

## COUNTRY REPORT

### 21<sup>st</sup> CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL LIBRARIES IN ASIA AND OCEANIA (CDNLAO) 2013

#### NATIONAL LIBRARY OF VIET NAM

<b>Name of Country:</b>	Viet Nam
<b>Name of Library:</b>	National Library of Viet Nam
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#### 1. GENERAL OVERVIEW OF RECENT MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

##### *1.1. Prominent achievements:*

National Library of Viet Nam (NLV)'s leaders, officials and staff were all in effort to successfully complete the assigned tasks and has the honor to receive the First Class Independence Order on the occasion of 95<sup>th</sup> National Library of Viet Nam's Anniversary of Establishment (29/11/1917 – 29/11/2012)

##### *1.2. NLV's activities and events recently*

###### *1.2.1. Social and Cultural Events:*

- March 2013: The NLV co-operated with the Embassy of Finland to organize the exhibition of Finnish poster art "100 years - 100 posters" at the Library in Hanoi, from 19th to 24th March.

- February 2012: NLV organized material exhibition on studying and working follow president Ho Chi Minh's moral example and mind.

- January 2012: NLV displayed special issues of the journals and magazines published on the occasion of the New Year.

- November 2012: On 29<sup>th</sup> November 2012, the National Library of Viet Nam (NLV) solemnly celebrated the 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Establishment and received the First Class Independence Order - the noble award granted to the NLV by the Government. On this occasion, the exhibition was held under the title "***The NLV – The place that conserves the knowledge and inspire the creativity***" with over 500 units of books, newspapers, abstracts, photos, pictures with diverse format and rich content has been opened, helping the public and readers

understand more about the history, stages of development and achievements of the NLV – the central library of the country during the 95-year journey of developing along with the history of the country.

- October 2012, the NLV organizes the Exhibition “*Stylish Chặm ethnic minority culture*” in Ninh Thuận province, Viet Nam

- September 2012: The material exhibition was held by the co-operation between the NLV and the Publishing Directorate on the occasion of *the 60-year Celebration of Viet Nam Book Publishing-Printing-Issuing Industry (1952-2012)* at the National Exhibition Centre, Ha Noi, Viet Nam

- July 2012: Material Exhibition organized by the National Library of Viet Nam and the Central Party Committee celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of establishing Diplomatic Relations and the 35<sup>th</sup> years of signing the Treaty of friendship and co-operation between Viet Nam and Laos in Ho Chi Minh and Cayson Phomvihan Museum in Laos.

- July 2012: NLV has conducted a preliminary review the first 6 months of the year 2012 with many outstanding accomplishments into effective social services; concurrently determining the direction, key tasks of the upcoming 6 months towards 95 years Anniversary of NLV in November 2012.

- June 2012: To continue strengthening co-operation through cultural activities with the Embassy and NGOs in Viet Nam, in June 2012, NLV has collaborated with Austrian Embassy in Hanoi to organize an exhibition of famous artist – Gustav Klimt. Concurrently, continues to receive the donated books from the Embassy of Chile and Embassy of Pakistan in Viet Nam which enable NLV to enrich the book collection in foreign languages and promoting cultural exchange activities.

- May 2012: EUNIC, Association of Cultural Institute and the Embassy of Europe, in cooperation with NLV, introduced European Literature the second time in the library building. The event successfully held, the readers and public concerned as gave positive feedback.

- April 2012: On the occasion of World Book and Copyright Day – 23 April, NLV held “2012 Book Festival” with the topic: “Book – Knowledge: Origin of Success” which was widely welcomed and supported. During the Festival, NLV was the central point to receive fundings from 53 organizations/ individuals in and outside the country, with more than 47,713 books and many other valuable gifts. These books and equipments were moved to 10 province libraries; 5 school libraries; 2 district libraries, island districts; 3 borders in the North West, Quang Binh, and Quang Nam.

- April, 2012: Opening the Exhibition of “Interesting, beautiful and rare books” during the “Book Festival” to introduce about the variety, and diversity as well as the rarity of Vietnamese books: those types of documents from the past to present, strange materials, unique documents, the award-winning books etc.

- February, 2012, at NLV, Mr. Jorge Rondon Uzcategui - Ambassador of the Republic of Venezuela in Vietnam donated 200 books "Simón Bolívar- the Hero of National Liberation, the founder of the country" for libraries in Viet Nam.

