

**Research on Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage in Small Island
Developing States: Current State, Challenges, and Prospects**

5–6 February 2026, Tokyo

PROGRAMME

| DAY 1: Thursday, 5 February 2026 | |
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| 9:30 | Registration |
| 10:00–10:10 | Opening Remarks Daisuke Machida, International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI) |
| Reports on Collection of Research Information in SIDS (15-minute presentation + 5-minute Q&A per country) | |
| 10:10–10:30 | Introduction Le Yu, IRCI |
| 10:30–10:50 | Fiji Tarisi Vunidilo, California State University, LA, USA |
| 10:50–11:10 | Kiribati Tawake Eriata, Ministry of Culture and Internal Affairs, Kiribati |
| 11:10–11:30 | Maldives Aishath Malsa Moosa Jameel, National Centre for Cultural Heritage, Maldives |
| 11:30–13:00 | Lunch Break |
| 13:00–13:20 | Palau Olympia Morei, Belau National Museum |
| 13:20–13:40 | Papua New Guinea Dorish Apuka, National Cultural Commission, Papua New Guinea Don Niles, Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies |
| 13:40–14:00 | Timor-Leste Romeu Soares da Silva, Timor-Leste National Commission for UNESCO |
| 14:00–14:20 | Vanuatu Edson Willie, Vanuatu Cultural Centre |
| 14:20–14:30 | Coffee Break |

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| 14:30–14:50 | Regional Analysis of Research Information Collected in SIDS Tarisi Vunidilo, California State University, LA, USA |
| 14:50–16:00 | Discussion on ICH Research and Safeguarding in SIDS * Overall research landscape and pressing issues in SIDS * Regional topics related to ICH and its safeguarding |
| 16:00–17:00 | Tour of Kuroda Memorial Hall |
| 17:30–19:30 | Welcome Dinner |

| DAY 2: Friday, 6 February 2026 | |
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| Discussion on Future Sub-Regional Collaboration in ICH Research and Safeguarding | |
| | Presentations from UNESCO and Category 2 Centres |
| 9:45–10:00 | Introduction & IRCI's Activities in SIDS Yoko Nojima, IRCI |
| 10:00–10:20 | Activities of International Training Center for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (CRIHAP) Yue Zhang, CRIHAP |
| 10:20–10:40 | Activities of International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (ICHCAP) Boyoung Cha & Soyoung Min, ICHCAP |
| 10:40–11:00 | Activities of UNESCO in SIDS/Pacific [online] Sara Garcia de Ugarte, UNESCO Office in Apia |
| 11:00–11:55 | Discussion |
| 11:55–12:00 | Closing Remarks Sara Garcia de Ugarte, UNESCO Office in Apia Daisuke Machida, IRCI |
| 12:00–13:00 | Lunch |
| Excursion | |
| 13:00–13:45 | (Move to Keio University by bus) |
| 14:00–15:30 | Visit to Keio Museum Commons (Melanesian Ethnic Materials Collection: https://objecthub.keio.ac.jp/en/collection/3) |