

WORKSHOP REPORT



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP ON LIBRARY & INFORMATION SERVICES

Indonesia

28 July to 3 Aug 2024

An overseas exposure program initiated by the MNU Faculty of Arts, for its Bachelor of Arts (Library and Information Management) students as an extra-curricular hands-on learning experience.

A collaboration between the MNU Faculty of Arts, Maldives Library Association, and Forum for Indonesian Higher Education Libraries (Forum Perpustakaan Perguruan Tinggi Indonesia)



SURABAYA



MALANG



<https://mnu.edu.mv>



<https://infomalias.org>



<https://fppti.org.id>

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PDW-LIS 2024

Professional Development Workshop on Library & Information Services

The exposure trip overseas aims to provide participants from the Maldives with a comprehensive understanding of the latest trends and innovations in library and information science (LIS) in other countries. The guided tours supplemented with workshop sessions offer participants an opportunity to explore state-of-the-art libraries and institutes that have embraced digital technologies, innovative services, and interactive learning spaces.

Specific Objectives

- Explore advanced library and information services concepts and emerging trends in the field.
- Understand the role of libraries in the digital age and their impact on knowledge dissemination.
- Discover innovative technologies and services implemented in modern information services.
- Gain insights into library management practices, including collection development and user engagement strategies.
- Foster networking opportunities with LIS professionals, researchers, and fellow participants.

PD Workshop Series

The professional development workshop was introduced as a supplementary annual learning event with the initiation of the final-year students of the first cohort of Bachelor of Arts (Library and Information Management) [BA.LIM] of the Maldives National University. BA.LIM course was approved by the Maldives Qualifications Authority in 2021 and the first batch of students graduated in May 2024. The first workshop was conducted in Singapore, in 2023, titled 'BALIM/MLA Professional Development Workshop for Librarians (PDWL)'. The Professional Development Workshop 2024 was hosted in Indonesia.

1. Some of the 2023 PDWL participants outside the Singapore Nanyang Technological University (NTU) Library
2. Checking out Robby the Library Robot at Temasek Polytechnic Library
3. Workshop Session on Reference Services at NTU, Singapore
4. Information Session at Singapore University of Technology & Design
5. A read-aloud story time experience at Tanglin School's Primary Library
6. Participants and special invitees at the PDWL Closing Ceremony at the Maldives National University

CLICKS FROM THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP FOR LIBRARIANS HELD IN SINGAPORE, 2023

The first group of BA.LIM graduands



MNU-FA



- Established in 2009, the Faculty of Arts (FA), MNU has been at the forefront of developing and training human resources in the country, focusing on humanities and selected areas of social sciences. With a brief yet esteemed history of academic achievements, the FA currently provides a diverse range of courses spanning political science, journalism, public relations, visual arts, international relations, native and foreign languages & linguistics, and culture.
- FA commenced the first long-term in-country program in Library and Information Science (LIS) in 2010 as the Advanced Certificate in Library and Information Services (ACLIS) course. This was followed by the Diploma of Library and Information Services (DLIS) course launched in 2012. The MNU **Bachelor of Arts (Library and Information Management) (BA-LIM)** course was approved by the Maldives Qualifications Authority in 2021, making it the first, MQA-approved, in-country degree program in LIS.
- Seven students from the first batch and seven students from BA-LIM participated in this PDW held in Indonesia, with aspirations to gain much needed exposure to compliment the theoretical lessons.
- While the study tour is not an official part of the BA-LIM course, the FA has actively encouraged the initiative.

MLA



- The **Maldives Library Association (MLA) was formed in 1987**. MLA continuously strives to provide professional development for librarians and uplift and develop libraries in the Maldives. With the shortage of library professionals in the Maldives, MLA faces many challenges in its endeavors and yet continues to be a changemaker.
- One of the significant achievements in recent years has been the introduction of Koha, an open-source library management software, to the Maldivian community. This initiative has been further strengthened by offering ongoing training programs on Koha.
- This professional development program in Indonesia was held with partial sponsorship from MLA and is a unique opportunity for local librarians. Thirteen librarians joined this program in Indonesia through affiliation to the MLA.

FPPTI



- Forum Perpustakaan Perguruan Tinggi Indonesia (**FPPTI**), known also as the **Forum for Indonesian Higher Education Libraries**, is an organisation dedicated to enhancing the role and quality of libraries within higher education institutions across Indonesia.
- FPPTI organises workshops and training programs for library staff to improve their skills and keep them updated with the latest developments in library science and technology.
- Regular seminars and conferences are held to discuss contemporary issues in library management and to share best practices.
- By focusing on the continuous professional development of library staff, FPPTI helps in building a knowledgeable and skilled workforce capable of managing modern libraries efficiently.

PDW-LIS 2024 LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE

- Aminath Riyaz**, BA-LIM Course Coordinator, MNU (PDW-LIS Program Coordinator)
- Fathimath Nashfa**, BA-LIM Alumni (PDW-LIS Assistant Program Coordinator & Leader of Participant Teams)
- Athiyya Shakeel**, BA-LIM final-year student (Student Team Leader)
- Dhooma Ahmed**, BA-LIM final year student (Student Team Treasurer)
- Asim Abdul Sattar**, Dean, Faculty of Arts, MNU (Logistical Support)
- Shafeena Ismail**, Director, Faculty of Arts, MNU (Administrative Support)
- Ajra Rafeeq**, MLA President (Logistical Support)
- Fathimath Nashath**, MLA Training Officer

Program Organisers & Facilitators

An international collaboration of LIS professionals

Aminath has contributed to training & development initiatives in several capacities. She was the Chief Librarian at MNU from 2001-2006 & 2009-2012 and introduced an annual professional development workshop for the library team of 20-plus librarians in 2005. She has also served as the Head of Department of Social Sciences at MNU (2020-2021), and President of the Maldives Library Association (2011-2013). With expertise in library and information management, she has played a pivotal role in leading the curriculum development teams for the Advanced Certificate, Diploma, and Bachelor Degree programs in LIS at the Maldives National University. Aminath is an Australia Awards alumni and has completed a Master of Commerce (Library & Information Management) at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, and attained a Master of Philosophy and a PhD in media & information from Curtin University, Australia. Driven by her vision of advancing information management practices in the Maldives, she is dedicated to fostering manpower development through education and mentorship.



DR. AMINATH RIYAZ
Assistant Professor, MNU



DR. GINA DE ALWIS JAYASURIYA
Independent Researcher

Gina de Alwis Jayasuriya was head of the library, at the Singapore Institute of Management from September 1991 to December 2018. She is passionate about promoting continuing professional development (CPD) and lifelong learning to library professionals. In 2019 she launched a research project on "Capacity building through CPD for LIS professionals in selected Asian countries" which is ongoing. She holds a PhD in Information Studies from the Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. Her areas of professional interest include trends and technologies impacting academic libraries in the 21st century; roles and competencies of librarians in the 21st century; user needs and behaviour in academic libraries; and international librarianship. Gina, in collaboration with Aminath, conducted a research

project on continuing professional development (CPD) of LIS professionals in the Maldives from 2019 to 2021. Further details of the project and links to the dissemination of the findings can be viewed, by scanning the QR code or, at <https://librarylearning-space.com/continuing-professional-development-cpd-for-lis-professionals-in-selected-asian-countries/>

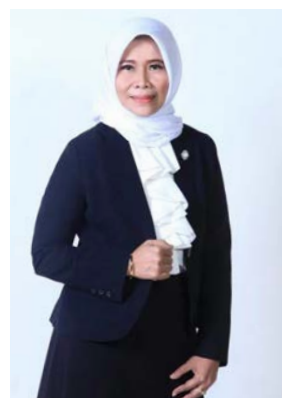


Surabaya & Malang, Indonesia program facilitators

Liauw Toong Tjiek (aka. Aditya Nugraha) was President (2010) of the Forum for Indonesian Higher Education Libraries - East Java Chapter, and the President (2009-2013) of the Indonesian Christian Higher Education Libraries Communication Forum. He initiated various digital library projects at Petra Christian University (PCU) such as Digital Theses, Surabaya Memory (digital heritage), Petra@rt Gallery, and Petra Chronicle. He was actively involved in the Library Task Force under the Directorate General of Higher Education (Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia) and has spoken at various forums on digital libraries, institutional repositories, and digital heritage. He is also a founding member and researcher at CCIS (Center for Chinese Indonesian Studies) at Petra Christian University. Aditya and Aminath studied for their PhDs at Curtin University and are among the founding members of CURTIS established in 2015. CURTIS is Curtin Information Studies Chapter of the Curtin University Guild.



DR. LIAUW TOONG TJIEK
Head of Excellence in Learning and Teaching Center, PCU



Mariyah is the Librarian at the University of Indonesia and also the Chairperson of FPPTI for the period 2020 to 2026.

"Engaging with academics, librarians, researchers and policy makers from different countries will provide valuable insights and opportunities to share best practices."

MARIYAH, S.Sos., M.Hum.
Chairperson of Forum Perpustakaan Perguruan Tinggi Indonesia (FPPTI)

PDW-LIS 2024 (initiated by the **Department of Social Sciences** at MNU) was supported by the **Maldives Library Association** and facilitated in Indonesia by the Forum for Indonesian Higher Education Libraries (**Forum Perpustakaan Perguruan Tinggi Indonesia - FPPTI**) with Liauw Toong Tjiek, Ph.D. serving as the liaison.

Melati is Chairperson of FPPTI East Java for the period 2022-2025, and the Librarian at the University of Muhammadiyah Malang (UMM) with 12 years of service at UMM.

"We hope all of the participants had a good experience of knowledge exchange with us in Surabaya and Malang. We look forward to further collaboration."



MELATI PURBA BESTARI
Chairperson FPPTI East Java

**PDW-LIS 2024
FPPTI
TECHNICAL
COORDINATION
COMMITTEE**

- **Amirul Ulum**, Representative from the FPPTI Central Committee / Head of Library, University of Surabaya
- **Dian Wulandari**, Head of the Library, Petra Christian University
- **Melati Purba Bestari**, Chairperson of the FPPTI East Java Chapter / Librarian, UMM
- **Kristina**, Representative from the FPPTI East Java Chapter / Librarian, University of Surabaya
- **Billy Setyadi**, Representative from Petra Christian University Library
- **Chandra Pratama Setiawan**, Representative from Petra Christian University Library
- **Samuel Kenley Worang**, Representative from Petra Christian University Library



WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

Bachelor of Arts (Library and Information Management) Participating Final-Year Students & Course Coordinator

- **Aminath Riyaz**, LIS Educator
- **Athiyya Shakeel**, Former Librarian at MNU & Villa College
- **Dhooma Ahmed**, Assistant Librarian, Centre for Higher Secondary Education
- **Fathimath Anoosha**, Assistant Librarian, Villa College
- **Nasheeda Mohamed**, Librarian, Hithadhoo School
- **Nasreena**, Librarian, Gaafu Alif Atoll Education Centre
- **Sanfa Hassan**, Assistant Librarian, Maavashu School, Laamu Atoll
- **Shadiya Waheed**, Former Librarian Trainee at Higher Secondary Education

MLA Nominees

- **Aishath Hanan Waheed**, Senior Library Officer, Villa College
- **Aishath Nazeeha**, Assistant Librarian, Aminiya School
- **Ajra Rafeeq**, Librarian, Billabong High International School
- **Aminath Nasiha**, Assistant Librarian, Lhaviyani Atoll Education Centre
- **Aminath Shiuna**, Senior Archivist (Technical Director), The National Archives of Maldives
- **Aminath Zumarradh**, Assistant Librarian, The Maldives National University
- **Fathimath Nashfa**, Librarian, The Maldives National University

MLA Nominees

- **Mahasin Ahmed Didi**, Deputy Director, Library & Archives of the Parliament of Maldives
- **Majida Ali**, Deputy Librarian, National Library
- **Mariyam Sobeeha**, Chief Librarian, National Library
- **Rishfa Ibrahim**, Deputy Librarian, The Maldives National University
- **Shehenaz Mohamed**, Senior Librarian, Parliament of Maldives
- **Thuzuhath Ahmed**, Librarian, Hithadhoo School
- **Gina de Alwis Jayasuriya**, Independent Researcher, Singapore (Special Invitee)

