



IRCI

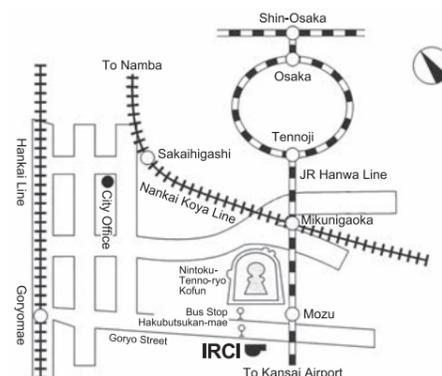
National Institutes for Cultural Heritage, Japan
**International Research Centre
 for Intangible Cultural Heritage
 in the Asia-Pacific Region**

2021



National Institutes for Cultural Heritage, Japan
**International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage
 in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI)**

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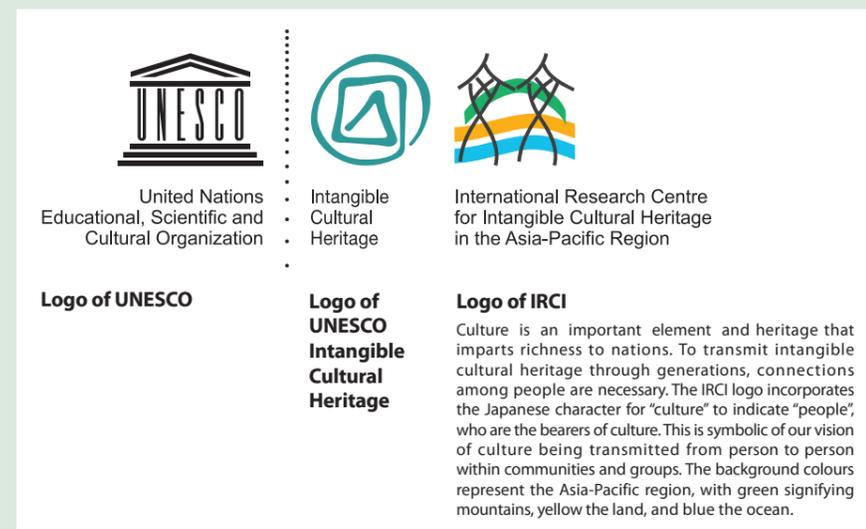


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IRCI and UNESCO

Introduction of IRCI

Greetings / Overview of IRCI

IRCI celebrates the 10th Anniversary of its establishment on 1 October 2021. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all those who have provided various support and cooperation for IRCI's research activities in this decade.

The International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI) was established as a Category 2 Centre of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). At the 35th Session of the General Conference of UNESCO held in 2009, the proposal of the "Establishment in Japan of the International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region as a Category 2 Centre under the auspices of UNESCO" was approved. In August of the following year, the Agreement was concluded between the Government of Japan and UNESCO and the Centre officially opened in Sakai City, Osaka, as one of the institutions of the National Institutes for Cultural Heritage (NICH) of Japan. IRCI aims to promote the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (the 2003 Convention) and its implementation, as well as to enhance the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage (ICH) by instigating and coordinating research in the Asia-Pacific region.

ICH elements such as oral traditions and expressions, performing arts, and rituals are living heritage. Being transmitted from generation to generation and transformed with changing times, ICH nurtures cultural diversity, which is a source of unity, innovation, and creativity. However, many ICH elements are endangered today because of various factors such as globalisation, ageing, disasters, and conflicts. The safeguarding of ICH is an urgent issue, and cross-border cooperation is crucial.

To address these concerns, IRCI, as a research hub in the region in the field of the safeguarding of ICH, is working to enhance it by implementing various research projects in close cooperation with UNESCO and other related institutions such as universities, research institutions, governmental and non-governmental organisations, museums, and communities worldwide.

The spread of COVID-19 has a significant impact on ICH and the people involved in it, as societies and organisations undergo major changes. IRCI has been conducting research activities and international conferences with utmost care. We sincerely hope that the pandemic will soon be settled, and the construction of a sustainable society will be accelerated.

We appreciate your cooperation with the activities of IRCI.



IWAMOTO Wataru
Director-General,
International Research Centre for
Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region



UNESCO Category 2 Centres

Category 2 Centres are institutions that serve to contribute to the achievement of UNESCO's strategic objectives. There are currently seven UNESCO Category 2 Centres around the world, including Japan, in the field of the safeguarding of ICH. In the Asia-Pacific region, in addition to IRCI, there are Category 2 Centres in China and the Republic of Korea, with which IRCI cooperates and works in tandem. The three centres have different mandates: research for IRCI, information and networking for the International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (ICHCAP) in the Republic of Korea, and training activities for the International Training Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (CRIHAP) in China.

Operation of IRCI

IRCI activities are implemented with the approval of its Governing Board. The Governing Board is made up of ten experts and representatives of specialised institutions inside and outside Japan including a UNESCO representative. The Governing Board deliberates and approves all IRCI activities, including long-term and medium-term programmes, work plans, and reports. In addition, when planning research programmes, IRCI's Advisory Body provides their professional perspectives. Furthermore, Mr. MATSUURA Koichiro, Former Director-General, UNESCO, was newly appointed as an honorary advisor of IRCI in October 2017 to provide advise and support concerning the operation of IRCI.



UNESCO's Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) was founded in 1945 for the purpose of promoting international collaboration in the fields of education, science, culture, and communication. Among its activities is the adoption and implementation of the legal instruments such as international conventions. Regarding culture, there are a total of seven conventions, from the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (World Heritage Convention), which was adopted at the 17th Session of the General Conference (1972), to the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, which was adopted at the 33rd Session of the General Conference (2005). Among them is the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (the 2003 Convention), which was adopted in 2003, about thirty years after the ratification of the World Heritage Convention which aims to preserve and protect tangible cultural heritage.

The 2003 Convention was the outcome of discussions held at UNESCO since the 1950s for the purpose of safeguarding folklore, including oral traditions and folk arts. The Convention has four objectives: (1) to safeguard intangible cultural heritage; (2) to ensure respect for the intangible cultural heritage of the communities, groups and individuals concerned; (3) to raise awareness at the local, national and international levels of the importance of intangible cultural heritage; and (4) to provide for international cooperation and assistance.

Intangible cultural heritage is defined in the text of the Convention as follows: "practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills - as well as the instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces associated therewith - that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognise as part of their cultural heritage" (Article 2(1)). More specifically, they are: (1) oral traditions and expressions, including language as a vehicle of the intangible cultural heritage; (2) performing arts; (3) social practices, rituals and festive events; (4) knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe; and (5) traditional craftsmanship. States Parties to the Convention are required to draw up inventories of their own intangible cultural heritage (Article 12).

There are two organs through which decisions regarding the Convention are made. One is the General Assembly of States Parties, which meets every other year to decide strategic directions to be taken for promoting the objectives of the Convention. The other is the Intergovernmental Committee, which is made up of member states elected by the General Assembly. The Intergovernmental Committee, composed of 24 states, is held once a year and works for the concrete implementation of the Convention. Its most important roles are to deliberate on inscriptions on two lists of intangible cultural heritage and to decide on good safeguarding practices of intangible cultural heritage.

In Articles 16 and 17, the 2003 Convention requires inscriptions on two lists, namely the "Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity" (Representative List) and the "List of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Need of Urgent Safeguarding" (Urgent Safeguarding List). The Representative List of the 2003 Convention takes the standpoint of not placing higher value upon one intangible cultural heritage than the other. The Representative List is merely to identify the diverse intangible cultural heritage of humanity around the world, and aims to bring international awareness. In the implementation of the 2003 Convention, more emphasis is placed on the Urgent Safeguarding List than the Representative List, and in this regard, it differs from the World Heritage Convention. The 2003 Convention focuses on the practitioners' daily lives in relation to ICH, and thus encourages the participation of communities to which the practitioners belong (Article 15).

Many member states that have ratified the 2003 Convention currently suffer from poverty, low rates of literacy, a lack of experts, a lack of interest among young people, urbanisation, conflict, and war. For this reason, assistance in developing legal systems, training of human resources, financial assistance, sustainable education, and so forth are seen as necessary. As particular emphasis is placed on the Urgent Safeguarding List laid forth in Article 17, it follows that an appropriate framework for international assistance and safeguarding measures need to be developed.

IRCI has implemented research projects in close cooperation with UNESCO and other related institutions such as universities, research institutions, governmental and non-governmental organisations, museums, and communities worldwide. One example is a community-led documentation of intangible cultural heritage in danger of disappearing since 2012, conducted through discussions with practitioners of arts and craftsmanship and government officials. With a focus on the process by which elements of intangible cultural heritage have become in danger of disappearing, IRCI has used a variety of methodologies to make audiovisual documentation. As a research institution, IRCI aims to share the outcomes of such research with the communities and contribute to safeguarding intangible cultural heritage. This is because, as stated above, the 2003 Convention places strong emphasis on communities, in other words, people who maintain and transmit intangible cultural heritage.

