UNDERSTANDING INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE IN THE CONTEXT OF NATURAL HAZARDS AND DISASTERS

SUMMARY OF THE IRCI PROJECT 'RESEARCH ON ICH SAFEGUARDING AND DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT' (FY 2020–2023)

Yoko Nojima [1]

INTRODUCTION

Since 2016, the International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI) has been conducting research on the theme of intangible cultural heritage (ICH) and disaster risk management (DRM) since 2016. This was also the period when UNESCO started to emphasize ICH in post-conflict and post-disaster situations[2]. In Japan, a significant number of efforts have been focused on the revitalization of local ICH practices in the Tohoku region after the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami of 11 March 2011 (Takakura and Takizawa, 2014; Takakura and Yamaguchi, 2018; Hashimoto and Hayashi, 2016).

The initial phase of the project (FY 2016–2018)[3] involved exploring the relationship between ICH and disasters. While trying to better understand how ICH is damaged by various disasters, the project highlighted the positive aspects of ICH contributing to the post-disaster recovery of the communities as well as to better preparedness (Iwamoto, Ohnuki, and Nojima, 2018). The project also encouraged the participation of DRM specialists in the project activities, and the discussion at the workshop held in Sendai in 2018 led to the development of the 'Statements and Recommendations for Safeguarding ICH in Disasters and Mobilising ICH for Disaster Risk Reduction' (Iwamoto and Nojima, 2019).

Based on these recommendations, current phase of the project started in FY 2020. In 2020, the world was experiencing an unexpected and unprecedented crisis triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the project took a rather slow start in developing its activities, as meetings with people and travelling were restricted for more than a year. Anticipating that the imposed international travel ban might last for a long period, IRCI needed to develop activities based on desk studies and online communications instead of planning case studies based on field research. This eventually enabled IRCI to develop a tool or methodology to estimate and understand how ICH could be

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1   International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI)
2   UNESCO's initiatives began with the desk study (Wilson and Ballard, 2017), and eventually culminated in the adoption of the 'Operational principles and modalities for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage in emergencies' at the eighth session of the General Assembly in September 2020. https://ich.unesco.org/en/operational-principles-and-modalities-in-emergencies-01143
3   Preliminary Research on ICH Safeguarding and Disaster-Risk Management in the Asia-Pacific Region (FY 2016–2017), and the Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop on ICH and Natural Disasters (FY 2018).

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impacted by disasters and how certain aspects of ICH could contribute to the process of disaster risk reduction (DRR). By creating a worksheet in the form of a table or matrix, the desk study was conducted in FY 2021 in cooperation with researchers and research organizations in eight countries: Bangladesh, Fiji, Indonesia, Japan, Mongolia, Philippines, Vanuatu, and Viet Nam, which enabled the collaborators of the project to have a better understanding of ICH in relation to natural hazards and disasters, including disaster risks along with how ICH would be affected and how it could play positive roles at what stage of DRM cycle. Subsequently, the project conducted case studies after reviewing the results of the desk study through online working sessions (FY 2022). In FY 2023, the results of the case studies carried out by the collaborators were brought together at the final workshop held in September 2023 to have in-depth discussion. This publication is the compilation of the outcomes of case studies conducted throughout the project and elaborated reflecting the final discussion at the workshop.

This introductory chapter summarizes these step-by-step activities, with the expectation that specific processes can be referenced as a guide for establishing baseline information and further activities. By reviewing the implementation of activities, this introduction also summarizes the current state of ICH safeguarding in the context of DRM, including possible tools and frameworks that could be utilized to develop plans and actions to safeguard ICH and mobilize ICH for the DRR of communities.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Assessing the Potential Risks and Effectiveness of ICH in Relation to Natural Hazards and Disasters (FY 2021–2022)
A desk study (FY 2021)
This activity was designed to be carried out as a desk study to assess the potential risks and positive aspects of ICH in the context of natural hazards and disasters. As noted above, this was an alternative means of making progress in the project under circumstances largely constrained by the COVID-19 pandemic. To carefully examine the disaster risk of ICH and its effectiveness, different hazard types and ICH domains were examined individually. Importantly, the study considered the DRM cycle of preparedness, immediate response, and recovery, which correspond to before, during, and after a disaster, to identify how ICH would be damaged or become effective at what stage of the disaster process.

