

NATIONAL DIET LIBRARY COUNTRY REPORT

FOR the 23rd MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL
LIBRARIES IN ASIA AND OCEANIA (CDNLAO)

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Name of Library : National Diet Library
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1. GENERAL OVERVIEW OF RECENT MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

The National Diet Library (NDL) is Japan's national library and also functions as the legislative reference library of the Diet (parliament). It has three main facilities: the Tokyo Main Library, the Kansai-kan (located in Kyoto), and the International Library of Children's Literature (ILCL) (located in Ueno, Tokyo). The NDL and its staff strive continuously to achieve our Mission and Objectives 2012–2016 (Vision 2012) and the Strategic Goals described therein. The full texts of these documents are available on our website <<http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/aboutus/mission2012.html>>.

Renewal of the ILCL

The NDL is planning a major renovation of the ILCL. The ILCL opened in 2000 as a branch of the NDL specializing in domestic and foreign children's books and related materials, and provides internationally linked library services for children's literature. After the construction of a new annex building is completed in June 2015, the existing building will be renovated as it undergoes a transitional period, during which some rooms will be closed while it shifts to a new system. Once the renovation of the existing building is completed in March 2016, the ILCL will once again offer full-fledged services.

Second stage construction at the Kansai-kan

As it is estimated that the stacks both in the Tokyo Main Library and the Kansai-kan will be full by the end of FY2017, the NDL has been preparing for the expansion of stacks at the Kansai-kan. On November 17, 2014, the NDL Building Commission submitted to the National Diet a recommendation to begin the construction of facilities to house additional stacks at the site. The second stage construction is now under design and will start in FY2016.

2. RELATIONSHIP TO GOVERNMENT

The NDL was established in 1948 by the National Diet based on Article 130 of the National Diet Law. The National Diet Library Law elucidates in its preamble the ideals behind establishment of the NDL: "The National Diet Library is hereby established as a result of the firm conviction that truth makes us free and with the object of contributing to international peace and the democratization of Japan as

promised in our Constitution.” Article 2 of the National Diet Library Law also specifies that “the National Diet Library shall collect books and other library materials for the purpose of assisting the members of the National Diet in the performance of their duties and also for the purpose of providing certain library services as hereinafter specified for the executive and judicial agencies of the national government and for the people of Japan.”

3. KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

Collections (as of March 2014)	(Total) 40,286,843 items	
	- Books	10,326,538 volumes
	- Serials (periodicals and newspapers)	15,953,797 items
Total number of digitized contents (as of March 2015)	2,485,000 items	
	Number of items available for viewing on the premises	1,995,000 items
	Number of items available on the Internet	490,000 items
Employees (as of April 2015)	888	
Annual budget (FY2014)	19.7 billion yen (approximately 179 million in USD, at average exchange rate of 2014)	

4. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN CREATING AND BUILDING COLLECTIONS

The NDL is now consulting closely with publishers to expand the scope of online publications acquired under the legal deposit.

(See item 8. Examples of collaboration between the reporting library and publishers in your country)

5. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN MANAGING COLLECTIONS

The NDL is now in cooperation with the Japan Library Association to revise the Nippon Cataloging Rules (NCR) and establish bibliographic data standards based primarily on Resource Description and Access (RDA). The new NCR is scheduled to be published in FY2017.

6. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN PROVIDING ACCESS TO COLLECTIONS

Digitized Contents

The NDL has been digitizing its holdings under the “Basic Policy for Digitization of National Diet Library's Collections” formulated in May 2013. The NDL was allocated a supplementary budget in FY2014 to consolidate its digital archives through digitization of documents on local history/geography, statistics, white papers, etc. in order to contribute to the enhancement of the nation’s ability to respond to disasters.

As of January 2015, digitized images of nearly 1,310,000 out-of-print items have been transmitted to more than 400 domestic libraries which joined in the Digitized Contents Transmission Service for Libraries, a service launched in January 2014.

Improvements in services for people with disabilities

Under the “Implementation Plan for Library Service for People with Disabilities 2014-2016” formulated in March 2014, the NDL has been making efforts to improve the services for people with disabilities. For example, on June 3, 2014, the NDL started to provide data it had produced and collected to the Sapie Library, the most widespread transmission database for people with disabilities

in Japan, in addition to its transmission service through the NDL Search, an integrated search service provided by the NDL for various formats of information of the NDL, other libraries, archives, museums and related institutions.

The NDL is planning to start accepting reference inquiries online in April 2015.

7. EXAMPLES OF COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE REPORTING LIBRARY AND OTHER NATIONAL COLLECTING INSTITUTIONS (LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES AND MUSEUMS)

7-1. Library cooperation in Japan

The NDL makes active efforts to collaborate with libraries through library cooperation activities such as the Collaborative Reference Database, and provides various training programs for libraries.

