



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The environmental reality of the global climate crisis leading to unstable ecosystems, rising sea levels, extreme weather events, increasing natural disasters and displacement of people inspired the theme *“Preservation & Sustainability: Two Sides Of The Same Coin?”* for the 2022 Virtual International Symposium of the Southeast Asia Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives (SARBICA). Preservation is a cornerstone of memory institutions like the archives, while Sustainability and sustainable development are the all-important challenges of our times. Partnering both issues in the theme is appropriate and timely. The theme also suggests that there may be differing opinions and perspectives on this link. The Symposium shall provide a venue to raise awareness, gain new perspectives, promote discussions and engage with questions on the intersection between the work of memory institutions, the environment and sustainability.

Topics of interest include but are not limited to the following:

- Traditional archiving practices versus modern preservation efforts and their impact on the environment
- Environmental impact of digital preservation
- Understanding climate change and sustainability
- Impact of climate change and disasters on archival collections and facilities and the archives’ response
- Sustainability in conservation
- Sustainable preservation methods
- Sustainable archival services including access, programming and outreach
- Environmental standards for archival and conservation facilities
- Best green practices for memory institutions (archives, libraries, museums, etc)
- Assessment framework for archival preservation vis-à-vis environmental protection
- Formal education and training for green archivists
- Green skills for the archival profession
- Archival advocacy for sustainable preservation
- Collaborations with allied professions in sustainable preservation

We invite submission of proposals from interested parties on any of the above topics. Other thematically-related topics not listed here, are also welcome for consideration.

TIMELINE AT A GLANCE:

Deadline for submission of proposals:

[31 May 2022](#)

Notification of accepted proposals:

[29 July 2022](#)

Deadline for confirmation to present at the Virtual Symposium:

[16 August 2022](#)

Submission of presentation materials:

[6 October 2022](#)

Presentation at Symposium:

[16 and 17 November 2022](#)

DETAILS TO NOTE:

1. Submit proposal in English via e-mail as an MS Word file **by 31 May 2022** to:
Irene_LL_LIM@nlb.gov.sg
2. The proposal should include:
 - Title of proposal
 - Abstract, maximum of 250 words
 - Name and institution of proponent(s)
 - Bio, maximum of 250 words per proponent
3. The Organisers will review all submitted proposals and will notify the proponents via email, on the review outcomes **by 29 July 2022**.
4. Accepted proponents must confirm if they are able to present at the Symposium **by 16 August 2022**. Presentation materials must be submitted to the Organisers **by 6 October 2022**.
5. The Organisers shall waive the registration fee of the Symposium for the confirmed Presenters.
6. Please email your enquiries (if any) to:
NLB_Sarbica_2022@nlb.gov.sg

Hosted by the National Archives of Singapore (NAS), the 2022 Virtual SARBICA International Symposium will take place from 15 to 17 November 2022 including a Workshop on 15 November 2022. Expand your networks, and bond with fellow professionals at the events. For more information regarding the registration fees and other details, please visit <https://sarbicasymposium2022.nas.gov.sg/>

About the National Archives of Singapore

The National Archives of Singapore (NAS) is the keeper of records of national or historical significance. The records acquired by NAS come from both public agencies and private sources. Records in various mediums and formats are safeguarded and preserved.

The immensely rich collection continues to grow as NAS fulfils its mission to actively acquire records that will serve as the corporate memory of the Government and the social memory of our people. This memory allows current and future generations of Singaporeans to understand our different cultures, explore our common heritage and appreciate who we are and how we became a nation.

Our Mandate

The NAS is an institution of the National Library Board (NLB). NAS is guided by the National Library Act to:

- Advise public agencies on recordkeeping standard practices, take custody of records transferred from public agencies and act as the Official Keeper
- Acquire, through deposit, audio visual recordings that have been broadcasted or made public in Singapore
- Collect oral history interviews on the history of Singapore
- Acquire, by purchase, bequest, donations or otherwise, any document, book or other material which is or is likely to be of national or historical significance
- Make known information concerning archives by any means, including publications, exhibitions and heritage promotional activities.

Visit us at <http://www.nas.gov.sg>.

About the Southeast Asia Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives

The Southeast Asia Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives (SARBICA) is the first Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives (ICA). SARBICA was established on 9 July 1968 at an inaugural conference held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 1968. Its purpose was to promote collaboration among the nations in the region in the administration, preservation, conservation and use of archives.

The idea of establishing the ICA branch, particularly SARBICA, started at the ICA General Conference in Brussels in August 1964. The Conference resolved to explore all possibilities of establishing regional branches of ICA outside Europe, to enable members to participate more effectively in activities of the parent body and also to have programmes of their own to suit their particular requirements. Being a member of ICA, the National Archives of Malaysia was invited to take the initiative in this region to have closer co-operation with her neighbours. Consultations with the Association of Southeast Asia (ASA, 1961-1967, before it became ASEAN that we know today), and later the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries, were then set in motion. The response was encouraging. At the same time, UNESCO

which had been collaborating for years with the Malaysian government, responded favourably by offering financial grant to help launch SARBICA.

SARBICA's stated aims and objectives are:

- (a) To establish, maintain and strengthen relations between archivists of all countries in the region and between all institutions, professional bodies and organisations which are concerned with the custody, organisation or administration of archives;
- (b) To promote all measures for the preservation, protection and defence against all manner of hazards of the archival heritage of the region, and to further the progress of all aspects of administration and preservation of these archives;
- (c) To facilitate the use of archives of the region by making them more widely known and by encouraging greater ease of access;
- (d) To promote, organise and co-ordinate activities in the field of archives in the region;
- (e) To co-operate with other organisations or institutions concerned with the documentation of human experience and the use of that documentation for the benefit of mankind;
- (f) To generally carry out the aims and objectives of the International Council on Archives.

Today, there are 10 member countries represented in SARBICA namely, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. They are the Category A members. Membership is open to any national archive institution or organisation and individual interested in the aims of SARBICA.

Visit us at www.sarbica.org.my.