Ⅲ. Intangible Cultural Heritage Inventory

1. National inventory – Vanuatu Cultural Centre databases

According to the research that has been done in the Vanuatu Culture Centre, there is a need to implementing a specific National Inventory or Data Base for ICH. There are already lots of data to make the inventory, especially recording and filming under the VNFSU, but there is no “inventory” itself. Meaning there is no established list of item in category "Intangible Heritage".

A Intranet network of databases has been developed at the Cultural Center in 2006 by a Canadian Cuso volunteer: William Mohns using Microsoft Access program. Unfortunately, his work hasn’t been completed. A database has been set up for each section: the National Museum database (artifacts), the National Library database, the Public Library database, the NFFSA Audio archives database, the National Archives database, the NFFSA Photo Archives database, the Vanuatu Cultural and Historical Sites Survey database, the Language database, the Custom stories database, the Sand Drawing database and the Biographical database. Those databases are accessible from the Cultural Centre internet network only and the public can’t use it. Some database can be used by all the staff but others required a specific username and a password.

(Vanuatu Cultural Centre Intranet Hompage)
However, some of the databases don’t have any information like the NFFSA Audio Archives. Others are not updated, others required a special password. Nobody seems in charge of the intranet network management since it has been created (in 2006 by William Mohns).

The main objective of creating a database is in order to store written information and this particular database has been created to store all the information found in the four sections of the Cultural Centre: the National Film and Sound Unit, the National Library, the Vanuatu Cultural and Historical Sites Survey and the National Museum. Before this database was, the various sections of the Cultural Centre had their data stored in their various sections in different program so; the aim of the database is to bring together all these information together. One of the main intention of setting up a database as such is for as much people to have access to as possible and consequently, it was planned that if such a database was created, a network system should be installed in the Cultural Centre in order for the rest of the staff to have access to using their own computers. This is not yet a reality. Otherwise, since the network has been created, it should be updated regularly but some sections are still using proper catalogue. This database shall be of great importance to ni-Vanuatu, researchers and other people looking for information contained in the Cultural Centre.

A. National Film and Sound Unit catalogue

The NFSU is the unit which has the main data regarding ICH. There are thousands hours of film and audio recordings. On the intranet network, NFFSA Audio archives database is corresponding to the NFSU data but it actually doesn't have any information on it. The Film and Sound Unit has its own catalogues where they put brief information about the recording stored: Title, format, ID, name, description, and date. There is an audio catalogue (CD) and a video catalogue (DVD catalog, miniDV). Those catalogues have been made under Microsoft Excel program and a password is requested to get access but it is not so easy to find a requested file. It’s a temporary catalogue.

The Catalog for the new digitalized recording is on Microsoft Access database.

Mini DV: 5000 (5000x45 min) (225 000 hours)
VHS: 3000 VHS (12 000 hours) recorded in the catalog – 300 or 500 VHS no recorded

1. National Film and Sound Unit Digitalization Project: NFSUDP

Digitalization program started in June 2012; In partnership with the Centre for Research and Documentation on Oceania and the Agency
Université de la Francophonie, the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, under the Cooperation Fund economic, social and cultural benefit to the Pacific, decided renew the Vanuatu Cultural Centre (VKS or Senta Vanuatu Kaljoral) financial support for its program of restoration and digitization of its precious iconographic and visual.

The first implementation phase of the project consisted of a training two technicians VKS in France, the National Audiovisual Institute of Paris and the Centre for Research and Documentation on Oceania Marseille. The second phase of this project should enable the VKS to acquire the equipment necessary for its implementation, as well as allowing enhanced staff training internally.

The process of scanning the Fond National Archives photographic, sound, audiovisual and inventory of artifacts Museum of the Cultural Center. During this visit, the team was able to learn various techniques of film-making leading to the production of this documentary about the oyster screened at the Festival de Rochefort. The presentation of this film was a twenty minute the opportunity to thank the VKS Pacific Fund support for this training experience for rich audiovisual team.

Finally, the signature of the 2nd part of the agreement the project to digitize the archives of VKS was held inside the museum after a speech by Mr Marcelin ABONG, Director of the Vanuatu Cultural Centre (see below), ensuing a second speech by HE Mr ambassador of France, Michel Djokovic.
Speech by Mr. Director of the Vanuatu Cultural Centre National - Mr. Marcelin ABONG at the signing ceremony of the 2nd Phase of the process of scanning the Fond National Archives photographic, audio and audiovisual. Port Vila, the 03/05/2012.

His Excellency the Ambassador of France, distinguished representatives of the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu, gentlemen Vanuatu chiefs of the people, Mr. Philippe and his team of Liège Service for Cooperation and Cultural Action, Honorable Representatives Research and the French university, ladies and gentlemen representatives of the Francophonie, ladies and gentlemen representatives of civil society in Vanuatu, teachers, and other guarantors of VKS a public service to serve the interest General.

It is with great honor that the Vanuatu Cultural Centre welcomes today His Excellency the Ambassador of France Mr. Djokovic under the signature of the 2nd Phase of the process of scanning the Fond National Archives photographic, sound and audiovisual works.

This event reflects the close cooperation and support of French institutions in the field of culture and sensitivity to support the Cultural Center in its mission to protect, preserve and promote the cultural heritage of Vanuatu, Vanuatu lifestyle.

This cooperation began with the construction of the building of the Cultural Center (in partnership with New Zealand) in 1995. In 2008, the Embassy of France - via the Pacific Fund - supported the Assizes on Oceanic art, bringing together 150 international experts in the art. This cooperation has continued with the organization of the Lapita exhibition at Musée du Quai Branly in Paris, whose impact was international. More recently, with the support of the Pacific Fund, construction of the Cultural Centre TAFEA received a French contribution to bring this project to fruition and foster closer ties torque Vanuatu Caledonian.

