



ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2012-2013

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SOUTH AFRICA

Name of Chief Executive Officer: John Kgwale Tsebe

Physical Address : National Library of South Africa, 228

Johannes Ramokhoase Street, Pretoria, South Africa, 0002

Mailing Address: Private Bag X990, Pretoria, 0001, Republic of South Africa.

Tel: +27 12 401 9780

Fax: +27 12 326 7642

Web Address: [http:// www.nlsa.ac.za](http://www.nlsa.ac.za)

Email: John.Tsebe@nlsa.ac.za

1.General overview of recent major developments in the Library

The National Library has signed several Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with other countries / National libraries in Africa and abroad. A MoU was signed on 07 June 2012 between NLSA and Tanzania Library Service Board of the United Republic of Tanzania on the fields of book, modern technology, workshops, preservation, conservation etc. On 20 August 2012 the National Library of South Africa signed a MoU with the National Library of Romania in the fields of photographic, paintings, print, digitization, etc. On 23 August 2012, a MoU was signed between NLSA and National Library of Serbia, Belgrade in the fields of catalogues, collections, digitization, e-publications. On 16 November 2012, a MoU between South Africa and the Republic of Congo on the areas of arts, culture, heritage, education, music etc. On 18 February 2013 a memorandum of understanding was signed with the British Library, in the field of training, preservation, conservation, cataloguing, conferences, etc.

2. Library's Relationship with government and citation of relevant legislation

The Minister of Arts and Culture appointed the fifth Board of the National Library of South Africa for the period 1 October 2012 to 30 September 2015. New Board Committees were constituted in order to position the Board for efficient and effective Governance of the National Library of South Africa.

3. Key Facts and figures

- 10 965 monographs were received on legal deposit
- 8 350 authority records were processed
- 3 502 new ISBN's were allocated
- 68 870 reference queries were satisfied
- 969 books were repaired

- 14 334 images were digitized
- 10 010 books were de-acidified
- 101 attendees participated in preservation workshops
- 43 210 books and posters were donated
- 212 attendees participated in writers and illustrator workshops

4. New ways of managing collections

Cape Town campus reached its maximum capacity in terms of storage space for most of its collections. Presently collections at Cape Town campus are accommodated in four locations scattered over the city. This situation creates a burden on services and security with potential damage caused to collections during transport of requested items to the reading rooms. In cooperation with the Department of Arts and Culture and the Department of Public works solutions for a central storage facility for collections were considered.

5. New ways in creating and building collections

The National Library of South African initiated the digitization of South African historical newspapers with the focus on newspapers that were published in the various vernacular languages of South Africa. Approximately 50 newspaper titles were identified covering the years of the late 19th century to the 1960s. Scanning to digital format will ensure online access and prevent further degrading of original paper copies. This project will facilitate greater access by other libraries, academic and cultural institutions, the public and the global community to our country's rich literary tradition. Images from NLSA collections were selected for inclusion in the World Digital Library.

6. New developments in providing access to collections

An official statement was released by the Library of Congress, indicating the implementation date for the new international descriptive standard, *Resource Description and Access (RDA)*, to be 31 March 2013. This standard will replace the familiar *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules (AACR)*. Bibliographic Standards in South Africa (BIBSA) hosted 3 RDA-SA Steering Committee meetings with funding provided by the Department Arts and Culture Conditional grant and the RDA-SA Website was launched in March 2013. In addition, two Machine readable Cataloguing (MARC21) workshops were held in October/November ensuring that resource description librarians countrywide are familiar and competent in the electronic input of their institutions' information resources.

7. Examples of collaboration with other libraries, archives, museums

The National Library of South Africa in Cape Town launched the publication of C.E. Boniface *Narrative of the Shipwreck of the French Vessel the Eole on the coast of Kaffraria in April 1829* translated with an introduction and notes by Dr David J. Culpin. The impact of the project has reached the government and diplomatic

spheres (through the direct involvement of the French Consul at the Cape) the cultural sphere (through exhibitions and publications), the economic sphere (via the promotion of tourism), the educational sphere (through impact on the school curriculum) and increased public awareness of a significant but forgotten part of South Africa's cultural history (by means of radio, newspaper and web coverage).

The project of Internet connectivity to public libraries has been rolled-out successfully in the five provinces. Majority of libraries connected are those which never had Internet access before. Of the 515 libraries in the five provinces (North West, Mpumalanga, Limpopo, Northern Cape and Kwa-Zulu Natal), a total of 429 libraries have been connected to the Internet.

On 14 September 2012 the National Library of South Africa hosted a successful International Literacy Day. The celebration was attended by school children who received books from the library. The young reader, Ontlametse Phalatse, who is the only black suffering from preglia o as a guest speaker to encourage the youth to develop a habit of reading.

On the international imperatives, the Corporate and International Relations (CIR) facilitated the National Library of Swaziland delegation visit to the National Library on a benchmarking exercise on 18 October 2012. The delegation comprised of the government, private sector and librarians.

On 28 February 2013, the NLSA hosted US Black History Month Celebration featuring "I have a dream" speech by Dr Martin Luther King Jr. in collaboration with the US Embassy.

South African Library Week was launched at the National Library of South Africa on 16 March 2013. The National Library has achieved huge media coverage during the campaign to raise awareness about the importance of libraries and librarianship.

With support from the Department of Arts and Culture. Preservation training workshops for librarians took place. Workshops were held in Upington, Kimberley, Richmond and De Aar (Northern Cape) and Robertson (Western Cape). Training covered topics ranging from bookbinding, basic book repairs to disaster planning and pest management. Participants learned how to deal with wet books in case of flooding disasters. During practical sessions wind-tunnels were built for air-drying damp books, interleaving of wet books and the preparation of soaked books for dry-freezing. Examples of library disaster plans were discussed as well as means of preventing library disasters. A winter school on preservation management was conducted in partnership with the Department of Library and Information Science of the University of the Western Cape. A regional workshop on paper conservation was held at Pretoria Campus. A pre-conference workshop on digitisation of library materials was held in Durban in partnership with the Library and Information Association of South Africa.