

The IDE Library, as a resource and information center on the developing regions, specializes in the collection of basic literature related to social science fields, including economics, politics, and society, in the developing countries, as well as the latest materials and statistical materials. The Library also makes these materials widely available to the general public, to be used by researchers, students, and people involved in business who are interested in the developing regions.

1. Library Collection

Since the founding of the Institute, we have concentrated on collecting materials published by governments and public organizations in the developing countries, journals and newspapers, research reports from universities and research institutes overseas, and statistical materials. In particular, through the exchange of publications with major overseas research institutes and government agencies, we have been able to acquire publications that are difficult to obtain through commercial channels. As of the end of FY2004, we conducted exchanges with 1,100 institutes and agencies overseas (Table 1).

Table 1. Partner Institutions for International Exchanges

Region	International institution	Government	Library	Research institute	University	Bank	Corporation	Academic/ general organization, etc.	Total
Asia	15	227	14	87	152	38	1	58	592
Details East Asia	0	51	7	21	41	9	0	7	136
Southeast Asia	9	108	4	14	29	11	0	5	180
South Asia	0	58	1	28	13	11	1	2	114
Central Asia	0	4	0	0	0	6	0	0	10
Japan	6	6	2	24	69	1	0	44	152
Middle East & North Africa	3	33	2	9	17	33	0	4	101
Latin America	7	49	1	11	23	45	0	16	152
Africa	3	67	0	2	4	40	0	1	117
Oceania	2	10	2	1	12	2	0	1	30
CIS/Eastern Europe	0	7	2	7	2	1	0	0	19
North America	11	3	1	0	24	1	0	0	40
Western Europe	22	0	1	12	10	2	2	0	49
Total	63	396	23	129	244	162	3	80	1,100

Starting in this fiscal year we have begun to actively acquire electronic journals, which have become widespread in recent years, and for which there is great demand among users. So far, we have signed licenses for approximately 260 titles. We are doing this as an effort to acquire back issues of journals that we do not have in our collection yet, and to improve the usefulness of the Library for users.

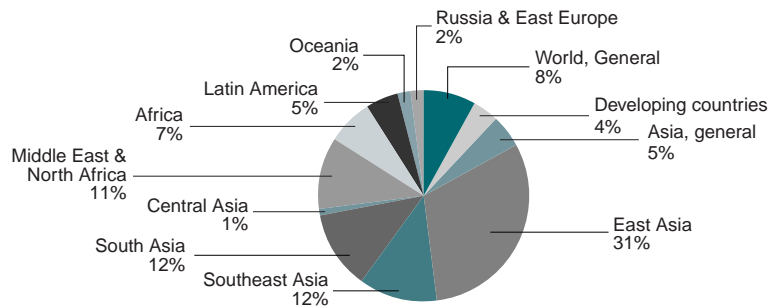
With the cooperation of research fellows sent abroad and local researchers overseas, the Library collects local publications and materials that cannot be easily found in Japan. Especially, this fiscal year, we have collected materials in vernacular languages and statistical materials from China, Vietnam, Malaysia, India and Afghanistan.

Furthermore, using microfilm, we have systematically collected government publications from Laos, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan, Libya, and Algeria, which were previously impossible to obtain, as well as newspapers and other important local materials from Laos and Cameroon. Consequently, as of the end of March 2005, the total number of volumes in the collection is 558,587. The breakdown of the collection by languages and materials, as well as by region, are shown in Table 2 and Chart 1.

Table 2. New Arrivals and Collection in FY2004

	End of FY2003	New arrivals in FY2004	End of FY2004
Books			
Western	227,598	5,638	233,236
Japanese	67,943	1,836	69,779
Chinese	35,610	1,432	37,042
Korean	18,060	605	18,665
Bound journals	58,606	3,294	61,900
Statistical materials	134,178	3,787	137,965
Total	541,995	16,592	558,587
Newspapers (titles)	297	1	298
Periodicals (titles)	3,396	45	3,441
Maps (sheets)	53,120	0	53,120
Microfilms (reels)	80,083	983	81,066
Videotapes	386	32	418
CD-ROMs, FDs	717	228	945

Chart 1. Breakdown of Collection by Region



2. Services to Users

In FY2004, there were 6,016 visitors to the Library, a decrease of 126 from the previous fiscal year. However, this was due to extra closed days required for the construction of new multi-tier stacks, and in fact the average number of users per day has been rising since 2003. Looking at the visitors by occupation, as in the past, one-third are graduate students and university faculty, and there has been a constant decrease in undergraduate students, who once made up nearly one half of visitors.

In FY2004, with the goal of improving services toward visitors of the Library, and to promote services to remote users, some successes were gained from efforts in the following areas: (1) increasing users of the SDI (Selective Dissemination of Information) Service; (2) retrospectively entering data into OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog) on multilanguage materials that had not yet been entered; and (3) promoting the bibliographical standardization of statistical works. With regard to (1), as of the end of March 2005, there are 647 registered users. Regarding (2), among multilanguage works, the bibliographical data entry has been completed for Arabic and Korean books. And as for (3), work is scheduled to be completed by next fiscal year.

Additionally, on the occasion of the relocation of the JETRO Headquarters to Akasaka in January 2005, the IDE Library Satellite Office was established, targeting users to the West of Tokyo, among whom library users have decreased. At the satellite, visitors can view items reserved from the IDE Library, and can make inquiries to the librarians at Makuhari through TV telephones.

In addition, during this fiscal year, "Developing Countries in Japanese Writings, 2003: An Annual Bibliography" was published, the provision of information through the website was enhanced, and the "Forum for Understanding Developing Countries" was held.

The Library's main reference services consist of responses to inquiries involving the provision of concrete information, materials, and statistical data on the economics, politics and societies of developing countries. In FY2005, there were 1,438 main inquiries and consultations.

