



*A group photo of dignitaries from NCL and National Chiayi University during this new milestone*

## ■ 2024 "Plan to Build a Collaborative and Shared Public Library System" and "Reading Lesson Plan for Public Library Regional Resource Centre" Result Sharing Session

In order to improve the operation and management of public libraries in various counties and cities and strengthen the professional capabilities of librarians, showcase the specific results of the implementation of plans in various counties and cities, and exchange ideas to improve the effectiveness of service dissemination and implementation, the National Central Library held the 2024 "Building a Cooperative and Shared Public Library System Plan" and "Public Library Regional Resource Center Reading Lesson Plan" results sharing meeting on January 20, 2025. Public library colleagues across the country gathered at the National Central Library to listen to and share each other's implementation results.

The sharing session began with a speech by Deputy Director-General Pao Yueh Yan of the Ministry of Education. She thanked the National Central Library for playing a very important role in building the cooperative sharing plan and, in addition to organizing the regional counseling committee, visiting the libraries of various counties and cities every year to gain understanding and give specific suggestions. Through activities like this interactive sharing session where the results are published, everyone can understand the advantages to other counties and cities of promoting the plan, which can be used as a reference for self-improvement. It is an occasion to review the implementation results of various county and city governments. The Ministry of Education uses the public construction plan to enable county and city governments to gain assistance as regards the establishment of books, quality management, and the establishment of theme libraries. As to the future, the 2025-2028 Public Library Establishment of Technological Operations and Innovative Service Environment Implementation Plan that the Ministry of Education has won is currently open to applicants, and county and city partners are invited to apply. The Ministry of Education established a library resource

system with the assistance of three libraries (the National Central Library, the National Taiwan Library, and the National Library of Public Information), and also thanked the advisory committee members of the cooperative sharing program for assisting county and city governments in establishing library systems.

National Central Library Director-General Han-Ching Wang pointed out that the cooperative sharing plan had been promoted from 2017 to 2024. With the strong support of the ministry, the excellent leadership of former National Central Library Director-General Tseng, and the joint promotion of a coaching team of 33 teachers and conveners, public libraries have established very good administrative management, reading promotion, reading services, collection development, etc. Although this plan will end in 2025, this end is just a beginning. It is believed that these established systems will continue to be revised progressively in the future, and then develop with the continuous efforts of various libraries.

Afterwards, the conveners (Committee Member Chen Chao-chen, Committee Member Ch'iu Tzu-heng, Committee Member Ts'ao Ts'ui-ying, Director Han-Ching Wang, Director Lu Pao-kuei, Director Chen Li-chun, Committee Member Lin K'uan-yu, Committee Member K'e Hao-jen) of the 2021 library groups (Taipei City, Taoyuan City, Nantou County, Changhua County, Chiayi County, Chiayi City, Penghu and Lienchiang counties) introduced the implementation results of each county and city, and then each county and city library (Director Hung Shih-ch'ang of Taipei City Library, Director Shih Chao-hui of Taoyuan City Library, Section Chief Hsu Yu-fang of Nantou County Government Cultural Bureau, Section Chief Chou Hui-chen of Changhua County Government Cultural Bureau, Section Chief Su Chin-chiao of the Lifelong Learning Section of the Education Department of Chiayi County Government, Section Chief Wang Yung-shen of the Cultural Bureau of Chiayi City Government, Section Chief Hsia Shang-li of the Library and Information Section of the Cultural Bureau of Penghu County Government, and Section Chief Ch'en Shou-yan of the Cultural Department of Lienchiang County Government) took the stage and delivered a report on four years of implementation results.



*Public library partners attending the event listen attentively to the presentations on stage*

In the afternoon, reports were given by the regional resource centers. First, Director Fu Tsufang of National Cheng Kung University talked about "The Mobile Library and Medical Science Popularization: Taking 'Drink More Water, Healthy Kidney Power' as an example." Section Chief Cheng Hsiang of the Reading and Collection Department of Taipei City Library discussed, "Taipei City Library Loves Reading: the Sharing of Lesson Plans for a Youth Media Literacy Course". Section Officer Hsieh Chun-hao of the Cultural Affairs Bureau of Yilan County Government talked about, "Two or Three Matters Concerning When we Explore 'Emotional Relationships and Brain Science' Together", and Professor Ch'en Hui-yu of the Department of Physics of National Chung Hsing University talked about "Gender Equality Inspiration From Reading 'Women's Power In'."

This was followed by experience sharing by Director Li Chun of the National Central Library on "Experience Sharing on the National Library's OPEN LAB Space Construction, Equipment Planning and Operation Strategy" and Section Chief Li P'eih-suan of the Hsinchu County Government Cultural Affairs Bureau Library on "Experience Sharing on the Planning of the Hsinchu County Main Library", enabling all public library partners to gain a better understanding of the Public Library Establishment of Technological Operations and Innovative Service Environment Implementation Plan in public library construction from 2025 to 2028.



*A joint photo showing public library partners*

## ■ 2024 Report on Taiwan's Reading Landscape: Digital Reading Ability Surges by 99.8%, Library Services Continue Two-Track Model

The 2024 Report on Taiwan's Reading Landscape Press Conference was held in the NCL Briefing Room at 10am on the morning of March 27th, 2025. During the conference, the reading abilities and interests of Taiwan's public in 2024 were explored and analyzed. The reading abilities of the greater public were analyzed through operational service statistics

from public libraries throughout Taiwan. In addition, the conference commended cities that demonstrated excellent performance in overall reading abilities as well as cities that demonstrated excellent sub-category reading performance.

Director of the Ministry of Education's Department of Lifelong Education Hsueh-cheng Liang expressed his gratitude to the county and city leaders as well as to public libraries for their efforts in establishing collection resources and promoting reading and literacy. The statistics in this year's report show that the achievements of each area of library service have all improved in the year since the previous report. In particular, as the digital economy continues to develop and with the Ministry of Education, city and county governments continuing to devote resources in this area, borrowing rates for e-books have nearly doubled (experiencing growth of 99.8% over the previous year), demonstrating that e-book reading is an important trend moving into the future. This year's Report on Taiwan's Reading Landscape Press Conference included some updates. In addition to awards commending cities that demonstrated excellent reading performance, awards were also specially handed out to counties, cities, towns, and townships that demonstrated jumps in overall reading abilities in order to commend and encourage the hard work of librarians working on the frontlines of literacy and reading efforts. The Taiwan's Reading Landscape Press Conference also sought recommendations of book lovers from each participating city and county to attend the event and share their experiences, honoring and sharing the joy they experience in reading. Reading is an important source of competitiveness for a country. Only through reading can we expand our horizons and deepen our perspectives. Therefore, we hope to continue working hard to collectively cultivate competitive strengths and communities of avid readers with our partners in county and city governments.



*Director of the Ministry of Education's Department of Lifelong Education Hsueh-cheng Liang gives remarks at the press conference*

During the press conference, National Central Library Director-General Han-ching Wang analyzed