
Three-year Library Development Plan: Achievements in 2002

The "Three-year Library Development Plan: Knowledge Resource Infrastructure" kicked off last year to promote cooperative collections, digital Chinese-language resources, information use, universal reading, professional standards, librarian training and the sound development of the library system in Taiwan. The program is sponsored by the NCL under the direction of the Ministry of Education and includes 17 sub-projects. Progress in implementing these sub-projects in 2002 is summarized below:

1) Enhancing library collections:

Acquisitions to make up for collection gaps include 2,931 Chinese-language books (3,079 vols.), 3,077 domestic and foreign AV titles, 383 Chinese-language overseas publications (1,774 vols.), and 533 foreign books on Taiwanese studies (1,375 vols.).

2) Cooperative development of library collections:

National Taiwan Normal University was commissioned to survey the status of western academic periodical subscriptions at university libraries in Taiwan and formulate a plan for cooperative collection development among university libraries. The sub-project also included the acquisition of 14 Chinese-language databases for public library use.

3) Collection of local documents:

A total of 63 local documents on Taiwan (616 vols.) were acquired to serve as the basis of a "Taiwan Memory" system.

4) Acquisition of rare books and reproductions:

The NCL has a collection of about 300,000 rare books and is the world's



biggest repository of Ming dynasty editions. Given the high cost and difficulty of obtaining rare books, the library needs to rely on reproductions for missing volumes now out of print. A total of 74 rare books (788 vols.) have been acquired from private collections.

5) Improving inter-library resource sharing services:

NBINet currently comprises 74 cooperative libraries and over 4.2 million shared bibliographic records. Several functions of the system were strengthened and improved, including the enhancement of advanced keyword searches, expansion of defined database search functions, and arrangement of digital image resources. Representatives were also sent to 29 joint libraries across Taiwan to inspect the operation of the system.

6) Strengthening automation and online resource sharing:

This sub-plan involves the promotion of seminars and workshops to build consensus among personnel in the academic, business and library communities. In 2002, National Chengchi University hosted a seminar on automation planning for university libraries, at which participants were invited to "learn about e-resources in the digital age"; National Chiao Tung University established an online system for libraries to cooperatively respond to reference inquiries; and Kaohsiung Municipal Library held a seminar on local documents to train personnel in the basic skills for digitalizing local documents.

7) Creating a Chinese-language bibliography information network:

Some 360,000 duplicate bibliographic records in the NBINet system have been revised.

8) Establishing a "Taiwan Info" government information system:

The focus of this plan is to integrate the information systems of the NCL and various government agencies and develop a platform for the "Taiwan Info" website.

9) Creating a "Taiwan Memory" system:

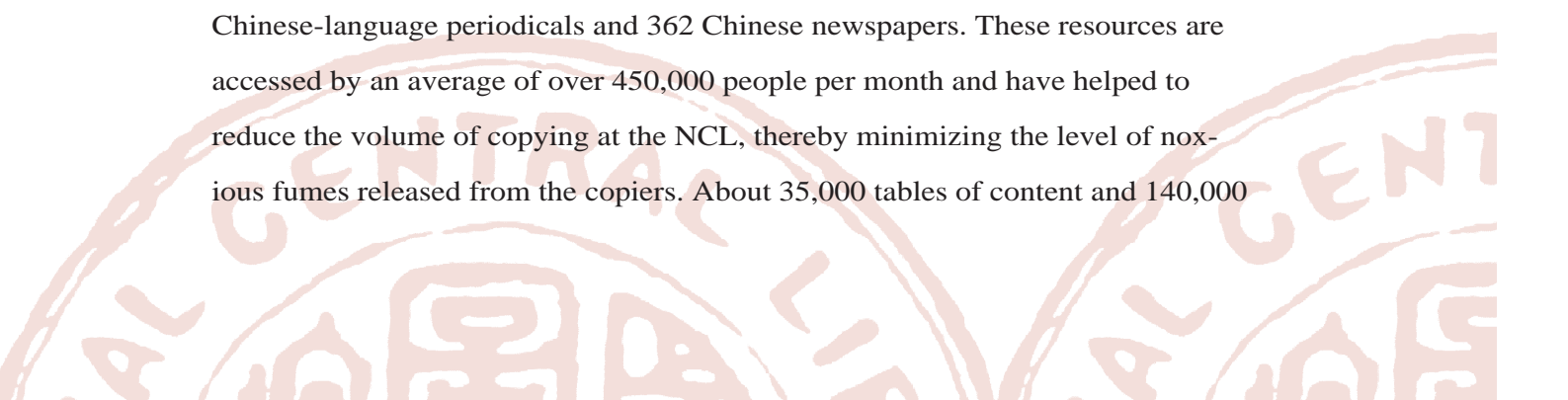
The aims of this sub-project are to establish a metadata management system, digital resource storage hardware and management systems, multimedia resource management systems, and intellectual property right security systems. Areas already completed are the establishment of hardware, application system functions and related facilities; metadata and file name standards for photographs, stone rubbings and news video; and the digitalization of 4,049 Japanese occupation era photographs, 2,134 stone rubbings, and 600 program reels.

