

# THE STRATEGIC ROLE OF GOVERNMENT LIBRARIES IN PROVIDING EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT THE PREPARATION OF VNRS: NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MALDIVES EXPERIENCE WITH VNR 2023

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30<sup>th</sup> March 2023



IFLA Regional Division  
Committee  
Asia-Oceania



NATIONAL LIBRARY OF THE MALDIVES

# About

- Maldives
- Libraries
- National Library
- Some statistics
- Getting connected with IFLA
- VNR 2023 experience
- Way forward



# Maldives

- Population: 400,000
- 1190 islands: only 187 islands are inhabited
- Main occupation: Tourism & fishing
- Currency: Maldivian rufiyaa
- Language: Dhivehi
- Medium of language in schools: English
- Literacy: 98%



# Libraries in Maldives

- One National Library (also functions as the main Public Library)
- University Libraries
- College Libraries
- School Libraries (75%)
- Council Public libraries
- Private/ Individual libraries

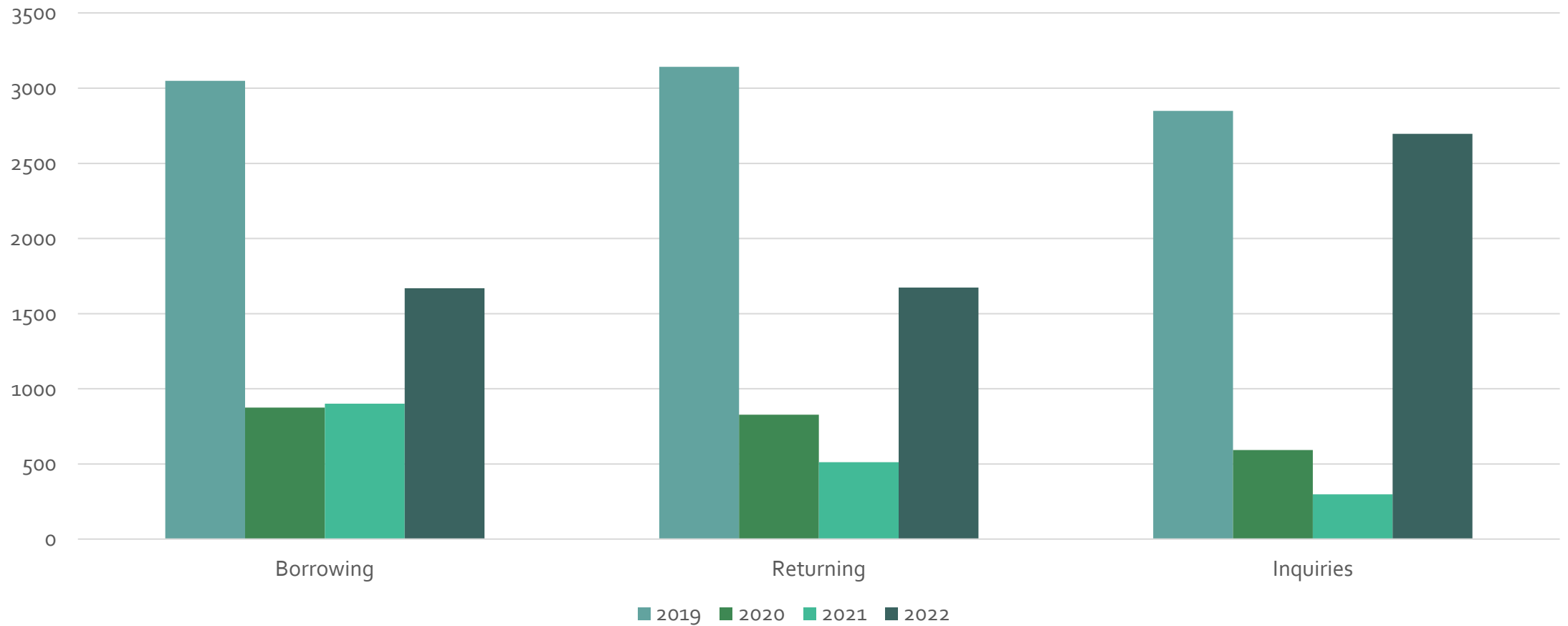


# National Library

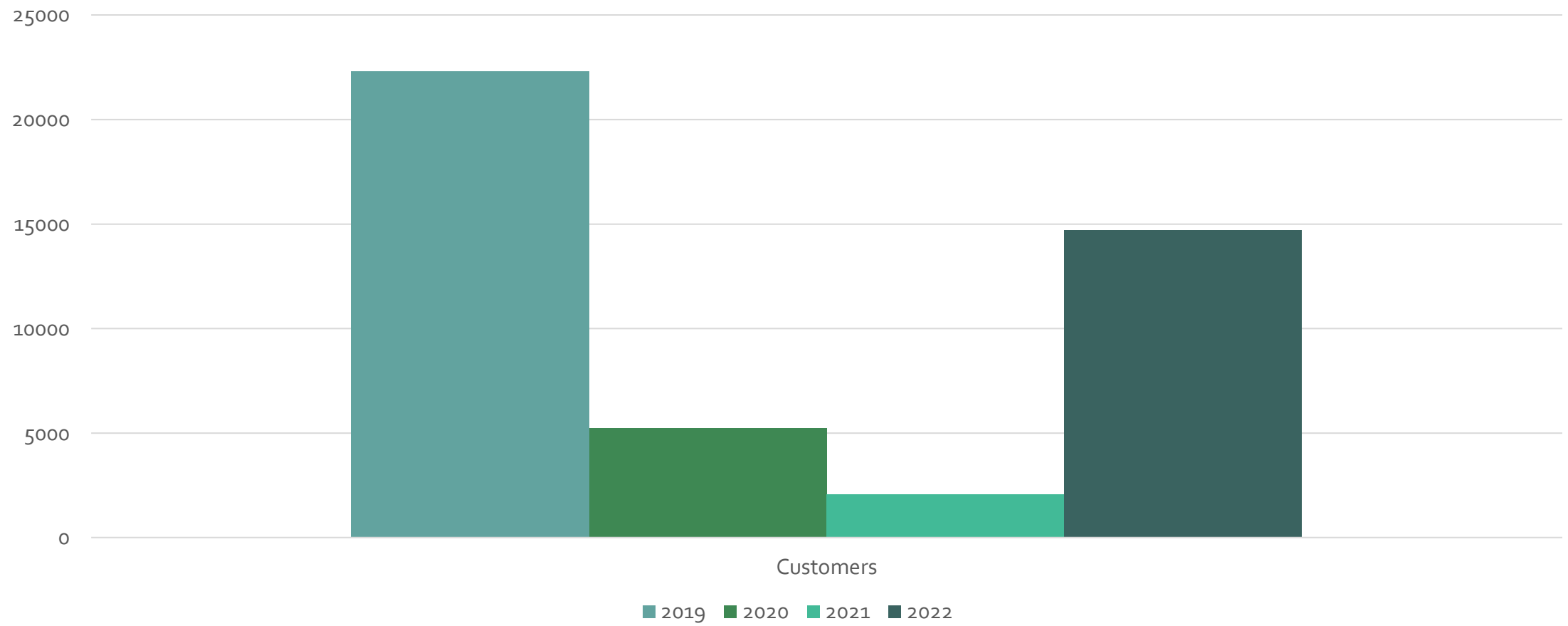
- Established in 1945
- Three main collections: National collection, Dhivehi collection and English Collection
- Services given include Circulation, Membership, Reference, Wifi, Internet, Photocopying, scanning, Quiet Study Room, Group Study Room, Internships and access to E-resources.



# National Library Usage



# Library Visits



# Opportunity: IFLA and National Library

- IFLA Regional workshop of Asia and Oceania in November 2022 paved the way for proactive involvement with UN SDGs.
- Mentoring, tools and resources provided to engage at National level
- Reaching out to key stakeholders (UN in Maldives)





# VNR

- Participation of National Library in the second VNR 2023 of Maldives held on 15, 16 and 19 March 2023 led by Ministry of National Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
- Economic Inclusion and Resiliency
  - Human Capital and Reduced Inequalities
  - Inclusive and Sustained Economic Growth and Fiscal Sustainability
