

In partnership with



Department
for Culture,
Media & Sport

Cultural Protection Fund

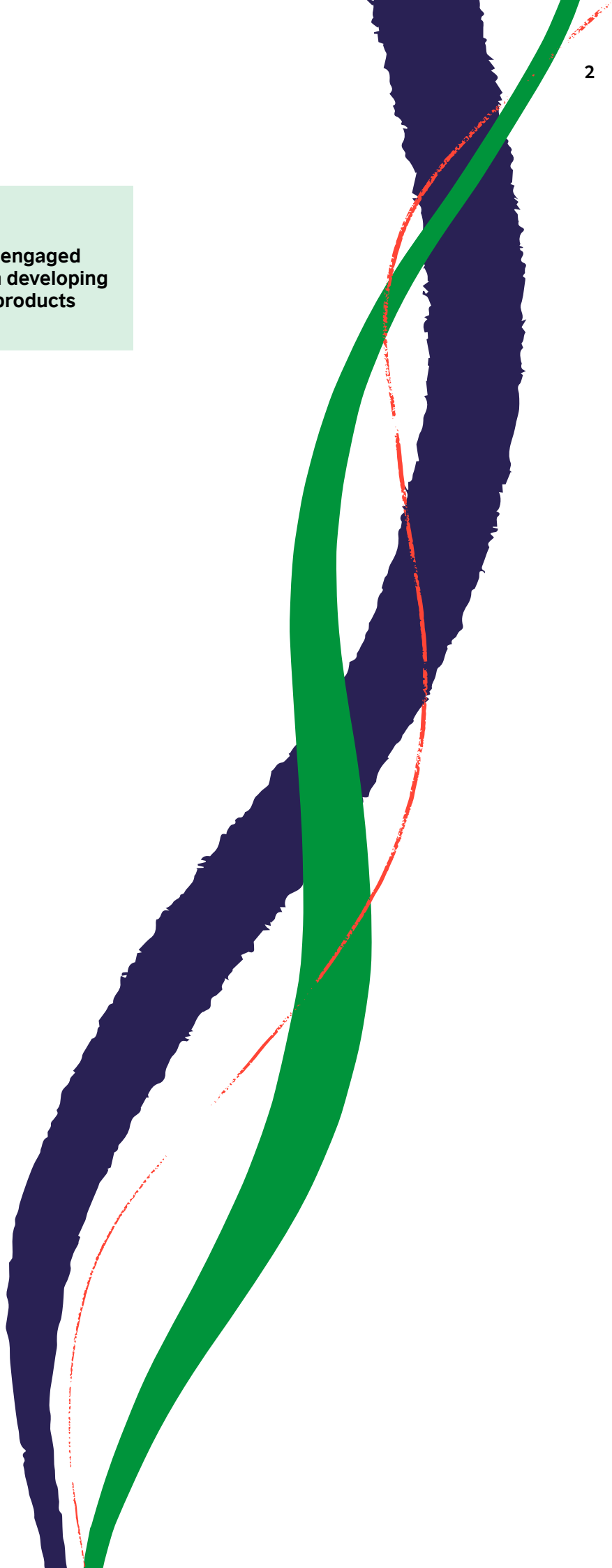
A close-up portrait of an elderly woman with a warm, joyful expression. She has short, curly grey hair and is wearing large, ornate gold earrings. Her attire includes a light-colored, intricately patterned top and a vibrant green shawl. She is adorned with multiple necklaces of red, blue, and yellow beads. Her hands are clasped in front of her, holding a string of red beads. The background is softly blurred, suggesting an indoor setting. Overlaid on the image are decorative elements: a dark blue and green wavy graphic on the left, and a red dashed line curving across the middle.

Cultural Protection Fund Annual Report 2023–2024

Front Cover

Aghan Odero, an entrepreneur engaged the team in thought process on developing business and market oriented products

© National Museums Kenya



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Blacksmith training in Port Said,
Brandenburg University of Technology
project © Marwan Elsamman

Message from Stephanie Grant

Cultural Protection Fund (CPF) Director



This has been the most challenging year for me and the team at the Cultural Protection Fund. The conflict and humanitarian disaster in Gaza have had a profound impact on our projects – not just on their current activities but in many cases undoing the excellent work these projects have done in previous years.

The CPF has been present in the Occupied Palestinian Territories since 2016, and we have witnessed huge and devastating personal loss for our friends and colleagues in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and elsewhere in the region. As the war continues and the scale of destruction increases, we watch on in sadness and hope for peace.

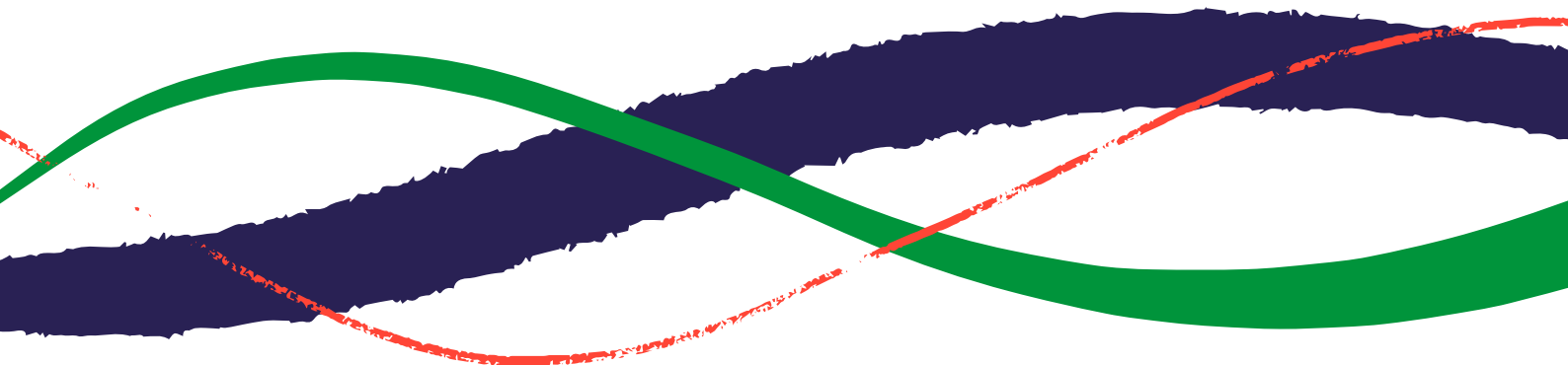
This year marks the 70th anniversary of the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. CPF's commitment to protecting cultural heritage has strengthened as we awarded an additional £1m in funding to 12 new projects delivering in 16 countries across the Middle East, North and East Africa.

The 25 CPF-funded projects from last year have continued, including those in Occupied Palestinian Territories (despite the escalating situation), and those in Sudan which is in the midst of another catastrophic war and humanitarian emergency.

The climate crisis is more urgent than ever and presents a vast injustice, disproportionately impacting those who have a smaller environmental impact and/or live with fewer resources.

Climate change affects heritage in all parts of the world, and such huge challenges are best tackled collaboratively, by listening to and learning from communities; utilising mutual, international exchange of knowledge and ideas; and by putting people at the heart of all interventions.

The world needs to be better prepared to save the cultural heritage which is important to communities. The UK and its Cultural Protection Fund have an important role to



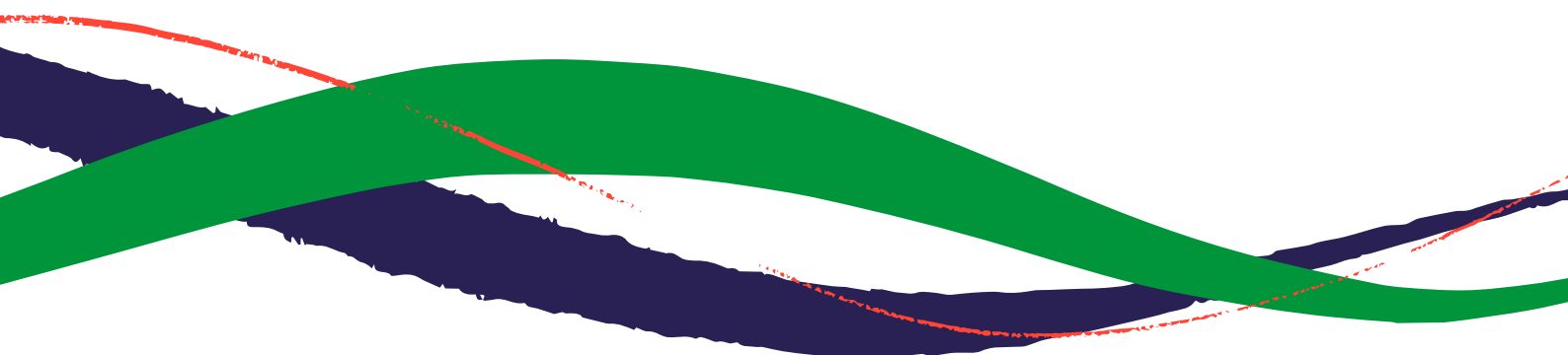
play in this vital work. Our projects give voices and opportunities to those otherwise unheard and unseen.