What is Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH)?

ICH is living cultural heritage. Although it transforms over time, it is transmitted from generation to generation and gives us cultural identity and richness. In the text of the 2003 Convention, the following examples of ICH are provided:

Oral Traditions and Expressions



Hudhud chants of the Ifugao (Philippines)
© 2008, by J. Uñalvia/NCCA-ICH, with the permission of UNESCO



Tradition of Vedic chanting (India)
© Sangeet Natak Akademi, New Delhi, India, with the permission of UNESCO

Performing Arts



Royal ballet of Cambodia (Cambodia)
© International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI), 2013



Ca trù singing (Viet Nam)
© 2006, Vietnamese Institute for Musicology, Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Vietnam, with the permission of UNESCO

Social Practices, Rituals and Festive Events



Mask dance of the drums from Drametse (Bhutan)
© 2007, by Institute of Language and Cultural Studies – Semtokha Bhutan, with the permission of UNESCO



Royal ancestral ritual in the Jongmyo shrine and its music (Republic of Korea)
© National Research Institute of Cultural Heritage, 2008, with the permission of UNESCO

Knowledge and Practices Concerning Nature and the Universe



Acupuncture and moxibustion of traditional Chinese medicine (China)
© Institute of Acupuncture and Moxibustion, 2009, with the permission of UNESCO



Tugging rituals and games (Cambodia, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Viet Nam)
© Vietnam Institute of Culture and Arts Studies, 2013, with the permission of UNESCO

Traditional Craftsmanship



Indonesian Batik (Indonesia)
© Batik Museum Institute, Pekalongan, 2008, with the permission of UNESCO



Ojiya-chijimi, Echigo-jofu (Japan)
© 1998, by Association for the Conservation of Techniques for Echigo-jofu, Ojiya-Chijimi, with the permission of UNESCO

Activities of IRCI

Strategies and Projects for FY 2021

To safeguard ICH in the Asia-Pacific region, IRCI has carried out a range of activities utilising networks both within and outside Japan. In FY 2021, IRCI is pursuing projects along with the following four themes under two activity focuses:

Promoting Research for ICH Safeguarding

1. Sustainable Research Data Collection
2. ICH's Contribution to SDGs*1: Education and Community Development
3. Organising the Researchers Forum

Research on ICH Safeguarding and Disaster Risk Management

1. ICH and Disaster Risk Management



*1 SDGs is an abbreviation for Sustainable Development Goals and was adopted as a new agenda for "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals" at the General Assembly of the United Nations in September 2015. The SDGs consist of specific 169 targets to achieve the 17 goals and realise a sustainable world.

Research Projects

Projects in FY 2021

Promoting Research for ICH Safeguarding

In FY 2013, IRCI started the "Mapping Studies on the Safeguarding of ICH" project with the aim of understanding the status of research relating to the safeguarding of ICH, to promote research and contribute to the safeguarding of ICH in the Asia-Pacific region. As an output of the project, IRCI developed a research database in FY 2014 to publish information on literature, experts, and research institutions related to the safeguarding of ICH.

Subsequently, since FY 2019, IRCI has been working on establishing a sustainable mechanism for collecting information on the safeguarding of ICH to further enrich the database content by strengthening its collaboration with research institutions such as universities in the region.

IRCI will continue to update the information in cooperation with ICH experts, national archives, libraries, and research institutions such as universities in the Asia-Pacific region and disseminate information not only to ICH researchers but also to various researchers, specialists, and students in related fields.



● Surveyed countries and region by FY 2018 (31 countries and a region)
★ Countries where partner institutions on "Sustainable Research Data Collection" project from FY 2019 are located (5 countries)

1. Sustainable Research Data Collection

"Sustainable Research Data Collection for ICH Safeguarding in the Asia-Pacific Region" project (FY 2019 – FY 2021)

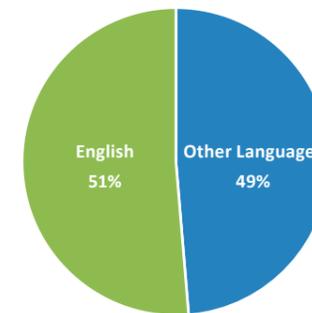
Under the scheme of the Literature Survey project that was completed in FY 2018, IRCI collected various information relating to the safeguarding of ICH, mostly in cooperation with individual researchers in the Asia-Pacific region. Through this survey, some issues and challenges were identified. These include the variability found in the quality of collected data caused by the differential perception of ICH, the uneven availability of research resources at the local level, and the risk of losing archived data due to deterioration under poor storage conditions.

To overcome these challenges, IRCI has been working since FY 2019 to establish an alternative mechanism for data collection that is more sustainable, by collaborating with research institutions such as universities and national museums in Asia. In FY 2020, IRCI collected information in cooperation with research institutions in five countries in Southeast Asia (Indonesia, Thailand, Viet Nam, Malaysia, and the Philippines), and the programme also promoted network building among research institutions in each country.

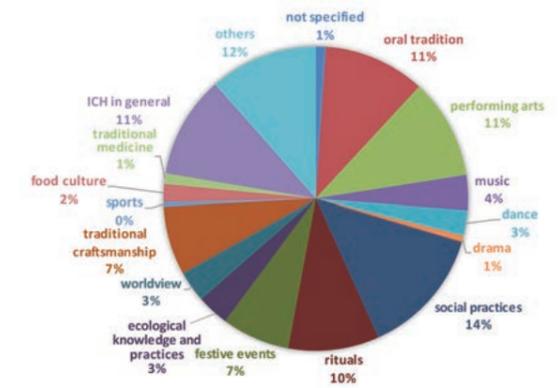
In FY 2021, as the final year of the project, while increasing the number of target countries, IRCI will analyse the collected data and re-examine the feasibility of the current data collection methodology, which will guide the direction of research projects in the future. In addition, all the data collected in the project will be added to the IRCI research database, which is open to the public.

Characteristics of collected articles

Written language of collected articles



ICH Genres analysed in collected articles



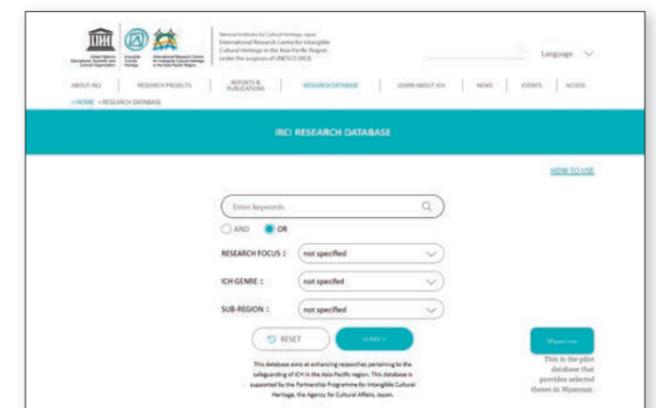
Utilisation of Research Database

Since FY 2014, the IRCI Research Database has provided information on ICH safeguarding in the Asia-Pacific region, including literature, experts, and institutions, aiming to effectively promote research for ICH safeguarding. As of March 2021, approximately 2,500 entries covering 43 countries in the Asia-Pacific region have been registered and are accessible online for users worldwide.

In FY 2018, in order to investigate the utilisation of the database, IRCI picked up Myanmar as an example of a country that has a long research history on ICH and the accumulation of associated information, but has difficulties in digitalising and archiving such resources, and implemented a feasibility study in consultation with universities and libraries.

In FY 2019, a pilot database was installed inside the IRCI Research Database, where users can browse theses and dissertations related to ICH in Myanmar. In addition, a major improvement was made to optimise the performance of the research database, with the aim of achieving better usability and providing useful information not only for researchers and experts but also for students, practitioners of ICH, and local government officers.

For better usability and content, IRCI will continue to improve its research database.

