

**Conference of Directors of National Libraries in Asia and Oceania
Annual meeting of 2017 – at the National Library of China, Beijing, China**

Annual report of the National Library of Viet Nam

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1. RELATIONSHIP TO GOVERNMENT

The National Library of Viet Nam is the country's central library, a governmental agency under the management of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism and assigned with the mandates of collection and preservation of the nation's documentary heritage; and acquisition, preservation, organization and provision of information resources for the society's use; to compile and publish National Bibliography and the General Bibliography of Viet Nam; to conduct scientific and technological research projects in library - information field; to organize professionally further training courses and provide professional guidance to librarians throughout the country; to cooperate with domestic and foreign libraries in the field of library and information sciences.

Key legislations which set out the library's mandate and directly effect the library operations:

- In 1976, Prime Minister signed the Decision No. 401-TTg on functions, duties and rights of the National Library of Viet Nam. This is the highest-ranking official document determining completely functions and duties of the Library, in which for the first time the responsibility of delivering information about culture and art was regulated for the NLV.
- Library Ordinance No. 31/2000/PL-UBTVQH10 by the Standing Committee of National Assembly dated December 28, 2000 and Decree No.72/2002/NĐ-CP dated August 6, 2002 of the Government on implementation of the Library Ordinance, regulated functions, mission and rights of the NLV.

- Decree No. 2638/2008/NĐ-CP dated June 11, 2008 by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Viet Nam on assigning functions, mission, rights and organizational structure of the NLV.
- Decree No. 888/QĐ-BVHTTDL dated March 28, 2014 of the Minister of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Viet Nam on regulating functions, mission, rights and organizational structure of the NLV.

Major Legal Deposit legislation:

- In 1922, the Governor-General of Indochina signed the Decree on implementing legal deposit of cultural products over Indochina and establishing the Legal Deposit Department. This Department had the function to collect books, newspapers, journals and maps published in the whole Indochina.
- In 1946, President Ho Chi Minh signed the Decree on legal deposit of Vietnamese cultural products. According to the decree, all Publishing and Printing Houses must submit new publications to the National Library.
- In 1976, Minister of Culture issued the Circular number 83-VHTT/VP give instructions to implement the regulations on deposit of cultural publication, which regulated that Publishing Houses and Printing Institutions must submit 05 copies each print publication to the NLV.
- In 1993, the National Assembly passed the Publishing Law, regulating that Publishing Houses and the Institutions which have the permission to publish materials must submit **04** copies each publication to the National Library; in the case that the total print number is less than 300 copies, they submit 2 copies to the NLV. This number of legal deposit materials then changed to **05** copies each publication in the new Publishing Law number 30/2004/QH11 since 2004, and to **03** copies each publication in the revised Publishing Law number 19/2012/QH13 since 2012.

2. FACTS AND FIGURES

2.1. Key milestones

- The Central Public Library of Indochina was the original name of the NLV when it was established on November 29, 1917. On September 1, 1919, the library was officially open to the public. In 1935, the Central Public Library of Indochina was renamed into Pierre Pasquier Library. In 1947, the name of the Library was changed into The Centre Library of Ha Noi. In 1958, the Library officially took the name the National Library of Viet Nam pursuant to the Decision of the Minister of Culture.
- In 1986, the NLV started to apply Information Technology to the library activity by creating databases and catalogue on the computer and for the first time compiling National Bibliography of Viet Nam. In 1993, the NLV's database started to be served in reading rooms. In 1994, the NLV created wide area network (WAN) connecting the NLV with provincial and municipality libraries.
- During 1996 - 2002, the NLV implemented the project to renovate the Library with major renovation of the old buildings and construction of 2 new buildings.

