

Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop on Intangible Cultural Heritage and Natural Disasters (7–9 December 2018, Sendai)

GENERAL INFORMATION

There has been a growing international awareness and attention on the protection and safeguarding of cultural heritage in emergencies. However, discussions concerning intangible cultural heritage (ICH), including the assessment of the impact of a disaster, remains limited, while much efforts and developments are made for tangible cultural heritage. Against this background, IRCI implemented in FY 2016-2017 a project titled 'Preliminary Research on ICH Safeguarding and Disaster Risk Management in the Asia-Pacific Region' to better understand (1) the nature of the impact of natural disasters on ICH, and (2) active roles ICH could play for the community's disaster risk reduction. In cooperation with researchers and research institutes in the Asia-Pacific region, the project explored the situation of ICH in the context of natural hazards and disasters. Reflecting the outcomes of this two-year's preliminary research, and also recognising very recent developments in the area of ICH in relation to natural hazards and disasters in the Asia-Pacific region and elsewhere, this workshop aims to discuss practical measures for safeguarding ICH in disasters and possible strategies for mobilising ICH for disaster risk reduction, while sharing the lessons learnt from various case studies.

People in the Asia-Pacific region have exercised various practices to cope with natural hazards based on knowledge accumulated over a long history and experiences, which is part of their ICH. Some disaster risk reduction programmes try to incorporate such local knowledge; however, much knowledge are disappearing as a whole in the contemporary global context as the global framework for disaster risk reduction (such as the Sendai Framework) is widely adopted. Limited commitment of ICH researchers to the disaster risk management (DRM) at all levels including policies and community practices is also a factor minimising the development of active discussions concerning ICH in relation to natural hazards and disasters. One of the scopes of the workshop is to enhance research and safeguarding programmes that are specifically focused on ICH in the context of natural hazards and disasters, through sharing various case studies from Asia-Pacific region. Recent efforts of post-disaster reconstructions in Japan, including the recovery of traditional folk performances after the tsunami disaster in 2011, are also introduced through a special session and excursion. The workshop also seeks to enhance an interdisciplinary dialogue between the field of ICH and disaster risk management studies, leading to the development of practical strategies for safeguarding and mobilising ICH in disasters.

Language: English and Japanese (with simultaneous translation)

Organiser: International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI)

Co-organiser: Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties

Cooperating body: Center for Northeast Asian Studies, Tohoku University

Dates: 7-9 December 2018

Venue: Sendai International Center

Aobayama, Aoba-ku, Sendai 980-0856, Japan

Access: <http://www.aobayama.jp/english/access/>

DAY 1 (7 Dec): Meeting Room 8 (3rd floor, Conference Building)

DAY 2 (8 Dec): Onagawa Town, Miyagi Prefecture (Excursion)

DAY 3 (9 Dec): Conference Room 'Shirakashi' 1 (3rd floor, Conference Building)

Participants: Researchers and experts in the fields of ICH, and DRM from Asia-Pacific countries, Japan, and elsewhere

Observers: Pre-registration is required for participating in the workshop as an observer. Please refer to the attached pre-registration form for the details.

Contact (Secretariat): International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI)¹

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¹ International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI) was established in 2011 as an organisation under the National Institutes for Cultural Heritage (NICH), Japan. As a category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO, IRCI has been implementing research programmes contributing to the safeguarding of ICH in the Asia-Pacific region.

PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE

DAY 1 (7 December 2018) Workshop Session

Venue: Meeting Room 8 (3rd floor, Conference Bldg., Sendai International Center)

- 9:00-10:00 Registration
- 10:00-10:15 **Opening remarks**
Wataru Iwamoto, Director-General of IRCI
Emiko Yamanashi, Acting Director-General of Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties
Himalchuli Gurung, Programme Specialist for Culture, UNESCO Beijing Office
- 10:15-10:30 **Introduction to the workshop**
- 10:30-12:00 **Session 1 (Asia-Pacific focus): Natural hazards/disasters and the transmission of ICH**
Soledad N. Dalisay (University of the Philippines-Diliman)
Mya Mya Khin (University of Yangon)
Phan Phuong Anh (Vietnam National University)
- 12:00-13:00 Lunch break
- 13:00-15:00 **Session 2 (Asia-Pacific focus): Challenges and lessons learnt from disaster experiences, and the potentials of local knowledge**
Richard Shing (Vanuatu Cultural Centre)
Jayaram Shrestha/Yamuna Maharjan (National Museum of Nepal)
Fadjar I. Thufail (Research Center for Regional Resources, Indonesian Institute of Sciences)
Melaia Tikoitoga (iTaukei Institute of Language and Culture, Fiji)
- 15:00-15:15 Coffee break
- 15:15-16:55 **Session 3 (Asia-Pacific focus): Enhancing dialogue between ICH and disaster risk management**
(closed at 17:00)
Abner O. Lawangen (Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office of Tublay, Philippines/University of Portsmouth)
Md. Amanullah Bin Mahmood (Former staff of FAO Office in Dhaka)
Vu Canh Toan (ISET-Vietnam)
- 17:30-19:30 Reception (Venue: Meeting Room 4, Exhibition Bldg., Sendai International Center)

