





28th General Conference of Directors of National Libraries in Asia and Oceania 25 October 2022, Tuesday Indonesia

Country Report [Period Coverage: 1 January 2021 – 31 December 2021]

Name of Country : Republic of Korea

Name of Library : National Library of Korea

Name(s) of National Librarian, : Kim, II Hwan

Director-General and/or

Director

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1 Facts and Figures

Sn	Item Description	Figures			
а	Operating Budget	- (Government)			
	i. Government	97.8 billion KRW			
	ii. External Sources				
b	Total Staff (FTE)	- Total number of			
	i. Graduate or Post Graduate with library qualifications	staff : 313			
	ii. Other Qualifications	- Number of			
		librarians : 197			
		(63%)			
С	Collection Size	- 13,329,742(books,			
	i. Physical collection	items)			
	ii. Digital collection preserved	- 18,174,914 items			
d	Visitorship (Annual)	- Library visitors :			
	i. Physical visits to reading rooms	285,300			
	ii. Digital visits to websites	- Website visitors :			
		5,938,311			







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е	Inter Library Loans provided (Annual)	-	1,207 public and university libraries participating	
		-	27,262 provided	items

- 2 Overview of Major or New Developments in Library Buildings, Collections, Access or Services [Please provide a maximum of 5 highlights]
 - 1) 13 million books / 18 million digital books achieved

From 280 thousand books in 1945 when it opened, the National Library of Korea achieved 5 million books in 2004, 10 million books in 2015, 13 million books in October 2021, the 76th anniversary of the opening of the library. As of December 2021, the library also reached 18 million digital books(e-book, e-journal, video material, image material etc.). The NLK has been striving to collect, preserve and systematically organize Korea's knowledge culture heritage without exception and provide them to the public.

2) Digital Service 3-years Plan establishment

To proactively respond to library policy environment changes following digital technology development and spread of covid-19 and contribute to the public's culture life, the NLK established the National Library of Korea Digital Service 3-years Plan(2021-2023). To that end, the library created a TF in January 2021, had expert meeting, review by each department and selected 5 key tasks, 15 detailed implementation tasks under the 'digital knowledge ecosystem hub'.

The plan is expected to be implemented with the NLK mid-long term development plan, expand the national digital collection and online service, provide data-centered service, innovate and lead future library service etc. as the representative national library.

Vision	Digital knowledge ecosystem hub				
Impleme ntation strategy	1. [Collective] 1. [Connective] 1. [Curatorial] 1. [Collaborative] 1. [Creative]	Collect knowledge and memory Collaborate in diversity Curate collections with vitality Connect the world Create the library of tommorrow			







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[5 key tasks and 15 detailed implentation tasks]

[Library of knowledge and memory] Korean Memory Service Expansion	 1-1. 「Korean memory」 establishment 1-2. Web resource archiving 「OASIS」 construction expansion 1-3. Shared knowledge information resource archive establishment 			
[Digital embracement] Ontact Service provision	2-1. Library e-book service platform construction and operation 2-2. 「National Library of Korea On naru(tentative name)」 construction and operation 2-3. Digital literacy service reinforcement			
3. [Data-focused] Data curation service development	 3-1. Data resource creation and utilization reinforcement 3-2. Data service development 3-3. National collection data preservation center construction 			
4. [Library with no walls] Digital service sharing platform activation	 4-1. National knowledge information resource sharing platform service improvement 4-2. Policy information cooperation network establishment and service expansion 4-3. 「East Asia Digital Library」 establishment 			
5. [Library new deal]	5-1. New technology based digital service research and development			







Leading future library service	5-2.	Futur	e gen	eration	library	system
	establishment and operation					
	5-3.	Digital	service	expertise	and	leadership
	development					

3) Library service that applies advanced technology like interactive contents etc.

As demand for new media technology increased recently in the overall culture field, NLK developed service that applies knowledge information resource held by the library and advanced technology for anyone to enjoy and experience various digital information technology.

In March 2021, 'Interactive Library', an interactive content experience area that applies latest interactive technology in the Digital Library third basement floor permanent exhibition hall. 'Interactive Library' consists of 4 services in total. The library offers 'repository experience' which realizes the NLK's future repository through 3D video, 'the future of searching' where visitors can view various contents linked with recommended keyword, 'interactive map' that restores old maps held by the library in ultra-high resolution images and allows comparing images of the past and present, 'digital book service' that translates Chinese character using projection mapping technology or shows animation.



