

2018 COLLASIA SURVEY: THE IMPACT OF THE PROGRAMME ON SEA PROFESSIONALS



ICCROM, May 2018

INTRODUCTION

Context

In March 2018, ICCROM conducted an online survey, distributed to all former CollAsia participants from 2003 to 2017. The objective was to reflect on the impact of CollAsia courses on participants and their institutions, and to come up with an overview on the opportunities and challenges in conservation and collections care in the Southeast Asia region as well as on the expectations of the participants on the continuing growth of the program.

The broader aim is to respond to the conservation needs of the region and of its collections.

The survey provided an insight on participant's experience, and offered them the opportunity to contribute with their comments and ideas to the reflections on the programme. Indeed the questionnaire was intended also to stimulate a sense of belonging and collective responsibility toward the future of the programme.

The survey was carried out through an online Google Form, distributed to 362 CollAsia participants by email. The questionnaire consisted of 12 questions. Among these, 7 were open questions, that allowed the respondents to articulate freely their answers, while 5 questions were closed-ended, proposing a set of possible answers.

This report represents the result of the survey, by analysing the data collected from March 6, 2018 through March 30 2018, during which a total of **84** completed answers to the survey were received, resulting in a participation rate of 28,1%.

Specification

Participation of respondents whose native language is not English or who do not have reliable Internet access might be slightly under-represented because the survey was offered online and in English. The response-rate is also approximately estimated because the contact list of all the participants from 2002 is in progressive and constant update; out of 362-survey invitation sent out, **62** were returned as undeliverable.

On the other hand, 3 respondents who never attended CollAsia courses received the survey from their CollAsian colleagues and participated as well to the survey. Their participation demonstrates the eagerness to take part in the programme and the CollAsia network but their feedback could not be representative of the programme impact since they never experienced any CollAsia course.

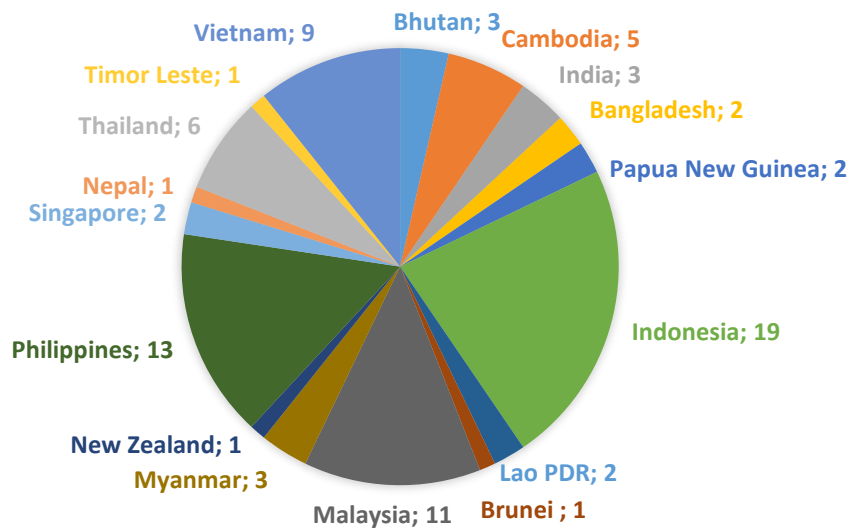
Overview of respondents' profile

The respondents come from the following **17 countries** from the Asia Pacific Region:

Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam.

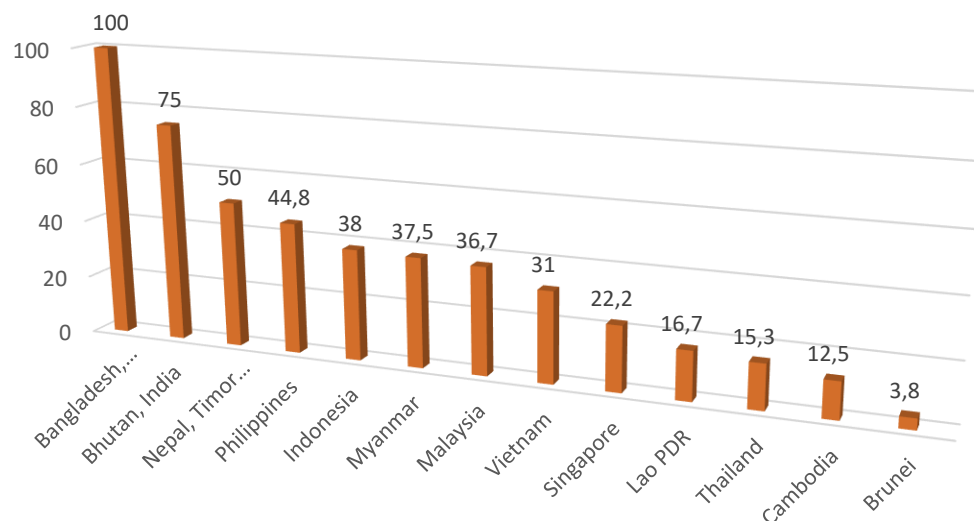
Participants from some countries such as Indonesia (19 respondents), Philippines (13), Malaysia (11), Vietnam (9) have shown their high engagement whereas some others countries like Brunei or Cambodia are under-represented.

FIG 1. DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BY COUNTRY

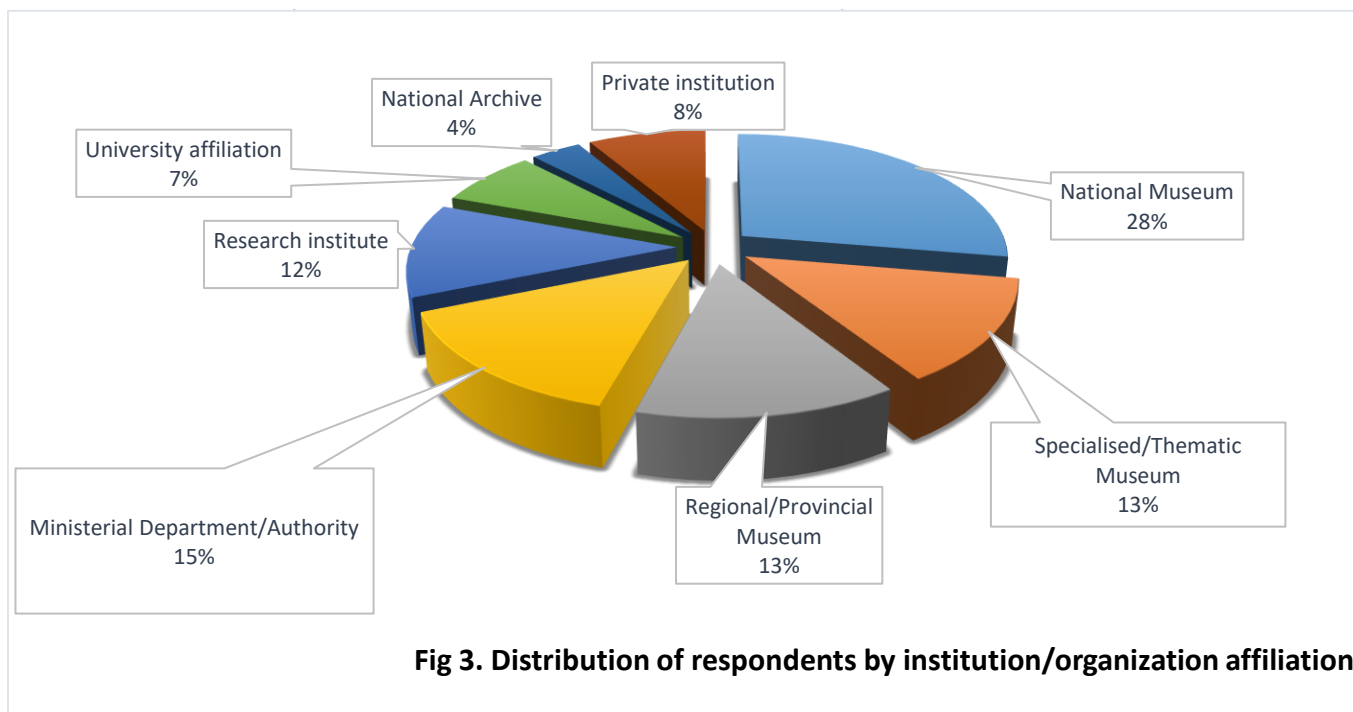


When it comes to the participant-response, the surprising high response-rate of countries such as East-Timor, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, etc. can be explained by the small number of participants from these countries (East Timor: 1 returned response out of 2 participants). Therefore, these results do not represent the real level of engagement of all the countries in the program, since the significant difference in the number of participants among the countries highly influence this data. It is obvious that the country with less participants would get a higher possibility to reach a significant response rate.

