

Programs

Three-year Library Development Plan 2003 Progress Report

Abstract

In 2002, Taiwan introduced a "Three-year Library Development Plan: Building the Foundation of Knowledge Resources." The plan seeks to strengthen the functions of domestic libraries and enhance the information ability of the public. The program has seven specific objectives: to promote cooperative collections, convert Chinese documents to digital format, facilitate information use, develop professional standards for librarians, promote professional training, and pursue sound library development.

The major work items of the program include cooperative development of library collection resources, creation and operation of library information systems, library utilization and information education, promotion of reading, drafting of professional standards for libraries, and strengthening guidance in library operations. Within each of these seven major work categories are various annual sub-plans whose number and scale vary according to the available budget in a given year.

In the first year of the program (2002), government budgetary shortfalls limited funding to nearly NT\$100 million, or about one-fifth the originally intended amount, forcing considerable cutbacks in the implementation of the sub-plans. The 2003 budget remained unchanged from the 2002 level, and 17 sub-plans were implemented that year. The results of these projects are briefly introduced below:

• Sub-plan 1: Enhancing library collections

1. Acquired 2,400 titles (2,800 volumes) of Chinese books, 1,108 titles (1,227 volumes) of gray documents, 809 titles (843 volumes) of reprinted publica-

tions from 1945, and five Chinese databases.

2. Acquired 168 types of AV material (803 items) produced domestically and abroad and 2,275 Chinese language titles (3,057 volumes) published overseas.
3. Completed classified cataloging of 22,500 volumes/files of Chinese and western language publications.

• **Sub-plan 2: Cooperative development of library collections**

1. Completed a cooperative development plan for 10,738 core western periodicals at university libraries.
2. Acquired 12 Chinese databases for public library use.

• **Sub-plan 3: Compilation of local documents**

Acquired 167 types (180 items) of historic maps, books and postcards.

• **Sub-plan 4: Collection and acquisition of rare documents and reproductions**

Inspected and acquired from private collections 22 rare books (107 volumes), 255 sets (269 items) of rare documents, 15 sets (23 items) of ink rubbings, 24 sets (96 items) of New Year's prints, 23 reproductions (154 volumes), and 56 microfiche sets (721 rolls), for a total of 316 resources (495 items).

• **Sub-plan 5: Enhancing interlibrary resource sharing**

1. Installed new servers for the National Bibliographic Information Network (NBINet) and inspected operations at 13 NBINet libraries across Taiwan.
2. Completed and implemented a draft of key points for the national book donation mechanism. A total of 2,711 titles (2,817 volumes) were donated this year.

3. Completed a "Draft Plan for the Establishment of a National Resource Center for the Visually Impaired," setting guidelines for the collection and lending of Braille and audio books; and collected 63 Braille books.

• **Sub-plan 6: Enhancing library automation and network resource sharing**

1. Held the 19th National University and College Library Automation Seminar.
2. Established the National Library Collaborative Digital Reference Service (CDRS). The system is now in the trial phase and is used by participating libraries to answer reader inquiries.

• **Sub-plan 7: Establishing a Chinese bibliographic network**

1. Deleted redundant bibliographies in the NBINet system.
2. Completed planning of the Chinese-language knowledge web portal.
3. Transferred 9,871 files and numerous web pages on rare books in local and overseas collections.

• **Sub-plan 8: Establishing the Taiwan Info system**

1. Updated the software functions and hardware storage capacity of the Taiwan Info system.
2. Completed integration and transfer of material in the "Government Bulletin" and "Government Statistics" systems.
3. Completed the annotation, network resource analysis, and key-in of 16,734 digital files.

• **Sub-plan 9: Establishing the Taiwan Memory system**

1. Completed the second phase software and hardware expansion for the Taiwan Memory system.
2. Converted 600 news programs, over 9,000 manuscripts of Hsiao Tsu, over

80 paintings, and some 700 photographs.

3. Digitally converted and annotated evening news programs from the years 1972 to 1986, comprising 100,394 annotated news files and 301,182 digital files.
4. Established over 8,000 files on the texts and descriptions of stele inscriptions and major events.
5. Published an online special exhibition entitled "Century Old Images of Taiwan: Postcards on Aborigines in the Japanese Occupation Period". The exhibition consisted of five separate modules and over 800 pages of content.
6. Established multimedia "AV Museums" on the themes of media, Taiwanese theater, and Taiwanese literature.

