

29th General Conference of Directors of National Libraries in Asia and Oceania
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Doha, Qatar

Country Report
[Period Coverage: 1 January 2022 – 31 December 2022]

Name of Country : **Republic of Korea**
Name of Library : **National Library of Korea**
**Name(s) of National Librarian,
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1. Facts and Figures

Sn	Item Description	Figures
a	Operating Budget i. Government ii. External Sources	i. 109.9 billion KRW
b	Total Staff (FTE) i. Graduate or Post Graduate with library qualifications ii. Other Qualifications	i. 309 ii. 196(63%)
c	Collection Size i. Physical collection ii. Digital collection preserved	i. 13,805,208 ii. 19,149,470
d	Visitorship (Annual) i. Physical visits to reading rooms ii. Digital visits to websites	i. 283,259 ii. 5,999,828
e	Inter Library Loans provided (Annual)	30,819 items provided

2. Overview of Major or New Developments in Library Buildings, Collections, Access or Services

1) Achievement of 13 million collections / 19 million digital collections

From 280,000 collections when the library opened in 1945, the National Library of Korea(NLK) reached 5 million collections in 2004, 10 million collections in 2015 and 1,300 collections in October 2021, the 76th anniversary of the opening of the NLK. As of September 2023, the library also achieved 19 million digital collections(e-book, e-journal, video material, image material etc.). The NLK is striving to collect, preserve knowledge cultural heritage without omission, organize systemically and provide them to the public.

2) Online Material Collection System Establishment and Metadata DB Advancement

In 2021, to strengthen the function of collecting and managing new media materials in accordance with diversification in the publishing environment, the NLK created the Online Materials Division and integrated online material collection and organization work which was operated in a dispersed way in each related department into the Online Materials Division. In 2022, with partial revision of the Library Act, the NLK newly enacted <Online Material Legal Deposit, Collection Guideline>, and in particular partially revised 「Notification on Kinds and Forms of Online Materials Subject to Collection」. By doing so, the ground was set for systematic collection of library materials newly appearing in the digital media environment like webtoons, webnovels, sound sources, audiobooks etc. that are excluded for legal deposit as they do not have ISBN in the Library Act. As a follow-up measure, 'Research on online materials compensation system establishment plan' was implemented and in accordance with the results, from 2023 the library will establish <Compensation system for collection other than legal deposit of online materials> and expand the collection of new types of materials such as webtoons, webnovels etc.

Since 2022, the media materials and online materials collection, organization system that were managed as separate systems was integrated into KOLISIII and the metadata is being created by applying KCR 4th edition and KDC 6th edition in line with MODS(Metadata Object

Description Schema) 3.7. In February 2023, <Oral data metadata creation guideline> for effective collection and organization of digital oral data that is being collected on a trial basis was created and distributed. The guideline is focused on abundant examples for all library and related institutions workers to refer to and is available on the NLK website.

3) Library service that applies advanced technology like interactive contents etc.

As demand for new media technology increased recently in the overall cultural field, NLK developed service that applies knowledge information resources held by the library and advanced technology for anyone to enjoy and experience various digital information technology.

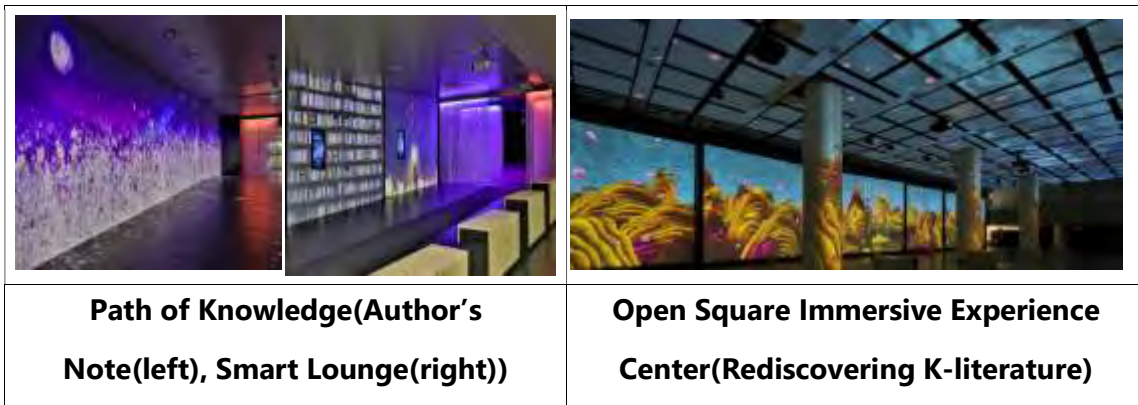
In March 2021, 'Interactive Library', an interactive content experience area that applies latest interactive technology opened in the Digital Library third basement floor permanent exhibition hall.