INDONESIA HOST TEAM

- **Aditya Ramadhani**, Library Services, Hayam Wuruk Perbanas University
- **Aida**, UNUSA
- **Amirul Ulum**, Librarian, University of Surabaya / Representative of FPPTI Central Committee
- **Astria Khairizah**, Librarian, Universitas Islam Malang
- **Billy Setyadi**, Reference Librarian, Petra Christian University
- **Chandra Pratama Setiawan**, Head of Collection and IT management at PCU / Representative of FPPTI Central Committee
- **Dian Wulandari**, Librarian, Petra Christian University
- **Dwi Nuriana**, Head of the Library, ITS Kes Insan Cendekia Medika / Deputy Chairman FPPTI East Java
- **Dyana Purwandini**, Librarian, Hayam Wuruk Perbanas University / FPPTI East Java, Public Relations
- **Deasy Kumalawati**, Librarian, Dinamika University / FPPTI East Java, in Finance Department
- **Fachrina Aprilia**, Universitas Muhammadiyah Malang
- **Indah Rachma Cahyani**, Reference Librarian, Airlangga University
- **Kristina**, Librarian, University of Surabaya / Secretary FPPTI East Java
- **Liauw Toong Tjiek**, Head of Excellence in Learning & Teaching Centre, Petra Christian University
- **Mariyah**, Librarian, University of Indonesia / Chairperson of FPPTI
- **Melati Purba Bestari**, Librarian, Universitas Muhammadiyah Malang / Chair, FPPTI East Java
- **M. Iman Hidayat**, Librarian, Polytechnic of the Indonesian Army
- **Moh Zawawi**, Librarian, Universitas Muhammadiyah Malang
- **Petrus J. Pranowo**, Petra Christian University
- **Samuel Kenley Worang**, Petra Christian University
- **Stefanus Redhitya Istiawan**, Librarian, Widya Mandala Surabaya Catholic University
- **Yeni Fitria Nurahman**, Librarian, Universitas Nahdlatul Ulama Unusa / Administrator of FPPTI East Java
- **Yudi**, Poltekbang



WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Professional Development Workshop on Library and Information Services
held in Surabaya and Malang, Indonesia

28 July to 3 August

2024

28 JULY
SUN

- Arrival in Surabaya
- Cultural Exposure

29 JULY
MON

- **Workshop Session 1.** Librarian's Role as Research Consultant / at PCU
- **Guided Tour.** Universitas Kristen Petra (Petra Christian University) Library
- **Information Session and Guided Tour.** Perpustakaan Umum Kota Surabaya (Public Library of Surabaya)
- **Guided Tour.** Alun-Alun Surabaya / Underground Museum
- **Information Session.** Room to Read

30 JULY
TUE

- **Information Session and Guided Tour.** Universitas Airlangga Library
- **Information Session and Guided Tour.** Universitas Surabaya Library
- **Guided Tour.** Institut Teknologi Sepuluh Nopember Surabaya (ITS)
- Archives Centre
- **Workshop Session 2.** Intelligent and Smart Archival Systems / at ITS
- Trip to Malang

31 JULY
WED

- **Information Session and Guided Tour.**
Universitas Muhammadiyah Malang Library / American Corner
- **Visit.** Museum Angkut
- Cultural Event
- Return trip to Surabaya

01 AUGUST
THU

- **Workshop Session 3.** Learning Outcomes and Implementation Planning: Future of Maldives LIS
- **Information Session and Guided Tour.** Khadijah Senior High School
- **Information Session and Guided Tour.** Herbal Community Reading Room
- **Cultural Experience.** Monument Kapal Selam (Submarine Monument)

02 AUGUST
FRI

Cultural Experience

03 AUGUST
SAT

Departure



INFORMATION SESSIONS AND GUIDED TOURS

PDW-LIS 2024 offered a variety of Guided Tours to Libraries and Related Information Service Institutions. The itinerary included guided visits and information sessions that cover

- University Library
- Public Library
- School Library
- Community Reading Room
- Archive
- Museum
- Room To Read

An overview of each of these visits is presented on the following pages.



Room to Read



Room to Read is a non-profit organisation dedicated to eradicating illiteracy and gender inequality around the world. They do this by establishing and supporting child-friendly libraries, implementing literacy and girls' education programs, and collaborating with local publishers, authors, and illustrators to create high-quality children's books. According to their website, Room to Read has reached more than 39 million children in 24 countries.



The Room to Read, Surabaya team, provided the participants with an overview of their activities focusing on the Child-Friendly Library Model that has been implemented in East Java. The key discussions focused on their educational initiatives, particularly in improving literacy and gender equality in education. The information session was delivered by Pak **Kus Wanto** and colleagues



The team shared insights on their ongoing projects, highlighting successful outcomes and challenges. The participants were also gifted samples of some of the children's books that has been produced by the Indonesia Room to Read initiative. The participants had many questions about exploring opportunities for collaboration between Maldives and Room to Read to support literacy and reading programs and libraries for a better service to Maldives children.



The first guided tour in the 2024 PDW on library and information services in Indonesia was to the Library at Universitas Kristen Petra (Petra Christian University - PCU) in Surabaya. The team of librarians at PCU explained the central showpiece project titled "Surabaya Memory" using archival pictures, and provided an overview of the library services as well as a quick glimpse of the variety of spaces within the library. The library established in 1966 is dedicated to creating an environment that nurtures a rich learning experience and follows the motto, "A Caring Learning Zone," reflecting their commitment to being more than just a traditional library.

Participant Observations

- I found the Self Check Desk for quick book borrowing and a specialised Help Corner for students with special needs, ensuring accessibility and convenience for all users, to be the best aspect.
- PCU library truly stood out as a **caring learning zone**. Everything, from the cosy reading spaces to the thoughtful use of archival photos, made students feel supported and connected to the past.
- The dedication of the staff was surprising and we need to emulate that to draw the users towards the library. The Maldives libraries could replicate this blend of care, history, and comfort, **creating inviting and memorable spaces for everyone**.
- PCU Library is a **spacious and comfortable** environment to study.
- The library plays a huge role in involving students in different activities. I liked the area in the PCU Library allocated to **portray student's artwork**.

Quick Takeaway Ideas to Replicate

- The 'A' accreditation is the best aspect. I think Maldives **libraries should also start rating the libraries so that the organisations work harder to get accreditation**, thereby fueling innovation and improved services.
- Implementing **collaborative rooms** with minimal expenditure is possible.
- The creation of **cosy reading corners or study spaces** within the library, and spaces such as quiet study areas, group discussion rooms, and multimedia stations can be replicated in the Maldives libraries.
- **Photo exhibitions** showcasing the past.
- Exhibition space for students can create a **vibrant community feeling**.
- 'Liaison librarians' for **subject expertise**.
- **Research support** services.
- Laptops to lend will be excellent. To **start with 2 or 3 laptops** will be fine.
- Creating a **coffee/tea corner inside our libraries** can significantly enhance the user experience by offering a comfortable space for relaxation and informal study.





Sekolah Menengah Atas (SMA) Khadijah Surabaya (Khadijah Senior High School) offered an excellent insight into the Indonesian School environment. SMA Khadijah is one of the high schools under the auspices of the Nahdlatul Ulama Khadijah Surabaya Education and Social Park Foundation (Yayasan Khadijah Surabaya). The school dates back to 1961 and was specifically intended for girls' education.

Participant Observations

- It is impressive that the students have their own digital media platforms. The best aspect of SMA Khadijah's library was how **they engaged students as media teams**.
- SMA Khadijah library was such a small library and so well organised and arranged. It was truly impressive.
- The love and respect I saw from the students towards the librarians was a welcoming feeling and observation. I hope that we also will reach such a place in the future, **where the library profession is loved and respected**.
- Student empowerment was very much established in this library, and I am sure that the students graduating from this school would be confident and very successful, due to **the role the libraries played in their lives**.
- The seating concept also stood out as particularly effective. Everyone is so humble, students as well as adults.
- **Displaying the creativity of students was amazing**.
- The library's best aspect is its emphasis on integrating technology with traditional resources. This includes **digital media literacy programs that help students learn essential skills in finding information online and using digital tools effectively**.
- The arrangement inside the library and **how many activities they carry out for users even though the collection was not that big is very impressive**.



Quick Takeaway Ideas to Replicate

- Removing chairs and desks to make libraries **more spacious with shoe-less carpeted seating spaces**.
- Maldives could replicate the idea of involving students in library activities, such as forming media or library support teams. This would **foster a sense of ownership and responsibility among students** without incurring much cost.
- Maldives libraries such as Centre for Higher Secondary Education, Villa International High School or even primary school libraries could set up a **student blog or newsletter where students can contribute** content related to their studies, interests, or local culture, which would not require a significant budget. It can **encourage reading and creativity**.
- Having social media platforms for the library and **letting selected students handle them would be something we can do**. We can have a Library Club in schools with members from each class who could help the librarians to carry on different programs.





Airlangga University (Universitas Airlangga – UNAIR) is one of the oldest universities in Indonesia. UNAIR is one of the top public universities in Surabaya and is ranked #308 in current QS World University Rankings. The UNAIR library is divided over three campus locations.

Participant Observations

- The best part of Airlangga University Library tour was the **interactive information session** they provided us.
- This is one big library with many facilities and resources. I find all their resources very interesting.
- I liked the 'Movio' room, which is the audio and video room.
- Spacious and comfortable environment to study in.
- **Learning Area**: Individual access to CDs, DVDs, and more for knowledge and entertainment. **Collaboration Area**: A space for group discussions and events. **Creativity Area**: Equipped for video editing and content creation. **Studio Area**: A controlled environment for podcast production and media recording.
- I was fascinated that their **university library is open to the public** and other university students. This creates higher usage. Additionally, the fact that they count visits and usage of both physical and online collections and the participation of users in library sessions caught my attention.
- Carpeted area with low tables. They also provided **Zoomax** which would be very helpful to read small prints, and also it would be a helpful tool for those with vision problems.
- The concept of a **dedicated podcast room which provides students with a space to create audio content**, useful for both academic and creative projects.
- They conduct various programs, workshops and events to **promote learning**. Besides the excellent environment for learning and research, computers, printers, wifi are also provided for users to **enhance their learning experience**. Although replicating such a room can be costly, parents and teachers can prepare the budget with fundraising events.

Quick Takeaway Ideas to Replicate

- Our libraries should be able to easily **create a collaborative reading space** at low cost.
- The UNAIR **Podcast** is a great idea that public and academic libraries in Maldives could use. It is a fun and easy way to share information, interviews, and book reviews with the community.
- **Podcasting is the most exciting** idea that could help Maldives libraries connect with more people.
- I think we can replicate the **audio and video room concept** without too much cost.
- Similar to UNAIR, I think MNU can also start **opening the library to the general public** as ours is such a small country. This change would benefit many.
- The **spaces are arranged very comfortably** and these changes can be done with minimal expenditure.
- We can **have a small carpeted area without furniture** (or low tables) so that users can sit on the floor at their convenience.
- Plan for **regular statistics capture of library usage** and address areas that need improvement.
- The reference section is **inventory checked** every two years and the way of tagging those is something which can be used in our libraries.
- We can adopt Airlangga Uni Library's approach to **accessibility services of special programs for students with disabilities**.
- Rooms for quiet discussion and special decorative spaces for reading can be easily created in school libraries to **enhance students' learning experience**.





The University of Surabaya (Ubaya) is a private university founded in 1968. It is one of Indonesia's leading institutions for higher education, known for its academic excellence and innovation. The library began modernising its systems by introducing computerised cataloguing and circulation systems in the 1990s. This was part of a broader push to keep up with technological advancements and improve resource accessibility. With the advent of the internet, in the 2000s the Ubaya Library shifted towards digital collections, offering access to academic databases, e-books, and online journals. The library has continued modernising its facilities, and digital services, improved study spaces, and enhanced user support.

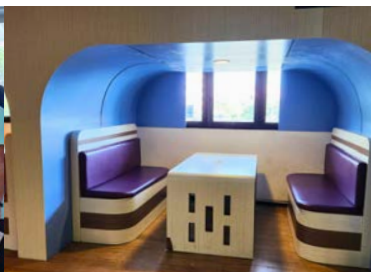
Participant Observations

- UBAYA library was a surprise, **combining traditional and modern aesthetics in its architecture and interior design**.
- I enjoyed their innovative and supportive environment for learning with modern design and facilities **accommodating individual study and group collaboration**.
- The library offers comfortable and aesthetically pleasing spaces that encourage reading and learning. The reading corner, with its cosy swing chairs and beanbags, is a **comfortable inviting space for readers**. So are the group reading pods.
- The corners got my attention, as we can also replicate **corners like the Arabic corner** and keep books and materials related to Islam and the Arabic Language.
- I loved the **posters/messaging on the shelf**, and the frames. The reusable frames ease the replacement of the messaging.
- The inspirational quotes displayed on the **sides of the shelves immediately draw attention**. Reading areas were set with a calming vibe which pulls the readers.
- The museum titled "**Museum Wayang**" right at the entrance draws people into the library.
- Like the other libraries we visited, **the staff** attracted me the most-- **their humbleness** and how they greeted us.
- The **cinema hall and the museum corner** were interesting.