The National Library for Children and Young Adults(NLCYA) has been running 'interactive playground' that applies latest technology like Virtual Reality(VR), Augmented Reality(AR) and Mixed Reality(MR). The NLCYA developed and operated 'storytelling for children's experience' that grafts VR technology and an experience program 'AR mission' that utilizes Beacon location recognition technology and AR technology. The library also created and distributed

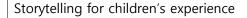






'playing with XR books' application which realizes outstanding picture-books by digital interactive technology.







AR experience program 'AR mission'

The NLK plans to continue share its experience in leading application of new technology with libraries around the world and establish various cooperation plans.

4) Establishment of <National Bibliography 2030> for bibliographical structure change

The NLK established <National Bibliography 2030> as a mid-long term for new bibliographic structure application. The main implementation content is, firstly, introducing international standard bibliographic model and strengthening title authority control for work identification. Second is developing new bibliographic based on linked data and identifier to overcome the limit of traditional machine-readable catalogue. In order to do that, the library will refer to the Bibliographic Framework(BIBFRAME). Third is running an education program for domestic cataloging librarians to understand the changing bibliographic environment and utilize new bibliographic language. The library plans to implement tasks of each stage like preparation, introduction, implementation and transition to carry out<National Bibliography 2030> successfully for the next 10 years.

5) Covid-19 responses : Pre-reservation system implementation, manual production/distribution, Online Materials Division establishment

Following the spread of covid-19 and reinforced social distancing, the NLK enforced temporary closure(December 8 2020-January 18 2021). After reopening in January 19 2021, to prevent the spread of the infectious disease and minimize users' inconvenience when using materials, in accordance with the government's social distancing guideline, the library implemented pre-reservation system and operated flexibly by limiting or increasing the number of users to 30-100%. Also, the Library's Infectious Disease Crisis Response Manual was created and distributed to public libraries.

Library opening hours was adjusted to 10 to 17(previously 9 to 18) and disinfected facilities such as tables and chairs and took preventive measures during service preparation time. Since May, the library reduced waiting time by implementing 'reserve and use on the same day







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system' to allow users to reserve materials before visiting the library and use them right away when they arrive.

Meanwhile, reflecting the trend where non-face-to-face service is strengthening, the library newly established 'Online Materials Division' (September 2021) which is fully in charge of efficient collection and utilization plan for online materials. In addition, to support the public's online culture life, the NLK expanded domestic and foreign database production(42 titles > 49 titles) for users to use e-books, newspapers/magazines, academic materials etc. without visiting the library themselves.

3 Collaborations with Libraries, Archives and Museums in your Country [Please provide a maximum of 5 highlights]

1) Library big data collection and analysis service provision

With aim to set foundation for the public including individuals, researchers, private institutions to utilize data of public libraries in Korea, support scientific decision making in the library field and provide proactive user service, the NLK has opened and has been sharing library big data. 'Library Big Data Project' that started in 2014 as the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism's R&D project(2014-2018) has been run by the NLK since 2019 for big data platform stabilization and continued management of data collection and service.

In 2021, a total of 1,330 libraries participated in the 'Library Big Data' and collected 150,972,547 items of collection data, 1,881,168,651 borrowing data, 32,819,160 user data and built big data analysis/utilization base data. By disclosing data collected real time through the website and open API, the library has been supporting various utilization of the data in public libraries and the private sector.

2) National Library Open Access Policy Establishment

In 2009, the NLK started open access as an R&D project of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism and since 2014, the library has been implementing open access as 'Open Access Korea National Knowledge Information Construction and Distribution' project(hereinafter OAK project).

In particular, in 2021, the library participated in the <Research Support and Public Academic Information Service Institutions' Open Access Joint Declaration> and established as a following implementation plan <National Library of Korea Open Access Policy>. The policy shows clearly the NLK's will to support open access distribution internally and externally and is expected to contribute to the spread of open access in Korea.

3) Cooperation with University Libraries on Authority/ISNI







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For efficient academic information distribution and higher quality of national bibliographic data, the NLK constructed a cooperative network with university libraries and has been conducting joint utilization of authority/ISNI.

