



NATIONAL LIBRARY OF VIETNAM

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1. General overview of recent major developments at the library

- The National Library of Vietnam (NLV) is implementing named project "Cataloguing in Publication" (CIP) funded by the Atlantic Philanthropies (USA), is favored by Publishing Houses across country. Training courses are being conducted for staff in charge from Publishers and cataloguers; it resulted in catalogued records have being made and submit to the NLV.

- "DDC22 translation to Vietnamese" (the full edition of DDC 22) project has also implementing under supervisor of OCLC, funded by the Atlantic Philanthropies via RMIT University/Australia.

- Completed successfully the pilot project funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation on "Strengthening capacity of computer usage and internet access for librarians in public libraries in Vietnam" implemented in Thai Nguyen, Nghe An and Tra Vinh provinces in Vietnam (31st March 2010)

- The NLV signed in the letter agreement to carry out project "Books for Asia" funded by the Asia Foundation on period 2009-2012.

- Approval from the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism on March 2009, the National Library of Vietnam is master the scientific research named "Research on information technology applications and solutions to improve the organization and operation of the district libraries". It will be finished on 2/2011

- IFLA/FAIFE workshop on transparency, good governance and freedom from corruption was organized at the National Library of Vietnam (NLV) for 20 librarians from public, academic

libraries on November 2009 funded by the IFLA/FAIFE (introduced by Prof. Paul Sturges – chair of IFLA/FAIFE)

- Training workshop on “Techniques on boxes making and Sino-nom preservation” conducted at the NLV on June 2009 for librarians from Vietnamese public and academic libraries. It was funded by the US Embassy in Hanoi and introduced by Dr. John Dean – Cornell University.

- Training classes on “Improving communication skills on library services”, “Introduction and exploit information resources” and “International protocol practice” held at the NLV for hundred librarians from various libraries in the on 22-23 March 2010.

2. Library’s relationship to government, citation of legislation which sets out the library’s mandate

Pursuant to the Library Ordinance dated on 28 December 2000 and Decree No 72/2002/NĐ-CP dated on 06 August 2002 of the Government on implement the Library Ordinance, the National library of Vietnam is the central library of the country assigned with mission is to develop culturally advanced individuals inspired with a love for knowledge, acquired through lifelong reading and thereby to cultivate the minds of the Vietnamese towards excellence and innovations which can enhance the tradition of knowledge of the nation.

Pursuant to the Decree No 2638/2008/NĐ-CP dated on 11 June 2008 of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism Vietnam assigned functions, mission, rights and organizational structure of the National Library of Vietnam stated that the NLV is the central library of the nation, is a Government agency under the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism assigned with functions as gathering, conserving of national bibliographies, acquisition, preservation, exploit and using documentary sources at home and abroad. The National Library of Vietnam has its own legal capacity, seal and separate accounts.

Another official document from the Government makes the driving force for library activities in Vietnam on Decree No.56/2007/QĐ-TTg dated on 03 May 2007 of the Prime Minister of Vietnam indicated that building-up digital library is one of nine focal point within framework to develop digital industry in Vietnam to 2010.

Pursuant to Decree No.257/QĐ-BVHTTDL dated on 20 January 2010 of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Vietnam approved and appointed the NLV to implement the project “Strengthening capacity on digital library and digital preservation at the National Library of Vietnam”

3. Key facts and figures

The National Library of Vietnam has a staff of 176 employees and it is divided into 13 divisions. Every year, the NLV issued over 30,000 membership cards to its users and it receives 2,000 visits per day.

It is the largest library in the nation with **collections** of all kinds in various languages.

<i>National collection:</i>	The NLV is designated to be the unique national agent of legal deposit. Annually, it receives about 20,000 copies submitted from 60 Publishers across the country.
<i>Book collection:</i>	included over 1,500,000 volumes of books in Vietnamese and many foreign languages.
<i>Periodicals collection:</i>	comprised of 9,000 titles with millions of volumes of Vietnamese and foreign newspapers and magazines.
<i>Indochina collection:</i>	is comprised of 67,600 volumes of books, journals and newspaper published in French Indochinese territories from 1861 to 1954.
<i>Sino-nom collection:</i>	is considered as the rare collections in Nom scripts. It is made up by over 5,265 manuscripts written in old Vietnamese language which was derived from Chinese scripts.
<i>Doctoral theses collection:</i>	is comprised of over 15,600 doctoral theses within by Vietnamese at Vietnamese and foreign institutions and by foreigner written in Vietnam
<i>Microfilm, microfiche collection</i>	included 1,812 reels of negative microfilm. More than 10,000 titles of periodicals published in Indochina before 1954 are also backed up by microfilm.
<i>Multimedia collection:</i>	consists of over 1,000 items of audiovisual materials on various subjects on a variety of storage media such as tape, video, CD-ROM, DVD, data server, etc.
<i>Digitalized material collection</i>	includes 2,5 million pages digitalized
<i>English books about Vietnam</i>	included 338 copies
<i>Books from the Asia Foundation</i>	6,000 copies

4. New developments in creating and building collections

- Besides receiving the deposit of publications and doctoral theses to enrich collection; the NLV continues to maintain and strengthen close relationships with other institutions, NGOs, embassies and get materials donated from the World Bank, Asia Foundation, and the embassies in Vietnam, from the National library of Korea, Spain, Russia, France, and China etc....

- Recently, on 25th of March 2010, director of NLV has joined in meeting of the “Network of digital national library of the Francophone” in Paris - OIF (organisation internationale de la Francophonie) and signed in the constitution to share and use electronic information resources among libraries of OIF. The constitution enables NLV to share and exploit digital resources among nation members of OIF.

- An initiation has taken into account when NLV promotes cooperate with publishers to obtain electronic copies of publication to add to library collection. Within cooperation theme between the NLV and Hanoi Publishing House, hundred of publications about Hanoi are being submitted to

NLV for anniversary of 1000 years of Thang Long – Hanoi which contribute to establishment books about Hanoi collection.

- Besides that, in order to enrich the databases, the NLV continues to digitize 1,393 volumes of doctoral theses (about 287,775 pages) in 2009.

5. New developments in managing collections

- Collection is regularly checked to find out damaged items, shorten time mending within a week to ensure quality of library's collection.
- The NLV has its own policy to improve quality of library's information resources and make priority to develop rare collection such as Sino-Nom collection in upcoming time.

6. New developments in providing access to collections

- Training class two times a month is conducted for new memberships of library aimed introduce library's information resources and methods to exploit information.

- Upload Sino-nom database on NLV's website to support library users with on-site search from April 2009

- Launched the digital collection celebrated anniversary of 1000 years of Thang Long – Hanoi on website of NLV aided whom interested in Hanoi.

7. Collaboration between the library and other national collecting institutions

- Maintain friendship relation with National library of Spain, Russia, France, China to exchange documents and culture cooperation.

- The NLV signed in the letter of agreement with the National Library of Korea in April 2009 to commit lead the friendship relation to a new step on professional exchange and cooperation