

# NATIONAL LIBRARY OF VIET NAM ANNUAL REPORT

For the 22<sup>ND</sup> Conference of Directors of National Libraries in Asia and Oceania

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**Name of Library** : National Library of Viet Nam  
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## 1. GENERAL OVERVIEW OF RECENT MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

**Firstly:** On 16 January 2014, the Prime Minister issued Decision No.123/QĐ-TTg stipulated on National Library of Viet Nam under authority of the Prime Minister's decision. The Decision has strengthened NLV's position and role, expressing the interest and investment of the Government for Viet Nam library career.

**Secondly:** In recent years, NLV has promoted the role and position while contribute comments and opinion for law documents such as the *1992 Constitution Amendment Draft, Draft Library Law, Land Law Amendment*; legal documents related to the field of library... At present, MoCST, MIC, Publishing Directorate, Vietnamese Publishing Association, Vietnamese Library Association proposes plan to Prime Minister to select Viet Nam Book Day, has scheduled on 21 April. The Launching Ceremony of Viet Nam Book Day will be held at NLV, celebrating activities will take place at NLV and other libraries throughout the country annually.

**Thirdly:** Performing assigned task of the MoCST, NLV presided over the construction of the *Vietnamese Standard "Library Activities – Terms and Definition"*, time taken from 2012 to 2016. NLV published Part I "The basic terms" on December 2013; Part II, III, IV will be published respectively in 2014, 2015, 2016. Promoting scientific research, currently NLV has ongoing implemented 2 Ministerial level scientific researches: "Completing the digital model at National Library of Viet Nam and libraries of central cities" and "Enforcement of copyright and related rights on library-information activities in Viet Nam: situation and resolution"; 2 researches at Institutional level "Serve information need of leadership of MoCST" and "Developing and completing the information services at the National Library of Viet Nam".

**Fourthly:** Over the past year, the National Library of Viet Nam (NLV) in coordination with other organisations, individuals at home and abroad held several events such as exhibitions, seminars, book introduction etc., with good outcome produced. Typical events included Exhibition on "Dien Bien Phu in the air Victory through domestic and foreign documents"; "Francophonie book space and the Book Reception Ceremony" held by NLV, French Embassy, National Book Center and the National Library of France on the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the relation between Viet Nam and France; Book Paintings art exhibition posters Finland "100 years-100 posters" to celebrate 40 years of diplomatic relations of the two countries Viet Nam and Finland; Introduction of documents and images of General Vo Nguyen Giap, photos exhibition entitled "Eva Peron – Ambassador of Peace" and presentation of

book "The reason of my life". Especially the Annual Reading Festival Day responded to World Book and Copyright day was held in April with the theme "For a learning society" was great success with many activities focusing on the value of reading, attracting a large number of audience.

**Fifthly:** Successfully organize Annual meeting of General Assembly of Francophone Digital Network 2013 in April at the National Library of Viet Nam, representatives from 18 member countries of RFN attended the meeting. The success of the Conference and the Ceremony of 1,200 books donated by the French National Book Centre (NLC), the National Library of France (BNF), the Embassy of France and Exhibition "Space of French books" toward celebrating 40 years of diplomatic relations between France and Viet Nam.

**Sixthly:** Successfully implemented the project "Strengthening the capacity of digital library and preservation at NLV" – strategic project invested by the MoCST to develop digital technology in Viet Nam. Effectively implementation of projects such as English books sponsored by the Asia Foundation, project funded by the Bill&Melinda Gates Foundation. NLV has hosted and implemented, completed publishing Vietnamese - Edition 23 (DDC 23). The launching ceremony of DDC23 in Vietnamese version and Training Workshop on usage of DDC23 for Vietnamese libraries held on November 2013 with participation and trained by representative from OCLC.

**Seventhly:** Effectively implementing socialized library activities, continue conducting positive response programs to build new rural areas launched by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Viet Nam. Concurrently, activities of NLV' Union has more innovation, creation, associated with professional works.

**Eighthly:** Strengthening and expanding bilateral and multilateral international cooperation activities on exchanging document, organizing and developing library space, and training staff. NLV has been actively engaged in fulfilling its membership responsibility to such Library Associations as IFLA, CDNL, CDNL-AO, CONSAL, RFN, WDL, NL-AP etc. In August 2013, NLV led Vietnamese delegation of 18 delegates who are representatives from Vietnamese libraries to the 79<sup>th</sup> IFLA WILIC held in Singapore. NLV also well maintained, almost implemented efficiency the projects/co-operated programs such as "Strengthening capacity on digital library and digital preservation at the National library of Viet Nam", English books donated by the Asia Foundation; project of updating and renovating the National Library of Viet Nam, the project funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation etc.