Fig 2. Participant-response rate by country



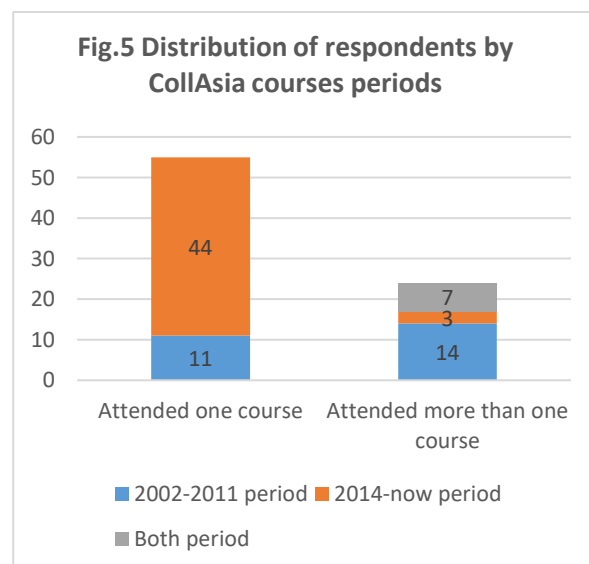
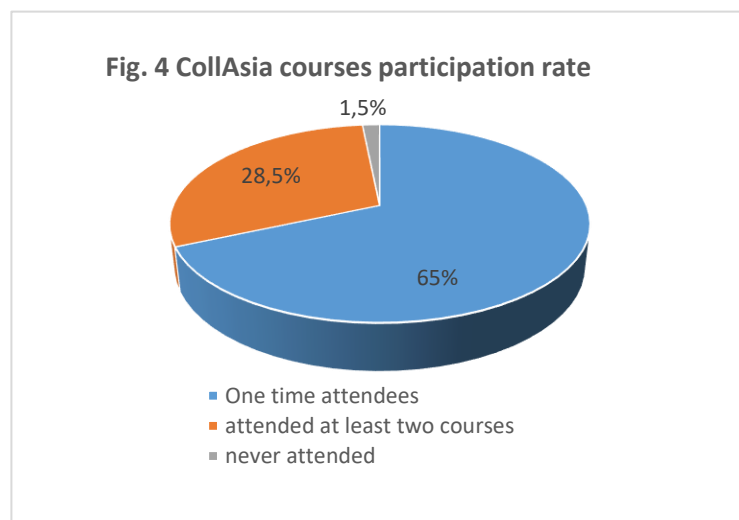
In terms of the main institution/organization affiliation, the majority of survey respondents reported being affiliated with or working for public institutions, including different kind of museums (regional or national, specialised/thematic museum), national archives, ministries, and the academic sector (university and research institutes). Only 8% of them are working in the private sector, which is reasonable in the framework of the



Distribution of respondents over different CollAsia periods

The survey respondents who have participated to one CollAsia course are slightly over-numbered, representing 65% of the total respondents. The majority of them (80%) attended the course in the second period of CollAsia programme (from 2014), supported by the Korean Cultural Heritage Administration (CHA). Two survey's respondents never took part in CollAsia activities but received the survey from their CollAsia participants colleagues explains the rate of 1,5% (in the fig. 4) respondents who never attended the course.

Among the respondents joining at least two courses, more than half of the attendees (58,3%) were involved with the CollAsia program since the very beginning (from 2002 to 2011) and keep participating to CollAsia activities until now. Whereas, 29, 1 % participated to the 2002-2011 period and very few of them (12, 6%) took part to more than one course in the second period from 2014.



MAIN FINDINGS

1. Benefits of CollAsia program

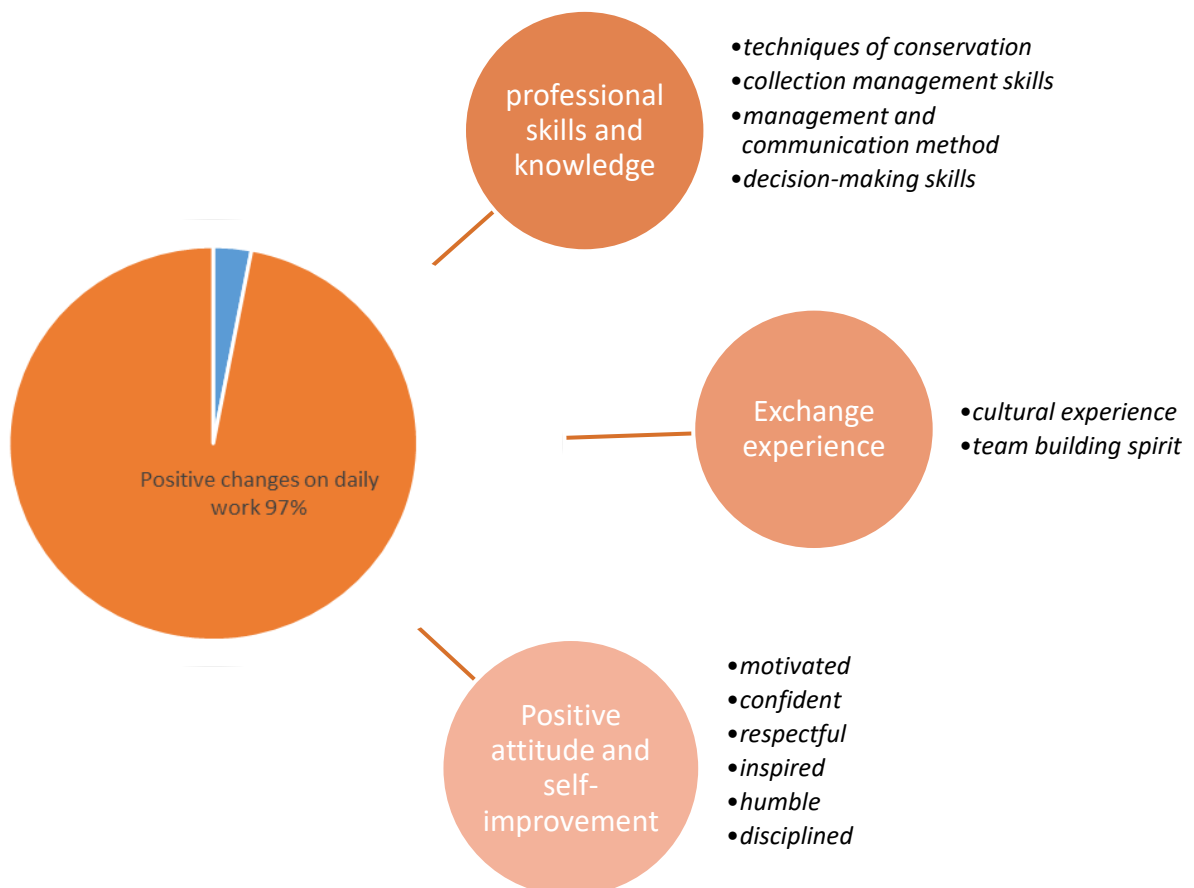
Surveyed participants were asked if the CollAsia experiences changed anything in their daily work, their professional role and their institution. As shown in the figures below, the vast majority of respondents reported that the CollAsia program has brought certain impacts at both individual and organizational level.

With regard to the participants' daily work:

In general, nearly all respondents (97%) agreed that the CollAsia experience had a positive impact on their daily work both at personal and professional level. The brief description of the respondents illuminated the concrete influence of the past courses.

According to the attendees, CollAsia courses have provided them with diverse skills and knowledge in conserving collections such as *"decision-making skills"*, *"collection management skills"*, *"techniques of conservation"*, *"management and communication method"*, etc... The holistic and integrated approach of the program as well as the exchange experience among professionals from different countries and institutions brought a positive attitude, while increasing the motivation level in their daily work. Attending the program has changed the way professionals perceive the heritage for which they are responsible. Subsequently, it encourages them to re-consider their role in the process of conserving heritage collections, becoming more *"motivated"*, *"inspired"*, *"respectful"*, *"confident"* and *"disciplined"* while carrying out their work.

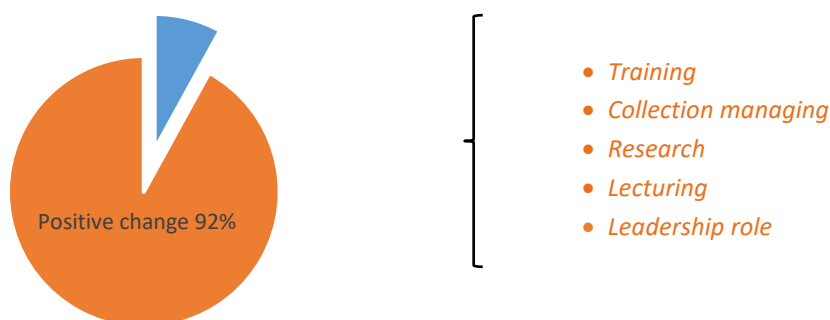
Fig.6 CollAsia's impact on participants' daily work



For participants' professional growth:

Regarding to the professional growth, **92%** of the participants confirmed that their role have been relatively expanded after the course. This was reflected in their responsibilities, which included transmitting to other colleagues the knowledge gained through CollAsia, sharing it within their institution and conducting “training”, “lecture” for students or young professionals. Some of the participants take on a “leadership role” in their institution and other have seen the course as the stepping-stone for them to carry out “research” on cultural heritage conservation.

Fig 7. CollAsia impact's on participants professional role

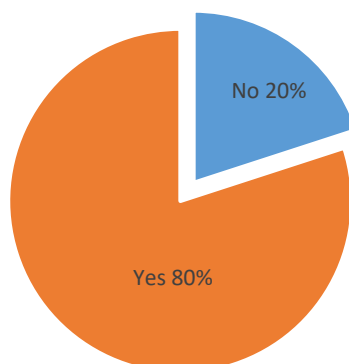


For participants' institution

CollAsia courses have been bringing a significant positive impact to the activities of the participants' institutions. **4 out of 5** participants affirmed that the CollAsia courses had direct effect on the improvement of their institution conservation and research activities. The positive impact occurs, in the first place, inside the institution by the mean of sharing experiences and disseminating the skills and knowledge acquired by the participants during the courses to their colleagues. In addition, the participation in the CollAsia programme helped to promote and boost the institution's notoriety through the network participating in the CollAsia program. It gave the chance to the participants' institutions to initiate joint projects, exchange experiences or implement joint researches.

Having said that, a few respondents mentioned that it is challenging sometimes to put what they learnt into practice in their working context and make it useful for their institution. The main reason given is that their role in their institutions is limited to recommendations or suggestions, and does not allow them to make decision.

