



Implemented Activities

According to the plan as stated in the contract, the Project implementation team was approved.

6 members of the Project implementation team:

1. N.Urtnasan – head of the Project (President, Foundation for the Protection of Natural and Cultural Heritage);
2. A.Altantuya – Manager, Foundation for the Protection of Natural and Cultural Heritage;
3. D.Buyantogtokh – Specialist, Foundation for the Protection of Natural and Cultural Heritage;
4. L.Kherlentuul – Engineer, Mongolian National Public Radio
5. J.Ganbaatar – Academic researcher, Institute of Language and Literature at the Academy of Sciences;
6. D.Borolzoi - Academic researcher, Institute of Language and Literature at the Academy of Sciences

The team has carried out the following activities:

- Members of the Project implementation team have completed the 10 day training course at the Mongolian National Public Radio. The course covered on identifying various types of magnetic tapes, their structure and categories and as well as the methodology, skills and expertise to work on a “CUBASE” Program. The members have also completed a three day on-site practical training on facilitated equipments at the Institute of Language and Literature.
- During this period, the members of the implementation team conducted several meetings, in order to elaborate and introduce the guideline and policies to implement the Project. The contracts had been made with each members of the implementation team. Team members have freely presented their ideas with each other and discussed the progress to implement the Project.
- The required equipment, tools, accessories and materials were purchased and had been submitted and facilitated to the Institute of Language and Literature. The required main equipments include: computer, UPS, Mixing console, Sound card and Headphones. In cooperation with Producer Batsaikhan from the Mongolian National Public Radio, the team has set up all the necessary

technical equipment, tools and supplies and installed required software and applications.

During this process, the team members were provided with necessary operational coherence and guidelines. The issue we have faced is that there was a problem in finding and purchasing the equipment for playing the superannuated magnetic tapes (ZRK), which resulted in delay to proceed with the planned activities.

As planned, the speed of the tape player for magnetic tapes kept at the Institute was assumed to be 9.5cm/second and 19cm/second. Although, during the process of restoration and digitisation, plenty of other types of magnetic tapes were found among the tapes requiring different speed, which resulted in unplanned situations to solve. For instance, the tapes were found with tapes requiring different players with speed of 4.7cm/second or 2.9cm/second. The tape players/recorders having speed of 4.7cm/second or 2.9cm/second were used in Mongolia during 1960s-1980s, and they were obsolete and rare to find. This issue has caused to slow the planned activities.

As a result of meticulous search, the required equipment were found and purchased. The cases of the un-proper storage conditions causing most of the magnetic tapes to get dried, clung to one another, fractured or severed, and number of tries of each magnetic tapes for different equipment for identifying their speed have resulted the restoration and digitisation activities to continue at a slow pace. Along with these issues, the old and refurbished equipment (tape recorders/players) have broken several times. The technical maintenance and repair team from Mongolian National Public Radio were called three times for the broken equipment to be repaired.

After completion of above mentioned activities and few tries of restoration of certain amount of superannuated magnetic tapes, the Project Opening Ceremony was officially initiated.

Project Opening Ceremony was held in the Conference hall at the Institute of Language and Literature on January 5, 2012. More than 50 individuals including an ICH senior specialist from the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science Mr.Ts.Jargalsaikhan, Head of the Culture and Arts Section from the Culture and Arts Committee Mrs. D.Munguntuul, Project leader Ph.D. N.Urtnasan, Academician and the Director of the Institute of Language and Literature Ts.Tumurtoogoo, Head of ICH Division of the Center of Cultural Heritage S.Yundenbat, ICH experts, members of the Project team, administrative officials and specialists of the Institute of Language and Literature, and other representatives of relevant ICH organizations took part in the Project Opening Ceremony.