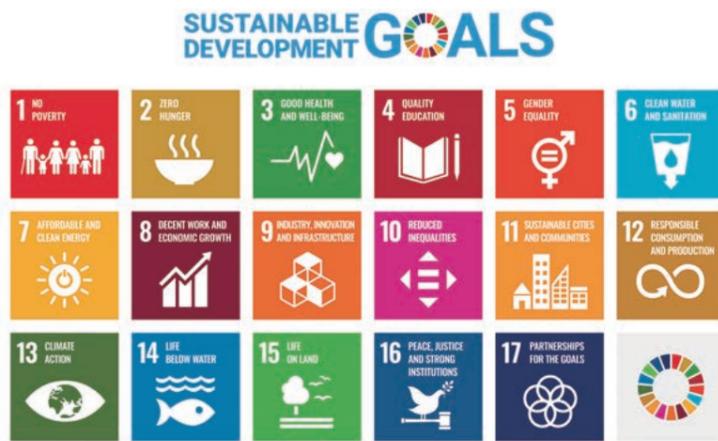


IRCI Research Database (Top page)

2. ICH's Contribution to SDGs: Education and Community Development

“Research on ICH’s Contribution to SDGs: Education and Community Development” project (FY 2020 – FY 2021)

“The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” adopted on 25 September 2015 at the 70th General Assembly of the United Nations is based on the success and lessons of the previous “Millennium Development Goals”, and sets the universal goals for the period from 2016 to 2030, namely the “Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”. Efforts to achieve SDGs are underway worldwide. The SDGs consist of 17 goals and 169 targets. The target 4.7 stipulates “all learners acquire knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including among others, through education for appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development”, to “ensure inclusive and equitable quality education for all”. This indicates that ICH, which includes distinctive worldviews and the knowledge of sustainable resource use developed by the communities in their long-term interaction with natural and social environments, is indispensable for acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary for sustainable development, as well as contributing to improving the quality of education. In addition, the target 11.4 of SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities) refers to cultural heritage, suggesting that ICH plays an important part in the development of communities, where it is practiced and transmitted.



With this background, IRCI implemented a project from FY 2018 to FY 2019, focusing on the SDG target 4.7, in collaboration with institutions in Viet Nam and the Philippines. In this project, ICH was incorporated into formal and non-formal education, and its effectiveness was examined (see page 14). The results show that ICH contributes to SDG 4 by helping learners learn and providing a new methodology for educators, cultural bearers, and practitioners. Subsequently, based on the idea that ICH plays a role in connecting each learner’s education and their community, IRCI launched a new two-year project focusing on “education and community development” from FY 2020, to investigate how young people who have received an education related to ICH can contribute to their communities and sustainable community development.



Traditional folk dance music *Dhamail* in Bangladesh



Traditional theatrical performing art *Kethoprak* in Indonesia

In FY 2020, IRCI conducted case studies in collaboration with three NGOs in Bangladesh, Indonesia, and Kyrgyz.

Bangladesh: How *Dhamail*, a folk dance music that is performed during weddings and other festive occasions, can contribute to solving local issues such as poverty and dropouts, and developing sustainable communities by incorporating it into non-formal education.

Indonesia: How formal education utilising *Kethoprak*, a traditional theatrical performing art, affects learners’ academic performance, entrepreneurship, and identity, and the solidarity of communities.

Kyrgyz: How traditional Kyrgyz *yurts* (inscribed on UNESCO’s Representative List) and related knowledge and skills contribute to resolving issues faced by communities, such as poverty and gender inequality.

The three case studies exemplified that ICH has been appreciated and transmitted among people, regardless of gender and generations, and serves as an anchor for the feeling of solidarity and affection towards their community. It was also proved that education utilising ICH enhances learners’ motivation towards learning at school.

For FY 2021, these cases will be researched in depth to clarify the roles of ICH in education and community development and to enhance the effective safeguarding of ICH.



Traditional housing Kyrgyz *yurts*



Residents of the village assembling the *yurt*

3. Organising the Researchers Forum

“The Third IRCI Researchers Forum on ICH Safeguarding in the Asia-Pacific Region” project (FY 2021)

IRCI organised the Researchers Forum every other year since FY 2017. In the past forums, wide-ranging academic discussions focusing on specific themes concerning ICH were held by researchers: the first forum under the theme of “Negotiating Intangible Cultural Heritage”, and the second forum “Perspectives of Research for Intangible Cultural Heritage — towards a Sustainable Society”

Commemorating the 10th anniversary of the establishment of IRCI, the Third Researchers Forum is to be held in FY 2021 as an academic symposium consisting of presentations and panel discussions focusing on the progress, recent trends, and future challenges in the field of ICH research. Inviting researchers in the field related to ICH who have collaborated in the past IRCI projects, the forum will reflect on IRCI’s research projects over the past ten years. At the same time, discussions on the progress of research during this decade will be an opportunity for IRCI to envision project ideas and activity plans in the future.



The First Researchers Forum “Negotiating Intangible Cultural Heritage” (National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka, Japan, December 2017)



The Second Researchers Forum “Perspectives of Research for Intangible Cultural Heritage — towards a Sustainable Society” (Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo, Japan, December 2019)

Research on ICH Safeguarding and Disaster Risk Management

IRCI conducts research on the current status of ICH in the Asia-Pacific region, which is threatened by disasters, and the role of ICH in disaster preparedness and post-disaster situations.

1. ICH and Disaster Risk Management

“Research on ICH Safeguarding and Disaster Risk Management” project (FY 2020 – FY 2022)

Amid growing international concerns about disaster risk management of cultural heritage, international discussions concerning the safeguarding of ICH in emergencies have made considerable progress in the past five years. In parallel with this development, IRCI started in FY 2016 a research project on ICH and disaster risk management in the Asia-Pacific region that is frequently exposed to various natural hazards and explored current situations and challenges in the region for three years (see pages 14–15). Building upon the outcomes of this previous project, IRCI is going to carry out a more practical research investigating the possible incorporation of ICH for the community’s disaster risk reduction strategies, while further examining the safeguarding of ICH in this context.

As a first step, potential risks and aspects contributing to disaster risk reduction and recovery are re-examined in FY 2021, according to the types of natural hazards and ICH domains. Information will be collected in cooperation with institutions in the Asia-Pacific region. Through a subsequent workshop as well as field research that is planned in the following years, specific measures for ICH safeguarding and strategies for integrating ICH in disaster risk management will be discussed in detail.

IRCI also investigates the impact of COVID-19 on ICH, recognising that an epidemic could be a disaster. An infectious disease that limits interaction among people directly affects ICH. Highlighting changes in the practice and transmission of ICH, this project examines various cases of “living heritage” under a pandemic.

Achievements of Research Projects completed by FY 2020

Research for Safeguarding Endangered ICH

From FY 2012 to FY 2016, IRCI conducted projects with a focus on ICH in danger of disappearing.

1. Documentation of ICH as a Tool for Community-led Safeguarding Activities (FY 2012 – FY 2014)

Audio-visual documentation of ICH is crucial for restoring and reviving ICH that is in danger of disappearing. To ensure the continued transmission of ICH, it is extremely important for the practitioners involved to be aware of and identify endangered elements of ICH, and then to lead the effort to document them, and plan their documentation with a view to utilising that record. Based on this concept, IRCI implemented the project from FY 2012 to FY 2014. This project was created to propose concrete and detailed guidelines that included how to document ICH. In the next step, to verify that the guidelines are of practical use to communities, practitioners of ICH from six communities in five countries were enlisted to look at elements of their communities’ ICH currently endangered. They were asked to discuss within the community the best plans for having the practitioners of the community lead efforts to film the parts that were endangered as well as the elements of ICH itself, and how to utilise the recorded footage. Eventually, IRCI held discussions again with practitioners of ICH and researchers concerning plans to utilise documentary footage, and the outcomes of those discussions were compiled in 2016 as a case study.



Presentation by a local officer of Timor-Leste in charge of culture at a workshop (Tokyo, Japan, March 2015)

2. Safeguarding the Intangible Cultural Heritage for the Promotion of Cultural Identity and Community Resilience in Timor-Leste (FY 2013)

Timor-Leste is a new country, which became independent in 2002, and its national framework for safeguarding its cultural heritage and its museum infrastructures are still in the development stage. IRCI, in response to an urgent request from the Government of Timor-Leste and the UNESCO Office in Jakarta, from 22 to 26 October 2013, conducted a study tour for governmental officers of Timor-Leste concerning cultural administration.

The nine participants from Timor-Leste visited museums and institutes involved in the good practices of ICH safeguarding, promotion, and transmission by institutions and local communities in Japan (for example, The Tokyo National Museum; The National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo; The National Theatre; The Namahage Museum, and The Oga Shinzan Folklore Museum, Yuki City and Mashiko City) and held a discussion session with the administrative officers and transmitters engaged in ICH safeguarding. In the final day of the tour, they thoroughly discussed safeguarding measures to resolve the issues of Timor-Leste.

The final report of the tour and their discussions was published in March 2014 and the report is available on IRCI’s website.



