

MLA Koha Pilot Project 2011

Project objectives

The general objective of the Project is to assist libraries of the Maldives in materializing automation of library services, thereby improving the overall service provision within and among the libraries.

The specific objectives of the Project are:

- To computerise the cataloguing and circulation functions for a better efficiency in providing value added library services
- To develop computerised Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) that can be searched by the public from remote terminals.
- To computerise the circulation service of the libraries so that checking in and out, issuing, renewing and holding services can easily and efficiently be handled with sufficient managerial record being generated.
- To lead to the creation of union catalogue of the Maldives Libraries that can facilitate searching of library holding across all the libraries, thereby leading to resource sharing and interlibrary loan systems
- To facilitate the creation of digital library collections accessible through a web portal.

Key deliverables of the Project

- Computerisation of 10 libraries selected strategically across the Maldives. These include 8 libraries selected and sponsored by the Education Development Centre and 2 libraries selected and sponsored by the Maldives Library Association.
- Training of library and technical staff, from the targeted libraries. The training is scheduled for 11-15 September 2011 and will cover Koha integrated library system and Greenstone Digital Library (GSDL) Software. The training will be conducted by overseas experts in partnership with the Maldives Library Association, with administrative support from the Institute of Library and Information Services, NLM.
- Creation of digital library of the EDC collection. This will facilitate full-text access to resources by the entire Maldivian community. This was traditionally held as physical copies at the EDC, located in Male'. Limited or password access will be provided to copyright material, in accordance with copyright clearance.

Libraries selected for the Project

1. Jalaaludheen School, H.Dh. Kulhudhufushi
2. Baa Atoll School, B. Dharavandhoo
3. Lhaviyani Atoll Education Centre, Lh. Hinnavaru
4. Maldives Polytechnic, Malé
5. Aminiya School, Malé
6. Dhaalu Atoll Education Centre, Dh. Kudahuvadhoo
7. Hamadh bin Khalifa Al Thani School, L. Gan
8. Gaafu Dhaalu Atoll Education Centre, G.Dh. Thinadhoo
9. Gnaviyani Atoll Education Centre, Gn. Fuvah Mulah
10. Muhibudheen School, S. Hithadhoo

Key partners

- Maldives Library Association (MLA)
- National Library of Maldives (NLM)
- Education Development Centre (EDC), Ministry of Education
- MNU Library, The Maldives National University

Project Team

The Project is coordinated by the Maldives Library Association, with administrative support from the National Library of Maldives, financial support from the Education Development Centre, technical assistance from the MNU Library Team, and consultancy and support from Koha & GSDL experts overseas. ■