At the opening ceremony, the Head of the Culture and Arts Section from the Culture and Arts Committee Mrs. D.Munguntuul, Project leader Ph.D. N.Urtnasan, Academician and the Director of the Institute of Language and Literature Ts.Tumurtoogoo have made speeches about the Project and its implementation, and noted the significance and special value of the Project. Additionally, speakers have mentioned the professional and financial supporter of this Project, the Korean Intangible Cultural Heritage Administration, Cultural Heritage Centre of the Asia and

the Pacific (ICHCAP) and have expressed their sincere appreciation towards the Centre and the Project team. Speakers have also expressed their full support and commitment for the successful implementation and completion of the Project in every way possible. Participants in the opening ceremony have been introduced to the on-site activities of the restoration of superannuated magnetic tapes and have encouraged the project implementation team members highly valuing their successful start of the restoration activities. Participants and speakers have also provided with advice and methodologies on successful and on-time completion of the Project activities.

As the Main goal of the Project, the restoration, digitisation and categorization of the superannuated magnetic tapes were aimed at the 713 hours of recordings out of about 1200 hours of recordings including a rich repertoire of the epics, folk tales, tales with Morin Khuur (horse-head fiddle), folk songs, benedictions, odes, riddles, proverbs, oral traditions related to Shamanistic, Buddhist rituals and traditional customs, and academic conferences kept at the Archive of the Institute of Language and Literature at the Academy of Sciences. According to the forms of the elements, the 713 hours of digitalized data were specifically categorized as follows:

Categorization

One of the main activities before the restoration and digitisation of the magnetic tapes was the categorization of digitalized data. According to the scholars, the current forms of oral literature and expressions are generally accustomed to be classified as follows:

1. Epic
 - 1.1. Epics about animals
 - 1.2. Heroic epics
2. Tales with melodies
3. Tales
4. Legends
 - 4.1. Legends of origin
 - 4.2. Legends of historical events
 - 4.3. Witty narratives
 - 4.4. Legends of land and waters
5. Myths
 - 5.1. Myths about the origins of the universe
 - 5.2. Myths about stars

- 5.3. Flora and substance
- 5.4. Livestock animals, wild animals and birds
- 5.5. Human and social culture
- 6. Songs
 - 6.1. Long songs
 - 6.2. Folk short songs
 - 6.3. Songs with authors
- 7. Folk drama
 - 7.1. Dialogue songs
 - 7.2. Dialogue poems
 - 7.3. Words of entertainment games
- 8. Minor forms of oral expressions related to customs and rituals
 - 8.1. Spells and incantations
 - 8.2. Evil spells
 - 8.3. The Words of Libation and Anointment, the words of propitious omens (well-wishing)
- 9. Benediction
- 10. Ode
- 11. Oral literature concerning Shamanism
- 12. Oral literature concerning Buddhism
- 13. Minor forms of Oral literature
 - 13.1. Proverbs
 - 13.2. Mongolian Triads
 - 13.3. Riddles
- 14. Poems with rhymes
- 15. Storytelling

We have, as well, followed this regulation of classification. Besides the above classification, we have also paid significant attention to the local dialectics of the oral traditions and expressions of different ethnic groups in Mongolia. As a result, we were able to establish a database and collect rich materials for the academic research for Mongolian language including Khalkha, Oirad, Buriad and Uzemchin ethnic dialects. These materials were purposefully added to the new section entitling “local dialects” in the category number 15 (Storytelling).

Besides materials belonging to the above list, there are recordings of the Conferences of Mongol scholars and experts (was held once in 4 years), academic conferences of candidature for Academic Degrees and other significant Academic Conferences recorded since 1959 kept at the archive of the Institute of Language and Literature.

Therefore, the following specific category was added to the List:

16. Conference recordings

16.1. Recordings of conferences of Mongol scholars and experts

16.2. Recordings of conferences of candidature for Academic degree

16.3. Recordings of Institute’s Reporting Conferences

In addition, due to the start of the systematic studies for Folk performing arts since 1950s, the melodies of morin khuur (horse-head fiddle) and tsuur (traditional wind instrument), khuumei and isgeree (whistling) dominate the part of the Fund. Considering this, there is an inclusion of the nationwide grand performing arts festivals.