We know from our research, insight and evaluation projects, that as much as heritage is destroyed, weaponised, contested and at risk; it is that same heritage which can keep communities together, foster understanding and wellbeing and keep us safe. During the year covered by this report, I have seen for myself how CPF support is helping to transform heritage and communities on the ground in our target countries:

- In Kenya, the Book Bunk Trust has enhanced the collections in three libraries in Nairobi by documenting more stories from the local population
- Bayt al-Jaghbeer in As Salt, Jordan, is being renovated by Petra National Trust as part of a CPF project, with the aim of using the space for climate engagement activities
- In Erbil, Northern Iraq, I visited some incredible heritage sites and projects and heard from local heritage professionals about their work and challenges. Whilst there I met with our good friends and partners from the Grantmakers for Cultural Heritage Protection (GChEP) network to discuss how we can best work together towards our common goals.

As much as it has been a tough year, I will always be grateful for the privilege which the fund and this role have to offer. I extend my appreciation to my knowledgeable, dedicated and resilient team, working tirelessly against the backdrop of uncertainty in the places we work.

Thanks, too, must go to our amazing in-country network in the British Council, and our partners Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). Most of all, I am thankful to the people and communities that deliver and champion the work that we fund, that I am hopeful will continue well into the future.



Executive Summary

This report summarises the outputs, finances and impacts of the Cultural Protection Fund's activities in the financial year 2023–2024. It includes quantitative data and analysis relating to budget information, funded lead and partner organisations, as well as impact stories from projects delivering activities from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024. The report covers Year 2 in the Cultural Protection Fund's current three-year programme. The previous annual report from 2022–2023 financial year is available to read on the CPF website, [here](https://cultural-protection-fund.britishcouncil.org/sites/default/files/cpf_annual_report_2022-2023.pdf).*

In 2023–2024 the total budget for the Cultural Protection Fund was £8.2m, of which £7.6m was allocated to fund activities and projects, while £0.6m was assigned to operational and staff costs relating to the delivery of the programme.

Funded activities include 37 projects awarded through open calls – 25 from the previous financial year and a further 12 small (under £100k) grants awarded in 2023–2024. It also incorporates activities related to capacity building, the What Works research

and evidence programme and emergency response for heritage protection. At the end of the financial year, 99.8% of the budget had been spent.

All 16 of the fund's current target countries have benefitted from funding and activities in 2023–2024. These countries are: Afghanistan, Algeria, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Libya, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Sudan, Syria, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda and Yemen. The highest proportion of CPF funding to projects in 2023–2024 is to projects delivering in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

Intangible cultural heritage – (meaning heritage that is not physical, for example languages, stories and songs) – is a focus in 37% of all funded projects in 2023–2024.

Since the fund launched in 2016, there has been a gradual shift towards a higher proportion of projects either focussing on or incorporating intangible cultural heritage as a valuable signifier of communities' identities. The report presents data on the location of the lead organisation of funded projects and shows that 45% of lead organisations are



Safina Baghdad Launch Event © Safina Baghdad

based in target countries, meaning nearly half of the projects in 2023–2024 are locally led. The 32% of projects that are led by UK organisations is slightly lower than the 35% from the previous financial year, since new small projects (under £100k in funding), have been added to the portfolio. In addition to the 37 lead organisations, a further 126 partner organisations benefitted from CPF investment in 2023–2024. Of these partner organisations, 70% are based in CPF target countries. Small projects have an average of three partners and large projects an average of six partners.

Data collected from projects delivering in the 2023–2024 financial year shows that CPF funded projects have reported conservation of 86 separate heritage sites and monuments and documentation of 4,337 objects, alongside protection of 132 pieces of intangible cultural heritage. Projects have engaged 6,046 people through workshops, created 755 jobs and reached more than a million people online.

Five case studies are presented in the report, describing the activities and the impacts of some CPF-funded project work in Egypt, Kenya, Sudan, Syria, Uganda and Yemen.

In Sudan, a large-scale campaign was launched advocating for Sudanese cultural heritage, and it continues to gain momentum with over 130,000 views on YouTube. In Yemen, a strong, female-led team of architects completed the restoration of an historic palace which will now be repurposed for the community.

As well as funding projects this year, the Cultural Protection Fund has also delivered capacity building activities, contributed to cultural heritage emergency response efforts and has launched new pilot funding rounds in Nepal and Pakistan. The fund continued its What Works approach of gathering and sharing research, evidence and learning around heritage protection and the report shares some of the research and evaluation findings.

Finally, the annual report gives a look ahead into what will be happening in 2024–2025, the final year of the current programme, along with an outline of plans for the future of the Cultural Protection Fund.

Summary of 2023–2024

The Cultural Protection Fund is supported through UK government funding and 2023–2024 is year two of the current three-year funding cycle. The budget for each year of funding was set at the beginning of the programme and is part of the Operational Alliance Agreement between British Council and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS).

Following an uplift from DCMS to the CPF budget of 440k in late 2022–2023, the total budget for the year 2023–2024 was £8.2m.

Financial year	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	TOTAL
Grant Disbursement	£	£	£	£
Grant Disbursement – Target countries open calls	3.6m	7.1m	6.1m	16.8m
Grant Disbursement – ‘What Works’ programme	0.5m	0.1m	0.0m	0.6m
Grant Disbursement Development – Target countries capacity building	0.3m	0.1m	0.1m	0.5m
Grant Disbursement Development – Direct award – new country set up	0.3m	0.1m	1.0m	1.4m
Grant Disbursement – Heritage First Aid support	0.5m	0.2m	0.1m	0.8m
Total of Grant Disbursement Funds	5.2m	7.6m	7.3m	20.1m
Staff costs and Operational Expenses for Grant Disbursement	0.6m	0.5m	0.5m	1.6m
Staff costs and Operational Expenses for ‘What Works’ programme	0.4m	0.1m	0.1m	0.6m
Exit costs <i>(costs set aside in case the fund is to cease)</i>	0.0m	0.0m	0.2m	0.2m
Total programme budget	6.2m	8.2m	8.1m	22.5m

The table below shows the detailed budget for 2023–2024 and the actual spend against each expenditure heading. In the CPF agreement with DCMS there is some flexibility to move budget between headings and CPF allocated some funding back to DCMS before the end of the financial year. Total CPF spend for 2023–2024 was £8.173m – 99.8% of the total budget.

	Expenditure category	Budget	Actual
Grants	Grant Disbursement – Target countries open calls	£7,145,000	£6,653,011
	Grant Disbursement – ‘What Works’ programme	£125,000	£296,002
	Grant Disbursement Development – Target countries capacity building	£80,000	£214,991
	Grant Disbursement Development – Direct award – new country set up	£75,000	£174,262
	Grant Disbursement – Heritage First Aid support	£150,000	£175,209
Operations	Staff costs and Operational Expenses for Grant Disbursement	£492,000	£500,776
	Staff costs and Operational Expenses for ‘What Works’ programme	£122,000	£108,276
	CPF Budget reallocated to DCMS ICHP programme	–	£50,000
	Total programme budget and expenditure	£8,189,000	£8,172,527

Investment Profile

Projects and funding by country

This table shows the breakdown of grant funding allocated to each CPF target country in 2023–2024. The highest proportion of grant funding in 2023–2024 was allocated to projects in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. This is funding allocated to projects already contracted in 2022–2023 and does not include emergency funding for Palestinian projects since the start of the most recent conflict in Gaza – that is detailed in the **emergency response** section of this report.

Each one of the fund’s 16 target countries has received a share of grant funding in 2023–2024. The second highest value of investment is for projects in Sudan. While there are only two CPF projects in Sudan, one of them is the fund’s highest value project over the three years in this current programme. You can read more about the largest project in Sudan **later in this report**.