The 'Interactive Library' consists of 4 services in total. The library offers 'Experiencing the Storage' which realizes the NLK's future repository through a 3D video, 'The Future of Search' where visitors can view various contents linked with recommended keyword, 'Interactive Map' that restores old maps held by the library in ultra-high resolution images and allows comparing images of the past and present, 'Digital Book' that translates Chinese character using projection mapping technology or shows animation.

			
Experiencing the Storage	Future of Search	Interactive Map	Digital Book

In March 2022, 'Path of Knowledge' opened, the second experience center where you can experience in a lively way Korea's modern and contemporary literature with immersive technology(Digital Library B1). It provides ▲ the 'Author's Note', which is an interactive

content that utilize the background and material of all-time favorite literature works and ▲ ‘Smart Lounge’ service, a customized service that recommends books based on individuals’ taste and interest. In October this year, the NLK will open the ‘Open Square(Yeolin Madang) Immersive Experience Center’(first floor of the main building) where you can experience ▲ ‘Rediscovering K-literature’, a media art that reinterprets Korean classic literature with modern illustration and utilizes the entire space as media canvas.



The National Library for Children and Young Adults(NLCYA) developed and distributed new technology-combined reading contents and programs to help children and young adults grow into a talented person with humanities knowledge and digital capacity. In 2022, the NLCYA developed the ‘Debate Camping through VR’ to foster young adults’ debating ability. Young adults can experience the discussion topic situation through virtual reality contents(6 kinds) and debate and discussion activities with friends. Along with that, to support debating culture promotion in schools, the NLCYA developed debating class guidance plan librarians and teachers can use. The library also developed ‘AR book card2’, AR-combined reading activity content for primary school students. ‘AR book card2’ allows children to engage in topic learning and creative activities linked with recommended books through activity sheets and application. The Newly developed ‘AR cube’ enables AR experience in various angles after you assemble it yourself. Meanwhile, in the first half of 2022, ‘AR Book Card 1’ was distributed to 500 public libraries, small libraries, primary school libraries in Korea.



The NLK plans to continue to share its experience in leading application of new technology with libraries around the world and establish various cooperation plans.

4) Publication of BIBFRAME manual and 「Bibliographic Standard Trend」 newsletter

As the basic material to set the direction for the next generation national bibliographic data standard, the NLK published Korean statement and manual. BIBFRAME is the linked data-based future generation bibliographic language LC developed to overcome the limit of the traditional catalogue insert form MARC and mutually link various metadata other than library data. At the time some BIBFRAME research was conducted centered around the library information science field in Korea but there were no reference materials in Korean. In September 2022, the NLK, in cooperation with Hansung University University Industry Cooperation Foundation, created the Korean translation of the statement. In particular, the library also created a manual that includes various examples for workers or researchers interested in catalogue to easily understand the BIBFRAME concept and structure. The BIBFRAME translation and manual is available on librarian support service website(ibraian.nl.go.kr).

Meanwhile, the NLK published <Bibliographic Standard Trend> newsletter to share domestic and foreign bibliographic trend and NLK's activities with the library information field and site regularly and promote the importance of national bibliography. The newsletter created in PDF form is published twice a year(March, September) online and is available in librarian support service website.

3 Collaborations with Libraries, Archives and Museums in your Country

1) Library big data collection and analysis service provision

With an aim to set foundation for the public including individuals, researchers, private institutions to utilize data of public libraries in Korea, support scientific decision making in the library field and provide proactive user service, the NLK has opened and has been sharing library big data.

'Library Big Data Project' that started in 2014 as the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism's R&D project(2014-2018) has been run by the NLK since 2016 for big data platform stabilization and continued management of data collection and service.

