



IRCI/2013/ 2nd GBM/S2
Kyoto, 21st October 2013

International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage
in the Asia-Pacific Region under the auspices of UNESCO
(IRCI)

The Second session of the Governing Board Meeting

**Report on the Centre's activities and
the financial statements for FY 2011 and FY 2012**

Decision Required

Paragraph 3

Kyoto, 21st October

1. As per Article 5 Paragraph 3 (a) of the Agreement, the Governing Board shall examine the reports on the Centre's activities submitted by the Director of the Centre.
2. The report on the Centre's activities and financial statements for FY 2011 and FY 2012 is presented as Annex 1. The financial statements for FY 2011 and FY 2012 are posed as Annex 2.
3. The Governing Board may wish to adopt the following decisions:

The Governing Board,

1. Having examined document IRCI/2013/2. GB/S2 and annex 1, 2;
2. Adopts the report on the Centre's activities and financial statements for FY 2011 and FY 2012.

ANNEX 1

Projects Implemented in FY 2011 and FY 2012

1 . Long term and Mid-term programs adopted at the first Governing Board meeting.

Established on 3 October 2011, IRCI implements international research projects which are in lines with Long-term (2012-2021) and the first Mid-term (2012-2015) programmes, which were approved by the Governing Board at its first meeting on the day of the establishment of the Centre. In accordance with the Long-term mission, our studies cover the following five themes:

- A.** Promotion and Impact of Convention for the Safeguarding of ICH
- B.** The current status of ICH, in particular, research and studies on intangible cultural heritage in urgent need of safeguarding.
- C.** Various records of ICH and their utilization
- D.** Good Practices in Safeguarding of ICH
- E.** Dissemination of information on ICH in cooperation with Sakai City

In order to accomplish research and studies on these five pillars, our approaches comply with the following six policies which are also indicated in Mid-term programme (for more details please see Appendix II):

- a.** Facilitating research practice and methods of safeguarding endangered ICH
- b.** Assisting countries in the Asia Pacific Region in implementing measures in Articles. 11-14 of the 2003 Convention
- c.** Organizing workshops and seminars on methods concerning safeguarding ICH
- d.** Supporting young researchers in the Asia-Pacific Region
- e.** Collaborating with organization in the field of the safeguarding of ICH
- f.** Cooperating with Sakai City. The following is the summary of the projects implemented in FY 2012

In FY 2011 and 2012, we implemented 12 projects. The following chart indicates that

the 12 projects comply with both Long- and Mid- term themes and schemes. Details of the projects are described thereafter. The table also denotes that the activities covered all the domains of the Long –term and Mid-term programs.

Table.1

	A: 2003 Convention		B: Current Status					C: Records		D: Good Practice		E: Dis-semination
	MT1	MT2	FR1	FR2	FR3	FR4		MT3	WS	FR5	FR6	
1.Facilitate research on practice and methods for safeguarding endangered ICH												
2. Assist countries in the AP Region in implementing measures in Art. 11-14												
3. Organize workshops and seminars on methods concerning safeguarding ICH							SM	MT3	WS			DS
4. Support young researchers in the AP Regions							SM		WS			
5. Collaborate with org. in the field of the safeguarding of ICH							SM					
6. Cooperate with Sakai city												DS

Abbreviation:

MT: Meeting, FR: Field Research, SM: Seminar, WS: Workshop, DS: Dissemination

2 • Research activities

A. 2003 Convention

Meeting 1: The First ICH-Researchers Forum: The Implementation of UNESCO's 2003 Convention [MT1]

Venue: Paris, France

Date: 3 June 2012

Co-organiser: Maison des Cultures du Monde (MCM), France

Summary: In view of the forthcoming 10th anniversary of the Convention for the

Safeguarding of ICH, IRCI and MCM jointly hosted “the First ICH Researchers’ Forum” in Paris to discuss issues of the convention in the Asia Pacific region. More than 200 people attended the forum, to actively exchange views on the presentations made by the 12 experts. Contents of the meeting are published as a final report in September, 2012.

Outcome: Final Report of the Forum was published in July 2012.

Meeting 2: “2013 IRCI Meeting on ICH – Evaluating the Inscription Criteria for the Two Lists of UNESCO’s Intangible Cultural Heritage Convention” [MT2]

Venue: Tokyo, Japan

Date: 10-11 January, 2013

Summary: As the follow-up of “the First ICH-Researchers Forum” in June 2012, the meeting took place to discuss current situation and challenges of the elements under the present criteria of the lists of the 2003 Convention. Sixteen participants who specialize in the above theme were invited to make presentations for in-depth discussion.

Outcome: Final Report of the meeting is published in April 2013.

B. The current status of intangible cultural heritage, in particular, research and studies on intangible cultural heritage in urgent need of safeguarding

Field Research 1:” Current status of intangible cultural heritage and its protection in Papua New Guinea”[FR1]

Research field: Oral traditions and expressions

Venue: Port Moresby, Ukarumpa, Goroka, and Simbu Province

Period of field research in FY 2012: 10- 30 September, 2012

Summary: In FY 2012, we launched a new project in Papua New Guinea where oral tradition plays a vital role in its culture. Even though two linguists were dispatched for a feasibility study, IRCI decided to discontinue it, judging the project was not feasible.