10) Digitalization of dissertations:

As of 2001, this system comprised 221,491 dissertation abstracts, image files for over 1.8 million pages of doctoral and masters theses, and 17,566 full-text files. About 26,000 abstracts, 322,328 page images and 7,083 full-text files have been added to these numbers. Workshops have also been held across Taiwan to promote usage of these resources.

11) Digitalization of Chinese-language periodicals and newspapers:

The NCL currently has over 8.4 million pages of full-text images from 11,533 Chinese-language periodicals and 362 Chinese newspapers. These resources are accessed by an average of over 450,000 people per month and have helped to reduce the volume of copying at the NCL, thereby minimizing the level of noxious fumes released from the copiers. About 35,000 tables of content and 140,000



pages of full-text periodical images, as well as the scanning of 100,000 full-text images and 50,000 newspaper pages on microfiche, and the digitalization of 100,000 pages of microfiche material were completed in 2002.

12) Establishing a children's knowledge bank:

Some 5,000 text, image and sound files for children have been added to the knowledge bank.

13) Providing education in library and information use:

Achievements in this area include holding 30 workshops for librarians on library operations; distributing CD-ROMs and handbooks to help primary school librarians teach students how to use library resources; and promoting reading-based distance education and producing CD-ROM courses to assist librarian self-study.

14) Reading promotion activities:

The Taipei Public Library held a training camp for organizers of children's reading activities, library field trips, and extracurricular reading classe. The Kaohsiung Municipal Library arranged activities to teach study and reading methods to mentally handicapped children and children with reading difficulties and organized a broadcast "book fair" to promote good books for kids.

15) Drafting professional ethical standards for librarians:

The Library Association of China was commissioned to draft ethical principles for library professionals in Taiwan. Thirty publications from 27 countries on librarian ethics were translated, lists of controlled Chinese medical vocabulary were compiled, humanities and social sciences vocabulary was tested and 12 sub-categories in the "Chinese Classification Scheme" were revised.

16) Librarian education:

The Chinese Association of Library and Information Science Education held a seminar on library and information science dissertations; National Taiwan Normal University hosted a ten-session roundtable seminar on library development in the twenty-first century; and the NCL Taiwan Branch, National Taichung Library, Taipei Public Library, Kaohsiung Municipal Library, and Bureau of Cultural Affairs, Ilan County Government held 30 practical training courses for librarians across Taiwan.

17) Strengthening training and counseling in library affairs:

Representatives visited 75 public libraries across Taiwan to provide them with blueprints for development.

(Chinese text by Wu Ying-mei. 吳英美)

TIBE 2003

The 11th Taipei International Book Exhibition wrapped up an event-packed week on February 16 this year at three separate venues across Taipei. The show kicked off on February 11th with an opening address by President Chen Shui-bian, who noted TIBE's role as a focal point for the global publishing industry.

A total of 925 publishers reserved 2,092 booths for the 2003 show, including 414 publishers from Taiwan and 511 from nearly 50 other countries. Exhibits were displayed in six topical areas: international exhibitions, children's books, e-books, comic books, general books, and spiritual and religious books. There were also two new activities added to this year's program on international publishing and international copyrights. At the first event, speakers Peter Mayer, publisher of

