

Purpose

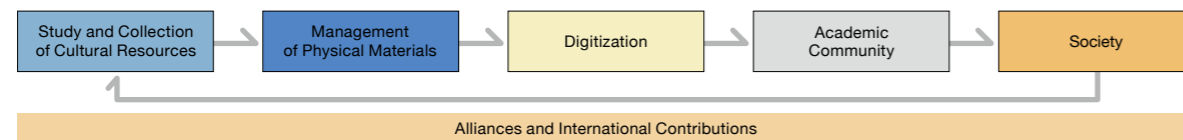
The Research Center for Cultural Resources was established in April 2004 to facilitate the systematic management of cultural resources and to digitize them. The Center is also charged with conducting investigations, and research and development to ensure that its resources are shared extensively and used for the good of society. The Center is also involved in planning and coordinating the promotion of the implementation of relevant projects.

Cultural resources include a variety of materials, both tangible and intangible, and information related to such materials, as well as knowledge, skills, know-how, human and organizational networks, and intellectual property, all of which are considered useful resources for the development of society.

By encouraging the sharing of these cultural resources worldwide, the Center aims to develop a basis for fostering cross-cultural understanding and the realization of a multi-cultural society where people with different backgrounds live in harmony and better meet the needs of this age of globalization.

The value of cultural resources becomes more apparent through the process of investigation and collection. These resources can be better shared and used for the good of society when managed systematically and digitized. Promotion of each of the steps in this process requires a framework of social alliances and international contributions, as shown below.

Flow of Cultural Resources from Surveys and Collections to Society



The steps that constitute the process are basic research which involves the theoretical study of various issues, and developmental research which is the development of methodologies, systems and technologies, or the conducting of preliminary studies based on the findings of the basic research, which eventually leads to the implementation of programs.

The Research Center for Cultural Resources is responsible for conducting the basic and advanced developmental research required for each of these steps and for planning and coordinating the implementation of the resulting programs.

The Research Center for Cultural Resources is now the core of our institution. One initiative associated with this new status is the renovation of all main exhibitions, to reflect changes in the world and academic interests in 38 years since the museum was opened and to better meet the needs and expectations of a new generation of visitors. This Center's aim is to adapt to these changes by constructing new exhibits to share our research results and continue our cooperation with both local and overseas universities and museums, thus making maximum use of our functions as an Inter-University Research Institute.

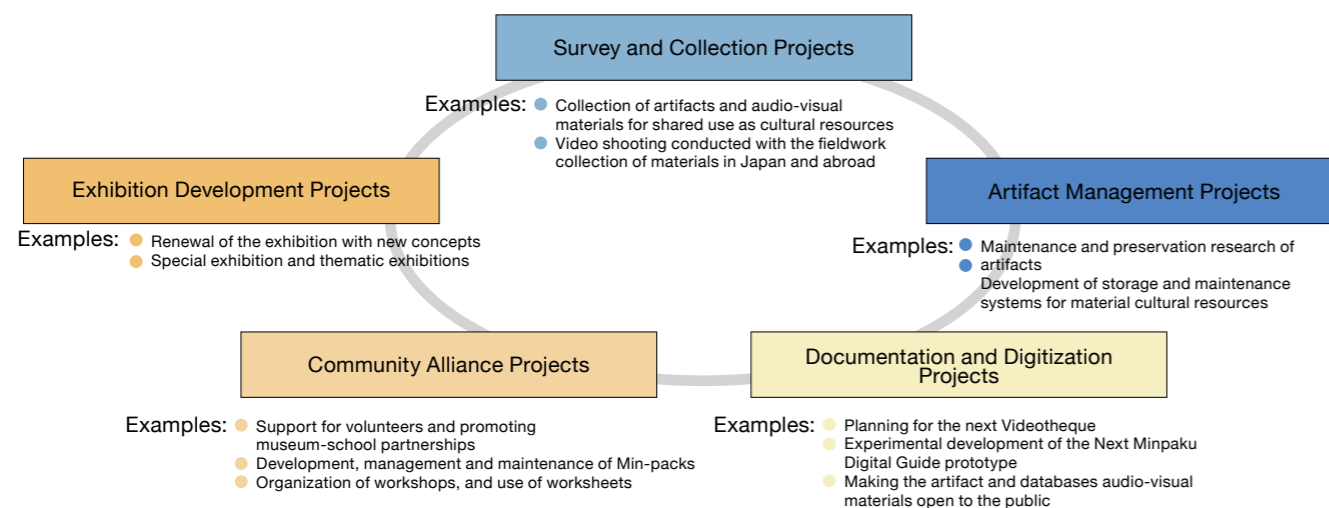
New exhibitions will be designed to provide forums for interaction and mutual learning that will involve the three stakeholders; the researchers who create the exhibitions, the owners of the cultures exhibited, and the visitors. In addition, following the process of globalization, the Center adjusts and shifts the conventional exhibitions that show the individual characteristics of regional cultures, into "glocal exhibitions" that describe movement as well as demonstrate linkages between regions and the world.

Cultural Resource Projects

A "Cultural Resource Project" is a research project which aims to consolidate Minpaku's position as an Inter-university Research Institute, promote the organization of academic resources held both by Minpaku and other institutions, encourage the shared use of Minpaku, and enhance its academic value, all in accordance with the second interim and mid-term programs.

Starting in 2009, the center introduced the Cultural Resources Project Researcher system to strengthen ties with the academic community; the center also introduced a system of consultation with external experts when considering research proposals.