Quick Takeaway Ideas to Replicate

- We could easily replicate the idea of the **inspirational quotes** on each shelf to create a more engaging atmosphere.
- The **Insight Corner**, a unique space for reflection and deeper learning, is another great idea we could replicate.
- Their **way of spine labelling** was unique. It can be useful for libraries with a small collection as the label carries only one alphabet of the title/author.
- The biggest problem for us is the space for libraries. If we had enough space, we should replicate a **cosy area for reading and create a cinema/theatre space**.
- In our libraries, we can replicate a permanent **collection of traditional items** and items inherited from the island/city.
- Implement **mobile library services** to reach remote areas and underserved communities. A small vehicle equipped with books and basic resources can bring the library experience to more people even without significant investment.
- Should explore replicating and adopting movable furniture, modular walls, and flexible room layouts to maximise library usage.





The Surabaya Public Library, known as *Perpustakaan Umum Kota Surabaya*, serves as the central public library for the city of Surabaya. Managed by the Surabaya City Government, the library serves as an essential community hub for education, culture, and knowledge sharing, playing a crucial role in promoting literacy, education, and access to knowledge for the city's residents. One of the key features is the Child-Friendly Information Center "PISA program" (*Pusat Informasi Sahabat Anak*). It is an initiative focused on providing integrated information services tailored to the needs of children. The program promotes child-friendly resources and literacy activities to foster the development of children's potential. The Surabaya Public Library supports educational initiatives by collaborating with schools, universities, and local organisations. The library is centrally located and designed to be accessible to the general public. It offers flexible hours to accommodate visitors.

Participant Observations

- When I read about this library, I assumed it would be huge with many floors. However, it was a one-floor library. It was even more surprising how well they arranged their whole collection. It is a small library that is very well-managed.
- The Library Room with a Dyslexia Corner and computer activities for children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) was inspiring.
- Braille books are also provided. The PISA program is excellent. It shows this library tries to cater to a diverse population.
- The library was filled with a variety of resources and services for people of all ages. The best aspects of this library are the cultural events, educational workshops, and country corners dedicated to other cultures. One thing that stood out to me was the diverse books all written in their language 'Bahasa'.
- The best aspect was the wide range of collections they provide for the public and the dedication to their language. The library provides language classes for free.

Quick Takeaway Ideas to Replicate

- It was unique to see many different services in one building which serves the Surabaya community. We could also offer our islands and our communities similar services, especially to people with special needs.
- Host storytelling, workshops, or support groups for children with special needs or seniors.
- Support for Dyslexic and ADHD children. Can set up a playroom with games and activities using simple local resources.
- Public libraries in our country can gather more ideas and involve the public in different activities such as free courses.
- The National Library of Maldives as a public library could replicate the idea of spreading reading service points across the Maldives, such as proposing to establish a small and simple space (a reading corner or a mini library) within the island council offices or maybe even within school premises, which would greatly benefit the whole island community as there are no libraries in the islands other than the school libraries.
- The sign language programs designed to make resources accessible to the deaf and hard-of-hearing community, along with the dyslexia corner equipped with specialised software for dyslexic individuals, are excellent initiatives that promote inclusivity. We can replicate it.
- Public libraries can introduce Dhivehi language corners and free classes focusing on migrant workers, and families and also to the Maldivian children.





Universitas Muhammadiyah Malang (UMM) is a private university known for its strong focus on education, research, and community service, offering a wide range of programs across various disciplines. The visit to UMM Library offered a glimpse into a well-structured academic environment that emphasises traditional learning resources and modern technology to support student success. Before the guided tour, the participants were provided with an overview of UMM. Vice Chancellor IV Muhamad Salis Yuniardi, M.Psi., Ph.D., chaired the welcome meeting.

Participant Observations

- The **university is so big, and impressive. So is the library.** Besides their impressive interior design, I have gained ideas for developing one corner of our library focusing on the Dhivehi language and local traditions and customs. Besides this, the fact that the university hosts a ground for agriculture was also impressive and could be something the MNU can replicate.
- UMM library offers a **spacious and comfortable study environment** and a separate room/area with many computers for digital and electronic services.
- The **involvement of students** in helping run the library is a great idea. This not only supports the library staff but also gives students valuable experience. Seeing the active student assistants working at the American Corner was inspiring.
- The best part of the UMM Library is its diverse **language and cultural corners**, like the English, Japanese, Mandarin, and Australian corners, which their respective embassies support.
- The huge space the UMM Library allocates for every section and the **reading areas were excellent.**
- There was a very **cosy prayer room** on 2 floors.
- The best aspect of this library was its **digital library collection and the library's interior design.** The number of staff who work in the library is also impressive.
- The shelves were in black. I never thought I would see something like that.** It was very nice. The arrangements of the books and the staffs' involvement were pleasant experiences.

Quick Takeaway Ideas to Replicate

- Their **reading corners are fascinating.** This kind of reading corner will be useful to the Maldives academic environment. Especially universities and colleges that have international partnerships.
- We should purchase different kinds of furniture & arrange furniture according to the user-needs, to **create different environments for various types of people.** Floor seating can create a vibe.
- The little shop-like space was interesting.** Our public and academic libraries can have a food corner replicating this library.
- The Maldives should replicate and have dedicated trained staff for the different library tasks. **We need more trained staff in the library field.**
- Create dedicated areas for **group study and collaborative work.** These spaces can be set up with basic furniture and whiteboards to facilitate group discussions and teamwork.
- Encourage **community involvement by establishing volunteer programs** where individuals can contribute their time and skills to support library operations & events. The same for students too.
- We can **beautify study spaces** with beautiful views printed on canvas, and walls decorated by big picture frames.
- A prayer room/area can incentivise to stay at the library for long hours.**
- We can **introduce hotspot areas and recreation corner/room.**





A place for community reading, gathering, and herbal knowledge

Kampung Nginden Gang 6l is a densely populated urban settlement located in East Surabaya, Sukolilo sub-district, Nginden Jangkungan village. Its people come from various cultural, educational, and occupational backgrounds that form strong family ties. The area of this village has dominant green open spaces and places that are utilised for environmentally conscious community-based activities (<https://kampungherbalnginden.wordpress.com>).

Participant Observations

- The best part of the community reading room was the **warm hospitality**, the welcome dance performance by the children, and the fascinating traditional food and herbal drinks they shared. **It was similar to our small island vibe back home.**
- It is such a welcoming and engaging community space that **demonstrates small spaces can be excellent libraries if there's a strong commitment** to making it work. Even though the place is small they have utilised the area quite well. The resources they provide for the community are outstanding.
- I loved how they **contribute to the community by giving spaces for discussions and workshops**. The community engagement and educational programs such as workshops and information sessions/discussions mostly centre on herbal medicine.
- Focusing on creating a **friendly and inclusive atmosphere in libraries**, where community members feel valued and connected through activities surrounding local traditions is an excellent initiative.
- It is a unique library. In addition to the reading collection, **they have various herbal ingredients and local products**.
- The best aspect is its informal and **accessible environment that encourages reading and learning**.



Quick Takeaway Ideas to Replicate

- I hope we Maldivians also learn to create new ways to **empower and enrich our small communities by making community reading rooms** in different locations of the Maldives.
- It doesn't have to be large, but a **space where the community can gather** and feel welcome will be effective for a start.
- It would be good for the Maldives to **display herbal ingredients we use in our traditional medicine**. Our indigenous medicine knowledge is slowly fading away.
- Initiate and provide community reading areas or parks with the help of businesses and organisations. **Partner with local schools, NGOs, and community groups to support and promote the reading rooms.**
- Reading rooms can be set up in community centres, schools, or other public spaces, making it easy for people to **access reading materials close to their homes**.



The symbol for salaam literacy ("L") was a recurring symbol throughout our trip



Institut Teknologi Sepuluh Nopember (ITS), founded in 1957, is one of Indonesia's leading institutions for science, technology, and engineering education. Located in Surabaya, East Java, ITS has a reputation for producing highly skilled graduates who contribute significantly to the fields of engineering, technology, and research in Indonesia and beyond. Named after Indonesia's historic battle on November 10, 1945, during the fight for independence, ITS has become a hub for technological innovation and scientific research.

The Archive Centre of ITS, known as **Arsip ITS**, plays a crucial role in preserving and managing the institutional memory of ITS Surabaya. This archive serves as a central repository for historical records, official documents, and materials that document the university's evolution, achievements, and contributions to education and research in Indonesia.

Researchers, students, and faculty members can access the archive for academic and research purposes. While some materials may be available for public access, others may be restricted due to confidentiality or preservation concerns. The archive typically offers reading rooms for onsite research, and certain materials may also be digitised for easier access.

Participant Observations

- The best aspect of the ITS was how committed they were to improve their administrative services within the institution.
- ITS Archives was well-organised and accessible.
- Uses their own herbal camphor.
- We got to see inside the archive and the materials that they use to protect the archived material.
- The archive room was interesting. The books were kept in a box with a little bag inside to keep bugs and fungi away. (These bags contain dried 'karubolak', 'hudhu kaafoora', and lemongrass)



Quick Takeaway Ideas to Replicate

- Maldives Archives could also **adopt the practice of regularly hosting workshops or public talks to engage the community** with archived materials, helping to foster a **deeper appreciation of local history and culture**. Additionally, creating partnerships with schools to encourage the use of archives in educational projects would be beneficial.
- The way they have shown their history through specific selected themes is interesting. Maldives could also do this to **show history through a visual timeline**.
- Our libraries could replicate the idea of maintaining a well-organised digital archive that **makes local historical documents, photographs, and academic papers easily accessible to the public**. This could be done at a low cost by starting digitisation of small collections and gradually expanding.
- We should implement a labelled and efficient box **storage system instead of stacking documents** haphazardly.
- We can also make semi-herbal camphor bags/pouches to protect our items from fungus. **We should start work with whatever resources we have now.**





Museum Angkut, located in Malang, East Java, Indonesia, is a one-of-a-kind transportation museum that showcases an extensive collection of vehicles from various eras and regions around the world. Opened in 2014, the museum is a popular tourist attraction, blending education with entertainment. The museum has over 300 collections of types of traditional to modern transportation. This is the first transportation museum in Southeast Asia.

Vehicle Collection: Over 300 vehicles, ranging from vintage cars, motorcycles, bicycles, and aeroplanes to traditional Indonesian transportation modes such as *becak* (3-wheel pedicab) and *andong* (horse-drawn carriage).

Thematic Zones: Several themed zones representing different countries and periods, such as the Hollywood Zone, and European Zone, each showcasing vehicles relevant to the region and era.

Interactive Experience: The museum combines historical information with interactive and visually engaging displays, making it a fun and educational experience for all ages.

Participant Observations

- The best part of the Angkut Museum is its **immersive experience**, with detailed exhibits showcasing various transportation items, presented engagingly and interactively for visitors.
- It was an impressive experience. **We felt we were exploring multiple countries under one roof**. The realistic sets made it incredibly engaging, giving us the sensation of actually visiting different places. The life-size items/photos with descriptions were awesome.
- The best aspect was the **ability to see and touch the antique items I had only seen in pictures and movies before**. The information displayed with the items was very helpful.

Quick Takeaway Ideas to Replicate

- The 3D map of Indonesia was just amazing. **I would like to have a similar replica of our island in my library.**
- Maldives could replicate the concept of creating **interactive and themed exhibits** in its museums, focusing on **local history and culture**. This could be done affordably by using local materials and stories.
- This approach could also include **exhibits to celebrate** the Maldives' unique history and **maritime culture**.
- We can have a **library display area** where we can display items that were in use in the earlier days in Maldives only.
- We can encourage Maldivians with **private historical collections** to open museums for the public.
- Our institutes or institutional libraries can **display brief information with items/photos that are related to the institute**. For example, Stelco can display their formerly used machinery.
- Our **museum could introduce a gift shop, café, and rest areas** (can outsource). This can help cultural tourism and help boost local arts and artisans.
- I wish to replicate the exit 'train' idea in our museum. We can have a **local 'dhoani' with the same feel - with simulated waves!**



ALUN-ALUN UNDERGROUND MUSEUM



The Alun-Alun Underground Museum is a unique and modern museum located beneath the iconic Alun-Alun Surabaya, Indonesia. This underground museum offers visitors a glimpse into the rich history and culture of Surabaya through its interactive exhibits and immersive displays.

