



Annex 2

Project Proposal of Mongolia

Project Title:

2011/2012 Mongolia-ICHCAP Joint Cooperation Project of Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage by Utilising Information Technology

<u>Country:</u>	Mongolia
<u>Beneficiaries:</u>	Intangible cultural heritage bearers and learners Youth Civil society Researchers and scholars
<u>Sponsoring Agency:</u>	International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region under the auspices of UNESCO
<u>Organising Agency:</u>	International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region under the auspices of UNESCO
<u>Executing Agency:</u>	Foundation for the Protection of Natural and Cultural Heritage
<u>Implementing Agency:</u>	Institute of Language and Literature of the Mongolian Academy of Sciences
<u>Supervising Agency:</u>	Implementing Agency of the Government of Mongolia-Culture and Arts Committee
<u>Project Duration:</u>	August 2011 to March 2012

1. BACKGROUND

Thanks to the untiring efforts made by international societies including UNESCO, the idea of safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage (ICH) is effectively disseminated and appeals all nations, groups and communities to love, respect, safeguard and transmit their intangible cultural heritage as an exhaustless wellspring of their cultural identity that contributes to maintaining mutual respect and diversity of cultural expressions all over the world.

Mongolia is one of the developing countries actively taking part in various activities concerning ICH safeguarding through international cooperation. Highlighted here is the Republic of Korea's collaboration with Mongolia.

This is a continuation of the successful four-year-joint cooperation project between Korea and Mongolia, *Establishing a Safeguarding System for the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Mongolia*, implemented from 2007 to 2010. As a result of this joint project, Mongolia can modify relevant laws, have a field survey at the national level, make a national ICH inventory and select ICH bearers. Also, there had been several expert meetings and workshops, the development of a guidebook on the ICH in Mongolia and a photo exhibition about the UNESCO ICH Representative List to enhance visibility.

In the evaluation meeting of *Establishing a Safeguarding System for Intangible Cultural Heritage in Mongolia*, Mongolian institutes and the International Information and Networking Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region under the auspices of UNESCO (ICHCAP), a UNESCO Category 2 Centre that actively works for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage in Asia and the Pacific region, agreed to proceed with a future project within the framework of information and networking, which concerns the main function of ICHCAP. At the same time, ICHCAP had a pilot survey for the restoration and digitalisation of superannuated and damaged ICH-related data in Mongolia at the Institute of Language and Literature of the Mongolian Academy of Sciences (hereinafter "Institute"), Mongolia National Public Radio, and Center of Film, Photo and Audio Documentations at National Central Archives.

In accordance with the request from Mongolian institutes and consultations of experts from ICHCAP, the two sides have reached a mutual agreement to implement the 2011 Project. Consequently, the magnetic tape data concerning the ICH in the Institute was designated as the Project target under the recommendation of the UNESCO Accredited Foundation for the Protection of Natural and Cultural Heritage.

2. JUSTIFICATION

Established in 1921, the Institute is a precursor research organisation operating in the field of Mongolian oral and intangible heritage, literature and folklore, dialectics, Buddhism, and Altaics. Its objectives include research and studies on the tradition and rehabilitation of Mongolian language and literature, as well as the diverse traditions of folkloric heritage.

Storing rich archive data and materials dates back to the research expeditions from 1921 to 1930. Therefore, the archives of the Institute are in desperate need to restore and digitalise superannuated and damaged materials.

In general, the magnetic tape data concerning the ICH in the Institute is comprised of the Mongolian epics, legends, folk stories, folk songs and other materials. There is a total of 1,013 hours of magnetic tape data housed at the Institute. Out of this, **713 hours of data** is proposed to be restored and digitalised. Among these tapes, 188 tapes, totalling 202 minutes and dated between 1956 and 1959, are in urgent need of restoration and digitalisation. The specific list of target data for the Project follows.

**Registration of the magnetic tape audio recordings kept
by the Language and Literature Institute of the Mongolian Academy of Sciences**

Group	Content of the recordings	Quantity of Tapes (pieces)	Total length of Tapes (meter)	Total Duration of Tapes (hour)
1	Folklore, tales, legends, epics, eulogies, praises, folk song	520	180	66
2	Folklore, tales, legends, epics, eulogies, praises, folk song	41	260	95
3	Folklore, tales, legends, epics, eulogies, praises, folk song	95	350	142
4	Folklore, tales, legends, epics, eulogies, praises, folk song	63	540	208
5	Folklore, tales, legends, epics, eulogies, praises, folk song	188	1,000	202
Total		2,330	907	713

A crucial point to emphasise is that, due to the inappropriate archiving conditions and poor maintenance, the ICH-related data at the Institute has been subjected to severe damage that includes dryness and fractures. This is one of the burdens that will slow the work speed and that has to be considered.

Restoration and digitalisation of the aforementioned ICH-related archive data would not only be a highly significant measure for ICH safeguarding, but also a starting point of the establishment of a nationwide integrated database and an online network on the ICH-related materials.

