



U.S. AMBASSADORS FUND FOR CULTURAL PRESERVATION

Embassy of the United States of America, Zambia

The U.S. Embassy in Zambia and the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State are pleased to announce the 2013 Call for Proposals for the Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation.

What is the U.S. Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation?

Since its creation by Congress in 2001, the U.S. Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation (AFCP) has awarded grants in support of more than 650 projects to preserve cultural heritage in more than 120 developing countries. The U.S. government through the Department of State has provided direct small grant support for the preservation of cultural sites, cultural collections, and forms of traditional cultural expression, such as music, dance and language under the AFCP.

“Cultural preservation offers an opportunity to show a different American face to other countries; one that is non-commercial, non-political and non-military. By taking a leading role in the efforts to preserve cultural heritage, we show our respect for other cultures.” Congress of the United States of America (2001)

Grants usually range from \$10,000 to \$100,000, but may be higher for exceptional projects.

Project Categories

AFCP supports preservation projects in the following three categories:

1. **Cultural Objects and Collections** from a museum, site or similar institution:

This includes archaeological and ethnographic objects, paintings, sculpture, manuscripts, photographic and film collections and general museum conservation activities.

Proposals in this category may involve, for example:

- Conservation treatment for an object or collection of objects;
- Needs assessment of a collection with respect to its condition and strategies for improving its conservation purposes;
- The creation of safe environments for storage or display of collections;
- Specialized training in the care and preservation of collections;

2. **Cultural Sites:**

This includes (but is not limited to) historical buildings and sites, sacred places, monuments, and archaeological sites.

Proposals in this category may involve for example:

- Restoration of an historic building;
- An archaeological survey as a component of a preservation plan;
- Preservation management planning for a site;
- Documentation of sites in a region for preservation purposes;

3. **Forms of Traditional Cultural Expression:**

This includes traditional music, rituals, knowledge, languages, dance, drama and crafts.

Proposals in this category may involve for example:

- Documenting and audiovisual recording of traditional music and dance forms as part of a traditional expression and making the information and recordings available
- Support for training in the preservation of traditional arts or crafts that are threatened by extinction;

Project Size

AFCP supports small, medium and large scale projects.

AFCP may also support phased and pilot projects whose methods and outcomes will advance long-term cultural preservation objectives, lay the groundwork for subsequent AFCP-supported activities, or encourage the continued or expanded application of proven methods at the project site or elsewhere.

Exclusions

AFCP **does not** support the following:

- Preservation or purchase of privately or commercially owned cultural objects, collections or real property;
- Conservation of natural heritage (physical, biological and geological formations, paleontological collections, habitats of threatened species of animals and plants fossils etc);
- Preservation of news media (newspaper, newsreels etc);
- Archaeological excavations or surveys for research purposes
- Historical research, except in cases where historical research is justifiable and integral to the success of the proposed project;
- Construction of new buildings

- Commissions of new works of arts or performances for commemorative or economic development purposes;
- Acquisition or creation of new collections for new or existing museums;
- Creation of replicas or re-creation of cultural objects or sites that no longer exist;
- Relocation of cultural objects or collections, unless part of a larger, clearly defined conservation effort;
- Remove of cultural objects or elements of cultural sites from the county for any reason;
- Cash reserves, endowments or revolving funds – funds must be expected within the award period and may not be used to create an endowment or revolving fund or otherwise spent over many years;
- Costs of fund-raising campaigns for preservation;
- Costs for administrative time or materials not directly related to performing project work;
- Costs of work performed prior to announcement of the award;
- Contingency or miscellaneous fees;
- Administrative staff or administrative fees greater than 5% of the overall project costs;
- International travel, except in cases where travel for outside specialists is justifiable and integral to the success of the proposed project (international travel will be considered on a case-by-case basis).
- Awards to individuals

Proposal Requirements

All project proposals must include or address the following:

- Purpose and summary
- Description
- Time frame
- Statement of significance
- Statement of urgency
- Rationale for U.S. support
- Detailed description of direct and indirect beneficiaries: number, gender, age, location
- Detailed project budget – itemized, “no miscellaneous,” add cost-share of other donors (quantify in-kind contributions if not cash contribution)
- Recipient information
- Resumes of the project coordinator and professional staff

- Official permission to undertake the project
- Other funding sources (if any)
- At least three digital images (JPEGs) or audiovisual files of the site, object, or form of expression to be addressed in the proposed project.

Who Can Apply

Project proposals will be accepted from among the following:

- Non-governmental organizations
- Museums
- Government Ministries of Culture or similar institutions

Application Timeline

Applications are accepted from July 4th to December 2nd, 2013.

Review and Selection Process

The U.S. Embassy in Lusaka will conduct a preliminary review all submitted project proposals and vet all prospective recipients for suitability and reputable performance in cultural preservation or similar activities and submit them to the Department of State for further and final review.

The Cultural Heritage Center in Washington will administer the proposal review and selection process. Awards will be announced as soon as possible through the U.S. Embassy in Lusaka.

Reporting requirements

All awards recipients must submit progress and final reports as specified in the award documents.

For further details and information contact:

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