DO THEY KNOW IT IS THERE?
ASSISTING RESEARCHERS AND EDUCATORS IN LOCATING AND PRESERVING
INFORMATION

Trevor Namondwe
BUnda College of Agriculture
Malawi

7th IAMSLIC Conference
Zanzibar, Tanzania, October 16-20, 2011

Abstract: The paper discusses the methods that have been implemented successfully at the Bunda College of Agriculture library to assist researchers and lecturers in locating and organizing information on aquaculture and fisheries science. These methods include building a local database and collecting and organizing reports and publications from government and non-governmental organizations. Library users do not always know how to access various information sources, or even what is available to them despite a wealth of information in print and electronic formats, offline and online. While it is difficult to organize online information meaningfully, it is possible to provide means of making users aware of the various ways of gaining access to relevant information in their respective subjects of interest. In addition, ordinary library services can be instrumental in organizing and making accessible locally produced information items. The paper therefore paints a picture of library services that are relevant to users in the digital era.

Keywords: Aquaculture, fisheries, information, Malawi.