

Support library development in Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam

The Australian Centre for Publications Acquired for Development (ACPAD) is seeking your library's support as it extends its services to libraries in Indochina. The ACPAD program, which has been operating in ASEAN countries since 1982, is extending its services to include support to Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam. The program will continue to assist libraries in Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand.

ACPAD organises the collection of professional journals and technical books from Australian tertiary institutions, business houses, professional societies, government libraries, individual library personnel and private individuals for distribution to targeted libraries in developing countries.

ACPAD accepts quality library materials from Australian donors for distribution to appropriate libraries in post-secondary education institutions in the region. Some 80 per cent of the publications on offer are sets of professional journals, many of which contain runs of up to ten years or more. A limited amount of CD-ROM material is also made available to appropriate libraries. Many of the publications in the scheme are donated by Australian libraries when

they reduce the number of duplicate technical books and journal sets in their library collections or replace them with publications in electronic format.

Professional staff assess the suitability of the material for the program and distribute master lists of available materials, allowing the overseas libraries to select the most appropriate titles. ACPAD emphasises the importance of the recipient libraries choosing according to their needs.

Donors are usually asked to hold material for approximately six weeks while it is offered overseas. Requested materials

are packed by the donor and transport is arranged by ACPAD at no cost to the donor organisation.

Linkages between Australian libraries and appropriate libraries in southeast Asia can be supported by ACPAD. The program is able to arrange regular shipment of library materials, which meet ACPAD criteria, from an Australian library to a particular library in southeast Asia.

ACPAD is supported by funding from the Australian International Development Assistance Bureau and managed through IDP Education Australia. ■

The write stuff

The material that ACPAD can use is as follows:

Academic and research material, in all disciplines suitable for post-secondary study at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, written in English, and in good condition. Material will be assessed for its cultural, political and religious sensitivity.

Journals are accepted in runs of two years or more from 1980 onwards, with pre-1980 journals accepted if runs continue to the 1990s. Science/technology books are accepted if published in the last five years; social science and the humani-

ties books if published in the last eight to ten years, and English literature materials of any imprint date. Audiovisual materials/microforms, CDRoms are accepted according to similar criteria.

Reference materials such as dictionaries, atlases, indexes and abstracts are accepted if currently useful and accurate (on a case-by-case basis).

If you have materials to donate or require further information contact either Robyn Stokes or Annita George at ACPAD, on phone (06) 285 8222, fax (06) 285 3036, e-mail acpad@idp.edu.au.

ABN — Why not? *A round-table for managers and cataloguers from public libraries*

Thirty-three lively public librarians gathered late last year to work out key issues in cataloguing onto ABN, particularly those issues impeding libraries from giving access to their entire collections. The ALIA NSW Cataloguers' Section and ALIA NSW Public Libraries Section cooperated to bring a variety of guest speakers to set the scene for discussion, and Annie Talve to facilitate the session. Julia Trainor from ABN provided valuable input, as did Karyn Green, Graham Blewett, Meg McLuckie, Nora Hinchin, and Wendy Chester.

Nine key issues were identified for improvement: user-friendliness of the system; non-English collections; interconnectivity; retrospective conversion/uploading; spirit of cooperation; staff; interlibrary loans; quality of records and poor credits for upgrades; standards versus standardisation.

The major recommendations relate to lobbying by the ALIA Cataloguers' Section on ABN cataloguing standards; Public Libraries Branch of the State Library of NSW and ALIA NSW Public Libraries Section to hold a similar workshop on interlibrary loans; public librar-

ies to contribute to redevelopment; and funding to be sought from the Public Libraries Branch of the State Library of NSW and Metropolitan Public Libraries Association and Country Public Libraries Association for the adding of unique collections to ABN. Letters are being written to the various stakeholders to take up these recommendations.

This half-day workshop was an energetic one providing a rare opportunity for public librarians to discuss ABN issues specifically relating to public libraries. ■



L-R: Wendy Chester, Julia Trainor, Meg McLuckie, Karyn Green, Graham Blewett, Nora Hinchin

The New South Wales

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