## **2. RELATIONSHIP TO GOVERNMENT**

NLV is the Central Library (Decision of Establishment dated on 29/11/1917 and Decision number 401-TTg – on 9 October, 1976 of the Prime Minister) of The Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Nowadays, NLV belongs to Ministry of Culture, Sports & Tourism; NLV's activities aimed to the country development and the community's needs of research, study, and entertainment

- Decision number 401-TTg – on 9 October, 1976 of the Prime Minister about functions, and responsibilities of the National Library.
- Library Ordinance No. 31/2000/PL-UBTVQH of National Assembly Committee on 28 December, 2000 and Decree number 72/2002/NĐ-CP on 6 August, 2002 of the Government about the details of library ordinance.
- Decree number 92/2006/NĐ-CP on 7 September, 2006 of the Government about setting up, approving, and managing the overall planning about economy-society development.
- Decision number 581/QĐ-TTg of the Government on 6 May, 2009 about approving culture development strategy to the year 2020.

- Decision number 56/2007/QĐ-TTg on 3 May, 2007 of the Prime Minister about approving the program of industry development to the year 2010
- Decision number 257/QĐ-BVHTTDL on 20 January, 2010 of Ministry of Culture, Sports & Tourism about approving investment policy and capability improvement Digital Library and Digital preservation at National Library of Vietnam.
- Decision number 2368/NĐ-CP on 11 June, 2008 of Ministry of Culture, Sports & Tourism about regulations of functions, duties, powers, and organizational structure of NLV.
- Decision number 10/2007/QĐ-BVHTT on 4 May, 2007 of Ministry of Culture, Sports & Tourism about approving the development plan of Vietnam Library to the year 2010 and orientation plans to the year 2020.
- Decision number 3114/QĐ - BVHTTDL on 4 October, 2011 of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Viet Nam on the approval of construction investment to renovate and upgrade the National Library of Viet Nam of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism.

### 3. KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

#### 3.1. Library readers:

Every year, the Library issues over 20,000 card readers, the total access of readers at the library and online approximately 2,000,000 visits (average 6,000 visits) per day.

#### 3.2. Library information resources:

At present, the NLV owns more than 2.5 million documents, the biggest source of document nationwide. The source is varied in contents and languages, diversified in all forms (book, newspaper, journal, doctoral thesis, painting, music, map, music pieces, description, etc.). Digital source produces nearly 5 million document pages equivalent to 33,500 document titles. Most of these digitalised documents are and have been opened to the reader for free online access at <http://dl.nlv.gov.vn>. Valuable collections include the following:

**Collection of ancient Han Nom books:** comprises 5,280 books manually created with Do paper, hand-written and printed on the woodprint in Han Nom character – an ancient type of characters of Viet Nam, dated on 16<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> Centuries. Since 2006, the NLV has cooperated with Han Nom Heritage Protection Association to digitalize nearly 150,000 pages being equivalent to 1,965 documents at <http://nom.nlv.gov.vn/nlvnpdf>

**Collection of doctoral thesis:** comprises 21,300 theses (nearly 4.5 million digital pages) of Vietnamese citizens at home and abroad, foreigners in Viet Nam. This is the most unique and full collection at the NLV with significance in terms of research and application in all aspects of life at <http://luan.nlv.gov.vn>.

**Collection of Indo-China documents** (from Viet Nam, Cambodia, France, some European countries and French dominated countries etc., comprises of 68,500 titles and 10,000 titles in form of microfilm and microfiche. These documents published since the 17<sup>th</sup> Century to 1954 are invaluable cultural heritage with historical, geographical, resourceful and agricultural values. Since 2006, the NLV has been sponsored by the French Embassy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France together with concern given by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism. The NLV has digitalised more than 200,000 document pages equivalent to 1,320 document titles and also digitalised 8,600 microfilm items equivalent to 126 documents at <http://sach.nlv.gov.vn>.

**Collection of ancient Tuong (classical drama) – Cai Luong (reformed theatre):** this is a digital collection of 5,000 pages equivalent to 100 books in the *Collection of Indo-China Books*.

**Collection of legal deposit publications** of Viet Nam since 1922 to present: this is an important collection of national documents closely associated with the development of publishing

industry and of the NLV with more than 680,000 titles being equal to 1,580,000 sets of books, newspapers, journals, descriptions, paintings, music pieces, maps and numerous special issued publications at <http://sach.nlv.gov.vn>.

