

The U.S. Embassy is accepting project proposals for the U.S. Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation (AFCP) 2011 Competition. The U.S. Embassy will accept proposal of qualified entities for projects to preserve the cultural heritage of Colombia. The deadline for submitting proposals to the Embassy is December 20, 2010.

The following type of projects will be considered:

A. CULTURAL SITES*includes (but is not limited to) historic buildings and sites, monuments, and archaeological sites;

B. CULTURAL OBJECTS AND COLLECTIONS from a museum, site, or similar institution*includes archaeological and ethnographic objects, paintings, sculpture, manuscripts, photographic and film collections, and general museum conservation activities; and,

C. FORMS OF TRADITIONAL CULTURAL EXPRESSION*includes traditional music, rituals, knowledge, languages, dance, drama, and crafts.

AFCP gives top priority to project activities that are appropriate and in keeping with international standards for the preservation of cultural heritage. These activities may involve:

A. In the case of CULTURAL SITES, restoration of a historic building, preservation of an archaeological site, or documentation of cultural sites in a region for preservation purposes.

B. In the case of CULTURAL OBJECTS AND COLLECTIONS, conservation treatment for an object or collection of objects; needs assessment of a collection with respect to its condition and strategies for improving its state of conservation; inventory of a collection for conservation and protection purposes; the creation of safe environments for storage or display of collections; or specialized training in the care and preservation of collections.

C. In the case of FORMS OF TRADITIONAL CULTURAL EXPRESSION, documentation and audiovisual recording of traditional music and dance forms for preservation

and eventual dissemination, or support for training in the preservation of traditional arts or crafts that are threatened by extinction.

An appropriate preservation activity is one that protects the values of the site, object or collection, or form of traditional cultural expression as they are understood by stakeholders. Stakeholders may include national, regional, or local cultural authorities, the local community, and others with vested interests in the site and the outcome of a project.

The U.S. Embassy invites entities to submit proposals for 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.

Qualified entities are reputable and accountable non-governmental organizations, museums, ministries of culture, or similar institutions and organizations that are able to demonstrate that they have the requisite experience and capacity to manage projects to preserve cultural heritage.