



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



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

Name of Country : Viet Nam

Name of Library : National Library of Viet Nam

Name(s) of National Librarian, : MA. Kieu Thuy Nga

Director-General and/or

Director

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1 Facts and Figures

Sn	Item Description	Figures
а	Operating Budget	< 1 million Dollars
	i. Government	
	ii. External Sources	
b	Total Staff (FTE)	156 FTE
	i. Graduate or Post Graduate with library qualifications	
	ii. Other Qualifications	
С	Collection Size	
	i. Physical collection	Over 2.6 million copies
	ii. Digital collection preserved	Over 8 million pages
		(equivalent to more
		than 14,000 copies)
		and 24,000 pages of
		microfiches)





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d	Visitor ship (Up to Nov.15,2021)	Total 2.332.772 visits
	Opened 269 days, issued 4.354 membership cards	(equivalent to 8.672
	i. Physical visits to reading rooms	visits a day).
	ii. Digital visits to websites	
е	Inter Library Loans provided	N/A

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

2.1. Library building

The NLV is in the process of implementing the Project "Renovating and Upgrading the National Library of Viet Nam Phase I" started from 2018.

2.2. Collections Development:

a. Physical collection:

In this period, the NLV has acquired depositary of 26.287 titles (65.092 copies); doctorial theses: 2.178; Special publications: 861 titles (2.583 copies); Periodicals (newspapers, magazines, newsletter): 41.566 issues (1,481 titles).

For acquisition source via purchase, exchange, donate and gift, the total amount was 13.228 copies, including 10.861 Vietnamese books and 2.367 foreign language books; 1,987 issues (124 titles) of magazines, foreign newspapers, 593 issues (33 titles) of magazines, Vietnamese books sent abroad.

b. Digital collection

Implementing the National Digital Transformation Program and the Library Digital Transformation Program to 2025, with orientation to 2030 pursuant to the Prime Minister's Decision No. 206/QD-TTg dated February 11, 2021, The Vietnamese libraries has been promoting the digitization of documents, in which the NLV is the pioneer library.

In 2021, the NLV will continue the process of digital resources development at the library. A total of 230,498 pages of documents, including 205,143 pages of newspapers, 1,146 pages of books, 24,209 pages of micro-documents were digitized; 29,262 pages were processed docWorks.

2.3. Library Services Development

The year 2021 witnessed the wide spread of the COVID pandemic, affecting all fields and works. During social distancing time, libraries across the country have constantly innovated ways to flexibly adapt to the situation of the Covid-19 epidemic: Many libraries promote the use of digital libraries with digital books, audiobooks and other digital information products; Serving the needs of borrowing books via email and posting library books to readers' homes address; serving the reading needs in the Covid-19 isolation area with QR code digital collection (district libraries of Ho Chi Minh City). Libraries belonging to the public library system organize many online activities for children: Storytelling by book, Online Quiz, Painting by theme etc.

Over the past year, the NLV has continuously improved the quality of service to readers both on-site and online. In particular, during the quarantine, the NLV focuses on two main areas of activities: Enhancing the service of digital collections built by the NLV (more than 8 million pages of digitized documents) and databases to which purchases access; organize and coordinate the organization of activities, events, exhibitions and book fairs in online form such as: online book exhibition to celebrate the 130th birthday of President Ho Chi Minh, online Book exhibition to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the National Day of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, National Online Book Fair 2021 etc.





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In addition, the NLV has opened 25 classes "Instructing readers to use the Library" attracting 226 users; Receive, exchange and respond to 968 requests via the NLV's website; compiled 5 subject bibliographies, thematic document catalogues to serve exhibitions, display materials at the Library; organized 8 specialized activities at Children's Cultural Library with the participation of 503 children from kindergartens and primary schools.

2.4. Reading Culture Development

Taking advantage of the time when the Covid-19 epidemic has not yet broken out on a large scale, libraries across the country have organized a number of directly activities with positive meanings:

- On the occasion of Viet Nam Book and Reading Culture Day April 21st, World Book and Copyright Day April 23rd, libraries across the country have organized many activities to celebrate, honor the value of books and develop reading culture such as: Opening ceremony of the 8th Viet Nam Book Day 2021 in Ho Chi Minh City, Reading Promotion Week "Books and Community" in Da Nang; Opening the Week of Books and Reading Culture in the Military; Launching ceremony of the reading movement with the theme "Revolutionary, regular, elite, gradually modern People's Army and People's Public Security" etc. At NLV, Book Festival 2021 with the theme: "Books Mission for Reading Culture Development" taking place from April 16, 2021 received ministries, branches, libraries, schools, international organizations, enterprises etc. The event has widely promoted propaganda, popularized the spiritual, cultural values of the book, and received the response as well as acceptance from the community.
- Organizing the Reading Culture Ambassador Contest 2021 at public libraries throughout the country pursuant to the plan of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism. The activity also attracted the attention of the public, contributing to spread the reading movement in the community. The Reading Culture Ambassador contest has also launched and promoted in the Viet Nam People's Army.
- Continue the Implementation of the Government's Project on Developing Reading Culture to 2020, with a vision to 2030 in the libraries pursuant to the Government's Decision.

