
The IRCI Researchers Forum on ICH Safeguarding in the Asia-Pacific Region

Progress and Challenges in the Research for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage

- Towards a Sustainable Future -

General Information

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Research concerning intangible cultural heritage (ICH) has been conducted from different perspectives by experts in various academic fields, and the issues related to the safeguarding and the transmission of ICH are now drawing a wide public attention. In the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (the 2003 Convention), research and its promotion are positioned as one of the measures to ensure the safeguarding of ICH. This indicates the importance of research in the safeguarding of ICH.

The International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI), as a UNESCO Category 2 Centre, aims to contribute to the 2003 Convention by promoting the research for the safeguarding of ICH. Since its establishment in 2011, IRCI has carried out various research projects in collaboration with research institutions, researchers, museums, etc. in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond, focusing on issues such as legal systems, documentation, safeguarding of endangered ICH, research data collection, disaster risk management, and SDGs.

The IRCI Researchers Forum, to be held as a half-day, academic symposium, aims to review the progress on the research for the safeguarding of ICH in the past 10 years, reflecting on IRCI's research projects since its establishment, and discuss the direction of research in the future. Inviting researchers in the fields related to ICH who have collaborated in the past and ongoing IRCI projects as presenters and panellists, the Forum discusses the progress, recent trends, and the future in the field of research for the safeguarding of ICH in the Asia-Pacific region. This Forum will be a great opportunity for IRCI to envision future project ideas and activity plans.

DATE AND FORMAT

Date: 29 October 2021 (Fri.), 13:00 – 18:00 (JST)

Format: Zoom Webinar

Language: English (with simultaneous English-Japanese interpretation)

REGISTRATION

The Forum is open to public. Registration (free of charge) is required for participating in the Forum.

Online registration is available from the following links:
(Registration deadline: 26 October 2021)

URL: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BAQ8BdVSTA2OATn6qyOz1A

QR code:



After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with the URL link to the webinar.

Please contact IRCI if you have difficulties to register online.

ORGANISERS AND CONTACTS

Organisers:

International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI)
Agency for Cultural Affairs, Japan

Contacts:

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Provisional Programme

(as of 1 September 2021)

- 13:00-13:10 **Opening Remarks** International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural
Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI)
Agency for Cultural Affairs, Japan
- 13:10-13:20 **Congratulatory Speech** NAGAFUJI Hideki (Mayor of Sakai City)
MATSUURA Koïchiro (Honorary Advisor of IRCI / Former
Director-General of UNESCO)
- 13:20-14:40 **Session 1: Progress of the major issues in ICH safeguarding, reflecting on major
research projects by IRCI**
Facilitator: **TERADA Yoshitaka** (National Museum of Ethnology, Japan)
NOJIMA Yoko (IRCI, Japan)
IRCI's Research Projects: Achievements and Challenges
Harriet DEACON (University of Cape Town, South Africa)
Research for the Safeguarding of Endangered Intangible Cultural Heritage:
Some Thoughts Reflecting on the Last Decade
Meredith WILSON (The Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Studies, Australia)
Reflecting on the Statements and Recommendations of IRCI's ICH Safeguarding
and Disaster Risk Management Project
Hanafi HUSSIN (University of Malaya, Malaysia)
IRCI Research Data Collection for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural
Heritage: Issues, Challenges and Future
- 14:40-14:55 **Break**

14:55-15:55 **Session 2: Recent international trends and scope for the safeguarding of ICH: From the viewpoint of the 2003 Convention and other perspectives**

Facilitator: **ISHIMURA Tomo** (Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Japan)

SATO Masahisa (Tokyo City University, Japan)

Intangible Cultural Heritage and Human Security in an Age of SDGs

IIDA Taku (National Museum of Ethnology, Japan)

Heritage Studies as Public Ethnology / Sociology: Recent Trends and the Issues Concerned with the Intangible Cultural Heritage

Himalchuli GURUNG (UNESCO Beijing Office)

Research and the 2003 Convention

15:55-16:10 **Break**

16:10-17:35 **Panel Discussion: Current ICH research and its challenges – suggestions on future research**

Moderator: IRCI

17:35-17:50 **Wrap-up**

17:50-18:00 **Closing Remarks** National Institutes for Cultural Heritage
IRCI