Overview of the Memory of the World Committee for Asia-Pacific (MOWCAP)

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Chair, MOWCAP
North: Mongolia
South: New Zealand
West: Turkey, Iran
East: Pacific islands

43 countries – about half the earth’s surface
Formation of MOWCAP

First MOWCAP General Meeting, 1998, Beijing, China. MOWCAP was founded to implement the MoW in the region.
Exhibition at the Asia Culture Center marked the 20th anniversary of MOWCAP and opened on the last day of the 2018 MOWCAP General Meeting.
Current Members of MOWCAP

Australia
Cambodia
China
Fiji
Indonesia
Iran, Islamic Republic of
Japan
Kazakhstan
Kyrgyzstan
Malaysia
Mongolia
New Zealand
Philippines
Republic of Korea
Sri Lanka
Tajikistan
Thailand
Timor-Leste
Tuvalu
Uzbekistan
Vietnam

As of 2018, 21 out of 43 countries in the Asia-Pacific have active MoW committees. A number are in formation.
The 8th MOWCAP General Meeting held in May 2018 in Korea, was attended by 27 countries: Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Solomon Island, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, Uzbekistan, and Vietnam.
The MOWCAP Bureau

• MOWCAP elects a Chairperson and one or more Vice-Chairpersons (as need requires) and a Secretary-General that form the Bureau.

• The MOWCAP Bureau is responsible for the planning, organizing, implementing and monitoring of the work programs approved by the General Meeting of MOWCAP.

• The assigned UNESCO Regional Advisor (UNESCO Bangkok Office) is an ex-officio member (this enables a close link with UNESCO and the MOW regular programs)
MOWCAP budget

- MOWCAP has traditionally been supported by UNESCO via the budget of the UNESCO office in Bangkok.

- Funds have been predominantly used for the General Meeting costs (such as bringing delegates from developing countries to the meeting).

- In the last 2 years a new strategic partnership has been formed with the Asia-Culture Centre, Korea. This has enabled MOWCAP to increase activities.
The MOWCAP Office in the ACC building was setup up in 2017, and equipped with research desks, storage for MOWCAP files and publications, office equipment.

Already the space is being used for MOWCAP meetings. Work will continue on this project over 2018.
The Asia-Culture Centre Partnership provides financial and human resource support to MOWCAP for activities, projects, office functions etc.
In 2008, the regional register for Memory of the World was established.

56 inscriptions have been so far been accepted into it.

National MoW Committees (MOWCAP members) vote on what should be inscribed at the General Meeting.
MOWCAP has worked with the UNESCO Office in Bangkok to develop two publications focusing on inscriptions from the regional register and inscriptions from Asia-Pacific region on the international register.

Can be accessed for free online via the MOWCAP website:
www.mowcapunesco.org/core-activities/capacity-building/publications
Providing access to the register

Searchable database of all MoW inscriptions from the Asia-Pacific

Can search by keyword, repository, country or via the interactive map

Uses the open source Omeka software platform

It’s a way of sharing with the public the important collections of the region and raising awareness

www.mowcaparchives.org
Thank you!