



Library Service Impacts on Community: Sustainability, Inclusion, and Innovation



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 : Qatar

Name of Library : Qatar National Library

Name(s) of National Librarian, Director-General and/or Director : Tan Huism, Executive Director of QNL

Contact Person

: Hind Al Khulaifi : hialkhulaifi@QNL.QA

Contact Person's Email Address

: Qatar Foundation, Education City

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1 Facts and Figures

Mailing Address

Sn	Item Description	Figures
а	Operating Budget	Confidential information.
	i. Government	
	ii. External Sources	
b	Total Staff (FTE)	Confidential information.
	i. Graduate or Post-Graduate with library	
	qualifications	
	ii. Other Qualifications	
С	Collection Size	i) 1,045,000 physical collections in
	i. Physical collection	2021
	ii. Digital collection preserved	ii) 13.1 million pages digital pages
		preserved in 2021
		iii) Over 700,000 digital collections in
		2021
d	Visitorship (Annual)	i) 287,642 physical library visits in
	i. Physical visits to reading rooms	2021
	ii. Digital visits to websites	ii) 5.6 million digital visits in 2021
e	Inter Library Loans provided (Annual)	833 loans in 2021





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2 Overview of Major or New Developments in Library Buildings, Collections, Access or Services [Please provide a maximum of 5 highlights]

- a) 620 events and programs were organized in 2021 for the communities with over 98% of them being digital, attracting over 120,000 participants (90% increase from the previous covid year).
- b) QNL's Preservation and Conservation Center, named as IFLA's Preservation and Conservation Reginal Center since 2015, has hosted online webinars and training courses for regional and international institutions on different topics like watermarks, dating manuscripts, protecting documentary heritage and fighting against the illegal trafficking of documentary heritage.
- c) QNL has completed the installation of a new mass deacidification plant at the Library, which is the first and only plant in the region.
- d) Over 2,000 items have been added to the heritage collection, from printed books, manuscripts, photographs, and serials.
- e) Qatar Digital Library, a partnership between the library, British Library and Qatar Foundation, reached a major milestone in 2021 with the uploading of the two millionth digital image to the platform. Qatar Digital Library is a leading electronic archive on the history of the Arabian Peninsula and Gulf region.

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

- a) QNL collaborated locally with both the "Museum of Islamic Arts" and "Qatar Football Association" providing digitization services to support digitalizing their physical collections.
- b) QNL collaborated with non-profit organizations like "Education Above All" in support of their mission to improve educational access to vulnerable and marginalized people through programs like "Storyweaver book project" in which QNL translated and customized the books for learners in the Arabic world to promote their love for reading, and the "Al-Fakhoora Project" being a comprehensive higher education scholarship and empowerment programme, towards which QNL supported by providing webinars and trainings to the beneficiaries on subjects like IELTS Prep, plagiarism, time and stress management etc.





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- c) QNL collaborated in a consortium for cooperation over E-Resources and Open Access (OA) Publications with 9 other local entities including museums, educational and health institutions which saw considerable success through their continued commitment and support for Transformative OA agreements. QNL is the first library from Asia to sign a Transformative OA agreement in 2018. One of the consortium members (Hamad Medical Corporation-Qatar's main health care provider) has made 80% of its research output as open access through the agreements and funding that the consortium is providing.
- d) QNL collaborates with the Qatar Museums (QM) on a yearly basis to support with the "Year of Culture" activities. 2021 being YoC Qatar-USA, QNL organized various activities in celebration including curating an exhibition of the Arab-American experience in the USA.

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

- a) 2021 saw QNL continuing its partnership with the British Library through an Agreement (Phase 3) for digitizing collections from BL's India Office Record collections and making them available on the Qatar Digital Library, for use by all -free of charge.
- b) In support of the preservation of audio-visual collections of Arab regions, QNL entered into a partnership agreement with International Association of Sound and Audiovisual Archives, Cape Town, South Africa for Arabic translation of technical standards.
- c) QNL supported in the rehabilitation, restoration and preservation efforts of Libraries and Museums following the blast in Beirut in September 2020 through coordination with the various international agencies.
- d) QNL participated in the SPIEF 2021 (St Petersburg International Economic Forum) in Russia representing the importance of the role played by Libraries in the community with emphasis on the role played during the pandemic. MoU's were signed with the Russia Kunstkamera Museum and Russia Museum of Islamic Culture to cooperate on capacity building and knowledge exchange activities.
- e) QNL collaborated with New York University, USA in 2021 to create searchable text/Optical Character Recognition ("OCR") for a selection of Arabic Books held in their collection,





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towards facilitating national and international dissemination of the searchable digitized content.