- January 2012: NLV in cooperation with the U.S Embassy in Hanoi opened an exhibition "Using drugs safely, rationally, and efficiently."

#### *1.2.2. Project/Cooperation Programs:*

The project was well maintained, almost implemented beyond progress so it brought high efficiency:

- The project DDC22/23 Classification Scheme was invested by Ministry of Culture, Sports & Tourism and capitalized by Atlantic Philanthropies
- The project Cataloguing in Publication (CIP) was invested by Ministry of Culture, Sports & Tourism
- Implementing the Phase I of the project "Strengthening capacity on digital library and digital preservation at the National library of Vietnam" was invested by Ministry of Culture, Sports & Tourism.
- The project to receive and distribute English books was capitalized by The Asia Foundation – USA for 160 public libraries, specialized and university library across the country period 2012-2015
- The project to upgrade and renovate the National Library of Vietnam invested by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Viet Nam, the Government of Viet Nam
- Compiling the training materials for the Project of Bill&Melinda Gates Foundation, Phase II

#### *1.2.3. Conference/Workshop, training courses*

- In March 2012 NLV in cooperation with The Asia Foundation opened the training workshop "Enhancement of reader service provision for Books for Asia recipient libraries in Vietnam" for over 76 librarians of recipient libraries in the North and North Central provinces of Vietnam under the Books for Asia program (BFA program) funded by The Asia Foundation (TAF). The training course takes place in two days (12-13 March 2012) in the framework of the BFA program for Vietnamese libraries in the period of 2009-2012.
- In October, 2012, NLV co-operated with Vietnamese Library Association conducting the training workshop "*Leadership development for executive board members and aspiring leaders of vietnamese library association*" funded by IFLA.

- In November, 2012 NLV organizes Conference on “Role of the national library and library-information agencies on building national digital collection of Viet Nam”, there were presented of IT experts from National library of Germany and China

#### 1.2.4. Scientific and professional research works:

- NLV has been conducting one scientific topic at the Ministry level
- The project of building Vietnamese standards on glossary and definition of library activities is being implemented.
- NLV conducts three scientific topics at the institutional level on *RDA’s researches; Building friendly reading environment; providing information services for leaders.*
- Published the *Set of keywords* compiled by the National Library of Viet Nam
- To contribute the feedback and members of drafting committee “Library Law”; “Publication Law”
- Presenting papers at the Consal XV General Conference in Bali, Indonesia 2012
- Participated in many seminars, symposia inside and outside the country.

## **2. RELATIONSHIP TO GOVERNMENT**

NLV is the Central Library (Decision of Establishment dated on 29/11/1917 and Decision number 401-TTg – on 9 October, 1976 of the Prime Minister) of The Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Nowadays, NLV belongs to Ministry of Culture, Sports & Tourism; NLV’s activities aimed to the country development and the community’s needs of research, study, and entertainment

- Decision number 401-TTg – on 9 October, 1976 of the Prime Minister about functions, and responsibilities of the National Library.
- Library Ordinance No. 31/2000/PL-UBTVQH of National Assembly Committee on 28 December, 2000 and Decree number 72/2002/NĐ-CP on 6 August, 2002 of the Government about the details of library ordinance.
- Decree number 92/2006/NĐ-CP on 7 September, 2006 of the Government about setting up, approving, and managing the overall planning about economy-society development.
- Decision number 581/QĐ-TTg of the Government on 6 May, 2009 about approving culture development strategy to the year 2020.

- Decision number 56/2007/QĐ-TTg on 3 May, 2007 of the Prime Minister about approving the program of industry development to the year 2010
- Decision number 257/QĐ-BVHTTDL on 20 January, 2010 of Ministry of Culture, Sports & Tourism about approving investment policy and capability improvement Digital Library and Digital preservation at National Library of Vietna.
- Decision number 2368/NĐ-CP on 11 June, 2008 of Ministry of Culture, Sports & Tourism about regulations of functions, duties, powers, and organizational structure of NLV.
- Decision number 10/2007/QĐ-BVHTT on 4 May, 2007 of Ministry of Culture, Sports & Tourism about approving the development plan of Vietnam Library to the year 2010 and orientation plans to the year 2020.

