Narrow the Gap of the Digital Divide

How NSTL Contributes

(National Science and Technology Library)

Xiaomu XU

National Science Library, Chinese Academy of Sciences

IFLA ILDS 2019 . . . . . Prague.

Beyond the paywall: Resource sharing in a disruptive ecosystem

CC BY NC ND

CONTENTS

1. The causes of the digital divide in mainland China

2. What is NSTL

3. How NSTL contributes to the digital divide (geographic, economic, socio-demographic, international)

4. Summary & Future expectations

01

Causes of the digital divide In China

1.1 Geographical condition

- The terrain of China rises from east coast to west interior
- It was difficult to set up network facilities in some complex terrain

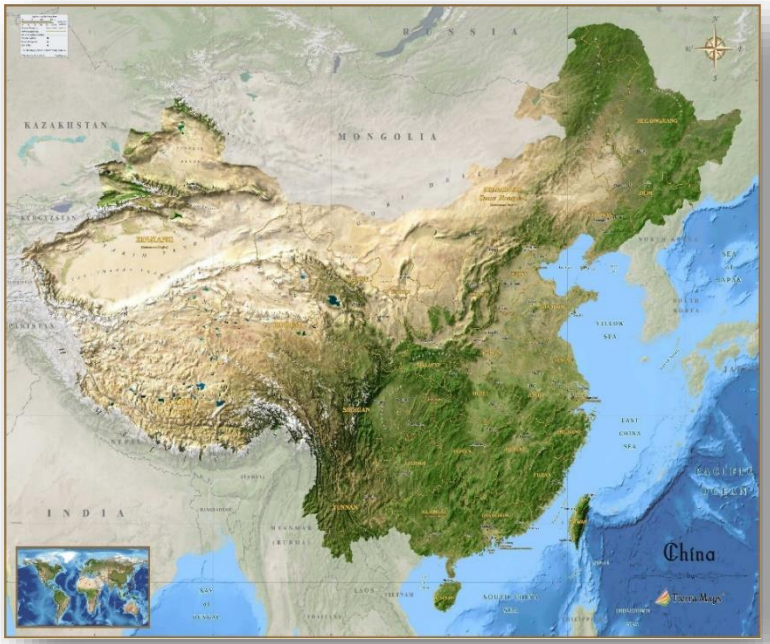


Figure 1.The terrain of China.

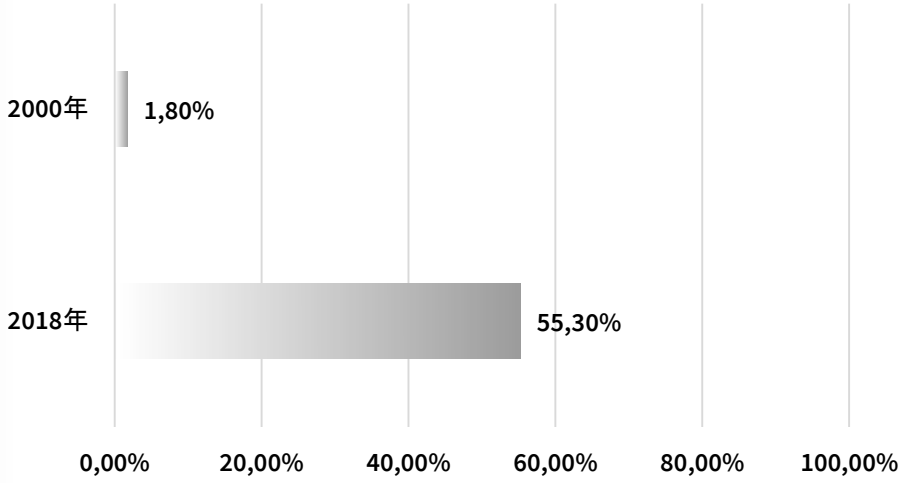


Figure 2. The number of Internet users in China [1].

[1] National Bureau of Statistic of China. http://data.stats.gov.cn.