Fig 8. CollAsia effects on the participants' institution



"I had very less knowledge about collection and don't know what to do before it. Having experience in CollAsia activity has contributed many valuable knowledge and experience for my daily work at museum. Also, the theory, practice, and its field trip during CollAsia was a new bright idea to be applied in my work. I do grateful to be part of this activity." **Participant from Indonesia**

"Increased my responsibilities and skills in documenting and managing our existing collection, and allowed me to streamline and improve our collection management system"
Participant from Philippines

"I used all the knowledge to work with my Collections. It helps me a lot to think deeply how, what, why the collections appeared and faced in that conditions. The lessons were very important to have a brainstorm and basic idea to step forward." **Participant from Cambodia**

"The CollAsia courses that i attended before gave me a very good networking between CollAsia colleagues in Southeast Asia region and even around the world about ideas and solving the problem that my museum facing all the time. ..." **Participant from Malaysia**

"My daily work now has a more holistic approach, and I propose educational activities that are interactive and engaging, based on what I experienced at CollAsia" **Participant from Thailand**

"My CollAsia experience gave me a greater appreciation for the significance of every object in a collection and to realise that every object might be subject to their own handling requirements [...]"
Participant from PPN

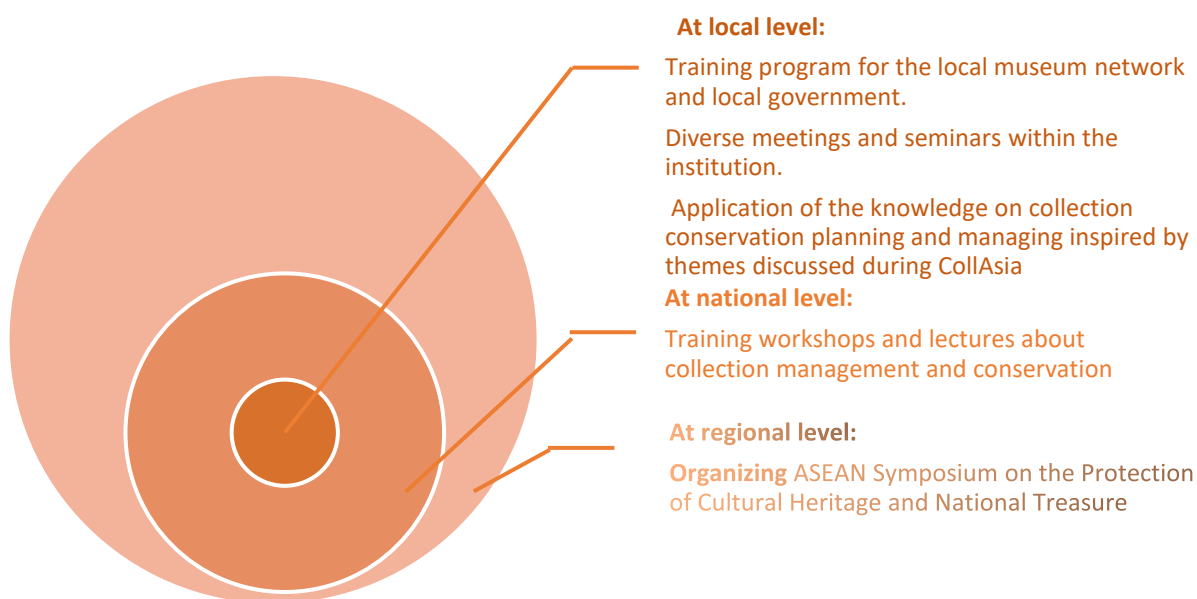
"[...] Since the first day, The CollAsia made participants feel more confident about themselves and there is a good team building spirit among the participants and the teachers. I think after the course, I have better communication methods and better management method. ... What I try to apply into my work is always well-preparing for every work and try to brainstorm to find best solution to do it." **Participant from Vietnam**

Snowball effects of the CollAsia program

In order to evaluate the impact of the CollAsia courses, the survey brings up an open-ended question asking the surveyed participants to give one example of an activity that they carried out inspired by CollAsia. It sought information about how respondents used the experience gained in CollAsia activities in their professional practice.

The responses to this issue demonstrate the program impact at a broader level: participants from CollAsia courses informed on the activities they have organized at different levels, with the purpose of spreading the knowledge and skills learnt from CollAsia to their fellows as well as their successors. They are also eager to put what they gained into practice in the working context of their institution and even on a bigger scale. Many activities have been implemented at local, national and regional level; the most frequent activities were training workshops, meetings, seminars and lectures on collection's care, management, and conservation.

Fig 9. Activities implemented by respondents and their institutions after the courses participation



"Shock-test which participants test out the vulnerability of their packed artefacts." - **Participant from Singapore**

"All our research activities always involve local community and local government to accommodate their aspirations and needs so that our research results on underwater heritage can benefit the locals, improve their prosperity, and assist to resolve the poverty problem, for example, offering shipwreck site as sustainable marine - shipwreck tourism destination. Raising awareness and public education on the importance of heritage protection and preservation also become an essential part in our research activities. All of these inspired especially by CollAsia in Thailand about "Conservation, Communication, and Community" – **Participant from Indonesia**

"Every year, we organize training courses on objects conservation at museums and heritage sites." - **Participant from Vietnam**

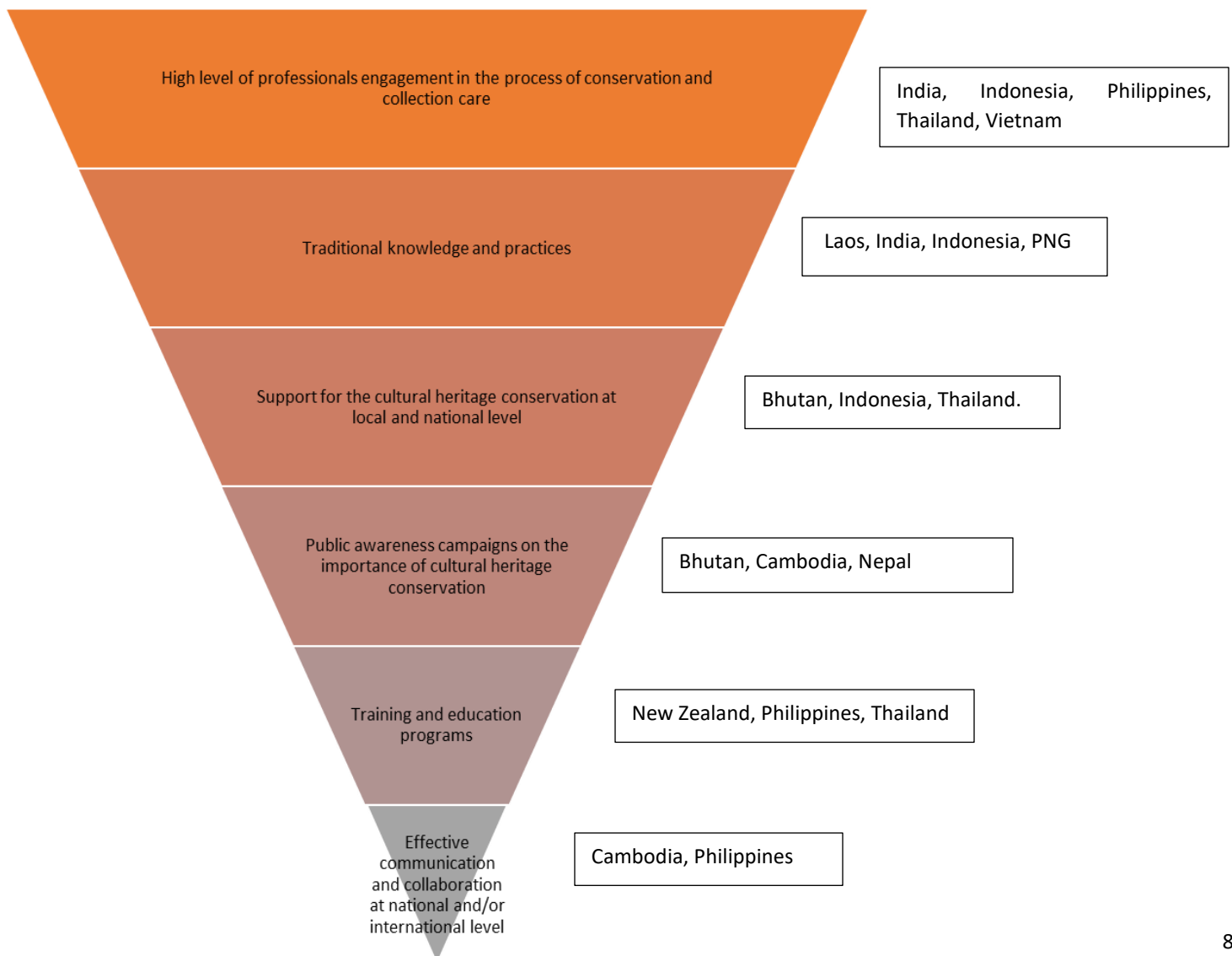
"I've conducted several training workshops and lectures in collection management around the Philippines. It also inspired me at one time to convene regular "coffee" meetings for collection management professionals in small private museum around Manila and we've had a three-level workshop and lecture training program as a result.[...]" – **Participant from Philippines**

2. Opportunities and challenges in the region from the point of view of respondents

Professionals' engagement and responsibilities: essential for the development of heritage conservation

Some of common strengths in the heritage conservation field in the region emerged by the responses of the participants to the open-ended question: **“What are the strengths of conservation and collection care initiatives in your country?”** Respondents from many countries such as India, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam reported that the most considerable advantage lies on the high level of responsibilities and engagement of the professionals working on the heritage collections conservation in their countries. They also highlighted the importance of the traditional knowledge and practices as a supporting feature to the development of their work. In addition, the support of national and local government countries such as Bhutan, Indonesia, and Thailand is seen as an opportunity to empower the field of conservation. Beside this, the growing public awareness on the importance of cultural heritage conservation, the multiplication of training and education program as well as the effective communication and collaboration at national and international level were considered relevant to improve the conservation conditions for their country in general and particularly for their institution.