To facilitate this desk study, hazard/disaster types as listed in Table 1 were provided as options, and collaborators from the Asia-Pacific region selected three hazard types that were of great concern in their respective countries. To focus on the hazards and disasters affecting the environment and ecosystems, armed conflict was excluded from the scope of the study.

Table 1   Hazard/disaster types listed for the study

Earthquake	Coastal erosion	Insect/animal infestation
Volcanic Eruption	Cyclone/typhoon	Epidemic
Landslide	Tornado	Others (including man-made hazards)
Snow/Ice-related hazard	Flooding	
Tsunami	Drought	
Storm surge	Wildfire	

Expecting that the disaster impact and the role of ICH would differ depending on the nature of ICH, this study treated a wide range of ICH separately, following the five ICH domains distinguished in the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (the 2003 Convention). They are:

1) oral tradition and expressions
2) performing arts
3) social practices, rituals, and festive events
4) knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe, and
5) traditional craftsmanship.

Furthermore, the following three modalities were proposed to closely examine ICH elements: **people** who are at the core of any ICH knowledge and practice; **place** including sites, facilities, and environments that supply natural resources related to the practice; and **object** or instruments associated with the practice of ICH, including raw materials.

Incorporating all these factors, tables or worksheets as shown in Figure 1 were developed and used in the study. Researchers from the Asia-Pacific region who participated in the project (see Table 2) selected three types of hazards/disasters, and filled in the tables for all five ICH domains.
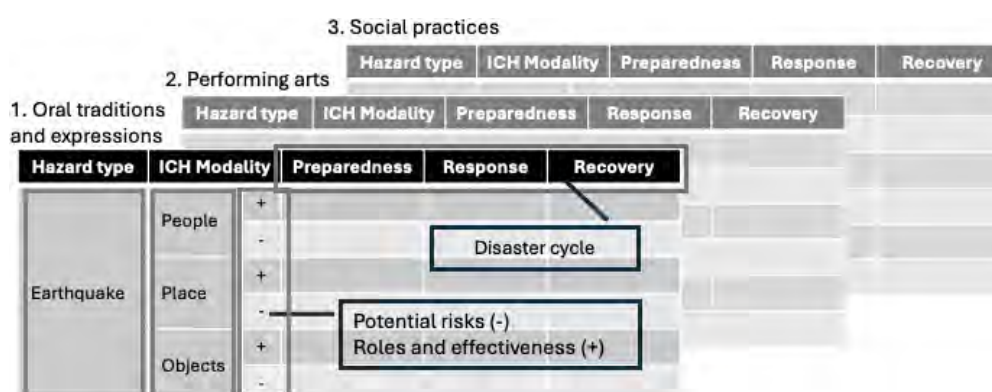

Figure 1   Worksheet structure and component
The basic structure of the worksheet is shown in front. For each disaster type, five separate sheets corresponding to different ICH domains were created.

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Filling out these tables for specific hazard/disaster types was considered helpful in understanding the potential risk of disasters on ICH in a holistic manner, especially how and what aspects of ICH would be damaged by a certain type of disaster, and at what stage of disaster it would happen. The consideration of the disaster process is extremely important for ICH, because there are many instances in which elements of ICH have been rather negatively impacted in the process of post-disaster recovery and reconstruction, as typically found in the influx of external materials and objects as part of disaster-relief and recovery assistance, replacing existing local materials and associated practices (e.g. traditional architecture replaced by modern houses with bricks and metals or wooden boats replaced by fibreglass boats, leading to the loss of knowledge and practice).

This exercise was also considered effective in recognizing the active roles of ICH, which serves as a baseline for developing specific plans for mobilizing ICH for community-based DRR. In addition, it is also expected that contributions from various countries in the Asia-Pacific region will refine the quality of this ICH–hazard/disaster table, which, ultimately, will become a reference and general tool for identifying ICH risks in the context of natural hazards and disasters.

Online workshop based on the desk study (FY 2022)

The results of the desk study conducted in seven countries in the Asia-Pacific region were shared through an online workshop, which was divided into two sessions held on 5 August 2022 (Session 1) and 7 September 2022 (Session 2)(Annex 1). In Session 1, the participants focused on the impact of natural hazards and disasters on ICH and how to safeguard ICH from disasters. In Session 2, in contrast, participants discussed active roles of ICH for DRR.