Participant Observations

- **Informative display of Indonesian history.** It is more like a gallery than a museum per se.
- I found out that the **locals could advertise their work** and get an income and at the same time, it was a place where a person could get recognition.
- I don't think or remember anything new in the underground museum that Maldives museums can replicate other than **having a theatre**.
- The best part of the Alun-Alun Underground Museum was its **traditional and historical architecture**, along with the cultural items preserved for years, reflecting their rich heritage.
- The **lighting and the arrangement** were impressive.
- I think such a museum will be very important for our country as we have a rich history of our country. For example, we can display our way of transportation by sea.
- The displays as well as the documentary playing on the wall were interesting. Would be good if our museum could also **play documentaries or anything similar to our past**, where anyone can watch by standing or sitting.
- The best aspect of the Alun-Alun Underground Museum is its innovative and **immersive exhibition design and the enthusiasm of the museum staff**.

Quick Takeaway Ideas to Replicate

- Maldives can replicate the use of music and projectors in its museums to enhance the experience, along with **encouraging school students to use museum spaces for gatherings and educational activities**.
- Focus on creating spaces where cultural heritage is showcased and respected. This can be applied to both museums and libraries across the islands, ensuring they **serve as places of learning and community gathering**.
- Each island can have **space to display historical items** and information about the island. Involve the community in the creation and curation of exhibits.
- **Encourage local artists, historians, and residents to contribute artefacts**.
- **Showcase the history of our kings and queens at the 'Usgekolhu'**. Usgekolhu is a two-story building in 'Sultan Park' which was built by a king for his wife. This is the only remaining building from the palace.
- Focus on creating exhibits that tell the unique stories and history of the Maldives. **This will contribute to the local economy and promote cultural tourism**.



Apart from the guided tours and information sessions, PDW-LIS 2024 consisted of 3

Workshop Sessions.

1. Librarian's Role as Research Consultant
 2. Intelligent and Smart Archival Systems
 3. Learning Outcomes and Implementation Planning
- Part 1. Participant Presentations
Part 2. Discussion, Recommendations and Plan of Action



WORKSHOP SESSIONS

WORKSHOP SESSION 1

Librarian's Role as a Research Consultant

29 July 2024, held @ PCU Computer Room W303

SESSION OVERVIEW

Librarians serve as invaluable research consultants by guiding users through the research process, from topic development to finding and evaluating credible sources. They possess **expertise in navigating databases, archives, and digital resources**, which helps them support researchers in identifying relevant literature, accessing specialised materials, and utilising research tools effectively. Librarians also provide instruction on information literacy, data management, and citation practices, ensuring researchers use ethical and efficient methods. By staying current with new technologies and trends in academic publishing, **librarians play a crucial role in enhancing the quality and impact of research across disciplines.**

Participant Observations

- The session was very informative as we were guided on staying **updated and informed on emerging trends and technologies.**
- The best aspect of the session was the interactive approach, especially the quizzes made the session engaging and fun. **The way they conducted the session was great. I loved it!**
- I enjoyed the research session with **Mentimeter and VOSviewer.** I would have loved to have more exercises on using the latter.
- I **learned a new presentation technique using Mentimeter** and gained insights into identifying research topics that have not yet been studied.
- Having expertise in the library is essential for supporting research across different fields. Librarians should be well-equipped to assist patrons effectively. **The session was valuable**, emphasising the importance of these skills.
- The best part of the session was learning about SCOPUS, which provides librarians with access to scholarly content, **citation analysis tools, and metrics for assessing research impact and quality.** It would have been even more helpful to include practical examples or case studies on how librarians can effectively use these tools.
- The most memorable part of the session was **realising how crucial algorithms are for mapping data.**
- The entire session was excellent, and **almost everything covered was new to me.**



Session facilitator
Chandra Pratama Setiawan (M.Sc.)

Session Facilitator, **Mr Chandra Pratama Setiawan, M.Sc.**

Chandra is a member of the FPPTI Central Management 2020-2023. He is also currently working as head of Collection and IT management at Petra Christian University. His main area of focus includes delivery of information literacy programs & provision of research consultancy.

Opening Remarks by Head of PCU Library, Bu **Dian Wulandari**

It is with great pleasure and honor that I extend a warm welcome to all participants of the Maldives Library and Information Professional Development Program. On behalf of Petra Christian University, we are pleased to welcome you to Surabaya and Malang, especially to Petra Christian University. Your dedication to improving knowledge and experience about library and librarianship is commendable and we are excited to support your professional growth through this program.

This workshop session that will be facilitated by talented young librarians. We encourage you to make the most of this session, share insights, and build new ideas. We believe that this collaboration will not only benefit your professional journey, but also strengthen the bonds between our institutions and our library organizations, Maldives Library Association and FPPTI.

Thank you for being here, and we look forward to a productive and inspiring program. Once again, welcome to Petra Christian University.



WORKSHOP SESSION 2

Intelligent and Smart Archival Systems

30 July 2024, Held @ ITS

SESSION OVERVIEW

The session on "Intelligent and Smart Archival Systems" was delivered in two parts and explored the integration of advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, and automation in archival management. It addressed how these innovations enhance archival systems by streamlining processes like data classification, metadata generation, and content retrieval, leading to more efficient, accessible, and secure archives. Participants were exposed to emerging trends in smart archival solutions, including AI-driven search capabilities, and digital transformation strategies for optimal work performance.

Participant Observations

- This session provided useful information about the **benefits of utilising smart digital tools** in archiving including practical examples.
- Got familiar with the **differences between traditional archives and Intelligent and Smart Archives**. A chance to experience, and learn more about how to adopt, and manage intelligent and smart archival systems would have also been great.
- The best aspect of the session was the fascinating QR code integration for everything and the fantastic **certificate mail merging techniques**, which for me, was a new and easy way to create certificates.
- Great presentation which was **very informative**. Would have loved a longer practical session on how to preserve and maintain the archival materials would have been useful too.
- Record classification and organization were interesting and so was the **concept of archival communities for students**.
- Covering more on data privacy and security issues related to the use of AI and machine learning in archival systems would address **concerns about protecting sensitive information**.
- More details about the activities conducted by the archival community would have been useful. Also, it would have been great if we had a practical session on creating a semi-herbal camphor. **We did see an example of camphor at the physical archive.**



Opening Speech by the Senior Manager of ITS Global Engagement Office on International, **Astria Nur Irfansyah, S.T., M.Eng, Ph.D.**

Sani is an IT professional with experience in teaching, system development, and IT service management. He has also served as Head of Undergraduate Information Systems Department (2015-2020). Now he is a Head of Promotion and Institutional Image Sub-Unit ITS.

Part 1 Session Facilitator
Nisfu Asrul Sani, S.Kom., M.Sc.



Samsul, with a background in multimedia science, and his keen interest in the field of archives, serves as an IT and digital archive management staff at the Institute of Technology Sepuluh Nopember (ITS) Archives. He joined ITS in 2017.

Part 2 Session Facilitator
Muhammad Samsul Arifin



Workshop
Session 2
held at ITS



WORKSHOP SESSION 3

Learning Outcomes and Implementation Planning: Future of the Maldives Library and Information Services Sector

3 August 2024, Held @ Petra (PCU_Flip Classroom)

SESSION OVERVIEW

In addition to hearing from librarians and key informants from the host country institutions, the PDW-LIS is an opportunity for the participants to showcase their work and learn from and support each other. An integral part of the workshop therefore was the interactive sessions where participants shared their efforts, challenges, and opportunities in enhancing the libraries of the Maldives. Accordingly, for the workshop Session 3, presentations were sought from the participants, focusing on the broad themes of **Showcasing success**, **Overcoming Challenges**, and **Vision for the future**. The presentations were also situated within the following broader framework of:

- the situation of their library and what the participant hopes to learn from the PDW-LIS 2024,
- the situation of librarianship as a profession in the Maldives and how the PDW contributes to a growth mindset,
- the importance of networking to support library and information science (LIS) professionals in the Maldives,
- the role libraries, archives, & museums of Maldives can play in safeguarding the local cultural heritage, or
- the status quo and the future of librarians as research consultants in the Maldives

The Lead Facilitator analysed these presentations to guide streamlined discussions to guide a way forward.

Part 1. Participant Presentations

All participants chose to pre-record their presentations prior to arriving in Indonesia. They excelled in preparing thoughtful presentations and many acquired video editing skills to enhance their recordings. During Workshop Session 3, we viewed these presentations together and engaged in guided discussions to develop a forward plan. The subsequent pages detail each participant's presentation and individual overall feedback on the professional development event held in Surabaya and Malang, Indonesia. Following this, we provide a summary of the discussions, which focused on formulating a short-to medium-term implementation plan.



Lead Facilitator, Gina de Alwis Jayasuriya,

Presentations at a Glance

SHOWCASE X 6
CHALLENGES X 5
VISION X 9

Session Facilitators

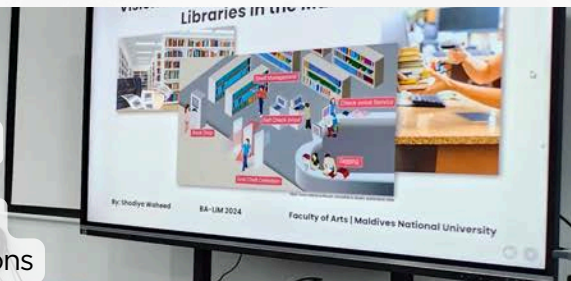
- Dr Aminath Riyaz, Session Conceptualisation and Coordination
- Dr Gina de Alwis Jayasuriya, Lead Facilitator
- Dr Liauw Toong Tjiek (aka Aditya Nugraha), Facilitator



Facilitators Aditya and Aminath



Workshop Session 3, Participant Presentations



PDWLIS 2024 Learning Outcomes & Implementation Planning: Future of Maldives LIS

SHOWCASE

Saruna: A Digital Repository Initiative by the Maldives National University (MNU)

Presented by

FATHIMATH NASHFA

Librarian,

The Maldives National University

Nashfa began her career in the library field as a Library Trainee in 2004. She currently is the Librarian at Maldives National University (MNU), responsible for coordinating and conducting Information Literacy sessions for MNU library users, managing Saruna (the local digital repository), and overseeing the library collection. Additionally, Nashfa serves as a part-time lecturer at MNU. She has completed Bachelor of Arts Library & Information Management from MNU.



From the visit to Public Library of Surabaya



Overview

Saruna, created by MNU Library in 2018, was selected for showcasing because it is believed to be of value to fellow PDW-LIS participants and has the potential to scale up within the Maldivian landscape. MNU is an academic library and has the largest collection in the Maldives. These resources offer extensive access to international research content while access to local research materials, especially those written in the local language, remains quite limited. This gap in availability was a key factor driving the establishment of Saruna. The local word "Saruna" (ސަރުނަ ފެންނަން ދޯރަ ދަންނަން) can be translated as light through the darkness. This reflects one of the main objectives of creating the digital repository: to make the untapped local content accessible. Additionally, it is my pleasure to discuss the future directions of Saruna, including the ongoing enhancements for indexing and retrieval efficiency. Access the digital repository at saruna.mnu.edu.mv

Takeaway from the PDW-LIS 2024

"I had an awesome time exploring. All the libraries were well advanced by integrating modern features. I loved how much the library was being used by their patrons. I hope to implement some of their ideas in our libraries. Thank you organisers, for the wonderful opportunity, it has definitely been a learning journey. Thank you for coordinating and encouraging the participants to actively participate in the sessions."

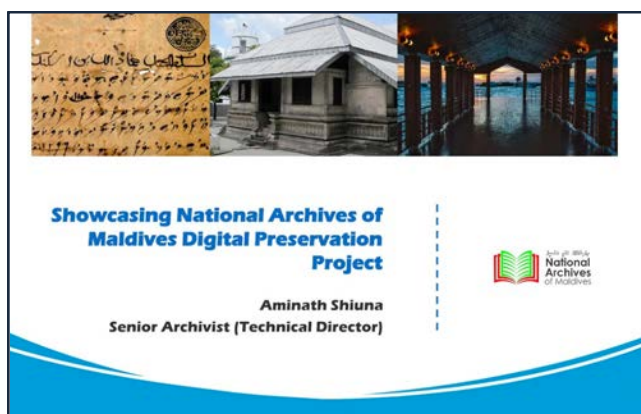
(Fathimath Nashfa)



PDWLIS 2024 Learning Outcomes & Implementation Planning: Future of Maldives LIS

SHOWCASE

National Archives of Maldives (NAM) Digital Preservation Project (DPP)



Presented by

AMINATH SHIUNA

Senior Archivist (Technical Director),
The National Archives of Maldives

Shiuna began her career as a Librarian Trainee at a high school library in 1995. With more than 20 years in the LIS field, Shiuna currently is heading the Archives and Public Service Division of NAM with the responsibility to manage and supervise the archives related technical activities carried out at the organisation.

