

Medium-term Programme (2012-2015)

As the International Research and Study Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region supported by UNESCO and established in accordance with the “Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage” and laws concerning the promotion of international cooperation for the safeguarding of overseas cultural heritage in Japan, the International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region established under the auspices of an incorporated administrative agency, the National Institutes for Cultural Heritage has a medium-term programme (hereinafter called “medium-term programme”) to accomplish the long-term programme. The medium-term programme is defined as follows:

I. Duration of the Medium-term Programme:

The duration of the medium-term programme is the first four years of the aforementioned long-term programme, that is to say, from January 2012 until December 2015.

II. Basic Policies:

- (1) In cooperation with government agencies, universities, research institutes, and other related organizations in Japan and UNESCO member states, facilitate research and studies on practices and methods for the safeguarding of endangered intangible cultural heritage present in the Asia-Pacific Region.
- (2) While paying special attention to developing countries, from the perspective of research and studies, assist countries in the Asia-

Pacific Region in implementing measures stipulated in Articles from 11 to 14 of the Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

- (3) For experts and local representatives from the Asia-Pacific Region, organize workshops and seminars focusing on roles and practical methods of research and studies for the purpose of safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.
- (4) Support young researchers in the Asia-Pacific Region who are engaged in activities for research and studies on the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage.
- (5) Collaborate with organizations inside and outside of the Asia-Pacific Region which are acting in the field of the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage.
- (6) Cooperate with Sakai city to implement the project aiming at the safeguarding and inheritance of intangible cultural heritage and the promotion of international cultural exchange, which Sakai City positions as part of the city's Master Plan (comprehensive plan).

III. Specific Contents of Activities:

1. In 2013 which marks the 10th year since the Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage came into force, carry out studies on the enforcement of the convention and its impact.
2. Encourage cooperation with the following projects carried out by Sakai City:

- (1) Project for dissemination and enlightenment concerning intangible cultural heritage carried out in cooperation with research institutes, universities, and so on.
- (2) Project to gather and utilize pertinent information on intangible cultural heritage designated by UNESCO present in Japan and in the Asia-Pacific Region.
- (3) Model project carried out at schools or other educational settings to enhance understanding on intangible cultural heritage.