ALIPH’s Plan to support the heritage protection sector in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic

Principles

To submit an online request please use this [link](https://example.com).

Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions (contact@aliph-foundation.org).

The COVID-19 pandemic is already having a significant impact on the protection of cultural heritage in conflict areas, through the postponement of planned work and the potential destabilization of the local economic and social fabric. Indeed, this health crisis may lead to deeper and lasting transformations in the cultural heritage sector.

Consequently, to remain faithful to its values of solidarity and partnership, ALIPH has set up an extraordinary relief fund to support the heritage sector in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. The proposed support mechanisms should meet urgent needs, while taking into account foreseeable long-term transitions.

Besides adapting its support for ongoing projects, ALIPH has set up a complementary support mechanism for local operators in the heritage sector in conflict or post-conflict areas affected by the COVID-19 pandemic:

1. **Financial support for the most vulnerable organizations** to assist them overcome the crisis, adopt digital tools, or implement urgent preventive protection measures.

2. **Financial support** to allow the staff of these organizations to access existing or planned online academic or professional trainings.

ALIPH’s contribution to the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic was elaborated following discussions with ALIPH’s partners and will be implemented in concert with international organizations, foundations, cultural and academic institutions.

This Fund has an initial endowment of 1 MUSD, which will be replenished by ALIPH, or supplemented by other partners, depending on needs and feedback from the field.
Guidelines

1. Eligible costs
ALIPH supports heritage operators by financing the following costs:

1.1. **Running costs** (i.e. staff involved in heritage protection, access to protection measures against COVID-19, etc.), when these costs cannot be covered by projects currently financed by the Foundation.

1.2. **Development of digital tools**, to strengthen skills and autonomy of operators (i.e. equipment for internet connection, computers, software – for videoconferencing, project management or planning... website, etc.).

1.3. **Urgent measures** aimed to:
   - Reinforce preventive protection (i.e. the establishment of plans for the protection of museums and their collections in the context of health risks, in accordance with the recommendations of specialized international organizations),
   - Generate income. These projects must be cultural heritage related.

For these three types of costs, the maximum amount is 15,000 USD by operator, renewable. When possible, the financing of operating expenses may be made on the condition that staff also follow online training.

Furthermore, ALIPH provides financial support to enable staff of these organizations to access online academic or professional courses, some of which may be translated or under preparation. These training courses may cover topics such as project management, the protection of heritage in a conflict or post-conflict context or in the face of a pandemic, the participation of communities in a rehabilitation project, climate change awareness and preparedness, etc.

2. Eligible institutions

Potential beneficiaries of these grants are:

- Public institutions in charge of the protection, conservation and promotion of cultural heritage (museums, libraries, institutions managing heritage sites, etc.)
- Private organizations in charge of the protection, conservation and promotion of cultural heritage (NGOs, foundations, non-profit organizations, charities, associations, small handicraft businesses, etc.)

Operators must be located in conflict or post-conflict areas. The notion of conflict is interpreted from a broad perspective to encompass interstate conflicts, civil wars, asymmetrical conflicts, terrorism, violent unrest and other sudden disruptions that lead to instability.

If you are interested and your organization meets these criteria, you may submit a request using the following link. The online form will be available on Friday 1st May 2020.

Furthermore, ALIPH’s Emergency Relief procedure remains open. However, given the COVID-19 pandemic, only proposals demonstrating extreme urgency and short-term feasibility can be evaluated within tight deadlines. If the implementation of the projects cannot be effectively carried out in the following weeks, they will be evaluated at a later date.

Finally, ALIPH plans to launch a 4th Call for Projects in January 2021.