Overview

The NAM was established as a public legal entity under the Act (16/2011) on 19 December 2012. The initial phase of the DPP involved submitting two reports. The project commenced by conducting a nationwide survey to outline the requirements for the digital preservation system tailored to the NAM. Subsequently, the second part of the project focused on identifying the detailed specifications for the digital preservation system. This comprehensive effort spanned from the agreement signing on 6 December 2022 and successfully concluded on 30 June 2023, marked by the submission of the final report by the international consultant, Giaretta Associates, Pte, Ltd (UK). Next is to focus on securing the future of our archival materials through the creation of a secure and scalable digital preservation system which aligns with OAIS model and meets ISO 16363 standard and developing records management and digital preservation policies. This project ensures the enduring accessibility and integrity of Maldivian archival records.

Takeaway from the PDW-LIS 2024

"I gained extensive knowledge about various libraries, archives, and museums in Surabaya and Malang. The transportation museum, hand-made semi-herbal camphor, and mail merge technology were fascinating. The visited institutions reflect local culture and history through unique heritage preservation methods. Compared to the Maldives, libraries and archives in Indonesia are more advanced. The innovative practices, technologies, and memorable interactions with staff made this a valuable networking opportunity. The insights from this tour will significantly impact my future archiving work." (Aminath Shiuna)

PDWLIS 2024 Learning Outcomes & Implementation Planning: Future of Maldives LIS

SHOWCASE

Showcasing MNU Business Library

Presented by
AMINATH ZUMARRADH
Assistant Librarian,
The Maldives National University

Zumarradh has been working at MNU library for more than eight years supporting the academic community. Her role involves a variety of responsibilities aimed at ensuring that students, faculty, and staff have access to the resources and services they need for academic success.



Overview

MNU Business School Library is one of the eight branch libraries of the Maldives National University. As an academic library, we are the largest library in the Maldives. Business School Library specifically serves students and staff of business stream courses such as accounting, computer science, marketing, management and many more. I am very excited to present the development plans to modernise the Business Library. The plan has been devised in various phases, and the first phase, which is already underway, includes upgrading the furniture such as the circulation desk and study area. In addition to these upgrades, we have also planned several other changes, such as renovating the library's interior spaces, enhancing the lighting, and incorporating more technology-friendly areas to better serve our users. These improvements are aimed at creating a more welcoming and efficient environment for both staff and visitors.

Takeaway from the PDW-LIS 2024

"This has been an extremely valuable professional development experience. The workshop not only met, but exceeded its goals, providing significant insights and ideas. Reflecting on the experience, it is evident that the library is more than just a place to read books; it is also a place to learn, innovate, and collaborate. The workshop focused on integrating new technologies and modern design looks in existing libraries. It is a forward-thinking approach that can greatly impact in enhancing libraries in the Maldives."

(Aminath Zumarradh)

A serene moment on the stunning campus of Universitas Airlangga



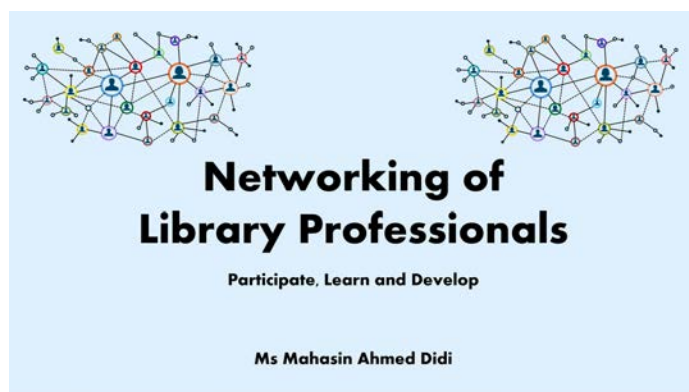


Workshop Session 3 Facilitators, Participant-group Leaders, & FPPTI Representatives

PDWLIS 2024 Learning Outcomes & Implementation Planning: Future of Maldives LIS

SHOWCASE

Networking of Library Professionals: Participate, Learn and Develop



Presented by
MAHASIN AHMED DIDI
 Deputy Director,
 People's Majlis (Parliament of Maldives) Secretariat

Mahasin has been working in the library field for more than 21 years, and currently she is the Deputy Director of Library and Archives of People's Majlis. As the Head of the Section, she is responsible for managing and developing the services of Library and the Archives.

Overview

Networking is a crucial skill, indispensable regardless of your business or experience level. Effective networking not only establishes a foundation of support and trust but also has the potential to elevate your career from ordinary to extraordinary, regardless of industry. There are various networks that can be used to participate, learn and develop an individual's professional skills. It can offer the chance to build mutually beneficial relationships with other professionals in any particular industry if done properly. Networking is a lifelong activity which can be beneficial for a person to grow or advance in their role and field.

Takeaway from the PDW-LIS 2024

"Visiting a country with a different culture, and the same religion as ours, was one good and interesting experience.

Every visit and session we attended was very informative. All these were organised very well so that there was a balance between the activities we participated in. This trip was also a great opportunity to network.

Alhamdulillah'Lillahi. It has been a great learning and networking experience."

(Mahasin Ahmed Didi)

PDWLIS 2024 Learning Outcomes & Implementation Planning: Future of Maldives LIS

SHOWCASE

Future plans of Billabong High International School Library

Presented by
AJRA RAFEEQ

Librarian,
Billabong High International School

Ajra has been working in libraries for more than 9 years. As the Librarian at Billabong High International School (BHIS), she manages library periods for students and curate resources through various engaging activities that foster a love for reading and library use. Ajra's role includes assisting students, promoting literacy programs, and maintaining a welcoming environment.



From the visit to Herbal Community Reading Room



Overview

Our school library is evolving to better support students. Inspired by the Professional Development Workshop 2023 held in Singapore, we are introducing interactive touchscreens to help students find books, learn about events, and explore digital resources. We are also creating comfortable reading spaces with soft chairs and good lighting. Planned activities include storytelling sessions and digital learning tools to make learning fun and interactive. However, challenges include securing funding, maintaining new technologies, and training staff and students. Balancing these innovations with the traditional library experience is important to maintain our welcoming environment.

Takeaway from the PDW-LIS 2024

"At the Professional Development Workshop 2024 in Indonesia, I learned about new library technologies and creative programs. The workshops on improving user experiences were very helpful. The sessions were hands on and interactive, giving me practical skills and inspiration to improve library services and connect better."

(Ajra Rafeeq)





From the visit to Khadijah Senior High School

PDWLIS 2024 Learning Outcomes & Implementation Planning: Future of Maldives LIS

SHOWCASE

Nurturing Young Readers: The English 400 Reading Programme



Presented by

AMINATH NASIHA

Assistant Librarian,
Lhaviyani Atoll Education Centre

Nasiha joined the library field in 2000 and in her current role at the Atoll Education Centre, Nasiha fosters a love for reading and supports academic achievement by curating a diverse book collection, and organising engaging activities. She assists with research, teach information literacy, and collaborate with teachers to enhance the curriculum and develop critical thinking skills.

Overview

The English 400 Reading Programme offers personalised learning, allowing students to progress at their own pace. It uses badges, colour cards, and certificates to keep the students motivated, while its structured progression helps build reading skills, comprehension, and vocabulary. By exposing students to a variety of topics and stories, the programme fosters a lifelong love for reading. Regular assessments and feedback from teachers and students ensure continuous improvement and monitor proficiency gains. Overall, the English 400 Reading Programme is a comprehensive initiative aimed at enhancing reading skills and developing independent learning capabilities, ultimately boosting students' academic performance and nurturing their enjoyment of reading. With this Professional Development Workshop on Library and Information Services, I aim to discover additional methods to address students' literacy issues and prepare them for the demands of the 21st century.

Takeaway from the PDW-LIS 2024

"This professional development workshop in Indonesia has given me insights on embracing innovations and sustainability. With the resources already in our library I hope to lead the library into the future with fostering community engagement and cultural preservations. The workshop has advantaged me in connecting with professionals in the LIS industry."

(Aminath Nasiha)

PDWLIS 2024 Learning Outcomes & Implementation Planning: Future of Maldives LIS

DISCUSSING CHALLENGES

Legal Deposit Act of Maldives: National Library

Presented by
MAJIDA ALI

Deputy Librarian,
National Library of Maldives

Majida has been working at the National Library of Maldives (NLM) since 2005. Currently working in the Legal Deposit Unit within NLM, she oversees technical operations, manages legal deposit materials, and develops the collection.



Overview

The subject of the presentation is the Legal Deposit Act (1/2006) that supports the national collection development at the National Library of Maldives. Every Maldivian publisher or author is required by this Act to submit two copies of their work. About 200 items were initially deposited in the first year. But we are unable to expedite the task because of a staffing shortage. Moreover, there is not a single article in the legislation that addresses electronic materials. Furthermore, there is a need to explore mechanisms to establish connections with writers and publishers. I am presenting these points to the workshop hoping to discuss these issues and brainstorm ideas with the workshop participants and Indonesian colleagues to help find effective solutions.

Takeaway from the PDW-LIS 2024

"I have learned about innovative approaches for libraries, such as incorporating podcast rooms, cinema rooms, and food corners to attract young users. Additionally, I've realised the importance of networking for career development. In conclusion, it was a wonderful experience that provided insights into introducing new themes like 'Salam Literacy' and integrating cultural and Islamic values in library service. I greatly appreciate the whole event, and the hospitality of the Indonesian coordinators was wonderful."
(Majida Ali)

A moment from Workshop Session 3.
Ideas for implementation planning





The Top 3 Achievers of Workshop Session 1 Quiz. A Moment Outside Universitas Kristen Petra.

PDWLIS 2024 Learning Outcomes & Implementation Planning: Future of Maldives LIS

DISCUSSING CHALLENGES

Digitisation Challenges at the National Library of Maldives



Scanning heritage documents at the National Library of Maldives

Presented by
MARIYAM SOBEEHA

Chief Librarian,
The National Library of Maldives

Sobeeha has been working at the National Library of Maldives for the past 7 years. As the Librarian in the Service Section of the Library, she oversees the daily operations of their patron services. Sobeeha's responsibilities include managing a dedicated team, ensuring the efficient functioning of services, providing reference services, guiding users in accessing their collection of books and help organize and conduct user education programs.

Overview

The National Library of Maldives faces significant challenges in digitisation, including limited funding and resources, which hinder the procurement of necessary technology and skilled personnel. The library struggles with preserving fragile, ageing documents and ensuring their accurate digitisation to make them accessible to a wider range of audiences through online platforms. Through continued efforts and collaboration, the National Library aims to enhance its digitisation initiatives and ensure that future generations can benefit from these invaluable resources.

Takeaway from the PDW-LIS 2024

"My experience of the Professional Development Workshop in Indonesia was enriching, providing valuable insights into library systems and practices. Visiting various LIS institutes, including academic libraries, archives, and public libraries, broadened my understanding of global trends and innovations in library and information science. This knowledge will be instrumental in enhancing the services and collections of the National Library of Maldives. I appreciate the opportunity to network with international colleagues and exchange ideas."
(Mariyam Sobeeha)

PDWLIS 2024 Learning Outcomes & Implementation Planning: Future of Maldives LIS

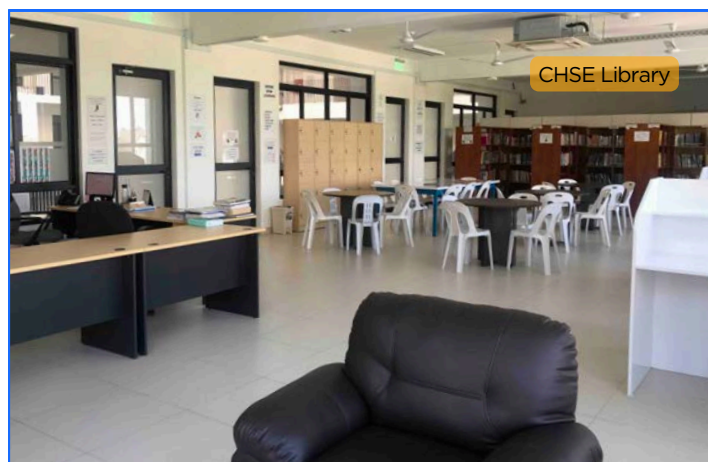
DISCUSSING CHALLENGES

Challenges faced by CHSE Library

Presented by
DHOOMA AHMED

Assistant Librarian,
Centre for Higher Secondary Education (CHSE)
Final year BA-LIM student

Dhooma started her career as a Librarian Trainee in 2006 and is currently an Assistant Librarian in CHSC. Her main responsibility includes ensuring that all students, teachers, and staff have access to the resources and services needed for academic purposes.



