draft)

	DIMENSION	EXPLAINATION	RATIONALE
1.	Environmental Support	Having a supportive internal and external climate for the programme	Aligning the project to the decision making environment
1.	Funding	Having a consistent and stable funding base	Ensuring long-term sustainability in the changing economic and political cycles
1.	Partnerships	Establishing connections with stakeholders	Ensuring greater resources and ongoing advocacy
1.	Organizational Capacity	The necessary internal support and resources to support the programme	Ensuring availability of internal capabilities, knowledge and resources.
1.	Programme Evaluation	Ongoing assessment to inform planning and to document the results	To ensure alignment to and attainment of goals and outcomes.
1.	Communication	Ongoing communication with stakeholders and the public.	To ensure ongoing programme visibility.



Conclusion