- Since 2000, the NLV became an official member of IFLA, CONSAL, CDNL and its Regional Section For Asia and Oceania - the CDNL-AO, RFBNN, WDL,... This has help broaden professional relations between the NLV and the world library community.
- In 2000, the National Assembly Standing Committee passed Library Ordinance, identifying the NLV as the central library of the whole country.
- In December 2001, the NLV started the project of building electronic library, promoting the application of Information Technology in not only the NLV but in public libraries in Viet Nam as well. Under this project, the integrated library software ILIB, developed by a Vietnameses company, was selected for the NLV and the major of provincial libraries in Viet Nam.
- In 2006, the Ministry of Culture and Information (now is the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism - MoCST) assigned the NLV the project to establish a Preservation Center at the NLV.
- Since 2006-2009, the NLV has successfully hosted CONSAL XIV EB meetings and its General Conference, and the 17th CDNL-AO meeting in Viet Nam.
- In 2008, the NLV officially launched the Electronic Library at the NLV.
- In 2012, the Government and the MoCST have invested the project “Strengthening the capacity of Digital Library and Digital Preservation at the NLV”;
- In 2012, the NLV successfully hosted the RFBNN annual meeting in Ha Noi.
- In 2014, the Government and the MoCST have approved the project: “Upgrading, Renovating the NLV towards Tradition-Modern-Digital Library”.

2.2. General administration and human resources

- Operating budget:

Total operating budget of the NLV in 2016 is about 1.3 million USD. In which, propotion of buget received from Government accounts for 2/3, propotion received from external sources accounts for 1/3.

- Human resources:

Currently, the NLV has 174 civil servants, officials and employees, in which there are 1 Doctor, 22 masters, 124 bachelors and 27 of other educational levels, 70% are female. The library has a Director, two Deputy Directors, a Science Council and 13 functional Divisions.

2.3. Collections

Statistics about NLV’s materials and information resources: <http://nlv.gov.vn/ef/en/information-resources.html>

- Physical items: over 2.5 million copies in total.

- Digital resources:

+ Self-develop digital resources: over 5 million pages, equivalent of about 34,000 titles/volumes, including such collections as Doctoral Theses, Indochina Books, Books and Maps about Ha Noi, Sino–Nom Books, Tapes, CD- ROMs, and English Books about Viet Nam.

+ Purchased online full-text documents: Including databases of Keesing's, ProQuest, Wilson, European books (EBM Center), Springer Images, Education Collection IG Publishing, Sage Premier, Sage Research methods, Sage Journal, Cambridge Journal online, National Geographic Magazine Archives, EBRARY, Viet Nam Journals Online-VJOL... Besides, the NLV has some digital collections which are served online via the library's website, such as the monthly/annually National Directory, training materials of SIDA Foundation, the ISO file of monthly directory data of NLV to be shared with other libraries in Viet Nam.

2.4. Reading services and other activities

- The NLV currently has 10 reading rooms which open 7 days a week, from 8am until 8pm. It offers both open stack reading service and on request reading service; however, it hasn't provided lending service yet because of limited copies and over crowded users.

- During the year, the NLV has opened 331 days, issued 10,361 membership cards, received 2,800,525 turns (equivalent to 8,460 turns a day) of visitors to reading rooms & website, circulated 764,544 turns of materials (equivalent to 2,310 turns a day), organized 51 training classes for 847 library users, met 3,317 information requests via the NLV's website, compiled 18 subject bibliographies and promoted exploration of online databases.

- Other major services include multimedia materials reading and internet access; targeted information searching, press clipping, photocopying and scanning; compiling subject/local history & selected bibliographies; organization of book display, book exhibition at home and abroad, holding book talks; organization of conferences, workshops, professional training courses and tutorials for readers and librarians nation wide; provision of professional advice in building new library, setting up computer network, software installation, hardware maintenance, cataloguing of library materials, conservation and restoration of materials, on request professional training, etc. to libraries across the country.

- As the biggest library of the country, the NLV also provides regular information publications as National Bibliography, Vietnamese Library Journal, Subjects Index, Key Words and many other technical instruction books.

3. A BRIEF GENERAL OVERVIEW OF RECENT MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS:

- Organized and co-organized in 15 exhibitions of books, painting and photos to celebrate major events of the country and promote culture exchange.

- Completed a Ministerial-level science research & two NLV-level science researches; continued to implement 2 projects of developing the national standards (TCVN "*Library operation-Terminologies and definitions on Library Products and Services*", and "*Library operation-Terminologies and definitions on Interlibrary Loan Transaction*").

- Continue to implement the project of "Translating, printing and training usage of RDA 2015 revision".

