



# **Enabling Information Literacy in Sub-Saharan Africa**

**LILAC, 2011**

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# British Library for Development Studies

- Economic & social development collection
- Post-graduate research library supporting studies & research
- Funded by DFID
  - Part of MK4D programme
  - IL Programme initially focused on African:
    - Researchers
    - Librarians

# 2010 IL Programme Activities

<b>Information Literacy (IL) Programme (Individual)</b>	<b>M&amp;E Toolkit / Theory of Change (Individual &amp; Institutional)</b>	<b>Knowledge Sharing (Sectoral)</b>
ITOCA: Facilitation course for IL Trainers (Nairobi, Jun 2010)	Theory of Change (institutional enabling environment)	Web stories, Knowledge Services website
INASP: Developing an IL Strategy Workshop (Zambia, Aug 2010)	ITOCA: Reflective Journals (embedded in courses)	“Strengthening Information Literacy Interventions” SCECSAL (Botswana, Dec 2010) Report (Published, March 2011)
ITOCA: Outcome Mapping (South Africa, Aug 2010)	ITOCA: IL Educator Competency Assessment Instrument (Nairobi, Jun 2010)	Panel Presentation, ICTD Conference (Dec 2010)
ITOCA: Searching Skills Pilot (Zimbabwe, Aug 2010)	ITOCA: pre- and post-assessment surveys for IL courses	“Developing an IL Strategy”, LILAC Conference (Apr, 2011)
ITOCA: “Disaster Management” Toolkit	IL Online Skills Assessment Test (piloted with IDS Students, Nov 2010)	
ITOCA: Training for Trainers IL Course (Lagos, Nov 2010)		

# Theory of Change: Stimulating Demand for Research

**Availability of Content**

**Managed ICT Infrastructure**

**Raised Awareness**

**Institutional Policies and Incentives**

**Capacity to Develop an 'Information Capability' Programme**

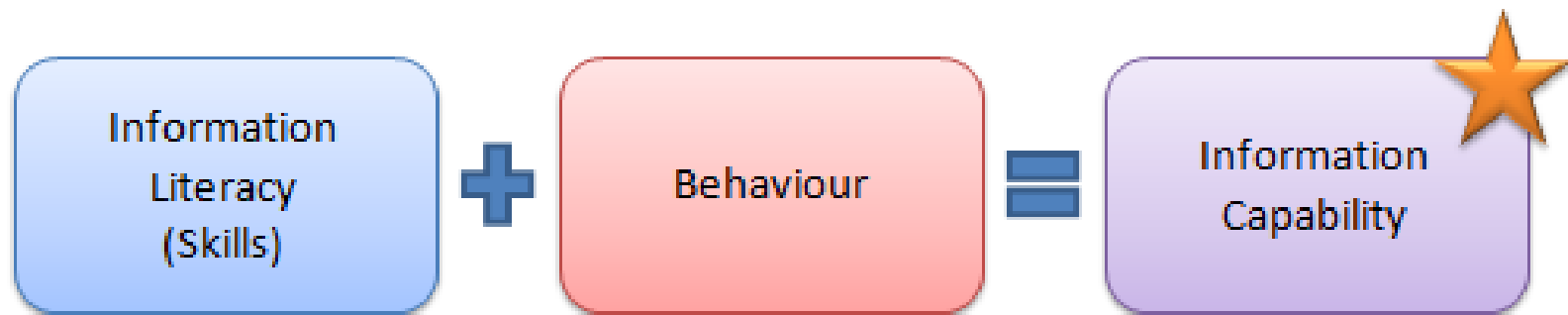
**Understanding of Target Audiences**

Jonathan Harle (2010) Arcadia Report, "Growing knowledge: access to research in east and southern African universities"

Fisher, C and Vogel, I (2008) "Locating the power of in-between: how research brokers and intermediaries support evidence-based pro-poor policy and practice"

# Information Capability

*“Information Literacy is a survival skill in the Information Age” [1]*



[1] American Library Association

# Institutional vision as an ILS driver

## **Vision:**

University of Botswana (UB) wants to be:

***A leading centre of academic excellence in Africa and in the world***





# Self introspection of UB

- A strategy for excellence: UB Strategic Plan, 2016 and beyond
- **Six Priority areas**
  1. Extending access and participation
  2. Providing relevant and high quality programs
  3. Intensifying Research Performance
  4. Strengthening engagement
  5. Improving the student experience
  6. Enhancing Human Resources



# Self introspection of UB

- Had positive impact on Library
- Facilitation of learning process by librarians gains recognition
- Opportunities
  - DeLPHE Project
- Initiatives supportive of ILS



# Initiatives: external & internal drivers

## Internal factors

- Employability strategy
  - What attributes?
- Senate recommendations on GEC
- Quality of student learning
  - Policy initiatives
    - Learning and teaching policy
    - Research Strategy
  - Programme reviews
- Role of library in learning, teaching and research



# Learning and Teaching Policy

## Graduate attributes

1. Information and communication technology knowledge and skills
2. **Self - directed, lifelong learning skills**
3. Critical and creative thinking skills
4. **Problem - solving skills**
5. Communication skills
6. Entrepreneurship and employability skills
7. Organizational and teamwork skills
8. **Research skills and information literacy**
9. Social responsibility and leadership skills
10. Interpersonal skills
11. Cross - cultural fluency
12. Accountability and ethical standards



# Expected DeLPHE project outputs

- An evidence-based framework for embedding information literacy into university programmes
- Pedagogical training programme for library professionals and academic staff
- Customisation of global perspectives from best practices
- CBU and UAD: Strategic Partner insights



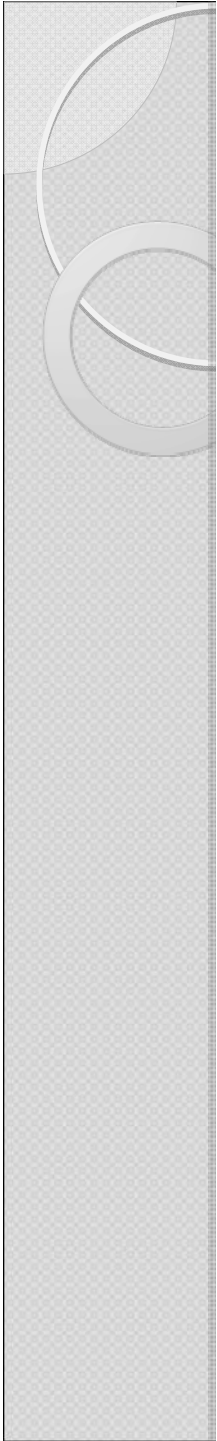
# Advocacy Plan

- Departmental level
- Strategic partners
  - Who are the drivers of learning and teaching policy?
- Centre for Academic Development
  - Teaching and Learning Unit
  - ILS Reference Group
- Deputy Vice Chancellor (DVC AA)
- AADMT



# Next Steps

- Strengthening collaboration between librarians and academics
- Intensifying awareness raising
  - Individual
  - Institutional
- Widen collaboration at regional & international levels
- Building capacity of M&E for ILS interventions



**Thank you for listening**