Establishing a Safeguarding System for Intangible Cultural Heritage in Mongolia

Objectives

The project is focused on implementing the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage as well as the Living Human Treasures System to officially identify and recognize ICH bearers, and raise their recognition among communities, which subsequently would play a significant role in safeguarding and disseminating ICH through generations. With these basic objectives, we also expect to ensure a sustainable relationship between countries by contributing to a collaboration and exchange in the field of ICH.

Within the framework of the Project, there are number of activities, such as an extensive field surveys on the ICH and its bearers, elaboration of tentative list of the ICH bearers of Mongolia and e.g., planned to effectively raise public awareness on the importance of ICH, ensure and strengthen cooperation among civil, legal, cultural and economic bodies to engage them in greater collaborative activities for the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage of Mongolia.

The field survey trips aim to identify the bearers and practitioners of intangible cultural heritage in the Central, Eastern, Northern and Gobi regions, as well as to conduct on-site registration and documentation on their unique and extraordinary skills, wisdom, knowledge, manner, accomplishments and other values of intellectual culture of great scientific and artistic importance. Result of the field trips are expected to be of high importance as it would serve as a first-hand material for follow-up activities for the overall safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage of Mongolia. During the field trips, oral introductions, lectures, elucidations and annunciation of the selection of heritage bearers were made among the local communities, heritage bearers, and relevant governmental and non-governmental organizations in order to raise their awareness on the importance of intangible heritage, nationwide and worldwide measures and activities taken and initiated for the safeguarding and promotion of the intangible heritage.

One of the features of the field trips carried out within the framework of the Project is that, the experts and researchers broadened their research target effectively. In other words, the research area covered all of the domains of intangible cultural heritage, as reflected in the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible cultural heritage, rather than only focusing on the performing arts and oral traditions.