ANNUAL REPORT TO CENL 2013
Name of country: Montenegro

Name of library or equivalent national-level organization: National Library of Montenegro “Djurdje Crnojevic”
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1. General overview of recent major developments at the reporting library.
Pursuant to the Law on Libraries the Government of Montenegro, at its session of 19 March 2012, adopted the Decision on the organization of the national library of Montenegro, based on which this institution has been renamed into the National Library of Montenegro "Đurđe Crnojević" (hereinafter: the National Library).
The new Statute of the National Library adopted on 5 April 2012 has been harmonized with the applicable regulations defining library activities.
Installation of the central air conditioning system in the attic of the former Italian embassy has been completed with the funds earmarked by the Ministry of Culture at the end of 2011.

Over the year the National Library carried out the preparations to switch to the COBISS3 Holdings – Location application. At the same time, a commission of five members was working on the new Minutes of the library holdings. Implementation of the COBISS3 Holdings application is envisaged to start in February 2013.

Data on the Montenegrin publishers for 2011 required by PIID (Publishers’ International ISBN Directory) have been created and submitted to the International ISBN Headquarters in London, and will be included in the newly published annual edition of PIID.

A two-day training for COBISS3/Holdings was attended by 12 librarians of the National Library of Montenegro. In addition, 2 librarians attended the COBISS3/Acquisition " at the University of Montenegro in Podgorica.
This year 4 library technicians employed at public libraries obtained the license for cooperative cataloging.


In 2012 the National Library organized numerous cultural events: Presentation of "Bijeli gavran", a novel by Borislav Jovanović; "Otvori knjigu – otvori um" on 23 April to celebrate the World Book and Copyright Day; Exhibition of paintings made by the students of the Faculty of Arts and "Petar Lubarda" High School of Fine Arts; Exhibition "Montenegrin Print" on the occasion of the Montenegrin Journalists’ Day; Exhibition "Theater Posters" by Dimitrije Popović; Exhibition of artistic photographs "Let’s make ties with nature" organized by the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism, Agency for Environment Protection and NLM; presentation of the project "Digital Montenegrin Bibliography 1494-1994" at the 11th Conference on "New technologies and standards: digitization of national heritage" (Belgrade); Exhibition of books to commemorate the 200th anniversary of Charles Dickens’s birth.

In 2012 the National Library completed 9 projects within the Program of protection and preservation of cultural heritage of the Ministry of Culture of Montenegro. The National Library joined the project MANUBALK – Preservation of old books in the Western Balkans, which will continue until 2014.

2. The reporting library’s relationship to government, citation of legislation which sets out the library’s mandate, and any other legislation which directly or indirectly affects the library’s operations.

New Law on Publishing came into force on 8 June 2012, and it incorporates significant changes affecting legal deposit copies. Primarily, the number of legal deposit copies is five instead of 12.

In compliance with the Law on Libraries, in 2012 two bylaws were adopted by the Ministry of Culture.

Furthermore, in conformity with the Law on professional training of persons with university degree, three persons with university degree have been appointed to complete 9-month internship in the National Library.

The Library Council’s Rules of Procedure has been adopted.
3. Key facts and figures (size of major collections, number of staff, total operating budget, etc).

On the basis of the agreement on the exchange of legal deposit copies with the National Library of Serbia and the Matica srpska Library, Novi Sad, Serbia, in 2012 NLM acquired around 600 books, 1,500 issues of newspapers and journals. Special collections have been enriched by 130 CDs, 8 maps, 4 atlases, 76 postcards, and 12 DVDs.

On legal deposit received from the Montenegrin publishers, the library received: 725 book titles, out of which 540 were published in 2012 (3,390 copies), 219 journal titles (1,533 issues) and 225 newspaper titles (1,575 issues) and 5 daily newspapers (circa 1,800 issues).

Through other forms of acquisition, the library received 1,920 book titles (2,698 copies). The most valuable acquisitions are book donations received from: the Embassy of Macedonia to Montenegro – capital edition entitled "Macedonian Literature in English" in 130 volumes, and the International Criminal Tribunal in the Hague.