2.5. National Librarianship Standards Development

Implementing the decision of the Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism to assign the NLV to carry out the National Standards Development Projects, the NLV is currently developing the National Standard TCVN "Information and Documentation – Open systems Interconnection – Interlibrary Loan Application Service Definition". The project originates from the actual operational needs of information-library agencies as well as information technology enterprises that have developed hardware equipment, application software for library activities in general and the exchange, circulation and loan of interlibrary materials.

By the end of 2021, the NLV has completed 09 projects to develop the National Standards TCVN in the field of libraries.

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

The resurgence of the Covid-19 epidemic in Vietnam has significantly affected the operation of the Vietnamese library industry in general, however, with the spirit of efforts and creativity, the NLV has overcome difficulties, actively expand and promote the effectiveness of coordination programs with agencies and units, and achieved positive results:

- Signing working cooperation program with the Authority of Publication, Printing and Distribution (Ministry of Information and Communications) for the period of 2021-2026. The program of





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coordination between the two institutions aims to further enhancing the efficiency of publishing and library activities, strengthen synergies between the two fields, towards the goal of promoting the reading movement and developing reading culture in the community.

- Coordinate with Library Department: The NLV and the Library Department had a meeting to discuss programs, tasks and plans for implementing library activities in the new period, which emphasized the coordination between the two institutions in implementing "The digital transformation program of the library sector to 2025 with a vision to 2030" of the Prime Minister of Viet Nam.
- With its assigned functions and tasks, the NLV has provided guidance and professional exchange for officials, lecturers and students of other schools and institutes: Guidance for 27 officials, lecturers and students of the Heritage Center, Vietnamese scientists, and Vinh Phuc College; Training in library skills for officials of the Inspectorate Strategy and Science Institute; Participated in training and teaching at the Faculty Of Library And Information Science, University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Vietnam National University, Ha Noi.
- The NLV donated 6,818 books to public libraries, school libraries, border posts, and units facing difficulties.

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

As the rrepresentative of Viet Nam on regional and world library cooperation forum, despite being heavily affected by the Covid-19 pandemic in recent time, the NLV still actively has organized and participated in many international cooperation activities in both face-to-face and online forms. In 2021, the NLV welcomed 28 international delegations (55 guests) to visit, work, and cooperate with the NLV. Delegations come from Sweden, Hungary, France, Korea, Poland, Bulgaria, Belarus, Colombia, Chile etc.

In professional association activities, NLV continues to participate and fulfill its membership responsibilities of international and regional professional organizations such as IFLA, CONSAL, CDNL, CDNL-AO, and RFN.

Notable Activities:

Attending international conferences

The NLV has participated in online conferences such as: The Conference of Directors of National Librarians (CDNL) 2021; Silk Road International Library Alliance Conference (SRILA); États généraux du livre en langue française; 1st ASEAN Virtual Regional Conference of Public Librarians; First Southeast Asian Librarians Leadership Convergence, Philippines; General Assembly of Francophone Digital Network (RFN).

Implementing the project "Francophone Book Space in Viet Nam" funded by the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF)

According to the cooperation agreement with OIF, in the period of 3 years 2020-2022, a total number of 10,000 French books (worth about EUR 180,000) in various fields and levels will be donated by OIF to the NLV and 8 provincial/city libraries (Ben Tre, Binh Duong, Can Tho, Hai Phong, Khanh Hoa, Lam Dong, Nghe An and Quang Ninh). NLV participates as the main partner in project management and implementation.





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Inauguration the French Vietnamese Portal the French **Embassy** Viet Nam

On April 7, 2021, the French Embassy in Viet Nam cooperated with the NLV to hold the opening ceremony of the France-Viet Nam Information Portal: Flamboyant Digital Library.

This is a collaboration project between the NLV and the National Library of France for almost 2 years (2019-2020). Documents uploaded to Portal are digitized by two National Libraries from their Indochinese Collections. Formats of the documents on the Portal are diversified, including print materials, manuscript, paintings, photos, especially audio documents (traditional Vietnamese music) in Vietnamese and French.

Online signing ceremony of Memorandum of Understanding with the National Library of Korea (NLK) on "Window on Korea" cooperation 2021-2025

Launched in 2005, the "Window on Korea" project has contributed to enrich the NLV's foreign language resources. Up to now, NLV received more than 9,000 items from the project. The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding has opened the next stage of cooperation between the two libraries in period 2021-2025.

Implementing the Let's Read project

The NLV cooperates with the Asia Foundation (USA) to implement the program "Explore Let's Read Digital Library" in the Da Nang and Can Tho provinces with the aims of encouraging reading habits and directing children to use technology in reading.

The Let's Read Digital Library now contains over 4,000 titles in more than 33 different languages, including Vietnamese.

Organizing an event to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the release of the character Pippi Long stocking

The NLV in collaboration with the Embassy of Sweden organized the exhibition "Pippi Long Socks" on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the debut of the character of a children's novel of the same name of Swedish literature. Within the framework of the event, there was a reading activities for children organized by Ms. Ann Mawe, Ambassador of Sweden to Viet Nam and teaching children to practice painting by Swedish artists.

Organizing French-speaking Belgian Literature Day

The event, jointly organized by the NLV and the Wallonia-Brussels General Delegation to Viet Nam, consists of a series of activities: Photo exhibition on French-speaking Belgian literature; online exchange with two French-speaking Belgian writers: Jean-Marc Turine and Laurent Demoulin.