1.2 Economic development

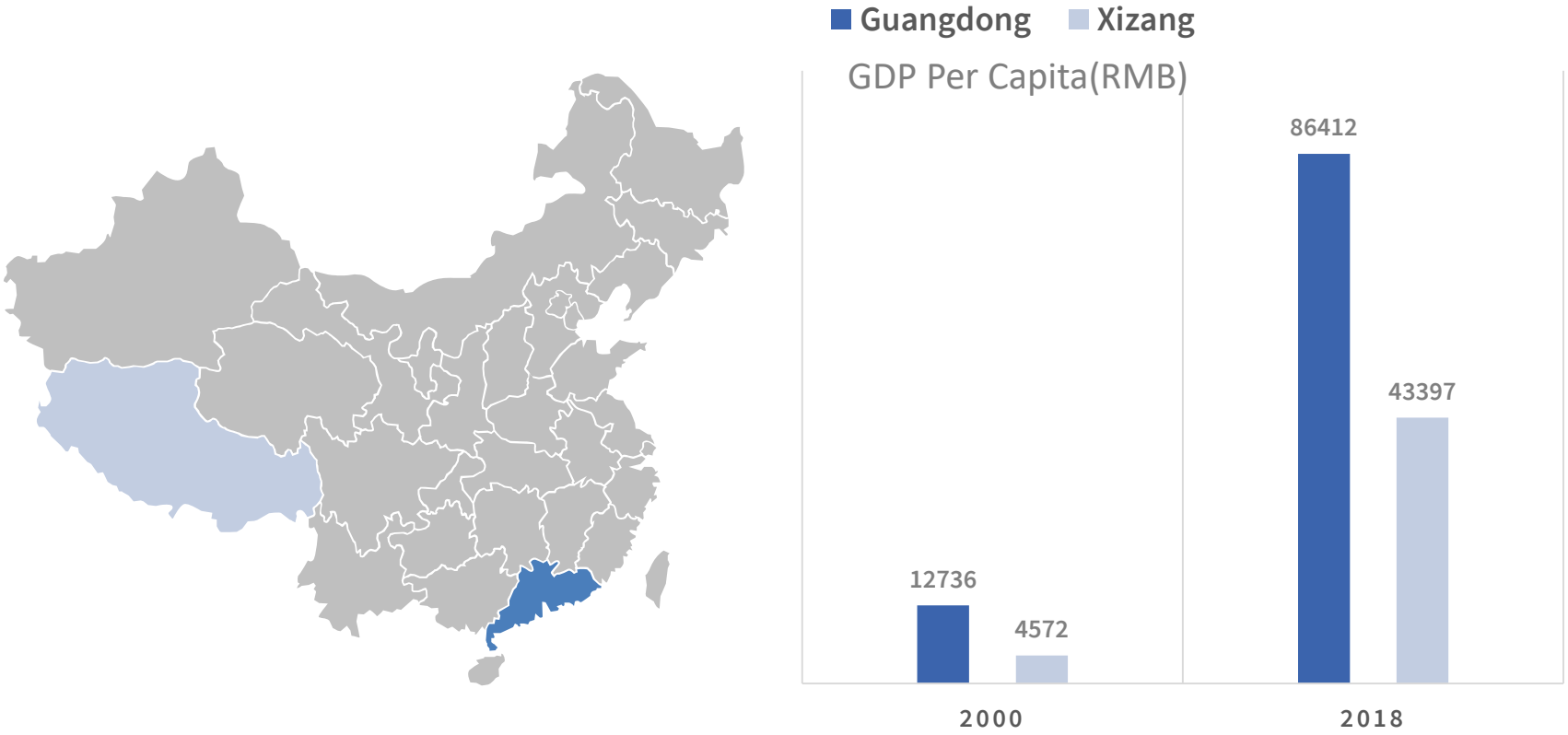


Figure 3. GDP per capita of the Guangdong and Xizang Provinces in 2000 and 2018 [1].

[1] National Bureau of Statistic of China. http://data.stats.gov.cn.

