Sri Lanka

Pearl of the Indian Ocean
Country and Library Profile

Geography, Population, and Libraries in Sri Lanka

- 9 Provinces, 25 Districts
- Population : 20m
- Libraries : 8,869

contd.
• **Sector Distribution**

- University: 59
- Schools: 6,732
- Public: 1,199
- Special: 66
- Departmental: 34
- Technical Colleges:
  - Teachers' Training: 779
  - Colleges: 779
- Educational Institutes: Pirivena Libraries

contd.
Association Profile

- Number of members before 2014: 376
- Number of members in 2016: 438
- Year Founded: 1960
- Website: www.slla.org.lk
- Email: slla@sltnet.lk
- National Professional Body
- A professional librarian can become a member: Non Corporate and Corporate Membership
Objectives of the SLLA

- Promote Library, Documentation and Information Services.
- To act as the pivotal professional body for library, documentation and information services in the country, by providing library education programmes.
- Foster cooperation between all individuals and organizations interested in the welfare of libraries
- Organize meetings, discussions, conferences, seminars relating to LIS
- Safeguard and promote the rights, privileges and status of librarians
- Introduce a Code of Conduct and Ethics for the members.
Success Stories

Education

• The DIPLIS Programme – LIS Educational programme, The flagship project
• Computer Programme on Library Automation

Training and Development

• CPD projects

Conferences

• Annual Conference (National Conference in Library and Information Science) NACLIS
• International Conference

Publications

Professional journal – The Sri Lanka Library Review
The quarterly Newsletter
PCE
Awards
Educational Fellowship
Best Group Project
Research

National Projects

• Rehabilitation of affected libraries - Tsunami

International Projects
• Library Advocacy Programme
• BSLA – Activity 1 – Successful completion

Collaboration
With other national and educational Institutes

Membership
International – IFLA,
COMLA
Local – OPA
BSLA Project

Establishment and Promotion of Professional Ethics (PE) culture among Library & Information Professionals in Sri Lanka.
Project Goals

• Explore the areas of professional ethics specific to LIS field that need to be addressed in Sri Lanka.

• Revise and publish the existing Code of Ethics documents which was published in 1998. (After the Revision it is Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics: PCE))

• Design, develop and conduct Awareness Programme on CoE (PCE) for all sectors of librarianship in Sri Lanka as the propagation strategy of ethics.

• Propagate professional ethics to foster a professional culture among LIS professionals
Expected Outcomes

• Areas in LIS that need to be addressed in a CoE (PCE) document is clearly established.

• A comprehensive CoE (PCE) document is prepared and ready for librarians and professionals in LIS.

• The LIS community is knowledgeable about the professional ethics.

• 'Good Governance', 'Accountability', 'Transparency', 'Visibility', in the profession and 'Status & Profile', of the Sri Lankan Librarians are upgraded
Forthcoming Activities of SLLA – 2016/2017

- Implementation of Strategic Plan
  Organizational Excellence
  Membership Development
  Education Programme
- NACLIS 2016
- BSLA project – at district level
- Curriculum revision based on SLQ Framework
- Re-introduce Fellowship by Research

- SDGs 2030
- Advocacy - through the BSLA project
Addressing Challenges

- Issues relating to Librarians’ Recruitment and Promotion: Discussions with relevant authorities
- Members participation issues due to distance: Engage online, change venues of events
- Funding projects and events:
  - Library Group Projects
  - Sponsorships
  - Collaboration
The future of the association and libraries in Sri Lanka

- **Role of the association in the future?**
  - Implement the selected areas of the Strategic Plan
  - Membership Drive – to draw professionally qualified LIS personnel
  - be a rating body
  - Improve Public awareness about the LIS Profession