These recordings were approved to be added in the List as follow:

17. Recordings of the concerts

18. Folk performing arts, solo music recordings

First of all, while transmitting the recordings into digital forms, we made efforts to preserve the original copies as they are. The original copies were categorized as well.

In December of 2011, the main work of the Project - digitisation of superannuated magnetic tapes has officially started. The overall digitisation work was executed and concluded by the team of three individuals including D.Buyantogtokh, a specialist of the Foundation for the Protection of Natural and Cultural Heritage, and the Academic workers D.Borolzoi and J.Ganbaatar from the Institute of Language and Literature. L.Kherlentuul, an engineer from Mongolian National Public Radio worked as responsible individual for the regulations of software, programming, tools and equipment.

It was common that there were complex of expressions such as tale, legend, song, benediction and ode included in one tape recorded by the field expeditions. Or, in

some cases, there were several tapes including only one epic with duration of more than ten hours.

Epic

An epic is the largest genre of poetry and it was formed in the process of folklore development. These magnificent expressions of the cultural legacy of Mongols likely originated as tales that spoke about the gallant deeds of our ancestor-chieftains and brave warriors. Recordings of tens of epics performed by the renowned epic singers are being kept at the Fund of the Institute of Language and Literature. One whole epic performance takes more than ten hours. Most of the tapes with epics consisted with only one epic, which resulted in time saving without the steps of categorization and reviewing. Therefore, restoration and digitisation of epics were the easiest than other forms of expressions. Dr. J.Tsoloo has significantly contributed to researching, recording and collecting the epics. For instance, the tapes recorded by him included the epics of “Duutai Mundur Khaan”, “Argil Tsagaan Uvgun”, “Taliin Khar Bodon”, “Narangerel Khaan” and “Zul Aldar Khaan” performed by renowned epic performer Baatar AVIRMED, and the epics of “Khuder Mungun Tevne” and “Khurel Altan Tevsh” performed by epic performer Sukh CHOISUREN. Comparing with other forms of expressions, the quality of epics was in good status. Epic alone dominates the 19% or 136.48 hours of recordings out of 700 hours.

Tales with melodies (Bensnii ulger)

One of the big parts of the Mongolian tales is the tales with melodies or tales on Morin Khuur (horse-head fiddle). Tales with melodies are one of the biggest forms of musical oral expressions which express the written or oral forms of literature and historic novels with the accompaniment of morin khuur instrument. Tales with melodies were first created in Kharchin, Khorchin and Jaruud Khoshuus of Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region during the second half of the XVIII century largely based on the ancient tradition of the epic performance of Mongolia. Consequently, the tales with melodies were spread throughout Mongolia and the khuur performers and tale minstrels specifically for the tales with melodies were born. They were apt to express that written literature in the oral forms of tale performance using their own technique and artistic talents. Mostly the histories were expressed as the tales with melodies on khuurs based from the historic sources written in the scripts of neighboring Chinese and Manchu nations. Recordings of tales with melodies dominate the same size as the epics. It is observed that the Scholar and researcher of the oral literature, Academician D.Tserensodnom has significantly contributed in collecting the sources of tales with melodies. There are tales with melodies performed by the minstrels including R.Enkhee, Zuulunii Nominkhurd (Choinkhor), Muu-Okhinii Sain Ulzii and Bayariin Tsagaankhad predominate the category of tales with melodies from the restored and digitalized database. Tales with melodies occupy 56.35 hours of recordings and 8 % of all data.