1.3 Socio-demographic difference

02

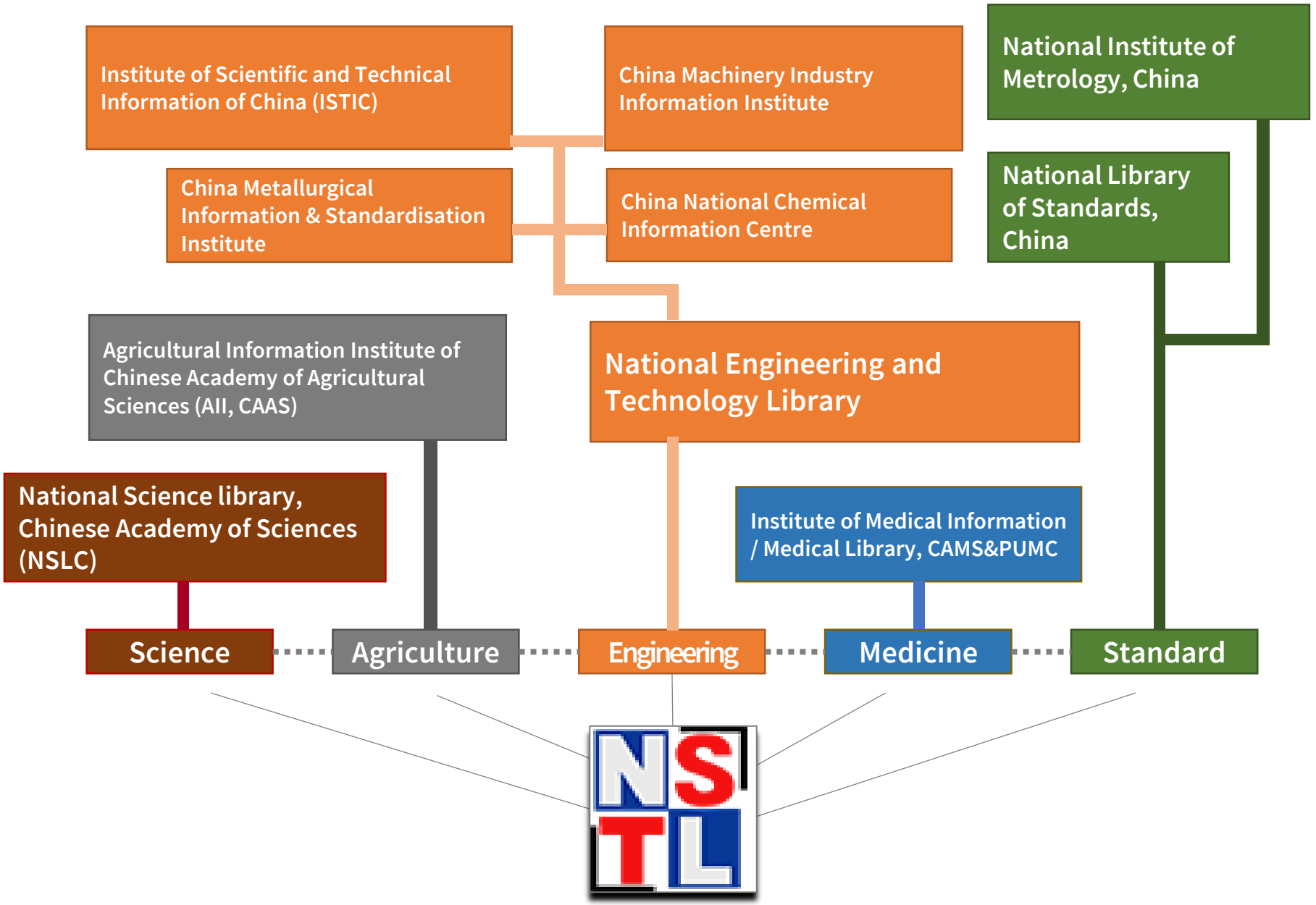
What is NSTL

2.1 Framework & Principles

- Formally established in Beijing in 2000
- Non-profit institution and fully funded by the national government
- A virtual information unit based on the network platform

www.nstl.gov.cn

- ***unified procurement***
- ***standardised processing***
- ***joint cataloguing***
- ***resource sharing***

