



မြန်မာနိုင်ငံစာကြည့်တိုက်အသင်း

The Myanmar Library Association

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Actions and activities responding to COVID-19 matters by Myanmar Library Association (MLA)

1. Online training
2. Online discussion
3. Translation work of IFLA and ALA by MLA
4. Published COVID-19 guideline to libraries
5. Dissemination of information related to COVID-19
6. School Libraries Project with 115 High schools, Middle schools, and primary schools around the country during the Pandemic period

1. Online training

MLA launched the first Online Library Education Training Course on 25 May 2020 during the COVID-19 period. Nearly 250 applications are received, and the training will be divided into two parts. Part 1 will cover seven subjects and have three sessions, including 80 trainees in each session. Part 2 will cover ten subjects and total of 16 subjects for the Basic Library Education Course. During the pandemic period and stay home period, MLA tried to share the library education with the people around the country and most of them are interested in running the small library. Some are paraprofessionals, and some are monastic education center librarians, including monks. State-run media MRTV covered the news and interviewed with President and Vice President-1 of MLA for an online course.

2. Online discussion

The Live discussion on the topic of “The Role of Myanmar Libraries during COVID-19” organized together with Myanmar Community Libraries Group took place on 20 April 2020. Myanmar Library Association President (1) Daw Myat Sann Nyein participated in the discussion.

After the discussion, small community libraries from Shan state and other cities are able to start the online storytime, making homemade food and knitting programs during a locked down period.

3. Translation work of IFLA and ALA by MLA

MLA collected the COVID-19 related information from the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, American Library Association, Australian Library, and Information Association, and translated into Myanmar language made available on MLA facebook and website.

4. Published COVID-19 guideline to libraries

“The Guidelines for the preparation during and after the COVID-19 period” is published on MLA facebook and website. It includes the safety for both staff and users, quarantine for the books returning to the library after lending, redesigning of the library spaces following the social distancing guideline from MOHS, re-organization of library services, restrictions of the number of users visiting the library, promotion of the online services and resources through the social media of the library, and training on the e-resources and e-services for the staff.

5. Dissemination of information related to COVID-19

MLA is disseminating the announcements from the World Health Organization (WHO), Ministry of Health and Sports (MOHS) and information, resources for librarians in responding to the COVID-19 from IFLA, Library Associations, and other reliable sources.

6. School Libraries Project with 115 High schools, Middle schools, and primary schools around the country during the Pandemic period

Collaboration with University librarians and public librarians, MLA has been implementing the project partnership with the Department of Basic Education, Ministry of Education for Developing 115 school libraries around the country. MLA oversees and manages the training, processing, and partnership with Parent Teacher Association and community donors.