Field Research 2: "Intangible Cultural Heritages in Myanmar toward Inventory-making"
[FR2]

Research field: Social practices, rituals and festive events; Traditional craftsmanship
Venue: Yangon, Mandalay, Mawlamyaing, and Hpa An
Period of field research in FY 2012: 15- 30 December, 2012, 6- 15 January, 2013

Summary: In view of our mission to assist countries in the Asia-Pacific region in implementing such measures as referred to in Articles from 11 to 14 of the 2003 Convention, this project encouraged inventorying intangible cultural heritages, in particular with folk music. IRCI retreated from the project in 2012 as the government decided to make the inventory under partnership with another party.

Field Research 3: Current status of intangible cultural heritage and its protection
in Thailand [FR3]

Research field: Traditional craftsmanship
Venue: Bangkok and Ayutthaya
Period of field research :14-18 December 2011, 10-15 January 2012, 25-29 January 2012

Summary: As a part of our effort to identify existing traditional element of Asian handicraft, we dispatched an expert of clothing to document traditional technique of Thai textile. The study reaffirmed definitive Indian influence on Thai traditional textile to prelude our projects in India. Participation of young local researchers into the project paved path for signing the mutual cooperation agreement between the Princess Maha Chakuri Silindorn anthropology centre (SAC) and IRCI.

Field Research 4: Current status of intangible cultural heritage and its protection
in India [FR4]

Research field: Traditional craftsmanship
Research field: Traditional craftsmanship
Venue: Srikarlahasti and Masripatnam
Period of field research in FY 2012: 19-28 November, 2012

Summary: Being consonant with our mission to coordinate research into practice and methodologies of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage elements, we facilitated an intensive research to document existing craftsmanship pertaining to cotton printing in Southern India. The project could successfully distinguish genuinely traditional elements of existing technique from recently invented ones.

Seminar: "International Field School Alumni Seminar on Safeguarding Cultural Heritage in the Asia Pacific" [SM]

Venue: Lamphun, Thailand

Date: 6-10 August, 2012

Co-organiser: the Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Anthropology Centre (SAC), Thailand

Summary: As the first attempt to collaborate with other research institutions in the Asia Pacific Regions, SAC and IRCI jointly held an international research seminar in Lamphun, Thailand. The purpose of this project was to support young researchers in the Asia-Pacific Region who are engaged in activities in the field of the safeguarding of ICH, and attendants at the seminar included 13 curators and researchers at the respective museums within the region. The seminar consisted of experts' lectures and participants' presentations concerning the safeguarding of ICH based on case studies.

Output: Contents of the seminar were published as a report in February, 2013.

C. Various records of intangible cultural heritage and their utilization

Meeting 3: Documentation of Intangible Cultural Heritage as a tool for community's safeguarding activities [MT3]

Venue: Tokyo, Japan

Date: 3-4 March, 2012

Summary: While the 2003 Convention emphasizes the importance of the active participation of communities and individual bearers in all the activities concerning ICH, there are not enough

examples of documentation projects where the needs of the community concerned have been taken into account into the project design. Given this background, IRCI organized a meeting r to share good practice and to promote disucussion on community-led documentation, inviting researchers who are actively involved in community-based documentation.

Outcome: The final report of the first intensive meeting was published in July 2012

Workshop: Intangible Cultural Heritage Documentation as a Tool for
Community's Safeguarding Activities [WS]

Venue: Tsuruoka, Japan

Date: 22-25 February, 2013

Summary: This project aims to enhance various records of ICH and their utilization. Following the first intensive researchers meeting (Tokyo, March 2011) which resulted in developing a framework for “Guidelines for documentation as a tool for community safeguarding”, IRCI organized a workshop in order to check whether or not these guidelines are useful and practical for the community and other people concerned in safeguarding activities. The participants created a draft plan of film shooting on their specific part of ICH elements while being provided with practical techniques of filming and editing.

D. Good Practices in Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage

Field Research 5:” Case study on the transmission of a folk-art performance
and its safeguarding in North Eastern Japan“ [FR5]

Research field: Safeguarding measures

Venue: Tsuruoka, Japan

Period of field research: 8-11 November 2011, 29 January -3 February, 2012

24 February- 1 March, 2012

Summary: IRCI conducted intensive interview to performers of Kurokawa-Noh, alchaic form of Noh performance transmitted among community members in Tsuruoka in Northern Japan. Cordial relationship with community members and municipal

government fostered through the field study latter allowed IRCI to host the “Workshop on Intangible Cultural Heritage documentation as a tool for community’s safeguarding activity” in Tsuruoka under devoting cooperation of the local community.

Field Research 6: “Impact of intangible aspects over tangible heritage and possibility of its legalization-taking buildings in Bhutan as examples” [FR6]

Research field: Safeguarding measures

Venue: Thimpu, Wangdue, and Punakha

Period of field research: 29 September - 7 October, 2012

28 January - 2 February, 2013

Summary: In FY 2012, we organized a field research on current status of protecting intangible cultural heritage, including legal measures, in Bhutan. The focus of the research was the impact of intangible values over tangible heritage and its legalization. Issues such as conservation of traditional building which appreciates both intangible and tangible values were examined.