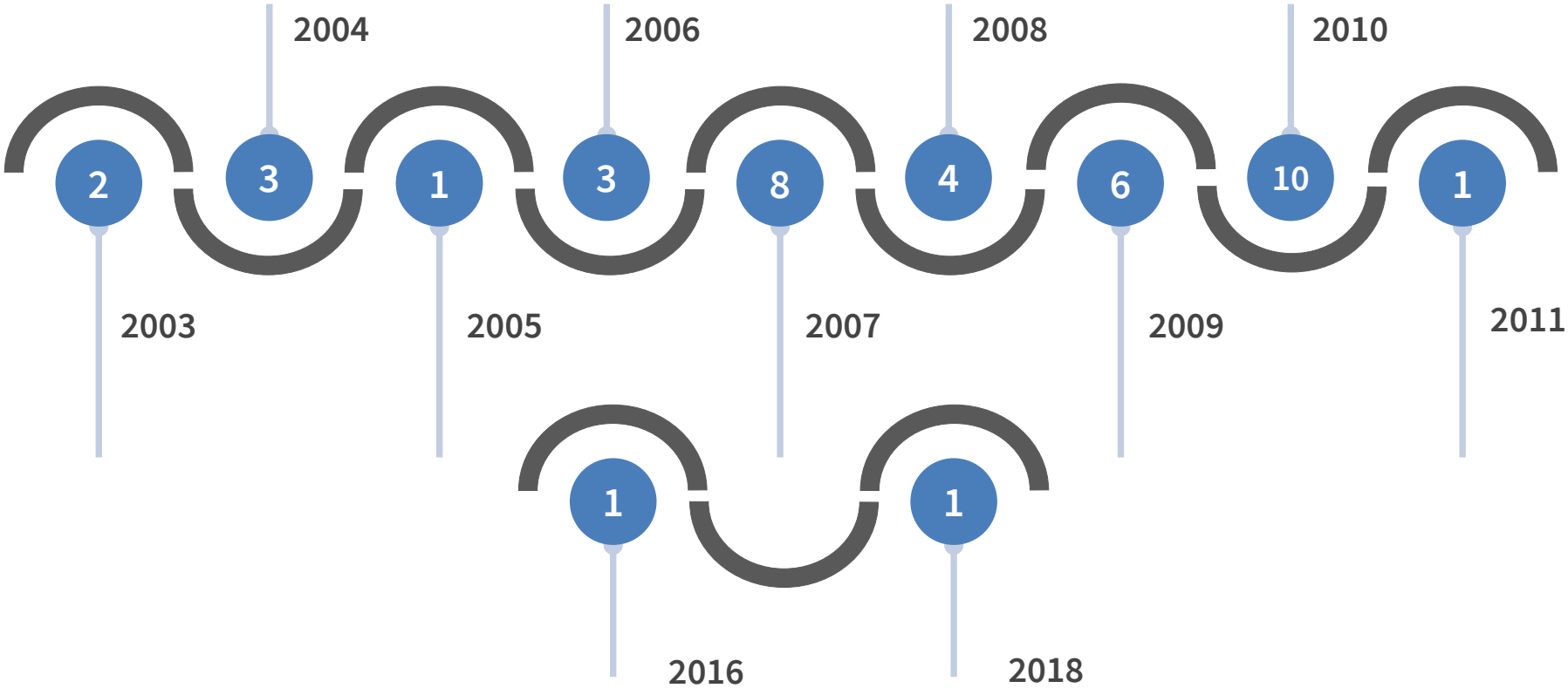

Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China (ISTIC)
China Machinery Industry Information Institute
National Institute of Metrology, China
China Metallurgical Information & Standardisation Institute
China National Chemical Information Centre
National Library of Standards, China
Agricultural Information Institute of Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (AII, CAAS)
National Engineering and Technology Library
National Science library, Chinese Academy of Sciences (NSLC)
Institute of Medical Information / Medical Library, CAMS&PUMC
Science
Agriculture
Engineering
Medicine
Standard
NSTL

03

How NSTL contributes?