**Collection of newspapers and journals:** over 10,000 titles of newspapers, journals at home and abroad, database of article abstracts with over 65,000 titles at <http://baochi.nlv.gov.vn>. Nearly 49,000 pages of Vietnamese journals have been digitalized (equivalent to 6,313 volumes of 26 journal titles).

**Collection of Books and maps on Hanoi:** on the occasion of the Anniversary of 1000 years of Thang Long – Hanoi, the NLV in coordination with Hanoi Publishing House to build a database of full documents on Thang Long – Hanoi (1010-2010). More than 400,000 pages (equal to 850 books) went digital.

**Collection of foreign documents** (1959 to present): there are more than 500,000 titles through purchase and donation from organisations, individuals and in exchange with 132 libraries and information agencies from 32 countries worldwide.

**Collection of English books on Viet Nam:** the NLV selected and digitalised 338 English books on Viet Nam, equivalent to 95,520 pages (under the ASEAN-COCI program: Congress of Southeast Asian Libraries (CONSAL).

**\* Online full-text material resources by subscribed/purchased**

- **SpringerImages database:** is a growing collection of scientific images that spans the scientific, technical and medical fields, including high-quality clinical images from images.MD. The continually updated collection – currently over 5 million images – gathers photos, graphs, histograms, figures, and tables, and is available to libraries and their patrons via a searchable online database.
- **IG Publishing database:** is an collection of more than 40,000 e-books of all subject areas: Economics & Business Administration, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, Religion, Language, Asian Research Collections ... on each specific topic, with friendly interface, easy search, easy access
- **EBM Center:** including 2 most popular online databases: (1) Bibliographic database of the import / export worldwide, (2) Online database facts about the company in this country is to do business with companies in other countries.
- **Keesing database:** a complete, accurate, and concise collection of articles all over the world about politics, economics-society from 1931 to present.
- **ProQuest database:** is an online database consisting of nearly 30,000 full-text theses, over 44,000 Hoover's company records, 3,000 snapshots series, 11,250 journals including 8,400 full-text journals and 479 full-text newspapers, and some non-periodical documents such as Ox Research and EIU reports about 252 countries and regions, over 60 learning resources-references including Brookings Paper, OEF, Career Guide, Occupational Outlook Handbook focusing on 160 different fields.
- **Wilson database:** includes 569 magazines on the sciences of technical applications such as: Applied Mathematics; Artificial Intelligence, Automatic Control; Atmosphere study, Chemical Technology, Automotive Engineering, Technology Information and Communication, Food, Manufacturing, Mining, Metallurgy.
- Vietnam Law Database, the French-Vietnamese legislators
- European book database about international trade.

3.3. *Organization structure:*

NLV has 178 employees and labor contracts, in which there is 1 doctor, 23 masters, 121 bachelors of library and 34 of other majors. The library has a Board of Directors, Science Council and 13 functional Divisions.

#### **4. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN CREATING AND BUILDING COLLECTIONS**

Through the operation of exchanging, adding, and donating, the library's material resource has dramatically increased in the recent time.

- NLV added to the library's depository in total is 337,978 titles and volumes through:
  - Legal deposit publications books 15,736 titles (70,849 volumes); Doctor's thesis 1,414 volumes; Special editions 706 titles (1,700 volumes); periodicals 46,072 issues (1,053 titles of 229,097 volumes)
  - Resources of purchase, exchange, and donation: 12,557 volumes (6,405 titles) and 168 CD-ROMs
  - NLV added to information resources 5 online full text databases Keesing, Proquest and EBM Center, Springer images, Group Publishing Books.
- NLV has extended the source of foreign documents through donation by organisations: governments, non-government, Embassies in Hanoi, projects, Donor Funds, Development programs in the region and the world, foreign cultural centres in Hanoi and individuals include the United Nations, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Asia Foundation, Wallonie-Bruxelles Delegation in Viet Nam; National Library of France, Quebec National Library and Archive, French National Book Centre, Korean Cultural Centre, Goethe Institute, Indian Embassy, Pakistan Embassy, Egypt Embassy, Chinese Embassy etc. have enriched and diversified the library's material resources

#### **5. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN MANAGING COLLECTIONS**

To successfully manage the material collection, also make the data processing more convenient, improve the service's quality; approach to libraries of other countries in the region and in the world, NLV always cares about application of international library professional standards in recent years.