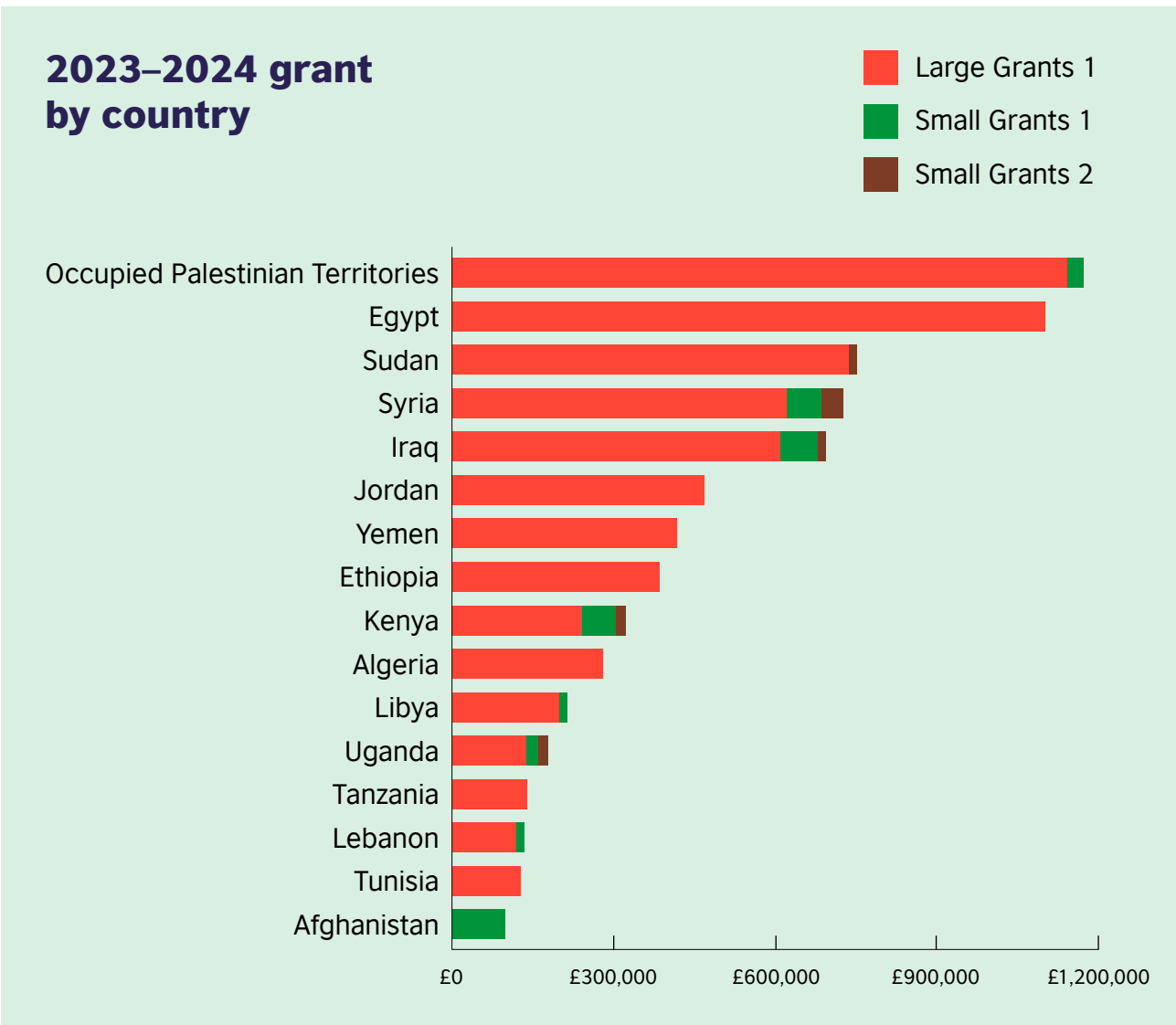
Target Country	No. of Projects*	Total Grant 2023–2024	Percentage
Afghanistan	1	£99,876.23	1%
Algeria	5	£282,535.51	4%
Egypt	5	£1,098,938.21	15%
Ethiopia	2	£385,965.25	5%
Iraq	6	£692,196.06	10%
Jordan	4	£470,631.41	7%
Kenya	4	£325,831.75	5%
Lebanon	3	£136,591.51	2%
Libya	3	£217,328.21	3%
Occupied Palestinian Territories	5	£1,172,341.29	16%
Sudan	2	£753,325.94	10%
Syria	8	£725,036.56	10%
Tanzania	1	£140,195.90	2%
Tunisia	1	£128,636.71	2%
Uganda	3	£179,814.56	2%
Yemen	1	£418,190.00	6%

* Total number of projects equals more than the 37 live projects from 2023–2024 as this table counts all countries within multi-country projects. The total grant column is calculated by dividing the project grant equally between the number of countries benefitting from the project, which is an approximate calculation and may not be reflective of the total £value received in each country.



Men in Tchundwa Perform Vave song © Twaweza Comms Center Ltd.

The chart below shows the breakdown of 2023–2024 grant funding per country and per funding round as described above.



Funded projects by heritage type

The Cultural Protection Fund categorises projects into four heritage types:

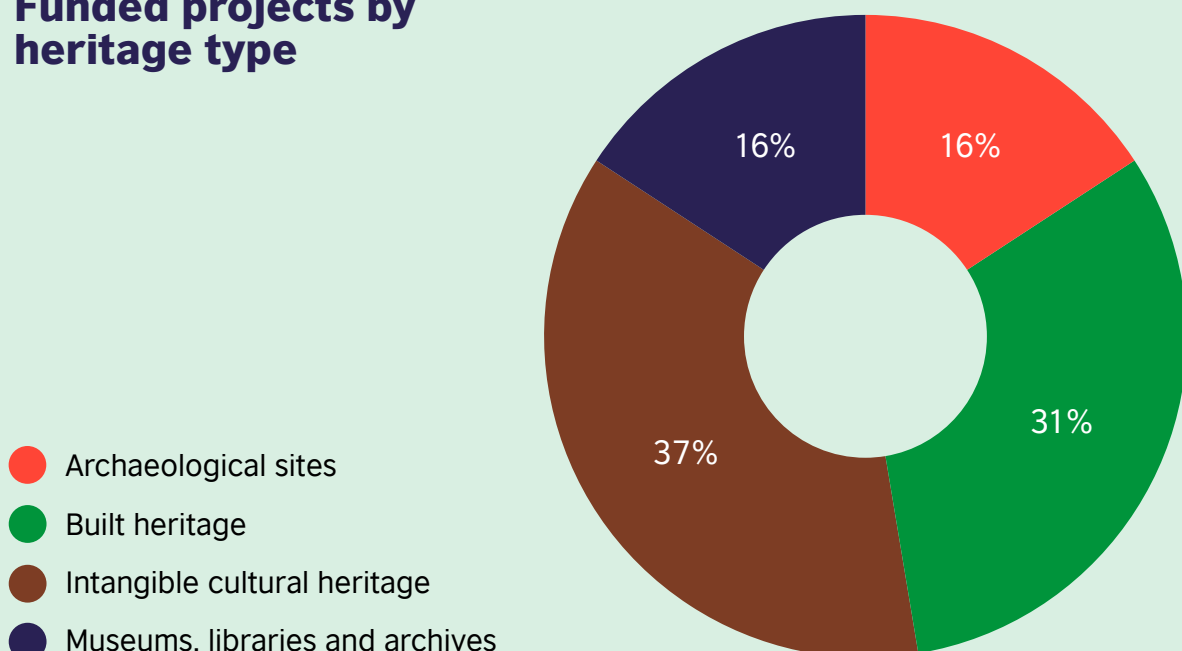
- **Archaeological sites** – any place in which evidence of past activity is preserved, and which has been, or may be, investigated
- **Built heritage** – such as historic buildings, monuments and structures, sometimes described as ‘immovable heritage’
- **Museums, Libraries and Archives** – including the protection of artefacts and objects, sometimes described as ‘moveable heritage’
- **Intangible Cultural Heritage** – such as traditional crafts, languages, practices, music, folklore, stories and anything that is considered part of identity that is not a physical object or structure

CPF projects can, and often do, focus on more than one type of heritage in any of the above categories.

An analysis of the types of heritage that 2023–2024 projects are working on found that:

- More than half (59%) of projects focus on more than one heritage type
- Less than half (43%) of projects focus solely on tangible heritage (either built heritage or archaeological sites, and nothing else)
- More than half (57%) of projects include some kind of intangible heritage protection
- Intangible Cultural Heritage is present in the highest proportion (37%) of 2023–2024 projects.

