

**30th General Conference of Directors of National Libraries in Asia and Oceania
15-17 November 2024
Dubai, United Arab Emirates**

**Country Report
[Period Coverage: 1 January 2023 – 31 December 2023]**

Name of Country : Brunei Darussalam
Name of Library : Perpustakaan Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka
**Name(s) of National Librarian,
Director-General and/or Director** : Hajah Haireni binti Haji Awang Damit (Acting
Director)
Contact Person : Emi Suryaney binti Haji Hipny
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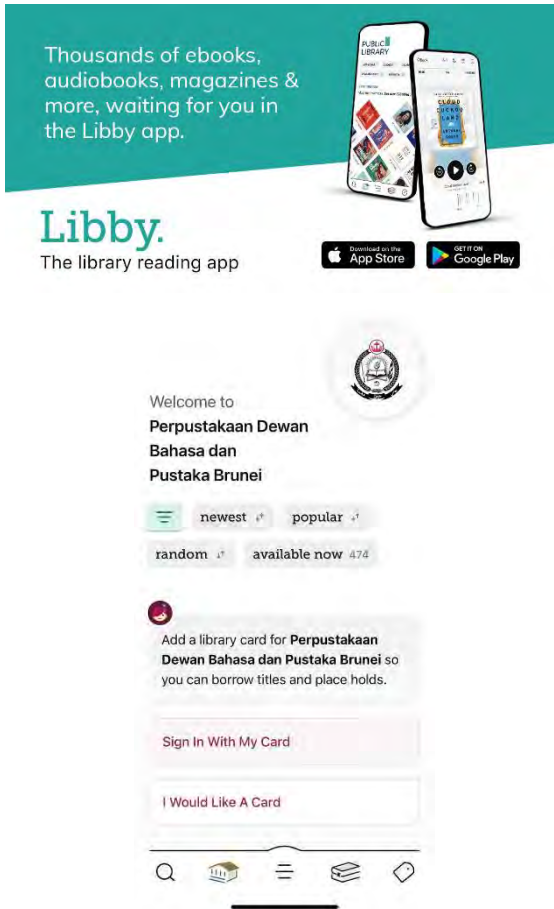
1 Facts and Figures



Sn	Item Description	Figures
a	Operating Budget <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Government ii. External Sources 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Approximate annual budget of BND 200,000.00. ii. No external funding.
b	Total Staff (FTE) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Graduate or Post Graduate with library qualifications ii. Other Qualifications 	<p>One-hundred Twenty-Seven (127) <i>full-time equivalent</i> staffs holding library positions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Two (2) staff members with graduate / post graduate library qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master in Information and Library Studies (1) • Bachelor in Information and Library Studies (1) <p>Twenty-eight (28) staff members with diploma in library qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diploma Level 5 in Information and Library Management (5) • Diploma Level 4 in Information and Library Management (23) ii. Five (5) staff members with graduate / post graduate in other qualifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master in Computer Science (1) • Master in Linguistics (1) • Master in Communications (1) • Bachelor in Computer Science (2) <p>Three (3) staff members with diploma in other qualifications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diploma Level 5 in Computer Science (1)


Sn	Item Description	Figures
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diploma Level 4 in Computer Science (2) <p>Ninety-two (92) staff members with varying levels of qualifications across many fields (paraprofessionals).</p>
c	<p>Collection Size</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Physical collection ii. Digital collection preserved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. A total of 810,708 books as of 31st December 2023. ii. A total of 46,431 digitized books as of 31st December 2023.
d	<p>Visitorship (Annual)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Physical visits to reading rooms ii. Digital visits to websites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. A total of 103,456 annual visits to 9 (nine) branches of Perpustakaan Dewan Bahasa and Pustaka community libraries and 4 (four) mobile libraries as of 31st December 2023. ii. A total of 19,639 annual visits to the library portal as of 31st December 2023.
e	Inter Library Loans provided (Annual)	A total of 11,332 books loaned annually as of 31 st December 2023.

