The National Library of Jamaica (NLJ)

Vision Statement
In 2020, the National Library of Jamaica is the preferred source of knowledge on Jamaica’s history, and culture and heritage.

Mission Statement
The mission of the NLJ is to support national development through collecting, cataloguing, preserving and providing information about Jamaica’s history and cultural heritage and to promote a thriving network of libraries and services.

About the (NLJ)
The National Library of Jamaica was established in 1979 under the Institute of Jamaica Act of 1978. It originated from the collection of the West India Reference Library (WIRL) which was founded in 1894 as a section of the Public Library of the Institute of Jamaica.

The establishment of the National Library was influenced by proposals which date back to the 1960’s when the need for such an institution was identified by the Jamaica Library Association and other interested organizations. The establishment of a national library was one of the principal recommendations of the Plan for a National Documentation, Information and Library System for Jamaica, produced in 1977 by the National Council on Libraries, Archives and Documentation Services [NACOLADS].

The National Library of Jamaica has appointed a committee to serve as an advisory body on the development and coordination of JAMLIN.

The National Library of Jamaica through the National Library of Jamaica Act, has been assigned the responsibility of coordinating the development of the JAMLIN.

The Jamaica Libraries and Information Network (JAMLIN) formerly the National Information System (NATIS) comprises libraries, archives, information and documentation units, which collect documents and publications in all formats (print, audiovisual and electronic) and make these available to satisfy the information needs of the nation.

The National Library of Jamaica, nlj.gov.jm/