

IFLA Preservation and Conservation (PAC) Centre Final Report

2018-2021

PAC Centre	
Institution	National Diet Library
Country	Japan
Director of Institution	YOSHINAGA Motonobu (Mr.)
Number of persons involved in the work of the PAC Centre (please indicate part-time or full-time)	17 Director of PAC Centre for Asia (1): full-time Staff of the Preservation Division (16): full-time
Contact person	NAGAI Yoshikazu(Mr.), Director, PAC Regional Centre for Asia
Contact information	Phone no.: E-mail: pacasia@ndl.go.jp
Agreement term	
Start date	1/11/2018
End date	1/11/2021
Do you wish to renew the agreement as a PAC Centre?	
Yes.	
What are the areas of expertise of your PAC Centre? What particular strengths or specialisations do you have?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Paper conservation, especially conservation by using Japanese traditional paper ➤ Digitization ➤ Disaster preparedness and salvage and treatment of damaged materials ➤ Environmental management for preservation 	
Are there any areas of expertise or specialisation within your organisation that are currently not utilised in the PAC Centre but you believe could be?	
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What are the main events you have organised as a PAC Centre (meetings, events, workshops training etc.)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NDL annually holds a one-day program on preservation and conservation of library materials for librarians working in Japan. The programs was not held In 2020, however, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. • From December 16, 2020, to January 15, 2021, a video of the 31st Preservation Forum entitled “Strategic Use of Enclosures—A variety of ways to protect materials“ was available online and viewed by 302 people. At the forum, four speakers reported on enclosures for 	

ancient Japanese treasures and documents, development and dissemination of enclosures in modern times, and current uses. Answers from each speaker to the questions received after the forum are posted on the NDL website [\[link\]](#).

- UNESCO held a regional workshop as part of its Memory of the World (MoW) program both online and on-site in Saly, Senegal, from June 15 to 17, 2021. At the workshop, Ms. KOBAYASHI Naoko, former senior librarian of the National Diet Library, made a presentation about disaster preparedness at the National Diet Library. The IFLA/PAC Asia Regional Centre assisted in the preparation of the materials for this presentation. [\[link 1\]](#) and [\[link 2\]](#)
- The NDL holds an annual one-day program on preservation and conservation of library materials for librarians in Japan. This program includes a lecture on basic preservation theory and a workshop on elementary techniques for mending paper materials. This program was conducted three times in September 2018 for a total of 67 trainees and again three times in September 2019 for a total of 70 trainees.
- During the period from July 2019 to June 2020, the NDL dispatched its employees in response to requests from a total of four different libraries and library associations to conduct training sessions on preservation for a total of 71 trainees.
- In December 2019, an NDL Preservation Forum entitled Disaster Preparedness for Archival Materials: daily preparedness, disaster response, and cooperation was attended by 107 people. The program comprised five speakers from related organizations who spoke on daily disaster preparedness and the establishment of a framework for both local and regional cooperation, followed by a lively Q&A session. [\[link\]](#)
- From February 18 to March 1, 2019, two conservators from the Bodleian Libraries, Oxford University, visited the NDL for training and exchange of expertise. They learned about conservation and the making of Japanese binding materials and preventive conservation measures at the NDL from our staff members and visited several other institutions and met experts in Tokyo. We also held a lecture meeting and learned about the mold awareness activities of the Bodleian Libraries.
- In August 2018, Jeanne Drewes, the Director of the PAC Center for North America, visited the NDL and lectured NDL employees and preservation experts from other institutions on the preservation cooperation activities of the Library of Congress.
- The NDL also dispatched its staff members to conduct training sessions on preservation in response to requests from prefectural and university libraries. During this 2018-2019, staff members were dispatched to provide training for 5 libraries/organizations.
- In December 2018, an NDL Preservation Forum entitled “Library Architecture and the Preservation of Library Materials” was held with 116 people in attendance. Ms. AOKI

Mutsumi, Associate Professor of the National Institute of Japanese Literature, delivered a keynote lecture, providing an overview of the functionality required in buildings and facilities used for the long-term preservation of library materials, followed by three other reports and a vigorous Q&A session.