3.1 Elimination of the geographic divide

- Service stations were established gradually
- Establish regional academic liaison and balance network load levels



3.1 Elimination of the geographic divide

Now, service stations:

- Participate in projects, research, activities
- Contribute to regional science and technology development

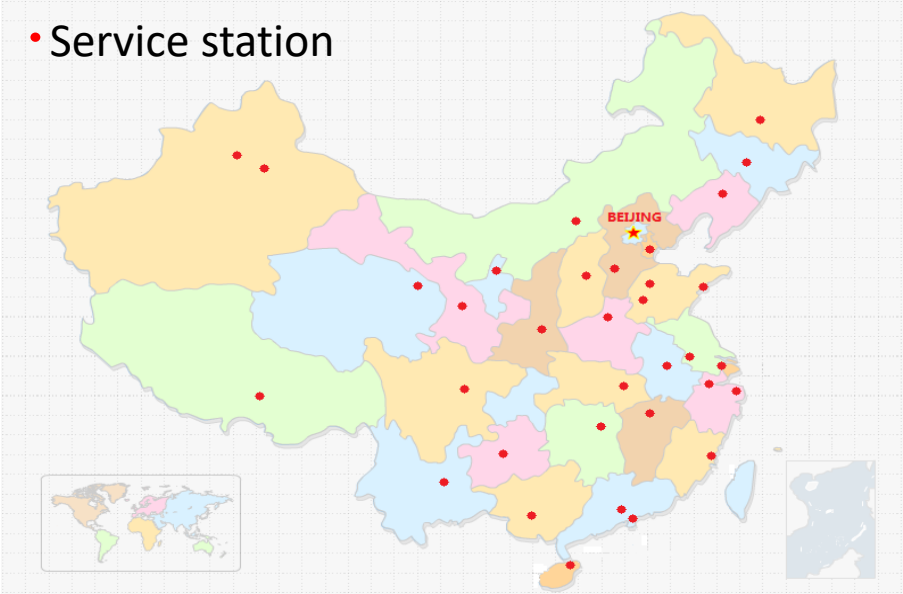


Figure 4. National Distribution of NSTL Service Stations

- ✓ 40 service stations, covering 29 provinces of China
- ✓ Over 50% services are provided by service stations

3.2 Elimination of the economic divide

Purchasing printed resources

- The number of various of foreign print resources purchased is nearly 25,000 each year
- The total number of types of print literature is over 275,000