In addition to the reports and discussions on these themes, R. Kodani of the Cultural Heritage Disaster Management Center, National Institutes for Cultural Heritage, Japan, introduced its activities and efforts to safeguard ICH in Japan as an icebreaker for the workshop. Recalling the first notable effort in which bulls used for traditional bullfights were rescued at the request of a local community hit by the Chuetsu Earthquake in 2004, he outlined how ICH safeguarding has developed in Japan as part of heritage rescue programmes and the ongoing effort of the center to develop a strategy for safeguarding ICH at all stages of disaster risk management (DRM)[4,5].

While the importance of social practices, rituals, and performing arts for enhancing community cohesion as well as traditional crafts as a means of re-establishing livelihoods in the recovery process was reconfirmed, a wide range of ICH was

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4 Kodani, R. (2022). Commitments of the Cultural Heritage Disaster Risk Management Center (CHDRMS) to Safeguard Intangible Cultural Heritage against Disasters. A paper presented at Session 1 of the Workshop of the Research on ICH Safeguarding and Disaster Risk Management, Online, 5 August 2022.

5 A further refined version of the DRM framework for ICH developed by the center was presented by T. Goto, a researcher associated with the center, at the final workshop in September 2023, which has been included in this volume.

considered effective for disaster preparedness, such as oral traditions, songs, and performances to convey messages regarding how to prepare for and respond to a specific type of disaster; traditional food preparation and storage to survive times of disaster; and a wide array of traditional knowledge and practices predicting climate-related hazards. However, such knowledge and practices that could potentially contribute to community resilience require the processes of transmission and enactment to be effectively utilized as a means of DRR. Given that such knowledge is often on the verge of disappearing due to modernization, market economies, and associated lifestyle changes, it is important to revisit and safeguard such elements by developing and implementing community-based action plans.

Field Research Assessing the Potential Risks and Effectiveness of ICH in Relation to Natural Hazards and Disasters (FY 2022)

After holding an online workshop and reflecting on the desk study results, each collaborator conducted field research to assess the risks and positive aspects of ICH in the context of natural hazards and disasters at the community level. All the researchers who undertook the desk study continued their commitment to and research for the IRCI project (Table 2). Reflecting on the results of the desk study, the

Table 2 List of researchers in the Asia-Pacific region contributed to the project through case studies

Country	Researcher	Affiliation	Focus of case study
Bangladesh	Saifur Rashid	Dhaka University	Impact of costal erosion and flood on ICH in Sunamganj and Shyamnagar Upazilas
Fiji	Melaia Tikoitoga	Ministry of iTaukei Affairs	ICH in Koro and Bua provinces affected by cyclones
Indonesia	Benny Usdianto	RedR Indonesia	The roles of performing arts and other ICH in DRR in Bantul district
Mongolia	Saruul Arslan	National Center for Cultural Heritage	Traditional knowledge, techniques, and practices associated with herding in eastern region in relation to drought, *dzud*, and wildfire
Philippines	Fatima Gay J. Molina	Mobilizing Futures Interdisciplinary Research and Development	Ifugao ICH in relation to hazards such as cyclones, landslides, flashfloods, and earthquakes
Vanuatu	Edson Willie	Vanuatu Cultural Centre	ICH of Ambae communities affected by volcanic eruption and evacuation
Viet Nam	Phan Phuong Anh	Vietnam National University	Fishing-related ICH in Binh Dinh province and climate hazards (flood, inundation, storm, cyclone, salt-water intrusion, temperature change)

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researchers selected specific research locations and communities concerned with ICH and certain types of hazards/disasters, and their research plan was submitted to IRCI immediately after the online workshop in September 2022.

For the purpose of clarifying and guiding the direction of research, general guidelines (Annex 2) were provided by IRCI, with the following goals:
1) Identify varieties of ICH in the community, including knowledge and practices related to DRR.
2) Identify the disaster risks faced by the community in general, and assess associated risks on ICH.
3) Raise awareness among community members and ICH practitioners on a) disaster risks for their own ICH, and b) elements of ICH that are helpful for DRR.
4) Discuss with the community a) how to reduce the risk of disaster that would damage ICH, and b) how to utilize ICH for the community's DRR, to develop action plans.