Discussion on the challenges of transmitting ICH among the participants (Tokyo, Japan, October 2013)

3. Research for Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage on the Verge of Extinction: Vietnamese ICH Element Dong Ho Woodblock Printing (FY 2013 – FY 2015)

In the village of Dong Ho in Bac Ninh Province in the north of Viet Nam, woodblock prints have traditionally been created as talismans to decorate the Lunar New Year festivals. However, a decline in the number of woodblock craftsmen as well as rapid urbanisation and industrialisation has brought about changes to the lifestyles of the people of the village, and the transmission of Dong Ho woodblock printing techniques is now in danger. Given these circumstances, the Government of Viet Nam has issued an urgent request to IRCI, and as a result a joint research project for the safeguarding of the woodblock techniques was carried out from FY 2013 to FY 2015. In the project, basic surveys and analysis of critical factors were conducted in cooperation with the Vietnam National Institute of Culture and Arts Studies (VICAS) and visits to crafts studios in Kanazawa city, Japan, created discussion on good practices of ICH safeguarding measures in Japan. In addition, final workshops were organised in Dong Ho village and in Hanoi. At these workshops, discussions that summarised the outcomes of the project were held among practitioners, researchers, and administrative officials. Japanese experts were also invited to present proposals for transmitting woodblock printing based on examples in Japan of safeguarding and reviving ICH. The proceedings were put together as the result of the project in its final year and published as a report. The most significant accomplishment of this project is that a community museum for practitioner-led sustainable safeguarding is now planned with its establishment underway in Dong Ho village.



A practitioner of Dong Ho Woodblock Printing in the community (Bac Ninh Province, Viet Nam, January 2015)

4. Research for Endangered Traditional Handicrafts in Post-Conflict States (Sri Lanka) (FY 2013 – FY 2015)

In the Northern and Eastern provinces of Sri Lanka, which have been the most affected by the civil war until 2009, the alleviation of poverty and the establishment of sustainable livelihoods are particularly urgent matters. As part of those efforts, IRCI decided to focus on the importance of reviving ICH such as traditional textiles and women's handicrafts that have been passed down to surviving women as a potential way to reconstruct their livelihoods, thus contributing to sustainable peace building. The project was implemented in cooperation with the Government of Sri Lanka with the purpose of reviving these handicrafts. Through the project from FY 2013 to FY 2015, workshops and field surveys were conducted in 10 areas and IRCI held numerous dialogues with representatives of the craftsmen and the government officials of Sri Lanka. Also, recommendations for craft revitalisation were made. Furthermore, over a two-year period, IRCI invited practitioners, government officials, and researchers to Japan for intensive discussion sessions on the recommendations. IRCI played a role in providing those stakeholders with common understanding and recognition about further challenges and the key issues for reviving these handicrafts. Sustainable transmission of traditional culture by local people plays a major role in the process of building stability and peace for all countries that have experienced conflict and war. IRCI hopes to use its case study of this project and its practical research on restoration and revitalisation in other countries.



Meeting on further cooperation and sharing the final report with Hon. Minister Douglas Devananda, Ministry of Traditional Industries and Small Enterprise Development (Colombo, Sri Lanka, September 2014)

5. Study of Legal Systems related to Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Greater Mekong Region (FY 2013 – FY 2016)

To safeguard ICH, each country must establish legal systems to suit its own particular circumstances because if such systems do not exist and elements of ICH have yet to be identified, it is difficult to implement measures that lead to sustainable transmission. Some countries are currently trying to draft relevant laws, but because many of them have no experience in creating laws concerning ICH, there is a great need for advice and support from foreign experts with extensive experience. With the cooperation of the Faculty of Law of Kyushu University, IRCI began a project to study the legal systems of the countries in the Greater Mekong region. The aim of the project is to analyse the issues involved in the process of drafting legislation through field research and international workshops, and ultimately to create a "tool-kit" for planning legal mechanisms. In Japan, as a result of the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties, policies to preserve these elements of ICH were implemented. In addition, local government authorities have in place ordinances to safeguard cultural heritage. Since these experiences in Japan are useful for countries now seeking to draft laws, the IRCI international workshop in 2015 aimed to learn ordinances to safeguard ICH and activities for the transmission of ICH by practitioners in Japan. In 2016, IRCI organised the final workshop in cooperation with Vietnam National Institute of Culture and Arts Studies (VICAS) in Viet Nam, where the outcomes of the whole project were produced.



Discussion among experts at the final workshop (Hanoi, Viet Nam, December 2016)

Promoting Research for ICH Safeguarding

Since FY 2016, IRCI has conducted the Literature Survey project as one of the activities of the project "Mapping Studies on the Safeguarding of ICH".

1. Literature Survey (FY 2016 – FY 2018)

As there is a lack of information on the research and experts in the safeguarding of ICH in the Asia-Pacific region, IRCI conducted literature surveys to collect and analyse information systematically on the existing literature, research institutions, and experts and obtain an overview of the current situation of the research in the region. By the end of FY 2018 (March 2019), 31 countries and 1 region in the Asia-Pacific region were surveyed. The collected information was added to the IRCI research database.

In FY 2018, the final year of the project, the project was reviewed by experts on the request of IRCI. Based on these reviews, IRCI created *the Report on the IRCI Literature Survey on Intangible Cultural Heritage Safeguarding Research (2016–2018)*, which was published online.

Surveyed countries and region:

Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Palau, the Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, and Viet Nam (31 countries and 1 region).

2. Multi-disciplinary Study on ICH's Contribution to Sustainable Development: Focusing on Education (FY 2018 – FY 2019)

SDG target 4.7 states the importance of appreciating cultural diversity and recognising a culture's contribution to sustainable development through education. Thus, IRCI conducted, from FY 2018, a two-year project that contributes to SDGs by incorporating ICH into formal and non-formal education.

The project was implemented in Viet Nam and the Philippines in cooperation with institutions in the fields of culture and education, focusing on formal education in Viet Nam and non-formal education in the Philippines, to develop guidelines for utilising ICH as an educational tool. These guidelines were subsequently applied in actual classroom settings in each country to examine their effectiveness.

Through observations of classroom lessons that utilised the guidelines in both countries, an international symposium, and workshops, it was proved that utilising ICH in education helped learners to enhance their performance at school in general and acquire knowledge and skills related to ICH. For educators, it also provided an opportunity to devise a new teaching methodology. Moreover, ICH played a significant role in deepening learners' pride and affection towards their communities while building a network among various stakeholders.

Observations of classroom lessons



Tugging rituals and games in the experience activities class in Grade 8 (Hanoi, Viet Nam, October 2019)



Subanen traditional song and dance in practice as a classroom activity of the School of Living Traditions (SLT) (Lakewood SLT, Zamboanga del Sur, the Philippines, August 2019)

Research on ICH Safeguarding and Disaster Risk Management

IRCI conducted research on the current status and cases of ICH in the Asia-Pacific region, which is threatened by disasters or conflicts, as well as the role of ICH in disaster preparedness and post-disaster and conflict-affected situations.

1. Research on ICH Safeguarding and Natural Disasters (FY 2016 – FY 2018)

Many countries in the Asia-Pacific region are frequently exposed to various natural hazards, which are risks threatening cultural heritage. There has been a growing international awareness about the disaster risk management (DRM) of cultural heritage; for example, UNESCO emphasises the urgent need to respond to post-conflict and post-disaster situations. However, these efforts are mostly focused on the protection of tangible cultural heritage, while effective measures for the safeguarding of ICH are yet to be developed.

With this background, IRCI carried out a project titled "Preliminary Research on ICH Safeguarding and Disaster Risk Management in the Asia-Pacific Region" from FY 2016 to FY 2017. The "Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop on ICH and Natural Disasters" held in FY 2018 in Sendai, Japan, invited DRM specialists along with ICH researchers, to discuss the cases of ICH safeguarding in the context of natural hazards and disasters in Asia and the Pacific regions. Participants also had an opportunity to visit Onagawa town to observe the revival of *shishifuri* performance and exchange ideas with the local community. Reflecting on the discussions held at this workshop, the participants adopted "Statements and Recommendations for Safeguarding ICH in Disasters and Mobilising ICH for Disaster Risk Reduction" and the proceedings of the workshop were published in March 2019. The proceedings are also available on the PreventionWeb website, managed by the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction.



Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop on ICH and Natural Disasters (Sendai, Japan, December 2018)



Observation of *shishifuri* performance in Onagawa town, Miyagi Prefecture (Onagawa, Japan, December 2018)

2. Study of Emergency Protection of ICH in Conflict-Affected Countries in Asia (FY 2017 – FY 2020)

Cultural heritage has been destroyed in many armed conflicts, as exemplified by the Bamiyan Buddha Statues or Palmyra. While international frameworks for the restoration and protection of "tangible" cultural heritage damaged by armed conflicts have been developed recently, little research or discussion has been carried out for the safeguarding of "intangible" cultural heritage in conflict-affected situations. In recent years, however, it has been gradually recognised that ICH plays an important role in revitalising people's lives and communities after conflict.