Fig 10. Identified common strength in the region



Collection risk management: A new emerging challenge

With objective to identify the challenges confronted by the region, an open-ended question was addressed to the surveyed participants inviting them to open up about the difficulties that they face in their profession and should be prepared to overcome. In general, the challenges mentioned by the participants are relatively similar to those that were identified at the beginning of the program, such as: lack of training program for professionals, poor facilities and financial resources shortage, absence of legislative framework, low level of public awareness, intermittent collaboration at national and international level.

A part from that, the main challenge emerged from the questionnaire, refer to the multiplication of external factors as a threat for the heritage collections, such as: climate change, rapid urbanisation, globalization, human resources etc. These issues have been emerging during these last years and are drawing an increasing attention of the professionals. Heritage collections are exposed to the risk of severe damage coming from unpredictable natural disasters as well as from the aftermath of the globalization. The following quotes exemplify the new challenges identified:

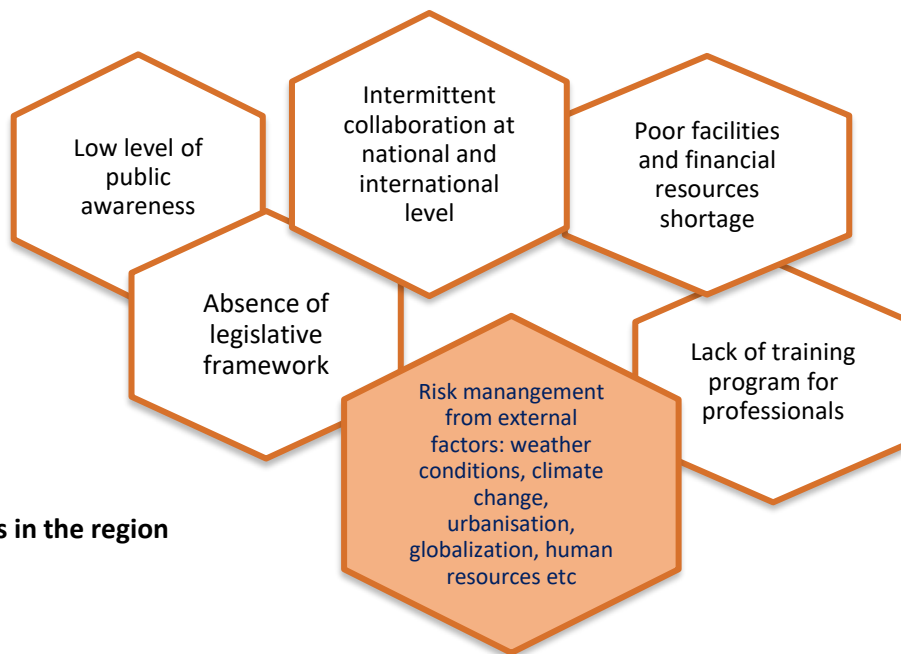


Fig. 11 Main challenges in the region

"Humidity, earthquake, because Indonesia is a tropical country and many volcanoes can cause earthquake." - **Indonesia**

"Human resources working in the field of cultural heritage have not been adequate in terms of quality and quantity [...]" - **Indonesia**

"The main challenge faced by cultural heritage in the Philippines is the risk posed by natural disasters. This country is highly prone to earthquakes, floods, and fire, and very few institutions have the financial means to address these hazards by installing such safeguards as fire protection and suppression or earthquake resistance measures" - **Philippines**

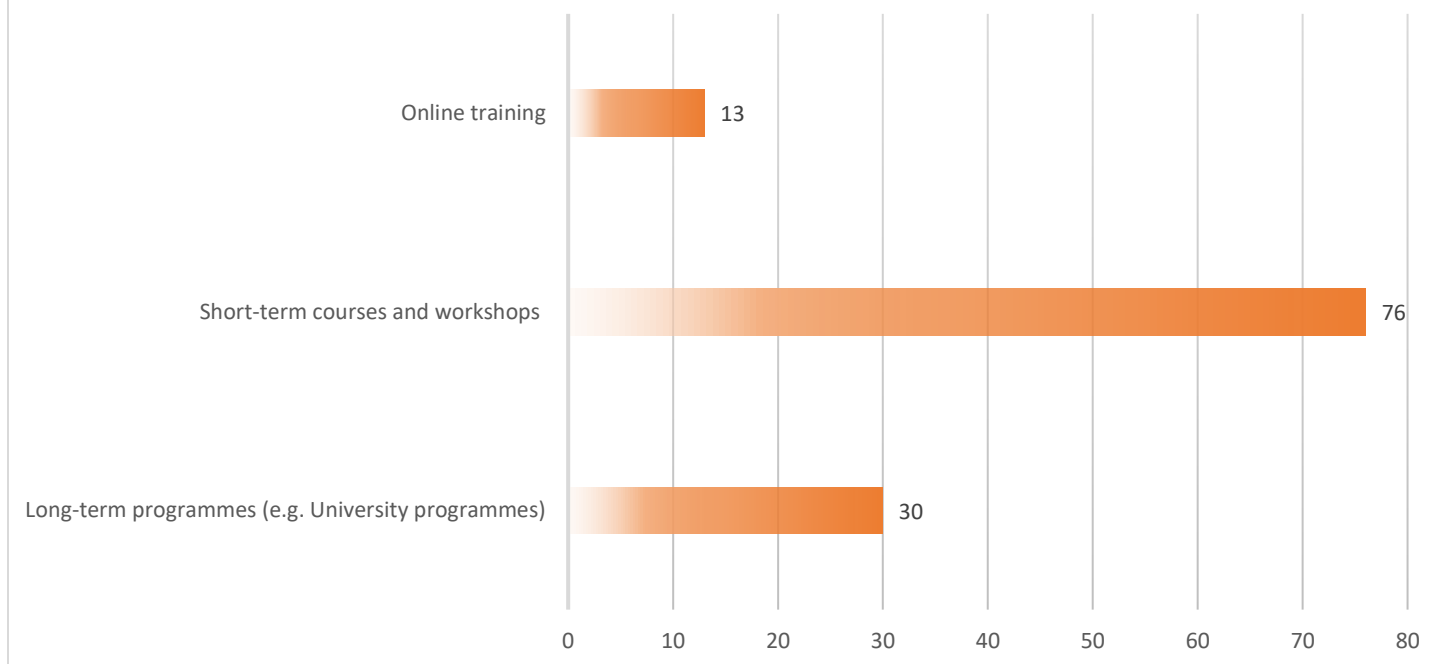
"The pace of modernization and industrialization is rapidly evolving, leading to cultural change. Good traditional cultural values are increasingly being lost" - **Vietnam**

3. Training options available for heritage conservation or management

By asking the participants the question “**What are the training options available in your region for heritage conservation or management?**”, it was possible to get a brief overview of the existent training program for professionals caring for heritage conservation in the region. The question provided list of 3 options: online training, short-term courses and workshops and long-term programmes. Among these, short-term courses and workshops were reported as the most offered training opportunity for the professionals over the region. Long-term programmes and online training are also available but seem to be less popular.

Beside these responses, participants could also specify other available training programs in their country. One of the respondents has mentioned “Courses offered by CollAsia/ ICCROM” while 2 others identified the “Internship program” as an opportunity of learning and training for the professionals.

FIG 12. TRAINING PROGRAM AVAILABLE IN THE REGION



4. Ongoing collaboration at the regional and international level

In order to determine the collaborations among countries in the region and internationally, the surveyed participants were asked to specify the countries that their institution has work with the most. The outcomes shown as the table below demonstrating the different collaborations by each country in the Asia Pacific region. All of the Asia Pacific countries reported the cooperation with at least one of their neighbouring countries. Otherwise, many of them (5 out of 11 countries) mentioned Southeast Asian countries as a whole, meaning that strong collaborative relationships were built and maintained among countries in the region. In addition, the results pointed out the dynamics of the cooperation of the region's countries with the rest of the world. In fact, the respondents' countries have been working a lot with Northern Asian countries particularly Japan, South Korea and China. The collaboration expanded across the continent reaching Europe including all the EU countries, and mostly France, Netherlands, Belgium, and United Kingdom; North America with the high frequency of involvement of the United States as well as the Australian continent.