For instance, the tape numbered 0624 included:

Storage Unit Number	0624-05-09	0624-04-12	0624-03-15	0624-02-06	0624-01-10
Classification	Benediction	Recitation	Speech	Long song	Ode
Contents	Ger warming benediction	Recitation for 5 Khans	"speech about Mongolian epic"	View of the High-Altai	Ode to the Altai Mountain
Performer/bearer /name, age, gender/	P.Tserendulam, Bayangol soum, Uvurkhangai Province	Epic performer Ts.Zodov(Uvs Province)	Epic performer Ts.Zodov(Uvs Province)	Kh.Suren from Duut soum, Khovd Province (65 years old)	B.Avirmed from Duut soum, Khovd Province (39 years old)
Duration	8.26		29.2	2.14 мин	16.13 мин
Roll of tape	B	B	A	A	A
Date of the documentation	X:02.02.12	X:02.02.12	X:02.02.12	X:02.02.12	X:02.02.12
Speed	9.5 cm/sec	9.5 cm/sec	9.5cm/sec	9.5 cm/sec	9.5 cm/sec
Format	44100Hz 16 bit	44100Hz 16 bit	44100Hz 16 bit	44100Hz 16 bit	44100Hz 16 bit
Quality	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
Description					
Responsible person	J.Ganbaatar	J.Ganbaatar	J.Ganbaatar	J.Ganbaatar	J.Ganbaatar

Tales

The basic characteristics of tales are, in general, symbolic of the people's everyday lives of the nomadic herders expressing the happiness, tranquillity or conflicts and witticisms in a humorous, criticized or in prideful ways. There is an every form of tales being kept in the restored and digitalised database. Within these forms of tales, there are tales which told from shortest duration to longest. For instance, a minstrel "Gargui Khuukhen" – Dorjsuren and the minstrel Choikhuu have told many short tales. The Tales predominate the most hours of recordings among the restored and digitalized data. Within the framework of the Project, the 201.13 hours of recording of tales were restored and digitalized.

Folk songs

Mongolian Folk songs are divided in three different categories such as long songs, short songs and the songs with authors. Mongolian Folk long song (urtiin duu) is an outstanding and extraordinary masterpiece of the song and music art rooted in the nomadic culture and developed by the nomadic Mongolians in ways that have been shaped by the dialects and customs of each region and ethnicity. These songs are characterized by an abundance of ornamentation, falsetto, an extremely wide vocal range and a free compositional form. The lyrics and melodies of the long songs are thoroughly influenced by the nomadic Mongolians' philosophical views, ideologies, symbolism, reverence and respect toward the universe, nature, humanity, animals, ancestors and state, as well as their love and sympathy toward parents, children, and their spouse. Three major genres can be classified in Mongolian long songs: aizam urtiin duu (rhythmic long song), jiriin urtiin duu (typical long song) and besreg urtiin duu (short long song). Rich repertoire of folk long and short songs sung by the renowned local singers is being kept in the restored data at the Institute of Language and Literature. Songs of every ethnicity and region have survived within the database including the songs of Central Khalkha, Western Mongols, Buriad, Darkhad and Tsaatan ethnic groups. Songs are particularly shorter than other forms of expressions with durations in average of 1-5 minutes, but a lot in numbers. Thus, the restoration, categorization and digitisation of the folk songs were the most time-consuming than others. Within the framework of the Project, the total of 47.56 hours of recordings were restored and digitalized.

Storytelling – Storytelling is a social or human life

Storytelling is an oral expression of recalling a phenomenal event occurred in society or human lives that are interesting or unique which expressed in artistic manners. The storyteller is an individual who has seen that special event or heard from other person who knows the event very well. Those special events were happened in the near past and their authenticity happens to have already approved by locals from the personal expertise of the storyteller. Besides storytelling in the category of "Storytelling", the materials of local dialects, folk talks of traditional rituals and customs, and the remembrance were also included. The category of storytelling covers overall 50.51 hours of recordings.

