

**30<sup>th</sup> 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]**

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| <b>Name of Country</b>   | : Viet Nam  |
| <b>Name of Library</b>   | : National Library of Viet Nam (NLV)  |
| <b>Name(s) of National Librarian,<br/>Director-General and/or<br/>Director</b> | : Mr. Nguyen Xuan Dung  |
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**1 Facts and Figures**

| Sn | Item Description  | Figures   |
|----|---|---|
| a  | Operating Budget<br>i. Government<br>ii. External Sources   | 31.1 billion VND<br>27.5 billion VND<br>3.5 billion VND   |
| b  | Total Staff (FTE)<br>i. Graduate or Post Graduate with library qualifications<br>ii. Other Qualifications | 148 FTE<br>125<br>23  |
| c  | Collection Size<br>i. Physical collection<br>ii. Digital collection preserved                             | Over 2.6 million copies<br>Over 10 million pages (equivalent to more than 14,000 copies) and ~15,000 pages of microfiches)    |
| d  | Visitorship (Annual)<br>i. Physical visits to reading rooms<br>ii. Digital visits to websites             | Total 2,198,796 visits (equivalent to 6,745 visits a day).<br>179,082 visits to reading rooms<br>2,019,714 visits to websites |
| e  | Inter Library Loans provided (Annual)   | N/A   |

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

## **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"

## **2.2. Collections Development:**

### **a. Physical collection:**

In this period, the NLV has acquired depositary of 29.832 titles (74.229 copies); doctoral theses: 2.253; Special publications: 782 titles (2.346 copies); Periodicals (newspapers, magazines, newsletter): 39.800 issues (1.254 titles).

For acquisition source via purchase, exchange, donate and gift, the total amount was 15.509 copies, including 13.605 Vietnamese books and 1.904 foreign language books; 1.145 issues (118 titles) of magazines, foreign newspapers, 17 titles of United Nation documents.

### **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/QĐ-TTg dated February 11, 2021, The Vietnamese libraries has been promoting the digitization of documents, in which the NLV is the pioneer library.

In 2023, the NLV will continue the process of digital resources development at the library. A total of 347.077 pages of documents, including 303.338 pages of newspapers, 31.588 pages of micro-documents, 12.151 pages of books were digitized; 21.689 pages of newspapers, 2.006 doctoral thesis were processed docWorks.

## **2.3. Library Services Development**

In 2023, our country's socio-economic situation was affected in the context of the world economic outlook showing signs of decline. In library industry, with the attention and direction of the leaders of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, the National Library of Viet Nam proactively and strives to overcome difficulties and maintain the goals and requirements of library work; Synchronously deploy content in professional work and serve readers and achieved many important results.

Over the past year, the NLV has continuously improved the quality of service to readers both on-site and online. Having opened 50 classes "Instructions for readers to use the Library" attracting 460 users to attend; Receive, exchange and respond to 3.900 online information requests; Created 15 bibliography and lists of thematic documents to serve exhibitions and display documents at NLV; Organized 17 thematic activities at the Children's Culture Library with the participation of more than 1.300 participants of some Kinder Gartens, Primary Schools and Young Adults in Ha Noi.

In addition, the NLV has well-performed its political, cultural and social tasks to serve the community through the propaganda, organization and coordination of 13 exhibitions introducing documents and books to celebrate the country's holidays and anniversaries.

## **2.4. Reading Culture Development**

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. The NLV organized the "Book and Reading Culture Day" entitled "Books for me, for you" scheduled on April 19, 2023 at the library campus with such activities as Book & photo exhibition with the theme "Desire to reach greater height", Exchange of Authors and Works, Creative reading, Exploration of digital library for children, English storytelling competition, Painting through book contest, Super reading intellectual training, brain game: Quizz, etc. The NLV will 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 "Document management - Electronic document file format for long-term preservation". Participating in the National Standards Development Project "Information and Documentation – The Dublin Core Metadata element set".