By carrying out case studies focusing on specific communities, ICH elements, and hazard and disaster risk situations, it was expected that the methodology used for the desk study would be refined to serve as a tool to understand the community's ICH and associated disaster risks, which should be a critical step for communities to safeguard their own ICH. At the same time, collaboration between the ICH and DRM fields was encouraged, especially in the process of working in the communities, as such opportunities for dialogue were expected to contribute to the development of practical action plans for ICH safeguarding and DRR. This research should have required close interaction with and the inclusion of local communities, as community members play a primary role in identifying their ICH and how their ICH might be affected by disasters. An important role of researchers in such research activities would be to reorganize a wide range of knowledge and practices held by community members to facilitate discussions on how to safeguard their ICH from disasters and how to utilize their ICH to enhance their resilience.

Actual fieldwork was carried out in the respective countries from October 2022 to February 2023, and the field report was submitted to IRCI by the end of FY 2022 (March 2023). Due to various limiting factors such as the budget, human resources, and the time that could be spent for undertaking research in the field, it was difficult to achieve all the goals as targeted in the project. However, these case studies reflected a wide range of ICH situations affected by various hazards and disasters, including cases indicating adaptation to changing climates and environments. The findings of the case studies were brought together to the final workshop in FY 2023 for comprehensive discussions summarizing the project, and the field report was eventually elaborated as a research paper to be included in this volume.

Research on ICH Safeguarding and Disaster Risk Management: Final Workshop (FY 2023)
The workshop structure
The final workshop, 'Research on ICH Safeguarding and Disaster Risk Management: Final Workshop' was organized in Nara during 27–29 September 2023 to have

comprehensive discussions for safeguarding ICH from disasters and mobilizing ICH for DRR, while sharing the outcomes of case studies conducted in FY 2022. The workshop was organized in cooperation with the Cultural Heritage Disaster Risk Management Centre under the National Institutes for Cultural Heritage (NICH), and the Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties was used as the workshop venue.

Since the inception of the desk study in FY 2021, collaborating researchers in the Asia-Pacific region have taken the same steps following the common guidelines developed by IRCI. Therefore, this workshop was designed as an opportunity to discuss, among these collaborators and a few resource persons, issues and challenges for developing community-centred actions for ICH safeguarding and DRR in the Asia-Pacific region and to further elaborate the framework for safeguarding ICH against disasters. The main presentations and discussions among participants were held in the first two days, while the last day was spent on an excursion related to heritage restoration techniques in Japan and experiencing the heritage-nature linkage (see Annex 3 for the programme of the first two days and the list of participants).

On DAY 1, the results of the field research were presented by project collaborators in the Asia-Pacific region. The workshop was also an opportunity for them to obtain feedback on their research and exchange opinions, which encouraged them to revise their report as a research paper (see the following contributions in this volume for the final output of the case studies). In the final session of the day, a special report was provided by the Cultural Heritage Disaster Risk Management Centre sharing its efforts to establish the DRM framework for ICH at the national level, which could be seen as one of the best models reflecting the efforts for and experiences of rescuing ICH after various disasters that hit Japan (see the contribution by Goto, this volume).

Group discussion: steps and tools to enhance community's capacity to safeguard ICH and mobilize ICH for DRR

DAY 2 began with a breakout session in the morning. Reflecting on the experiences and outcomes of their case studies, all participants, including collaborators and resource persons, were divided into two groups (A and B) to discuss feasible steps for enhancing the community's capacity to safeguard its own ICH and/or mobilize ICH for community-based DRR. The outcomes of the group discussions are summarized as follows:

Group A proposed the importance of having an ICH inventory as a baseline and the step-by-step identification of threats/challenges, potential roles of ICH, priorities of ICH, opportunities for safeguarding, and feasible actions to be implemented. To facilitate these procedures, various tools and guidelines would be necessary to develop ICH inventories, safeguarding plans, risk and vulnerability assessments for the ICH sector, and integrated ICH-DRM plans that should be community-based. While the first two are general tools for safeguarding ICH, the other two require further examination and elaboration. Opportunities for safeguarding ICH could include existing ICH management policies and the willingness of communities to promote their heritage, where DRM aspects could be incorporated. Existing DRM planning and programmes at the community and national levels could also provide opportunities

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for ICH safeguarding. As feasible actions to be taken, Group 1 listed the documentation of ICH practices and traditional knowledge to raise awareness among young people; the support for the communities to get their ICH inscribed on the national list; the programming of capacity-building on DRR for ICH practitioners; and the application of a community-based DRM approach for the better integration of ICH and DRR.