Relationships among Cultural Resource Projects in Each Category



FY2015 List of Cultural Resource Projects

Survey and Collection of Cultural Resources

Production of Videotheque Programs Related to Nepal	MINAMI Makito
Audiovisual Documentation of Zainichi Korean Music Culture	TERADA Yoshitaka
Audiovisual Documentation of Acrobatic Folk Performing Arts in Japan	SASAHARA Ryoji
Editing Videotheque Programs on Ritual and Christian Culture among Minority Peoples in Yunnan, China	YOKOYAMA Hiroko
Production of Sign Language Videotheque Programs (In Association with the Partial Renovation of the Language Exhibit)	KIKUSAWA Ritsuko
Editing a Videotheque Program "Music in the Life of <i>Balbalasang</i> : A Village in the Northern Philippines" (tentative title)	TERADA Yoshitaka
Production of a Multimedia Program Based on the Concert, "Over the Arirang Pass: <i>Zainichi</i> Korean Music Today"	TERADA Yoshitaka
Production of a Videotheque Film on <i>Taiko</i> Drum Making	TERADA Yoshitaka
Production of Video Programs on Cambodian Shadow Theater	FUKUOKA Shota
Production of Audio-graphical Record and Its Hindi Version on "The Life, Belief, and Ritual of Rajasthan, India"	MIO Minoru
Practical Study of Exhibition Records	HIDAKA Shingo
Identifying the Origin of African Beadwork in the Minpaku Collection by X-ray Fluorescence Spectrophotometry	YOSHIDA Kenji

Materials Management

Research on Preservation and Management of Tangible Cultural Resources	SONODA Naoko
Investigating Environmental Requirements for Conserving Cultural Assets Damaged During the Great Northeast Japan Earthquake and Tsunami	HIDAKA Shingo

Digitization

Releasing "The Photography Database of the Kyoto University Academic Expeditions"	YOSHIDA Kenji
Creating a Database for "The Oshima Joji Collection"	IIDA Taku
Production of Database of "Okii Morihito Photographs and Archives on Indian Culture"	MIO Minoru
Academic Information Project about Materials Photoed by Sasaki Komei	IKEYA Kazunobu
Preliminary Study to Develop Food Culture Database Based on the Academic Exchange Agreement with Ritsumeikan University	ASAKURA Toshio
3DCG Digital Archives of Indigenous Architecture	SATO Koji
Systematic Annotation and Standardization of Objects from the Former Attic-Museum	ASAKURA Toshio

Exhibitions

Renewals (The Central and North Asia, and Aynu Culture Galleries)	YOSHIDA Kenji
Production of Minpaku Digital Guide Contents for the South Asia and Southeast Asia Galleries	FUKUOKA Shota
Special Exhibition "Food Culture in Korea and Japan: The Tastes of <i>Nanum</i> and <i>Omotenashi</i> "	ASAKURA Toshio
Special Exhibition "Ishuretsuzo, the Image of Ezo: Tracing Persons, Things and the World"	HIDAKA Shingo
Thematic Exhibition "Ancient Rock Art of the Amur River Basin: A Sacred Place of the Indigenous People, Sikachi Alyan"	SASAKI Shiro

Special Exhibition "Amazing Show Tents in Japan" (tentative title)	SASAHARA Ryoji
Preparation for a Thematic Exhibition for FY2017 "The Past, Present, and Future of Indigenous Cultures in Canada" (tentative title)	KISHIGAMI Nobuhiro
Connecting Videotheque and the Minpaku Artifact Database for Public Utilization	FUKUOKA Shota
Trial Production of Universally Designed Content for the Minpaku Digital Guide	FUKUOKA Shota
Research and Development for an Integral Multimedia E-guide Using Indoor Location-sensing	FUKUOKA Shota
Designing of the Next Generation Minpaku Digital Guide	FUKUOKA Shota
A Study on Design and Evaluation of Exhibition Spaces for a Next Generation Universal Museum to Support Visitor Diversity	YOSHIDA Kenji

Social Interaction (Research Development)

Performance of the <i>Kamuyonomi</i> Prayer Ceremony and "Traditional Aynu Dances" Designated as Important Intangible Cultural Assets	SAITO Reiko
Revision of the Min-pack, Portable Learning Kit	UEBA Yoko

Cultural Resource Planning Project

Dividing "Cultural Asset Management" into two programs: "Artifacts" and "Exhibitions and Social Interaction", in order to promote more effective diffusion of research results.

FY2015 List of Cultural Resource Planning Projects

Artifacts

Development and Production of Video Materials for the "Culture of the Korean Peninsula", with the National Folk Museum of Korea	ASAKURA Toshio
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Exhibitions and Social Interaction

Traveling Exhibition "The Power of Images: The National Museum of Ethnology Collection"	YOSHIDA Kenji
Outreach Exhibition "Transforming Arms into Art: Peace-building in Mozambique"	YOSHIDA Kenji
Partial Renovation of the Exhibition "Regional Cultures of China"	YOKOYAMA Hiroko
Partial Renovation of the Exhibition "Culture of the Korean Peninsula"	OTA Shimpei
Partial Renovation of the Exhibition "Culture of Japan"; "Okinawan Lives" and "Multiethnic Japan"	HIDAKA Shingo
Workshop Hosting and Worksheet Exercises	UEBA Yoko
Support for Volunteer Activities	UEBA Yoko

Other

Year-end and New Year Exhibition Event <i>Saru</i> [monkey]	UEBA Yoko
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