Funded projects by heritage type



Analysis of CPF Lead and Partner Organisations

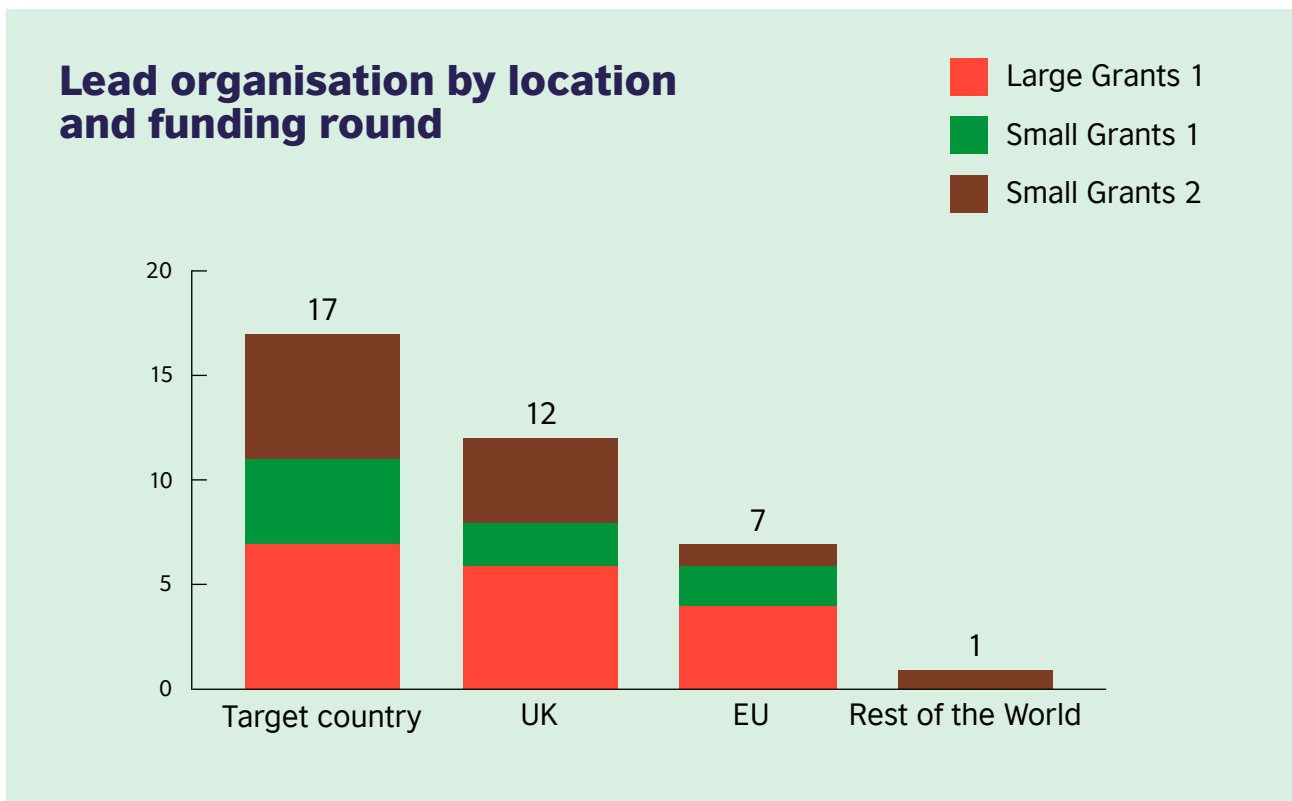
CPF projects are made up of both lead and partner organisations. Lead organisations have overall accountability for the project and manage the contract with CPF, including the ongoing monitoring and reporting for

the project. CPF encourages projects to work with partner organisations to contribute to the delivery of activities and offer diverse expertise to make the projects even more effective.

Lead organisations

The chart below illustrates the locations of CPF project lead organisations. It finds that:

- In 2023–2024, the largest proportion of projects (45%) are led by organisations based in the target countries in which the project is taking place
- Around a third of projects (32%) are led by UK organisations with partners in the target countries, which is split equally across small and large grants categories
- There are more small grants projects (10) led by target country organisations than in large grants projects (7). This illustrates the value of CPF small grants in cultivating more locally designed and locally led projects.
- A fifth of projects (21%) are led by organisations in the EU and the Rest of the World, evidencing the global reach of the CPF programme.

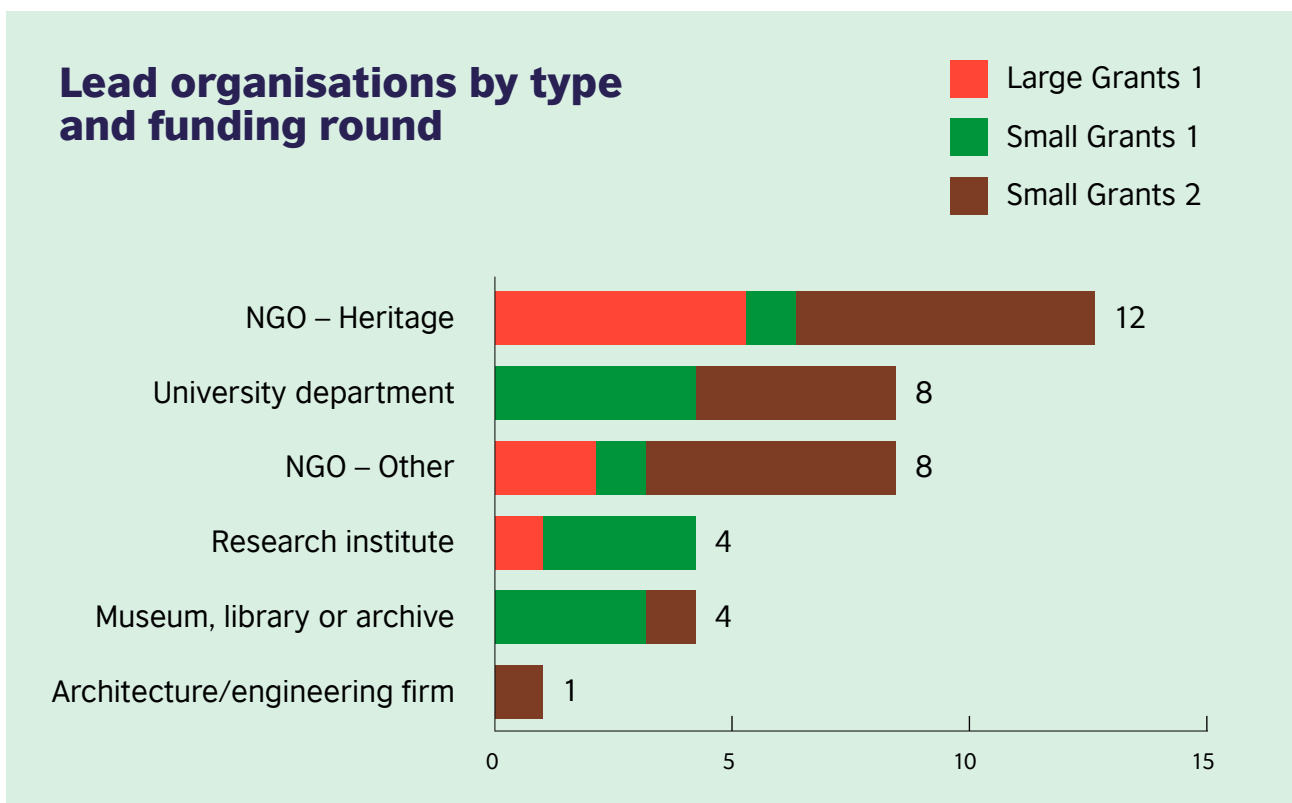


The chart below shows the type of organisations that led CPF projects in 2023–2024 and shows the totals across large and small funding rounds. It finds that:

- The majority of lead organisations (32%) are non-governmental organisations (NGOs) with a specific heritage remit, meaning that heritage-related activities are at the core of their organisation’s mission.
- University departments and research institutions together also make up 32% of lead organisations.
- ‘NGO other’ refers to non-governmental organisations with a broader remit than heritage – for example, humanitarian organisations or organisations that promote education and equality.

- The diversity in the types of CPF lead organisations shows how heritage protection is seen as important for achieving academic and societal outcomes, as well as for the protection of the heritage itself.