With this background, IRCI conducted a research project from FY 2017 to FY 2020 to safeguard ICH in conflict-affected countries in Asia, focusing on Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, and the Philippines. First, IRCI conducted preliminary surveys to investigate the current status of ICH in cooperation with governmental agencies and universities. After discussing the detailed research plan and identifying the target ICH elements, small-scale field research was implemented with careful consideration of local security situations. Specifically, field research focused on the rituals and ceremonies inherited by women in Afghanistan, rituals performed in Manufahi District of Timor-Leste, and in Sri Lanka and the Philippines on traditional craft techniques. A report summarising these research activities was published in March 2021.

The project evidenced the difficulties and challenges in the safeguarding of ICH in conflict-affected situations; however, it contributed to enhancing the understanding of ICH and related research methodologies among the collaborators in each country and fostering young researchers.

Field Research



(Manufahi, Timor-Leste, 2017)



(Bamiyan, Afghanistan, October 2020)



(Jaffna, Sri Lanka, February 2019)



(Marawi City, the Philippines, November 2020)

Cooperative Projects with Academic Institutions in Japan

IRCI instigates research for the safeguarding of ICH in cooperation with various institutions. For example;

- IRCI co-organised the International Symposium “Glocal Perspectives on Intangible Cultural Heritage: Local Communities, Researchers, States and UNESCO” in cooperation with the Center for Glocal Studies of Seijo University (July 2017). A total of 24 experts and community members, including Mr Tim Curtis, Chief of the Intangible Heritage Section, UNESCO, were actively involved in the discussions. Furthermore, the way to strengthen the networking among researchers/experts of ICH has been discussed.
- IRCI co-organised the International Symposium “Negotiating Intangible Cultural Heritage” in cooperation with the National Museum of Ethnology and the Agency for Cultural Affairs (November 2017). IRCI invited Mr Svanibor Pettan, Professor at the University of Ljubljana, Vice President of the International Council for Traditional Music as the keynote speaker, along with 12 researchers from 8 different countries as presenters to the symposium, to discuss the ways in which multiple levels of negotiation between various actors/stakeholders affect the safeguarding of ICH by analysing their case studies.



International Symposium “Glocal Perspectives on Intangible Cultural Heritage: Local Communities, Researchers, States and UNESCO” (Center for Glocal Studies of Seijo University, Tokyo, Japan, July 2017)



International Symposium “Negotiating Intangible Cultural Heritage” (National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka, Japan, November 2017)

- IRCI co-organised the International Researchers Forum “Perspectives of Research for Intangible Cultural Heritage — towards a Sustainable Society” in cooperation with the Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties and the Agency for Cultural Affairs (December 2019) to discuss the contribution of ICH to sustainable development. The Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties is a sister institution under the umbrella of the National Institutes for Cultural Heritage, and has been cooperating with IRCI in its research projects, making use of its extensive experience in disaster risk management of ICH in Japan. In particular, it made a significant contribution to the past three-year project “Research on ICH Safeguarding and Natural Disasters” from FY 2016 (see pages 14–15), by demonstrating the importance of ICH in the recovery process, while actively joining the field research missions. Its cooperation with IRCI continues in the ongoing “ICH and Disaster Risk Management” project that started in FY 2020 (see page 10).



International Researchers Forum “Perspectives of Research for Intangible Cultural Heritage — towards a Sustainable Society” (Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo, Japan, December 2019)

IRCI will further strengthen cooperative ties with academic institutions at home and abroad in order to promote the safeguarding of ICH.

Cooperative Projects with Sakai City

IRCI disseminates information and a clear image of ICH widely to people in Japan and provides them with various opportunities to learn about ICH in cooperation with Sakai City, Osaka.

For instance, Sakai City and the National Institutes for Cultural Heritage co-organised the annual symposium on cultural heritage from FY 2015 to FY 2019. IRCI displayed panels at the venue and distributed its publications.

Furthermore, Sakai City continuously offers cooperation with IRCI in displaying panels for the introduction of IRCI’s activities at the Sakai City Museum where IRCI is located.

In FY 2021, IRCI will organise the Third Researchers Forum as a commemorative event of the 10th anniversary of its establishment (see page 10). On the following day, a public symposium will be held planned by Sakai City to raise public awareness on the understanding of ICH, in which IRCI is going to cooperate to bring synergy.



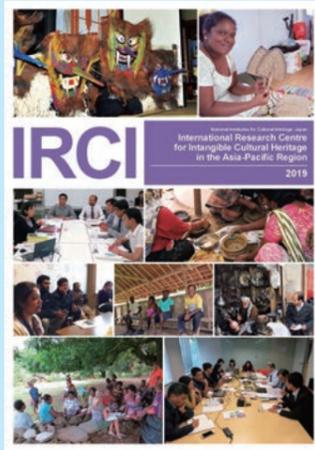
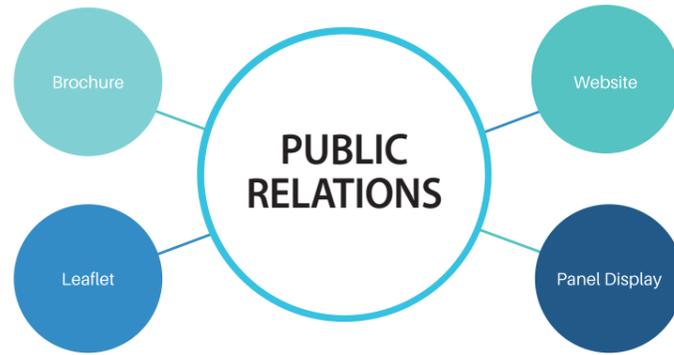
International Symposium in Celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the Convention for the Safeguarding of ICH (Osaka, Japan, August 2013)



International Symposium on ICH safeguarding in the Asia-Pacific Region: Transmitting Art and Spirit of ICH (Osaka, Japan, November 2016)

Public Relations

IRCI updates its activities and information about ICH on the following media to provide the latest information. IRCI looks forward to your visit.



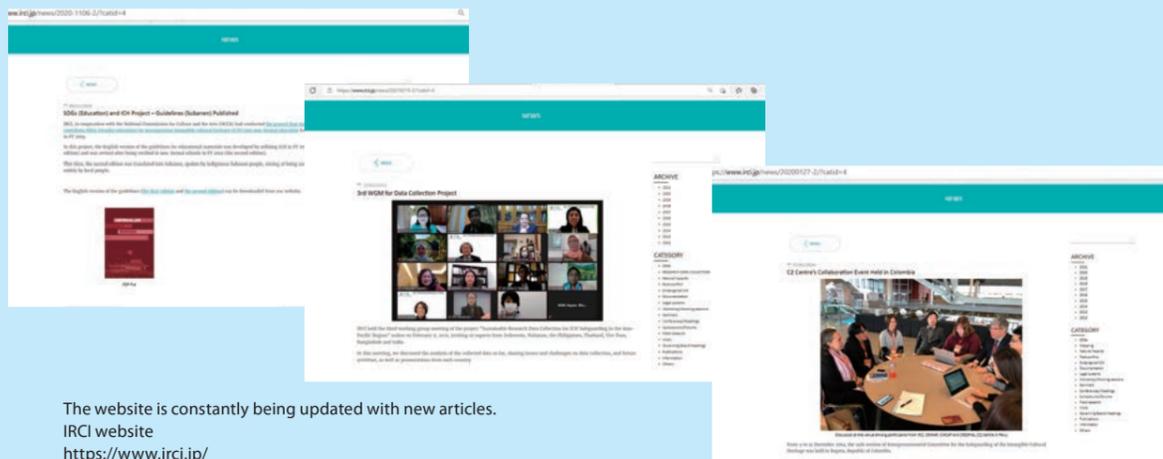
IRCI Brochure 2019



IRCI Leaflet



IRCI panels display at Tokyo Symposium 2019 (Tokyo, Japan, July 2019)