E. Dissemination of ICH information in Cooperation with Sakai City

In FY 2012, IRCI cooperated with the ICH projects carried out by Sakai City: three seminars, a symposium, and an exhibition at Sakai City Museum.

Outcome: Report of each event is updated on the website of Sakai City Museum (<http://www.city.sakai.lg.jp/kanko/hakubutsukan/unesco/renkei/renkei2012.html>).

3. Networking for Research Activities

A. Database for ICH research

Based on “Work Plan and Budget Plan” approved by the first Governing Board meeting of IRCI on 3rd October 2011, we have listed institutes and researchers concerning ICH. At present, our database contains 630 researchers and institutes. We utilize the database to enhance our research activities: such as convening meetings, facilitating field researches, and extending our network with relevant institutions.

B. Cooperation with other research institutes

Provided enormous geographic sphere and immense cultural diversity of Asia-Pacific region, it is imperative to establish strategic partnership among research institutes in the Asia Pacific region. IRCI had honour to sign the first mutual cooperation agreement with the Princess Maha Chakuri Silindorn anthropology centre (SAC) in July 2012 and further had privilege to co-organize “International field study alumni seminar”. Having invited young ICH researchers from nearby countries, the seminar served as catalyst to enhance commitment of local talents into safeguarding ICH in their own countries.

C. Website in vernacular languages of Asia and the Pacific

In light of our mandate to facilitate research on intangible cultural heritage in the Asia-Pacific region, it is imperative to present various information regarding ICHs to people in the region. From this vantage point, we are now developing a multi-lingual website for the purpose of making our information widely accessible to non-English speaking people in the region. As the first step, in FY 2012, we released our website in Thai under cordial cooperation of SAC, and also in Vietnamese in view of the closer cooperation with Vietnamese institutes in FY 2013. Our website is consequentially available in four languages: Thai, Vietnamese, English and Japanese.

ANNEX 2

Financial statements for FY 2011 and FY2012

Financial Statement for FY2011			FY2011 2 nd Half	FY2011 in total
	Category		Amount	Amount
Income	Japanese Government	Management Expenses Grants	15,153,646	25,754,166
	External Funds	International Collaborative Project for the safeguarding of Cultural Properties (Partnership Program for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage)	20,844,681	31,517,458
		Japan/UNESCO Partnership Project	8,642,376	10,509,634
	Sakai City	Expenses for Collaborative Project with IRCI	(13,226,000)	(13,226,000)
	Total Amount			57,866,703
Expenditure	Research in Myanmar		1,606,482	1,606,482
	Research in Thailand		1,249,570	1,927,730
	Research in India		3,343,351	4,530,649
	International Research Meeting		5,025,475	5,025,475
	Other Researches in Japan		704,465	706,230
	Inaugural Symposium of IRCI		614,330	614,330
			(3,497,000)	(3,497,000)
	Website		34,140	1,026,390
	Governing Board Meeting		3,863,445	4,510,686
	Travel expenses for attending meetings		1,201,129	3,460,159
	Others		955,957	955,957
	Personnel		18,950,482	32,374,835
	Centre management expenses		7,091,877	11,042,335
			(9,729,000)	(9,729,000)
Total Amount			57,866,703	81,007,258

※The amounts in parenthesis are born by Sakai City

※Because IRCI was established on 1st Oct. The financial statement of FY 2011 in total is just for reference.

Reference	Sakai City intangible cultural heritage project expenses	1,671,000	1,671,000
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※Sakai City's own Expenditure for the enhancement of understandings of the intangible Cultural Heritage

Financial Statement for FY2011

	Category	Amount	
Income	Japanese Government	Management Expenses Grants	29,709,681
	External Funds	International Collaborative Project for the safeguarding of Cultural Properties (Partnership Program for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage)	51,940,999
		Japan/UNESCO Partnership Project	9,990,204
	Sakai City	Expenses for Collaborative Project with IRCI	(233,000)
	Total Amount		91,873,884
Expenditure	Experts Meeting (in Paris)		4,508,903
	Experts Meeting (in Tokyo)		9,426,217
	Research in Papua New Guinea		1,267,329
	Research in Myanmar		1,032,644
	Research in India		1,434,447
	Research in Bhutan		1,131,291
	Collaborative Project with SAC (Sirindhorn Anthropology Centre)		1,860,851
	Workshop in Tsuruoka		9,363,664
	Symposium on Intangible Cultural Heritage		231,845 (24,000)
	Exhibition of Panels concerning Intangible Cultural Heritage		(40,000)
	Website		561,600
	Travel expenses for attending meetings		8,390,930
	Others		2,086,812
	Personnel		35,687,755
	Centre management expenses		14,656,596 (169,000)
Total Amount		91,873,884	

※The amounts in parenthesis are born by Sakai City

Reference	Sakai City intangible cultural heritage project expenses	3,925,000
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※Sakai City's own Expenditure for the enhancement of understandings of the intangible Cultural Heritage