

PRESS RELEASE



Goethe-Institut Jakarta Enhances Sustainable Resource Sharing through Expansion of Its Library of Things

JAKARTA – The library at the Goethe-Institut Jakarta is expanding its Library of Things collection from one to four categories this year, enhancing sustainable resource sharing. The product range now includes equipment and utensils from four main areas: kitchen, DIY (Do It Yourself), outdoor activities, and hobby items, expanding from the initial 19 items to 38 items in total.

The Library of Things was launched in 2023, initially with a category for kitchen utensils and appliances. The collection offers practical items that are often only needed occasionally and therefore do not necessarily have to be purchased individually, such as a pressure cooker, a badminton net, a pair of trekking poles, and an electric drill. The collection also provides some tools and appliances such as a pair of padel rackets, a guitalele, an instant camera, or an air fryer, which can be borrowed by people who want to try them before buying them.

“The Library of Things is built on the principle of the sharing economy: instead of owning items individually, we enable collective access and a more efficient use of resources. With the expansion of our collection—now including not only kitchen tools but also DIY equipment, outdoor gear, and hobby items—we hope to encourage even more people to discover and make use of this service,” said Nathalie Sugondho, Head of the Library at Goethe-Institut Jakarta.

The Library of Things initiative allows items to remain in circulation for longer and offers opportunities to discover new interests, try out creative projects, or develop practical skills. Over the past few years, the concept has been adopted in various libraries in Germany, namely student and municipal libraries in big cities such as the Berlin, Bremen, and Frankfurt Municipal Libraries. This development reflects a general trend in German libraries towards supplementing services with resources that can be used collectively, and hopefully this can also be embraced by more Indonesian libraries.

To borrow items from the Goethe-Institut Jakarta’s Library of Things, one needs to be a member of the library. For the membership, a KTP or a domicile statement letter from the Jabodetabek area is mandatory. Once the borrower is registered, items can be borrowed in accordance with the applicable borrowing conditions and returned when the loan period expires. Further information on the categories, loan periods, and return regulations is available on www.goethe.de/perpusbenda or can be obtained by sending enquiries to the library’s WhatsApp number on +62 812-1882-9013.

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About Goethe-Institut

The Goethe-Institut is the Federal Republic of Germany’s cultural institute, active worldwide. We promote the study of German abroad and encourage international cultural exchange. We also provide a comprehensive image of Germany through information on German political, social and cultural life. Our various cultural and educational programs support intercultural dialogue and enable cultural participation. These various programs strengthen the structures of civil society and support global mobility.

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