

In addition, the National Central Library actively promotes cross-sector collaboration, partnering with enterprises and government agencies to build a rich and sustainable reading ecosystem. Through the “Share Love through Reading” initiative, NCL has organized a variety of reading lectures and book donation activities, published Taiwan Publishing and Reading, and established the National Central Library Taiwan Publishing TOP1 Award. These initiatives aim to spark young people’s interest in reading, integrate reading into everyday life, and gradually foster a culture of reading among all citizens.

The guiding philosophy of Prix des Incorruptibles centers on promoting the development of children’s literature, with a particular focus on empowering children to choose their own books and fostering a spirit of democracy. The association organized France’s first literary prize voted on entirely by children, in which all award-winning titles are selected by young readers themselves—emphasizing both their autonomy in reading and the democratic values underlying the process. The program has an impressive scale, engaging around 750,000 children, with over 550,000 participating in the voting process. Approximately 15 percent of participating schools join voluntarily, involving nearly 38,000 teachers. This initiative aims to eliminate children’s resistance to reading, cultivate their interest and literary taste, and—through activities such as voting, discussions, and creative projects—guide them to better understand books while actively participating in the creative process.



The two representatives from Prix des Incorruptibles

It is worth noting that the Prix des Incorruptibles also runs a “Real-Time Writing” program, which allows children to participate directly in the creative process. Every two weeks, participants receive a new chapter of an unpublished book and have the opportunity to point out inconsistencies or errors in the author’s work. This interactive approach is particularly effective in engaging children who are typically reluctant readers, helping them build reading

confidence through manageable portions of text and guiding them toward a sustained and enriching reading experience.

Another distinctive feature of Prix des Incorruptibles lies in its deep integration of democratic education. The award invites children to cast their votes at city halls, allowing them not only to take part in the decision-making process of book selection but also to experience firsthand how a democratic system functions. Mayors and local officials often attend these events in person, enabling children to genuinely feel their own importance and responsibility as members of society.

This exchange meeting not only allowed colleagues from the National Central Library to gain deeper insight into the innovative approaches of Prix des Incorruptibles in promoting reading, but also gave the two representatives a comprehensive understanding of NCL’s long-standing achievements in advancing reading across Taiwan. Deputy Director-General Weng noted that such exchanges offer valuable inspiration, and that NCL will continue to strengthen international collaboration—working with others to harness the power of books to promote a global culture of reading, sow the seeds of literacy in the hearts of more children, and create a richer and brighter future for the next generation.

After the discussion, colleagues from the International Cooperation Division and the Knowledge Services Division accompanied the guests on a visit to NCL’s Early Reading Literacy Center.



Exchange between NCL staff and representatives of Prix des Incorruptibles on September 19, 2025

■ NCL and TaiwanICDF Hold Second Forum on Global Smart Healthcare Development

In the afternoon of August 28, 2025, the National Central Library (NCL), in collaboration with the International Cooperation and Development Fund

(TaiwanICDF), jointly hosted the second Development Focus Forum. Held in NCL's Conference Room 301, this year's forum centered on the theme "Exploring the Global Development of Smart Healthcare," drawing together experts and scholars from Taiwan and abroad.

The forum aimed to explore global trends in smart healthcare development and to share Taiwan's practical experiences in implementing smart healthcare initiatives in developing countries. The event was hosted by Deputy Secretary-General Pei-fen Hsieh of the TaiwanICDF and featured a keynote address by Professor Marcelo Corrales Compagnucci of the University of Copenhagen, a recipient of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Taiwan Fellowship. His lecture, titled "Smart Healthcare and International Cooperation," offered an in-depth analysis of the pivotal role that smart healthcare plays in transforming global health care systems.



Experts from Taiwan and abroad at the forum

This year's forum featured two main sessions: "From Global Trends to Southern Practices: Key Issues and Strategies in Smart Healthcare" and "From Intelligent Algorithms to a Health Revolution: AI Leading the New Landscape of Digital Medicine." The panel brought together an impressive lineup of speakers, including Associate Professor Nien-chun Kuo from National Taiwan University, Deputy Superintendent of Shin Kong Hospital Dr. Tzu-jen Hung, Ph.D. candidate at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania Tsai-hsuan Chung, and General Manager of Taiwan Advanced Medical Informatics Chao-sheng Huang. These experts shared in-depth insights into technological innovation and practical applications in the field of smart healthcare.

Panel discussants included Dr. Hung-yi Chiu, Director of the National Health Research Institutes; Dr. Ya-wen Chiu, Deputy Director of the same institute; Chih-hung Lee, Deputy Secretary-General of the TaiwanICDF; Hung-tzu Wang, Director at

the TaiwanICDF; and Dr. Ching-ting Tan, Deputy Superintendent of the Hsinchu Branch of National Taiwan University Hospital. Together, they explored the opportunities and challenges in the development of smart healthcare, fostering an exchange of perspectives across multiple sectors.

This forum was part of an ongoing collaborative series jointly organized by the National Central Library and the TaiwanICDF. Anchored by the journal Development Focus Quarterly, the series brings together interdisciplinary experts from Taiwan and abroad to examine Taiwan's role and contributions in the fields of smart healthcare and international cooperation, with the aim of supporting developing countries in strengthening their healthcare systems.

The event attracted around 80 professionals from industry, government, academia, research institutions, NGOs, and the international community. The discussions were lively and yielded fruitful results. A full video recording of the forum is available to the public on the NCL's DAVA Video Platform, and interested viewers are invited to watch online.



A group photo after the second session of the forum

Chinese Studies Symposium

■ Deepening Taiwan–Japan Exchange: National Central Library Hosts Conference on Chinese Studies and Taiwan Studies in Tokyo

The National Central Library, the University of Tokyo Library, and the University of Tokyo Asian Studies Library jointly organized an academic conference called "Chinese and Taiwan Studies in Taiwan and Japan: Looking Back and toward the