

## UNESCO Memory of the World Asia-Pacific Report

May 2016-May 2018

Would be good to have translations for our

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## Apia

UNESCO Apia Office supported the establishment of National MoW Committees in Vanuatu, Tuvalu and Samoa as well as their participation in MOWCAP General meeting in Hue in May 2016 and in the MoW training workshop for Asia and the Pacific in Fiji in September 2016. An interim Committee was established in Vanuatu in 2016. Tuvalu is expected to form its Committee in May 2018 while in Samoa it is pending official separation of the National Archives and Records Authority from the Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture to become a public enterprise. UNESCO Apia also supported the capacity-building activities in archiving and records management in Cook Islands and Tuvalu in September 2017. Apia office also reviewed and provided inputs on the Pacific Action Plan for the implementation of UNESCO Recommendation resulting from the Pacific consultation in September 2016.

## Bangkok

UNESCO Bangkok jointly with Jakarta Office supported an international symposium and an ASEAN+3 consultation on the UNESCO Recommendation concerning the preservation of, and access to, documentary heritage including in digital form in May 2017 in Kuala-Lumpur under the Malaysia Funds-In-Trust project. The consultation resulted in the adoption of a [UNESCO-ASEAN Member States Plan of Action for the implementation of the Recommendation](#). Under the same project, support was provided for the establishment of a MoW National Committee in Myanmar through two capacity-building workshops in May 2017 and February 2018 and resulted in the development of draft terms of reference for the MoW Committee in Myanmar for adoption by the Government. As part of the second workshop in Myanmar, a study assessing the significant documentary heritage in Myanmar was conducted and launched in a form of a booklet entitled *Documentary Heritage of Myanmar: Selected Case Studies* available in English and Myanmar language.

Support was also provided to Lao PDR for the establishment of a National MoW Committee through two stakeholder meetings in June 2017 and March 2018 with the participation of the MOWCAP Goodwill Patron. The stakeholder meetings resulted in the agreement with the Heritage Department of the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism concerning the next steps for the establishment of a MoW Committee in Lao PDR.

UNESCO Bangkok has continuously supported the visibility of the MoW programme in the region through the development of an exhibition on documentary heritage in Asia and the Pacific. The exhibition was first launched at Bangkok Art and Culture Center in January 2017 then moved to UNESCO Bangkok regional office. The same panels were readapted and reused for an exhibition in Kuala Lumpur in conjunction with the ASEAN+3 consultation on UNESCO Recommendation, as well as in Myanmar for the workshop on the establishment of a National Committee. UNESCO also contributed for the development of the 2018 MOWCAP publication on *Documentary Heritage on the Asia-Pacific Register*, a brochure on UNESCO Recommendation as well as its [translation into other languages of Asia](#). The Recommendation is now available in English, French, Chinese, Spanish, Russian, Arabic, Myanmar language, Lao, Tetum and Farsi.

In the area of audiovisual heritage, UNESCO Bangkok supported the publication and the launch of the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of *Audiovisual Archiving: Philosophy and Principles*. The publication has now been translated into Chinese, Spanish, Japanese and Portuguese, and translations into Myanmar language and Farsi are

ongoing. World Day for Audiovisual Heritage was also celebrated on 27 October 2016 in Thailand with Thai Film Archive and the screening the film *Santi-Vina* in Bangkok. Support was also provided to the International Heritage Film Festival MEMORY held in November 2016 in Yangon, Myanmar with an exhibition on MoW and the screening of *Memory of the World: An Audio-Visual Journey* which is a chronological sampling of audiovisual recordings inscribed on the International MoW Register. UNESCO and Asian Film Archive also cooperated in June 2017 to hold a workshop on the preservation of Southeast-Asia's audiovisual heritage in Singapore. Twelve participants from 10 Southeast-Asian countries participated in that workshop. In 2018, UNESCO Bangkok supported the holding of the 22<sup>nd</sup> conference of the Southeast Asia-Pacific Audiovisual Archive Association (SEAPAVAA) in Bangkok in April.

In the area of Archives and Human Rights, an [online exhibition on human rights archives](#) was launched in December 2016 for the Human Rights Day. UNESCO Bangkok also supported the international seminar on Archives and Human Rights held in Gwangju, ROK, in September 2017.

Furthermore, support was provided for the participation of the delegates from the region to attend the MOWCAP General Meetings in Hue in 2016 and in Gwangju in 2018.