In April 2018 the NLK signed an MOU with the Korea Education and Research Information Service and in May created a <TF for Cooperation with University Libraries on Authority/ISNI> with the university library union catalogue operating committee at the center and set plan for national authority and ISNI introduction/utilization in university libraries.

In the case of national authority, through the Korea Education and Research Information Service, the library established a system used in each university library and in 2019 developed authority linked system and tested sharing authority with university libraries. Until 2021, national authority-linked system was distributed to a total of 137 universities.

4) Operation of Korean Children and Young Adults' Library Service Council

Korean Children and Young Adults' Library Service Council is run with 727 institution members and 508 individual members participating. The council has conducted survey, research and working-level subcommittee activities for the development of domestic libraries' children and young adults service.

4 International Collaborations such as Formal Arrangements for Cooperation with National Libraries [Please provide a maximum of 5 highlights]

1) Attending and Holding International Conferences

With the Korea Special Library Association(KSLA), Korea Institute of Science and Technology Information(KISTI), on November 24 2021, the NLK jointly held online the 7th International Conference of Asian Special Libraries, IcoASL 2021).

In ICoASL 2021, 222 librarians from Asian special libraries participated and gave keynote lecture and paper presentation etc. under the theme 'Envisioning the Future of Library in the Post-coronavirus Era'.

Along with that, the NLCYA, on October 16, held online the 13th International Symposium on Library Services for Children and Young Adults under the theme 'There is future in a country that reads – library that creates the future'. 5 domestic and foreign experts from 5 countries gave topic presentations and 330 professionals participated. At the symposium, participants discussed about the library service direction in the fourth industrial era and librarians' role and shared recent trends of children and young adults' service and service best practices.

2) Excavation of Korea-related materials located abroad







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The NLK has been conducting surveys on and collecting Korea-related materials in foreign countries, obtaining them as historical materials of modern and contemporary Korea and constructing Korean studies research information infrastructure. Since 2004, the library has collected Korea-related materials among government-produced official documents collected and preserved by the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration(NARA). The materials are used as primary materials for research on not just the political situation of modern and contemporary Korean peninsula but Korea's relations with neighboring countries at the time. In 2021, the material collection scope was expanded to the National Library of Russia. The materials collected included 3,000 materials published by Goryeoin between 1910 and 1960 and books published in North Korea, and 150,000 pages of materials collected in digital form including textbooks published by Goyreoin like <Joseonuh dokbon>, <Joseonuh Moonbup> will be disclosed after registration and organization.

Materials held by old Soviet Union countries like Russia and Central Asia are difficult for a researcher to conduct survey individually and collect due to security issues etc. unless there is a national-level agreement. Especially, the National Library of Russia has most of the books published in North Korea during the modern and contemporary period and the books are highly valuable to collect and utilize. Among the materials excavated, an additional research including annotation will be conducted on those that help understand Goryeoins in the maritime province's daily life and culture in the 1930s.

Korea-related materials in foreign countries are provided in full-text at the NLK website(https://www.nl.go.kr).

3) Holding National Library of Korea-National Diet Library of Japan Work Exchange Online and Signing Agreement

National Library of Korea-National Diet Library of Japan Work Exchange was held online on October 2902021 to prepare for the post/with covid-19 era, under the theme 'National Libraries' Digital Transition and Response Plans'.

The participants exchanged opinions on their expertise, technology and policy such as the NLK operation plan in the post covid-19 era, National Diet Library of Japan's Vision 2021-2025: National Diet Library's Digital Transition etc.







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National Library of Korea-National Diet Library of Japan Online Work Exchange

Adding to that, in 2021, the NLK newly signed an MOU with the National Library of Qatar(Director Sohair F. Wastawy) and the National Library of Croatia(Director Ivanka Stričević) and therefore has established cooperative relations with 19 institutions and 1 international organization of 17 countries.

4) Exchange with Foreign Librarians

To improve Korean studies librarians' expertise, from October 11 to 27, the NLK held the 14th Overseas Korean Studies Librarians Workshop online, and provided 10 lectures and culture contents created in advance to members of the International Network for Korean Studies Librarians(INKSLIB).