Group B listed the following steps and opportunities for the transmission of ICH as significant: strengthening ethnic identity; utilizing technologies for ICH transmission; replication of systems such as Philippines' School of Living Traditions, rewriting/ sharing mythologies, dramas, games, and songs so that children can understand them; organizing festivals combining new approaches to introduce ICH to the younger generation; organizing forums using children's games with partners/representatives of ICH; integrating ICH in information and educational campaigns for DRR; and composing scripts and poems to disseminate DRR messages. To mobilize ICH for community-based DRR, the following steps and ideas were suggested: integrating ICH in DRM planning; organizing a technical working group bringing together DRM and ICH practitioners; officially combining DRM and ICH plans; utilizing evacuation centres as storage space for ICH; replicating village resilience programmes (found in Indonesia and the Philippines); developing local and national risk mapping; integrating the process of free, prior, and informed consent (FPIC) in DRM consultations; and institutionalizing the integration of ICH such as early warning systems in DRM. The proposed tools included: the development and circulation of factsheets covering the history of disasters with scientific information; recordings of ICH, including social media and visual ethnographies; utilization of scrips, poems, and games to disseminate DRR; utilization of ICH maps to facilitate discussion; and the development of policy briefs for the government to promote revenue generation for ICH.

Experts' reflection and final discussion
Before proceeding to the final discussion, two experts provided reflections. As an ICH expert who has been working with UNESCO in the development and implementation of programmes for ICH in emergencies as well as the guidance note for living heritage and climate actions, Chris Ballard (Australian National University) introduced the 'People, Place, Story' model to look into heritage (Wilson and Ballard, 2017) that has been tailored for the capacity-building programmes of UNESCO to understand ICH and disasters. Acknowledging the interwoven nature of tangible and intangible heritage, he emphasized the importance of understanding how ICH is articulated and transmitted, and thinking about which aspects of ICH practices are impacted.

The reflection by Vu Canh Toan (ISET–Vietnam), a DRM specialist and collaborator on the case study in Viet Nam, expanded the focus of discussions on climate change and human factors, such as urbanization and deforestation, which have made hazards more extreme, frequent, and unpredictable. According to him, there is no framework that is sufficiently easy to facilitate better ICH-DRM integration and collaboration. He noted that there are still knowledge gaps for ICH–DRM integration: insufficient DRM knowledge and capacity in the culture sector, and a simplified understanding of ICH and traditional knowledge and limited attention to the social capital aspect of ICH in

the DRM and climate change adaptation (CCA) sector. He also clarified the importance of understanding not only risk but also vulnerability to build resilience, which to ICH researchers sounded like an effective concept to better understand the situation of ICH in relation to disasters.

Subsequently, the final discussion started by asking questions on the collaboration between ICH and DRM, and how ICH could be successfully integrated into DRR. At the government level, participants noted factors such as a limited capacity for intersectoral cooperation and insufficient understanding of ICH among administrators. Institutionalizing the participation of ICH specialists in the national framework for DRR could be seen as a positive move. Considering that the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR, 2015) mentions cultural heritage but not 'intangible' cultural heritage, some participants called for further advocating the importance of ICH and strengthening the cultural sector's own framework for DRR. Furthermore, considering that ICH is related to tourism, urban planning, and resilience, a multidimensional approach involving various sectors would be plausible.

Several opportunities for ICH–DRM integration have been mentioned. For instance, community-based DRM could be an ideal ground for integrating ICH, as it requires the process of risk and vulnerability assessments by local communities. Ingigenous knowledge is extremaly important in discussions on climate change adaptation (CCA). This context could provide an opportunity for ICH, because indigenous knowledge is ICH. The discussion then shifted to the issue of local/indigenous/traditional knowledge, with a participant questioning why it would be necessary to introduce a new term such as ICH into the discussion on CCA, when alternative terms such as traditional knowledge were already in use. In response, it was pointed out that the term ICH is much broader and includes a wide range of knowledge and practices and that using the term ICH could encourage a systemic understanding of knowledge.