• **Sub-plan 10: Digital conversion of doctoral and masters theses**

1. 339,018 pages of doctoral and masters thesis papers was scanned into digital form. In addition, 6,611 previously digitally converted full-text Ph.D. dissertation files and the theses scanned this year were cataloged, indexed and included in the thesis image system.
2. Added 26,825 new thesis abstracts to the system, bringing the total to 255,921 abstracts.
3. Processed 17,322 doctoral and master thesis files, bringing the total number of files authorized for online publication to 41,450.
4. Commissioned National Sun Yat-sen University to develop management functions for a distributed system of joint input and sharing of thesis files and to hold three promotional seminars in northern, central, and southern Taiwan.
5. 21 universities/colleges and the NCL signed an agreement on the utilization of a "Distributed System for Joint Input and Sharing of Academic Thesis Files."

• **Sub-plan 11: Digital conversion of Chinese periodicals and newspapers**

1. Completed 83,300 periodical TOC entries.
2. Scanned 455,775 periodical pages and 683,822 newspaper pages.

• **Sub-plan 12: Creating a children's knowledge bank**

1. Established and revised the functions of a web-based "Children's Knowledge Bank."
2. The knowledge bank has a storage capacity of one terabyte, sufficient to hold 500,000 TOC items and 100,000 multimedia files.
3. Established 3,000 science-related files, 1,000 history files, 7,000 image files, 12 theme-based modules 100 children's Internet resource links.

• **Sub-plan 13: Library use and information education**

1. Online classes comprising 30 modules were offered on the topics of "Primary and Middle School Library Management," "Urban and Rural Township Library Operations and Management," and "Reading Methods." These programs were invited to take part in the "2003 National Digital Learning and Educational Resource Exhibition" sponsored by the Ilan County Government under direction of the Ministry of Education.
2. The Taipei County Cultural Affairs Bureau was commissioned to organize a "Library Utilization and Information Education Camp". The NCL also jointly held a training seminar for library and information science professionals with the Graduate Institute of Library and Information Science at National Chung Hsing University.
3. Continued establishment and maintenance of a website on the three-year library development plan and publication of the Three-year Library Development Plan Progress Report.

· Sub-plan 14: Reading promotion

1. Published a catalog of recommended books and completed systems on award-winning books and publishing information.
2. Collected bibliographies on over 2,000 outstanding, award-winning and recommended books published in Taiwan; completed 744 bibliographies and 4,983 image files, and 1,843 author introductions for outstanding and award-winning books published in Taiwan, and 2,596 TOC entries for such works.
3. Held the "Library and Reading Activity Seminar."

· Sub-plan 15: Drafted librarian standards

1. Drafted the "Case Studies and Analysis of Librarian Ethics."
2. Completed the "Table of Chinese Subject Words in Humanities and Social Science," " Table of Chinese Subject Words in Medical Sciences (draft)," " Table of Chinese Subject Words in Life Sciences (draft)," " Table of Chinese Subject Words in Agriculture."
3. Nearly 60 scholars and experts were invited to participate in revision work. The working group held five full meetings and 108 symposiums.
4. Completed trials of "41 medicine" classification and subject word table, and revised the sub-classifications based on the trial results.
5. Revised and reviewed the "00 special collection" and 41 sub-classifications.

· Sub-plan 16: Librarian education plan

1. About 1,300 students took part in on-site librarian training programs offered by the NCL in conjunction with the NCL Taiwan Branch, National Taichung Library, Taipei Municipal Library, and Kaohsiung Municipal Library.
2. National Chengchi University and National Sun Yat-sen University were commissioned by the NCL to jointly hold on-the-job training courses for librarians.

3. The Knowledge Management and Service Strategy Promotion Committee held four meetings attended by 128 people.

• **Sub-plan 17: Strengthening library assistance**

1. Inspection visits were made to 24 township libraries across Taiwan.
2. Awards for excellence were presented to 67 public libraries reviewed under a national assessment program.

Public Library Development Plan: New Book Acquisition Info Web

By Lee Wen-chuan , ISBN Center

In order to elevate the quality of public library services, the Ministry of Education and Council for Cultural Development jointly promoted the "Public Library Development Plan." One of the five sub-projects of this plan, involving the establishment of an online procurement mechanism for public libraries, was entrusted to the NCL's International Standard Book Number (ISBN) Center for implementation. The center subsequently established the "New Book Procurement Information Net" to carry out this mission.

The procurement mechanism serves as a portal to online information on new publications to help libraries select titles for acquisition. The mechanism can also be integrated with libraries' current acquisition systems to check for duplicate copies, and it can be used to draft invoices for book acquisitions. A publication assessment committee or publication reviewers can prepare lists of books suitable for local public library collections to facilitate online acquisition from the publisher. The acquisition mechanism contains the following major functions:

1. Portal for online information on books

Integrated searches can be made across several online sources, including public