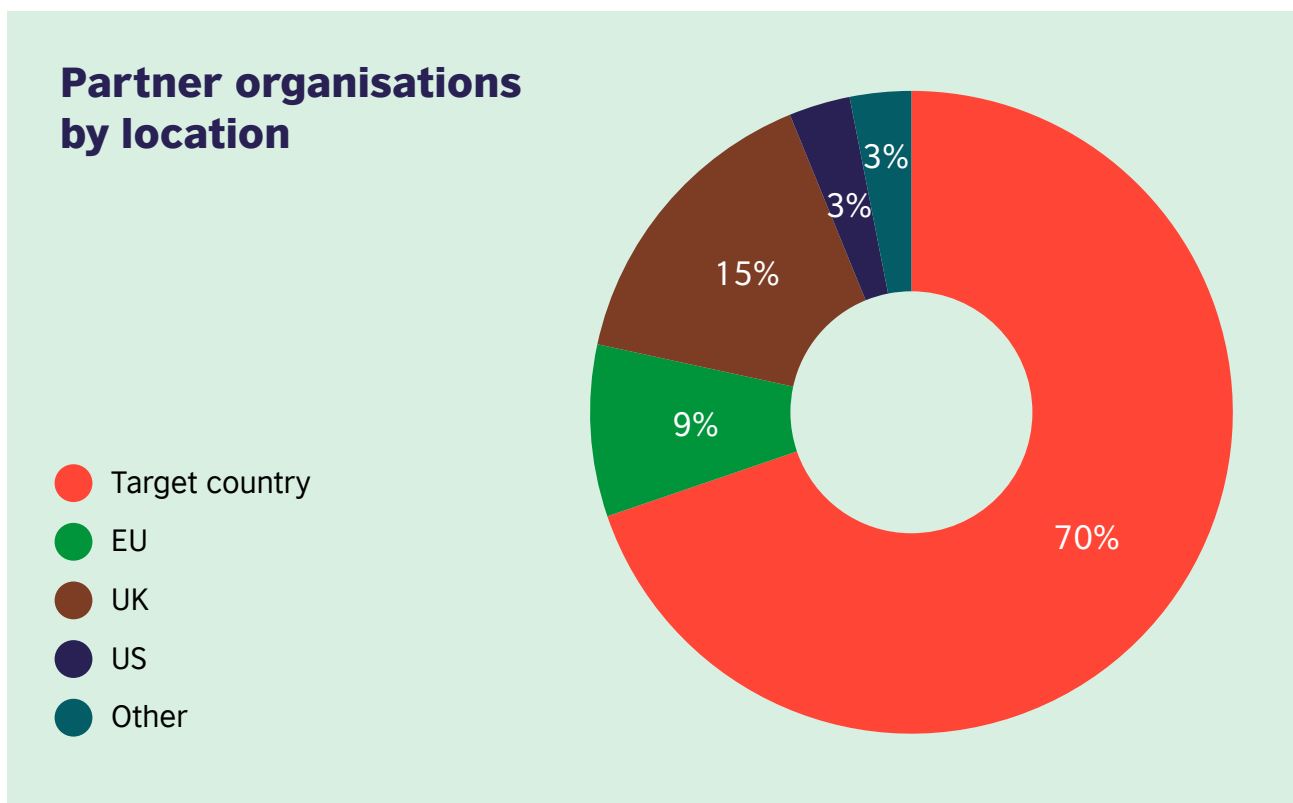
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2023–2024 Analysis of CPF Partner organisations

Out of the 37 projects operating in 2023–2024, 35 (95%) have partner organisations, bringing in an additional 126 organisations to CPF projects. Typically, large grant projects have more partners than small grant projects. The average number of partners for large projects is six, while the average number of partners for small projects is three.

Where project lead organisations are based outside of the CPF target countries they are operating in, it is mandatory for the project to have at least one partner based inside the country. These organisations bring in-depth knowledge of the operating environment, the specific heritage which is to be protected and know the best methods to meaningfully engage local communities, making their contribution crucial to the success of the project.



Below is a breakdown of the types of partner organisations involved in CPF projects in 2023–2024. As with the lead organisations, the majority are University departments or NGOs, either working directly in heritage or in other sectors.

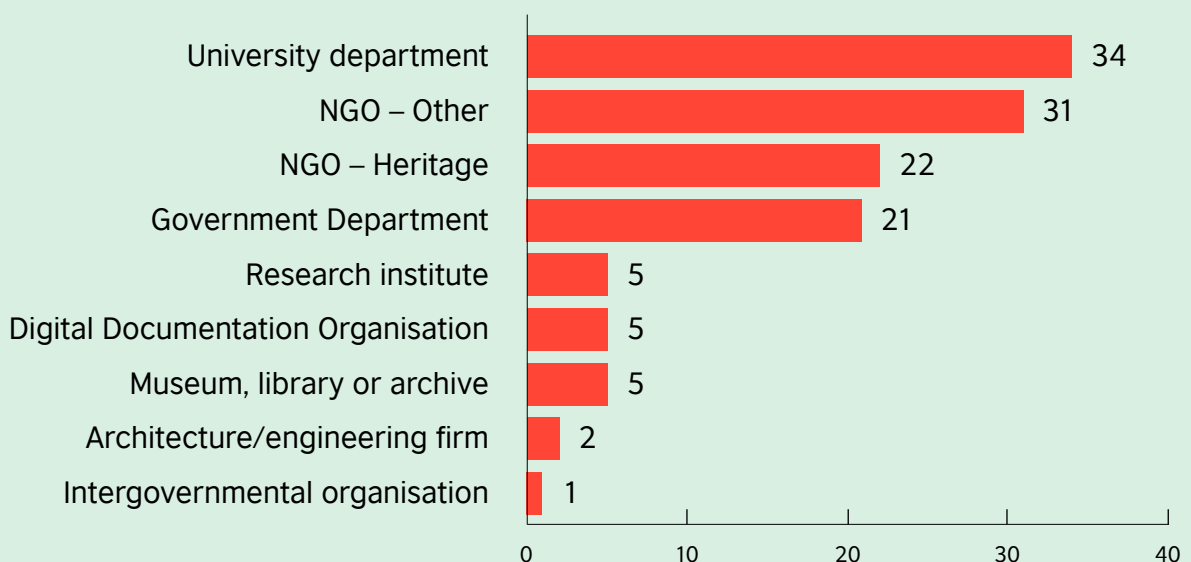
The 22 heritage-focused NGOs are key to project delivery and are often the custodians of the heritage being safeguarded.

The 31 other NGO organisations which are partners on CPF projects, are often central to introducing and ensuring continued good

working relationships with the communities for whom the heritage is most important. The communities include those that live and work around the specific sites, or those for whom the intangible heritage forms part of their identity.

The support of the 21 partner organisations (17%) that are based within government departments in the project’s target countries, is essential for granting permissions to access sites as well as bringing in-depth knowledge of the heritage the project is seeking to protect.

CPF partner organisations by organisation type



Project Highlights

impact and case studies



The reopening of Wad Madani Museum after rehabilitation by SSLH © Western Sudan Community Museums

Impact

The Cultural Protection Fund measures the impact of its funded projects against three outcome areas:

Heritage

Cultural heritage under threat is researched, documented, conserved and restored to safeguard against permanent loss for future generations

Society

Local organisations and communities have developed skills, capacity and resilience to care for and protect cultural heritage.

Economy

Local economies have been enhanced or diversified.

At the end of each financial year projects funded by the CPF supply our team with quantitative data on their project activities. Below are some 2023–2024 statistics under the CPF outcome areas:

- **Heritage**

In 2023–2024, CPF projects reported the conservation of 86 separate heritage sites, 132 pieces of intangible cultural heritage and the documentation of 4,337 objects

- **Society**

In 2023–2024, CPF projects delivered 316 workshops, seminars and presentations, directly engaging 6,046 people, which our grantees have reported have increased public awareness of communities' heritage and increased skills in documentation of tangible and intangible cultural heritage

- **Economy**

In 2023–2024, CPF projects created 755 jobs, made 291 new international and local connections and 142 partnerships. CPF funding has also enabled our grantees to leverage additional funding of £683,000 to enable further heritage protection activities.



Community tent built by SSLH in the space outside Albarkal Museum in the Northern State to hold community events © Western Sudan Community Museums

