

**35th CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL LIBRARIES
(CDNL), QUEBEC CITY, CANADA, 13 AUGUST 2008**

COUNTRY REPORT

Name of Country: New Zealand

Name of Library: The National Library of New Zealand Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa

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ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2008

The National Library of New Zealand Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa aims to *connect New Zealanders with information important to all aspects of their lives.*

The National Library is a government department, reporting to the Minister Responsible for the National Library. It is governed by the National Library Act 2003, which specifies that the purpose of the National Library is to “enrich the cultural and economic life of New Zealand and its interchanges with other nations”, by:

- collecting, preserving, and providing access to New Zealand, Māori and Pacific documentary heritage;
- advancing the work of other libraries in New Zealand;
- working collaboratively with other institutions having similar purposes, including the international library community.

The National Library implements its mandate by:

- delivering innovative, scalable and sustainable digital initiatives, partnering with other organisations to make New Zealand content accessible and discoverable, for researchers in academic, business and government, and for the general public;
- partnering with New Zealand libraries to make content available to all sectors of New Zealand society by means of global and national knowledge networks;

- connecting libraries and the education system – through professional advice and the provision of learning resources in traditional and digital media - to support learning outcomes for young New Zealanders and their teachers;
- collaborating with other central government departments in the development of national policies and strategies in the areas of: digital technologies (networks, digital content and programmes for the development of skills), identification and protection of tangible and intangible national heritage including indigenous cultural heritage, national strategies for scientific research, and the development of citizens' participation in government.

The National Library has an operating budget of \$NZ56million. It has 365 full-time equivalent staff: most are based in the main building in Wellington, but others operate out of regional offices tasked mainly with delivery of services to schools.

The Library's operations contribute to the achievement of Government objectives under the themes of *National Identity*, *Economic Transformation*, *Families Young and Old*, and *Environmental Sustainability*.

Making digital content available for all

Over the past year, the National Library of New Zealand has taken a leadership role in making digital content available for all New Zealanders

Building on its previous work collaborating in the development and implementation of the national whole-of-government **Digital Strategy** (2005), the National Library led the development of the innovative New Zealand **Digital Content Strategy** (2007)¹, a strategy aimed at unlocking New Zealand's stock of content to build opportunities for participating, creating and accessing digital content for all New Zealanders, and ensure New Zealand is visible and relevant in a connected digital world. Over the past year, the Library has been heavily engaged in renewing and re-launching the Digital Strategy to ensure that it meets its targets out to 2012.

The National Library has continued work on New Zealand's **National Digital Heritage Archive**, which will preserve our digital heritage for future generations. This four-year development, led by the National Library in partnership with Sun Microsystems and the Ex Libris Group, is due to go live later in 2008. The National Digital Heritage Archive will preserve, in perpetuity, digital material for New Zealanders to access. This includes New Zealand websites, CDs, DVDs, music, film and electronic publications.

Over the past year, the National Library and its partners in local authorities and the IT sector have continued the momentum created by the successful launch of the **Aotearoa People's Network** : this will ultimately deliver free broadband access and computers, along with support and training, via public libraries, to all communities in New Zealand including the most isolated. The initiative also includes building community repositories for citizen-created content.

¹ Access New Zealand's Digital Content Strategy at <http://www.digitalstrategy.govt.nz>

The National Library has launched the **Kiwi Research Information Service (KRIS)** – a fast growing metadata repository for New Zealand's publicly funded research. The National Library partnered with New Zealand universities, polytechnics and government agencies to deliver KRIS for all New Zealanders.

Underpinning all of our digital initiatives are the foundations of **DigitalNZ**, which will connect New Zealand content of all types and make it more discoverable, accessible and useable. The National Library will partner with organisations and communities from across the country to get access to rich and varied content, and make it easier for New Zealanders to discover and interact with that content.

The New Generation National Library

The National Library has recently received approval (and funding) from the government to go ahead with a major redevelopment of its main building in New Zealand's capital city, Wellington. The key driver of the strategy for the redevelopment is *access to the collections*, in more modern spaces allowing efficient use of digital technology and protection and preservation of the national documentary heritage.

The redeveloped building will feature an additional 3,965m² of space, updated controlled storage environments, enhanced spaces and facilities, an improved environmental footprint, and will create a more multi-cultural presence – using design features to recognise the place of Māori in New Zealand and New Zealand's place in the Pacific and the world. The redevelopment will start in 2009 and conclude in 2011: it will require all collections and staff to be temporarily relocated.

The Library is also planning to redevelop its service offering in Auckland, New Zealand's biggest city. This will deliver innovative programmes, creative spaces, and new products and services to young New Zealanders and their educators. The National Library in Auckland will be a welcoming, friendly meeting place that will engage and connect learners, and inspire knowledge creation.

As we move to implement our New Generation National Library strategy², we recognise that our people are the key to our success. We are working to transform our workplace to one where we balance excellence and tradition with innovation and creativity.

² New Generation National Library strategy: <http://www.natlib.govt.nz/catalogues/library-documents/strategic-directions-to-2017>