Library Services for People with Disabilities

Young Sook Lee
Deputy Director, The National Library Support Center for the Disabled
The National Library of Korea

Establishing and Operating The National Library Support Center for the Disabled

1) Legal Ground (Library Act Article 45 Clause 1)
   - 22.5.2007. Establishment of the National Library Support Center for the Disabled

2) Roles and Functions (Library Act Article 45 Clause 2)
   - Formulating and implementing the National Policy for Library Service for the Disabled
   - Drawing the Library Standards & Guidelines for People with Disabilities
   - Publishing & Distributing Alternative format Materials; reading materials, textbooks, etc.
   - Conducting R & D for Library Service and Assistive Technology, etc.
   - Training and Educating Library Staff for People with Disabilities
   - Cooperation with Libraries and related institutions home and abroad

3) Organization
   - Staff (Regularly 10 / Temporary 12)
   - Budget: 2.776 Billion KWON (2011)
     o 490 million (‘07) → 490 million (‘08) → 650 million (‘09) → 2.204 billion (‘10)

4) Main Tasks
   - Drawing the Library Standards & Guidelines for People with Disabilities(2008)
   - Publishing & Distributing Alternative Format Materials
     o Amendment of Library Act (Legal Deposit of Digital File from Publishers, 2009)
     o Total of Alternative format Materials: 7,446 (as of 31.12.2010)

<2011 Alternative format Material Plan>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types</th>
<th>Titles</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DAISY (Digital Accessible Information System)</td>
<td>1,700</td>
<td>For the Visually Impaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DVS (Descriptive Video Service)</td>
<td>65</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Braille Music</td>
<td>400</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sign Language Video Books</td>
<td>330</td>
<td>For the Hearing Impaired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,000</strong></td>
<td>*Include 505 titles produced in-house</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- **Developing Web Based DAISY Authoring Tool and Services (2010)**
  - Development of DAISY Authoring Tool and training staff
  - DAISY Book Streaming Service and Download Service

- **Promoting DAISY Standardization in Korea**
  - Form the Korean DAISY Consortium(KDC) and Join the International DAISY Consortium(DC) as a Full Member
  - Establish Korean Standard on digital talking books for the visually impaired

- **Operating ‘Sorichack Nanumtua’(Book Share, 2010)**
  - Donate digital files of new publications for people with the print disabled.
  - Form 22 committee from different fields including writers, publishers, etc.
  - Website: [http://nanum.library.net](http://nanum.library.net)

- **Running a Reading Room for people with Disabilities**
  - Open: April 13, 2009
  - Size: 324㎡ / 40 Seats
  - Facilities: 6 Carrels (3 for face to face reading, 3 for watching DVD), Information Search Desks, 1 Seminar Room, 1 Braille Printing, 1 Assistive Technology, etc.
  - Assistive Technology: 209 devices (106 for Vis., 36 for Hea. 67 for Phy.)

- **Supporting ‘Reading Room for the Disabled’ at Public Libraries**
  - Object: Improve library services for people with disabilities
  - Financial support: Purchasing assistive technology, implementing library program for running people with disabilities (matching fund, local government)
  - Budget: 130 Million KWON (16 Libraries)
    * 5 Libraries 60 million (2009), 11 Libraries 90 million

  - Collected 18,610 records (24 libraries) and Built 15,782 records (16 libraries)

- **Implementing Phone Bill Voucher for Telephone Reading Service (2010)**
  - Support 50% of Telephone Bill with voucher, Telephone reading services to give an reading opportunity for people with disabilities

- **Installing a Dedicated Telephone Line for Library Services for people with disabilities (T.1644-6044, 2010)**