Cultural Protection Fund Project Impacts 2023–2024



132

Pieces of Intangible
Cultural Heritage
Protected



86

Separate heritage
sites protected
through 2023–2024



316

Workshops, Seminars
and Presentations



291

New International and
Local Connections



4,337

Documented objects



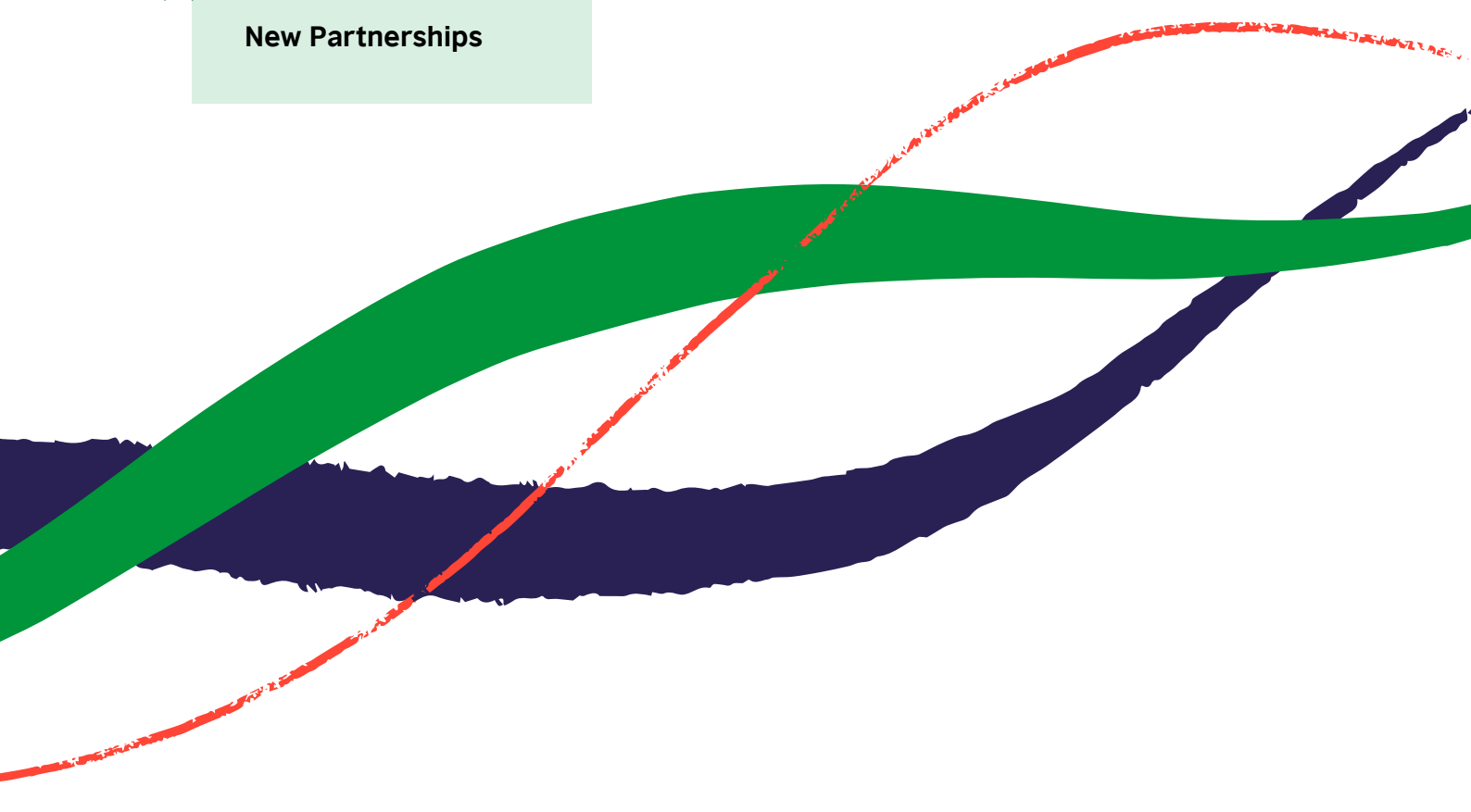
755

Newly Created Jobs



142

New Partnerships



Case Studies

Likikiri Collective Storytelling as Safeguarding: Protecting South Sudanese Women's Cultural Heritage in Refugee Settings in Uganda and Kenya

Since January 2024, Likikiri Collective and its partners have been implementing the first steps in their project to protect South Sudanese women's songs in refugee settings in Uganda and Kenya.

Four teams of young women in Rhino Camp, Uganda and Kakuma Refugee Camp, Kenya have recorded and transcribed nearly 200 songs in four different languages, Avokaya and Kakwa in Uganda and Dinka and Nuer in Kenya.

Through workshops with project partners Community Development Centre (Uganda) and SheLeads Kakuma

(Kenya), the women gained valuable skills in transcription, translation and audio-visual editing. They used the training to deliver 'Story Circles' with community elders, covering five critical moments of life for South Sudanese women: Early Childhood, focusing on birth songs, naming songs and lullabies; Adolescence, Marriage, Work, and Death.

For some elder women, it was the first time singing the songs in over a decade. Some of the young women who were born in the refugee camps heard many of the songs for the first time through the project.

'This project has given us a chance to unite and work together as communities that come from South Sudan, fostering peace among ourselves. One day, if we happen to go back home, we are going to work as a more united nation.'

Achol Ng'or Maketh
the deputy lead for the project
in Kenya



Story Circle in Rhino Camp, Uganda with Kakwa team of elders and young women © Likikiri Collective and Community Development Centre



A project participant explores printing techniques at a meeting in Beirut © Ettijahat



Ettijahat Independent Culture Beirut meeting © Ettijahat

Ettijahat

Safeguarding endangered oral traditions and minority heritages in Syria

‘This project allowed them [our partners] to have a stronger relationship with other local cultural entities and organisations. Collaboration led them to build a strong relationship and plan other partnerships out of the frame of our current project, which proves that the project will remain sustainable in North-Eastern Syria after its completion.’

Abdullah AlKafri

Executive Director of Ettijahat Independent Culture

Years of continuous war in Syria have posed a significant threat to Syrian heritage, not just to buildings and monuments but also to people’s memories, traditions and identities. Ettijahat’s CPF project is recording Syrian intangible heritage across the Levant, including proverbs and folk stories, woodblock printing and other crafts to safeguard them for future generations.

By the end of January 2024, the project had recorded 97 stories from six areas in Syria in three languages (Arabic, Kurdish and Syriac). A six-part web series has been produced, totalling around 100

minutes of mythological, biographical storytelling, blending documentary with performance and highlighting the contexts of the oral traditions and the storytellers.

As part of the project 39 people have been trained in woodblock printing, silkscreen printing and handicrafts. Some of the crafts were featured in an exhibition and this will lead to the publishing of a book on Hamawi printing in partnership with Atlas Publishing. The book will document all the efforts made to revive the Syrian crafts threatened with extinction.

**Brandenburg University
of Technology**
Bazar Abbas, Recovery Lab
of Port Said

Since November 2022, Brandenburg University of Technology has been leading this project to protect the 19th century Khedive Abbas Helmy II Bazaar in Port Said, Egypt. The bazaar holds great social and historic significance, having accommodated the urgent needs of inhabitants during the turbulent history of the Suez Canal.

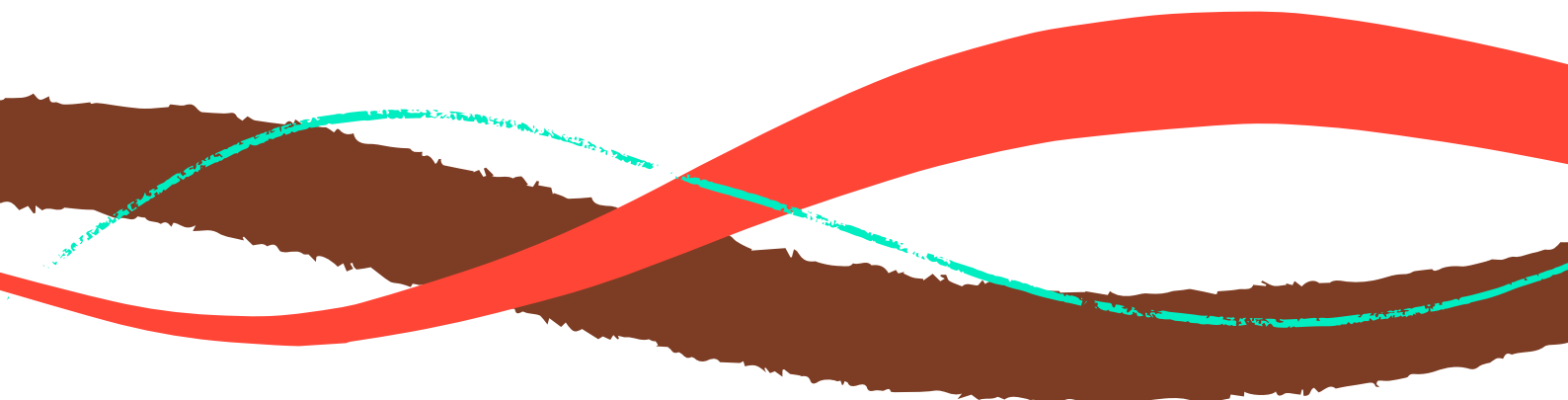
Over three years, the project will carry out restoration works on the bazaar's original features, train the local population in heritage protection techniques as well as document and share the stories and memories which local people have about the site.

In 2023–2024, the team delivered a workshop which invited participants to envision urban recovery scenarios for Port Said's inner city.

The event explored a range of options including experimental design, heritage-led regeneration, critical reconstruction, climate-adaptive approaches, and socio-economic regeneration.

The workshops also taught essential skills in wood, plaster, and metal treatment, as well as architectural conservation techniques. This led to the restoration of part of the bazaar's eastern façade and two balconies.

The team also conducted a laser scan of Bazar Abbas, visualising both its current and original status, and carried out a survey on the significance of the bazaar for Port Said residents across different demographics. This visualisation and interview information will be instrumental in preparing a rehabilitation plan for the bazaar.



