

CDNL country report for 2009-2010

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Name of Library: National Library of Thailand
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Headings:

1. General overview of recent major development at the reporting library

National Library of Thailand is planning to cope with rapid change of boundless information and telecommunication society in competitive world today by launching **National Library Development for state-of-the art learning source project**. The new fully high-tech building is being constructed with the amount of 562,687,600 baht from government budget and has planned to be open to public in 2011 A.D.

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

2.1 Library act

Presently, the National Library of Thailand is in the progress of drafting the National Library Act. The National Library has its main task to collect, provide and preserve the publication and audio-visual materials, as well as to support and promote the publisher or press processing, it is well known for having the system to search for the data thoroughly.

2.2 Legal deposit act

At present there is no legal deposit act in Thailand. The National Library of Thailand is only the agency responsible for collecting publications published in Thailand. Anyhow we do have the **Press Act A.D. 2007** which the main objective is to govern the press. By

the provision of this act, the National Library of Thailand is able to receive 2 free copies of book, newspaper and periodicals for Thai National Bibliography.

2.3 Computer-Related Crime Act B.E. 2550 (2007)

The purpose of Computer-Related Crime Act is to specify the accusation and penalty concerning computer offence, in term of hacking into the computer, illegally editing, damaging the information, revealing false information, etc. The Act specify power and responsibility of authorities in charge. The Act, nevertheless, help reduce the use of computer illegally.

2.4 Advances or improvement in the copyright law affecting libraries

Intellectual property's copyright in Thailand is under the Copyright Law 1994 or the Royal Decree on Copyright 1994 conducted by the Administration of Department of Intellectual Property's Copyright Office, Ministry of Commerce.

The law covers literary work, works on performing arts, virtual art, music audio-visual, motion pictures, broadcasting and other works in literary, Science and Art sections. It is also covered the computer software. The copyright belongs to the author for 50 years after the death of the author and the last co-author.

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

- **Number of Staff:** 164 personel (98 government officials, 8 government employees, 44 permanent employees, 14 temporary employees.)
- **Total operating budget:** 21,852,900 baht of 2009 government budget.
- **Major Collections :**

Total volume of collections	2,496,505 items
Unique and rare collections	518,779 items
Secondary publications	468,239 items
Digitized materials	301,914 images
Depository collections	1,327,573 items
National and special databases	11 databases

4. New development in creating and building collections

Regarding that Chinese Language is playing important role in today worldwide society and more in the future. NLT has so far acquired a lot of Chinese language publications so as to create the **Chinese Information Service Room**. All Chinese items would be arranged into the National Library database so that domestic and oversea public can get access to Chinese monographs as needed.

Window on Dynamic Korea is in the process of implementation.

5. New development in managing collections

National Library of Thailand and National Institute of Development Administration (NIDA) has launched a MOU on **Digitized Newspaper Exchange** in March 2010.

6. New Development in providing access to collections

NLT has a plan to cooperate with The Office of Higher Education Commission to join the project of creating a central bibliography database as a **Union Catalog** for extending network of resource sharing among educational institutes throughout the country.

7. Examples of cooperation between the reporting library and other national collecting institutions (library, archives and museums)

National Library of Thailand, National Archives, National Museum and Office of Archaeology, the Fine Arts Department, Ministry of Culture is jointly cooperating with the project of **Preservation of Local Wisdom**. The aim of the project is to preserve local wisdom and get them technically managed for easily accessing for all.