Overview

The Centre for Higher Secondary Education library faces a significant shortage of space, which severely limits its capacity to serve over 1200 students effectively. Due to its small size, there is not enough seating, particularly during busy times such as the exam duration. The lack of dedicated areas for group discussion or quiet study rooms further hampers the library's functionality. The space constraint also restricts the number of bookshelves, limiting the acquisition of up-to-date resources. As a result, students often express concerns about the inadequate facilities, which impacts their overall learning experience and usage of the library.

Takeaway from the PDW-LIS 2024

“The professional development workshop held in Indonesia was a truly wonderful experience. I learned that libraries in Indonesia are very well-developed and have access to advanced technology. Each library we visited was unique in its own way, and we gained new insights at every stop. The hospitality we received was unforgettable. I would like to thank the organisers for providing such a wonderful opportunity, and I also want to express my gratitude to the facilitators for the valuable information they shared during the visits. The visit to Mount Bromo is unforgettable--making it one of the most interesting experience of my life.”
(Dhooma Ahmed)





From the visit to University of Surabaya Library

PDWLIS 2024 Learning Outcomes & Implementation Planning: Future of Maldives LIS

DISCUSSING CHALLENGES

Enhancing Library Resources and Engagement at Aminiya School



Presented by
AISHATH NAZEEHA
Assistant Librarian
Aminiya School

Nazeeha has been working at the Aminiya School Library for 20 years. She currently manages library periods for the students and helps teachers to access all the materials they need to help the students learn. Her work includes promoting literacy and reading programmes.

Overview

Aminiya school is one the largest libraries in the Maldives, with the biggest collection of books among the school libraries. The school caters to grades 1 to 10 and is a co-education school. Aminiya Library offers both English and Dhivehi books and its services are mostly catered to students, but teachers also do utilise the library. We conduct different types of activities for students and the students show a keen interest in these activities. The main problem we face is getting resources and renewing the collection. By participating in this programme I hope to gain more knowledge and experience and help gather further insights from the workshop to enhance Aminiya School library services.

Takeaway from the PDW-LIS 2024

"It was an excellent workshop for us librarians, providing a wealth of knowledge and insights from the experts. The hands-on learning experiences, meaningful conversations, and open discussions were perfectly aligned with our needs. Without a doubt, the workshop enhanced my knowledge as a librarian, making it easier to manage the library and create a more positive experience for our users. The sessions and visits also sparked ideas for events, reading activities, and creative decor that we could replicate to attract more readers. While we gained a great deal, I wish the PDW-LIS 2024 workshop had lasted longer than five days."
(Aishath Nazeeha)

PDWLIS 2024 Learning Outcomes & Implementation Planning: Future of Maldives LIS

DISCUSSING CHALLENGES

Enhancing Library Engagement and Collection Development: Addressing Challenges in Parliamentary Library

Presented by

SHEHENAZ MOHAMED

Senior Librarian,

People's Majlis (Parliament of Maldives)

Shehenaz has been working in the Library Since 2008, and currently, she is the Senior Librarian in the Parliament of Maldives. Her main responsibilities include conducting information sessions, assisting with collection development, circulation and other day-to-day tasks under the supervision of the Deputy Director of Library & Archives



Overview

The library's facilities include a circulation desk display area, a photocopy machine, touchscreen computers for database access, a seating area for socialising, a smart TV for presentations, and a diverse physical collection encompassing archival, government, legislative, legal, parliamentary, fiction, and non-fiction materials. Despite having excellent resources available to the 93 parliament members and over 160 staff, less than 1% utilise the library. Furthermore, I am concerned about collection development, noting that efforts to engage staff for support in this area have been challenging. Since the staff work closely with parliament members, their input is vital for developing a relevant and comprehensive collection. I hope to gain innovative ideas from this workshop in Indonesia to enhance library engagement and improve collection development.

Takeaway from the PDW-LIS 2024

The workshop itself was amazing. Got the opportunity to learn about other libraries as well, although my library is different from the libraries we visited during this trip.

Spending 8 days with 22 people is quite a unique experience for me. Sleepless nights and the traveling, chatting, the adventurous visits too were amazing. I did learn a lot from this trip. Met some amazing people, have learned and was inspired. It was a once in a life time experience. I thank each and everyone of the organisers and participants."

(Shehenaz Mohamed)



A moment outside Surabaya Public Library

ON N ROLE IN H SUPPORT SERVICES

Petra Christian University

A moment from the Workshop Session 1 on Librarians' Role as a Research Consultant

PDWLIS 2024 Learning Outcomes & Implementation Planning: Future of Maldives LIS

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Standardising school libraries of Maldives



Vision for the Future: Standardizing School Libraries in the Maldives
Presented by Athiyya Shakeel

Presented by

ATHIYYA SHAKEEL

Former Senior Librarian at Villa College,
Final year BA-LIM student

Athiyya has worked in various libraries for over 20 years. She started as a Librarian Trainee and last served at the Maldives National University as a Librarian in 2019. Athiyya's latest position in the field was as a Senior Librarian at Villa College. She completed a Diploma in LIS at Canberra Institute of Technology. While pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Library & Information Management at MNU, she is currently working at Banera, a sports recovery centre, as the Manager.

Overview

This presentation is based on the vision for standardising school libraries in the Maldives, emphasising the adoption of a school library standard such as IFLA School Library Guidelines. Currently, school libraries in the Maldives lack standardised practices, quality resources, and adequate digital devices. The presentation highlights the need for qualified librarians with both library and teaching qualifications, comprehensive library collections supporting the curriculum, and enhanced facilities. Additionally, I advocate incorporating modern ICT facilities which is much needed to a modern library. Despite challenges, implementing such a guideline will set Maldives on the path to better libraries in the future and I hope to learn more from the workshop participants and facilitators.

Takeaway from the PDWL 2024

"Overall, the Professional Development Workshop 2024 was interesting and a good learning experience. Specially visiting the ITS was beneficial as I can relate to what I had been learning in my degree program. Many of the services provided in Indonesian libraries can be adopted here in Maldives with little effort and some can be applied with good planning and allocation of budget in the long term. It would be great if the participants gets the chance/or willingness to apply what they have learnt from this Workshop."
(Athiyya Shakeel)

PDWLIS 2024 Learning Outcomes & Implementation Planning: Future of Maldives LIS

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Automating School Libraries in the Maldives

Presented by
SHADHIYA WAHEED
BA-LIM student

Shadhiya, a current final year BA-LIM student, previously worked at CHSE Library as a Librarian Trainee for 6 years, from 2001 to 2006.



At the University of Surabaya Library

Vision for the Future : Automation of School Libraries in the Maldives



By: Shadiya Waheed BA-LIM 2024 Faculty of Arts | Maldives National University

Overview

This presentation is a vision to automate all school libraries in the Maldives within the next 10 years using an Integrated Library Management System (LMS), preferably Koha. Given the budget constraints faced by many school libraries, this proposed vision aims to streamline library operations, improve resource management, and enhance access to educational materials using open source software. This goal can be achieved by networking with Library and Information Science (LIS) professionals and collaborating with Atoll Councils and Island Councils along with other relevant authorities. I seek best practices, experiences, and techniques from the PDW-LIS community to achieve this vision, ultimately paving the way for better libraries and enriched educational experiences for students while also assisting library professionals in enhancing the management of library operations and services.

Takeaway from the PDW-LIS 2024

"The Professional Development Workshop in Indonesia proved to be incredibly valuable. The site visits and workshop sessions with practical activities enhanced both my knowledge and skills. Engaging with diverse professionals with the exchange of ideas deepened the understanding of the evolving role of librarians as research consultants. The experience was a remarkable blend of academic growth and personal enrichment. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the event organisers and facilitators for providing us with this incredible learning journey."
(Shadiya Waheed)

29 JULY

Petra Christi



PDWLIS 2024 Learning Outcomes & Implementation Planning: Future of Maldives LIS

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

The future of Hithadhoo School Library



Presented by

THUZUHATH AHMED

Librarian,

Hithadhoo School

Thuzuhath has been working in the library field in various positions for over 18 years. Currently, as the Librarian of Hithadhoo School, she plays a vital role in supporting the educational journey of students and manages a diverse collection of books and resources, ensuring they are easily accessible. She also assist and guide students and teachers in finding relevant materials, and promote literacy through engaging programs and activities.

Overview

Our library is a quiet place for students to read and explore, with a carefully curated collection of fiction and non-fiction books. However, with technological advancements and evolving student needs, we envision a future where our library offers much more. My aim is to integrate digital resources like e-books and audiobooks, implement interactive programs such as reading clubs and storytelling sessions, and create collaborative spaces for group projects and creative activities. These initiatives will foster a love for reading and enhance our library's role in promoting literacy and lifelong learning.

Takeaway from the PDW-LIS 2024

"The professional development workshop in Indonesia was a significant milestone in my journey within the library field. I discovered that there isn't just one way to accomplish tasks—there are often simpler, more efficient methods. The places I visited provided valuable insights into how we can achieve our goals even with a limited budget and creatively utilise the space available, no matter its size. One of the most striking aspects of this experience was witnessing the dedication and willingness of the librarians I met, a quality we should all strive to embody. This journey was truly inspiring and transformative."

(Thuzuhath Ahmed)

PDWLIS 2024 Learning Outcomes & Implementation Planning: Future of Maldives LIS

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Overcoming the challenges in engaging secondary-age students in reading

Presented by
NASHEEDA MOHAMED

Librarian,
Hithadhoo School, Addu City
Final year BA-LIM student

Nasheeda has been working as a school librarian for more than 20 years. In her current role as Librarian, she assists students and staff in gaining access to information and cultivating a love of reading and education. In addition to managing the library's collection, she collaborates with educators to establish programs and activities that promote reading and information literacy.

At the vibrant Public Library of Surabaya



Overview

The video presentation explores the common challenges school libraries face in engaging secondary-age students in reading and propose ideal strategies to overcome them. Challenges such as competition from digital media, limited time, lack of diverse materials, limited promotion, reading difficulties, negative attitudes towards reading, and lack of home support are discussed. Solutions include creating a welcoming library environment, offering diverse resources, integrating technology, fostering a reading culture, collaborating with educators and parents, and ensuring financial support to overcome the challenges. By addressing these issues, school libraries' vision to foster a love of reading and promote lifelong learning habits among secondary-age students can be enhanced.

Takeaway from the PDW-LIS 2024

"The Professional Development Workshop trip to Indonesia has been an invaluable learning experience for me, offering new perspectives and practical insights into the latest trends and innovations in library and information services. The lessons I learned and the connections I made during this trip have certainly contributed to my professional development and would support enhancing the services we provide in our library. I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the organisers and facilitators of this exposure trip. Their efforts made this enriching experience possible, and I am deeply thankful for the opportunity to participate."
(Nasheeda Mohamed)



PDWLIS 2024 Learning Outcomes & Implementation Planning: Future of Maldives LIS

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Making Gaaf Alif Atoll Education Centre Library accessible to the Public: A vision



Presented by
NASREENA

Librarian,
Gaaf Alif Atoll Education Centre
Final year BA-LIM student

Nasreena joined the field as an Library Assistant and is now a Librarian at GAAEC. She is mainly responsible for managing the library collection, conducting library sessions for students, organizing literacy programs, and providing guidance to library users.

Overview

As Gaaf Alif (GA) Atoll Education Centre is the only library in GA Vililingili, I aim to make Gaafu Alifu Atoll Education Centre a vibrant hub of learning, promote community engagement, and would like to make the library accessible to all residents of GA Atoll. Currently, our library faces challenges such as resource limitation, geographic dispersion, and limitations on community engagement. Not only GA Atoll Education Centre library but all school libraries in the Maldives face these challenges. By making libraries accessible to the public we can help to overcome these challenges through innovative strategies that promote inclusivity and accessibility. I believe this vision can be one solution to set Maldives on the path to better libraries as well.

Takeaway from the PDW-LIS 2024

“The Professional Development Workshop LIS 2024 experience for me was an inspiring journey of discovery, connecting with innovative library and archival practices across Indonesia. The insights gained on community engagement, digital transformation, and cultural preservation will significantly influence future projects in the Maldives, enhancing our libraries and museums to better serve and connect with our communities. I thank the organising team for their leadership.”
(Nasreena)

PDWLIS 2024 Learning Outcomes & Implementation Planning: Future of Maldives LIS

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Automation & Modernisation of Maavashu School Library

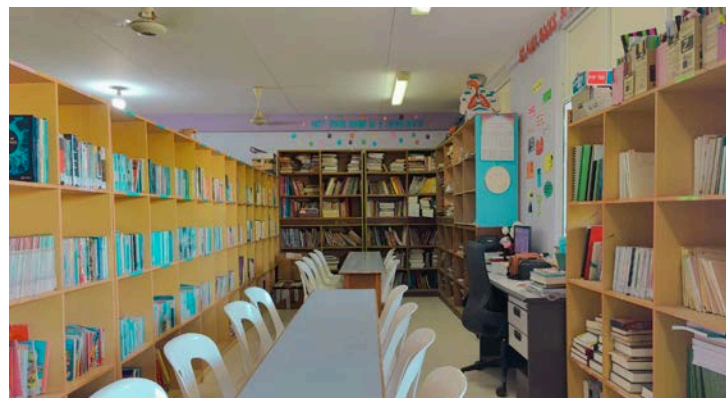
Presented by
SANFA HASSAN

Assistant Librarian,
Maavashu School, L. Maavah
Final year BA-LIM student

Sanfa began her career as a Library Assistant in 2007 and currently she is the Assistant Librarian in Maavashu School. Sanfa oversees the resources in the library and student library hours. Along with supporting literacy initiatives, her job involves helping teachers and students locate pertinent resources that meet their teaching and study requirements.