2 Overview of Major or New Developments in Library Buildings, Collections, Access or Services







No.	Major or New Developments Project Description	Development Type
1	<p>Rebranding of Temburong Library</p> <p>Completion of interior renovation of one of the community libraries with a thematic focus of capturing the essence of Temburong district as the green jewel of Brunei.</p>  	<p>Library Building</p>




No.	Major or New Developments	Development Type
	Project Description	
2	<p>Libby</p> <p>Readily available and free access to e-books and audio books through subscription-based digital platform called Libby for all registered members of Brunei's community libraries.</p>  <p>The promotional banner features the text: "Thousands of ebooks, audiobooks, magazines & more, waiting for you in the Libby app." Below this is the Libby logo and the tagline "The library reading app". It also includes "Download on the App Store" and "GET IT ON Google Play" buttons. The screenshot shows the app's home screen with the Brunei National Library logo, a welcome message, sorting options (newest, popular, random, available now), and a sign-in prompt.</p>	Access / Service

No.	Major or New Developments	Development Type
	Project Description	
3	<p>SDG Collection</p> <p>SDG corners are put in all nine (9) branches of Brunei's community libraries through strategic project for raising Social Development Goals awareness entitled 'Empowering Educators : SDG Goals for Young Learners'. One of the strategic initiative under the project is to foster collaboration with the community libraries by organising SDG themed activities for primary school students visiting the libraries.</p> 	<p>Collections</p>
		



No.	Major or New Developments	Development Type
	Project Description	
4	<p>Reading Corners</p> <p>16 active reading corners in various places around Brunei that host library collections thereby providing closer access for promotion of reading culture in Brunei's communities. Reading corners include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teratak Setiawan • Eats Hot • Politeknik Brunei (<i>Brunei Polytechnic</i>) • Penjara Jerudong (<i>Jerudong Prison</i>) • Penjara Wanita (<i>Women's Penitentiary</i>) • Persatuan Pengakap (<i>Scout's Association</i>) • Pusat Al-Islah (<i>Al-Islah Correctional Center</i>) • Institusi Penjara Maraburong (<i>Maraburong Penitentiary</i>) • Pejabat Ugama Daerah Tutong (<i>Tutong District Religious office</i>) • Pusat Kegiatan Warga Emas (<i>Senior Citizen Activity Center</i>) • Peachtree Playhouse • Rumah Panjang Sibut (<i>Sibut Longhouse</i>) • Rumah Panjang Amo (<i>Amo Longhouse</i>) • Rumah Panjang Semabat (<i>Semabat Longhouse</i>) • and Program Khidmat Bakti Negara (<i>Brunei National Service Programme</i>) 	<p>Access / Service</p>
		



3 Collaborations with Libraries, Archives and Museums in your Country

No.	Collaboration Description
1	<p>UNISSA Library</p> <p>Working visits to University Islam Sultan Sharif Ali Library that provides insights on library space planning and development and information exchanges on library management and digital library.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>
2	<p>JIS Library</p> <p>Working visits to Jerudong International School Library that provides insights on library space planning and development and information exchanges on library collections, access and services.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>
3	<p>UBD Library</p> <p>Library training workshops such as Introduction to <i>Resource, Description and Access (RDA)</i> at University Library, Universiti Brunei Darussalam that provides technical knowledge and understanding on cataloging library materials using the RDA cataloging standard.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>





No.	Collaboration Description
4	<p>Balai Khazanah Islam Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah and Jabatan Muzium-Muzium</p> <p>Working visits to Conservation and Preservation Center, at Balai Khazanah Islam Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah and Museums Department that provides insights on the tools and working process involving the technical know-how for conservation and preservation of paper based materials.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>
5	<p>Mobile Library to Primary Schools</p> <p>Provision of mobile library services to different schools around Brunei for the promotion of library services including providing ease of access for children and teenagers to borrowing books / e-books.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>




