

## Country Report from the National Library of China

**Name of Country:**

**The People's Republic of China**

**Name of Library:**

**National Library of China (NLC)**

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### **1. General Overview**

The Year of 2011 was the beginning of the Twelfth Five-Year Plan of China, the first year of carrying out the Twelfth Five-Year Plan and the Innovation Year of National Library of China. All the business developed comprehensively all over the year, including that the collection quantity kept growth, the collection quality has been improved steadily, and the services ability was raised. Key projects have been carried out, and the work of the whole year has achieved remarkable success. In 2011, NLC received 4.48million visitors and the number of circulating books and journals has reached 25.77million. Besides, NLC handled 548.9 thousand reference cases, and issued 191.1thousand reader cards. The number of NLC websites visitors reached 750 million.

### **2. Relationship to Government**

National Library of China strengthened the relationship between the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Education, the General Administration of Press and Publication, and China Association for Science and Technology in 2011. NLC continually enhanced the services provided to branch libraries for ministries and commissions and there are now 13 such branch libraries. 16 Historical and Culture Lectures for Ministers organized by the library were held all the year round, and totally 174 were held through the past ten years. Historical and

Culture Lectures for Ministers Tenth Anniversary Celebration was held and several national leaders participated in all kinds of activities undertaken by the library.

### **3. Key Facts and Figures**

National Library of China started to implement the NLC First-phase Maintenance and Reconstruction Project to improve the ability of documents reservation, protection and preservation as the repository of the nation's publications in 2011, which was the first comprehensive maintenance of the NLC First-phase after coming into service. NLC suspended some public services and nearly 15 million volumes of documents were relocated in another stack room far from here, as well as rearranging the reader service place and working place, which made adequate preparation for the project. The project will be ended in 2012, at that time the equipment of the stack room in the NLC First-phase will be sharply promoted, and the environment will be comprehensively managed and controlled, and the ability of fire control and security will be greatly improved.

### **4. New Developments in Creating and Building Collection**

National Library of China enhanced legal deposit management, expanded the scope of documents collection and actively carried forward the blending as well as traditional resources and digital resources in 2011. The repository of the nation's documents emerged and the collection sustained growth, where traditional collection and digital collection, real collection and virtual collection are complementary and making common development. There were 987 thousand volumes or pieces of newly accessioned real documents and the documents collection reached 29.94 million volumes or pieces. 76.3TB digital resources newly increased and the collection of digital resources reached 561.3TB in total.

### **5. New Developments in Managing Collection**

National Library of China continued to implement the 'Chinese Ancient Books Preservation Project', and completed applying for the fourth list of National Valuable Ancient Books and the review of that, and launched the situation investigation of overseas ancient books, and speed up compiling the 'Continuation of Chinese Rare Books Rescue Project' in 2011. NLC started to carry out the documents of Republic of China period preservation plan, which has laid a solid foundation for documents census and registration, building the union catalogue for the national documents of Republic of China period, and carrying out special documents collection and arrangement in order.

## **6. New Developments in Providing Access**

National Library of China strengthened the legislative reference services, conducted special documents research for national key and hot problems in advance and completed 1540 reference cases in total in 2011. The Digital Library Promotion Project (DLPP) was launched in 2011. DLPP will use the Internet, Mobile Communication Network and Broadcast & TV Network as the transmission channels, provide multilevel, diverse and specialized digital library services for the public through public libraries at different levels, mobile phones, digital TVs and mobile TVs, which will overall elevate the service ability of public libraries around the country and build a new form of library service based on the new media. NLC also intensified the services for the children and people with disabilities such as holding series of children reading promotion activities named 'Services Going into Campus' and building a special reading room for people with visual impairment and digital libraries for people with disabilities.

## **7. Collaborations with Other Institutions and Professional Associations**

National Library of China has focused on the construction of public culture services system, and thus strengthened the collaborations with provincial libraries, archives and museums. The library also tightly cooperated with publishers, universities and research institutions especially in the field of public reading and information literacy. On the international cooperation side, such international programs as the World Digital Library project, Digital Libraries of China, Japan and Korea Project continued to be push forward. NLC also went on keeping bilateral exchange of professional visits and staff training with Japan, Singapore and Korea, etc.

## **8. Education and Training**

National Library of China further strengthened the culture education and training for the public and held a series of exhibitions, lectures and training activities in 2011. Those large exhibitions are 'Hardship and Glory——Valuable Historical Documents in Commemorating the 90th Anniversary of Chinese Community Party (1921-1949)', 'Broad and Extensive Collections——Chinese Classics and Intangible Cultural Heritage' and 'the Awakening of the East——A Photo Exhibition of the Centenary of China's 1911 Revolution'. NLC held 'the Exhibition of National Library of China' all over the country. There were 59 exhibitions and 111 lectures held in total all the year round and more than 420 thousand readers participated. Besides, NLC actively pushed forward national library lecture union, and encourage the lecture sharing, as well as holding a series of professional training courses for librarians in cooperation with Library Society of China.

National Library of China drew up two special work plans for talent development and research, continued to expand staff recruitment and talents cultivation, and implemented basic professional knowledge and skills training for the whole staff in 2011. NLC has 39 persons with senior professional titles, 250 persons with associate senior professional titles, and 755 persons with intermediate professional titles. The research work has made great progress that there are five National Social and Scientific Fund programs and National Culture Innovation programs and one National Science and Technology Support programs approved.