

**ICOMOS Sri Lanka:
National Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage
Annual Report 2024/25 (to end of March 2025)**

NSCICH ICOMOS Sri Lanka Webinar Series 2024



**"Challenging our Practices,
Improving the Outcomes –
Intangible Cultural Heritage in Asia and the Pacific"**



**Sunday
30th June 2024
11.30 am –
12.30 pm (IST)**

Meeting ID 89796928152
Passcode 59487425

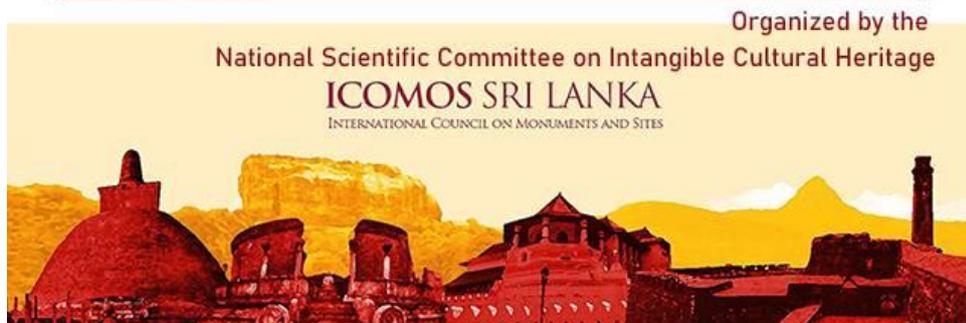
Abstract

In many ways, Asia has led the way in the development of national and international regimes for recognising intangible cultural heritage and there are many signs of transformation of heritage practices, which will hopefully result in better outcomes for the region. ICOMOS is currently considering the adoption of a Charter on Intangible Cultural Heritage that has been at the centre of a robust dialogue about how we work. This talk will reflect on this process in depth and raise questions such as what this Charter might mean for heritage practices in the region, as well as how it might influence the way heritage decisions are made.



**Speaker :
Kristal Buckley AM, Deakin University (Australia)**

Kristal Buckley AM, is a heritage specialist and an Honorary Researcher at Deakin University in Melbourne, Australia. She has worked in cultural heritage roles in academia, consulting government and community organisations, and is an ICOMOS World Heritage Adviser. Her research has a focus on the Asia-Pacific region and the integration of natural and cultural heritage in World Heritage and international heritage practices.



Kristal Buckley, AM (Deakin University, Australia) gave a lecture on “Challenging Our Practices, Improving the Outcomes – Intangible Cultural Heritage in Asia and the Pacific”. Professor Shihan de Silva Jayasuriya, gave a brief introduction and Chaired the event. The lecture was well received and initiated a lively discussion, providing the opportunity to discuss intimately issues relating to ICH matterS. Dr Melathi Saldin hosted the webinar and

also gave the Vote of Thanks. Ten participants from various parts of the world joined the event.

ICOMOS Sri Lanka National Scientific Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage: Public Awareness Workshop

The ICOMOS Sri Lanka National Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage organised a Public Awareness (Hybrid) Workshop on Intangible Cultural Heritage on Friday 23 August 2024 from 2.30 to 4.00 pm at the Swami Vipulananda Institute of Aesthetic Studies, Eastern University, Batticaloa.



Photo credit Mrs Kamani Samarasinghe (University of the Visual & Performing Arts, Colombo)

The event was possible due to the links made by **Mrs Kamani Samarasinghe** (Volunteer, National Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage, ICOMOS Sri Lanka). **Dr Sriashalya Srivathsan** (Senior Lecturer, Swami Vipulananda Institute of Aesthetic Studies, Eastern University, Sri Lanka) introduced the event. **Professor Shihan de Silva Jayasuriya** (Chair, National Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage, ICOMOS Sri Lanka) gave the lecture. **Mrs Jeewanthi Hettiarachchi** (Volunteer, National Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage, ICOMOS Sri Lanka) Chaired the event and the Q & A/discussion session. There were 47 participants - 30 attendees in-person and 17 on-line via zoom.



Field/Research Visit to Pottery-makers in Biyagama: a collaboration with University of Sri Jayawardenapura





On Thursday 16 January 2025, Professor Charmalie Nahallage organised a collaborative event - a visit to the Biyagama pottery village with students from Sri Jayawardenapura University to experience ICH in situ. Dr Danister Perera provided contacts to the village. Mrs Kamani Samarasinghe, Mrs Nilukha Thilakarathne and Professor Shihan de Silva Jayasuriya from the Committee also joined the visit which included a tour of the museum and pottery-making.

Report prepared by Shihan de Silva Jayasuriya, PhD, FRAS

Chair, ICOMOS Sri Lanka National Scientific Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage

27 February 2025