### **3. Collaborations with Libraries, Archives and Museums in your Country**

- NLV actively expand and promote the effectiveness of coordination programs with agencies and units, and achieved positive results:

- Conferences, Workshops, Training:

+ National Library of Viet Nam coordinated with the Chinese Embassy to Viet Nam to open a Training Workshop on Preservation and Restoration of Materials at the NLV's building for over 100 trainees including representatives of leaders and officials working on preservation field from public libraries, academic libraries, specialized libraries, archives, and museums across the country.

+ Successfully organized the Training course on data processing and standardization in Da Nang city for leaders and officials working on information technology from public, academic, specialized and armed forces libraries nationwide. The Training program focused on equipping and updating content about processing and standardizing metadata for digital resources, suitable for many audiences such as catalogers, metadata catalogers, manager and technical officer in charge of digital library development, database administrators, website developers...

+ National Library of Viet Nam held a symposium in Ho Chi Minh City to continue to exchange, discuss, and receive contributions from information agencies, libraries, and specialists in southern region for the second Draft of the National Standard "Document management - Electronic document file format for long-term preservation" in Ho Chi Minh City. This is the second symposium, follow the first one for northern region held by the NLV on November 22, 2022 in Ha Noi. PDF/A is designed specifically for the long-term archiving of electronic documents, application in software creation and design, and information processing systems, meeting the needs of all library types.

- Professional guidance work: maintaining consulting work and answering professional issues for libraries nationwide and students of information and library training university; Internship guidance for students at the University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Hanoi National University; Participating in training and teaching at the University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Hanoi National University etc.

Organized professional training classes on using DDC23 and on library skills at district and grassroots level for provincial libraries across the country.

- The NLV has donated 16,102 books to public libraries, school libraries, organizations which still face with many difficulties in books and documents sources.

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

As the representative of Viet Nam on regional and world library cooperation forum, the NLV actively has organized and participated in many international cooperation activities in both face-to-face and online forms.

In 2023, the NLV welcomed 46 international delegations (116 guests) to visit, work, and cooperate with the NLV. Delegations come from USA, China, Korea, France, India, Taiwan, Switzerland, Germany, and Wallonie – Bruxelles and from Embassies such as the Embassy of Hungary, Poland, Chile, Cuba, Uruguay, Italia, Panama, Peru, Thailand, Laos, USA, Spanish, Asia Foundation, Wallonie – Bruxelles delegation, OIF 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, events***

- The NLV has attended the IFLA WLIC 88 Congress in Rotterdam, the 29th Conference of Directors of National Libraries of Asia - Oceania (CDNL-AO29) in Qatar, the annual conference of the General Assembly of Francophone Digital Network (RFN-AISBL) in Egypt, the 2nd ASEAN-ROK Children's Reading Culture Development Committee General Meeting and Training program in Korea, the launch of The "Read Your Way Out" Project in Philippines; participated in short-term training in

Korea (CPI), the Cultural Residency Program at the French National Library; participated in the Reading Festival in Taiwan etc.

- The NLV also participated in many online conferences, trainings such as 1st Executive Board meeting of CONSAL XIX host by the National Library of Malaysia, the International Online Seminar "Libraries and Indigenous Peoples" hosted by the National Library of Russia etc.

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

***The NLV actively promotes event activities and implements previous projects:***

- Carried out the project "Francophone Book Space" established with the support of OIF at the National Library of Viet Nam and 8 major provincial/city libraries across the country, including: Hai Phong, Quang Ninh, Nghe An, Khanh Hoa, Lam Dong, Can Tho, Ben Tre and Binh Duong with the initial collection of about 6,000 books in French.

- NLV organized a ceremony to receive nearly 200 books donated by the National Library of Korea, through the Korean Cultural Center (KCC) in Viet Nam, the activity within the framework of the "Window on Korea" program period 2021-2026.

- NLV Cooperated with the representative office of the International Organization of La Francophonie for the Asia Pacific region (OIF) organized a Francophone Literary Talk at the NLV's building.

- NLV and the Wallonie-Bruxelles Delegations in Viet Nam organized the opening ceremony of the Photo Exhibition "Orange Wounds".

- In commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of the Poet Petöfi (1823 - 2023), NLV and the Hungarian Embassy in Viet Nam collaborated to organize the opening ceremony of the exhibition "Petöfi: Around the World".