

# JAPAN

## NATIONAL DIET LIBRARY

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#### ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2007

The NDL has been continuing its efforts to provide better service through its three facilities, that is, the Tokyo Main Library, the Kansai-kan and the International Library of Children's Literature (ILCL), aiming to realise the objectives in the following four priority areas defined in "NDL Vision 2004":

- 1 Enhancement of legislative support function;
- 2 Creation of digital archives;
- 3 Improvement of access to information resources; and
- 4 Promotion of cooperation.

As a part of its efforts to improve services to users, NDL has been conducting a user questionnaire survey each year since FY2003. In FY2006, the survey was targeted at remote users. The result shows that users' satisfaction level is higher than in previous years in most of the services, especially copying service by postal mail and NDL-OPAC service. As for on-site services, the Tokyo Main Library and the Kansai-kan improved their digital information service by providing new contents including electronic journals and Internet access in the reading rooms.

The NDL has also continued to enrich the contents of its digital library services. For example, more data were added to the Digital Library from the Meiji Era, which now has data of about 89,000 titles (127,000 volumes), or 75% of the books published in the Meiji era (1868-1912) held by the NDL.

In the field of digital archiving, the Web Archiving Project (WARP), which started in FY2002 on an experimental basis, moved into the operational stage in FY2006. The NDL has also been working on developing a digital archive portal which will navigate users to digital information resources throughout Japan. The portal, now operating as a prototype system, will offer full-scale service in 2007. The NDL Digital Archive System (NDL DA System), which will be the infrastructure for NDL's overall operations relating to digital information, has also been constructed.

To promote the digital contents the NDL has striven to construct, an NDL Database Forum was held in December 2006. Being the first approach of this kind for the NDL, the event was a great success and received a good response from the audience.

The NDL supports and cooperates with other libraries/institutions by offering training programs and research information. In June 2006, the "Current Awareness Portal" was launched to offer easier access to the latest information related to libraries inside/outside the country as well as the contents of the NDL's regular publications in the field of library and information science. The NDL also started a remote training program in 2006 in addition to regular classroom programs.

Making the most of the 2006 IFLA Annual Conference held in Seoul, Korea, as a neighbouring country, the NDL sent a delegation of unprecedented number, 18 participants, of which eight delegates made presentations. The NDL, as IFLA/PAC Regional Centre for Asia, also co-hosted a pre-conference with the theme "Preservation and Conservation in Asia" at the Tokyo Main Library, with the IFLA (Preservation and Conservation Section, Asia Oceania Section and IFLA/PAC Core Activity). After the Annual Conference, the NDL and the Japan Library Association held a professional tour of the International Library of Children's Literature (ILCL) and other children's libraries.

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