

**IFLA Preservation and Conservation (PAC) Centre Final Report  
2021-2024**

<b>PAC Centre</b>	
Institution	National Diet Library (NDL)
Country	Japan
Director of Institution	KURATA Keiko (Ms.)
Number of persons involved in the work of the PAC Centre (please indicate part-time or full-time)	17 Director of PAC Regional Centre for Asia (1): full-time Staff of the Preservation Division (16): full-time
Contact person	KURAHASHI Tetsuro (Mr.), Director, PAC Regional Centre for Asia
Contact information	Phone no.: E-mail: <a href="mailto:pacasia@ndl.go.jp">pacasia@ndl.go.jp</a>
<b>Agreement term</b>	
Start date	1/11/2021
End date	1/11/2024
<b>Do you wish to renew the agreement as a PAC Centre?</b>	
Yes.	
<b>What are the areas of expertise of your PAC Centre? What particular strengths or specialisations do you have?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Paper conservation, especially conservation by using traditional Japanese paper</li> <li>➤ Digitization</li> <li>➤ Disaster preparedness and salvage and treatment of damaged materials</li> <li>➤ Environmental management for preservation</li> </ul>	
<b>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?</b>	
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<b>What are the main publications produced as a PAC Centre (books, articles, brochures, training materials). Please include links if possible</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ In March 2024, we published an English training textbook entitled <i>Preservation in Libraries</i>. <a href="https://www.ndl.go.jp/en/preservation/manual/pdf/preservation_in_libraries.pdf">https://www.ndl.go.jp/en/preservation/manual/pdf/preservation_in_libraries.pdf</a></li> <li>➤ In 2023, we published English articles entitled <i>Protecting Our Books —Tools for preservation and restoration</i>.</li> </ul>	

(1) Cutting and folding

<https://dl.ndl.go.jp/view/prepareDownload?itemId=info:ndljp/pid/12894636#page=8>

This article is a translation of an article in Japanese from [NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 723/724 \(July/August, 2021\)](#).

(2) Applying paste and sticking

<https://dl.ndl.go.jp/view/prepareDownload?itemId=info:ndljp/pid/12975701#page=10>

This article is a translation of an article in Japanese from [NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 726 \(October, 2021\)](#).

(3) Pressing

<https://dl.ndl.go.jp/view/prepareDownload?itemId=info:ndljp/pid/13046221#page=10>

This article is a translation of an article in Japanese from [NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 729 \(January, 2022\)](#).

(4) Examining

<https://dl.ndl.go.jp/view/prepareDownload?itemId=info:ndljp/pid/13123521#page=9>

This article is a translation of an article in Japanese from [NDL Monthly Bulletin No. 732 \(April, 2022\)](#).

- In March 2023, we published a revised version of an English training textbook entitled *Conservation of Paper Materials: Minor Repairs*.  
[https://www.ndl.go.jp/en/preservation/pdf/1\\_Whole\\_text.pdf](https://www.ndl.go.jp/en/preservation/pdf/1_Whole_text.pdf)
- In September 2022, we published an English manual entitled *Drying Wet Materials 2*.  
[https://www.ndl.go.jp/en/preservation/pdf/Drying\\_wet\\_materials\\_2.pdf](https://www.ndl.go.jp/en/preservation/pdf/Drying_wet_materials_2.pdf)
- In September 2022, we published a Japanese remote-training video entitled *Disaster preparedness for library collections* on the NDL YouTube channel.  
[https://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/library/training/remote/disaster\\_p.html](https://www.ndl.go.jp/jp/library/training/remote/disaster_p.html)
- The NDL has also conducted studies related to ensuring the long-term preservation and usability of digital information, with reports on these studies announced on our website. In February 2023, we published a Japanese remote-training video entitled *Basic knowledge about long-term preservation of digital materials* on the NDL YouTube channel.  
<https://www.ndl.go.jp/en/preservation/dlib/research.html#anchor02>  
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLXvKjMC1JnVvgOVE7RWpOcRSeVfikk3J3>

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.

- On November 11, 2021, a CJK IFLA/PAC Centre meeting was held with the directors of three regional centers—IFLA-PAC China Center, IFLA PAC Korea Center, and IFLA/PAC Regional Centre for Asia—in attendance. The meeting was convened by the IFLA/PAC Regional Centre for Asia in order to give the directors of the regional centers an opportunity to hold an online conference. During the meeting, each center reported on its recent activities. These three centers exchanged information and strengthened their cooperative relationships.  
[https://dl.ndl.go.jp/view/download/digidepo\\_12117246\\_po\\_NDL-Newsletter243.pdf?contentNo=1&alternativeNo=#page=12](https://dl.ndl.go.jp/view/download/digidepo_12117246_po_NDL-Newsletter243.pdf?contentNo=1&alternativeNo=#page=12)
- In August 2023, we attended the WLIC2023, where business meetings and sessions of the PAC Centre and the Preservation and Conservation Section (PRESCONS) allowed us to understand and share the status of activities of IFLA people involved in materials preservation.
- On November 22, 2022, we participated in the *3rd Memory of the World Global Policy Forum: Enhancing International Cooperation to Better Safeguard Documentary Heritage at Risk* hosted by UNESCO. We recognized even more strongly that active discussions on international cooperation and sharing of knowledge and expertise for protecting documentary heritage in danger of not being preserved will enable us to better safeguard these materials into the future.

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

- *The Cultural Heritage Disaster Risk Management Network Promotion Council* of Japan is made up of organizations that handle a wide range of cultural heritage. The council's activities include information sharing, protecting cultural heritage from disasters through preventive action, and building networks to effectively support and carry out rescue operations after disasters occur. The NDL has been participating in cooperative activity with a preservation and conservation network. In addition, the council has recently been working on responding to cultural properties damaged by the Noto Peninsula Earthquake that occurred on January 1, 2024, and there is a possibility that the NDL will cooperate in support in responding to needs related to document preservation and conservation such as restoring damaged materials.
- In order to contribute to the promotion of preservation activities in Japan, the following initiatives were undertaken mainly during FY2021-2023.
  - NDL Forum on Preservation (Online recording distribution on the NDL YouTube channel was carried out for about one month.)
    - <Past themes>
    - FY2023: *Film and Photography - Mechanism of Deterioration and Preservation Measures*
    - FY2022: *Preservation and handling of old Western books - Focusing on leather bound books*
    - FY2021: *Material disaster prevention in libraries: Prepare for "that day"*
  - One-day training programs on preservation and conservation of library materials (annually)

- Online training courses for librarians
- Dispatch of staff members to prefectural and university libraries to conduct training sessions on preservation (annually)
- Furthermore, we have been cooperating with preservation activities as a member of the Japan Library Association (JLA)'s Materials Preservation Committee.

#### **Involvement of the PAC Centre with IFLA Initiatives**

- In February 2024, we submitted a manuscript draft for our centre to the IFLA headquarters in order to create the *IFLA PAC Shared Practice Handbook*.
- Mr. NAGAI Yoshikazu, the former director of the PAC/Asia, has been attending in the IFLA Preservation and Conservation Section (PRESCONS) Standing Committee Zoom meeting as a member.

#### **What has being a PAC Centre brought you? How could IFLA help bring more awareness and value to your work?**

##### **(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 bring more awareness and value to your work?)**

- We have nothing in particular to comment on.

#### **Other comments**

- During the first half of this period, the activities of the PAC Centre were greatly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, especially in terms of hands-on training and international cooperation.