What are the main publications produced as a PAC Centre (books, articles, brochures, training materials). Please include links if possible

- In 2021 NDL posted on its website an article on preservation and conservation entitled "Ten years after the Great East Japan Earthquake: National Diet Library support for disaster-affected libraries."
https://dl.ndl.go.jp/view/download/digidepo_11647201_po_NDL-Newsletter237.pdf?contentNo=1&alternativeNo=#page=13
- Japanese and English versions of the video “動画で見る資料保存：簡易補修 (Conservation of Paper Materials: Minor Repairs)” are available on the NDL’s YouTube channel for remote training. The Japanese-language video “動画で見る資料保存：簡易帙をつくる (conservation of paper materials: how to make a simple folding case)” was also newly posted channel. [[link 1](#), [2](#), [3](#)]
- The NDL has provided hands-on manuals on conservation in English on the web so that libraries in Asian countries can refer to as useful tools. During this period (July 2018 to June 2019), we published texts on “Conservation of paper materials: Minor repair,” Japanese bookbinding, and how to handle Japanese-style library materials.

What international engagement has your PAC Centre carried out? Please list the countries you have worked with, as well as regional or international activities, including cooperation with other IFLA PAC Centres.

- Ms. SATO Yoriko, previous director of the PAC/Asia, attended the IFLA/PAC Section Standing Committee Zoom meetings.
- On February 16, 2021, the NDL participated in a web talk with the National Library of Peru and made a report entitled *Conservation of Paper Materials and Disaster Management at the NDL*.
- The director attended the business meeting held at the WLIC2019 and then Zoom meetings of the PAC directors. She also presented a paper at a WLIC session co-sponsored by PAC on disaster mitigation measures for NDL facilities.
- The director attended the business meeting held at the WLIC2018 and then Zoom meetings of the PAC directors.

What engagement on a national/regional level has your PAC Centre carried out?

- Japanese translations of the following articles about IFLA/PAC FAQ were posted to the NDL

website.

In case of disaster...having a disaster plan

https://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/preservation/iflapac/pdf/pac_faq_bosai_keikaku.pdf
(https://www.ifla.org/files/assets/pac/Documents/faq_disaster_plan_japan.pdf)

Paper conservation by using Japanese paper, washi

https://www.ifla.org/files/assets/pac/Documents/faq_washi_japan.pdf
(https://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/preservation/iflapac/pdf/pac_faq_wasi_shuhuku.pdf)

- An employee from the NDL's Preservation Division participated in a cooperative activity with the preservation and conservation network by attending the Executive Council of Japanese Cultural Heritage Disaster Risk Mitigation Network, which comprises members of the former Cultural Property Rescue Program for areas affected by the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake.
- An employee from the NDL's Preservation Division was appointed a member of the Japan Library Association Preservation Committee.
- NDL employees were dispatched to assist in the rescue of library materials and museum collections damaged by a typhoon that hit Eastern Japan in October 2019.
- The NDL dispatched a staff member to libraries in Western Japan to inspect damage caused by heavy rains and floods which occurred in July 2018.
- The NDL provided tours for international and domestic visitors interested in learning about preservation activities at the NDL and also replied to inquiries about preservation and conservation.

Involvement of the PAC Centre with the IFLA Initiatives

- The IFLA/PAC Asia Regional Centre cooperated in a review of *IFLA Disaster Preparedness and Planning: A Brief Manual*.
- The PAC director also served as information coordinator for the Preservation and Conservation Section.
- The Centre participated in the project to create a PAC promotion document, submitting a brief description of the Centre and FAQs on two topics; "Paper conservation using Japanese paper" and "In case of disaster ... having a disaster plan."

What has being a PAC Centre brought you? How could IFLA help you do more?

(What has being a PAC Centre brought you?)

- As the Regional Centre for Asia, we communicate with national libraries and other institutions in Asia, receiving visitors and giving advice on preservation. That helps us to

understand the current situation and issues related to preservation of library materials in Asia.

- Being a PAC Centre helps our staff members develop their skills and knowledge. We take advantage of the network of PAC Centres when a staff member of our Preservation Division visits other countries and does research on preservation activities.

(How could IFLA help you do more?)

- It would be greatly beneficial if the IFLA Headquarters could provide financial support to librarians in developing countries who want to take training courses at PAC Centres. We hope that the annual financial contribution of the National Diet Library for IFLA Strategic Programs will be used in a tangible way such as this.

Other comments

The activities of the PAC Centre have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, with planned visits by preservation specialists from abroad having to be postponed.