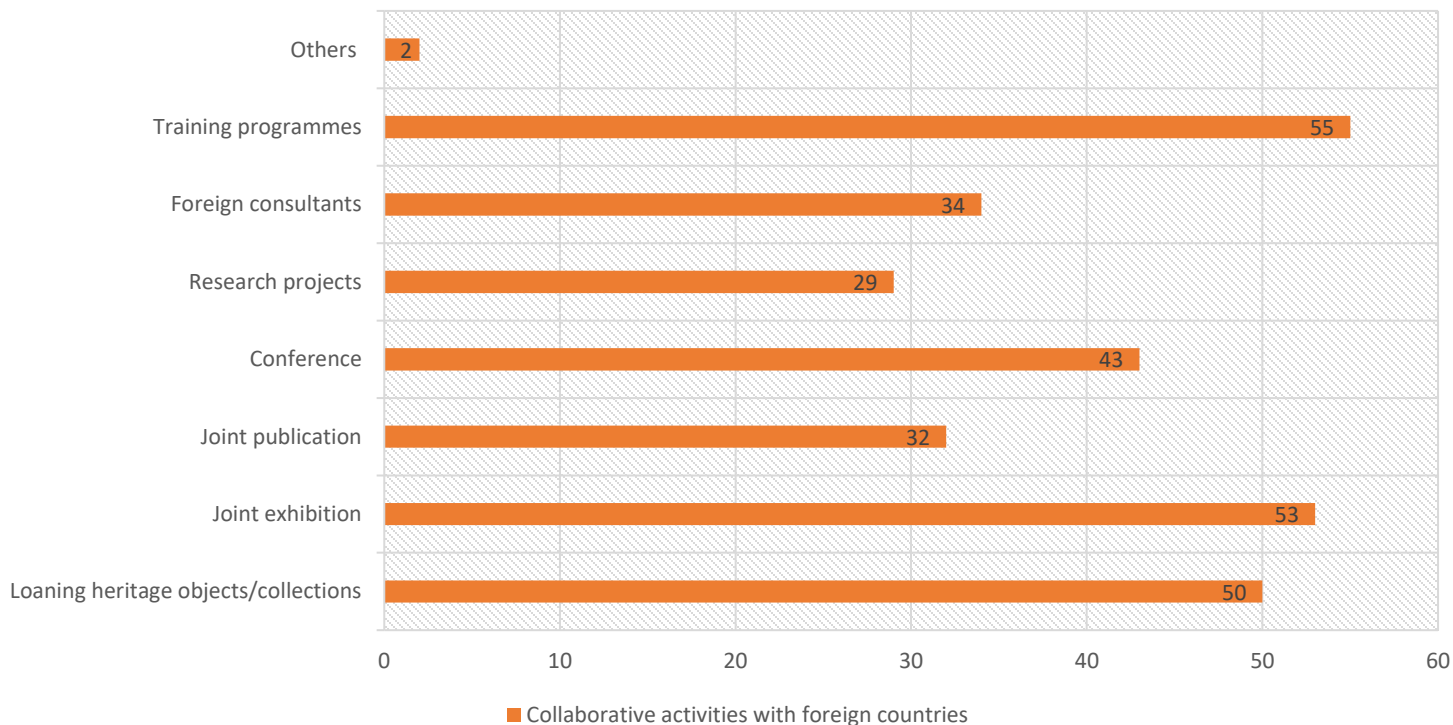
Survey respondent's country	The countries has worked with the most
Bangladesh	India (2), Italy, Switzerland,
Bhutan	Korea (2)*, India, Japan, ICCROM
Brunei	No answer
Cambodia	USA (3), Korea (2), France (2), Thailand, United Kingdom , Indonesia, Vietnam, Myanmar, Germany, Japan, China, India, Italy, Australia
India	EU, Nepal, India, Mongolia, Thailand, China, Austria
Indonesia	Indonesia (5), Japan (5), Singapore (4), South Korea(4), Netherlands (4), Australia (2), Belgium (2), EU countries, Thailand, Malaysia, Brunei
Lao PDR	Laos and Thailand
Malaysia	Singapore(4), Thailand(3), United Kingdom (3), Australia (3), China (3), Vietnam (2), Indonesia (2), Southeast Asian countries, Austria, Philippines, Czech Republic, Hungary, Indonesia, Japan, New Zealand, Netherlands, South Korea.
Myanmar	Thailand (2), USA (2), Singapore, Vietnam, China, Brunei, Russia, Italy, Korea, Australia, Japan, England, India, Czech Republic
Nepal	South Korea
New Zealand	Pacific Islands, Europe, Asia & Commonwealth countries
Papua New Guinea	Australia (2), Japan (2), USA
Philippines	Japan (5), Spain (5), USA (5), Singapore (4), Southeast Asian countries (3), France (3), Indonesia (2), Taiwan (2), Thailand (2), Vietnam (2), Korea (2), United Kingdom (2), Czech Republic, Portugal, Australia, Cambodia, China, Italy, Laos, Germany, Netherlands
Singapore	Southeast Asian countries
Thailand	Japan (3), Thailand (2), Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Singapore, Brunei, Cambodia, Myanmar, Laos, Philippines, South Korea, Southeast Asian countries
Timor Leste	Australia, USA
Vietnam	France (3), USA (3), Japan (3), China (2), Korea (2), Belgium (2), Poland, Australia, Thailand, Russia, Malaysia, Netherlands, Australia, Southeast Asian countries, Italy, Vietnam, ICCN, UNESCO, ASSEMUS, ICOM.

*: the frequency of the response

Current collaborative activities

The collaboration between countries in the field of heritage conservation is covering many activities, enabling countries in the region to improve their conservation strategies and practices. The closed-ended question invited the participants to define the type of collaborative activities they had with their foreign partners during the past 5 years. The options are listed on the figure given below and have shown that the international collaboration in the heritage conservation comes in many shapes and forms. Training programmes represent the most popular collaborative activity, highlighted by 55 respondents' institutions. Joint exhibition (53), loaning heritage objects/collection (50) and conferences (43) were reported as the regular activities for more than half of the survey participants' institution. Foreign consultants (34), joint publication (32), research projects (29) come after but still play an important role in the framework of international collaboration. The question proposed the respondent to specify the different activities that they carried out which have not been mentioned in the list. The collected result revealed two others kind of collaboration such as staff exchange between institutions and lecture given by counterparts from foreign institution.

Fig 13. Collaborative activities with foreign countries



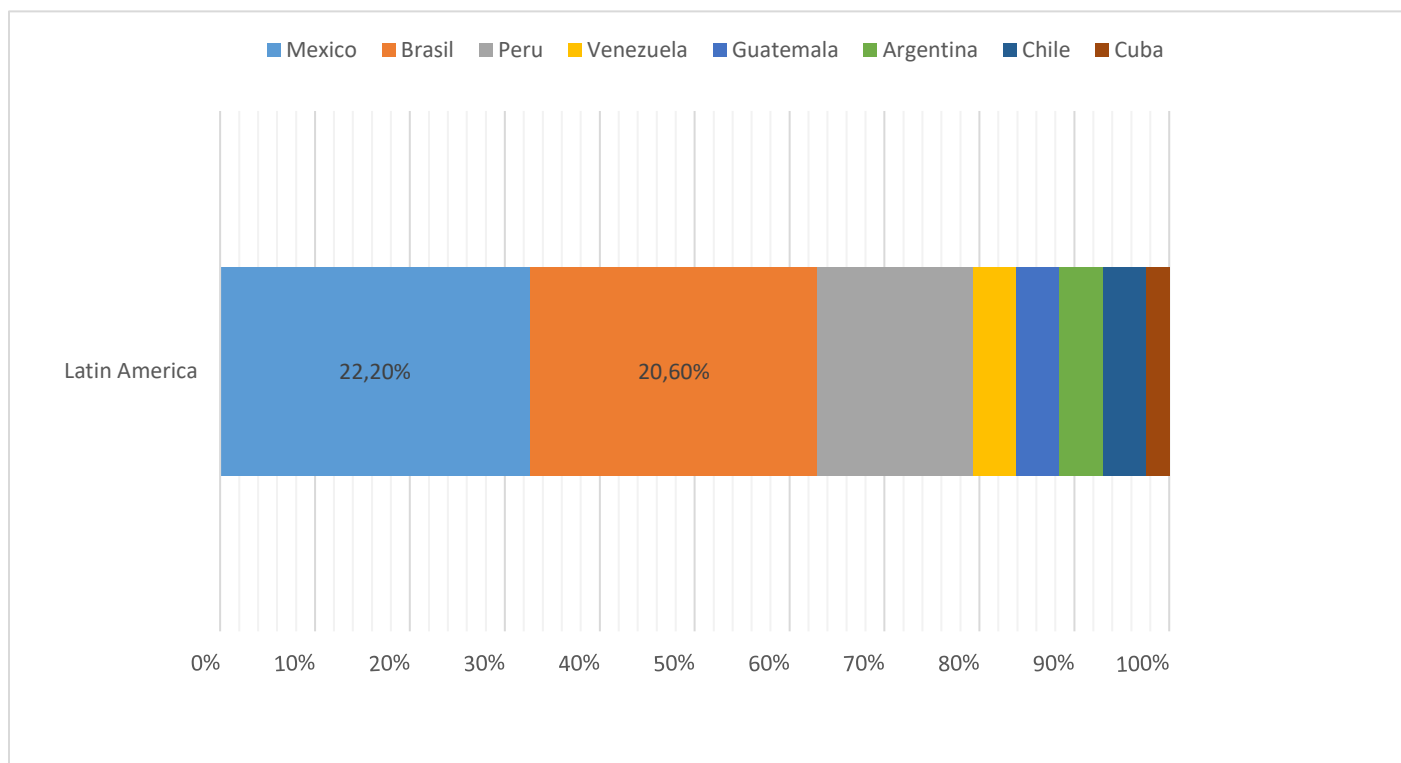
Cross-border collaboration perspective

The results above have shown the poor collaboration of the region with the Latin America and Africa regions. Considering the common traits of heritage in materials, techniques and working conditions between the different locations in the world, ICCROM is exploring the possibility of continuing seldom inter-regional activities, linking heritage professionals in Southeast Asia with professionals from Latin America and Africa. Therefore, we suggested these two region while asking the participants to choose and to specify the countries and the topic of interest once the next inter-regional activity will take place.