Great East Japan Earthquake Archive

Four years after the disaster, the NDL is tackling the accelerating dissipation and loss of records related to the disaster. The NDL is committed to cooperating with the affected prefectures and municipalities as it strives to enrich the contents of the NDL Great East Japan Earthquake Archives (<http://kn.ndl.go.jp/node?language=en>), a nationwide archiving project.

Cooperation with the Japan Library Association

At the end of October 2014, the NDL co-hosted with the Japan Library Association the 100th All-Japan Library Conference, held in Tokyo. The NDL conducted conference-related programs such as the NDL Database Forum at the Tokyo Main Library and guided tours of the Tokyo Main Library and the ILCL.

7-2. International library cooperation

CDNLAO Newsletter

The NDL is responsible for the CDNLAO Newsletter and the CDNLAO website on behalf of the CDNLAO members. The CDNLAO Newsletter is published three times a year to carry information from national libraries and other institutions in the Asia and Oceania region, in cooperation with editorial correspondents in the region.

Mutual visit programs

The NDL has carried out mutual visit programs with the National Library of China (NLC) since 1981, with the National Library of Korea (NLK) since 1997, and with the National Assembly Library of Korea and the National Assembly Research Service since 2009, to deepen friendly relations and improve each other's library services. The programs contribute to promoting mutual understanding among national libraries and collaboration in the East Asia region.

China-Japan-Korea Digital Library Initiative (CJKDLI)

In August 2010, the NDL concluded the China-Japan-Korea Digital Library Initiative (CJKDLI) agreement with the NLC and the NLK. This project, which started in 2007, aims to construct a framework to provide integrated search and access to the cultural and scientific heritage of the three countries.

Other cooperation with national libraries, parliament libraries and other kinds of libraries

The NDL has developed cooperative relations with national libraries and parliament libraries based

on bilateral agreements to deepen ties with these libraries in the fields of digital libraries, preservation and conservation, online galleries, etc.

- The NDL and the Bibliothèque nationale de France (National Library of France) released the joint digital exhibition featuring Japanese-French relations in December 2014 (<http://www.ndl.go.jp/france/index.html> , <http://expositions.bnf.fr/france-japon/index.htm>).
- The NDL and the National Library of Romania have prepared for exchanging children's books under the bilateral cooperation agreement concluded on June 17, 2014.
- The Research and Legislative Reference Bureau of the NDL dispatched its staff members to the National Assembly Library (NAL), Office of the National Assembly of Vietnam, in collaboration with the training project of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) titled "Exchange Experience between Vietnam and Japan about Development of the Parliamentary Libraries." In August 2014, a delegation from the NAL, Office of the National Assembly of Vietnam, headed by Mr. Hoàng Minh Hiếu, Director of the NAL, visited the NDL.
- The ILCL lent out to the Gosford Library (in Australia) an exhibition set entitled "The World through Picture Books – Librarians' Favourite Books from Their Country" which consists of the books collected through a project led by the IFLA Libraries for Children and Young Adults Section aiming to make a book set of picture books recommended by librarians from around the world.

World Digital Library

The NDL has been providing its digitized images of rare books and other materials from its holdings to the World Digital Library promoted by the Library of Congress and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). As of February 2015, 82 items of the NDL are available at <http://www.wdl.org/en/institution/#national-diet-library>

8. EXAMPLES OF COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE REPORTING LIBRARY AND PUBLISHERS IN YOUR COUNTRY

The Legal Deposit System Council, established as an advisory panel to the Librarian of the NDL, consists of experts outside of the NDL including some members related to the publishing industry. The purpose of this council is to contribute to the improvement and proper management of the legal deposit system.

Since July 2013, the NDL has been acquiring materials available free of charge and without Digital Rights Management (DRM) as per the 2012 revision of the NDL Law, and have made these materials available to users for browsing on the NDL premises. Also, the NDL is currently working to create a legal acquisition system for online publications that are either priced or protected by DRM. The NDL hopes to launch a trial project in cooperation with publishers and other concerned parties while making efforts to identify the issues related to the establishment of an effective yet equitable framework for acquisition. Given that cooperation from the publishing industry and other concerned parties is indispensable to the successful undertaking of this project, the NDL is continuing its reciprocal consultations.

Due to the increase in the number of digitized contents available on the Internet, the NDL receives more and more inquiries on the reproduction of its contents. So the NDL is now considering the terms and conditions for secondary use of its digital collections by publishers and other third parties. In August 2014, the NDL started to carry out a trial offer of the digitized images which are unavailable on the Internet, only for reprinting purposes.