It was also pointed out that some ICH elements highlighted in the presentations as effective for DRR, such as climate knowledge, agricultural knowledge and practices, and food preparation, are often not considered as heritage by communities, as they are a part of daily life. In this respect, DRM, CCA, and SDGs are all good opportunities to advocate that these mandane everyday activities all ICH. Towards the end of the discussion, there was an encouraging comment highlighting the power of communities, stating that traditional knowledge, social knowledge and cohesion, and resilience could not be supplied by the government.

A WAY FORWARD

The safeguarding of ICH in the context of disasters and emergencies has made considerable progress over the past 10 years or so. The most notable development would be the emphasis on the preparedness phase, in addition to supporting the restoration and revitalization of ICH in the post-disaster response and recovery phases. In this project, activities were designed to enhance the community's capacity and awareness concerning their ICH and disasters so that community members and ICH practitioners could be more aware of the disaster risk faced by their ICH and be better

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prepared for potential disasters in the future.

Interestingly, somewhat similar frameworks have been developed: by IRCI as used in this project, by Ballard as used in the UNESCO capacity-building programme, and by the Cultural Heritage Disaster Risk Management Center in Japan (Goto, this volume). All have attemped to examine and safeguard ICH by considering the DRM cycle of preparedness, response, and recovery. Major differences were in how ICH was examined. The 'People, Place, and Story' model being developed by Ballard and Wilson (2017) would have the most comprehensive view of heritage, acknowledging tangible-intangible and the importance of articulation and transmission. In the current project, however, IRCI decided to simply distinguish 'People, Place, and Object' as components of ICH. In the model elaborated by Goto, 'Opportunity' has been added to 'People, Place, and Object'. Having such multiple models might be confusing, but the significance of these models is that they enable us to carefully examine how an element of ICH is structured and identify the aspects that are vulnerable to disasters. In the desk study phase of the project, it was recognized that examining every ICH domain was painstaking and time-consuming. However, if the number of ICH elements is limited to a specific element, it would be more straightforward to assess the potential risk. It is hoped that the model used in this project could be further examined and refined as a tool for assessing potential risks and/or effectiveness to be better prepared for future disasters.

Even though this project has finally come to an end, there are still many challenges in integrating ICH with DRR, as pointed out in the discussion of the final workshop. It is encouraging that some participants expressed their willingness to inform their governments about including ICH within the national DRM framework. However, further capacity-building programmes are necessary to strengthen the national capacity to safeguard ICH from disasters. Further collaboration between ICH–DRM is also necessary to mainstream ICH as an effective tool for enhancing community resilience. As noted in the discussion, climate change would be a good opportunity to tackle this aspect, and IRCI intends to apply its knowledge and expertise to address ongoing climate change, emphasizing the role of ICH as a driver of adaptation and resilience.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

NATURAL HAZARDS AND THE SAFEGUARDING OF INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE
EXPERIENCES FROM THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

Rashid (Dhaka University), Melaia Tikoitoga (Ministry of iTaukei Affairs, Fiji), Benny Usdianto (RedR Indonesia), and Richard Shing and Edson Willie (Vanuatu Cultural Centre) enthusiastically continued their commitment to the project from the desk study in FY 2021 to the publication of this volume, and made significant contributions. Chris Ballard (Australian National University) and Vu Canh Toan (Institute for Social and Environmental Transition–Vietnam) also provided productive comments during the final workshop reflecting their expertise. The project also benefited from occasional reporting and exchanges with UNESCO.

Finally, the implementation of the project over four years would not have been possible without the engagement of IRCI staff members. In particular, Masami Okabe and Kazue Sasaki (both former associate fellows at IRCI) should be acknowledged as project coordinators who actively supported this research project by developing project activities and communicating closely with collaborators and resource personnel.