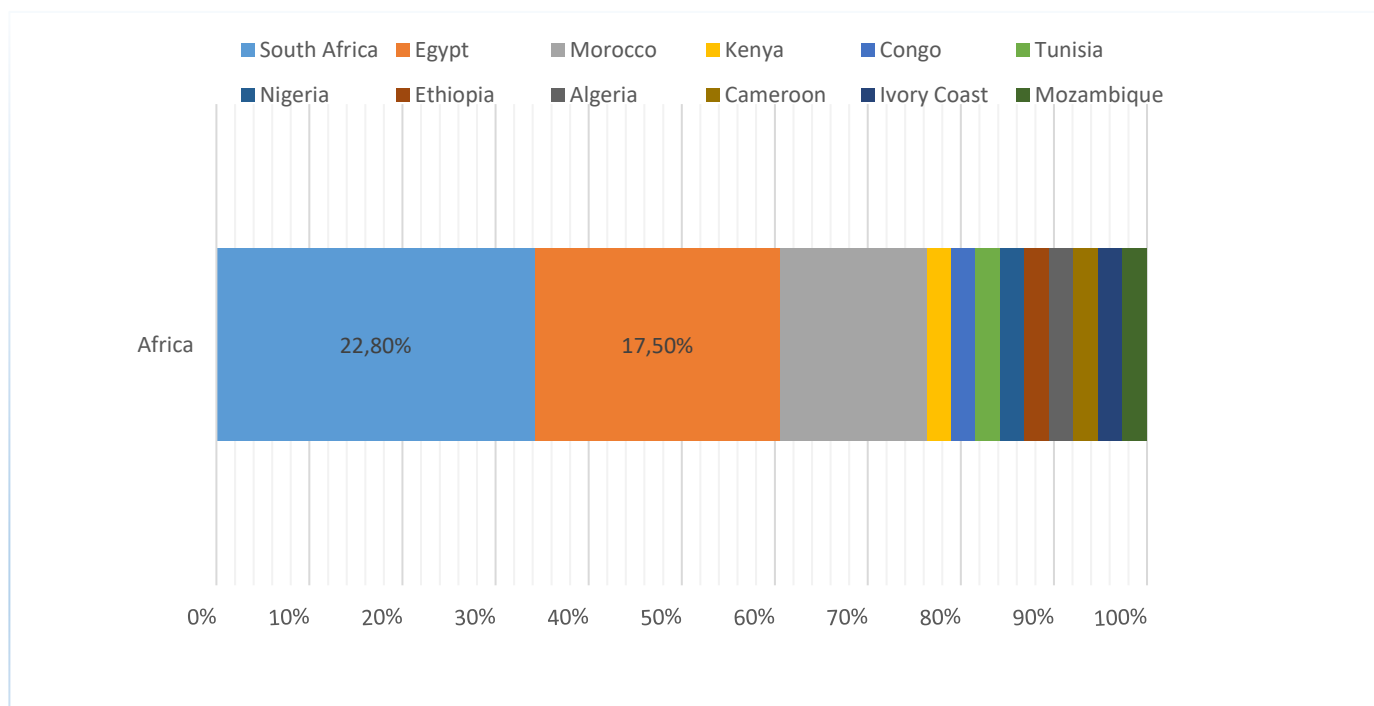
In general, the surveyed respondents are mainly fascinated by the idea of organizing the forthcoming CollAsia courses outside the region. This intention demonstrate their expectation to collaborate and to exchange with their counterparts in Latin America and Africa in order to enrich their professional experiences and to satisfy additional skills requirements in a global context.

As a result, 64 respondents were interested in organizing the CollAsia courses in the Latin America region and 57 have an inclination to make it to Africa. The result illustrated also the hesitation of the participants since many of them (39 out of 84) have chosen both region. In overall, **Mexico (22%)**, **Brasil (20,6%)** were identified as the ideal country In Latin America for hosting the next CollAsia courses. Regarding Africa region, respondents have shown their preference to **South Africa (22,8%)**, **Egypt (17,5%)**.

With Latin American countries



With African countries



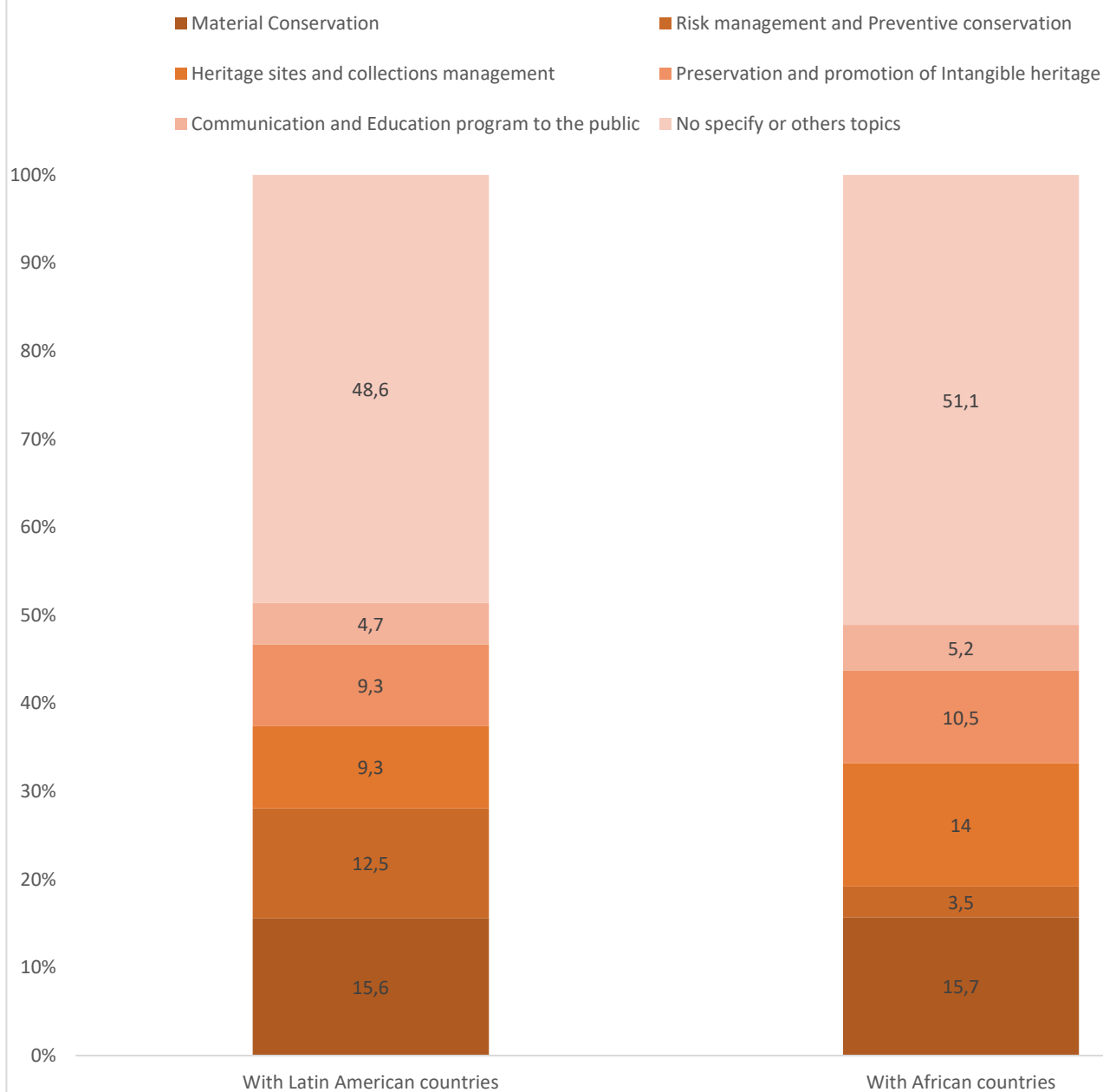
Main themes of interest

There are roughly half (47,3% for African countries vs 54,7% for Latin American countries) of the respondents came up with an idea of specific subject or topic associated with the country to which they had referred. In both case, they drew attention to the following main themes: “Material Conservation”, “Risk management and Preventive conservation”, “Heritage sites and Collections Management”, “Preservation and promotion of Intangible heritage”, and “Communication and Education program to the public”

The perspective of exchanging the knowledge and experiences with the Latin American countries tempt the respondents to a cluster of themes that they expect to learn from and working with their counterparts. 10 out of 64 respondents interested in “Material Conservation” such as textile, stone, metal and paper, following by the concern for “Risk management and Preventive conservation” (12,5%) especially under rapid climate change. The percent proportion of respondents caring about “Heritage sites and collections management” and “Preservation and promotion of Intangible heritage” are equal (9,3%) and 4,68% were inspired to approach the detailed strategies for “Communication and Education program to the public”.

When it comes to the collaboration with Africa, “Material Conservation” remain the priority theme to be addressed (15,7%) which would further describe the conservation of a wide range of material including stone, metal, paper, bamboo, textiles, leather etc. “Heritage sites and collections management” (14,03%) and “Preservation and promotion of Intangible heritage” (10,5) came after considering the richness of natural landscape and cultural heritage in this region. 5,2% of the respondents prefer to work on the theme of “Communication and Education program to the public” and the smallest part of them (3,5%) eager to deal with the topic of “Risk management and Preventive conservation”.

Fig 14. Main themes of interest for cross-border collaboration



5. Perspective on the future of CollAsia programme

4 out of 5 surveyed participants (82%) reported that becoming the host of a CollAsia activity in the next 5 years appealed to them. By confirming their interest in organizing the event, the respondents were also asked to identify a potential topic to examine in depth once they become the host.

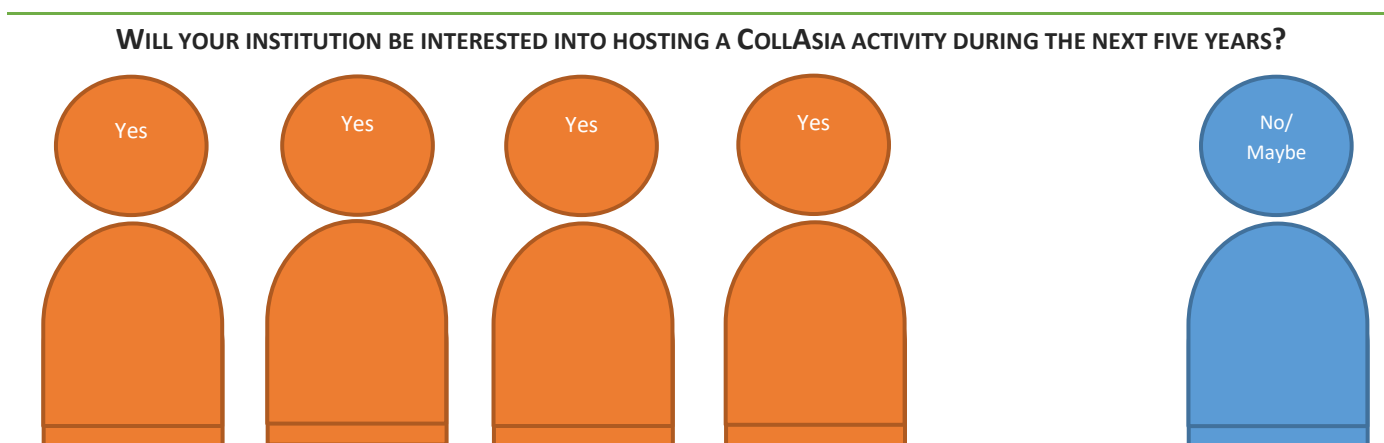


Fig 15. Intention for hosting the CollAsia course in the next 5 years

The table given below synthesized all the potential topics proposed by the respondents having intention to organize the courses, taken verbatim from the survey's responses. Some of them were unsure of the possibility of hosting a CollAsia course but still managed to propose a topic that they found relevant.

