

ORGANIZING AN INDIGENOUS PEOPLES LIBRARY: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN THE DIGITAL SOCIETY



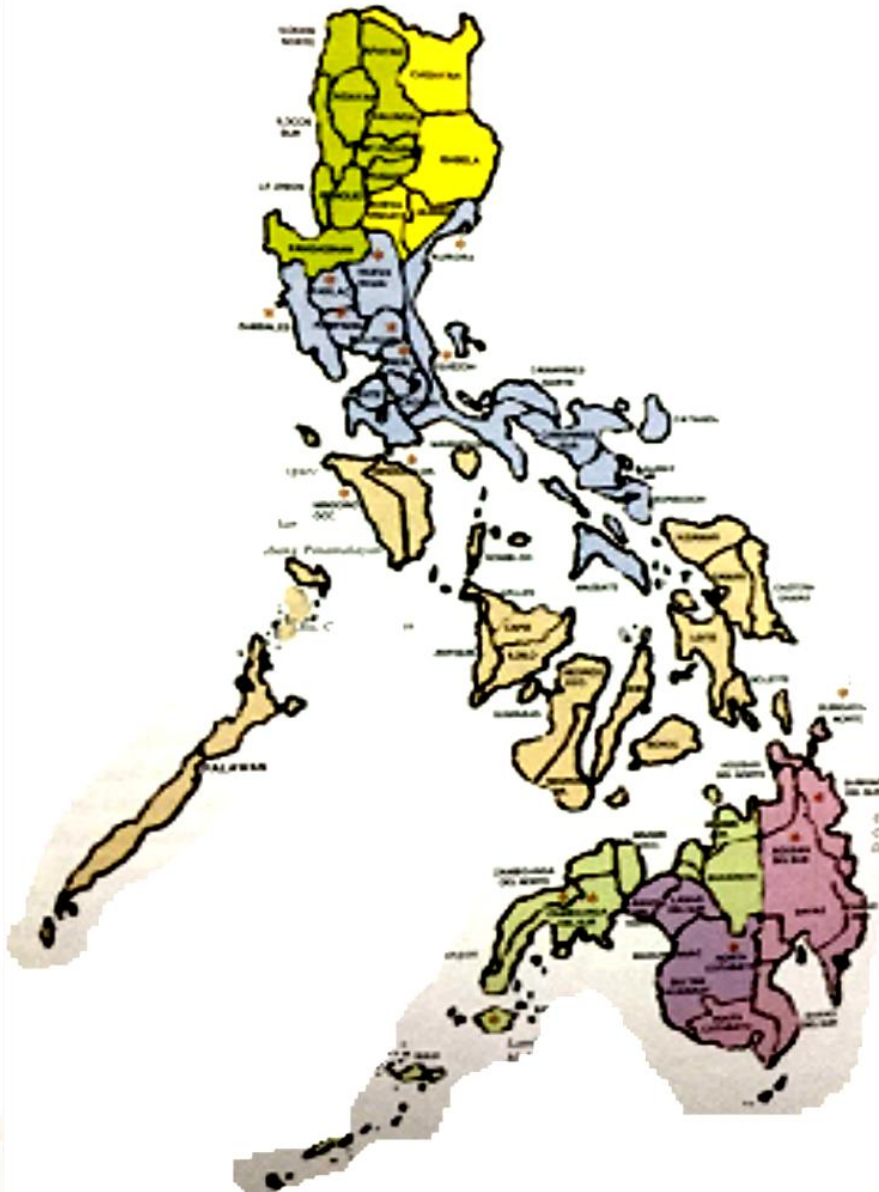
