

## ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2009

**Name of country:** Korea (Republic of Korea)  
**Name of library:** The National Library of Korea  
**Name of Chief Executive:** Dr. MO Chul Min  
**Mailing address:** 664, Banpo-ro, Seocho-gu, Seoul 137-702, Rep. of Korea  
**Telephone:** +82-2-590-0510  
**Fax:** +82-2-590-0546  
**Web address of the library:** <http://www.nl.go.kr>  
**Email address for contacting the library:** [nlkpc@mail.nl.go.kr](mailto:nlkpc@mail.nl.go.kr)

### **1. General overview of recent major developments**

After the ground-breaking ceremony in December, 2005, the National Digital Library of Korea (NDLK) completed its construction in December, 2008. Costing the total of 123.7 billion won (approximately 100 million dollars), the NDLK has a total area of 38,014m<sup>2</sup> and is comprised of 3 stories above ground and 5 stories below ground. The NDLK is awaiting its grand opening ceremony in May, 2009, and as for facilities, not only the digital library, but also various portal services, web archiving and digital preservation systems and more are being planned for. Furthermore, the capacity of the underground stack rooms is 12 million books, and with the addition of the Deposit building's storage capacity, that amounts to 20 million books.

The IFLA/PAC Korea Center was established within the National Library of Korea (NLK) in November, 2008. The Korea Center conducts many activities: translating and distributing IFLA-PAC newsletters and publication materials; supporting domestic preservation policies and conservation technologies; conducting many preservation projects at home and abroad; and providing training and PR activities. It also serves as a bridge connecting IFLA-PAC Focal Point, regional centers in the world and domestic public organizations.

With 295 public libraries, "Chaek-Bada (In Korean, it has two kinds of meanings: sea of Books and receiving books)", a national Inter-Library Loan (ILL) system has been officially launched and began its operation in April, 2008. As of January 2009, 356 institutions are participating and plans to establish collaborations with academic and special libraries are expected to be executed.

Collaborative Digital Reference Service (CDRS) "Ask a Librarian" system was developed in April, 2008 and tested its operations until the end of 2008. As of April, 2009, 217 public libraries are fully participating in the system operations.

### **2. 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**

As a government body, the Committee on Library and Information Policy was created in 2006 under the direct control of the President. The main purpose of its establishment is to

review and regulate the essential matters related to library and information policies, considering the whole library field. As a government agency performing Library and information policies under the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, established in 1945, The NLK is responsible for comprehensive collection, preservation, service of national literature, establishment of the national library and information system and standardization, promotion of cooperation among libraries both home and abroad and cultivation of library development policies.

### **3. Key facts and figures**

The NLK is, as of now, the end of March 2009, holding 7.08 million materials (5.7 million books, 1.1 million non-book items, and 270,000 old and rare materials). Materials collected in the year 2008, through legal deposits, purchases, donations, self-produced are 460,000 items. In the year 2008, the NLK was open for business for 328 days, had daily visitors of 2,300 people and about 6,800 cyber users. The operational budget for the year 2008 was 91.8 billion won (70 million dollars) and of those, 63.8 billion won (50 million dollars) was used for the establishment of the NDLK. Current numbers of employees at the NLK are 282.

### **4. New developments in creating and building digital collections**

#### **o Web Archiving**

Project on Online Archiving & Searching Internet Sources (OASIS, <http://www.oasis.go.kr>) have been actively proceeding since January of 2004. Digital resources which the NLK is currently collecting are individual digital resources and website mirroring which are mainly provided in the open material sections within the websites such as research reports, periodicals, policy information, and statistics and more. As of December, 2008, 370,000 cases of online digital resources have been collected; especially, Korea's regional festivals, which are social issues in Korea, elections for the National Assembly members and relocation of the capital of Korea related digital resources have been collected in the political points of views.

#### **o Legal Deposit, Collaborative and Commercial models**

In order to make the legal foundation for legal deposits of online digital information, the NLK have made efforts to promote the legislation of the revised bill of Library Act with an addition of "online information collection" clause, the corresponding legislative bill has passed the Assembly plenary session (March 25, 2009) and sub-law is in the process of being revised for the enforcement of the bill (September 26, 2009).

### **5. New developments in managing digital collections**

Digital Collection Management System is a system developed in 2008 to systematically collect, organize, store, manage copyrights, service and preserve both tangible and intangible digital information resources, and it's expected to operate simultaneously with the grand opening of the NDLK in May, 2009. Not only does it include existing digital information such as e-Book and e-Journal but also web and other user created contents; as a collection metadata, Dublin Core Collection Description Application Profile for content metadata, Metadata Object Description Schema are the basis of managements.

## **6. New developments in providing access to collections**

### **o Access to information by the disabled**

The NLK has opened and operated 'Accessible Room' since April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The 'Accessible Room' is equipped with various assistive technologies for each type of disabilities and provides not only Braille and sign language material services but also NLK's holdings which are not yet developed into Braille and sign languages are serviced through face-to-face reading service by voice, to visually impaired people, and for hearing impaired people, by sign languages.

### **o Access to digital collections**

Dibrary (Digital + Library) is being constructed in order to conveniently make integrative searches of important digital contents for both home and abroad. Dibrary is a quality digital contents search portal with a high level of reliability and public use. Dibrary is comprised of 4 sub-portals: Policy Information Portal, Regional Portal, Multicultural Portal, and Portal for the disabled. Dibrary is also the first portal to provide services catering to each user by offering various digital information accesses.

## **7. Examples of collaboration between the reporting library and other national collecting institutions**

The NLK is planning for a cooperation network model for the share of digital information. The cooperation network has a Digital Information Share Council which manages as a whole and beneath is Regional Information Share Council, Policy Information Share Council, Multicultural Information Share Council, and Disabled Information Share Council. Participating institutions are all public and private institutions producing quality digital information and making distributions like public cultural institutions such as libraries, museums and galleries, public institutions such as government agencies and local autonomous entities, multicultural related private organizations, portal enterprises.