Respondents' countries	Respondents' main affiliation	Topic of interest (Verbatim)
Bangladesh	Ministerial department	Conservation for Peace
	Museum and private foundation	Crafts
Bhutan	Museum	Storage and suitable environment within the museum.
Brunei	Ministerial department	Conservation of different materials/ Conservation of in-situ structures
Cambodia	Museum	Managing risks for collections
	Museum	I am not sure but if possible, Conservation of Intangible cultural heritage
	Museum	Textile and Archive conservation.
India	Government	(Maybe) Conservation, Heritage Management
Indonesia	Museum	Conservation on Stone
	Museum	In the field of art

	Museum	The conservation of artifacts from archaeological researches
	Museum	Photography Conservation
	Museum	Communicating conservation to the general public
	Museum	Paper based conservation and digitizing archive
	Research Institute	Underwater Cultural Heritage Preservation - Sustainable Tourism on Shipwreck site - Community maritime museum
	Museum	Storage facilities and organize
	Museum	Storage management
	Museum	Conservation of natural history heritage collections
	Museum	Communicating the result of collection research to general public
	Museum	Coating and consolidation for museum collections
	Museum	Facing climate change for outdoor heritage
	Museum	Conservation of photography, videography & audio-visual collections
	Museum	Conserving heritage in high risk disaster area Weather changes effect for outdoor heritage/collection
Lao PDR	University affiliation	Cultural heritage conservation and management
Malaysia	Ministerial department	Conservation of ornamental artifacts in Southeast Asia
	Museum	Collection Management
	Ministerial department	Conserving Traditional Textile and Costume in Traditional Method
	Museum	Intangible heritage, risk management

		Museum	Pest management/IPM
		Museum	Related to conservation of objects
		National Archives	Conservation on archival material
		Ministerial department	Storage Environment Control for Organic Collections in Old Building
		Ministerial department	Wood conservation
Papua New Guinea		Museum	Challenges of collection care in the warm tropics of Pacific
		Research Institute	Preserving objects, metallic or biological, in tropical countries or on preserving intangible heritage like oral histories.
Philippines		Government	Stone conservation
		Museum	Natural History Collections
		Museum	Archaeology or Zooarchaeology
		Museum	Conserving Textiles, ICH and Disaster Risk Management Or Exhibition making (educating people through exhibitions)
		University affiliation	Conservation and preservation of built cultural heritage
		Museum	Museum conservation practices integral in museum exhibition design
		Museum	Ecclesiastical objects or church built heritage.
		Museum	An introduction of conservation to the public, how it is communicated in-and-out of the institutions/museums; understanding collections management practices and indoor climate risk management may be of interest. Textiles conservation.

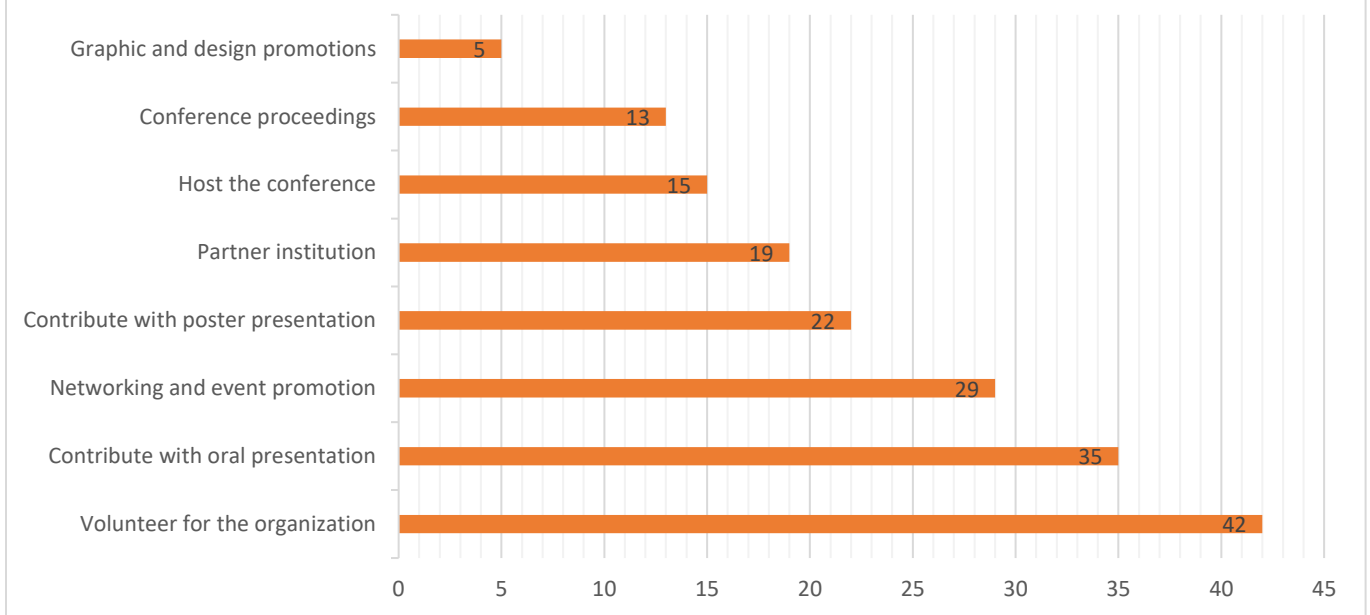
	Museum	Moveable heritage in the tropics
	Museum	Climate change impact to collections Digitalization (with standard database) of museum collections
Thailand	Museum	Conservation of new material, how to promote intangible heritage
Vietnam	Museum	linking natural and cultural heritage; climate change and sustainable museum practice
	National Archives	The promotion of the heritage collections to public/ How to promote archives on the internet and social networks?/ The preservation of audio visual collection/ How the archives can get more financial resources/ Risk management to the archives
	National Archives	wood and paper documents
	Museum	Preservation textile
	Museum	Tapes, films, photograph conservation
	University affiliation	Ceramics conservation or Photograph conservation

Towards a CollAsia international conference and publication

The idea of organizing a CollAsia international conference and publishing a CollAsia publication appears to be intriguing to nearly all of the participants (81 out of 84). The given closed-ended question proposed to the respondents a list of precise activities, which could demonstrate to the participants the preparation process of such an international event and encourage them to contribute to it by one or another way.

In this perspective, the respondents managed to contribute to this joint project by various means. Particularly, half of them are willing to be volunteer for the organization of the conference. They were also keen on doing oral presentation, networking and event promotion as well as poster presentation. A smaller part of the respondents planned to be a partner institution or even a host of this event.

Fig 16. What would the participants like to contribute?

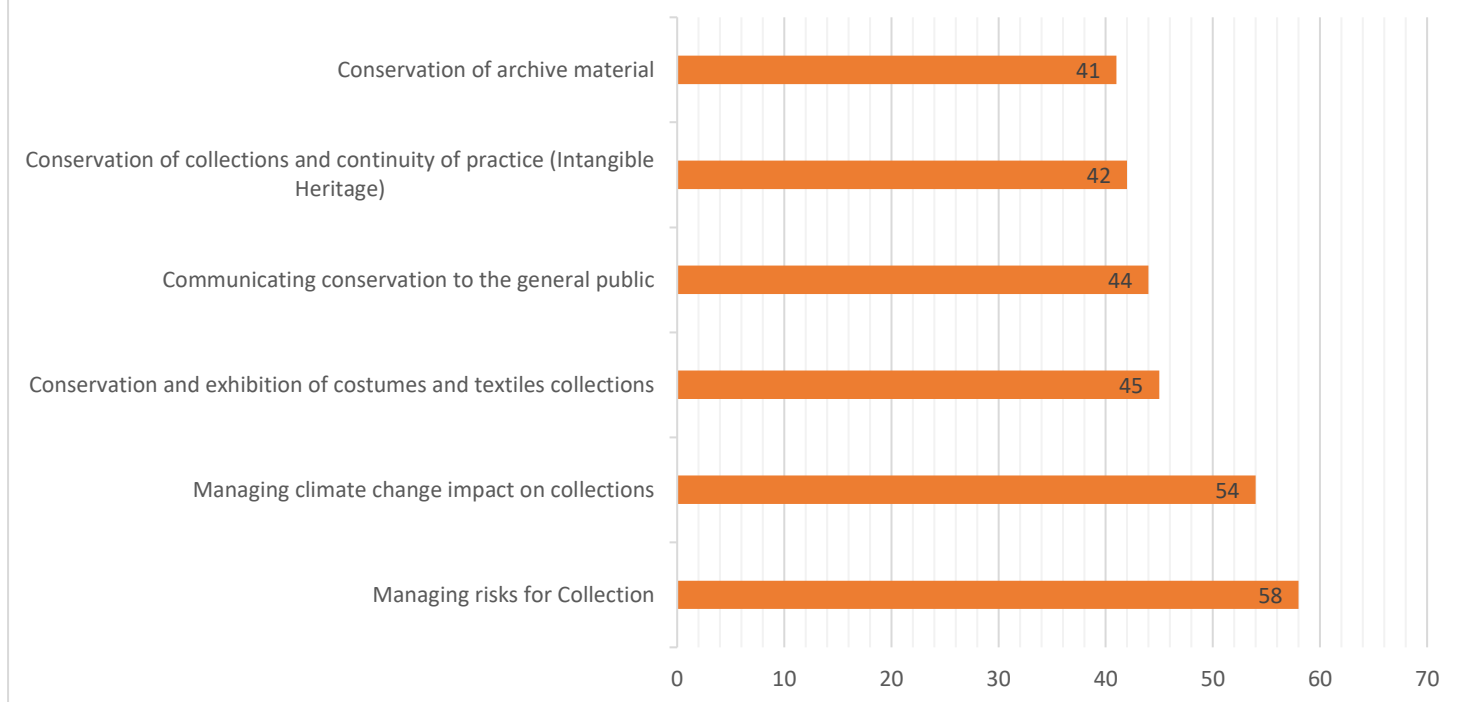


Topics of interest for the future courses

The question “On which topic would you like future CollAsia activities to be?” suggested 9 options among which the respondents are able to select up to 5 topics of interest.