  - Sustainable Cities and Communities and Resilient Infrastructure
- Environment and Climate Adaptation
  - **Clean Water** and Sanitation, Clean Energy
  - Conservation and Sustainable Marine Resource Use
  - Sustainable Consumption and Use of Terrestrial Ecosystem
  - Climate Action

# VNR 2023

- Social Wellbeing
  - Good Health and Wellbeing
  - Quality Education
  - Gender Equality and Empowerment of Girls and Women
  - Access to Justice

## Discussion

- Indicators, Concerns/Risks, Emerging Issues, Most left behind, Security and Safety Risks, Action to be taken (Near [1-2years], Medium[5 years] and Long term[7 years] reporting, Effect of Connectivity (Physical and Digital)

# Achievements

- In this case the National Library got the opportunity to highlight and share the importance of an impartial information space for the promotion of information sharing across the SDGs during the VNR
- Identify ways of contributing evidence and data to SDGs
- Share VNR library success stories from other countries
- Linking library strategies to SDGs
- Passing the message of the Importance of Data and Knowledge hubs and repositories with Communities of Practice which can be active and enhanced with libraries in Maldives.
- Share the opportunities to engage and collaborate with other relevant stakeholders like the Maldives Library Association and WaterCare
- Becoming a knowledge hub for SDGs

# CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL

SDG 6

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023  
World Water Day



A promotional graphic for World Water Day 2023. It features a colorful hummingbird on the left. The text "BE THE CHANGE YOU WANT SEE IN THE WORLD" is written in large, bold, yellow and blue letters. In the top right corner, there are logos for "UN WATER 22 MARCH WORLD WATER DAY 2023 Accelerating Change", the UN logo, and "UN 2023 WATER CONFERENCE NEW YORK 22-24 MARCH 2023".

*Knowledge in Action*

Thank you!

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