At the University of Surabaya Library



Overview

My vision for Maavashu School Library is to modernise and enhance accessibility, resources, and educational experience through automation and innovative practices. School libraries often face challenges such as limited resources, outdated facilities, and insufficient support, struggling to keep up with technological advancements and meet diverse student and educator needs. This presentation focuses on the development of Maavashu School Library, outlining the changes I envision, the challenges we currently face, and the progress we are making. Additionally, I explore the benefits these changes will bring to the library and its community, along with the key insights I hope to gain from this workshop to drive future developments and ensure our success. My goal is to create a vibrant centre for learning and engagement by leveraging modern library practices and automation. With a focus on addressing challenges, implementing strategic projects, and fostering a reading culture, I believe that together, through creativity and teamwork, we can build a brighter future.

Takeaway from the PDW-LIS 2024

“My experience from the Professional Development Workshop highlighted the transformative potential of libraries and museums in community engagement and education. From innovative space designs at PCU and UBAYA to digital archiving at ITS and thematic exhibitions at Museum Angkut, I learned how adaptable and inclusive approaches can significantly enhance user experiences and accessibility. Key takeaways include integrating versatile spaces, community-driven programs, and creative exhibitions. Planning and facilitating PDW with a large group in another country requires a lot of work and I am really impressed with the organising team.”

(Sanfa Hassan)



From Workshop Session 3

PDWLIS 2024 Learning Outcomes & Implementation Planning: Future of Maldives LIS

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Vision for QI Library



Presented by
AISHATH HANAN WAHEED
Senior Library Officer,
Villa College

With 6 years of experience in the field, Hanan, is currently working as a Senior Library Officer at Villa College. She oversees the maintenance and customisation of the KOHA (ILS) and has a committed interest in enhancing the library website.

Overview

Villa College is the most prominent private higher education provider in the Maldives offering a variety of programs from Foundation level to Master level.

Standing as the first ISO-certified library in the Maldives, QI Library caters to both Villa International High School and Villa College. Looking ahead, I envision QI Library expanding its physical space, enriching our collection and adding specialised staff to elevate service standards. It is crucial that our team support student's academic and personal growth with expertise and new technologies like more digital collections, artificial intelligence, augmented reality and interactive learning platforms.

Takeaway from the PDW-LIS 2024

"The eight days, of our workshop was a perfect blend of learning and adventure. We explored a range of libraries, from the impressive collections of university libraries to the welcoming spaces of public ones, each offering its own take on fostering knowledge and community. Alongside these insightful visits, our adventure trip added an element of excitement and camaraderie, giving us a chance to bond and enjoy some memorable experiences together. This mix of intellectual discovery and shared adventure has not only broadened our understanding but also brought us closer as a group, leaving us inspired and ready for new challenges."

(Aishath Hanan Waheed)

PDWLIS 2024 Learning Outcomes & Implementation Planning: Future of Maldives LIS

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Opening the Villa College Library to Community

Presented by
FATHIMATH ANOOSHA

Assistant Librarian,
Villa College
Final year BA-LIM student

As an Assistant Librarian at Villa College, Anoosha is responsible for the supervision of other team members, conducting orientation week and information literacy for the new intakes. She has also contributed to Villa College and UWE graduation tasks, as well as the ICSRI conference.

She is a final year BA-LIM student



Overview

This presentation highlights the numerous benefits of making Villa College Library accessible to the broader community. Key advantages include ensuring the Villa College Library is available to all individuals, including those with disabilities, both physically and digitally. The presentation emphasised the importance of resource availability, knowledge sharing, collaboration and partnerships, lifelong learning, community engagement, and the enhancement of the institution's reputation and prestige. Additionally, it underscores the significance of obtaining feedback for continuous improvement. The presentation also addresses several challenges the library currently face in opening its doors to the community, such as insufficient staffing, inadequate physical space, and a shortage of necessary facilities and resources. Furthermore, it provides an overview of the existing resources and equipment within the library which caters for the students and educators of Villa College.

Takeaway from the PDW-LIS 2024

“Overall, my PDW 2024 Indonesia experience was transformative. I gained new knowledge and skills along with innovative ideas for library development. The program taught me that being advanced isn't about modern infrastructure, but also showcasing culture and history in library spaces. I also enjoyed the Bromo and Malang experience, learning that with courage and creativity, anything is achievable.”

(Fathimath Anoosha)



A moment from Workshop Session 1



From Workshop Session 1

PDWLIS 2024 Learning Outcomes & Implementation Planning: Future of Maldives LIS

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Empowering Minds: Redefining MNU Libraries through Innovation, Access, and Community Engagement



Presented by
RISHFA IBRAHIM
Deputy Librarian,
The Maldives National University (MNU)

Rishfa began her career as a Librarian Trainee in 2001 and now she is the Deputy Librarian of MNU. Her main responsibilities include collection development, HR, conducting information literacy sessions and guiding library staff with technical works such as cataloguing and classification.

Overview

I would like to share my vision for transforming MNU libraries by integrating advanced technologies and encouraging community engagement. Inspired by my experience with the professional development workshop for librarians held in Singapore in 2023, I aim to elevate the MNU library to align with the standards of today's technological world. As information managers and disseminators, we should extend beyond the traditional confines of the library. MNU plays a vital role in nation-building across various domains. To fulfil this role, we must redefine the library as a catalyst for intellectual growth and creativity, making it a vibrant hub where knowledge meets opportunity for everyone. Achieving this vision involves designing inviting spaces that promote collaboration and exploration. To this end, several initiatives have been planned, including creating a creative art corner, establishing a snack corner with games, upgrading study rooms, and transforming the library terrace into an outdoor reading area.

Takeaway from the PDW-LIS 2024

"The professional development workshop was an energising and insightful event, showcasing the latest advancements in library services, from technology integration to community engagement. The workshops offered practical tools and forward-thinking strategies, while networking opportunities with global peers enriched the experience. It was a valuable platform for professional growth, inspiring fresh ideas for enhancing library impact."
(Rishfa Ibrahim)

WORKSHOP SESSION 3

Learning Outcomes & Implementation
Planning- Future of the Maldives



Workshop Session 2. Lead facilitator,
Dr. Gina de Alwis Jayasuriya

Part 2. Discussion, Recommendations and Plan of Action

The assignment for participants to create presentations focusing on one of the three broad themes worked very well. All the pre-recorded video submissions were screened during the workshop session and **offered insights into ongoing or planned projects**. The discussions show that the colleagues **face similar challenges, though on different scales**. The session facilitated great conversations to plan the way forward and participants shared they were impressed with the work done by some of their colleagues. One project which particularly stood out was Project 'Saruna', the Maldives National University Library Digital Repository. **The follow-up discussion was steered towards common challenges and potential projects that could be implemented in the short-term (1-2 years) to medium-term (3-5 years) for immediate benefits and impact.**

Common Challenges & Potential Projects in the Short to Medium Term

- **Utilisation of library spaces.** Two participants shared their proposed/approved plans for renovating libraries and the discussion revolved around adapting available spaces to meet seasonal user needs; storage of little-used library materials, etc.
- **Collection management.** Strategies for managing the collection more effectively viz a viz currency of the collection, space constraints, etc.
- **Identifying information needs of users.** The discussion revolved around the need to reach out to users in their comfort zones and the provision of targeted information services.
- **The potential of opening an Education Centre library in an atoll to the community.** Establish feasibility and timeline to start the project.
- **Importance of networking for libraries.** Explored the importance for the Maldives LIS community to establish formalised networking groups, for example, for the largest of the LIS community, the school librarians to engage more effectively with stakeholders and funders, and the development of guidelines.
- **Developing a set of Guidelines for School libraries.** The focus was on who should initiate and lead the project during the preliminary stages.

"The Surabaya PDW-LIS 2024 exceeded my expectations. The energetic group of participants demonstrated their passion for learning throughout the journey which was meticulously planned and led by the dedicated Coordinator. This augurs well for the future of LIS in the Maldives. Thank you for the opportunity to be part of a great experience."
(Gina de Alwis Jayasuriya)

At the end of the session, **the participants completed Worksheet 1**, reflecting on the PDW-LIS 2024 experience and key takeaways for implementing the individual projects.

Individual Professional Development Journey

Following a short presentation, participants **completed Worksheet 2, Individual Professional Development Journey**, which enabled them to focus on their career pathway. It was an opportunity for the participants to reflect on their professional and behavioural (soft) skill sets and steps to take to expand the skills portfolio based on their individual career plans.



WORKSHOP SESSION 3

Learning Outcomes & Implementation
Planning: Future of Maldives LIS

Participant feedback

- We gained information on how the Maldives can overcome the challenges faced by the unique geographical and cultural context of the Maldives. **I have better ideas of how libraries can advance their services** through technological advancements.
- It was great to hear about **the ideas some participants have planned** for upgrading the services. I would have loved to be able to discuss more helpful tips about how to overcome the challenges we face.
- The session was excellent. Gina miss's explanation and interaction made the session engaging and informative. **I wish we could have had more time to discuss planning in detail**, allowing for a deeper exploration of implementation strategies.
- The best part of this session is that **a fair amount of challenges for the libraries of Maldives were identified** and visions for the future of the libraries in the Maldives were proposed and discussed within the participant presentations.
- This **session was truly impactful** and memorable, as it featured an open discussion on challenges and strategies for overcoming them. It **effectively fostered critical thinking** skills among participants.
- **Interesting videos all the participants prepared.** I wish more time had been allocated to discuss the topics covered by each participant.
- It would be great to discuss the possible ways we can change the future of libraries and **ways to empower the librarians.**
- **Suggestions on how to overcome the challenges** we face, what the first steps can be, and so on **would be very useful.** We also require more time and discussion from both the Indonesian and Maldives sides.
- Gina Miss helped us to open our minds and not be restricted. She **encouraged us to think critically about what we could do** which was helpful.
- The **best part of the session was the short videos by the participants -- their ideas.** The discussions could be a bit longer (but I do understand that there were time constraints)
- The **discussion on creating a network of libraries** through our community and how we should have a Board with members who will make certain guidelines for all libraries to follow is insightful. If we can have the National Library implement it and be the backbone of this network, all the libraries of the Maldives can grow and advance to the level that we all dream of.
- The session was interesting as **we heard about ideas or concerns about each participant in the workshop.** Through the videos, we learned about the current status of their libraries and the future goals they have. It was inspiring.
- Many areas were identified that needed improvement. And it was **interesting to listen to everyone's ideas and discussions.** I wish we had one whole day to discuss this topic.



Planning for Development of the Maldives LIS Sector

Recommendations & Plan of Action

The key recommendations for stakeholders, as summarised during Workshop Session 3, are outlined below. Included are the timelines and proposed action plans to achieve these recommendations.

1 Establish a School Librarians Group under the aegis of MLA

Action by. Maldives Library Association (MLA)
Timeline. By December 2024

2 Develop School Library Guidelines for the Maldives

Phase 1. Appoint a committee comprising MLA members to spearhead preliminary planning and preparation of first draft.

Phase 2. Reach out to relevant stakeholders to form a national committee to move forward.

Action by. MLA School Librarians Group & MLA office bearers
Timeline. Phase 1. March 2025

3 Library Statistics

Compile lists of library statistics that may be collected by the different types of libraries to guide standardisation and demonstrate the value of libraries to stakeholders.

Action by. MLA Council appointed Office-bearer & one representative from each library type.
Timeline. October / December 2025

4 Training Programs

MLA to liaise with the National Library Training Institute to coordinate the provision of in-service training open to working librarians.

Program to be customised based on individual needs. These training programs may be offered in-house at other libraries such as MNU that are willing to be part of the project.