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Annex 1

Programme and the List of Participants of the Online Workshop of the Research on ICH Safeguarding and Disaster Risk Management Project (5 August and 7 September 2022)

Programme

1st Session   5 August 2022   13:00–16:00 (JST)

Time	
13:00–13:05	Opening remarks IWAMOTO Wataru, Director-General, IRCI
13:05–13:20	Introduction to the workshop NOJIMA Yoko, Head of Research Section, IRCI
13:20–13:50	Commitments of the Cultural Heritage Disaster Risk Management Center to Protect Intangible Cultural Heritage from Disasters KODANI Ryusuke, Supervising Manager, Cultural Heritage Disaster Risk Management Center, NICH
13:50–14:00	Findings from the 2021 survey (1): Disaster risks threatening ICH OKABE Masami, Associate Fellow, IRCI
14:00–15:50	Round Table Discussion Theme: *How to safeguard ICH from disasters?*
15:50–16:00	Announcement of the 2nd session

2nd Session   7 September 2022   12:00–15:10 (JST)

Time	
12:00–12:05	Introduction to the 2nd session
12:05–12:15	Findings from the 2021 survey (2): Effectiveness of ICH for disaster risk reduction OKABE Masami, Associate Fellow, IRCI
12:15–13:55	Round Table Discussion Theme: *Mobilising ICH for disaster risk reduction*
13:55–14:05	– break –
14:05–15:05	Discussion in preparation for field research
15:05–15:10	Closing remarks IWAMOTO Wataru, Director-General, IRCI

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EXPERIENCES FROM THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

List of Participants

Name	Title and Affiliation
Asia-Pacific participants	
Saruul ARSLAN	Specialist, National Center for Cultural Heritage, Mongolia
Fatima Gay MOLINA	Founder, Mobilizing Futures Interdisciplinary Research and Development, the Philippines
PHAN Phuong Anh	Senior lecture, Department of Anthropology, Vietnam National University, Viet Nam
Saifur RASHID	Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh
Melaia TIKOITOGA	Senior Administration Officer, Development Services Division, Ministry of iTaukei Affairs, Fiji
Benny USDIANTO	Chief Executive Officer, RedR Indonesia
Edson WILLIE	Heritage Manager, Vanuatu Cultural Center, Vanuatu
Resource person in Japan	
IIDA Taku	Professor, National Museum of Ethnology
National Institutes for Cultural Heritage (NICH), Japan	
KODANI Ryusuke	Supervising Manager, Cultural Heritage Disaster Risk Management Center
GOTO Tomomi	Researcher, Cultural Heritage Disaster Risk Management Center
ISHIMURA Tomo	Head, Audio-Visual Documentation Section, Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties
Secretariat: International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI)	
IWAMOTO Wataru	Director-General
NOJIMA Yoko	Head of Research Section
OKABE Masami	Associate Fellow
Dudko Anastasiia	Associate Fellow
Sasaki Kazue	Associate Fellow

Annex 2

**Guidelines for Field Research Assessing the Potential Risks and
Effectiveness of ICH in Relation to Natural Hazards and Disasters**

0) Obtain community's consent before interviewing people

1) Understand the locality and community situations
   - Geographical settings: natural and social environment, accessibility, etc.
   - Baseline information such as population, history, economy, etc.

2) Identify potential disasters and prioritize hazard types more concerned by the community members
   - Listing past disaster experiences and having hazard maps would be helpful.

3) Identify ICH in the community
   - Five domains of ICH as outlined in the Convention may be used to explain the concept of ICH.
   - Note that ICH is not limited to the elements that are inscribed on the List of the Convention, but includes any knowledge, skills and practices that are held and transmitted by people for generations and are part of their culture and livelihood.
   - In this process, also identify the ICH elements that are particularly important for the community.

4) Identify disaster risks of ICH in the community, or how disasters affect the practice and transmission of ICH
   - After identifying ICH in item 3) above, discuss with community members what aspects of ICH would be affected (people/place/object), how, and at what stage of disaster (before/during/after).

5) Based on information obtained in above item 4), discuss with community members and ICH practitioners how they could reduce the risks they have on their ICH, and possible actions to be taken to this end.

6) Identify ICH that could play positive roles in the community's DRR and resilience
   - Note that the knowledge and practices that are useful for DRR are often not considered as ICH. The result of desk survey may be helpful in identifying such ICH.

7) Based on information obtained in above item 6), discuss with community members how such ICH could be mobilized for enhancing community resilience, and possible actions to be taken.

8) Consider if the discussions initiated in items 4) and 6) above could be further elaborated to develop a strategy for safeguarding ICH from disasters, and/or community-based DRR incorporating ICH and its safeguarding.