'Participating in this workshop was a personal challenge for me as I'm an introvert and find it difficult to interact with new people. Surprisingly, it turned out to be a great success for me. I gained knowledge and had different perspectives for Port Said. It taught me to think on new and diverse ways and expand my mindset.'

Workshop participant



Carpentry workshop in Port Said © Marwan Elsamman



Baggara Hawazma are cattle nomads in Kordofan, Sudan. The occasion is a Hawazma wedding near the northern end of their migration route. Photographer: Sahar Ahmed (February 2023) – part of the Safeguarding Sudan's Heritage project, funded by the Cultural Protection Fund.

Mallinson Architects Safeguarding Sudan's Living Heritage

‘What became clear from the emergency response workshops was that compared to the tangible heritage of archaeological sites and monuments, the field of living heritage was undefined and unrecorded. Although the humanitarian crisis is paramount, seeing the need to protect Sudan's deeply rooted living heritage is gaining traction across many levels.’

Helen Mallinson,
project lead

Sudan has been facing a devastating humanitarian crisis due to the country being locked in a deadly war since April 2023. Despite this situation, the CPF's biggest project led by Mallinson Architects is still in operation and working hard to protect the country's rich cultural heritage.

Four museums which represented a core focus of the original project in Khartoum, El Obeid and Darfur have at times been at the centre of fighting and have suffered damage and looting as a result. Work on these museums has been challenging, but the project has been successful in igniting community interest in museums and heritage sites located in safer areas of the country, including Wad Medani, Kassala and Jebel Barkal.

Local people and refugees have gathered to safeguard their local heritage and to participate in shared

activities, from workshops in heritage documentation to festivals of art and crafts. The project has also had strong international reach, with stakeholder workshops and meetings happening in Kenya, South Sudan, Egypt, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

This project has engaged 1,200 people in workshops, created 15 new jobs and employed 50 paid interns. Sudanese heritage has been protected through the documentation of 11 built heritage sites, 20 traditional skills and 2,000 heritage objects.

Taking place across six social media platforms, an ambitious heritage awareness campaign using films, photographs, music and stories has raised awareness about the importance of protecting the living heritage of the people of Sudan. The project's **YouTube channel** has had over 130,000 views. [<https://www.youtube.com/@sslh.online>]

Cultural Emergency Response

The Rehabilitation of the Governor's HQ Complex (former British Residency) in Mukalla

‘The experience of entering Earth buildings [buildings made of earth – a traditional construction] – gives a comfortable feeling and a sense of pride. It is one of the distinctive features of our ancient country that deserves attention and care.’

Sarah Ali Al-Samawi,
a participant in the project

In Yemen, cultural heritage is severely endangered due to ongoing war, economic failure and a humanitarian crisis. Since 2019, the Cultural Protection Fund has supported a project to revive a historical landmark in the city of Mukalla, which has been led by Cultural Emergency Response in partnership with the Daw'an Architecture Foundation.

The former British Governor's Headquarters has important architectural, historical, social and economic value for local residents. Having been looted and damaged by Al Qaeda in 2015, significant repair work was needed for it to become a space that could

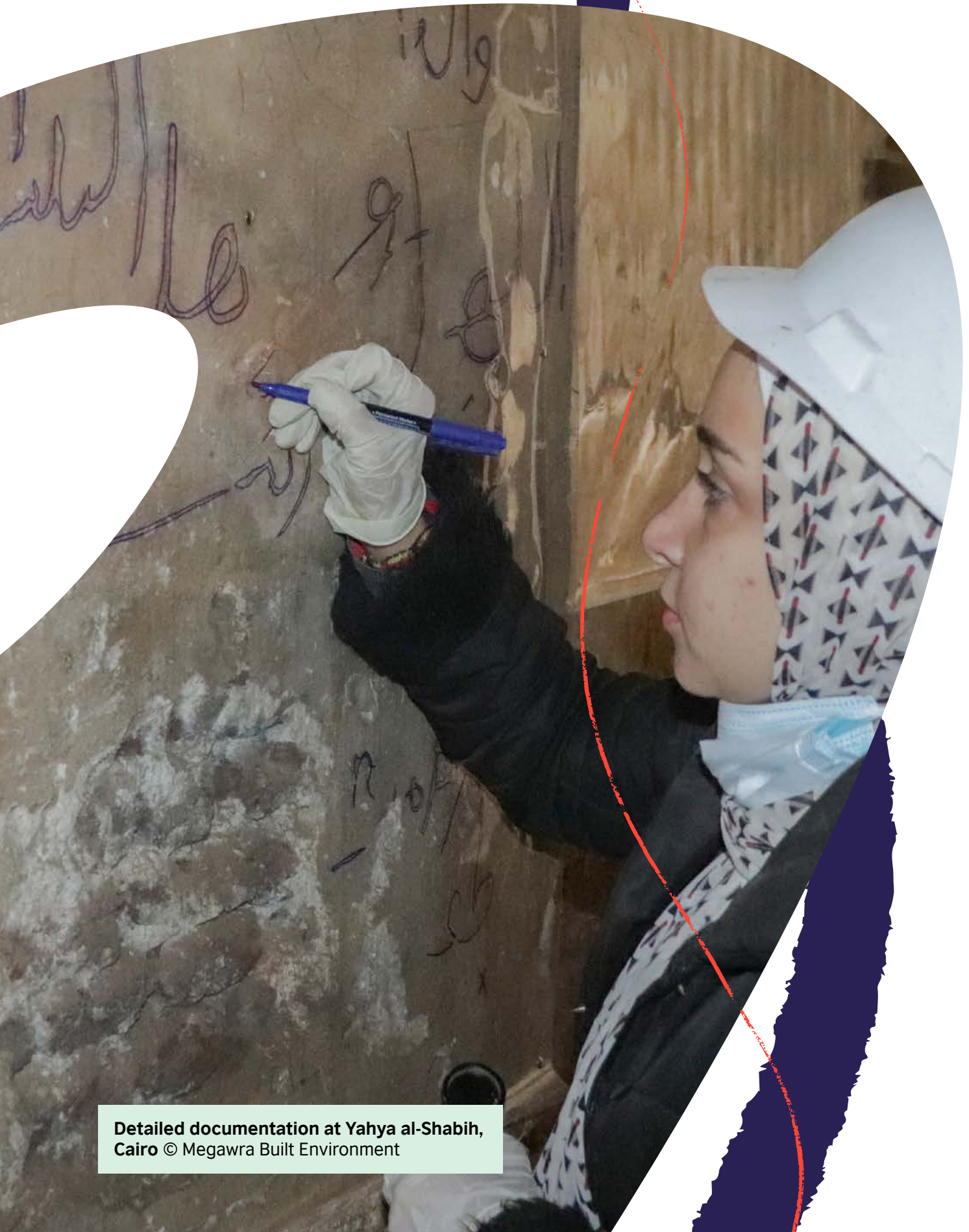
meaningfully serve the local population.

During 2023–2024, the rehabilitation of the Governor's HQ was completed, saving the monument from the threat of being demolished. Thanks to the establishment of a strong relationship with local authorities, a solid long-term management plan is now in place, and the building will now host the offices of the Governor of Hadramout. People from the local community, including young people and a high proportion of women, were trained by master builders and craftsmen in traditional mud brick and stone construction.



Daw'an architecture team and consultants on site at the complex in November 2023 © Daw'an Architecture Foundation

Capacity Building



Detailed documentation at Yahya al-Shabih, Cairo © Megawra Built Environment

To address gaps in infrastructure, skills and readiness for applying to the fund across the CPF target countries, some of the fund's annual budget was allocated to capacity building activities, to be designed and commissioned in collaboration with local British Council teams.

Project	Led by	Grant awarded	Target country / countries
Translation of heritage first aid resources for Afghanistan	S&N Consultancy	£52,817	Afghanistan
Restoration of the Pink House and Surssock Palace, Beirut	Beirut Heritage Initiative	£178,599	Lebanon
Project design and bid writing training, South Asia	Counterculture	£58,895	Pakistan, Nepal

Translation of heritage first aid resources for Afghanistan

In January 2023, CPF awarded a grant to S&N Consultancy to translate and publish 'heritage first aid' resources in Afghanistan, where cultural heritage is at risk due to years of conflict, a lack of awareness of the different kinds of heritage and the importance of safeguarding it.

The project has successfully translated and formatted the First Aid to Cultural Heritage handbook and toolkit into Pashto. This new translation complements the existing Dari versions, and both versions are now widely accessible through various platforms, ensuring broader reach and impact. The translations were meticulously done to maintain high standards of accuracy and cultural sensitivity, fostering a deeper understanding of Afghanistan's cultural heritage.

Comprehensive teaching materials tailored for the Afghan context have also been developed for online use in both the Dari and Pashto languages. These materials cover essential topics such as international conventions, disaster risk management, and the impact of war on cultural heritage.