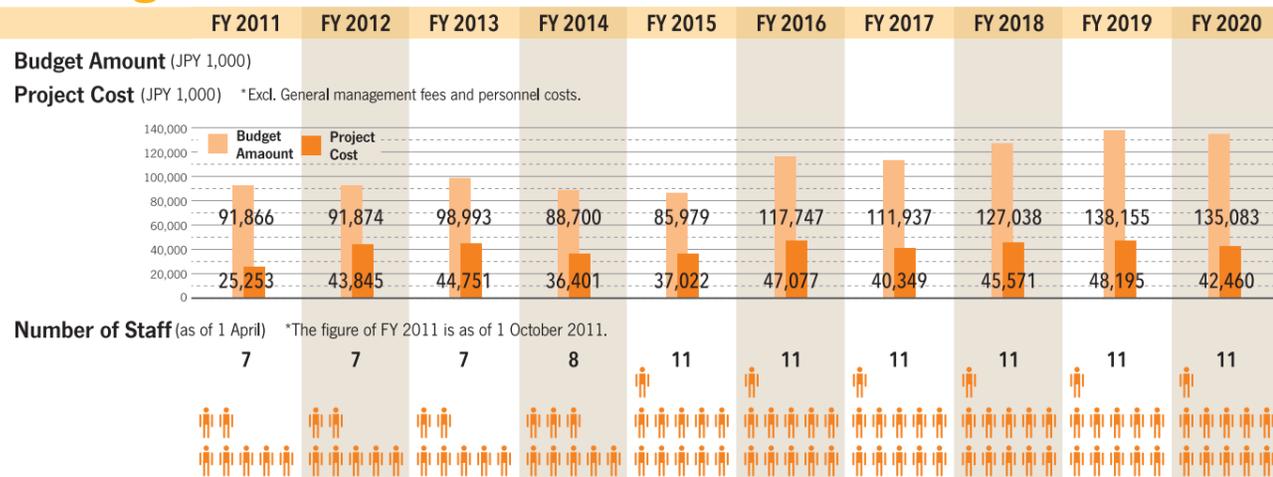
The website is constantly being updated with new articles.
IRCI website
<https://www.irci.jp/>

Timeline of Research Projects

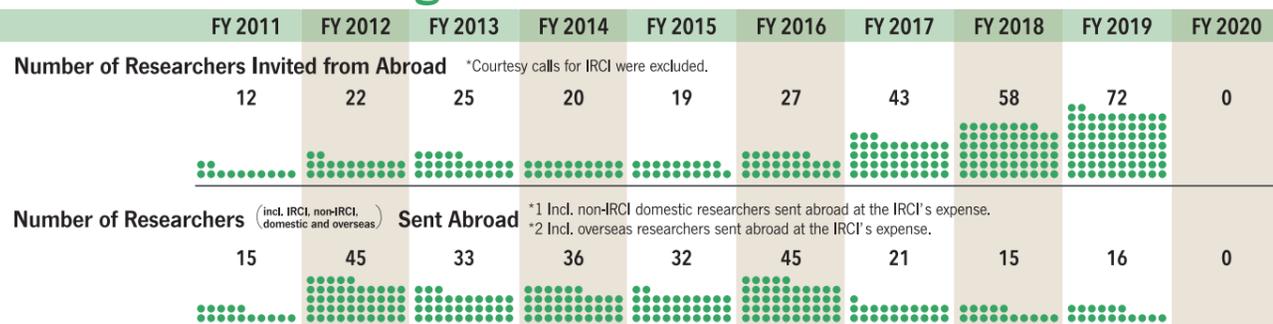
		FY 2012 – FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	
Promoting Research for ICH Safeguarding		Organising International Conferences						
		Conducting the Literature Survey						
		Constructing Research Database						
		Mapping Studies on the Safeguarding of ICH		Research Database Improvement				
Research on ICH Safeguarding and Disaster Risk Management						Research Data Collection		
				IRCI Reserachers Forum on ICH Safeguarding "International Symposium Negotiating Intangible Cultural Heritage"	International Reserchers Forum "Perspectives of Research for Intangible Cultural Heritage — towards a Sustainable Society"		Organising the Reserchers Forum	
					Multi-disciplinary Study on ICH's Contribution to Sustainable Development: Focusing on Education	ICH's Contribution to SDGs: Education and Community Development		
Research for Safeguarding Endangered ICH							ICH and Disaster Risk Management	
					Study of Emergency Protection of ICH in Conflict-Affected Countries in Asia			
Research for Safeguarding Endangered ICH		Documentation of ICH as a Tool for Community-led Safeguarding Activities						
				Safeguarding ICH for the Promotion of Cultural Identity and Community Resilience in Timor-Leste				
				Research for Safeguarding ICH on the Verge of Extinction: Vietnamese ICH Element Dong Ho Woodblock Printing				
				Research for Endangered Traditional Handicrafts in Post-Conflict States (Sri Lanka)				
				Study of Legal Systems related to ICH in the Greater Mekong Region				