- Organize the Book Festival themed “*Books – Integration, Innovation & Development*” with many reading promotion activities to honor authors and their works, some new activities include the 11th Vietnam Book Award – 2015 Ceremony & book reading contest...
- Continue to promote programs of socializing the library activities in order to advocate agencies, organizations and individuals to donate books for the people living in remote areas with 21,041 books being handed over to those libraries; distributing 58,271 English books sponsored by The Asia Foundation to 177 library recipients nationwide. Giving attention and supports to city/provincial libraries in professional guidance, training staff, organize conferences, workshops and training courses.

4. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN BUILDING AND MANAGING COLLECTIONS:

- Collection Development:
 - + Through legal deposit source: acquired depository of 22,549 book titles (61,382 copies); Doctorial Theses: 2,716 titles; special publications: 626 titles (1,878 copies); periodicals (newspapers, magazines, newsletters): 47,120 issues (1,504 titles and 216,918 copies).
 - + Through purchase, exchange, and receive donation: 20,700 copies, including 17,023 Vietnamese books and 3,677 foreign language books; 1,095 issues (105 titles) of magazines, newspapers; 53 CDs; 03 online full-text databases.
- Technical processing: completed technical processing for 29,349 Vietnamese titles, including 22,951 titles of books, 588 special publications and 5,810 abstracts, 4,324 titles of foreign language books, 2,634 Doctorial Theses; 43,480 issues of magazines, newspapers. Continue to cooperate with publishing houses and book stores in assigning the CIP data.
- Preservation, Conservation of materials: conservation and binding 3,609 books; 5,200 episodes of newspapers and magazines; restoring 96,981 pages.
- IT application: digitized 135,667 pages of books, 33,401 pages of newspapers, magazines; 40,197 pages of microform materials...

5. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN PROVIDING ACCESS TO COLLECTIONS:

On November 24, 2016, the NLV launched the S.hub Sharing Space – a model of “Smart Library 2.0” with innovative library services. This is a cooperation program between the NLV and Samsung Vina Electronics Company and is implemented to meet the increasing demand of the public about a modern space which can inspire learning and sharing knowledge.

The S.hub Sharing Space consists of three elements. First, modern spaces and high-tech equipment such as projection screens, lookup tables, computers for quick information retrieval demand, tablets and PCs for personal learning demand, interactive smart screens and a specialized loudspeaker system for the multimedia room, etc. Second, an online exchange space using www.s-hub.vn website as the portal of communication between readers and S.hub Sharing Space with such functions as reserving a meeting room/an event area or register for participating in any event to be held at S.hub, etc. Finally, in order to maximally facilitate the learning and expanding relationship of the young, S.hub will regularly organize thematic activities with a variety of topics and in different forms such as seminars, presentation, etc.

6. NOTES ON YOUR COLLABORATION WITH OTHER LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES AND MUSEUMS IN YOUR COUNTRY:

- The National Library of Viet Nam is independent with other libraries in terms of funding and administration. It has the strongest professional influence over the other libraries in the country. It is also Viet Nam's biggest library, the national bibliography publisher and the sole national legal depository agency which acquires and houses the most sufficient collection of materials published in Viet Nam and Indochina since 1917.
- In the relationship with other libraries in Viet Nam, it has the task to conduct scientific research in the field of library and information science, apply scientific and technological advances to professional activities, and give advise and provide professional instructions for librarians all over the country through various channels such as compiling professional guides, providing continuing education and training, organizing conferences and workshops on librarianship.... The NLV also has the function to promote international cooperation in the library section through participating in international library associations, developing and implementing projects to seek donations of materials, library equipments from foreign libraries and organizations; through organizing international conferences, professional experience sharing workshops, and co-organize documentary exhibitions domestic and overseas.

7. NOTES ON INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

In the year 2016, the NLV has renewed the MoU with the National Library of France, sign new MoU with the National Diet Library and MoU on WOK cooperation with the National Library of Korea. Under these MoU, cooperation activities will be promoted in the fields of material exchange, staff exchange, enhancement of digital collection and organization of joint seminars, workshops, conferences, exhibitions...