

## Programmes for FY2013 and FY2014

### IRCI's Activities in Focus

Facilitating research

#### I. Research for Safeguarding **Endangered ICH**

Collaboration of researchers and institutes

#### II. **Mapping Studies** on the Safeguarding of ICH

#### I. Research for Safeguarding **Endangered ICH**

##### A. Current status and safeguarding policy

###### 1. Endangered Traditional Handicrafts in Post-Conflict States (Sri Lanka)

Civil war is one of the factors having the most severe impact on the transmission of ICH. This project is a pilot study to revive ICH in a post-conflict society. As a baseline for further safeguarding measures, information will be collected and organized with regard to traditional handicrafts and their successors in regions of Sri Lanka formerly dominated by the LTTE, where such information is notably insufficient due to the post-conflict nature of the area. Practitioners identified on 1. in need of improvement of socio-economic situations are supported by UNESCO and Sri Lankan government by revitalizing their traditional handicrafts.

Performance Indicator	Benchmark
A handicraft database covering 10 regions of the Northern and the Eastern Sri Lanka will be established.	1. The feasibility study of the project is completed. 2. A handicraft database covering at

	<p>least <b>3</b> regions of the Northern and Eastern Sri Lanka is established.</p> <p>3. More detailed benchmark of the project such as the numbers of the documentations and more specific geographic coverage of the entire project will be submitted to the third Governing Board meeting in 2014.</p>
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## **2. Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage on the Verge of Extinction:**

### **Vietnamese ICH Element Dong Ho Woodblock Printing**

In accordance with a request from the Vietnamese Government, IRCI will investigate the current status of Dong Ho block painting as a case of community-based safeguarding of endangered ICH. A plan for safeguarding measures with the active participation of community members will be explored.

Video records of techniques and knowledge of woodblock printing will be produced by local people themselves and stored in research institutions, local museums, community centres. The project also eyes to provide young people with opportunities to be involved in the process of documentation.

<b>Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>
1. Video records and documents of techniques regarding the knowledge of woodblock printing are codified under the initiative of the representatives of Dong Ho village and Bac Ninh Province.	1. Representatives of Dong Ho village or Bac Ninh Province will participate in a documentation workshop in Japan early 2014 and complete production of the first version of the video record by October 2014. The records will encompass techniques of the two aged craftsmen of the village.
2. Interviews with village residents, including all the bearers of the woodblock painting, are conducted.	2. Detailed sample design for interview will be set after the preliminary visit.

## **3. Study of Legal Systems Related to Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Greater Mekong Region**

This is a three-year project to enhance the safeguarding of ICH through the development of legal and policy frameworks in the Mekong region. In the first year of the project, experts in the field of ICH law from outside the Mekong region will conduct hearings with local scholars and government officials on the

current status of and issues facing the local legal system in connection with safeguarding endangered ICH.

<b>Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>
A report on the legal systems related to intangible cultural heritage in three countries in the Mekong region — Laos, Cambodia, and Myanmar — will be produced.	Reporting on the two countries — Laos, and Cambodia — will be completed by October 2014.

#### **4. Study Tour for East Timorese ICH officers in Japan**

This is a one week study tour mainly aims at giving opportunities for East Timorese officers to learn institutional and policy frameworks at national and local levels in Japan. Some good practices of transmitting, conserving and disseminating ICH at the community level in Japan are presented. Group work sessions are also set by IRCI to share, identify and discuss problems regarding the safeguarding of ICH in Timor-Leste.

<b>Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>
<b>9</b> participants will improve their scores examined by questionnaires regarding their knowledge on ICH safeguarding measures.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least <b>6</b> participants significantly improve their scores.</li> <li>Scores on the knowledge in at least two of the three studied realms- institutional framework, roles of the private sector and communities, and current status of ICH in Timor-Leste- will significantly improve.</li> </ol>

#### **5. Workshop for developing a methodology for ICH safeguarding**

IRCI will host workshops to promote the documentation of ICH as a tool for community safeguarding activities, which we have developed through a researcher forum and workshops during the past two years.

<b>Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Benchmark</b>
Video records of <b>6</b> ICH from <b>5</b> countries are produced by their bearers or the representatives of the relevant communities and utilized at the local communities.	All the participants will complete the production of the video records and elucidate their plans for the storage and the utilization of the records by October 2014.

## II. Mapping Studies on the Safeguarding of ICH

### B. Exploring Research for the Safeguarding of ICH in the Asia-Pacific Region

As a UNESCO Category 2 Centre, we will build a database of researchers, institutions, and government officers concerning safeguarding ICH in the Asia Pacific region. Closely consulting with key researchers, we will also undertake a mapping of studies on safeguarding ICH in the Asia Pacific region. The project outcomes will serve as a platform for study concerning ICH safeguarding in the region.

IRCI will also host two conferences to promote the safeguarding of ICH in the Asia Pacific region. In the first year, we will organize a preparatory meeting to identify key issues concerning studies on ICH safeguarding in the Asia Pacific region. In the second year, we will continue by holding a conference to discuss a number of specific key issues.