Resources have been made available for delivery to the standards of storage room artifacts Cultural Center and support of volunteers the French Ecole du Louvre for an inventory. Finally, the development of archaeological research taking place at Port Sandwich (Lamap) and Havannah (Efate) also reflects the ties of friendship and cooperation between French institutions and the Vanuatu Cultural Centre.
The Cultural Center is well to thank the Embassy of France, on behalf of the Government of Vanuatu and the Council of Chiefs, to full participation in this cooperation radiation Vanuatu culture both domestically, regionally and internationally. Among the island states of the South Pacific, the Vanuatu Cultural Centre is to date the most dynamic cultural institution. It has human and material resources unmatched across the South Pacific.

Cultural Center recalls and reaffirms the support of France between the actions outlined in a broader dynamic to provide future generations with adequate structures to provide information resources, cultural and scientific. The creation of an Institute of Sciences of the South Pacific (ISPS) in collaboration with IRD, UNC, ANU, the GRED, CNRS-CREDO, EHESS and AUF between and within this reflects the overall dynamics and bet on the future cultural center: encourage new vocations by providing the essential structures for the promotion of scientific research.

We thank once again the Embassy of France for his participation in this project to digitize Archives Cultural Center, promoting the goals and values of the Cultural Centre which will then all Ni-Vanuatu and the opportunity to learn access to knowledge of their culture. Thank you also. Our gratitude also goes to the National Institute for Individual whose role for our personal trainer proved decisive, and the Research Centre for Documentation on Oceania, CREDO Marseille, whose partnership with the VKS has been exemplary.

France and Vanuatu are two countries attach great importance to the cultural exception and to the preservation of their cultural heritage, art and science. Culture is the foundation of our shared understanding of the art of everyday life in the respect, peace and friendship. And do not forget the Francophonie, Vanuatu, in addition to English and a vernacular language of our 110 remains a preferred language to convey these great universal values.

Long live the culture, tolerance and respect for differences!

Marcelin ABONG

VIDEO CATALOG
Excel VHS – Beta- DVC = 1700
Excel DVD catalog = 295
All VHS to DVD = 153
CD Catalog = around 400
2. Photo database

Search the Catalogue

Find the following words: 

Pick a field to search:
Search by island:
Search by village:
Search by language:
Sort Results:
Search:


**MAL/11.29/kF** *Ol pastors mo ol eldas oli laen ap blong resivim ol presents*, James Teslo, Malakula. 22 / 10 / 1986.


**MAL/11.32/kF** *Ol pastors mo ol eldas oli laen ap blong resivim ol presents*, James Teslo, Malakula. 22 / 10 / 1986.


**MAL/11.30/kF** *Ol pastors mo ol eldas oli laen ap blong resivim ol presents*, James Teslo, Malakula. 22 / 10 / 1986.

**MAL/11.28/kF** *Ol pastors mo ol Elda oli wokbaot ikam long fored*, James Teslo, Malakula. 22 / 10 / 1986.

**MAL/11.27/kF** *Ol mama oli stap long fored blong joij haos wetem ol presents*, James Teslo, Malakula. 22 / 10 / 1986.

**MAL/11.26/kF** *Ol dancers oli tanis long lerambis vilij*, James Teslo, Malakula. 22 / 10 / 1986.

**MAL/11.25/kF** *Ol man oli tanis long nassara kolosap long niufala jioj haos*, James Teslo, Malakula. 22 / 10 / 1986.

**MAL/11.24/kF** *Opening of jioj haos long Lerampis*, James Teslo, Malakula. 22 / 10 / 1986.

**MAL/11.23/kF** *Ol man blong kastom tanis oli tanis raon long tamtam*, James Teslo, Malakula. 22 / 10 / 1986.

MAL/11.21/kF Ol man oli stap long nassara blong tanis. James Teslo, Malakula. 22 / 10 / 1986.


MAL/8.21/kF Pasta Alex Luan hemi staon (fored) mo ol famili , Imorau vilij. James Teslo, Malakula.
3. Museum database

The French and Balsam versions are not available. Only the English version works. The National Museum database is accessible to anyone who get access to the Vanuatu Cultural Centre Intranet. But a username and a password are required to modify the data. The curator is responsible for it.

The database has been made by William Mohns too. An important work of inventory in the storage has been made from November 2011 until April 2012 in the storage by 2 French volunteers interns: Johannes Lindskog and Juliette Thirouin.

Last information updated in august 2012 by a French intern: Pauline Costaz.

4. Sand drawing database

The sand drawing database is in English. It is made up of drawings from different islands of Vanuatu. On the homepage of the database, there is an entry for the staff and the other for the public but the network is not accessible for the public. There is 350 sand drawings which are recorded in the database. For each entry there is a scheme of the sand drawing and information details. However, some information fields are not always present.
For example, the following entry information contains the scheme of the sand drawing, its name in English, its name in language, the name of the artist who made it, the island, the date, the occasion during the one the sand drawing has been made, the bislama name.

Some others entry has more details like some reference, source, information about the sand drawing execution itself.
The database has been filled up by a staff in 2007 but since today, there is no a dedicated staff for this database and it isn't updated.
5. Kastom Story database

The Kastom story database is made up of a lot of different traditional stories of Vanuatu islands. Only the bislama version is updated, the English and French versions are not already updated. This database

6. Language database