

## **Appeal of TOMORROW'S KYOTO Cultural Heritage Platform**

1. Scientists believe that a great “Tokai-Tonankai-Nankai Earthquake” will occur during the first half of the 21st century. It is urgent to implement a set of strategies to protect the cultural heritage of Kyoto before it is hit by inland earthquakes that would most likely happen prior to this great earthquake. Therefore, owners of the cultural heritage, government, researchers, and members of the community should work together to develop specific measures to protect the heritage.
2. There are a large variety of effective measures for disaster mitigation for cultural heritage. Some can be implemented in the short term with relatively small resources, while others are large-scale and would require years or decades to implement. In consideration of the current circumstances in which we cannot predict accurately when an earthquake will occur, we should start working immediately on feasible short term measures.
3. We must focus not only tangible cultural heritage, but also intangible heritage including traditional techniques and arts. In this way, we will be able to ensure a more overall sustainable development. In other words, when making plans for the future of Kyoto, we should explore ways to conserve both tangible and intangible cultural heritage and to transmit them to future generations.
4. Important areas in the historic cities of Kyoto and Nara have a high density of old wooden houses. Fire is, therefore, the highest risk in these areas. Although the spread of fire can usually be controlled, multiple fires which occur in the aftermath of an earthquake will make firefighting more difficult. The most important issue concerning disaster mitigation for cultural heritage in cities such as Kyoto and Nara is to develop countermeasures against earthquake-induced fire.
5. Citizens of Kyoto are not fully aware of how important it is to protect their cultural heritage from disaster risks and what their roles might be in times of disaster. The urgency of some countermeasures requires that we initiate an appeal to the community as soon as possible. Continuous activities which involve the citizens of Kyoto would make them more aware that they should protect Kyoto from various types of disaster risks on their own.
6. The objective of TOMORROW'S KYOTO Cultural Heritage Platform is to accomplish the above-mentioned recommendations together with the citizens of Kyoto in a very long term perspective. To this end, it is crucial to work with young people, especially those who will play a leading role in the future of their community. Opportunities should be provided for young people to experience their traditions and culture so that they will be able to transmit their history and tradition to the next generation as well as protect cultural heritage in Kyoto.

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