IDE Library

The IDE Library, Japan's largest library specializing in the developing regions, collects basic and academic social science literature on developing countries, as well as the latest related information and statistical materials. The Library makes these materials widely available to the general public, and in particular to researchers, students, and people involved in business who have an interest in the developing regions.

1. Library Collection

Since the founding of the Institute, the Library has placed emphases on the collection of (1) publications of governments and public organizations in the developing countries, (2) journals and newspapers, (3) research reports from universities and research institutes overseas, and (4) statistical materials. In particular, through the exchange of IDE's publications with those of major overseas research institutes and government agencies, the Library has made efforts to acquire publications that are difficult to obtain through commercial channels. As of the end of FY2005, the Library exchanged publications with 1,074 foreign institutions (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	221	14	86	143	38	1	54	572
East Asia	0	48	7	24	38	9	0	4	130
Southeast Asia	8	107	4	13	27	11	0	5	175
South Asia	0	57	1	27	14	11	1	1	112
Central Asia	0	4	0	0	0	6	0	0	10
Japan	7	6	2	23	70	1	0	45	154
Middle East & North Africa	3	33	2	9	15	33	0	5	100
Latin America	7	49	1	15	24	42	0	14	152
Africa	3	67	0	4	4	40	0	1	119
Oceania	1	10	2	1	11	2	0	1	28
CIS / Eastern Europe	0	5	2	7	2	1	0	0	17
North America	11	3	1	0	20	1	0	0	36
Western Europe	22	0	1	13	10	2	0	2	50
Total	77	610	37	222	378	197	2	132	1,074

Starting in FY2003, the Library begun to actively acquire electronic journals, which have become widespread in recent years, and for which there is great demand among users. So far, licenses for approximately 860 titles have been signed. The library is also making efforts to acquire back issues of journals that are not available in our collection.
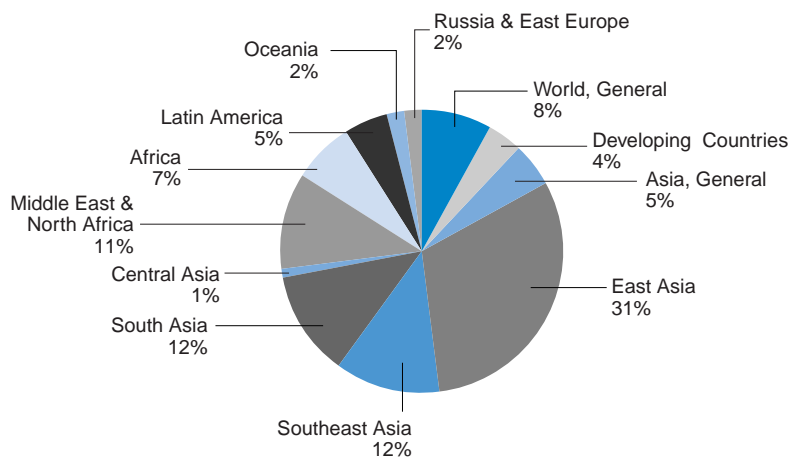
With the cooperation of IDE research fellows sent abroad and local researchers overseas, the Library collects local publications and materials that cannot be easily found in Japan. In particular, this fiscal year, the Library has collected materials in vernacular languages and statistical materials from Rwanda, Venezuela, Myanmar, Syria, Brazil, and other countries.

Furthermore, the Library has acquired topographic maps of Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Turkey, and South Africa. As of April 2006, the total number of volumes in the collection has reached 572,398. The breakdown of the collection by languages and materials, as well as by region, is shown in Table 2 and Figure 1.

Table 2. New Arrivals and Collection in FY2005

	End of FY2004	New Arrivals in FY2005	End of FY2005
Books			
Western	233,236	5,365	238,601
Japanese	69,779	1,834	71,613
Chinese	37,042	1,040	38,082
Korean	18,665	809	19,474
Bound journals	61,900	1,523	63,423
Statistical materials	137,965	3,251	141,216
Total	558,587	13,822	572,409
Newspapers (titles)	298	0	298
Periodicals (titles)	3,441	51	3,492
Maps (sheets)	53,120	498	53,618
Microfilms (reels)	81,066	3,107	84,173
Videotapes	418	2	420
CD-ROMs, FDs	945	420	1,365

Chart 1. Breakdown of Collection by Region

Russia & East Europe 2%
Oceania 2%
World, General 8%
Latin America 5%
Developing Countries 4%
Africa 7%
Asia, General 5%
Middle East & North Africa 11%
Central Asia 1%
East Asia 31%
South Asia 12%
Southeast Asia 12%

2. Services to Users

In FY2005, there were 5,190 visitors to the Library. Looking at the visitors by occupation, as in the past, one-third are graduate students and university faculty.

In FY2005, to improve services to visitors and remote users, efforts were made 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 materials. With regard to (1), as of the end of March 2006, there are 876 registered users. Regarding (2), among multilanguage works, the bibliographical data entry has been completed for Persian, Indonesian, Malay, and Vietnamese books. And as for (3), the task was completed by the end of FY2005.

At the IDE Library Satellite Office in Akasaka (Tokyo), 673 materials of the IDE Library were viewed by 176 visitors.

In addition, during this fiscal year, "Developing countries in Japanese writings, 2004: An annual bibliography" (in Japanese) and *Catalogue of Newspapers on Microform Held in the IDE Library (As of October, 2005)* were published, and the forums for "Understanding Developing Countries" were organized by the Library.

The Library provided reference services to answer inquiries about information, materials, and statistical data on developing countries. In FY2005, there were 1,125 major inquiries and consultations.