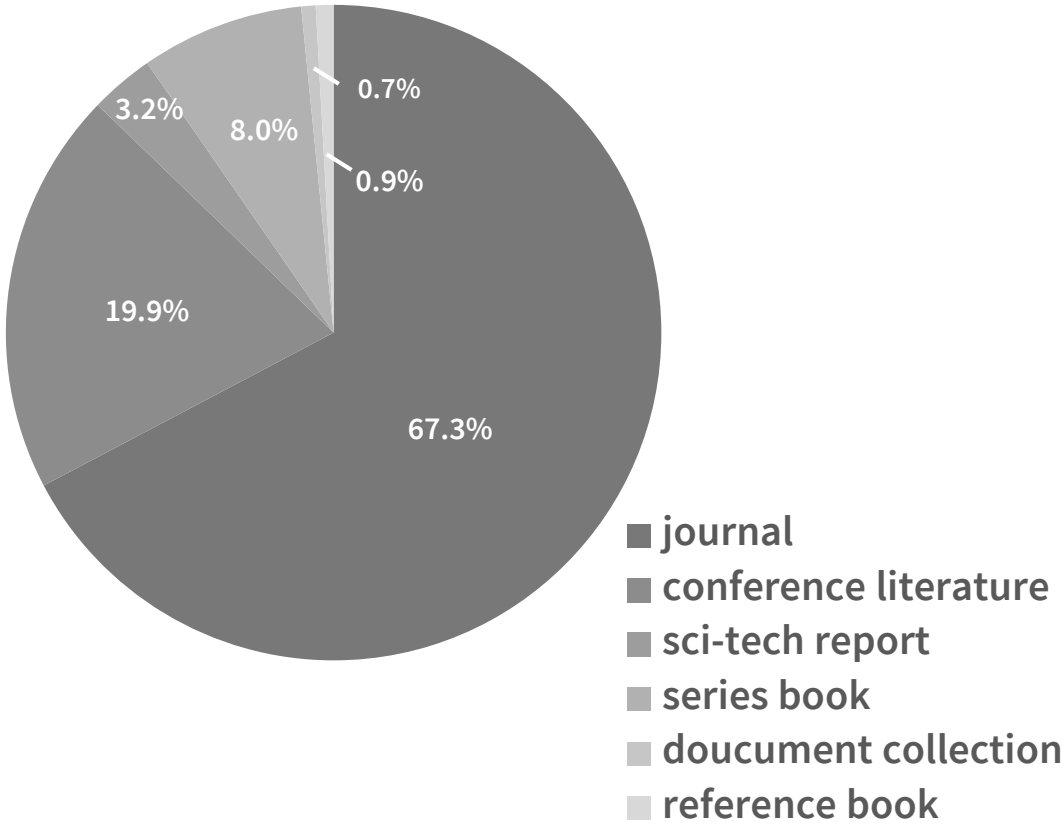
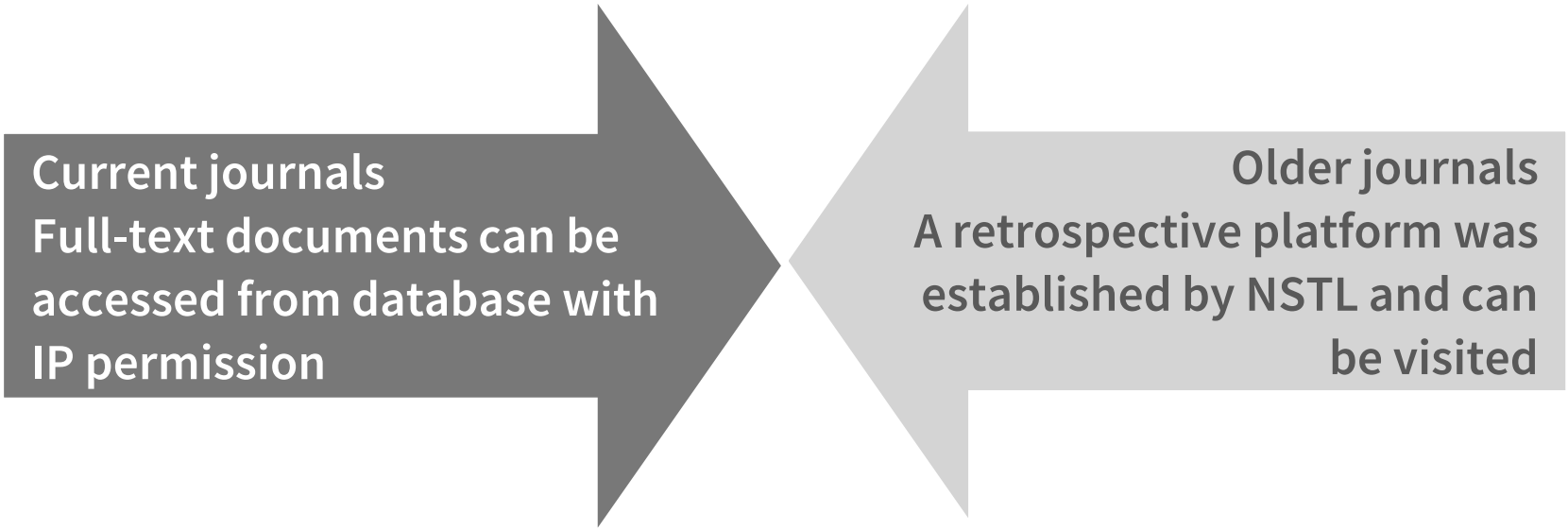


Figure 5.The Proportion Distribution of Different Types of NSTL Purchased Printed Resources in 2018

3.2 Elimination of the economic divide

Purchasing electronic resources

- “National Licenses”
- Over 3000 kinds of electronic journals
- Free for public welfare and educational group users



3.2 Elimination of the economic divide

Print resources

- ✓ Full-text can be searched and ordered
- ✓ Reasonable price (half-price for poor areas)
- ✓ Over 400,000 orders each year

- ✓ More than 900 non-profit institutions
- ✓ Continue to expand to group users in southwest, northwest and northeast China

