

## COUNTRY REPORT

FOR THE CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL LIBRARIES (CDNL)

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### 1. GENERAL OVERVIEW OF RECENT MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

In line with the transfer of central government ministries and institutions to Sejong City, the National Library of Korea, Sejong, the first regional branch of the NLK, opened on December 12, 2013. It is an 'Administrative Library' and provides administrative information service to public officials so that they can easily access and use information required for policy making and implementation. Since March, e-mail-based "push" service for the Table of Contents (TOC) of a new journal a user selected among 20,000 domestic and foreign journals has been offered to public officials. Moreover, the NLK offers administrative resources online and operates the Policy Information Service Network to share administrative information between the government and public institutions.

Meanwhile, as an effort to adapt to changes brought by technological advances, the NLK introduced a Dark Archive System to acquire online resources. Thanks to the system, 3,910,000 e-journal articles and 700,000 digital files including sound have been collected. The NLK initiated acquisition in the new field, online resources, and focus of the library service has now shifted to online from simply offline.

For the disabled, cloud-based 'Korea Accessible Materials System (KOAMS)' is serviced, allowing 41,000 alternative format materials in libraries to be shared and searched easily.

The NLK newly opened Modern Literature Information Center to deliver service to researchers and library users in last November. The Center provides more than 2,000 literature items published between 1894 and 1945 and operates a network with other literary houses and personal collections.

In May 2015, the NLK held a series of cultural events to celebrate the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its establishment and achieving 10 million in its collection. The NLK became the first in Korea to house 10 million books 50 years after legal deposit took effect.

## **2. RELATIONSHIP TO GOVERNMENT**

The National Library of Korea is affiliated to the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism. According to the Libraries Act, it implements comprehensive library development measures and plays a critical role in collecting and preserving the nation's documentary heritage as a legal deposit library since 1963. The NLK has cooperation network with other 44 Ministry libraries and government funded research institutes to provide the administrative information for their users.

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

The NLK consists of 3 departments (Planning & Training, Library Service, Digital Library), 3 organizations (National Library for Children & Young Adults, National Library for Individuals with Disabilities, National Library of Korea,Sejong), 1 institute (Korea Research Institute for Library and Information), 18 divisions, and 1 team. The budget of the NLK for the year 2014 was US\$66.7 million and the total number of staff is 333. By June of 2015, the NLK's collection totaled 10,069,687 volumes/items and digitized holdings was 456,116 books, 127,159,574 pages and 874,682 sites of web archiving. Over 1.6 million people used collections on site and 11 million online in 2014.

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

### **4.1 Broadening of the Collection of National Knowledge and Information Resources**

The NLK reformed acquisition system and relevant regulations in order to comprehensively collect national literature that lives up to changes occurred in the digital environment. Regulation on Division of Work designed to make a single channel to collect online and offline materials was revised on August 14, 2014 and the Library Act for legal deposit of e-publications with ISBN was proposed to the National Assembly. In 2014, 'Legal Deposit System for e-government publications' was established in May to collect e-government materials in a more convenient manner and 'Legal Deposit System for e-books' in December to be prepared for commercial e-book legal deposit to be implemented later. In case of issues that gain much attention, materials relevant to those issues have been intensively collected through the 'Online Archiving and Searching Internet Sources (OASIS)'. In 2004, it collected web information regarding social issues of the nation, including national disaster information such as Sinking of the Sewol Ferry and Military Shooting, and June 4<sup>th</sup> Local Election, and 17<sup>th</sup> Asian Games Incheon 2014. In 2015, the NLK will establish a National Disaster Archive to collect and preserve various records related to national disasters.

As of 2014, the OASIS collected a total of 864,569 online materials (website: 98,818, web resources: 765,751) and it is expected additional 150,000 online materials (website: 50,000, web resources: 100,000) will be collected.

Meanwhile, the NLK signed MOU with Music Industry Association of Korea in August 14, 2014 in order to collect, preserve and service music resources in a systematic manner. Thanks to this MOU, 700,000 items for Korean popular music materials have been donated, and these items are linked to records, sound sources, images of album cover, metadata and broadcast material in consideration for public use.

