

Conference of Directors of National Libraries in Asia and Oceania Annual meeting of 2018 – at the National Library of Myanmar (Naypyitaw), Myanmar

Annual Report of the National Library of Viet Nam

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Name of country: Viet Nam
Name of library: National Library of Viet Nam
Name of Director: Kieu Thuy Nga
Name of contact person for international liaison: Bui Thi Thuy
Mailing address: 31 Trang Thi St., Hoan Kiem Dist., Ha Noi, Viet Nam
Telephone: +84-4-38248870
Fax: +84-4-38248051
Website: <http://www.nlv.gov.vn>
Email address for international contacts: btthuy@nlv.gov.vn

1. GENERAL OVERVIEW

During the year 2017, the National Library of Viet Nam (NLV) has effectively implemented its plans and goals, and achieved many outstanding results as follows:

- Successfully organize activities to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the NLV (29.11.1917 – 29.11.2017). On this occasion, the NLV is proud to receive the First-Class Labor Medal of the State President.
- Promote collecting legal deposit publications, doctoral theses; acquiring foreign materials via exchange and donation with an increase of 10%-12% over the same period year; well fulfill technical processing of materials with an increase of 17-40% over the plan; building and supplementing digital resources, online databases, contributing significantly to the NLV's information resources.
- Improve quality of users' services: launch the Children's Cultural Library at the NLV, which is a new library model with a complex space, combining reading with cultural experiences activities such as music, movies, talent development, etc. aiming to help children nurture the reading habit, equip them with information and skills of lifelong learning, enable them to participate in and contribute to the society.

- Successfully organize the 3rd INELI-ASEAN Convening in Ha Noi from November 27-30 with over 60 participants from ASEAN countries.
- Well fulfill the project of translating and printing RDA and officially launched the Vietnamese version on November 22, 2017.
- Well support the local libraries, with 6,100 Vietnamese books donation to libraries with difficulties and 16,334 English books of The Asia Foundation to over 160 library institutions nation-wide.

2. RELATIONSHIP TO GOVERNMENT

The National Library of Viet Nam is a governmental agency under the management of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, the centre library which has the greatest professional influence on other libraries in the country. The NLV is the only agency that receives and stores the most sufficient collection of Vietnamese publications and doctoral theses of Vietnamese people presented domestic and overseas as well as of foreigners presented in Viet Nam according to the legal deposit law. It is also the agency to compile and publish National Bibliography and other scientific information publications, conduct scientific, technological research in the field of library – information, organize professionally further training courses and provide professional guidance to librarians throughout the country.

3. KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

- Materials and information resources:

Currently, the NLV has a print collection of over 2.5 million items and a digital collection of over 5 millions pages created by the NLV, including the following collections:

*** *Print publications:***

- Vietnamese publications and books about Viet Nam: > 1,580,000 items
- Doctoral thesis: 29,200 sets
- Sino-Nom books: 5,280 items
- Indochina collection: 68,500 titles (1,700 newspapers, magazines)
- Document of resistance period (1946-1954) : 3,996 items
- Foreign language collections: > 500,000 titles
- Newspaper, magazines: 9,000 titles in Vietnamese and foreign languages

*** *Digital collections:***

- Doctoral thesis: 4.5 million pages
- Sino-Nom books: 147,955 pages
- Indochina newspapers, magazines: 283,841 pages
- English books about Viet Nam: 92,520 pages
- CD/DVD collection: 3,500 units
- Purchased Online databases: ProQuest, Wilson, Sage Journals, Sage Research methods, Igroup Publishing, SpringerNature, ...

*** *Microform materials:***

- 10,000 books (microfilm) published before 1954 in Viet Nam, those were the present from National Library of France.
- 4,300 microfilm rolls taken by NLV

In addition, there are also many other special publications and information objects, such as: pictures, photos, maps, thousands of foreign titles about Viet Nam, written by Vietnamese people and/or published overseas.

4. INFRASTRUCTURES

The project of upgrading and renovating the National Library of Viet Nam's buildings invested by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Viet Nam has completed phase II and is planned to be implemented since 2018.

5. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN CREATION AND BUILDING COLLECTION

The NLV collection is built up by such resources as through the operation of the legal deposit law, book exchanges, acquisition and receiving gifts, donation from institutions and individuals in Viet Nam and overseas. These resources have dramatically increased recently.

In 2017, the NLV has acquired depositary of 22,588 titles (62,589 copies); doctoral theses: 2,528 sets; Special publications: 906 titles (2,178 copies); Periodicals (newspapers, magazines, newsletter): 47,126 issues (1,566 titles and 214,275). The acquisition source via purchase, exchange, donate achieve the total amount of 26,675 copies of books including 22,532 Vietnamese books and 4,143 foreign language books; 1,095 issues (110 titles) of magazines; 218 CDs; 03 online full-text databases: ProQuest, Springer, IG Publishing.

6. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN MANAGING COLLECTION

- Technical processing:

+ Books, doctoral theses: Completed technical process for 28,085 titles, including 22,701 titles of books, 848 special publications, 4,536 abstracts, 4,401 titles of foreign language books; 2,525 doctoral theses.

+ Periodicals: Completed technical process for 43,897 magazines, newspapers, including: Vietnamese: 42,291 issues; foreign languages: 1,606 issues.

+ Completed handling and binding of 3,299 books; binding 5,246 newspapers, magazine; do conservation of 77,392 pages.

+ Digitize 133,309 pages of newspaper, 30,472 pages of book, 29,612 pages of microforms, do docWork handle of 23,986 pages.

7. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN PROVIDING ACCESS

In 2017, the NLV opened 332 days, issued 10,400 membership cards, total access of readers on-site and off-site (online access) were 4,638,857 visits (equivalent of 13,972 visits/day). Circulated documents reached 696,422 (average of 9,097 items/day).

Regularly organize 53 training classes for new users; meet 3,317 online inquiries via the NLV website; build 18 bibliographies for exhibition and meet demands of individuals and institutions.

In November 2017, the NLV launch a new service for children from age 3 to 13: the Children's Cultural Library (CCL) at the NLV. CCL is designed based on the idea about children's dream tree. This is a complex space that combines reading with cultural experience activities for children such as music, movies, talent development... It is composed of three elements: (1) modern library space with reading and cultural experience supportive state-of-the-art equipment, (2) rich and updated books in three languages: Vietnamese, Korean and English; toys and traditional musical instruments of Viet Nam and Korea, (3) diverse cultural experience activities - practicing music, watching movies, developing talent.

8. COLLABORATIONS WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS AND PROFESSION ASSOCIATIONS

- 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 and Vietnamese Library Journal 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 its establishment in 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 advice 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 equipment from foreign libraries and organizations; through organizing international conferences, professional experience sharing workshops, and co-organize documentary exhibitions domestic and overseas.

In 2017, the NLV continues to effectively implement international cooperation programs and projects with some typical activities like cooperate with the International Cultural Foundation, Korea to successfully implement the project of building the Children's Cultural Library at the NLV; successfully organize the 3rd INELI-ASEAN Convening in Ha Noi.

- In relationship with the Vietnamese Library Association (VLA): The NLV hosts office for the VLA as well as provide supporting human resources for daily work of the Association.

- The NLV's leader also participate in many professional Associations in Ha Noi, such as: Viet Nam – Chi Le Friendship Association, Viet Nam – Spain Friendship Association, Viet Nam – China Cultural Exchange Club, Viet Nam – Japan Friendship Association, Viet Nam – India Friendship Association... The NLV therefore regularly cooperate with these association in organizing cultural exchange activities.

9. EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- In 2017, the NLV has successfully completed one scientific research on “Completing the Policy for Information Technology Development for the NLV”; and the National Standardization Project TCVN “Information and Documentation – Interlibrary loan”; is carrying out the scientific research on “Improving quality of science research and professional guidance of the NLV”.

- In November 2017, the NLV organized the launching ceremony to officially announce the cataloguing rules RDA-Vietnamese version.

- In March 2017, in Ho Chi Minh City, the NLV organized a symposium to further exchange, discuss, and receive comments from scientists, managers and experts in the field of library-information and standards for the second draft of the National Standard TCVN “Information and Documentation – Interlibrary loan”.
- During the year, the NLV continues to provide professional guidance and support technical matters for many province/city libraries and some departments throughout the country.