For instance, the legend (13.54), benediction (9.21), ode (10.05), folk drama (1.24), myth (3.36), minor forms of oral expressions related to customs and rituals (8.38), shamanistic heritage (2.23), Buddhist heritage (1.26), minor forms of oral expressions (0.04), poems with rhymes (4.32), Folk Performing Arts, solo music recordings (6.06), Conference recordings (44.42), concert recordings (11.37), others(105.49) were digitalized and categorized. “Others” include bad quality recordings or recordings with multiple numbers.

#	Element	J.Gambaatar	D.Borolzoi	D.Buyantogtokh	Total
1	Epic	50.18	41.56	44.34	136.48
2	Tales with melodies	27.46	14.34	14.15	56.35
3	Tale	50.06	85	66.07	201.13
4	Legend	7	3.20	3.34	13.54
5	Myth	1.36	0.02	1.58	3.36
6	Song	6.41	22.35	18.40	47.56
7	Folk drama	0.41	0.01	0.42	1.24
8	Minor forms of oral expressions related to customs and rituals	0.02	8.30	0.06	8.38
9	Benediction	2.25	3.09	3.47	9.21
10	Ode	3.05	3.02	3.57	10.05
11	Shamanistic heritage	0.08	0.23	1.02	2.23
12	Buddhist heritage	0.10	1.09	0.07	1.26
13	Minor forms of oral expressions	0.02	0.02	-	0.04
14	Poems with rhymes	1.44	0.51	1.57	4.32
15	Storytelling	17.09	11.05	22.37	50.51
16	Conference recordings	19.8	5.28	20.06	44.42
17	Concert recordings	6.37	0.55	4.05	11.37
18	Folk Performing Arts, solo music recordings	0.50	1.27	3.49	6.06
19	Others	41	32.26	32.23	105.49
	Total	236.40	235.10 үгэр	237.70	713

Creation of the Website

The expert team is selected to produce a website for intangible cultural heritage of Mongolia. The website production team and a Project implementation team have reached the consensus and a contract had been made between the parties to produce the website in late December, 2011. The website production team includes professional web designers, ICH experts and researchers and a photographer. The main contents to be included in the website were discussed and elaborated by the members. The information and relevant data were gathered at the same time. The professional web designers worked on a design of the website. The contents of the website constitute the following:

- A. Materials of International legal documents, Conventions, Declarations, Guidelines, Recommendations, References, International Meetings, Symposiums, Conferences, Training Seminars relevant to intangible cultural heritage and its safeguarding;
- B. Materials of national legal documents, guidelines, recommendations and references related to intangible cultural heritage of Mongolia and its safeguarding; Related bibliographies and reference materials;
- C. Intangible cultural heritage inventory-making, category and elements, their brief introductions and photos;
- D. Reference and introduction of some intangible cultural heritage bearers and their photos;
- E. Brief audio introductions of some restored audio materials from superannuated magnetic tapes at the Institute of Language and Literature;
- F. Registration of worshipped sacred sites of Mongolia, some of their introduction and photos;

- G. Legal documents and reference materials related to the ICH Intellectual Property rights and its Copyright, and etc.



The official website domain address is www.ich.mn

The activation date of the website is due on July 21, 2012.

Production of the sets of 10 Audio CDs

As a result of a Project, the complex of 10 CDs was produced for dissemination purposes with following contents:

1. Epic
2. Tales and legends
3. Benedictions
4. Odes
5. Folk performing arts
6. Shamanistic and Buddhist heritage
7. Traditional Folk Long Songs
8. Traditional Folk Short Songs
9. Storytelling, Traditional customs and rituals
10. Tales with instruments

Each of above 10 CDs was produced with introductory comments.

Overall 713 hours of recordings cover 700 GB storage as digitalized format. These files were being kept in Hard Disks of Computers used for restoration and digitisation at the Institute of Language and Literature. Therefore, there was a possibility of risk from computer viruses. Accordingly, in order to protect from possible risks, the restored and digitalized 700 GB file will be stored in the special and portable Hard Disks.

