

ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2015

1. Basic information of the reporting library

Name of Country	: Japan
Name of Library or Equivalent National-Level Organization	: National Diet Library
Name of Chief Executive	: Mr. Noritada OTAKI, Librarian of the National Diet Library
Name of Contact Person For International Matters	: Ms. Yoriko SATO
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Web Address of the Library	: http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/index.html
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2. Reporting library's relationship to the government. Legislation which sets out the Library's mandate and any other legislation which directly or indirectly affects the library's operations

The National Diet Library Law, which is based on Article 130 of the National Diet Law, established the National Diet Library in 1948. The National Diet Library Law elucidates in its preamble the ideals behind establishment of the NDL: "The National Diet Library is hereby established as a result of the firm conviction that truth makes us free and with the object of contributing to international peace and the democratization of Japan as promised in our Constitution." Article 2 of the National Diet Library Law also specifies that "the National Diet Library shall collect books and other library materials for the purpose of assisting the members of the National Diet in the performance of their duties and also for the purpose of providing certain library services as hereinafter specified for the executive and judicial agencies of the national government and for the people of Japan."

3. General overview of recent major developments at the reporting library

The NDL is Japan's national library and also functions as the legislative reference library of the Diet (parliament). It has three main facilities: the Tokyo Main Library, the Kansai-kan (located in Kyoto), and the International Library of Children's Literature (ILCL) (located in Ueno, Tokyo). The NDL and its staff strive continuously to achieve our Mission and Objectives 2012–2016 (Vision 2012) and the Strategic Goals described therein. The full texts of these documents are available on our website <<http://www.ndl.go.jp/en/aboutus/mission2012.html>>.

Renewal of the ILCL

The NDL is carrying out a major renovation of the ILCL. The ILCL opened in 2000 as a branch of the NDL specializing in domestic and foreign children's books and related materials, and provides internationally linked library services for children's literature. A new annex building was completed in June 2015, and the existing building will be renovated as it undergoes a transitional period, during which some rooms will be closed while it shifts to a new system. Once the renovation of the existing building is completed in March 2016, the ILCL will offer renewed full-fledged services.

Second phase construction at the Kansai-kan

It is estimated that the stacks in both the Tokyo Main Library and the Kansai-kan will be full by the end of FY2019. The NDL is now preparing to expand the stacks as second phase facilities of the Kansai-kan. The NDL Building Commission submitted to the National Diet a recommendation to begin construction of facilities to house additional stacks, which was discussed and approved in February 2015. The building is now being designed and we aim to start construction in FY2016.

4. Key facts and figures

Collections (as of March 2015)	(Total) 41,074,320 items	
	- Books	10,534,602 volumes
	- Serials (periodicals and newspapers)	16,500,841 items
Total number of digitized contents (as of May 2015)	2,490,000 items	
	Number of items available for viewing on the premises	1,995,000 items
	Number of items available on the Internet	490,000 items
Internet materials (as of March 2015)	Cumulative titles in the Web Archiving Project (WARP)	8,823 websites
	Online publications collected from the Internet	271,470 items
Employees (as of April 2015)	888	
Annual budget (FY2015)	20.1 billion yen (approximately 183 million in USD, at government-determined exchange rate of 2015)	

5. New developments in creating and managing collections

The NDL consults closely with publishers to expand the scope of digital resources to be acquired under the legal deposit system. In accordance with the 2012 revision of the NDL Law, the NDL has been acquiring since July 2013 online publications (e-books and e-journals published on the Internet) made available free of charge and without Digital Rights Management (DRM). These publications are available to users for browsing on the NDL premises. Also, the NDL is currently working to create a legal acquisition system for online publications that are either available for purchase or protected by DRM. Given that cooperation from the publishing industry and other concerned parties is indispensable to the successful undertaking of this project, the NDL is proactively continuing its reciprocal consultations. The NDL hopes that this will lead to the future establishment of a legal deposit system of such publications.

The NDL is now cooperating with the Japan Library Association to revise the Nippon Cataloging Rules (NCR) and establish bibliographic data standards based primarily on Resource Description and Access (RDA). The new NCR is scheduled to be published in FY2017.

6. New developments in providing access to collections

Facilitating access to Diet-generated information

As well as enhancing services for the Diet, the NDL is working on providing the people with easier access to various materials/information generated by the daily activities of the Diet. In FY 2014, the Full-text Database System for the Minutes of the Diet was upgraded to increase search speed and gain wider usage.

Digitized Content

The NDL has been digitizing its holdings under the Basic Policy for Digitization of National Diet Library Collections, formulated in May 2013. The NDL was allocated a supplementary budget in FY2014 to consolidate its digital archives through digitization of documents on local history, geography, statistics, white papers, and other documents, thereby contributing to the enhancement of the nation's ability to respond to disasters.

The Digitized Contents Transmission Service for Libraries was launched in January 2014 to provide digitized images of nearly 1,380,000 out-of-print items held by the NDL to 534 domestic libraries which joined in service starting in June 2015.

Improvements in services for people with disabilities

In accordance with the Implementation Plan for Library Service for People with Disabilities 2014-2016, which was formulated in March 2014, the NDL has been working to improve its services for people with disabilities. For example, in addition to its transmission service via ND Search—an integrated search service for information found in various formats at the NDL, other libraries, archives, museums and related institutions—the NDL also has since June 3, 2014, been providing data to the Sapie Library, the most widespread transmission database for people with disabilities in Japan. During FY2015, the NDL is also participating in a collaborative experiment with the Japan Braille Library that is attempting to solve problems related to OCR errors that occur when converting digitized images into text for DAISY-format talking books.

Online reference service for remote copying services (trial)

In April 2015, the NDL started on a trial basis to accept reference queries online from patrons wishing to identify the volume, issue, and page of specific articles or dissertations. This service is intended to reduce the time needed to provide patrons with information necessary for requesting remote copying services.

7. Examples of collaboration between the reporting library and other national collecting institutions (libraries, archives and museums)

Cooperative projects with domestic partners

The NDL proactively collaborates with libraries through activities like the Collaborative Reference Database and provides a variety of professional development programs for librarians. In March 2015, the NDL established plans to expand the number of partner institutions utilizing ND Search.

Great East Japan Earthquake Archive

Four years after the disaster, the NDL continues to acquire related information including sound recordings, videos, photos and websites despite the continued dissipation and loss of such items. The NDL is committed to cooperating with the affected prefectures and municipalities as it strives to enrich the contents of the NDL Great East Japan Earthquake Archives (<http://kn.ndl.go.jp/node?language=en>), a nationwide archiving project.

Cooperation with the Japan Library Association

In October 2015, the NDL will cohost together with the Japan Library Association the 101st All-Japan Library Conference in Tokyo. The NDL is planning to conduct special tours of the Tokyo Main Library and other activities related to the conference.