4 International Collaborations such as Formal Arrangements for Cooperation with National Libraries

No.	International Collaboration Description
1	<p style="text-align: center;">Turkiye</p> <p>Longstanding cooperation and bilateral relations between Republic of <i>Türkiye</i> and Brunei have provided access to library collections, activities and services.</p> <p>Monthly library activity at the central library in Brunei’s capital, Bandar Seri Begawan through reading session that delivers an anthology of Turkish folklore for children between 10 – 12 years old, providing sensory and immersive experiences for children to participate and appreciate the dynamic flow of the stories.</p> <p>In addition, this activity develops reading interest for children enabling them to interact with the storytellers through a post reading session involving a series of questions and answers to grasped the morals behind the stories.</p> <p>Republic of <i>Türkiye</i> also donated 48 books in various Turkish titles through a handover ceremony between His Excellency, Prof. Dr. Hamid Ersoy, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of <i>Türkiye</i> to Brunei and Deputy Permanent Secretary at Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports.</p> <p>Furthermore, a recurring sharing session from the Turkish Embassy at Brunei invites various representatives from Turkish universities and local alumni studying at <i>Türkiye</i> to share information and experiences on studying opportunities offered through scholarships such as <i>Türkiye</i> Scholarships-ASEAN Joint Programs, YTB Scholarships, Mevlana and Erasmus+ Exchange Programs.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>

No.	International Collaboration
	Description
	
	Bangladesh
	<p>Handover of 21 books in various genres penned by Bangladesh authors to Brunei's community library at Muara Town through a ceremony attended by Her Excellency, Nahida Rahman Shumona, High Commissioner of Bangladesh to Brunei and Deputy Permanent Secretary at Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports. This international collection provides access for Brunei's communities to be learn more about Bangladesh.</p>
2	

No.	International Collaboration Description
3	<p data-bbox="826 286 906 315" style="text-align: center;">China</p> <p data-bbox="347 327 1386 477">Ongoing support from the People’s Republic of China through working exchanges on smart library construction and management to usher the establishment of National Library of Brunei with capacity building programme and information exchange.</p> <p data-bbox="347 521 1386 745">In addition, establishment of China’s reading corner in Brunei’s community library at Muara Town had been inaugurated in a handover ceremony between His Excellency, Xiao Jianguo, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People’s Republic of China to Brunei Darussalam and Permanent Secretary at Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports further fostering this support with provision of 175 books in various Chinese titles.</p> <div data-bbox="347 768 1386 1518"> </div>

No.	International Collaboration Description
4	<p data-bbox="804 277 927 309">Malaysia</p> <p data-bbox="347 320 1388 510">A series of outbound working attachment programme at National Library of Malaysia that aims to equip Brunei's librarians with practical experiences and information exchange to improve understanding and knowledge by applying best practices in library management and fostering strategic cooperation in establishing the National Library of Brunei.</p> <p data-bbox="347 555 1388 701">This provides a platform for benchmarking the governance of National Library of Brunei and support for the digital transformation of Brunei's community libraries through initiatives such as incorporation of digital tools and infrastructures to develop new library collections, activities and services.</p> <p data-bbox="347 745 1388 969">Furthermore, High Commission of Malaysia in Brunei have donated 133 books consisting of a total of 31 Malaysian titles in various genres through a handover ceremony hosted at the central library in Brunei's capital, Bandar Seri Begawan in conjunction with World Book Day between His Excellency, Dato' Raja Reza bin Raja Zaib Shah, the High Commissioner of Malaysia to Brunei, and Acting Permanent Secretary at Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports.</p> <div data-bbox="347 1014 831 1373">  </div> <div data-bbox="874 1014 1362 1373">  </div> <div data-bbox="347 1402 831 1760">  </div> <div data-bbox="855 1402 1390 1760">  </div>

No.	International Collaboration
	Description
5	<p align="center">South Korea</p>
	<p>An ongoing international collaboration between ASEAN member states and Republic of Korea entitled <i>ASEAN-ROK Children's Reading Culture Development Project</i> aiming to improve the participating countries' children reading cultural environment and to raise children's literacy level.</p> <p>Working members consist of national library leaders and children's librarians including library officers from Brunei focusing on mutual development of strategic initiatives that attune to the communal goals and implementation plan to promote children's reading culture and raising awareness on the importance of children's reading culture in ASEAN.</p> <p>This project also helps to build the capacity and competency of participating children librarians.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">  </div>