The launching ceremony of the Dewey Decimal Classification – Vietnamese version 23 (DDC23) in November 2013 at NLV ensured in the consistency in classification of library, information agencies nationwide, contributing to standardization and sharing information resources among libraries at home and abroad. The DDC23 in Vietnamese version is also valuable material for research and training institutions of library – information nationwide to train students of this major. The librarians of NLV and other libraries in Viet Nam have been trained how to use the DDC23 and learn the experience from other countries of DDC23 usage.

#### **6. NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN PROVIDING ACCESS TO COLLECTIONS**

In order to improve the efficiency, NLV is always interested in updating and developing the library's website, through the website, the Library has been promoting more deeply, and more specifically the image as well as resource's potentials. Besides that, NLV has been continued invested by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism to invest new computer system with high configuration. To overcome overcrowded in Network access, the Internet connection served readers have been moved from ADSL to Fiber Optic Cable. The ILIB, DLIB software, OPAC operating smoothly, the library's website is regularly been monitored, updated, data is back up etc.

The NLV conducted regular 46 classes "Library's guidance for readers", to receive, exchange, and answer 3,393 requirements for online information via library's website.

## **7. EXAMPLES OF COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE REPORTING LIBRARY AND OTHER NATIONAL COLLECTING INSTITUTIONS (LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES AND MUSEUMS)**

Thanks support given by the Ministry of Culture, Sport and Tourism, the NLV has been actively engaged in fulfilling its membership responsibility to such Library Associations as IFLA, CDNL, CDNL-AO, CONSAL, RFN, WDL, NL-AP etc. Leaders and officials were posted to go training at some abroad Seminars, Conferences such as the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of CONSAL Executive Board in Thailand, 21<sup>st</sup> CDNLAO Conference in Malaysia, attended The 79<sup>th</sup> World Library Conference in Singapore etc.

Being active members of organizations, NLVs has selected as the host country in 2013 for the annual meeting of Francophone network for digital national libraries (RFBNN) which was held in April 2013 in Hanoi, Viet Nam.

In 2013, NLV has welcomed many foreign guests from the United States, France, Germany, England, Australia, Finland, Argentina, Japan, Korea, Chile, India, China, Taiwan, Canada, Korea, Japan, Thailand, Mexico and some Africa countries etc.

Over the past year, many librarians from the NLV studied or participated in Conferences/Seminars in in Taiwan, USA, Malaysia, Germany, India, Thailand, Korea, Singapore, China etc. NLV also supports librarians from provincial libraries participating in the training courses in India and Korea.

NLV has extended the source of foreign documents through donation by organisations: governments, non-government, Embassies in Hanoi, projects, Donor Funds, Development programs in the region and the world, foreign cultural centres in Hanoi, leaders, managers, researchers, scientists and businessmen (typical donors include the United Nations, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Asia Foundation, Sabre Fund, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Wallonie-Bruxelles Delegation in Viet Nam; LEAF-VN in the U.S., National Library of France, Quebec National Library and Archive, French National Book Centre, Korean Cultural Centre, Goethe Institute etc.

## **8. EXAMPLES OF COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE REPORTING LIBRARY AND PUBLISHERS IN YOUR COUNTRY/REGION**

Any country has their own book storage in which documents and published works of the whole nation and about the nation are preserved and passed on for long-term use. The NLV has maintained close relation with publishing houses throughout the country made considerable contributions to the collection, organisation, preservation and dissemination of written cultural heritage of both the country and the world.

The NLV holds the collection of legal deposit publications of Viet Nam since 1922 to present: this is an important collection of national documents gained by the NLV in associated sclosely with the 64 publishing houses. The collection is now up to more than 680,000 titles being equal to 1,580,000 sets of books, newspapers, journals, descriptions, paintings, music pieces, maps and numerous special issued publications etc.

NLV also co-operated with the publishing houses and book houses in the country to implement the Cataloguing in Publication (CIP) from 2009 to present. Besides, many associated activities have been organized such as conference and meetings on publishing or books exhibition.

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Annual Reports. Historical Collections. Overview. The National Intelligence Council (NIC) commissioned Lloyd Gardner, the renowned American scholar on the Vietnam war, to prepare an introductory essay providing historical context for the documents. This is the second such collection of declassified documents published by the National Intelligence Council. In October 2004 the Council published, *Tracking the Dragon: National Intelligence Estimates on China During the Era of Mao, 1948-1976*. The National Intelligence Council is a center of strategic thinking within the United States Government, providing coordinated analyses of foreign policy issues.

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