### **3. KEY FACTS AND FIGURES**

#### *3.1. Library readers:*

Every year, the Library issues over 30,000 card readers, the total access of readers at the library and online approximately 3,063,700 visits (average 9,078 visits) per day

#### *3.2. Materials and information resources*

##### *3.2.1. Traditional Information resources*

**Total collection:** over 2.6 million volumes

#### **\* Books and other types of publication**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Types</b>	<b>Quantities (volumes)</b>
1	Legal deposit books	<b>1,380,000</b>
2	Vietnamese books	<b>599,996</b>
3	English books	<b>109,458</b>
4	French books	<b>47,536</b>
5	Russian books	<b>264,933</b>
6	Japanese & Korean books	<b>4,394</b>
7	Chinese books	<b>48,700</b>
8	Forms of pictures/photos	<b>3,709</b>
9	Forms of music	<b>10,597</b>
10	Maps	<b>3,193</b>

11	Doctor's theses	19,181
12	Indochina books	67,600
13	Sino - Nom books	5,364
14	English books about Vietnam	338
15	Book collection about Thang Long-Ha Noi	850
16	Ethnic books	1,076
17	Series	65
18	Reference materials	4,543
19	Library Profession materials	3,383

**\* Periodicals**

No.	Types	Quantities (titles)
1.	Legal deposit periodicals	1,322
2.	Vietnamese periodicals	1,658
3.	English periodicals	2,155
4.	French periodicals	979
5.	Russian periodicals	792
6.	Chinese periodicals	500
7.	Indochina periodicals	1,745
8.	Periodicals in other languages	820
9.	Reference periodicals	1,745
10.	Periodicals of profession material storage	47
11.	Microfilm	755
12.	Microfiche	10,000

3.2.2. Digital material resources:

**\* Self-developed digital resources:**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Names of the collections</b>	<b>Quantities of digital copies</b>	<b>Quantities (pages)</b>
1	<i>Doctoral theses</i>	<b>16,000</b>	<b>2,500,000</b>
2	<i>Indochina materials</i>	<b>900</b>	<b>130,333</b>
3	<i>Books about Thang Long – Ha Noi</i>	<b>850</b>	<b>407,970</b>
4	<i>English books about Viet Nam</i>	<b>338</b>	<b>92,520</b>
5	<i>Classical Drama, Reformed theatre</i>	<b>90</b>	<b>4,818</b>
6	<i>Sino – Nom materials</i>	<b>1,293</b>	<b>220,542</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>19,471</b>	<b>3,356,183</b>

**\* Online full-text material resources by subscribed/purchased**

- Keesing database: a complete, accurate, and concise collection of articles all over the world about politics, economics-society from 1931 to present.
- ProQuest database: includes 11,250 magazine titles, including 8,400 full-text magazine titles, 479 full-text reports; 30,000 full-text thesis; 44,000 business files; more than 3,000 industry reports.
- Wilson database includes 569 magazines on the sciences of technical applications such as: Applied Mathematics; Artificial Intelligence, Automatic Control; Atmosphere study, Chemical Technology, Automotive Engineering, Technology Information and Communication, Food, Manufacturing, Mining, Metallurgy.
- Vietnam Law Database, the French-Vietnamese legislators.
- European book database about international trade.

**3.3. Organization structure:**

NLV has 176 employees and labor contracts, in which there is one doctor, 21 masters, 121 bachelors of library and other majors.

The library has a Board of Directors, Science Council and 13 functional Divisions: Preservation Division, Cataloguing Division, International Relations

Division, Automation Division, Administration and Personnel Division, Reading rooms, Reference Division, Vietnam Library Magazine Division, Security Division.

#### **4. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN CREATING AND BUILDING COLLECTION**

Through the operation of exchanging, adding, and donating, the library's material resource has dramatically increased in the recent time.

##### *4.1. The process of adding material resources:*

NLV added to the library's depository in total is 337,978 titles and volumes through:

- Legal deposit publications books 15,710 titles (76,979 volumes); Doctor's thesis 1,612 volumes; Special editions 629 titles (3,145 volumes); periodicals 45,863 issues (1,092 titles of 231,201 volumes)
- Resources of purchase, exchange, and donation: 6,844 volumes (4,043 titles) and 176 CD-ROMs
- NLV purchased 3 full text databases Keesing, Proquest and EBM Center

NLV continues to socialize the process of adding material resources, reinforce the process of collecting books, newspapers from social organizations and the community. Until now, the organization has received donated books and materials from Korean Cultural Centre in Vietnam, Belgium Wallonie Brussels delegation, Pakistan, Chile Embassy in Viet Nam with other individuals and social organizations have enriched and diversified the library's material resources.

