



# U.S. AMBASSADORS FUND FOR CULTURAL PRESERVATION



In 2014, the Ambassadors Fund awarded **55 grants** for projects to preserve cultural heritage in **46 developing countries**. The Fund has awarded **\$55 million** since 2001 in support of **more than 870 projects** in more than 125 countries.

**Established at the request of the 106th Congress of the United States** (Public Law 106-553) and administered by the Cultural Heritage Center in the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs at the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation supports the conservation of sites, objects, and forms of traditional cultural expression in more than 120 countries around the world.

The U.S. Congress stated that “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 efforts to preserve cultural heritage, we show our respect for other cultures by protecting their traditions.”

## How It Works

**Each year, ECA’s Cultural Heritage Center invites U.S. Ambassadors serving in eligible countries to submit proposals** on behalf of museums, ministries of culture, NGOs, and other qualified entities for projects to preserve cultural heritage. The Center coordinates the review of proposals and recommends projects for funding. Funding opportunities are announced in the fall, and awards are announced in the spring.

## What AFCP Supports

**The Ambassadors Fund supports projects to preserve a wide range of cultural heritage, including:**

- Historic buildings and archaeological sites
- Cultural objects, such as archaeological and ethnographic objects, paintings, and manuscripts
- Indigenous languages and other forms of traditional cultural expression

## Funding for Large-Scale Projects

**Since 2008, the Ambassadors Fund has also supported a limited number of large-scale projects** to preserve significant cultural sites. Grants typically fall in the \$500,000 to \$1 million range. Each year, the Center invites a small number of U.S. Ambassadors to participate in this limited competition for large grants.