

【Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (S)】

Humanities and Social Sciences (Humanities)



Title of Project : Researching the Collection and Utilization of Overseas Japan-related Sources through Multi-archival Methods

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Research Project Number : 26220402 Researcher Number : 60195518

Research Area : Japanese History

Keyword : overseas sources, historical informatics, digital archives, source utilization

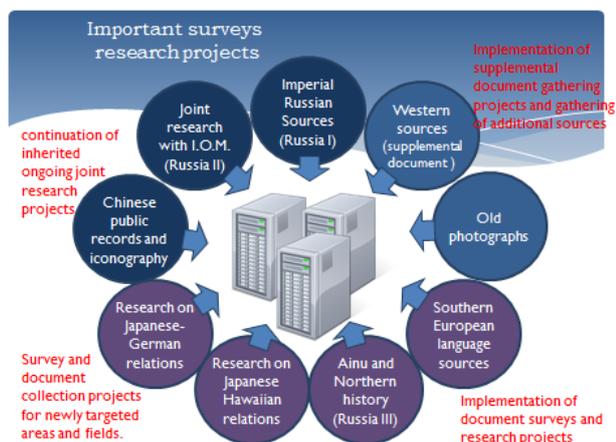
【Purpose and Background of the Research】

In the 1930s, the Historiographical Institute (H.I.) began collecting overseas sources related to Japan. In the postwar period we initiated the collection of microfilm sources with the support of the Union Académique Internationale, and are now focusing on sources from underrepresented countries, such as Russia and China.

This project examines how the H.I. digitally archives and provides access to its holdings of overseas microfilms (approximately 1,500,000 16th~19th century sources from 20 countries and over 70 institutions), and outlines the implementation of a cross-sectional multi-language search system for foreign and domestic sources. H.I. holds approximately 5,000,000 domestic sources dealing with foreign relations in addition to many published document compilations. We aim to promote multilingual, multi-archival projects that examine Japanese history in a global context by putting our resources at the disposal of citizens and researchers.

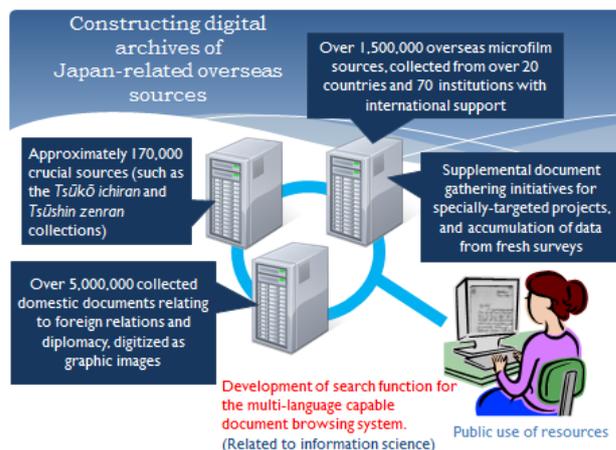
【Research Methods】

We are currently digitizing, organizing, uploading and tagging 2,800 microfilm reels of overseas sources and approximately 170,000 document compilations. To facilitate searches, we are constructing a unified server system,



developing a document repository function, and otherwise optimizing the digital archive's architecture. We are implementing a multi-language cross-sectional search function. In

addition, we have organized nine source collection teams. Their tasks include collecting overseas Japan-related sources for new and existing multi-language, multi-archival projects, participating in collaborative research projects overseas, and facilitating international academic conferences.



【Expected Research Achievements and Scientific Significance】

We expect the construction of this digital archive to contribute to research that views Japanese history from a global perspective, put fresh resources at the disposal of scholars, and contribute to the training of young researchers. Such a development will also greatly increase cooperation with overseas scholars and provide a firmer basis for collaborative research projects.

【Publications Relevant to the Project】

“Studying the Ontology of Constructing an Organizational Structure for the Collection of Digital Sources,” *H.I. Report of Research Results*, (Tokyo; 2013).

“*Sources in World History vol.12. Japan and the World.*” Tokyo: Iwanami shoten, 2013.

【Term of Project】 FY2014-2018

【Budget Allocation】 158,200 Thousand Yen

【Homepage Address and Other Contact

Information】 <http://www.hi.u-tokyo.ac.jp/index-j.html>