Electronic resources

3.3 Elimination of socio-demographic differences

Integrated retrieval system

2018

Click
154,000,000

Search
9,670,000

3.3 Elimination of socio-demographic differences

Trainings and events

2018

120 events

3.3 Elimination of socio-demographic differences

Special team for the Xinjiang & Xizang provinces

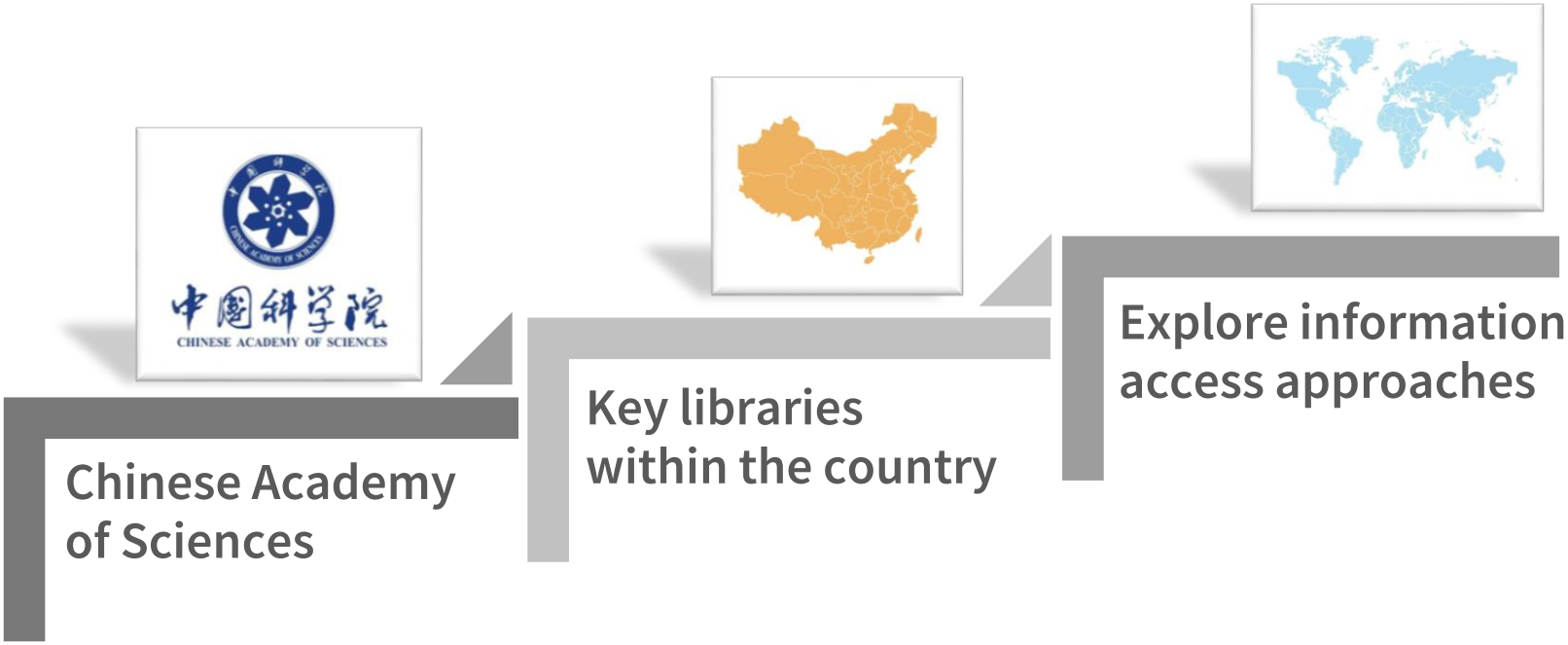
Information reports

Librarian exchange trainings

Local activities

3.4 Elimination of international gaps

e.g. National Science Library, Chinese Academy of Sciences (NSLC)



3.4 Elimination of international gaps

National level

- The National Library
- The Shanghai Library
- The China Academic Library & Information System (CALIS)
- The National Geological Library of China