##### *4.2. The library's publications:*

- *Bibliography*: Regularly publishing the *Annual National Bibliography*, *Monthly Bibliography*, *specialized Bibliography*, *characteristic Bibliography*, *Monography Bibliography* served Exhibition activities, the district and city libraries, organizations, individuals etc.
- *Vietnam Library Journals* periodically published 2 months/ an issue, regularly organized collaborator conference, continuously upgrading the magazines' form and quality, so that they will be developing to become the library's specialized journals.
- *The Set of Keywords* compiled and published by the National Library of Viet Nam 2012



## **5. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN MANAGING COLLECTION**

To successfully manage the material collection, also let the data exchange process more convenient, improve the service's quality; approach to libraries of other countries in the region and in the world, the Library always cares about the professional application with international standards in recent years.

The library's staff is equipped with knowledge and classification skills to use international classification standards; at the same time always study, research and learns the experience which other countries have when they apply new library standards for cataloguing such as RDA for library's resources.

In recent years, the process of handling material profession has been strengthened and has obtained high efficiency and it is the important factor in developing the library's data resources. NLV has added to the digital collection 26,022 digitalized pages; re-arranging the collection; doing the survey, making statistics and classified the Sino-Nom storage; periodicals published before 1954. The preservation works are focused: re-binding and restoration 4,989 volumes, 5,093 issues of periodicals: 54,229 pages, microfilmed 3,090 metres.

## **6. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN PROVIDING ACCESS TO COLLECTIONS**

In order to improve the efficiency, NLV is always interested in updating and developing the library's website, through the website, the Library has been promoting more deeply, and more specifically the image as well as resource's potentials – including the most complete edition which are published all over the country and library's services to readers in and outside the country. Wherever or whenever the readers want, they could approach more easily and more conveniently to the library and the library's services, especially looking up services, looking for resources and information through the catalogue, the library's online database. The website also allows the library to link, share, and exchange documents, information about transactions with the librarians and other libraries.

The effective application of IT in the library's operation, automatic administration of reader's data, directory database management, the full-text database creation... are a very important task to timely meeting with the development of digital libraries, the needs of readers, and to ensure that data are

regularly duplicated and saved in order to avoid the condition of data loss. Frequently update and upgrade the website's information content.

The library conducted regular classes "Library's guidance for readers", to receive, exchange, and answer 3,324 requirements for online information via website of National Library; set up 19 library catalogs, characters, addresses... services.

## **7. COLLABORATIONS WITH OTHER NATIONAL COLLECTING INSTITUTIONS (LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES, MUSEUMS)**

NLV continued to maintain international cooperation with other countries and international organizations, fully participate, and fulfill the member responsibilities in programs, joint projects of BNRF, CONSAL, CDNL, CDNL-AO.

Leaders and officials were posted to go training at some abroad Seminars, Conferences such as the Consal XV General Conference In Bali, Indonesia, 20<sup>th</sup> CDNLAO Conference in Korea, the annual meeting of Francophone network for digital national libraries (RFBNN) which was held at National Library in Rabat (Morocco); attended The 78<sup>th</sup> World Library Conference (IFLA 78) in Helsinki, Finland; Annual meeting of the World Digital library in Washington DC, USA.

Being active members of organizations, NLVs has selected as the host country in 2013 for the the annual meetg of Francophone network for digital national libraries (RFBNN) which will be held in April 2013 in Ha Noi, Viet Nam.

In 2012, NLV has welcomed many foreign guests from the United States, France, Canada, China, Austria, Germany, Belgium, Australia, Ireland, Spanish, Korea, Japan, Singapore, Thailand, Uruguay, Chile, Mexico, Indonesia...in which the libraries of the European and American countries have more co-operated activities with NLV over the past year.

Over the past year, many librarians from the NLV studied or participated in Conferences/Seminars in in India, Morocco, USA, Laos, Indonesia, Finland, Germany, Korea, China, and Switzerland. NLV also supports librarians from provincial libraries participating in the training courses in India and Korea.

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