The NLK has put its effort into beefing up a national knowledge and information resources legal deposit system to enlarge the digital collection – e-book, scholarly journal papers and research reports in digital file.

## **4.2 Collection/Processing/Production of High Quality Digital Contents**

The NLK has digitized its holdings to permanently preserve national documentary, pass down them to the next generation and provide convenient online service to users. As of 2014, 456,116 items(127,159,574 pages) of old and rare books and music scores have been successfully digitized. 150,000 books that are permitted to use or whose copyright is expired are available online anytime and anywhere. For 300,000 that are protected by copyright, they are provided to 1,745 institutes at home and abroad that signed an agreement with the NLK to increase user's access to information and strengthen national information and knowledge.

From July 2014, a sophisticated robot scanner and Optical Character Recognition (OCR) S/W were introduced in digital library to facilitate digitization and quickly meet online service demands and material preservation, laying a foundation for text searching. The NLK has continuously strengthened its digitization capability. In 2015, 40,000 books, mostly modern literature, are under digitization process, a 4-fold increase compared to the previous year.

As the NLK website (<http://www.nl.go.kr>) and the Dibrary portal (<http://www.dibrary.net>) were integrated in March 2015, the NLK changed its digital collection website that formerly introduced digital holdings by subjects and types and created 'Digital Stack', 'Book, Person and the World', 'web resources' and 'World Libraries' categories. The new website offers digital curation service, utilizing web resources and library holdings. The 'Digital Stack' curate digital collection with high values and provides digital collection with different 8 themes including 'First Issue of Magazine', 'Korean *Ddakjibon* (printed novels in old days)' and 'Korea's Greatest Figures'. 3 new themes will be added to the collection this year, including 'Korea's Key Economic Policy', 'Korea-related Foreign Materials Published Prior to 1945).

Since 2002, the National Library of Korea has collected web resources available online for free through the Online Archiving & Searching Internet Sources (OASIS). The OASIS collected a total of 229,762 online materials (website: 38,271, web resources: 191,491) on the selection base. This Digital Collection Service can play a role as a conduit of knowledge by offering quality and filtered digital information by themes out of the "sea of information".

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

### **5.1 Standardization of Bibliographic Information**

The National Library of Korea revised the 'Korean Machine Readable Cataloging (KORMARC) - Integrated Format for Bibliographic Data ' by reflecting international cataloging trends in order to standardize national bibliography and KORMARC – Authority Control Format is being revised. Moreover, the NLK translated RDA and created RDA-Korean version as an effort to keep up with international trends in cataloguing rules.

As a representative library in Korea, the NLK has established quality national bibliographic data, creating 276,200 bibliographic data and 30,000 name authority data in KORMARC format while adding 33,000 online records in MODS format.

The NLK has exerted its effort into fostering international cooperation in the bibliographic field. The NLK signed an agreement for Virtual International Authority File (VIAF) to share the authority data globally, and joined International Standard Name Identifier (ISNI) to strengthen cooperation with relevant institutes in Korea.

### **5.2 Research Support through the Building of Periodical Indexing and Information on TOC**

The NLK provides database of periodical indexing and information on table of contents (TOC) of

the materials with high academic value among its serials and government publications. In addition, it supports study of researchers by upgrading the search function for general magazines and journals. The NLK has built and offered 930,423 periodical indexing and 767,412 TOC up to now.

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

### **6.1 Support of Academic & Research Information Service by Building Subject Bibliography**

The National Library of Korea provides users with tailored Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI) service on specific topics of their interests. The NLK plans to expand a trial operation of push-mailing service of new materials of user's interest, and has actively promoted ILL service of foreign materials to institutions for researchers. The NLK developed Subject Guide to strengthen academic and research information service, and it will soon be serviced. This system will not only build up bibliography of library materials but also advance research information by subject. It is expected to improve satisfaction of patrons by increasing access to library resources.