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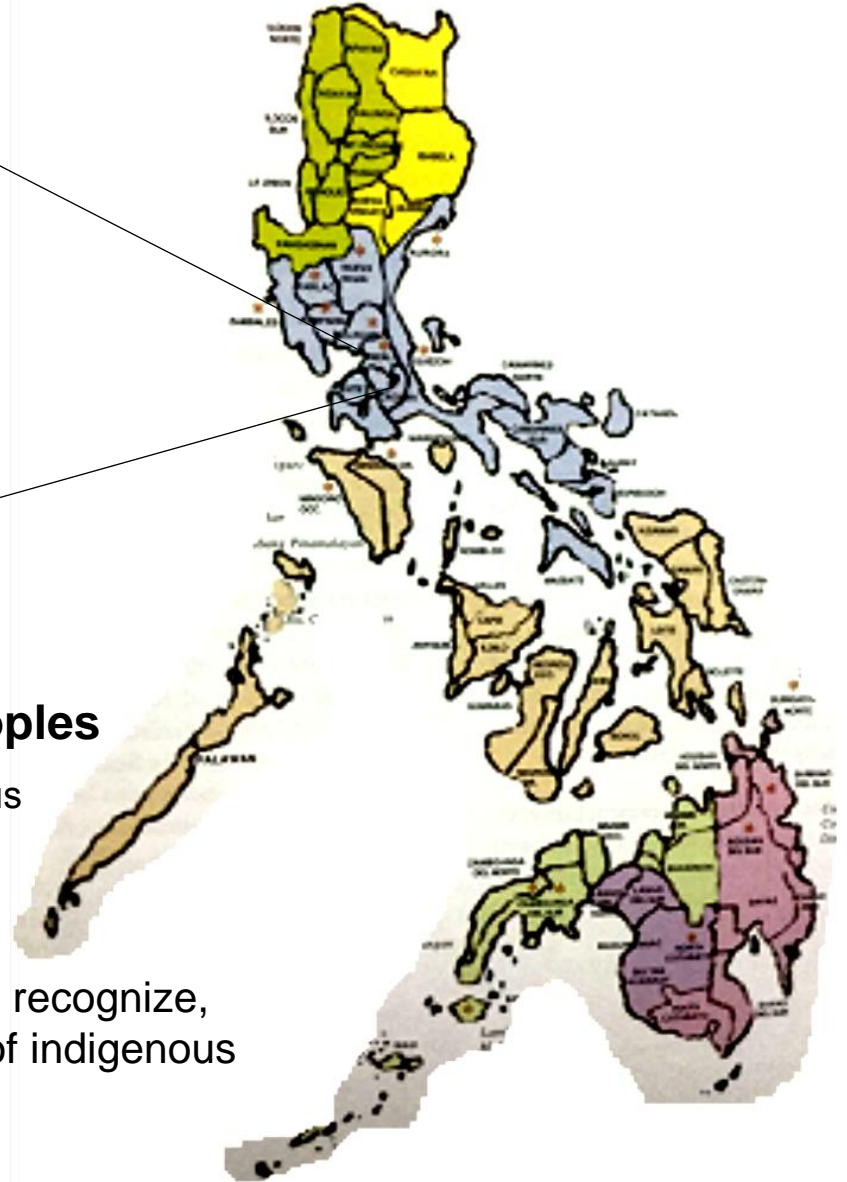
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Philippines

