Cultural Heritage Documentation as Knowledge Management Overview from Developing Countries

Kamani Perera
Librarian
Regional Centre for Strategic Studies
Sri Lanka
Kamaniperera2015@yahoo.com
What is Cultural Heritage?

• Can be defined as the inheritance that preserved and shared with generation to generation
• Stretches beyond the tangible to intangible
• It can be museums, archives, libraries with collections, built heritage, landscapes, conservation, archaeology etc.
Preserving ICH as a living heritage

'Ape Gama' Craft Village in Sri Lanka

Village Life Alive
Role of Cultural Heritage

• Plays a significant role to shape the national identity
• Provides a source of inspiration, enjoyment and creativity
• Enriches peoples lives
• Creates opportunity for learning and engagement
• Supports for sustainable economy
Role of Cultural Heritage contd..

• Creates a deep sensation in the hearts of the tourists
• Can be treated as an everlasting experience in tourists’ lifetime
• Protects the knowledge of past, present and while preserving it for the future generation
• Originates from the interaction between people and places through time and it is constantly evolving.
Cultural Heritage Documentation as Knowledge Management

• Knowledge can be divided as
  – Explicit knowledge (documented, easily accessible, searchable, can be disseminated)
  – Tacit knowledge (experiences, skills, attitudes)

• Capturing explicit and tacit knowledge on cultural heritage it is able to create, access, reuse the knowledge

• Knowledge management plays an important role in cultural heritage documentation
Success factors

- Knowledge management (KM) is a process of
  - Creating
  - Storing
  - Sharing
  - Reusing

- KM Success factors
  - Communication
  - Trust
  - Collaboration
  - Networking
  - Support from top management
  - Security/knowledge protection

Cultural Heritage Documentation
Benefits

• Achieve quality presentation and
• Enhancing quality review process
• Excel user’s expectation
• Upgrading the cultural heritage community
World Heritage Sites in Sri Lanka

- Anuradhapura
- Sigiriya
- Polonnaruwa
- Dambulla
- Kandy
- Galle
Conclusion

• It is very important to preserve invaluable cultural heritage for knowledge management purposes as it supports to take decisions and actions.
• The accuracy and completeness of the knowledge is greatly affecting the protection of heritage.
• Lack of knowledge or error filled documentation will cause severe damage.
• Therefore, knowledge management is crucial at all levels of cultural heritage documentation.