MZANSI LIBRARIES ON-LINE

Strengthening Public Libraries in South Africa

By

Mandla M Buthelezi

CURRENT STATUS

Province	No of libraries with Internet access	No of libraries without Internet access	Total no of libraries
Eastern Cape	80	64	144
Free State	160	10	170
Gauteng	150	84	234
Kwazulu- Natal	91	125	216
Limpopo	49	19	68
Mpumalanga	102	3	105
Northern Cape	140	0	140
North West	97	5	102
Western Cape	185	155	340
Total	1054	465	1519

INTERNET ACCESS VS POPULATION STATISTICS

Province	No of libraries with Internet Access	Population size
Eastern Cape	80	6 562 053
Free State	160	2 745 590
Gauteng	150	12 272 263
Kwazulu-Natal	91	10 267 300
Limpopo	49	5 404 868
Mpumalanga	102	4 039 939
Northern Cape	140	1 145 861
North West	97	3 509 953
Western Cape	185	5 822 734
Total	1054	51 770 560

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THE CHALLENGE

- Economic , education , health and social opportunities increasingly depend on access to information and services on the internet , but only 35% of the world's population is connected.

  People in rural and poor communities are the least likely to have online access or the ability to access information efficiently, to translate it accurately or to apply it appropriately

Mzansi Libraries On-Line Goal

To strengthen and enhance current public library services by:

- Locating new technologies.
- Initiating training in the use of appropriate technologies for accessing information
- Identifying new services for community development
- Enhancing existing resources and physical spaces
- Re-skilling & up-skilling of staff

OVERVIEW

2 year planning grant

- Jan 2014- Dec 2015
- 27 selected public libraries
- 3 in each province
- Minimum criteria for selection- infrastructure; professional staff; programmes in place

Funding

- Gates Foundation
- DAC via Provinces

Governance

- NLSA
- National Advisory Committee
- National Technical Task Team
- Project Team(x8)

Precursor to the national country grant

IMPLEMENTATION

Training public users and staff for ICT competency

Address the national imperatives related to education ,youth unemployment , community development and up –skilling of library professionals at a local level

Staff development and training

Addressing leadership, management & relevant competencies of 21st public librarianship.

Articulate clearly and effectively the role of libraries in community development

IMPLEMENTATION

A strong advocacy initiative strengthen relations with nation and corporate stakeholders

Leverage success of project using Gates implementation for the way forward regarding the country grant

Address national imperatives education, youth unemployment, community development, scarce skills amongst library professionals.

PARTNERSHIPS

- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
  National Library of South Africa(NLSA)
- Dept of Arts & Culture (DAC)
- Provincial Department of Library Services
- Library and information association of South Africa(LIASA)
- Dept of Health for health information
- Dept of Trade & Industry(business information)
- Dept of Labour
- GCIS
- SALGA
- Others

ASSUMPTIONS

- All stakeholders are committed to the project commitment to participate and sustainability by the Prov LIS

- Government will avail funding for the sustainability of the project

- The Conditional Grant will be utilised to support & sustain the project

- Public Libraries are the appropriate entities for the provision of free internet access to the public

- The current ICT infrastructure can support the pilot phase
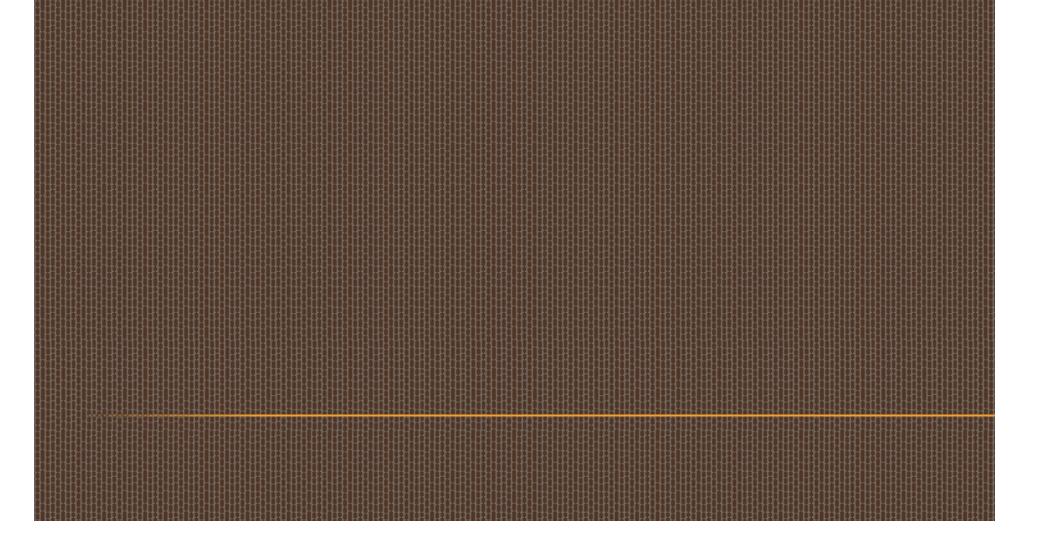
- This model will be rolled out to all public libraries

- Willingness of staff to engage in, sustain and build on the project adequate and skilled staff

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

LIASA

- Training plan
- Training programmes

OUTCOMES

- Strengthened and consolidated public libraries as true community development partners

- Focused provision of relevant services and product based on appropriates ICT's

- Re-skilled staff able to work with new resources, technologies and revitalized communities

- Communities have access to information for economic, personal empowerment, lifelong learning & improved quality of life

- Enhanced visibility of public libraries

- Their importance is located on the political and development agenda

OPPORTUNITY TO......

- Redefine public libraries & librarianship

- Link libraries to the NDP

- Think beyond buildings and embrace innovation

- Demonstrate the value of the library in community development address scarce skills

- Strengthen the role of the professional association

- Build relationships with communities

- Contribute to job creation

- Identify political/ community champions and advocates for libraries

- Join a global network of public libraries

- Entrench democracy as a reality

PROJECT EQUIPMENT: DETERMINED BY NEEDS

Each Library:

20 x Computers if so required and/or determined by needs analysis)

10 x for public Internet access

3 x for staff

2 x for access to electronic library resources and OPAC

2 X for the visually impaired

3 x for computer gaming

2x Printers

1 x document scanner software (to be determined)

10 x Tablets

10 X e- Readers

Gaming room set up which includes:

3 x Computer (see Computer above)

3 x XBOX console kit, wireless controller and games

2x playstation- PSPE1000, 2GB card, Headphones &7 Games

3 x Gaming headset

2 x Nitendo Wii & Nentendoland + Controller + Remote

"Our future - make it work"
(National Development Plan 2030)

THANK YOU!!!