- a culturally diverse country
- with an estimated 17 million Indigenous Peoples belonging to 110 ethno-linguistics group





National Commission on Indigenous Peoples

- The Republic Act No. 8371 known as “The Indigenous Peoples’ Rights Acts” enacted in 1997, to create the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples.
- the government agency that will recognize, protect and promote the rights of indigenous cultural communities



LIBRARY

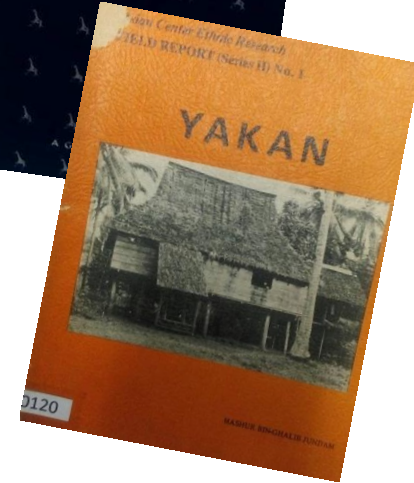
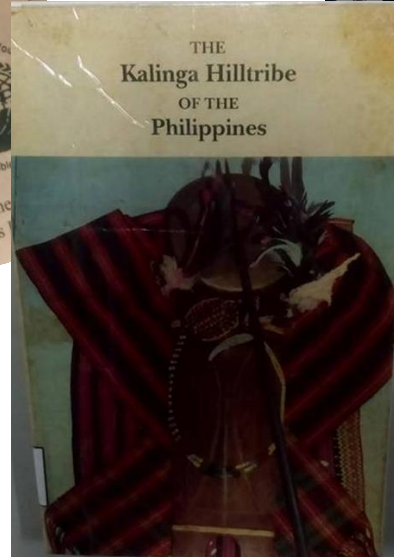
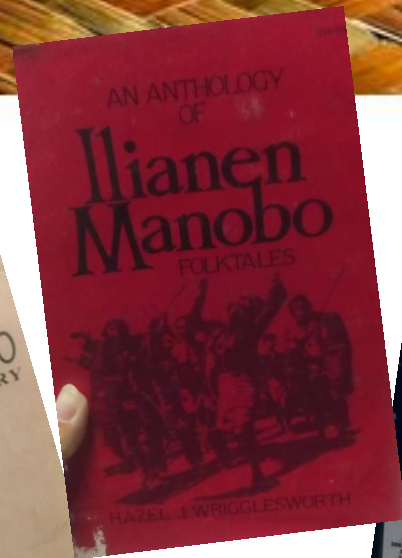
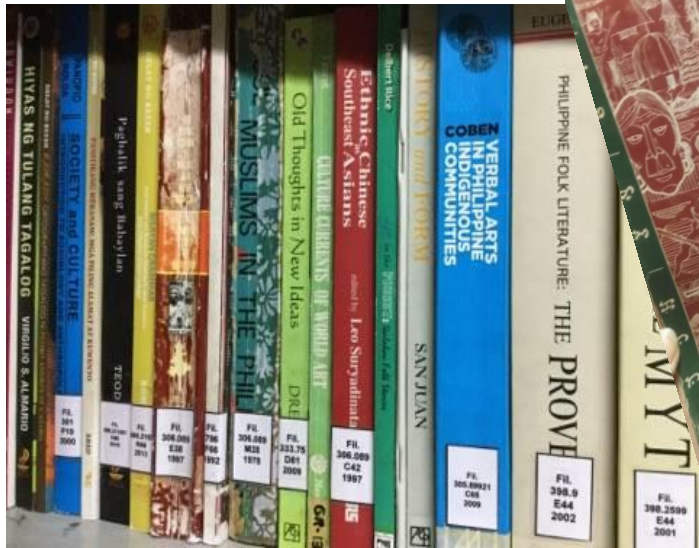


- The central office has a room housing their Indigenous Peoples (IPs) materials.



WHAT'S IN THE LIBRARY?

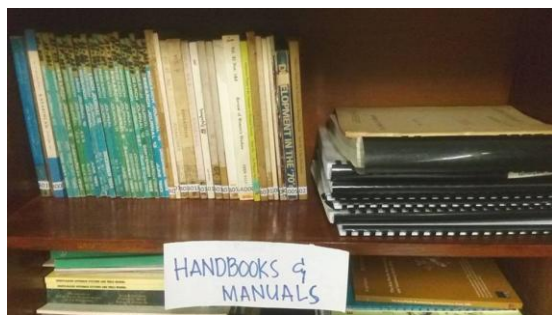
B
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approximately 700 volumes of books



annual reports, seminar-training kits, handbooks and manuals, journals, serials



IPs acknowledgment/claim papers



artifacts



photographs



costumes



Brainstorming for the operations plan



Through the collaborative efforts, brainstorming, and planning with the guidance of our mentors, we have come up of the NCIP Library Operations Plan, following the Standards for Special Libraries in the Philippines set by the Board for Librarians of the Professional Regulatory Commission as our guide in organizing the special public library. The project's duration of four months challenged us to meet the stated Key Performance Indicators at most possible ways.



Presentation of the operations plan



Challenges and actions taken in organizing the Indigenous Peoples Library in the digital society

1.Resources/Collections

Challenges:

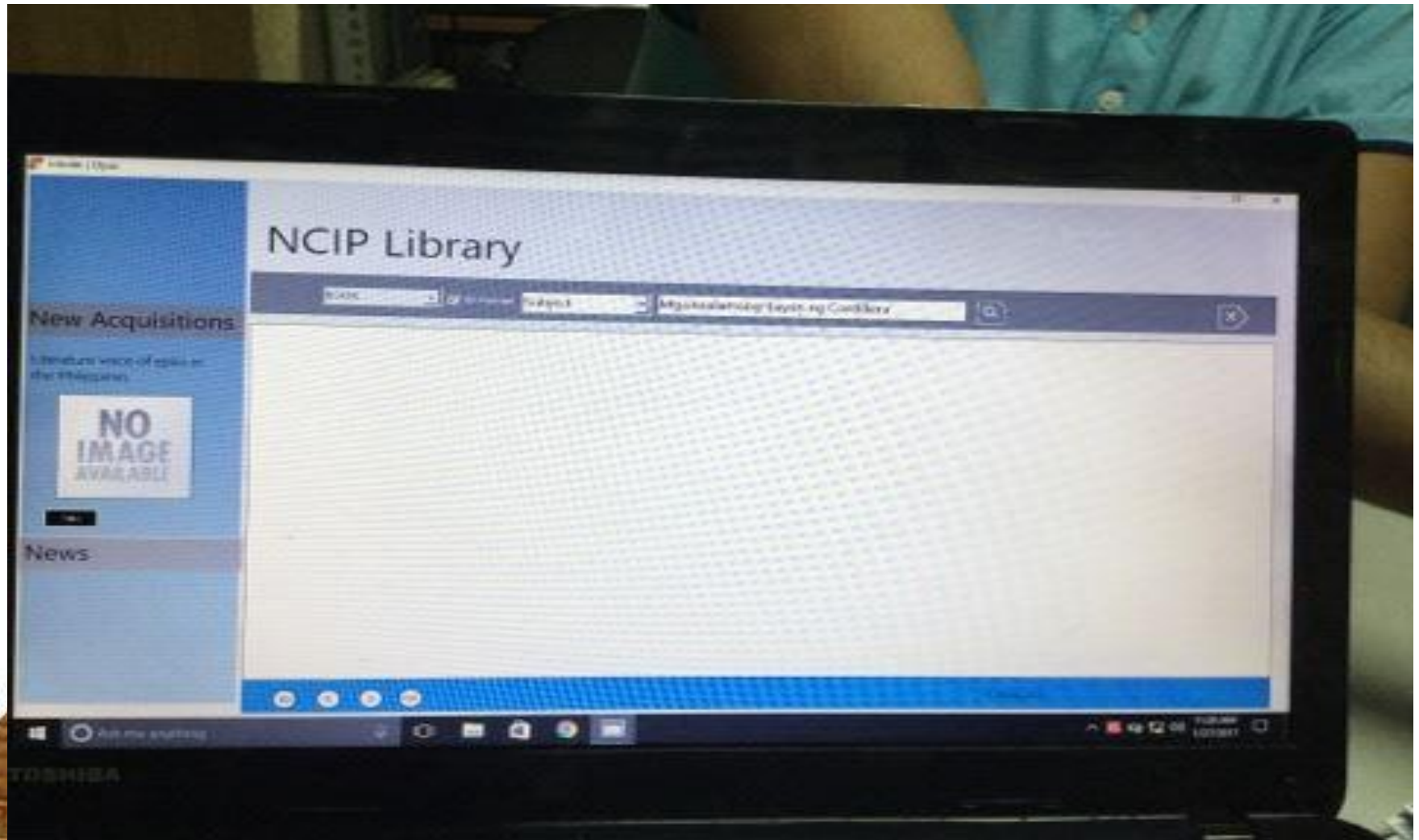
- difficulty in assigning classification number and subject heading to Indigenous Peoples materials
- preserving and conserving of print materials

Actions Taken:

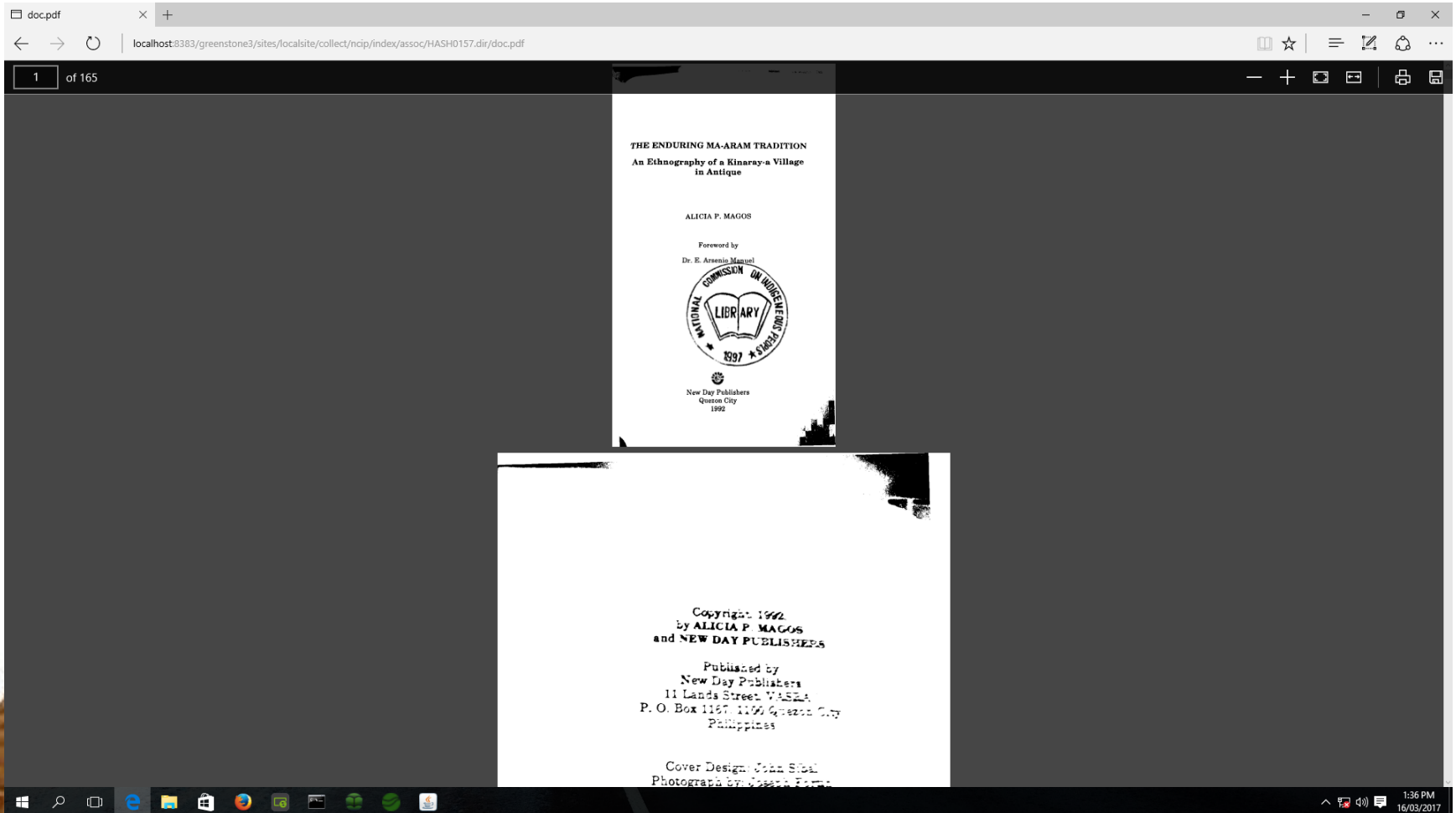
- ✓ classification of the IP materials using the Dewey Decimal Classification nearest to the material being classified, yet giving more specific subject heading using the local/native terms of the material.
- ✓ conversion of the print materials into digital



Provision for OPAC



Screenshots of converted print materials to digital format



31 of 37

The Mouth Harp


They make me from bamboo called
 soft as after
 One half hand open is my length,
 don't make it too long
 They continuously pluck me as they go
 in the morning
 Sometimes I'm in their pocket the
 whole day.

I see the Mouth Harp, I'm very light
 They always hold me in their hand
 following the path
 My notes are very easy to learn
 The old folks and the children all
 learn.

Kumbing

Nimo le o be sufi, kibu ke
 allan
 Sifi dangaw kashan, ben
 glafan
 Tendo keshi le o mógwé
 khalo
 Soti soring le o sota klaw
 kentan.

Ou se Kumbing, teye maan
 Kóem tando kayang le o
 kemólo lan
 Kem utima, tey mahil
 amalhang
 Kem tuba te kem ngá, shet
 kúí dmalang.




19

Dwegey

51

Klutang

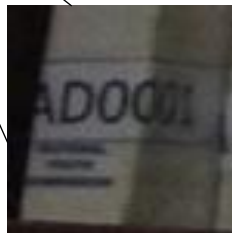


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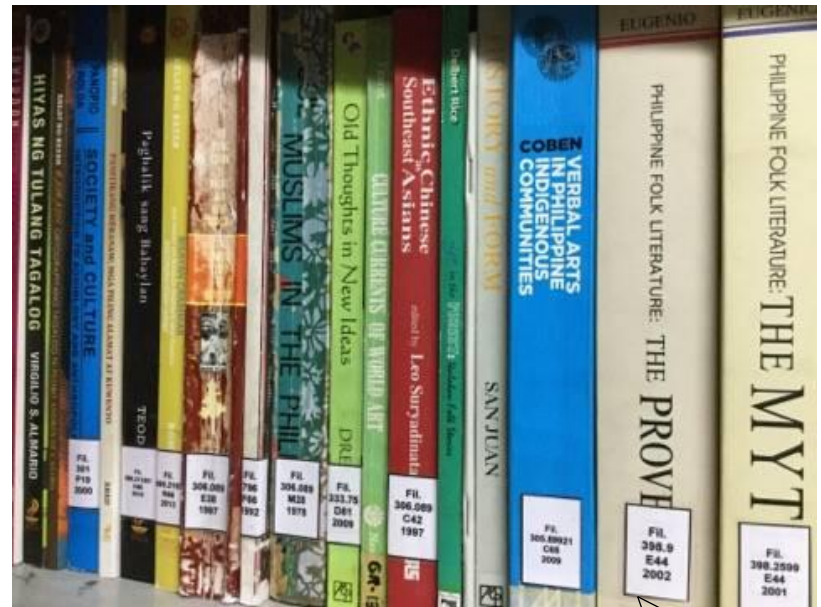
BEFORE