## **7. EXAMPLES OF COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE REPORTING LIBRARY AND OTHER NATIONAL COLLECTING INSTITUTIONS (LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES AND MUSEUMS)**

### **7.1 Domestic Cooperation Activities**

The National Library of Korea has distributed the Korea Library Automation System, a standard library automation system, to public libraries, small libraries and libraries for the people with disability across the country to connect all systems and create a national integrated catalog system called the Korean Library Information System Network. The network has helped share holding information of each library and has been utilized to provide inter-library loan services among member libraries. The NLK also operates the Collaborative Digital Reference Service on the basis of 'Ask a Librarian' in cooperation with 416 public libraries across the nation.

### **7.2 International Cooperation Activities**

#### **7.2.1 International Business Exchanges**

The National Library of Korea had the 4<sup>th</sup> business exchange with the Russia State Library in Moscow in June. The 17<sup>th</sup> business exchange with National Diet Library of Japan and the National Library of China was held in Tokyo and in Seoul in July, respectively. The delegations shared experience and policy with regard to national collection, integration of digital resources, children's reading, strategic plans of national libraries and other various subjects. The NLK signed MOU for Cooperation with the National Library of Tajikistan and the Iraq National Library and Archive and laid a cooperative foundation for sharing information and knowledge, exchange of publications, and library operation and service.

#### **7.2.2 International Conferences**

The National Library of Korea has been a chair of the National Information and Library Policy Special Interest Group (NILP SIG) of the IFLA. The NILP SIG aims to set library and information policies, share information at national level and facilitate collaborations among people, organizations

and cultures at international level. In August 2014, NILP SIG at the WLIC was held in Lyon, France, with the theme ‘National Policy on Libraries in the Era of Convergence: Challenges and Responses’, and four speakers from national libraries of Korea, the UK, the Czech Republic and Norway delivered presentations on challenges libraries face, strategies and policies. The NLK has actively participated in WLIC, CDNL, CDNLAO, ISBN international conferences to grasp the latest international trend in the library community and enhance expertise and professionalism.

### **7.2.3 Librarian Training**

Since 2010, as a part of the personnel exchange with the National Library of China, the National Library of Korea has invited one librarian from the NLC and operated a training program from July to September for 3 months.

In addition, it provided the 'Overseas Librarian Training Program' to service Korea-related materials to overseas libraries, nurture librarians and strengthen cooperative relations. In 2014, 4 librarians from Bhutan, Indonesia, Tajikistan and Turkey participated in 2014 Cultural Partnership Initiative (CPI) from June to October. The NLK held the '7<sup>th</sup> Overseas Koreanology Librarian Workshop' in October with the participation of 19 librarians from 6 countries including China, the UK and the U.S. Furthermore, in November, the National Library for Children and Young Adults invited and trained 20 librarians of children's libraries from ASEAN member countries and 2 officers of the ASEAN secretariat.

## **8. EXAMPLES OF COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE REPORTING LIBRARY AND PUBLISHERS IN YOUR COUNTRY**

As an effort to improve ‘Bibliographic Information Distribution Support System’, an integrated system in which libraries and publishers can conveniently use ISBN, ISSN, CIP and legal deposit, the NLK conducted monitoring and evaluation in January, targeting publishers. It was intended to enhance work efficiency and user’s convenience, for example, by improving ISBN Work Guidelines and posting FAQs on the website. Legal deposit rate went up as a result of promoting legal deposit system to publishers that newly joined in ISBN institution. Newly published materials have been collected timely by strengthening cooperation with publishers and distributors. In addition, the NLK was able to acquire 241 indigenous books with support from regional libraries. In June, the NLK participated in ‘Seoul International Book Fair (Jun. 18 -22)’ with more than 500 publishers and magazines at home and abroad and promoted legal deposit as a way to raise publisher’s awareness of legal deposit system.

Despite a rapid increase of e-book, there have been issues with using a print book ISBN for e-book due to lack of knowledge on ISBN. However, thanks to NLK’s continuous business negotiation with publishers and distributors and promotion, participation rate for e-book ISBN increased dramatically, granting 220,899 ISBNs in 2014 and 95,301 in 2015. Cataloging in Publication (CIP) application by publishers totaled 46,319, a 47% increase compared with the same period of the previous year, and the NLK distributed CIP of domestic books and standards catalog to public libraries nationwide. As a part of effort to increase publishers’ recognition and further participation in the system, CIP Workshop was hosted in March.