IRCI progress over ten years

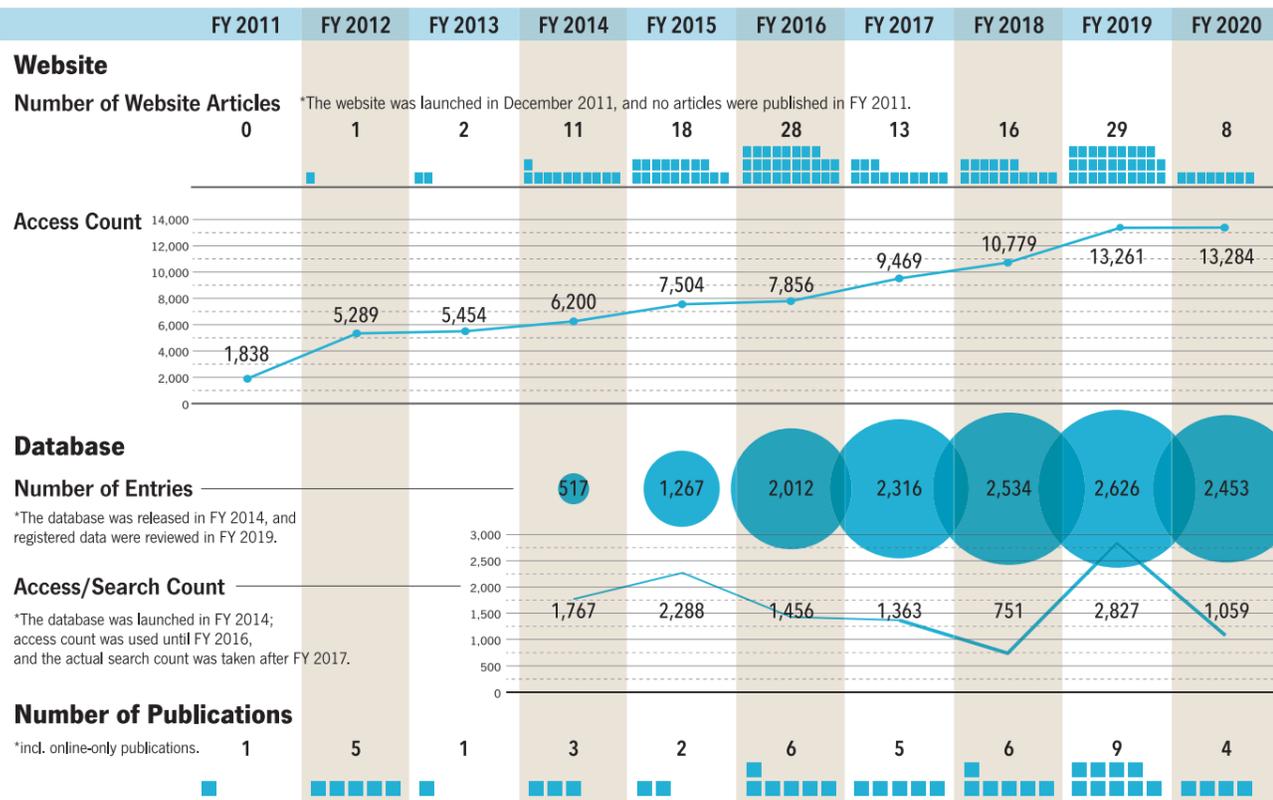
Management



Researcher Exchange



Dissemination of Information



Professional Papers					
Title	Journal Name	Publication Date	Publisher	Peer review	Author
Documentation as a tool for safeguarding a community's intangible heritage on the verge of disappearing	The First ICH-Researchers forum –The implementation of UNESCO's 2003 convention	September 2012	IRCI	Not peer reviewed	OHNUKI Misako Deputy Director-General
Proceedings and Analysis of Discussion	2013 Study Tour Report: Toward Safeguarding the Intangible Cultural Heritage for the Promotion of Cultural Identity and Community Resilience in Timor-Leste	March 2014	IRCI	Not peer reviewed	OHNUKI Misako Deputy Director-General
Documentation of ICH in danger of disappearing as a tool for community-led safeguarding activities: Analysis of the case studies conducted in 5 communities in Asia	Safeguarding and revitalizing intangible cultural heritage 2012-2014	31 March 2015	IRCI	Not peer reviewed	OHNUKI Misako Deputy Director-General
Introduction & Outcomes of the Project: Purposes of the Project. Outcomes and Analysis of the Case Studies	Documentation of ICH as a Tool for Community-led Safeguarding Activities (2012-2014)	March 2016	IRCI	Not peer reviewed	OHNUKI Misako Deputy Director-General
An ICH-Disasters Dialogue on Gaua Island, Vanuatu	Preliminary Research on ICH Safeguarding and Disaster Risk Management in The Asia-Pacific Region: Project Report For FY2016-2017	March 2018	IRCI	Not peer reviewed	Meredith Wilson, NOJIMA Yoko Associate Fellow
The ICH Situation during the Aftermath of Tropical Cyclone Winston: Results of the Preliminary Field Survey in Ra Province, Fiji	Preliminary Research on ICH Safeguarding and Disaster Risk Management in The Asia-Pacific Region: Project Report For FY2016-2017	March 2018	IRCI	Not peer reviewed	ISHIMURA Tomo Cooperative Researcher NOJIMA Yoko Associate Fellow Ilaitia S. Loloma, Elizabeth Edwards
Intangible Cultural Heritage and Natural Hazards in the Philippine Cordilleras: Preliminary Report of the Field Research in Abra And Ifugao	Preliminary Research on ICH Safeguarding and Disaster Risk Management in The Asia-Pacific Region: Project Report For FY2016-2017	March 2018	IRCI	Not peer reviewed	NOJIMA Yoko Associate Fellow ISHIMURA Tomo Cooperative Researcher Cecilia Picache, Norma Respicio
Culture and Society (in Japanese)	Education in the Age of SDGs	25 April 2019	Gakubunsha	Not peer reviewed	IWAMOTO Wataru Director-General
Disaster as Opportunity? Cyclone Pam and the Transmission and Transformation of Cultural Heritage.	Anthropological Forum 30 (1-2) pp.91-107.	2020	Taylor & Francis	Peer reviewed	C.Ballard, M.Wilson, Y.Nojima, R.Matanik, R.Shing

Lectures and Conference Presentations		
Theme	Conference Title	Presenter Date
Revitalization and Transmission of Endangered Intangible Cultural Heritage (in Japanese)	International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region Opening Symposium (Osaka)	FUJII Tomoaki Director-General 4 October 2011
Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage in the North-East Asia	Regional Collaboration for Safeguarding ICH in Asia and the Pacific (Seoul)	FUJII Tomoaki Director-General 28 November 2011
Documentation as a tool for safeguarding a community's intangible heritage on the verge of disappearing	The first ICH-Researchers Forum (Paris)	OHNUKI Misako Deputy Director-General 3 June 2012
Research on ICH in Myanmar (in Japanese)	The 1st Myanmar Working Group, Japan Consortium for International Cooperation in Cultural Heritage (Tokyo)	KODAMA Shigeaki Associate Fellow 15 November 2012
Language and ICH (in Japanese)	The 3rd Sakai City Seminar for Understanding ICH (Osaka)	KODAMA Shigeaki Associate Fellow 23 November 2012
Sustainable Development and Safeguarding of ICH	IRCI meeting on ICH-Evaluating the inscription criteria for the two lists of UNESCO's intangible cultural heritage convention (Tokyo)	OHNUKI Misako Deputy Director-General 10 January 2013
Research in Papua New Guinea (in Japanese)	Symposium on ICH in the Asia-Pacific Region "ICH in the Asia-Pacific Region-Current Status and Important Issues" (Osaka)	KODAMA Shigeaki Associate Fellow 17 February 2013
Documentation of ICH and Development of Methodologies for Community's Safeguarding Activities	Workshop for Community's Young Film Makers (Tsuruoka)	OHNUKI Misako Deputy Director-General 22 February 2013
A Case Study on the Revitalization of ICH and Community	International Expert Meeting on Intangible Cultural Heritage and Economy (Rabat)	OHNUKI Misako Deputy Director-General 6 July 2013
Study of ICH in Post-Conflict Situations: Focus on Sri Lanka	ICICH Round Table, ICOMOS General Assembly (Fukuoka)	OHNUKI Misako Deputy Director-General 28 October 2015
Community involvement in the task of reconstruction	ICOMOS Colloquium "Post-Trauma Reconstruction" (Paris)	OHNUKI Misako Deputy Director-General 4 March 2016
Protection and revitalization of endangered 'living cultural heritage' in Post-Conflict States: the community's reactivation as a part of reconstruction	ICOMOS University Forum (Paris)	OHNUKI Misako Deputy Director-General 13-15 March 2017
Promotion of Research on ICH Safeguarding in the Asia-Pacific Region	2017 International Forum on Intangible Cultural Heritage: the Pedagogy of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Contemporary Asia (Taipei National University of the Arts)	IWAMOTO Wataru Director-General 11-14 May 2017
Cultural risk and opportunity in the context of natural disasters	The 11th ESIO Conference (Munich)	M. Wilson, C. Ballard, R. Shing, Y. Nojima 30 June 2017
The Role of Museums for the Transmission of ICH	Annual Workshop for Cultural Managers in Viet Nam (Hue)	OHNUKI Misako Deputy Director-General 21-23 September 2017
The Significance of cultural heritage education in view of sustainable development (in Japanese)	2017 Kinki Block Research Association, The Japanese Society of Education for Sustainable Development (Nara)	IWAMOTO Wataru Director-General 12 February 2018
IRCI's Research on ICH and Disaster Risk Management in Oceania (in Japanese)	The 1st Oceania Working Group, Japanese Consortium for International Cooperation in Cultural Heritage (Tokyo)	NOJIMA Yoko Associate Fellow 17 December 2018
Local knowledge to cope with natural hazards and disasters in the Pacific: cases of knowledge and practices contributing to community resiliency in northern Vanuatu.	The 3rd International Symposium in Shizuoka Prefecture, hosted by Fujimu and Mt. Fuji WHC "The Future of the Earth: Insights from island civilizations" (Shizuoka)	NOJIMA Yoko Associate Fellow 16 March 2019
ESD and Culture (in Japanese)	The 2nd General Assembly, The Japanese Society of Education for Sustainable Development (Sendai)	IWAMOTO Wataru Director-General 18 August 2019

Research funded by Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research				
Research Project	Research Category	Budget Amount for FY 2018 (at the time of adoption)	Total Budget Amount	Investigator
Transmission and transformation of intangible cultural heritage in relation to natural hazards: A case study in Northern Vanuatu	Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C)	JPY 1,430,000	JPY 4,160,000 Project period: 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2021	NOJIMA Yoko Associate Fellow