Claims for published material were sent to the Montenegrin publishers for 1,186 titles printed between 2000 and 2012. Through this process the library acquired 640 items (1331 copies).

On 31st of December 2012 the union (cooperative) database of Montenegrin libraries COBIB.CG contained 289,951 bibliographic records, whereas the local NLM database contained 175,103 bibliographic records. The total number of new entries added to the electronic catalog of the National Library in 2012 is 15,000. A total of 995 CIP records were created, 993 ISBNs were assigned, 89 publishers were included in the ISBN database, and 964 barcodes were created.

There were 80 staff members employed by the National Library as of 31st of December 2012.

The total budget of the National Library (gross salaries + regular activities + funds from the projects) amounted to € 1,126,760.18.


As the focus was on other priorities, the Center for Microfilming and Digitization of Microfilms created 5 microfilms of old serials instead of 50 which had been planned. Complete volumes of Glas Crnogorca have been scanned and prepared for printing on CD, and Glas Crnogorca on CD was released in October. The Digital Montenegrin Bibliography 1494-1994 (32 vols) project launched in 2011 continued and was finalized in June 2012. A total of 20,919 scans were produced.
The Digital Montenegrin Bibliography 1494-1994 is available online at www.cnbdigitalnabibliografija.me.
Activities leading to the release of a DVD version of the Montenegrin Bibliography 1494-1994 were in their final stage in 2012, to be completed at the beginning of 2013.

The site http://www.cnbdigitalnabiblioteka.me/ offers the beta version of the Digital Montenegrin Bibliography.


The Library purchased a number of books with the aim to fill in the "Montenegrina" and Old and Rare Book Collections with the missing titles. Some 100 titles have been acquired, the most valuable of them being the reprint of "Miroslav's Gospel". Throughout the year the current Montenegrin serials of the Montenegrina collection (1946-2010) were displaced and reallocated and their condition was examined, 180 signatures (shelf marks) were placed, 600 volumes were transferred to the general collection stacks. Furthermore, relocation of current Montenegrin journals was completed, as well as the monographs of the Montenegrina collection, which were transferred to the ground floor (around 2,000), the Old and Rare Book Collection was rearranged and re-allocated.
Process of scanning and digitization of valuable items from the Montenegrina national collection dedicated to Petar II Petrović Njegoš and Nikola I Petrović has been completed.
Following the positive experiences and achieved results, the Project of reorganization of locations in the general holdings continued in 2012. The Library employed 4 persons from the register of the Employment Agency for the period of 2 months (May and June 2012) and 2 persons for a month-time (December 2012). In the said period of time 39,551 monographs were checked, dusted, reallocated and examined.
Conservation and restoration of posters and old books, and restoration and conservation of bindings (circa 100 items) has been completed.

6. New developments in providing access to collections.

In 2012 the union catalog of the Montenegrin libraries was searched 90,731 times, while CNBCT – the National Library's online catalog had 32,268 searches. COLIB.CG – database of Montenegrin libraries had 2,606 searches.
The number of "virtual" users of the online catalog has been on the rise in recent years, unlike the number of users visiting the Library.
From the Basic holdings and the "Montenegrina" collection 5,479 books, 2,271 newspaper items and 2,047 journal items were borrowed. Interlibrary Loan service handled 111 requests. Other libraries borrowed 588 publications.
The Library users were provided with approx. 10,500 pieces of information of various kinds (catalog, bibliographic and other information retrieved from COBISS and the Internet).

7. Examples of collaboration between the reporting library and other national collecting institutions (libraries, archives and museums).

This year the National Library paid special attention to the implementation of projects which involve cooperation with libraries, archives and museums:

Drafting of the project and defining measures for the conservation and restoration of the "Montenegrina" collection, Old and Rare Book collection and the Collection of Manuscripts of the National Library; translation and publication of the manual and international guidelines for the digitization of library material; advanced professional training of the NLM librarians and organization of training courses and lectures for the librarians in Montenegro; professional supervision over the public libraries (21 libraries) and the University Library.