DAY 2 (8 December 2018) Excursion

Revitalisation of *shishifuri* folk performance in Takenoura Community, Onagawa Town (Miyagi Prefecture)

- 9:00- Departing Sendai to Onagawa (by hired bus)
- 11:00-12:00 Lectures (Venue: Meeting room, Onagawa Town Government Building)
Introduction to the folk culture of Sanriku coast (Ryusuke Kodani, Tohoku History Museum)
Reconstruction of *shishifuri* performances in Onagawa (Eiichi Hiratsuka, Secretariat of the Onagawa Town committee for the reconstruction of *shishifuri* performance)
- 12:00-13:00 Lunch
- 13:30-15:30 Visit to Takenoura Community for talks and *shishifuri* experience (Venue: Takenoura Community Center)
Talk on Takenoura community's recovery and *shishifuri* performance by Shigeo Suzuki (Head of Takenoura Community) and Tadashi Abe (Takenoura committee for the preservation of *shishifuri* performance)
Shishifuri performance and lessons by community members
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DAY 3 (9 December 2018) Workshop Session

Venue: Conference Room 'Shirakashi' 1 (3rd floor, Conference Bldg., Sendai International Center)

- 9:00-10:00 Registration
- 10:00-12:00 **Special session: Efforts of post-disaster revitalisation of ICH in Japan**
Tomoko Ueno-Ichiyanagi (Koriyama Women's Junior College)
Shuichi Kawashima (International Research Institute of Disaster Sciences, Tohoku University)
Ryusuke Kodani (Tohoku History Museum)
Hiromichi Kubota (Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties)
Hiroki Takakura (Center for Northeast Asian Studies, Tohoku University)
- 12:00-13:00 Lunch break
- 13:00-13:30 **Report: ICH and natural hazards/disasters in Latin America** (provisional title)
Adriana Molano/Lucas Roque Dos Santos (Regional Center for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Latin America (CRESPIAL))
- 13:30-15:20 **Final discussion (1): Workshop summary and General comments**
Jean-Christophe Gaillard (University of Auckland)
Meredith Wilson (Stepwise Heritage and Tourism, Australia)
- 15:20-15:40 Coffee break
- 15:40-16:50 **Final discussion (2): Recommendations for safeguarding ICH in disasters and mobilising ICH for DRM**
- 16:50-17:00 **Closing remarks**
Hiroki Takakura, Director of Center for Northeast Asian Studies, Tohoku University
Wataru Iwamoto, Director-General of IRCI
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PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

The workshop welcomes a certain number of observers, and pre-registration is required for participation. Participation is free, except for the reception (on DAY 1) and excursion (DAY 2).

If you are interested in joining the workshop, please fill in this Pre-registration Form and submit to IRCI secretariat by e-mail (irci@irci.jp) or Fax (+81-72-275-8151).

There are some conditions:

- * Due to the limited capacity of the meeting room, registration for DAY 1 (7 December 2018) will be accepted on a first-come-first-served basis. Participation in the evening reception requires a fee (approximately 4000 JPY).
- * The number of seats available for observers to participate in the excursion on DAY 2 (8 December 2018) is limited. Priorities are given to those coming from overseas or outside the prefecture, and attending the workshop on both DAY 1 and DAY 3. A fee of approximately 1500-1800 JPY is collected to provide lunch. Register by 15 November 2018 (earlier registration is recommended) if you like to join the excursion.
- * Meals (lunch) are not included.
- * Please make your own arrangement for accommodation.

For any inquiry concerning the registration, please contact IRCI Secretariat:

International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI)
Phone: +81-72-275-8050 Fax: +81-72-275-8151 E-mail: irci@irci.jp

Applicant's information:

Name (surname)	
(first and middle)	
Affiliation	
Contact Address	
E-mail	

Please check programmes you like to attend:

- DAY 1** (7 December 2018) **Workshop** **Reception**
- DAY 2** (8 December 2018) **Excursion**
- DAY 3** (9 December 2018) **Workshop**