

Long-term Programme (2012-2021)

Based on the agreement concluded between the Government of Japan and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in relation to the establishment in Japan of the International Research and Study Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (category 2) (hereinafter referred to as “the Agreement”) supported by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, objectives related to operation management (hereinafter called “long-term programme”) to be accomplished by 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, are set as follows:

I. Duration of the Long-term Programme:

The duration of the long-term programme is 10 years after the inauguration of the International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region.

II. Vision:

- (1) Form an international research centre for intangible cultural heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region.
- (2) Achieve the objectives prescribed in art.4 para.1 of the Agreement between UNESCO and Japan, through the functions outlined in art.4 of para.2 of the agreement.
- (3) Cooperate with UNESCO and C2 centres in the field of ICH in the region.
- (4) In cooperation with Sakai City, operate projects which utilize the outcomes of the activities of the International Research Centre and make efforts toward

dissemination to and enlightenment of the public and enhancement of their understanding on the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage.

III. Mission:

The International Research Centre will formulate a long-term programme focusing on the following areas:

1. Facilitating research and studies on intangible cultural heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region, focusing the following themes:

- The current status of intangible cultural heritage, in particular, research and studies on intangible cultural heritage in urgent need of safeguarding.
- The Convention for the Sageguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage.
- Promoting the Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage.
- Various records of intangeble cultural heritage and their utilization.Good Practices in Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

2. Encourage cooperation with the following projects carried out by Sakai City:

- (1) Project led by Sakai City Museum to disseminate information on intangible cultural heritage designated by UNESCO
- (2) Local citizen-led international cultural exchange project which takes advantage of the characteristics of the local government
- (3) Project to encourage young people responsible for the next generation to understand other cultures