In 2022, a total of 1,490 libraries participated in the 'Library Big Data' and collected 167,997,916 items of collection data, 1,998,730,553 borrowing data, 32,819,160 user data and built big data analysis/utilization base data. By disclosing data collected real time through the website and open API, the library has been supporting various utilization of the data in public libraries and the private sector.

2) University Library Authority/ISNI Cooperation

For Efficient academic information distribution and high quality national authority data, the NLK established cooperative system with the university library field and has been implementing joint utilization of authority/ISNI.

In April 2018, an MOU was signed between the NLK and Korea Education & Research Information Service (KERIS) and in May, with University Library Union Catalogue Committee at the center, <University Library Authority/ISNI Cooperation TF> was formed and prepared the national authority and ISNI introduction and utilization plan for university libraries.

For national authority, through KERIS union catalogue, the system used at each university library was established and in 2019 the authority linkage system was developed and conducted pilot operation of authority sharing for TF participant university libraries. In 2020 and 2021, supply institution expansion project for national authority sharing was implemented and as of 2023, a total of 137 university libraries are utilizing national authority linkage system.

3) Operation of National Children and Young Adults Library Service Conference

National Children and Young Adults Library Service Conference where 844 institutional members and 493 individual members participate was operated and survey research for the development of children and young adults service in domestic libraries and working group activities were conducted.

4 International Collaborations such as Formal Arrangements for Cooperation with National Libraries

1) Attending and Holding International Conferences

From June 30-July 1, in Jeonju, the NLCYA held the 14th NLCYA international symposium online and offline on the theme 'The task of children and young adults libraries in the era of change tolerance'. 9 domestic and foreign experts from 2 countries gave their topic presentations and 300 people participated. During the symposium, participants had a look on the current status of education information gap among children and young adults that worsened after covid-19 and shared key national libraries' activity cases to solve the issue.

2) Identification and Collection of Overseas Korea Related Materials

The NLK has examined and collected Korea related materials located overseas to expand modern contemporary history materials and establish Korean studies research information infrastructure. Since 2004 the NLK has focused on collecting Korea related materials among government produced official documents collected and preserved by the US NARA and is providing the catalogue and digital full-text of collected materials(documents) to be utilized as primary data for research on not just the political situation of modern and contemporary Korean peninsula but also relations between Korea and neighbor countries.

In 2022, following the previous year, the NLK acquired 735 items of Korea related materials held by the National Library of Russia and expanded the material collection scope to Hungary and Turkey. Also the <Research on NLK long term overseas Korea related materials collection policy establishment> was implemented to review the direction of overseas material collection project and strengthen foundation for long term development. In addition, to allow reviewing all Korea related materials of NARA that has been collected, a handbook was created for many users including researchers to understand NARA materials and easily access materials they want.

Overseas Korea related materials can be used through NLK website(<https://www.nl.go.kr>) material search and search & browsing at the digital collection 'overseas Korea related materials' menu.

3) Work Exchange and Signing of Agreements with Foreign Libraries

In September 21 2022, the NLK and National Diet Library of Japan held an online work exchange on the theme 'national libraries' digital curation and information service provision'. The library also signed an MOU with Mohammed Bin Rashid Library of UAE and established cooperative relations with 20 institutions, 1 international organization of 18 countries.

4) Exchange with Foreign Librarians

From October 17 to 21, the NLK held the 15th Overseas Korean Studies Librarians Workshop to improve Korean studies librarians' expertise at the NLK. A total of 20 people participated from 20 institutions of 6 countries and took lectures related with Korean materials and library such as 'Korea's old printing culture and old book edition differentiation method', 'Library big data collection and analysis utilization cases' etc. and made cultural visits.

	
<p>'22 Overseas Korean Studies Librarian Workshop</p>	<p>Workshop Lecture</p>

Along with that, to increase cultural exchange and international mutual understanding with Asian and African countries, the NLK invited 1 librarian each from the National Library of Thailand, National Library of Mongolia, University of the Philippines Library and National Assembly Library of Vietnam for about 3 months and offered programs like Korean language lectures, librarian training, cultural visits etc.

	
<p>2022 NLK Cultural Partnership Initiative</p>	<p>NLK Training for CPI Participants</p>