3. PROJECT OBJECTIVE

- A. Restore the superannuated and damaged ICH-related data in the archives of the Institute
- B. Digitalise the superannuated and damaged ICH-related data in the archives of the Institute

- C. Arrange, codify, and categorise the superannuated and damaged ICH-related data in the archives of the Institute
- D. Strengthen the technical and professional capacity of the Institute
- E. Contribute to improving public and professional accessibility of ICH-related data in the Institute
- F. Provide a base for the establishment of a national integrated database and an online network of ICH-related data
- G. Increase the dissemination of ICH-related data with the use of CDs
- H. Contribute and secure the reference resources of rare data regarding ICH in Mongolia through digitalisation

To effectively ensure and strengthen capacity-building at a practical level for safeguarding intangible heritage, this Project aims to conserve data properly, to increase accessibility for ICH data and to promote greater public awareness in orchestrated activities for safeguarding Mongolia's ICH through restoring and digitalising superannuated and damaged data, making and disseminating CDs, and building a portal website about Mongolian ICH.

Along with providing comprehensive information on the Mongolian ICH, the aforementioned activities will contribute immensely to the dissemination of the concept of ICH and its various aspects, major activities and the safeguarding measures taken at the national, regional and international levels.

Along with the aforementioned objectives, we will also work towards ensuring information sharing and network building in Asia and the Pacific region.

4. ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

- A. Restoring and digitalising the 713 hours of magnetic tape recordings at the Institute
- B. Building portal website of ICH in Mongolia (Mongolian/English)
- C. Organising an expert meeting in Korea
- D. Producing of CDs (100 sets)
- E. Disseminating the CDs to concerned entities including educational and cultural organisations and schools
- F. Appointing a monitoring group to evaluate the digitalised data and compile a report with detailed information on the data
- G. Reporting (interim/final)

5. PROJECT RESULTS

- A. Producing CDs of digitalised audio data in the Institute
- B. Disseminating CD copies to various entities, including the all-levels' of schools, and institutes
- C. Building a portal website of ICH in Mongolia based on the results of the Korea-Mongolia Joint Cooperation Project from 2007 to 2010
- D. Providing digitalised reference material with high-accessibility for researchers and public
- E. Increasing awareness of the general public, including the youth, students, and the bearers and practitioners of the ICH

6. EXPECTED OUTCOME

- A. Restoration and digitalisation of the 713 hours of magnetic tape recordings to serve as:
 - ✓ Reference material for the both domestic and foreign researchers, experts and specialists in the field of intangible cultural heritage
 - ✓ A contribution to safeguarding and revitalisation of the ICH
 - ✓ A tool to increase the capacity to manage data independently through strengthening digitalisation technology and human competence
- B. The development of a portal website of ICH in Mongolia to serve as:
 - ✓ An awareness-raising tool targeting the general public to deepen their understanding on ICH
 - ✓ A resource to make accessing and getting information about Mongolian ICH easier
 - ✓ A vehicle to increase the integrated accessibility and citation of Mongolian ICH for foreign researchers and experts by having English-translated data on the Internet.
- C. Dissemination of the CDs to concerned entities, including educational and cultural organisations and schools to serve as:
 - ✓ An awareness-raising tool targeting the Mongolian youth to deepen their understanding on ICH, including traditional culture and folklore.

7. FUTURE PLAN

On the basis of the results and outcomes of the Project, the initiatives of the Mongolian side will:

- A. Strengthen the dissemination of ICH-related data in Mongolia for the general public via an ICH portal website, and establish a maintenance program for the website;
- B. Strengthen accessibility for information related to ICH by the linking between the Mongolian ICH portal website and ICHCAP's homepage;
- C. Inscribe the Korea-Mongolia Joint Cooperation Project and its process as the 'Best Practices of UNESCO ICH List' to improve project visibility

TENTATIVE ACTIVITY PHASING

ACTIVITY	DATE
A. Restoring and digitalising 713 hours of magnetic tape recordings at the Institute	October 2011 to March 2012
B. Building a portal website of Mongolian ICH (Mongolian/English)	November 2011 to February 2012
C. Organising an expert meeting in Korea	October 2011
D. Producing CDs (100 sets)	November 2011 to March 2012
E. Disseminating the CDs to concerned entities	February 2012 to March 2012
F. Appointing a monitoring group to evaluate the digitalised data and compile a report with detailed information on the data	December 2011 to February 2012
G. Reporting (interim & final)	December 2011 (interim report) March 2012 (final report)

TENTATIVE TIMELINE

Month Content	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3
Submission of the proposal draft and further discussion on Project activities	√							

Contract signing		√						
Restoration and digitalisation of the magnetic tapes in Institute of Language and Literature			√	√	√	√	√	√
Selection, compilation and conversion of data for the website			√	√	√			
Expert meeting in Korea			√					
Development of a portal website of Mongolian ICH				√	√	√	√	
Production of CDs				√	√	√	√	√
Submission of the interim report					√			
Dissemination of CDs							√	√
Evaluation of the restored and digitalised data by a monitoring group / compilation of a report with detailed information on the data					√	√	√	√
Submission of the final report								√