COOPERATION BETWEEN KENYA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION AND SWEDISH LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
1. Prof. Constantine Nyamboga – Chairman KLA
2. Edward Oswe – Executive Officer KLA
3. Jane Gikandi – Treasurer KLA
COVERED AREAS

- History of KLA
- Vision and Mission
- Membership
- Stronger together – cooperation between Kenya Library Association and Swedish Library Association
  - Development and activities
    - Strategic Plan
    - KLA chapters
    - KLA OFFICE
    - Information Skills Training for teachers
    - Mentoring of Young Information Professionals
    - Exchange Program
    - Conferences and workshops (SCECSAL, Annual Conferences etc)
COVERED AREAS Cont...

- **Other Partners**
  - INASP
    - Promoting quality research (referencing and plagiarism)
    - Goethe Institut and Jomo Kenyatta Foundation
    - Maktaba
  - National Book Development Council of Kenya
    - Reading promotion
- **Opportunities**
  - Partners
  - Skills
HISTORY OF KLA

- Kenya Library Association (KLA) is a professional association registered in 1973 after the dissolution of the East African Library Association (EALA).
- The Association traces her origins from the EALA which was established in 1956 and whose membership included Uganda and Tanganyika (now Tanzania), with headquarters in Nairobi.
- Thus, KLA is one of the oldest professional associations in Africa.
KLA VISION AND MISSION

Vision

• To be the leading professional body for librarians, information specialists and knowledge managers in Africa

Mission

• KLA sets, maintains, monitors and promotes standards of excellence in the creation, management and exploitation of information and knowledge resources through training and advocacy.
MEMBERSHIP

- KLA members comprises of professionals from different library categories
  - Public
  - Academic
  - Special
  - Schools
  - Community
- KLA recruit through website, conferences workshops and face to face
- The Swedish Library Association in meeting IFLA membership fees since 2009
Stronger together – cooperation between Kenya Library Association and Swedish Library Association

- In August 2012, during IFLA annual conference in Helsinki, Swedish Library Association and Kenya Library Association signed a five year cooperation agreement. The objective is to strengthen Kenya Library Association.

- In March 2012 Swedish Library Association held a workshop in Stockholm, Sweden for 8 KLA representatives Kenya. The main goal of the workshop was to introduce the BSLA program and forge a common future agenda.

- In the last two and a half years, significant progress has taken place in the development of libraries and information services in Kenya owing to cooperation between Kenya Library Association and Swedish Library Association as evident from the next slides.
Stronger together – cooperation between Kenya Library Association and Swedish Library Association

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Kenya Library Association has a five year strategic plan that run from 2012 to 2015
The strategic plan is the driving force behind the Kenya Library Association activities
KLA chapters

- Kenya Library association has planned workshops to strengthen the three existing chapters namely: Nyanza, Coast and Nairobi
- Planned dates for the initiation of new chapters are in place
- The chapters are informed by the KLA strategic plan
For the first time in the history of KLA, the Association has acquired a functional central office at ultra modern Kenya National Library offices at Buruburu. The office is now fully functional from February 2013.

KLA gives special thanks to the KNLS Director for offering the KLA office at the Buruburu Library and the Swedish Library Association for financially supporting the secretariat.
Participation in Local, Regional and International Meetings/Conferences

KLA has participated in various local, regional and international meetings and conferences through SLA

- KLA also appreciates the support from Swedish Library Association in sponsoring twenty participants including the foreign participants to attend KLA annual Conference 2011 that was held in Mombasa Kenya.
- SLA sponsored a KLA official in IFLA congresses in both Gothenburg and San Juan.
Conferences cont.....

Inga Lundén at SCECSAL Conference Nairobi  June 2012
- SLA has sponsored officials and some young information professionals to attend a KLA annual conference 2011 in Mombasa, Kenya.
Exchange Program

- Through this program Swedish LIS students will be able to apply for grants to visit, study and work as volunteers in Kenyan libraries, workshops and seminars will be held and study tours arranged in both countries, representation in different library and other relevant contexts can be established.

- Further discussions needed on logistic of such an exchange
Mentoring of Young Information Professionals

- KLA recognizes the value of mentoring for capacity development of young library and information professionals.
  - aims at nurturing students in LIS training institutions in liaison with heads of training institutions,
  - inviting and sponsoring new graduates and students in LIS training institutions to KLA conferences and related forums.
  - KLA encourages students and young graduates to write and present papers at KLA conference
  - Giving students the opportunity to document KLA events in social media and video

Mentoring of young profession could be an important area of future cooperation
Information Skills Training for teachers

With some SLA funds KLA has held a few training workshops to give information skills to teachers to enable them develop and promote libraries in their respective schools.

In February such a workshop took place in Kibera and in May a similar workshop in Migori.
Kibera Langata Training
KIBERA Cont..
Kibera Workshop
Other Partners

- Goethe Institut
- Jomo Kenyatta Foundation (JFK)
- National Book Development Council
- INASP
MAKTABA award – KLA Goethe Institut and JFK collaboration

• The library of the year award, introduced in 2010, is an annual event where libraries compete in different categories of innovation, excellence and creativity is recognized and awarded. The award is organized by KLA with Jomo Kenyatta Foundation Publishers and Goethe.

• The Award aims to recognize excellence in the provision of library and information services in the country. Interested libraries are requested to submit their profiles, clearly indication the unique features that make them qualify for the Award by outlining the following:
  • Quality and innovation
  • Future-looking approach
  • Sustainability of services and programmes
  • Provision of attractive and relevant services effective public relations
Maktaba Award
Reading Promotion

- Project aimed at promoting reading literacy among the disadvantaged urban, slums and rural grassroots communities in Kenya.
- The vision in line with the principle “Education for All” and Kenya Vision 2030.
- The reading promotion project is implemented through the children Reading Tents (CRTs), training of teacher librarians on how to start and develop school libraries, and how to inculcate and sustain a positive reading culture among school going children.
Promoting quality research

- Referencing and Anti-plagiarism workshop
Antiplagiarism Workshop
Finances

- Membership Subscription
- Conferences
- Funding Proposals (received in kind and cash)
- Partnerships
Opportunities

- Many qualified LIS professionals
- Affiliation to LIS associations
- Retired librarians as a base for support and as resource persons
- Membership growth
- Public/Private partnerships (JKF, Goethe-Institut, KNLS, etc)
- Ministry in charge of libraries
- Different types of libraries (e.g. special, academic, public, schools)
- Special LIS associations
- Devolved system of government
- Capacity for professional development
Establishment of international networks (e.g. Swedish Library Association)
Establishment of functional secretariat
Expansion of higher education in the region
Accreditation of LIS schools and colleges
Harnessing and harvesting of indigenous knowledge
Coaching and Mentorship
Wide use of English and Kiswahili in the region
Social media
Readily available internal capacity
Opportunities Cont..

- Research and publication
- School textbook program
- Emergence of alternative information providers
- Existence of copyright law
- Opportunity for partnership with statutory bodies (KNEC, KIE, KNLS, CHE, etc)
- Technology
- Maktaba Award
- We are relevant to everyone in some way
Future Cooperation

- Exchange program for both student and library professionals
- Sharing of professional skills
- Addressing emerging issues
- Identifying new projects that can have impact to both the KLA and SLA
- KLA and SLA to work closely towards improving the LIS programmes