The accession number was used as the call number of the book.



AFTER

The book has its proper call number with location symbol, classification number, author number, and cYear.



Challenges and actions taken in organizing the Indigenous Peoples Library in the digital society

2. Facilities/Area for Library

Challenge:

➤ house the approximately 700 volumes of books, 100 volumes of journals and reports, and 98 boxes of Indigenous Peoples acknowledgment/claim papers in a 25m² room; maximizing the space to have a reading area

Action Taken:

✓ manual adjustment of the steel shelves, moving of shelves, tables, and cabinet



Manual adjustment of the steel shelves to maximize the space



BEFORE



AFTER



Before, there are only 9 boxes per shelves, occupying the 9 steel shelves. After, there are now 21 boxes per shelves. Thus, eliminating some shelves to give more space for the reading area.



BEFORE



AFTER



The 2-layered steel shelf at the center was relocated in the side, thus giving a spacious look.

The library has now 18-seating capacity to accommodate researchers.



BEFORE



AFTER



Challenges and actions taken in organizing the Indigenous Peoples Library in the digital society

3. Staff

Challenge:

- draft a staffing rationale in a way that the NCIP management will realize and be convinced to hire a librarian and do a re-organization that includes the library and the librarian.
- budget allocation



Action Taken:

- ✓ drafted the library vision, mission, and objectives to show that the proposed establishment of a library really has a direction and objectives that will support the commission's implementation of their plans and programs, and we formulate the Library Staff Policy and Staff Development Plan with close coordination with the Human Resource Division for staffing rationale and library organizational chart approval.
- ✓ with the action taken, the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) management will propose to the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) for plantilla position of librarian as part of the proposed re-organization of the NCIP. A Job-Order for librarian is now a work in progress.
- ✓ For budget allocation, the drafted library operational budget is now for possible inclusion in the 2018 budget proposal.



Opportunities gathered in organizing the Indigenous Peoples Library

1. Employment Opportunity for Librarian

The commission's positive response on the proposed staffing rationale that leads to the Job-Order for librarian and will eventually become a plantilla as proposed to the Department of Budget and Management yields an employment opportunity for librarians.



Opportunities gathered in organizing the Indigenous Peoples Library

2. Collaboration /Resource Sharing

opens up the resource sharing opportunity among libraries and other institution with emphasis on indigenous peoples.



Opportunities gathered in organizing the Indigenous Peoples Library

3.Promotion of the role of library in preservation and conserving cultural information

With the heightened formulated library services such as the information literacy program of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples Library for community education in IP cultural heritage and the digitization of the IP materials, the role of the library in preservation and conserving cultural information is emphasized.



Conclusions

- ✓ Organizing the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples Library with IP materials preservation and community education in IP cultural heritage through library services which are both beneficial to library profession and community development is a vital step in response to several laws stating the protection and conservation of indigenous culture, traditions and institutions
- ✓ Collaborative efforts contribute much to the attainment of each one's goals which will inspire and motivate librarians to be more engaged in community involvement.
- ✓ this will contribute to the promotion of the role of library in preserving and conserving cultural information through library services.
- ✓ will help our colleagues in the profession in their planning process of organizing a library.



Recommendations

- A follow-up study on the assessment of the National Indigenous Peoples Library Services is recommended to evaluate the extent of its contribution to the agency itself and to the community.
- A strong partnership of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples Library with the National Commission on Culture and the Arts is also recommended for a dynamic and collaborative programs for the Indigenous Peoples Cultural Heritage promotion and preservation.



SOME PICTURES OF ON-SITE ACTIONS



The people behind the special project



Thank You!

To God be all the Glory!