Action by. MLA Training Officer with National Library Training Institute
Timeline. Initiate discussion by Dec 2024

5 Training courses offered by Maldives CSTI

Conduct an awareness campaign targeted at school librarians informing them they are eligible to sign-up for training programs on soft/behavioural and IT skills, etc. offered by CSTI

Action by. MLA School Librarians Group
Timeline. June 2025

6 Post-PDWLIS follow-up

1. Schedule a Webinar to obtain feedback on the status of the individual projects and ideas implemented following PDWLIS 2024.
2. Schedule a Webinar on the Individual Professional Development Journey.

Action by. PDWLIS Organising Committee & Facilitators
Timeline. May 2025 / Nov 2025

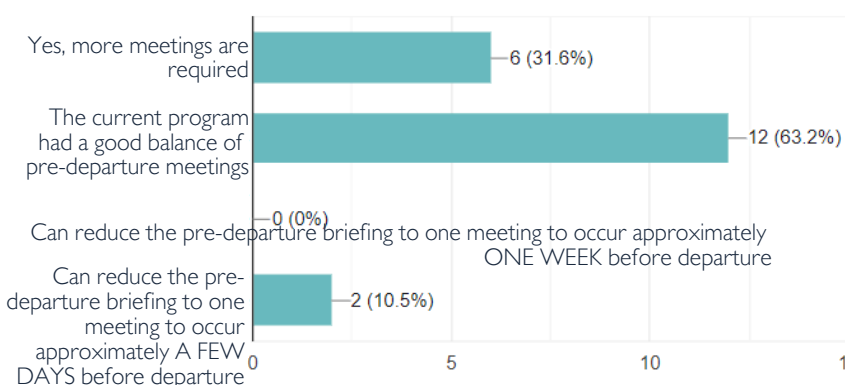


PROGRAM EVALUATION

The following summary is a small component of the feedback recieved through the Anonymous Evaluation Form collected at the end of the trip to Indonesia which helped capture the strengths and weaknesses of PDW-LIS 2024.

For future PDWL events, should there be more pre-departure meetings?

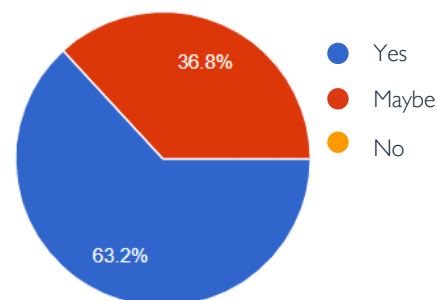
19 responses



Anonymous Feedback

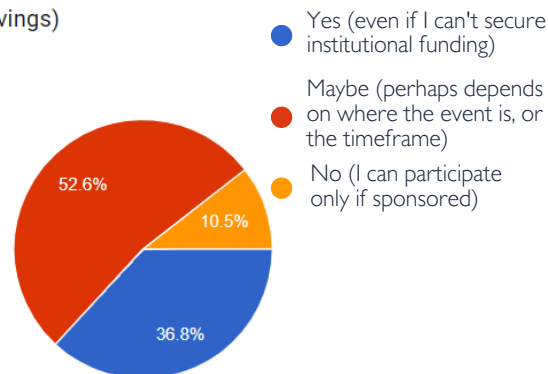
Do you want to participate in future similar PDWL events?

19 responses



Are you willing to self-fund for similar future events. (Self-funding means finding your own funding through well-wishers or your own savings)

19 responses

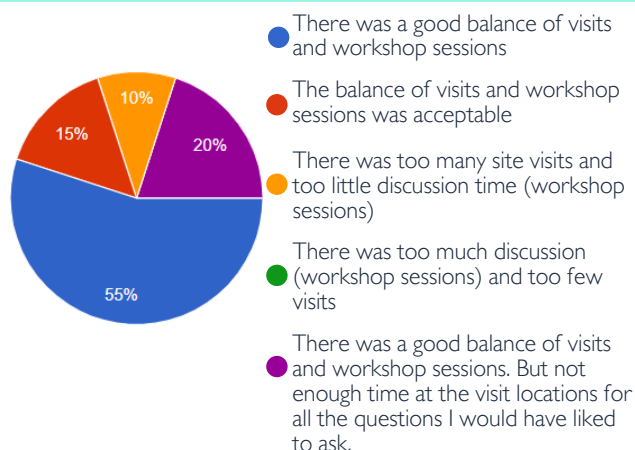


Open Feedback for future planning (Worksheet 3)

A learning outcomes worksheet was circulated to understand the takeaways for the participants from the programmed visits and sessions, as a measure of the impact of the PDW-LIS 2024. The following data is a small component of this feedback. The learning outcomes responses have been summarised in the earlier sections on guided visits, information sessions, and workshop sessions.

Q14. Refer to the detailed justification of 8-day travel given for the earlier question. Taking these into consideration, how would you rate the balance of exposure and visits to LIS sites?

20 responses



Q15. Irrespective of your joining future PDW-LIS events, what TOPICS do you suggest for workshop sessions for future PDW-LIS? (20 respondents)

Cyber Security for Librarians | Outreach to Remote Communities | How to Create Better Libraries in the Maldives | Collaboration with overseas libraries | Designing effective library spaces and services | Strategies for promoting library services | Research in LIS | Digitisation and library automation | Strategies for engaging users in library activities | Service provision with minimal budget | Quality standards and ISO | Family archiving | Preservation & conservation | Social media influence on libraries | Library Program Planning | Inclusive Library Services | Collaboration with teachers | Advanced Techniques in Conservation and Restoration | Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Applications in Library Services | Next-Generation Library Spaces | Library Leadership and Change Management | Inclusive & Accessible Library Services with Community Engagement and Outreach | Digital Literacy and Information Literacy Training | Leveraging artificial intelligence in libraries | Future Trends in Library Technology | Implementing Sustainable Practices in Libraries | Code of ethics for librarians | Teaching skills as librarians | Communication skills as librarians | Digital Inclusion and Accessibility | Data Literacy and Management

Participants' Anonymous Feedback from the Workshop Evaluation Form - Final Question

Any further input you want to share about PDW-LIS 2024?

Waiting for the chartered bus, for the final trip of the day. @PCU

"The best professional development experience I have received in my 20 years as a librarian. Would love to participate in more of similar workshops."

"I love the Community Library, which we can do in Villingili or any other island."

"Programs like PDW-LIS are instrumental and must be continuous programs to build better library professionals and enhance library services as per the changing information needs of the current society."

"Excellent preparation, managed within the time frame. Learned so many new things such as utilising current space to the fullest."

"I am impressed by the professional lessons."

"Experienced an awe-inspiring community library that we can replicate in islands. Also, impressive respect was observed between Indonesian librarians."

"During my past 20 plus years in this field I had been to many countries. However, I can say this is one of the very best coordinated event."

"I think we should put the ideas we have in to action with a good plan."

"It would be very very helpful to get a person from Ministry of Education to join the workshop as they need to see what the libraries are like in modern areas and get an idea about implementing those in the Maldives."

"Conduct internship or staff exchange programs that provides librarians to get an opportunity to experience the working environment."

"Should conduct more training sessions including people from library related institutions so that they will know the ways of libraries."

"Should work on getting everyone's opinion, ideas and involvement."

"Could have included one day for shopping at least."

"Well organised and managed. Coordination is excellent, and tried to meet individual requests and adjusted to last minute demands. Looking forward to similar exposure trips in the future."

"I truly believe that workshops like these are crucial for the advancement of the library field in the Maldives. I am deeply honoured to have been selected to be part of this enriching journey and am sincerely grateful for the opportunity."

"PDW-LIS combines modern technology with personalised & flexible learning methods to help us stay updated and effective in our careers."

"It's been a pleasure and got many ideas and suggestions on how to develop the library and the arrangements in libraries to maximise the use of the spaces with the library."

"One extra day."

"I'm glad for this opportunity it is a great workshop. One of the best experience."

"I want everyone to work together to make this event an enjoyable experience and take back some good memories from this trip and I would like to say thank you so much [organisers'] caring and kindness towards everyone."

"Thank you for the wonderful opportunity, it has definitely been a learning journey."

Acknowledgements

This series of workshops materialised thanks to the enthusiasm of the first batch of BA-LIM students. The first exposure tour in this series was conducted in Singapore in 2023 with the extraordinary voluntary support and facilitation of Dr **Gina de Alwis Jayasuriya**. With the success of the first workshop, discussions ensued with other prospective networks.

This year's event is thanks to my Indonesian colleague from Curtin University, **Aditya Nugraha** (Dr Liauw Toong Tjiek), as the liaison between FPPTI and MNU-FA. Conversations are also ongoing for similar PDW events in Perth, Australia, Lahore, Pakistan and a repeat event in Singapore. The ripple effect from the success story is visible and we foresee a bright future.

Participation in the first two workshops was mostly self-funded by the individuals. Fundraising events were organised at MNU to provide financial support to assist BA-LIM students with travel expenses. We are grateful to the **MNU community** and everyone who supported the effort. Also, heartfelt thanks to all the staff of **MNU Faculty of Arts** for their support and encouragement. Special appreciation to the Dean of FA, Mr. **Asim Abdul Sattar**, and the MNU marketing team.

We also greatly appreciate the **Maldives Library Association** (MLA) for their significant contribution as the largest donor supporting this exposure workshop introduced for MNU students. Furthermore, through the collaboration of MLA, in-service librarians have been able to participate in this professional development event. Fourteen of the 22 PDW-LIS 2024 participants have been nominated by MLA.

We also appreciate **Villa College** for their dedicated participation in sponsoring a library staff member, and the **Maldives National University** and the **People's Majlis (Parliament)** of the Maldives for sponsoring two librarians each through their professional development budget and demonstrating their commitment to excellence through staff empowerment. I also have utmost respect to the **participants who self-funded** this professional development journey. A curious mind will relentlessly pursue questions, unlocking solutions along the way. I hope to see many more professionals in the Maldives who instil a mindset that propels growth and investment in self-learning.

Last but not least, this event was a success thanks to the wonderful **FPPTI team and associates** in Indonesia who ensured a comfortable stay for us and arranged a wonderful itinerary to visit important sites that can offer us the best learning experience. We are immensely indebted to the hospitality and kindness extended to us. In the same breath, I extend my sincere gratitude to our **participants and the leaders** for all the support and effort in making the best use of this learning opportunity. Thank you everyone!

Aminath Riyaz

PDW-LIS 2024 Maldives Tour Logistic Leaders and Teams for the Trip

Steering Committee: Aminath Riyaz, Fathimath Nashfa (Leader of Teams), Team Leaders: (1) Mahasin Ahmed Didi, (2) Athiyya Shakeel, (3) Ajra Rafeeq, (4) Aminath Naasiha, (5) Rishfa Ibrahim, (6) Thuzuhath Ahmed, (7) Dhooma Ahmed

Team 1: Mahasin Ahmed Didi, Nasheeda Mohamed, Aishath Hanan Waheed, Fathimath Anoosha

Team 2: Athiyya Shakeel, Aminath Shiuna, Nasreena, Sanfa Hassan

Team 3: Ajra Rafeeq, Fathimath Nashfa, Shehenaz Mohamed, Aishath Nazeeha

Team 4: Aminath Naasiha, Thuzuhath Ahmed, Shadiya Waheed, Dhooma Ahmed

Team 5: Rishfa Ibrahim, Aminath Zumarradh, Majida Ali, Mariyam Sobeetha

Public Relations Team: Thuzuhath Ahmed, Fathimath Nashfa, Athiyya Shakeel

Treasurer: Dhooma Ahmed

1. Bus trip from Airport to the Square
2. Coban Rondo Waterfall
3. Mount Bromo sunrise view expedition
4. From the rim of Tengger Caldera

CLICKS FROM SOME OF THE CULTURAL EXPOSURE
IN SURABAYA, MALANG AND BROMO, INDONESIA



Mount Bromo trip was the most significant highlight outside of the formal workshop sessions and visits. For people from the tiny island nation of Maldives which is well-known as the flattest land on earth, the mountains and waterfalls are magical places of discovery.

PDW-LIS 2024

28 July to 3 August 2024

Surabaya and Malang, Indonesia
WORKSHOP REPORT

Exploring information service centers in different countries presents a special chance to experience firsthand the impactful role of modern library services. Attendees acquire knowledge about the changing roles of libraries, discover cutting-edge technologies, and understand effective library management and user engagement strategies. The guided study visits, information sessions, and workshop sessions motivate participants to welcome change, adopt new technologies, and enhance libraries in their own organisations.



<https://fa.mnu.edu.mv>



MALDIVES
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<https://infomalias.org>



<https://fppti.org.id>

2024
Department of Social Sciences,
Faculty of Arts,
The Maldives National University

*"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."
(Nelson Mandela).
"Live as if you were to die tomorrow;
Learn as if you were to live forever."
(Mahatma Gandhi).*