

**36th CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL LIBRARIES (CDNL),
MILAN, ITALY, 26 AUGUST 2009.**

Name of Country: Brazil

Name of Library: National Library Foundation

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ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2009

1- General overview of recent major developments at the reporting library.

- Note of the reporting library's relationship to government, and citation of legislation which sets out the library's mandate, and any other legislation which directly or indirectly affects the library's operations.

The National Library is a foundation integrated to the Ministry of Culture, regulated by its Statute (Dec. nº 5038/1994). It is responsible for the application of the "Book Law" (L nº 10753/2003, defines the National Policy to Books), coordinates the National Reading Program (L nº 519/1992), the coordination of the National System of Public Libraries (SNBP), created by the Presidential Decree nº 520/92. Also, as the bibliographic agency, the National Library receives material on Legal Deposit, as regulated by Law nº 10.994/04, and registers the copyright of the material (defined by Law nº 9610/98).

- Key facts and figures (size of major collections, number of staff, total operating budget, etc).

The collection is estimated at 9 million items, including the heritage of the Royal Library of Portugal (17th century), maps, manuscripts, photos, periodicals and books. The bibliographic collection has nearly 1,250,000 volumes. The library has about 450 employees on its staff and over 70 apprentices, primarily students of Library Science.

- New developments in creating and building collections.

Legal deposit increases the bibliographic collection by 3,000 monographs and 5,000 periodical publications per month. The Legal Deposit Division contacts editors and authors to guarantee that the publications will come into our collection.

- New developments in managing collections.

The databases are continually updated with the new acquisitions, and the old catalog (books received before 1982) has been revised and updated to the current catalog.

- New developments in providing access to collections.

Last year the library acquired equipment to allow access to the research catalog by people with visual disabilities. Plus, the National Library is permanently researching better ways to improve its digital collections and increase the quality of digital documents.

▪ **National Library of Brazil Principal Projects 2007-2008**

The enlarged National System for Public Libraries

The new scope of the Brazilian Public Library System is the creation of public libraries in Brazilian municipalities that do not have a public library. These new libraries receive a collection of 2,000 books, computers with free bibliographic software installed, video, audio sound equipment and furniture.

They are established through agreements with the municipalities, which will be responsible for their maintenance.

376 new libraries were created in 2008 to add to the 4,420 libraries in existence.

455 kits (books, computers and furniture) were distributed for the other existing municipal libraries through the program of Modernization of Public Libraries.

Regional Center for Preservation (IFLA/PAC/LAC)

Through an agreement signed with IFLA/PAC to enlarge the network of IFLA-PAC centers and give closer assistance to the various countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, the Preservation Coordination of the National Library of Brazil is responsible for providing technical assistance and training to Bolivia, Brazil, Uruguay and Paraguay.

A two-week Course of Preservation and Conservation including theoretical and practical classes is offered annually to Institutions from Brazil and South America.

Programs: Scholarship for Brazilian literature translation and research in the area of books and reading

27 grants for traineeship or courses in Brazil or abroad in the fields of cultural production;

9 grants of US\$3,000 each for foreign publishers interested in publishing Brazilian authors.

Points of Culture

This is an important governmental program that has as a goal to create, wherever the community needs it, a space for access to books (mainly for children and teenagers) and computers for internet access.

The federal government, through the National Library, selects and buys the books, the furniture and the computers that are distributed to the various communities.

In 2008, 600 points of culture were created.

Brazilian Digital Library – www.bn.br/bndigital

The Brazilian National Digital Library was launched in 2006. Today it encompasses approximately 18,000 scanned items which corresponds to about one million images.

The documents are scanned in the Digitization Center of the National Library which was equipped with high resolution scanners. The main goals of the National Digital Library are the preservation of and access to the Brazilian memory and cultural heritage.

The National Library digital collection is in the public domain, consequently without problems of copyright.

The metadata scheme followed by the National Digital Library is compatible with Dublin Core plus other necessary metadata as required locally for management and long term preservation.

The permanence of the Brazilian Digital Library is assured by its Digitization Laboratory created in 2002 and considered the largest and most important in a public Institution in Brazil.

International Digitization Projects

The World Digital Library Project

The US Library of Congress has launched an initiative to create a World Digital Library (“WDL”) with contents relating to the history and culture of peoples and countries around the world.

The National Library of Brazil is a founding institutional participant in the Project (“WDL Participant”).

The WDL Project will provide access in seven languages. With the participation of the National Library of Brazil, the Portuguese language was included with the other six official languages of the UN.

Collaborative programs:

Brazilian Digital Memory: a virtual network

This project is the most important collaborative program with other Brazilian libraries. The network was created and is managed by the National Library and aims to disseminate digital information and contents of the collections of the Institutions that participate in the network – www.bn.br/redememoria .