International Meetings and Workshops

Project / Theme	Year	Month	International Meeting / Workshop	Co-Organiser	Cooperating institutions / experts / researchers
ICH's Contribution to SDGs: Education and Community Development	2021	1	International Symposium for Research on ICH's Contribution to SDGs: Education and Community Development		Asia-Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU), Japan Global RCE Network, Japan Goi Peace Foundation, Japan
Multi-disciplinary Study on ICH's Contribution to Sustainable Development : Focusing on Education	2019	11	International Workshop for Multi-disciplinary Study on ICH's Contribution to Sustainable Development: Focusing on Education		
	2019	1	IRCI's International Symposium for Multi-disciplinary Study on ICH's Contribution to Sustainable Development: Focusing on Education		Nara University of Education, Japan
Study of Emergency Protection of ICH in Conflict-Affected Countries in Asia	2018	12	IRCI Meeting for Study of Emergency Protection of ICH in Conflict-Affected Countries in Asia		Tsuruoka City Kurokawa Noh Preservation Society
Mapping Studies on the Safeguarding of ICH	2017	7	International Symposium "Glocal Perspectives on Intangible Cultural Heritage: Local Communities, Researchers, States and UNESCO"	Center for Glocal Studies(CGS), Seijo University, Japan Agency for Cultural Affairs, Japan	
	2016	11	IRCI Experts Meeting on Mapping Project for ICH Safeguarding in the Asia-Pacific Region		
	2015	12	IRCI Experts Meeting on Mapping Project for ICH Safeguarding in the Asia-Pacific Countries	Aigine Cultural Research Center, Kyrgyzstan	
	2015	1	International Experts Meeting of the Project "Mapping Research on the Safeguarding of ICH in the Asia-Pacific Region"	Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia	
Researchers Forum on ICH Safeguarding in the Asia-Pacific Region	2019	12	International Researchers Forum "Perspectives of Research for Intangible Cultural Heritage — towards a Sustainable Society"	Agency for Cultural Affairs, Japan Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Japan	
	2017	11	International Symposium "Negotiating Intangible Cultural Heritage"	National Museum of Ethnology, Japan Agency for Cultural Affairs, Japan	
Research on ICH Safeguarding and Natural Disasters	2018	12	Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop on ICH and Natural Disasters	Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Japan	Center for Northeast Asian Studies, Tohoku University, Japan Ms. Meredith Wilson (Stepwise Heritage and Tourism, Pty, Ltd)
	2017	1	Preliminary Research on ICH Safeguarding and the Disaster Risk Management in the Asia-Pacific Region: International Working Group Session		Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Japan
Study of Legal Systems Related to ICH in the Greater Mekong Region	2016	12	IRCI Final Workshop on the Study of Legal Systems Related to ICH in the Greater Mekong Region		Mr. KONO Toshiyuki (Professor, Faculty of Law, Kyushu University, Japan) Ms. Susan McIntyre-Tamwoy (Associate Director, Extent Heritage Pty Limited, Australia) Vietnam National Institute of Culture and Arts Studies (VICAS)
	2015	12	IRCI Second Workshop on the Study of Legal Systems Related to ICH in the Greater Mekong Region		Mr. KONO Toshiyuki (Professor, Faculty of Law, Kyushu University, Japan) Ms. Susan McIntyre-Tamwoy (Associate Director, Extent Heritage Pty Limited, Australia) Ms. Katie O'Rourke (Director, Katie O'Rourke Consulting, Australia) Faculty of Law, Kyushu University, Japan Toyama Prefecture, Toyama City, Takaoka City, Kyoto City, Japan NOUSAKU Corporation, Japan Musashigawa Studio, Japan
	2014	12	IRCI First Workshop on the Study of Legal Systems Related to ICH in Southeast Asia	Faculty of Law, Kyushu University, Japan	Mr. KONO Toshiyuki (Professor, Faculty of Law, Kyushu University, Japan) Mr. Steven Van Uytsel (Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, Kyushu University, Japan)
Research for Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage on the Verge of Extinction: Vietnamese ICH Element Dong Ho Woodblock Printing	2015	1	Workshop on the Roles of the Community Centre in ICH Revitalization: A Case Study of Dong Ho Woodblock Printing	Vietnam National Institute of Culture and Arts Studies (VICAS)	Government of Viet Nam Bac Ninh Province, Viet Nam Mr. NAMIKI Seishi (Professor, Kyoto Institute of Technology, Japan)
Research for Endangered Traditional Handicrafts in Post-Conflict States (Sri Lanka)	2015	12	Discussion Meeting on Endangered Traditional Handicrafts in Sri Lanka		UNESCO New Delhi Office, India National Craft Council (NCC), Sri Lanka Ms. Himali Jinadasa (Director-General, Sri Lanka Export Development Board (SLEDB)) Mr. ISHII Seiki (Product Designer, SEIKI DESIGN STUDIO, Japan)
Documentation of ICH as a Tool for Community-led Safeguarding Activities	2015	3	Intensive Working Session on ICH Documentation as a Tool for Community-led Safeguarding Activities		
	2014	2	Workshop for Community's Young Film Makers for ICH Audio-Visual Documentation		
	2013	2	Workshop on ICH Documentation as a Tool for Community Safeguarding Activities		
	2012	3	Intensive Researchers Meeting on Communities and the 2003 Convention		
Safeguarding the ICH for the Promotion of Cultural Identity and Community Resilience in Timor-Leste	2013	10	Study Tour for ICH Experts of Timor-Leste	UNESCO Jakarta Office, Indonesia	Agency for Cultural Affairs, Japan National Institutes for Cultural Heritage, Japan (Tokyo National Museum, Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties) Oga City, Akita, Yuki City, Ibaraki, Japan
Research on the 2003 Convention	2013	1	2013 IRCI Meeting on ICH — Evaluating the Inscription Criteria for the Two Lists of UNESCO's ICH Convention		Maison des Cultures du Monde (MCM), France
	2012	6	The First ICH-Research Forum: The Implementation of UNESCO's 2003 Convention	Maison des Cultures du Monde (MCM), France	
Current Status of ICH, in Particular, Research and Studies on ICH in Urgent Need of Safeguarding	2012	8	International Field School Alumni Seminar on Safeguarding ICH in the Asia-Pacific	Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Anthropology Centre (SAC), Thailand	
Symposiums in Cooperation with Sakai City, Osaka, Japan	2016	11	2016 International Symposium on ICH Safeguarding in the Asia-Pacific Region "Transmitting Art and Spirit of ICH"	Agency for Cultural Affairs, Japan Sakai City	Japan Arts Council
	2013	8	International Symposium in Celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the Convention for the Safeguarding of ICH	Agency for Cultural Affairs, Japan Sakai City	Japan Arts Council
	2013	2	Symposium on ICH in the Asia-Pacific Region "ICH in the Asia-Pacific Region — Current Status and Important Issues"	Sakai City	National Museum of Ethnology, Japan
	2011	10	IRCI Opening Commemorative Symposium	Agency for Cultural Affairs, Japan Sakai City	Japan Arts Council



International Researchers Forum "Perspectives of Research for Intangible Cultural Heritage — towards a Sustainable Society" (Tokyo, Japan, December 2019)



International Workshop for Multi-disciplinary Study on ICH's Contribution to Sustainable Development: Focusing on Education (Tokyo, Japan, November 2019)

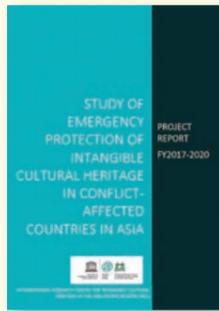


Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop on Intangible Cultural Heritage and Natural Disasters (Sendai, Japan, December 2018)



International Symposium "Negotiating Intangible Cultural Heritage" (Osaka, Japan, November 2017)

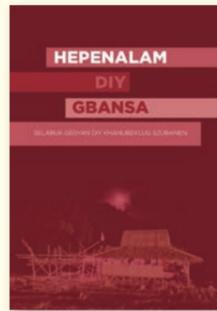
Reports and Publications



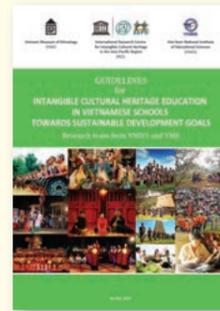
Project Report "Study of Emergency Protection of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Conflict-Affected Countries in Asia" (online version) (March 2021) *



Project Report "ICH's Contribution to SDGs: Education and Community Development" (online version) (February 2021) *



Guidelines for "Multi-disciplinary Study on ICH's Contribution to Sustainable Development: Focusing on Education" for Non-formal Education in the Philippines (Subanen) (October 2020) ISBN 978-621-432-020-2 *



Guidelines for "Multi-disciplinary Study on ICH's Contribution to Sustainable Development: Focusing on Education" for Formal Education in Viet Nam (English) (July 2020) *



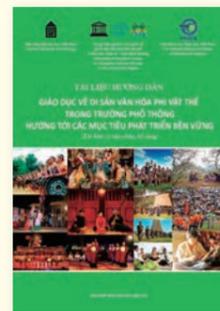
Proceedings of the International Researchers Forum "Perspectives of Research for Intangible Cultural Heritage towards a Sustainable Society" (March 2020) *



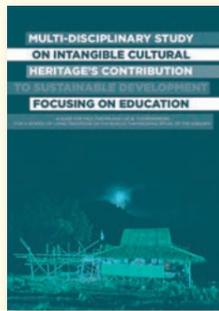
Project Report "Multi-disciplinary Study on ICH's Contribution to Sustainable Development: Focusing on Education" (online version) (February 2020) *



Guidelines for "Multi-disciplinary Study on ICH's Contribution to Sustainable Development: Focusing on Education" for Non-formal Education in the Philippines (English) (the second edition) (February 2020) *



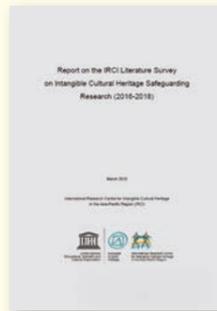
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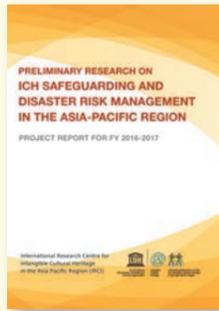
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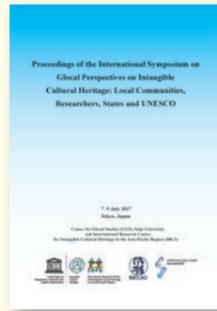
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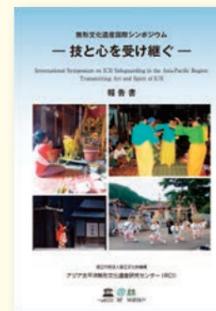
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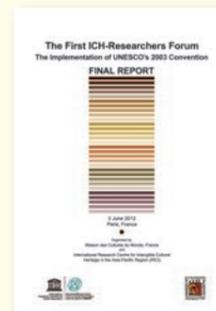
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