The digitisation of these audio recordings, categorization and creation of a new database are further to serve as a significant value and asset for the utilization with purposes of research and study, and dissemination and also free access to everyone interested. Through this Project, Mongolia has gained an expertise in the field of restoration and digitisation of superannuated magnetic tapes. The capacity-building of the Institute of Language and Literature has improved in the technical and professional field. The superannuated magnetic tapes of ICH have been restored and disseminated among general public. The results have contributed to scientific research and study, advertisement and dissemination, and the transmission and as well as the awareness raising among general public. Valuable reference of ICH information database was created and further will be maintained and improved. Activities of the utilization of new ICH information technology are being expanded. It is for sure, that the safeguarding, restoration and preservation, dissemination and transmission of ICH through utilization of a new information technology will inevitably contribute to the information sharing, cooperation and promotion of cultural diversity at the national, regional and international levels.

Closing Ceremony

The Meeting for the completion and outcomes (Closing Ceremony) of the Mongolia-Korea Joint Project for “Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage by Utilising Information Technology” was successfully held in June 7, 2012 at the Meeting Hall of the Institute of Language and Literature of Academy of Sciences.

Over 60 individuals including the delegates from Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, Government Implementing Agency – the Culture and Arts Committee, Centre of Cultural Heritage and the representatives of concerned institutions, non-governmental organizations, scholars and researchers took part in the activities of the Meeting for the completion and outcomes of the Project. The opening of the Closing Ceremony started with an “Ertnei Saikhan” Folk Long sang by the State Honoured Artist of Mongolia - renowned Folk Long Song singer D.Tuvshinjargal.

The Director and Academician of the Institute of Language and Literature at the Academy of Sciences Mr. D.Tumurtogoo and Senior Specialist at the Culture and Arts Department of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science Mr. Ts.Jargalsaikhan made the opening remarks of this event. President of the Foundation for the Protection of Natural and Cultural Heritage Dr. N.Urtnasan expressed of the pleasure for the completion of the Mongolian FPNCH and Korean ICHCAP Joint project successfully restoring and digitalizing the 713 hours of recordings of superannuated magnetic tapes being kept at the Institute of Language and Literature.

Besides categorising and establishing the database with the digitalized recordings, the sets of 1000 pieces of 10 sets of CDs were created from the data recordings selected among database. The creation and distribution of the audio CDs is serving as a significant value for researchers and scholars to use them for purposes of research and study, and dissemination and also free access to everyone interested. The sincere appreciation were expressed that the greatest merits go to the following individuals who have greatly contributed to safeguarding and revitalizing the real treasure and incomparable cultural heritage even more valuable than gold, which were collected and left by elder researchers to us. Those are the professionals of Korean Intangible Cultural Heritage Centre of Asia and the Pacific; N.Urtnasan, the President of the Foundation for the Protection of Natural and Cultural Heritage, the Foundation’s manager A.Altantuya, project officer Sh.Nomindari; Director and academician of the Institute of Language and Literature B.Tumurtogoo and Academician L.Bold who have greatly supported the project; individuals executed the restoration and digitisation including D.Borolzoi and J Ganbaatar from the Institute of Language and Literature, and the Specialist of the Foundation for the Protection of Natural and Cultural Heritage D.Buyantogtokh; engineer from Mongolian National Radio who was responsible for all the technical issues; and also Dr.J.Tsoloo, Dr.B.Katuu, Dr.T. Bayasgalan, A.Alimaa and S.Yundenbat who have greatly supported and contributed in monitoring and evaluation of the progress and the completion of the project; an engineer D.Batsaikhan from Mongolian National Public Radio who was responsible for the installation and facilitation of technical equipments and hardware; professionals and specialists of “Tsagaan Lavai” Studio and “Mogjoohon” Studio who have created and produced the 10 sets of CDs; a Specialist U.Sainbayar from Center of Cultural

Heritage who was responsible for the creation of the website; and also the Mongolian State Culture and Arts Committee and the Korea Cultural Heritage Administration who have supported and contributed to the Project from the beginning.