As seen at the figure below, the topic “Managing risk for Collection” and “Managing climate change impact on Collection” appear to be the most urgent issues according to the professionals in the region. The concern shared among the participants given in the Challenge part have completely explained their intention to address the topic of risk management in the framework of the CollAsia courses in the future. Besides, the conservation of textiles collections, and the archive material, the continuity of traditional practice as well as the awareness campaign for the public are also considered as critical for the development of the heritage conservation in the region.

Fig17. Topic of interest for the future courses



CONCLUSION

Results of the online survey completed by participants from 17 countries in the region clearly showed that the CollAsia programme had marked an impact at the regional-wide level.

According to the participants' feedback, the CollAsia programme offers them a comprehensive and integrated approach enabling them to learn further and look ahead to solve specific conservation challenges for their institutions as well as for their countries. The respondents reported feeling more motivated and inspired to do their daily work, acquiring significant decision-making and management skills, sharpening critical thinking abilities, improving the team-working capacities, opting for developing applied research etc.

Particularly, the result of the survey demonstrate that the impact of the programme have extended beyond those attendees thanks to the activities that the participants and their institutions have launched inspired from CollAsia experiences. The concept of sharing and exchanging the knowledge and hands-on experiences among professionals have been encouraging the participants to transmit what they had learned from the programme to their counterparts as well as the stakeholders in the field at different level through diverse activities such as training workshops, meetings, seminars and lectures on collection and management conservation etc. This snowball effects have met the objectives of CollAsia programme to empower heritage collection professionals in Southeast Asia by providing them a platform for connecting and collaborating between not only the participants but also with those who never attended the programme.

For the development of the programme in the future, most of the respondents affirmed their eagerness to keep engaging in the program and even to take up a bigger role resulting in: hosting the future courses, contributing to the organization of the eventual international conference and publication, involving in the interregional collaboration etc.

The high level of commitment and enthusiasm of the participants to the CollAsia activities in the future, as an indicator of the perceived professionals value, has relatively revealed the positive change that the programme have brought to the participants. According to the surveyed professionals, CollAsia is a relevant educational programme meeting the needs of improving the heritage conservation conditions in the region and living up to the professional's expectations.

In order to maximize the impact of the programme and adapt its content to the evolving context of the collections conservation in the region, the survey respondents were ask to freely leave the comments and suggestions. The following quotations in the appendix can concretize the perception of the participants about the programme's impact and their expectations for the future programme developments.

APPENDIX - Comments and suggestions from the respondents

Respondents' countries	Verbatim
Bangladesh	Long Live and best wishes for CollAsia.
	CollAsia Program is very much fulfilling; It will be great if it can create some linkage to give opportunity to work on research and collaborative projects. Because it's hard for someone to be fully engaged in such activities despite having a full time job.
Bhutan	It will be best if collasia programme is held in Bhutan and young conservator will be able to improve their knowledge.
	No comments, but this program should be continued
	This program should be continued, as it benefits museum and cultural personnel in improving their knowledge and skills
Brunei	My CollAsia course experience has been very knowledgeable and hands-on. It has been fun as well. My only suggestion is that if my colleagues can experience the course for themselves. Sometimes sharing the knowledge is different from experiencing it. Probably it can inspire and motivate them as I have with the Bandung Team.
Cambodia	Thank you very much for organising the course so far
	I think the activity of CollAsia in 2 weeks is too short. 3 weeks is good.
	The program is very important to bring the knowledge to the people to work directly to the collections. The more we could participate the more we can use the knowledge to build up and solve the problem that faces to the collection. I am very much understand that CollAsia has trying very hard to bring us the opportunity but please kindly allow many Cambodian as possible to work and learn in your program.
India	CollAsia is an excellent initiative. The course is very well structured and planned with a brilliant course team.
	CollAsia added dimensions to my professional growth. More programmes related to collection-care would be extremely useful.
Indonesia	Please Collasia programs continuing because we are still need it
	More updated info if there's any conservation courses in the future
	Looking forward for the next classes and courses. thank you.
	It is great to have experience with CollAsia :)
	It will be nice if there is a publication (i.e. journal, bulletin, newspaper) for the research results or any activities of CollAsian Alumni

	I am glad Collasia will ride again and hope better than before
	All of museum in Indonesia needs good storage management
	For the next programmes, CollAsia activity could held at Japan for paper/archive material conservation
	CollAsia Alumni Conference is a good idea. We hope to attend to participate in the conference
	A reunion of Collasian will be useful to see if the alumni get many benefits and progress after CollAsia course. Moreover, please conduct more courses especially un indonesia-furthermore in Suburban area
	held a reunion of collAsia alumni
	It will be better if there is a reunion for each Collasian course so we can share many experience and knowledge. Besides we can also share the progress after collasia activity.
	As digital innovation continue to grow and develop I think it's worth for CollAsia to consider a topic that relevant with it such as digital conservation/conservation in digital age, benefit and obstacle of it, safety on the collection when it published online in 3D format and so on.
Malaysia	Course on training for the trainers for Conservation education
	a. It will be very useful if a CollAsia newsletter (like LATAM) be introduced for the Southeast Asian heritage professionals to exchange knowledge and stay connected. b. Allocate 1 slot for Southeast Asian heritage professionals for internship at ICCROM
	Latest museum best practices to be incorporate because conservation is a dynamic field
	We need more knowledge sharing about conservation of archival material. Perhaps there have some course that related to conservation of archival material such as paper, microfilm, VCD/CD, film etc.
	Yes - Sharing more journal about conservation in southeast asia
Myanmar	CollAsia training courses are very useful for our country lack of well conservation techniques. Very nice training.
	I recommend as a culture worker of Myanmar live in the culture hub, Mandalay, systematic assessment and inventorying of Myanmar ICH should be undertaken as also explained in the Article 12 of 2003 ICH Convention proposed by UNESCO. Most historians and cultural related community felt that more attention is needed to ensure that the intangible heritage elements of Myanmar continue and that the focus of emergency actions should not be limited to the conservation of physical damage. It is also clear that the local community participation is essential and critical because - People enact ICH, and identify with it;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ICH is an integral part of their cultural heritage and contemporary lives; - Safeguarding means continued practice and transmission by them; - Safeguarding requires their participation and consent. <p>Here in this concern, I stress that safeguarding means “to ensure the long-term viability of intangible heritage within communities and groups”. There is no definition provided for “community” in 2003 - ICH Convention. However, under this Convention, ‘communities, groups and individuals concerned’ means those who participate in the practice or</p>
	Transmission of the ICH element, and consider it to be part of their cultural heritage.
Nepal	It is a great programme for the cultural heritage and should continue to reach more countries.
New Zealand	Thank you for sending through the questionnaire, honoured to be part of the CollAsia Alumni
Papua New Guinea	Increasing the number of participants from the Pacific Region into the CollAsia program.
	Capacity building on risk management for collections or software database management. Museum purchased Vernon CMS to manage our collection database but training on it has been slow.
Philippines	Maybe wider options in transmitting the messages/principles
	Please continue with this activity. it is very helpful to institutions.
	May I recommend an online platform where collections management practitioners may generally access readings/ bibliography/ research materials/ supplies for conservation/ proceedings of past CollAsia training/s/ references. It can be interactive--CollAsians may contribute reading materials/ publications to this site to enhance the network and information overtime. As it is, reference materials on conservation/ collections management are not readily accessible here in the Philippines. Books on collections management rarely reach Philippine shores. Further, some conservation materials have been phased out in the local market, such as fumigants. Information on how or where to access these may be of great help.
	CollAsia should use more local expertise that would harness practices, experience, and publish these free as tools for heritage professional training.
	The CollAsia Alumni be of great help to us especially the Cultural Workers.I hope I would be one who will be attending this event.
Singapore	HCC would definitely like to work with and tap onto the rich experience of Collasia. It would be great if Collasia could initiate prospective programs involving HCC and see how HCC could contribute.
Timor Leste	Thank you so much for the ICCROM to involve me to the preview course in Daejeon, Korea. The course is useful, so please keep it up with new topics and useful to

	safeguard our Tradition and culture for our new generations and to protect our cultures in the future.
Vietnam	I, as well as my colleagues in the Vietnam National Museum of Nature (http://www.vnmn.ac.vn), will be happy to further the discussion outside this limited sphere of a questionnaire.
	I am looking for a training course about Care and Management of Natural History Collections, So I hope CollAsia will held this topic in the next time.
	I do hope CollAsia Alumni will be regularly connected and may take part in more CollAsia activities.
	We are currently keeping a lot of photos, tapes, films..., but the knowledge of preservation is very limited so we would like to have intensive courses on this issue.