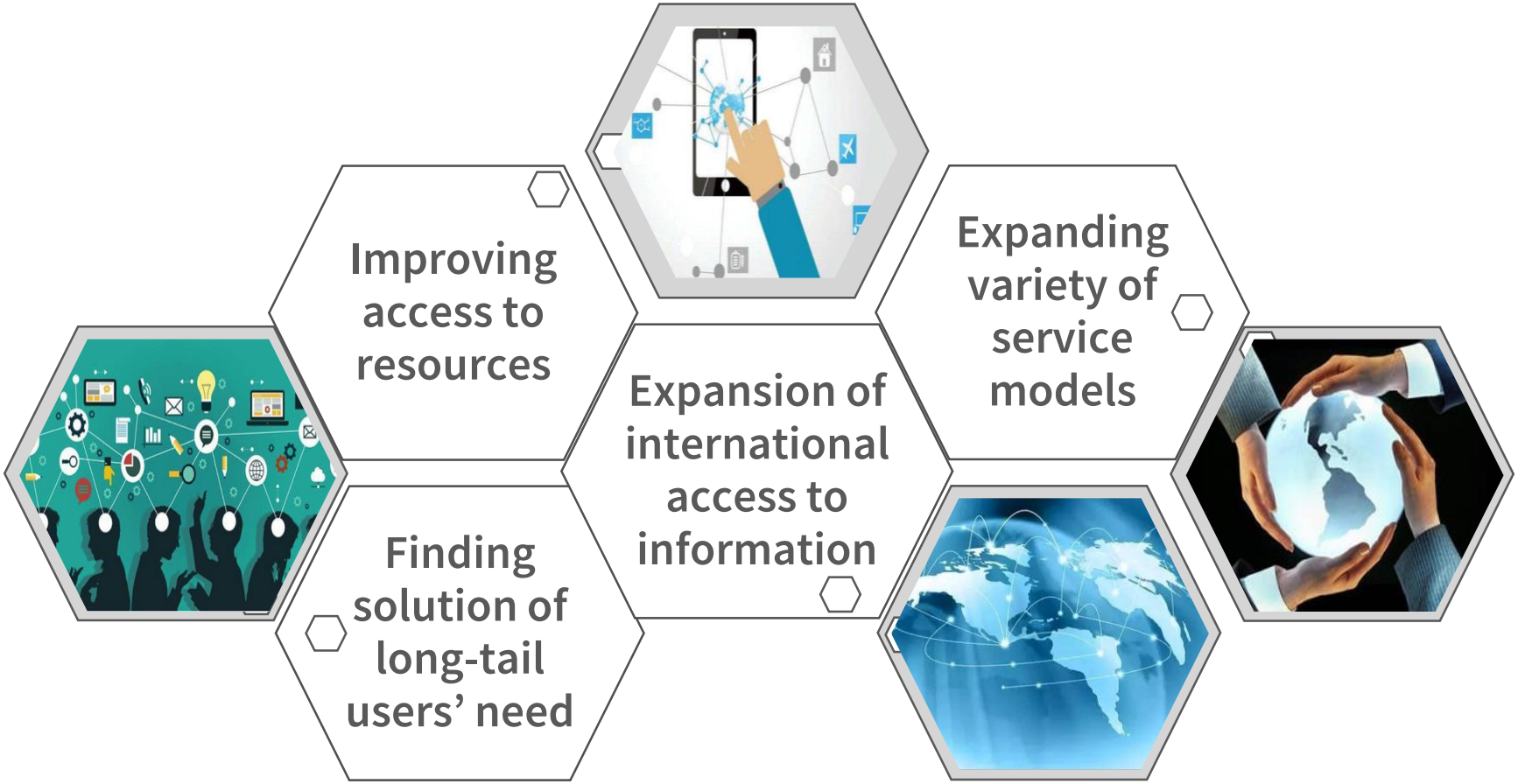
International level

- The SUBTIO
- The British Library
- The East Asian Library of Pittsburgh University

04

Summary & Future expectations

4. Summary & Future expectations



Thank you for listening !

Xiaomu Xu

National Science Library, Chinese Academy of Sciences

Email: xuxm@mail.las.ac.cn

National Science and Technology Library

A New Start to Terrific Life

www.nstl.gov.cn