



Country Report

[Period Coverage: 1 January 2019 – 31 December 2019]

Name of Country	: Japan
Name of Library	: National Diet Library
Name(s) of National Librarian, Director-General and/or Director	: HANYU Sawako, Ph.D., Director General of the National Diet Library
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1 Facts and Figures

Sn	Item Description	Figures
a	Operating Budget i. Government ii. External Sources	i. 27,279,003,000 yen ii. N/A
b	Total Staff (FTE) i. Graduate or Post Graduate with library qualifications ii. Other Qualifications	891 as of April 2019 i. N/A ii. N/A
c	Collection Size i. Physical collection ii. Digital collection preserved	i. 44,187,016 items as of March 2019 ii. 3,950,825 items as of March 2019

d	Visitorship (Annual) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Physical visits to reading rooms ii. Digital visits to websites 	i. 777,227 visitors from April 2018 to March 2019 ii. 16,078,612 accesses from April 2018 to March 2019
e	Inter Library Loans provided (Annual)	7,273 loans from April 2018 to March 2019

2 Overview of Major or New Developments in Library Buildings, Collections, Access or Services [Please provide a maximum of 5 highlights]

i. Digitalization of library materials

As of 2019, the NDL Digital Collections comprises approximately 2,720,000 digitized materials. Of these, the NDL has assigned DOI names to all digitized content created from its own holdings. The NDL has also started digitizing audio-visual materials.

ii. Collecting materials on the Internet

As of 2019, the NDL has collected nearly 173,000 websites (1.6 PB) and 1,225,000 online publications (E-books and E-journals (magazines)). In accordance with the National Diet Library Law, the NDL has collected online free-of-charge publications without Digital Rights Management published privately. In 2019, the NDL started to collect some pay-to-read online publications with the consent of the publishers.

iii. Creating and providing bibliographic data

Bibliographic data, authority data, periodical index data, and table of contents information that have been created by the NDL have been available free of charge and may be used without permission either commercially or non-commercially since April 2019. In addition, data obtained from external organizations but provided by the NDL may also be used without permission. The NDL is preparing to adopt the Nippon Cataloging Rules 2018 Edition (NCR 2018) as its standard for the cataloguing of materials to be included in the Japan National Bibliography starting January 2021.

iv. Release of the Next Digital Library content-based retrieval system prototype

In March 2019, the NDL launched its Next Digital Library, a prototype service which provides advanced functionality using artificial intelligence (AI). The goal of this project is to provide easier access to and easier use of digitized content, and to this end the NDL has researched and developed functionality such as the whitening of the margins in digitized images or the automatic detection of illustrations in digitized images of library materials to enable content-based illustration search.

v. Construction of new stacks at the NDL Kansai-kan in Kyoto

The most recent phase of construction of new stacks at the Kansai-kan in Kyoto is scheduled for completion in February 2020, which will give the Kansai-kan a planned storage capacity of 5 million volumes.

3 Collaborations with Libraries, Archives and Museums in your Country [Please provide a maximum of 5 highlights]

i. Launch of the beta version of the Japan Search website

Japan's Cabinet Office has started an initiative to promote the utilization of digital content by building a portal site in coordination with other related government agencies. As part of this project, the NDL has developed and is operating a beta version of the Japan Search website, which was launched in February 2019. The Japan Search website can be used to search the metadata of a wide variety of digital content from libraries, museums, and media arts archives. With its official launch scheduled for summer 2020, all parties have been working to improve the system and to expand cooperation. As of December 2019, metadata for 19.7 million items from 61 databases operated by 15 partner organizations is discoverable via Japan Search.

<https://jpsearch.go.jp/>

ii. New Search Interface for Databases related to the National Diet

In cooperation with the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors, the NDL launched in December 2019 a redesigned search interface for the Full-Text Database System for the Minutes of the Diet. It also launched redesigned search interfaces for three other databases of information about legislation in Japan: the Database System for the Minutes of the Imperial Diet; the Index Database to Japanese Laws, Regulations, and Bills; and the Index Database to Japanese Laws and Regulations in early Meiji Japan.

iii. Preservation cooperation activities

The NDL provides support for libraries and museums in recovering library materials damaged by the typhoon in October 2019.

4 International Collaborations such as Formal Arrangements for Cooperation with National Libraries [Please provide a maximum of 5 highlights]

i. Collaboration with overseas libraries

The NDL continues to hold mutual visit programs with the National Library of China and the National Library of Korea.

ii. NDL digitized Contents Transmission Service for Libraries

The January 2019 revisions to Japan's Copyright Law now enable the NDL to transmit digitized images of out-of-print and otherwise difficult-to-obtain materials to libraries outside Japan. We are now accepting applications from overseas institutions for the Digitized Contents Transmission Service for Libraries. Some 1,490,000 library materials are available via this service as of the end of 2019.

iii. Services for people with print disabilities (Marrakesh Treaty)

The terms of the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled came into effect in Japan in January 2019. In July 2019, the NDL joined the Accessible Books Consortium (ABC) Global Book Service operated by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and in November 2019 launched an international exchange service that loans DAISY, braille, text, and other accessible book data for persons with print disabilities.

iv. Preservation cooperation activities

The NDL serves as the IFLA PAC Regional Centre for Asia and has endeavored to provide information on preservation and conservation on the NDL website. In February 2019 the NDL hosted a visit by conservators from Oxford University's Bodleian Libraries, who participated in a training and exchange program on preventive preservation measures and restoration techniques.

v. CDNLAO Website operation

The NDL serves as the CDNLAO webmaster and provides conference information and published newsletters.

<https://www.ndl.go.jp/en/cdnlao/index.html>