

**PACIFIC Member States Action Plan for the Implementation of the UNESCO Recommendation on Documentary Heritage**

The Pacific Action Plan was initially developed at a workshop held on Wednesday 6 September 2017 in Suva, Fiji. The workshop was held in conjunction with the PARBICA (Pacific Regional Branch of the International Council of Archives) biennial meeting and was made possible through the support of PARBICA and funding from the Asia Culture Centre.

Delegates who attended all or part of the workshop were from Australia, Federated States of Micronesia (including YAP, Pohnpei ), Fiji, Kiribati, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu.

Following the workshop there was consultation with other Pacific documentary heritage experts.

<u>Recommendation section 1: Identification of documentary heritage</u>			
What are the main challenges to your country and the Pacific region for identifying documentary heritage?	What actions should governments take to address the challenges?	What actions should memory institutions (museums, libraries, archives) take to address the challenge?	What actions should be taken by others? (UNESCO, MOWCAP, professional associations, NGOs, private sector, individuals)
National Committees not established in some countries	Support the establishment and operation of National Committees	Develop a report for government on the importance of National Committees  Promote the importance of National Committees to potential stakeholders	MOWCAP to develop online and printed promotional material on the importance of National Committees and distribute to Pacific documentary heritage institutions.  MOWCAP to develop online and printed material on how to establish National Committees  Support the development of a

			<p>virtual meeting space for National Committees to discuss and share ideas</p> <p>Well-established National Committees to assist in mentoring the formation of National Committees in countries without them</p>
Identifying significant documentary heritage	Support the establishment of national registers	<p>Identify significant documentary heritage</p> <p>Develop outreach and awareness programmes</p>	<p>PARBICA, MOWCAP and the UNESCO Pacific Office to continue supporting workshops on identifying significant documentary heritage and implementing the “Assessing Significance” module of the PARBICA Recordkeeping Toolkit.</p>
Documentary heritage not considered an asset and governments don't prioritise it above other heritage projects	Governments to support the identification of and access to documentary heritage	Develop national, regional or international nominations to raise awareness of the MoW programme and the importance of documentary heritage	MOWCAP to develop an online brochure on why preserving and providing access to documentary heritage is important
<a href="#">Recommendation section 2: Preservation of documentary heritage</a>			
What are the main challenges to your country and the Pacific region for preserving documentary heritage?	What actions should governments take to address the challenges?	What actions should memory institutions (museums, libraries, archives) take to address the challenge?	What actions should be taken by others? (UNESCO, MOWCAP, professional associations, NGOs, private sector, individuals)

Many countries don't have adequate storage for documentary heritage, or storage is full	Provide funding or seek funding from donor countries for adequate storage	Identify storage issues and seek advice from PARBICA on appropriate storage standards	UNESCO to support countries with proposals for implementing storage standards
Some documents become damaged through frequent use	Recognise the importance of investing in the preservation of documentary heritage, including through limiting access to originals by supporting access to digital copies	Identify documentary heritage that is being damaged through frequent use  Promote documentary heritage that is inscribed on MoW registers to raise awareness of its importance	UNESCO, MOWCAP, PARBICA and Pacific Manuscripts Bureau to work together to identify digitization solutions for the Pacific  UNESCO and MOWCAP to raise awareness by reporting on the preservation of documentary heritage in the Pacific
The Pacific climate makes documentary heritage vulnerable to damage by insects and other pests	Provide funding to purchase necessary consumables to protect documentary heritage	Identify what consumables and actions are needed to manage pests etc. effectively	Establish a closed community Facebook page to identify what consumables are surplus to needs and can be provided to others.
The Pacific region is vulnerable to national disasters such as earthquakes, rising sea levels, floods and tsunami	Governments to require public institutions to develop disaster preparedness plans	Implement the PARBICA Recordkeeping toolkit module on disaster preparedness when it is available	Provide support for implementing the module on disaster preparedness

[Recommendation section 3: Access to documentary heritage](#)

What are the main challenges to your country and the Pacific region for accessing	What actions should governments take to address the challenges?	What actions should memory institutions (museums, libraries, archives) take to address the challenge?	What actions should be taken by others? (UNESCO, MOWCAP, professional associations, NGOs,
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documentary heritage?			private sector, individuals)
No online management systems to identify the documentary heritage held by institutions		Be familiar with AtoM (ICA archives management open software)	MOWCAP to work with PARBICA to support a pilot project to test the applicability of AtoM in the Pacific environment  UNESCO and MOWCAP to support the installation of AToM in Pacific countries (if pilot successful)
Raising awareness of documentary heritage in all parts of the country (large geographic spread and documentary heritage usually in capital).	Government officials to use the opportunity to promote the accessibility of documentary heritage when travelling for other purposes	Develop products that can be used to raise awareness of what documentary heritage is available and how to access it e.g. roadshow.	MOWCAP to publicise successful awareness raising activities focused on access  UNESCO Pacific Office to support member countries to promote MoW
Difficult to access documentary heritage held in other countries	Engage with other governments on the importance of accessing relevant documentary heritage	Identify documents held in other countries  Actively publicise good news stories on repatriation	MOWCAP and PARBICA to assist with identifying relevant Pacific documentary heritage held in other countries  MOWCAP and PARBICA work together to support repatriation including digital repatriation of documentary heritage  Actively publicise good news stories about repatriation

Difficult to access documentary heritage held in other institutions outside National Archives and National Libraries	Set expectations on appropriate access to relevant documentary heritage, including the protection of documentary heritage that is entrusted to the care of a national institution	Identify documents of national significance that are not in the care of national institutions	The Pacific Manuscripts Bureau to advise on relevant materials of significance held outside of national institutions if identified in the course of the Bureau's activities
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[Recommendation section 4: Policy measures for the preservation of and access to documentary heritage](#)

What are the main challenges to your country and the Pacific region for identifying policy measures?	What actions should governments take to address the challenges?	What actions should memory institutions (museums, libraries, archives) take to address the challenge?	What actions should be taken by others? (UNESCO, MOWCAP, professional associations, NGOs, private sector, individuals)
Pacific region legislation relevant to documentary heritage may not be consistent with the requirements of the Recommendation	Review legislation relevant to documentary heritage to assess consistency with the UNESCO Recommendation  Update legislation where required	Provide advice to governments on improvements needed to legislation relevant to documentary heritage to ensure that it meets the requirements of the UNESCO Recommendation	Link the PARBICA toolkit to the UNESCO Recommendation so that there is a pathway to implementation of the Recommendation  Identify any gaps in the PARBICA toolkit and work with PARBICA to seek funding to develop new recordkeeping modules, if required.  MOWCAP to develop an online document that lists the key requirements of the Recommendation that

			should be included in Pacific legislation
<u>Recommendation section 5: National and International Cooperation</u>			
What are the main challenges to your country and the Pacific region for identifying policy measures?	What actions should governments take to address the challenges?	What actions should memory institutions (museums, libraries, archives) take to address the challenge?	What actions should be taken by others? (UNESCO, MOWCAP, professional associations, NGOs, private sector, individuals)
Many Pacific countries have a shared history which is not currently visible on MoW registers	Governments to support the development of joint nominations	Cooperate to develop a joint nomination to the MOWCAP or international register on shared Pacific histories e.g. colonization, pathways to independence, missionary influence or impact of war	MOWCAP to provide professional advice and training on the development of the nomination
Other countries can benefit from the Pacific experience		Share successes and products with other countries through the MoW, ICA and other documentary heritage networks	