Annex 3

Programme and the List of Participants of the Final Workshop of the Research on ICH Safeguarding and Disaster Risk Management Project (27–29 September 2023)

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

DAY 1	27 September 2023
9:30–	Registration

10:00–10:10	*OPENING*
	Opening remarks by:
	    MACHIDA Daisuke, Director-General of IRCI
	    DUONG Bich Hanh, UNESCO Beijing Office

10:10–10:25	*INTRODUCTION TO THE WORKSHOP* *Yoko NOJIMA, IRCI*
10:25–12:10	*REPORTING OF THE RESULT OF FIELD RESEARCH (1)* 25 minutes presentation, followed by 10 minutes Q&As
1025	ICH Safeguarding and Disaster Risk Management in Bangladesh: A Study Assessing the Potential Risks and Effectiveness of ICH in the DRM Context *Saifur RASHID, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh*
1100	Field Research on 'ICH Safeguarding and Disaster Risk Management' Mongolia: Addressing 'Dzud' as a Natural Hazard through Safeguarding and Disaster Risk Management *Saruul ARSLAN, National Center for Cultural Heritage, Mongolia*

1135	Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Context of Disasters and Climate Change: A Case Study of a Fishing Community in Central Vietnam
	    PHAN Phuong Anh, Vietnam National University, Hanoi
	    VU Canh Toan, Institute for Social and Environmental Transition – ISET Vietnam

12:10–13:10	Lunch Break
13:10–15:30	*REPORTING OF THE RESULT OF FIELD RESEARCH (2)*
1310	Fiji (online) *Melaia TIKOITOGA, Ministry of iTaukei Affairs, Fiji*
1345	Assessing the Potential Risk and Effectiveness of ICH in Relation to Natural Disasters, A case study of West Ambae, Penama Province, Vanuatu *Edson WILLIE, Vanuatu Cultural Centre*

1420	The Roles of Performing Arts and Intangible Cultural Heritage in Relation to Disaster Risk Reduction in Indonesia
	    Benny USDIANTO, RedR Indonesia
	    OKABE Masami, Urban-Culture Research Center, Osaka Metropolitan University

1455	Safeguarding ICH: An Ethnographic Study of the Ifugao Experience in the Philippines *Fatima Gay J. MOLINA, Mobilizing Futures Interdisciplinary Research and Development*
15:30–15:45	Coffee/Tea Break
15:45–16:45	***SPECIAL REPORT*** Disaster Risk Assessment and Prevention for ICH: Introducing the activities of Cultural Heritage Disaster Risk Management Centre, Japan *GOTO Tomomi, Cultural Heritage Disaster Risk Management Center*
16:45	End of DAY 1

DAY 2 28 September 2023	
9:30–12:00	***BREAKOUT SESSION*** Ideas for developing community-based action plans and measures for safeguarding ICH and incorporating ICH for community's DRR, including possible tools - Participants are divided into 2 groups
12:00–13:00	Lunch Break
13:00–14:00	***DISCUSSION (1)*** Possible processes and tools for safeguarding ICH in the context of disasters Presenting the result of breakout session (15 minutes presentation x 2), followed by discussion
14:00–14:40	***REFLECTION BY EXPERTS*** *Chris BALLARD, Australian National University* *VU Canh Toan, Institute for Social and Environmental Transition – ISET Vietnam*
14:40–14:55	Coffee/Tea Break
14:55–16:30	***DISCUSSION (2)*** Challenges to be addressed in the future, such as: - further strengthening the collaboration with DRM field; - perspectives to cope with/adapt to the ongoing climate change; and so on
16:30–16:45	***CLOSING*** Closing remarks by: *KOHDZUMA Yohsei, Director, Cultural Heritage Disaster Risk Management Center* *MACHIDA Daisuke, Director-General, IRCI*
16:45	Workshop closed

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Name	Affiliation
Collaborators in the Asia-Pacific Region	
Saruul ARSLAN	National Center for Cultural Heritage, Mongolia
Fatima Gay MOLINA	Mobilizing Futures Interdisciplinary Research and Development, Philippines
PHAN Phuong Anh	Department of Anthropology, Vietnam National University, Viet Nam
Saifur RASHID	Department of Anthropology, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh
Melaia TIKOITOGA	(online participation) Ministry of iTaukei Affairs, Fiji
Benny USDIANTO	RedR, Indonesia
Edson WILLIE	Vanuatu Cultural Centre
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