## **Beijing**

UNESCO Beijing Office provided support to DPRK towards the establishment of a National MoW Committee as well as their participation in MOWCAP General Meeting in Hue in May 2016. As a result, the first documentary heritage *Mu ye Do Bo Tong Ji, Comprehensive Illustrated Manual of Martial Arts* – the first ever documentary heritage nomination from DPRK was successfully inscribed in the regional Register in 2016 and in the international Register in 2017. In October 2016, UNESCO Beijing supported a capacity-building workshop for 35 key actors from memory institutions on the UNESCO Recommendation concerning the preservation of, and access to, documentary heritage including in digital form in Pyongyang, DPRK. It is expected that a MoW National Committee and a national MoW Register be formally established in DPRK. UNESCO Beijing also supported the participation of the delegates from DPRK to the 83<sup>rd</sup> ILFA World Library and Information Congress in August 2017 in Poland.

## **Jakarta**

UNESCO Jakarta Office co-organized with UNESCO Bangkok Office and the Government of Malaysia the international symposium and the regional ASEAN+3 consultation on UNESCO Recommendation on documentary heritage in Kuala Lumpur in May 2017. Within the framework of the same project, support was also provided to Timor-Leste for the establishment of a National MoW Committee. As a result Timor-Leste established its MoW National Committee in December 2016.

A second workshop organized in December 2017 with eight memory institutions led to a preliminary assessment of documentary heritage in Timor-Leste and a booklet was developed and will be launched in Tetum in May 2018. UNESCO also organized a seminar with these memory institutions in Dili in March 2018 to build the knowledge and understanding of the nomination process to the MOWCAP.

The Borobudur Conservative Office, the National Library and the National Archives of Indonesia received the official certificates for their successful inscriptions of respectively the Borobudur Conservation

Archives, the Panji Tales Manuscripts, and the Indian Ocean Tsunami Archives onto the MoW International Register.

Furthermore, support has also been provided for the participation of the delegate from Timor-Leste to attend the 8<sup>th</sup> General Meeting of MOWCAP.

### **New Delhi**

UNESCO New-Delhi Office supported the establishment of a MoW experts' group for India as part of the process of instituting a MoW National Committee and Register in India. The office also initiated a dialogue with the Royal Government of Bhutan about setting up a similar experts' group in Bhutan. As a result, the national coordinator and members of the MoW experts' group in India were identified, including key government representatives. The first meeting of the MoW experts' group in India was held in New Delhi in September 2017.

UNESCO New-Delhi has also been reporting the media in India for news coverage of the endangered archives and valuable documentary collections that would benefit from digitization and preservation actions. A series of preliminary meetings were organized to identify collections for nominations to MoW, such as the testimonies of surviving Indian freedom fighters living across India, Myanmar, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand.

In February 2018, an awareness-raising session on MoW was organized during the International Symposium on Emerging Trends and Technologies in Libraries and Information Services. The Ministry of Culture in India has also been requested to grant additional funds for implementation of the MoW programme in the country.

### **Phnom Penh**

UNESCO Phnom Penh Office is currently implementing the project on the preservation and digitization of over 400,000 pages of archives at the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, funded by KOICA.

### **Tashkent**

UNESCO Tashkent Office continued to support a project launched by the National Library of Uzbekistan on "Information Culture and Media Literacy of Specialists of Informational Library Institutions of Uzbekistan" to build the capacities of school librarians and developing a unified library and information structure in Uzbekistan.

Support was provided for the participation of a senior specialist of the Department of Manuscripts and Rare Publications of the National Library in the 7<sup>th</sup> MOWCAP General Meeting which was followed by two nominations from Uzbekistan inscribed on the MOWCAP Register.

UNESCO Tashkent supported the digitalization of selected collections over 40,000 glass plate negatives of five states and regional museums and the creation of a central web-portal with the archives.

## **Tehran**

UNESCO Tehran Office together with the Iranian National Library and Archive and the Iranian National Commission organized a regional meeting in August 2017 in Tehran with the overall objective of enhancing regional exchange and cooperation for the MoW programme following the same model as the consultation organized for the ASEAN countries in May 2017 in Kuala Lumpur. The event brought together 25 representatives from the region and a regional cooperation plan for the implementation of the Recommendation in Western and Central Asia was developed.

The office also supported the translation of UNESCO Recommendation into Farsi, and on 27 October 2017, the National Library of Iran, Iranian National Commission for UNESCO and Iran's Cultural Heritage Organization celebrated the World Day for Audiovisual Heritage. UNESCO presented the *Memory of the World: An Audio-Visual Journey* and the exhibition consisting of 50 photos of the items on the MoW international Register was inaugurated.