Performance Indicator	Benchmark
1. <b>12</b> key researchers from <b>6</b> sub-regions of the Asia-Pacific region are identified and their participation in the project will be confirmed.	1. The identification of the key researchers has been completed.
2. About <b>300</b> records regarding researchers, research institutes and good practices will be posted into the database.	2. Survey on at least four of the six sub-regions will be initiated and at least <b>200</b> records will be posted into the database by October 2014.
3. <b>2</b> researchers fora will be held and at least 12 papers are contributed to the final publication of the project.	3. The final report will be published no later than March 2015 and at least <b>12</b> papers are contributed to the publication.

## II. Mapping Studies on the Safeguarding of ICH

Preliminary Research  
(FY2013)

Existing Research Database, Institutes etc.

Convert

Link

### **Digital Research Repository on ICH**

- A New Website to be launched in cooperation with experts in informatics (FY 2014-)
- Compiling research outcomes

### **Enhancing Research Activities as means to safeguard ICH in the AP Region**

- Support sharing information on ICH in the AP region through IRCI's digital platform
- Stimulate discussions on safeguarding of ICH in the AP region
- Strengthening research network (researchers, institutes)

## II. Mapping Studies on the Safeguarding of ICH

[Mid-term policies (4) &(5)]

Approved to  
implement by  
UNESCO

### Ongoing Project (FY 2013-2014)

#### Exploring Research for the Safeguarding of ICH in the Asia-Pacific Region

- Identification and discussion of the key issues in context of the Asia-Pacific Region
- Building "Digital Research Repository" to promote academic research in the Asia-Pacific region

## How does the Centre contribute to UNESCO's strategy?

Tables below indicates which project contributes to strategic objects, main lines of action, and expected outcomes posed at UNSCO's Medium strategy 37/C5 (2014-2021) and main quadrennial program and budget 37/C5 (2014-2017). As indicated, the projects are meticulously planned and proposed to steadily implement the mission given to the Centre.

<b>Paragraphs in 37/C4 (2014-2021) Strategic Objective 7</b>				
	121	122	123	124
A1. Sri Lanka	★	★		
A2. Vietnam	★	★		
A3. Greater Mekong	★			★
A4. Study Tour	★	★		★
A5. Documentation	★			★
B. Mapping	★		★	★
C. 10th Anniversary	★			

<b>Paragraphs in 37/C5 (2014-2017) Strategic Objective 8</b>									
	4023	4024	4025	4026	4027	4028	4029	4030	4031
A1. Sri Lanka	★		★					★	
A2. Vietnam	★		★		★			★	
A3. Greater Mekong	★	★					★	★	
A4. Study Tour	★	★			★				
A5. Documentation	★							★	
B. Mapping	★	★					★	★	
C. 10th Anniversary	★								★

<b>Strategic Objective 8:</b> Fostering creativities and the diversity of cultural expressions		
<b>Main Line of Action 2:</b> Supporting and promoting the diversity of cultural expressions through the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage and the development of cultural and creative industries		
<b>Expected result</b>	<b>Name of the project</b>	<b>Expected outcome of the project</b>
<b>ER5:</b> National capacities strengthened to safeguard the intangible cultural heritage	Sri Lanka	<p><b>1a.</b> Identification of traditional handicrafts and their practitioners in the post-conflict areas conducted.</p> <p><b>1b.</b> Data on the traditional handicrafts identified in 1.a. made available for intervention for problem solving by the Sri Lankan government, IRCI and UNESCO.</p> <p><b>2.</b> Practitioners identified in 1. as being in need of improvement of their socio-economic situation supported by UNESCO and the Sri Lankan government by revitalizing their traditional handicrafts.</p>
	Vietnam	<p><b>1.</b> Records of woodblock printing produced, which were stored in such a way that residents can utilize them by themselves.</p> <p><b>2.</b> Communication between aged craftsmen and young people increased.</p> <p><b>3.</b> Action plans for the safeguarding of ICH formulated, and application for registration on UNESCO' safeguarding list submitted by the Vietnamese Government.</p> <p><b>4.</b> The above project process in detail made available as a model case for the safeguarding of endangered ICH, through the websites of VICAS and IRCL.</p>
	Greater Mekong	<p><b>1.</b> Information on the surveyed countries' legal systems collected and issues needing solutions identified</p> <p><b>2.</b> Measures for establishing laws on the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage initiated by the authorities of the surveyed countries.</p>
	Study tour	<p><b>1.</b> Ideas for effective safeguarding in institutional and policy frameworks obtained by participants (East Timorese officers in the cultural sector).</p> <p><b>2.</b> The current status and key issues in their country identified and recognized by the participants.</p>

<b>ER7:</b> International and regional cooperation strengthened through knowledge sharing and operational partnerships	Mapping	A knowledge-sharing database established and made available to experts and specialized agencies engaged in safeguarding activities in the Asia-Pacific region
	Workshop	Knowledge on ICH documentation obtained and shared by the participants(ICH practioners), and participants enabled to produce and utilize the audiovisual records in their safeguarding activities.