The training is available through a structured eight-week online course featuring pre-recorded videos, reference materials, and quizzes, all hosted on the sustainable Odo e-learning platform. This approach ensures the training remains relevant and accessible long after the project's conclusion.

By providing crucial resources and training in 'heritage first aid', the project empowers local communities to protect their heritage for future generations. **The training resources can be accessed via** [this link](https://snconsultancy.odoo.com/).
[<https://snconsultancy.odoo.com/>]

Restoration of the Pink House and Sursock Palace, Beirut

Beirut Heritage Initiative was awarded a CPF grant to support the restoration of two heritage buildings damaged by the 2020 explosion in Beirut. The project supported structural consolidation work on Rmeil 360, also known as the Pink House, which was originally built in the early 19th century and is a notable building in the historic St. Nicolas sector of the city. It also undertook emergency intervention work on Sursock Palace, a 19th century landmark building which is of great architectural significance.

The project provided on-site training to student architects and engineers from Lebanese universities to help to create a new generation of heritage professionals.

Work on this phase of the restoration began in September 2023 with site cleaning and preparation for the installation of propping and scaffolding systems. This was followed by on-site training for 20 selected students from various universities, who participated in hands-on sessions focused on the restoration and preservation of Beirut heritage.

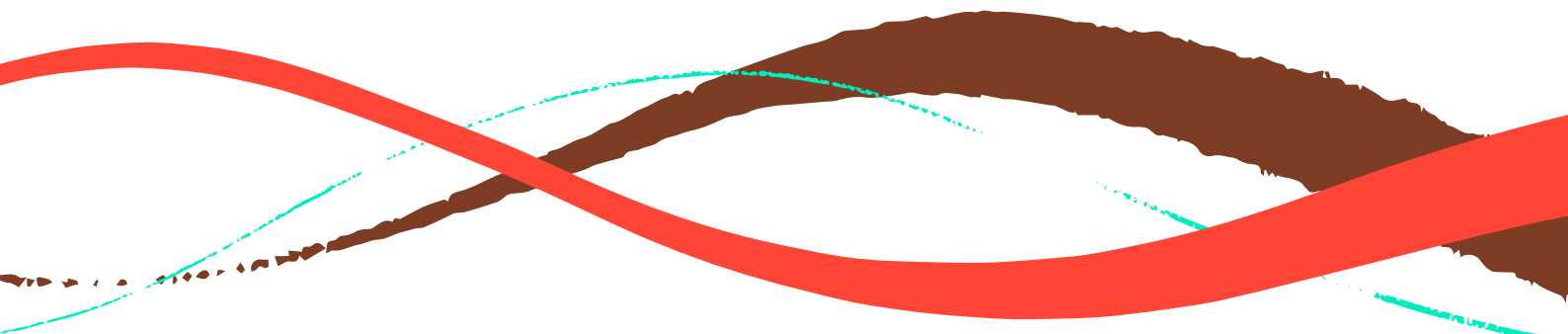
The training was divided into three phases: wall consolidation, triple arches reconstruction and plastering, and roof reconstruction. Each phase required the

students to submit detailed reports, enhancing their learning experience and contributing to the project's documentation.

The restoration work included the careful dismantling of unstable walls, reconstruction using sorted and cleaned stones, and the preparation and reconstruction of triple arches with carved sandstone and marble pieces.

Structural enhancements such as stitching with stainless steel bars and structural plastering with fibre mesh were implemented to ensure the building's resilience to future shocks. Window and roof cornices were created and installed, the first-floor ceiling was reinforced, and roof prototypes were produced for educational purposes. The comprehensive reconstruction of the pitched roof was completed with the installation of a protective membrane and new red tiles.

This project has not only restored a significant heritage site but also provided invaluable training and experience to local students. Restoration on the Pink House is now complete, with work on Sursock Palace continuing with additional CPF support in 2024–2025.



Capacity Building in South Asia

Following scoping activities which were undertaken in 2022, the CPF prepared to launch pilot funding rounds in Pakistan and Nepal by delivering workshops in each country for potential applicants.

In 2023, UK consultants Counterculture and members of the CPF team travelled to Pakistan and Nepal. The UK team, along with locally based British Council teams and facilitators, introduced participants to the requirements of CPF funding and provided training on how to design a project and produce a bid for the pilot rounds. The three-day workshops, which included presentations, group discussions, exercises and training, were attended by 133 participants and took place in Karachi, Lahore and Kathmandu.

CPF pilot funding rounds were launched in Pakistan and Nepal in late 2023, attracting 148 new expressions of interest. The applications were assessed and awarded in 2024 and the details of the successful projects are **available to read on the CPF website**. Full analysis of both pilot rounds and the awarded projects in Pakistan and Nepal will be published in the 2024–2025 CPF annual report.

[\[https://cultural-protection-fund.britishcouncil.org/stories/newly-funded-projects-announced\]](https://cultural-protection-fund.britishcouncil.org/stories/newly-funded-projects-announced)



Training with Gurung women in Gorkha Nepal © Natural Roots, NIWF

What Works



Training of young architects in Occupied Palestinian Territories © RIWAQ

In 2023–2024 the Cultural Protection Fund continued commissioning activities to support our What Works approach to research, evaluation and learning. The aim of this work is to support heritage projects, organisations and professionals to collect and interpret

evidence that enables them to work more effectively in cultural heritage protection. What Works continues to be a valuable approach for the CPF, collecting the evidence that demonstrates the impact of our funding and making the case for the future of the fund.

Project	Led by	Expenditure
Evaluation grants	CPF Grantees	£196,410
Literature review climate change	Triple Line	£68,700
Essay Collection	York Archaeological Trust	£30,438

What Works Learning Gathering

The Cultural Protection Fund convened its first What Works International Cultural Heritage Protection Learning Gathering in Nairobi, Kenya from 11 to 13 July 2023. The gathering was an opportunity for CPF-funded projects to share experiences and learn from each other as we officially launched the What Works approach.

The gathering was attended by a diverse range of participants, including representatives from each of the delivery partners in the What Works programme. Also in attendance were heritage protection influencers from around the world, representatives from the CPF team and DCMS, CPF grantees and partners; and British Council colleagues and others supporting and contributing to CPF and the What Works approach.

The event programme was dynamic, informative and participatory, covering the four themes of What Works:

- International Cultural Heritage Protection contribution to Sustainable Development
- International Cultural Heritage Protection responding to Climate Change

- International Cultural Heritage Protection through Cultural Relations Approach
- Developing approaches to evaluating and researching international heritage protection

Attendees enjoyed keynote addresses, sessions focussing on sustainable development, climate change, cultural relations and evaluation, exploring people-centred approaches to heritage protection and learning. Focus group discussions, workshops and sharing sessions were also presented by the CPF-funded projects delivering work across Kenya.

Delegates had an opportunity to visit the McMillan Memorial Library and two other libraries in Nairobi which are the focus of a CPF project led by Book Bunk Trust. Attendees sampled a flavour of Nairobi as evening events including a networking reception were organised at several venues across the city.

The gathering was a great success and created a solid framework for how the CPF will deliver similar gatherings in the future.



What Works Gathering attendees outside the Macmillan Memorial Library in Nairobi, Kenya © Good Times Africa

Evaluation Grants

Evaluation is a key component of all Cultural Protection Fund projects. When a project is awarded, an evaluation plan is created which sets out how success will be measured over the life of the project.

Ordinarily, grantees submit an evaluation report with their final payment request, just at the point that they are wrapping up the project. This had been the most appropriate and feasible approach to evaluation to date, but it hasn't allowed for projects to measure the longer-term impact of their activities.

In 2023, CPF introduced an evaluation grants programme which was designed to look at the longer-term impacts of its funded projects. Six grants were awarded, and the results of those evaluations were released in summer 2024.

Read the evaluations on the **CPF website**.

[<https://cultural-protection-fund.britishcouncil.org/opportunities-resources/evaluation-research>]

Evaluation Grants Programme – Grantees

Project	Led by	Grant awarded	Target country/ countries
BISI Basrah Museum	The British Institute for the Study of Iraq (BISI)	£28,750	Iraq
Training in Action	Durham University	£34,460	Libya, Tunisia
Khalidi Library	Khalidi Library	£32,000	Occupied Palestinian Territories
Soqotra Heritage Project	Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh	£29,000	Yemen
Carved in Stone	University of Liverpool	£30,000	Turkey
Syrian Stonemasonry project	World Monuments Fund	£42,200	Jordan, Lebanon, Syria

The British Institute for the Study of Iraq (BISI)

Friends of Basrah Museum (which merged with BISI – the British Institute for the Study of Iraq – in 2020) was awarded a series of CPF grants between 2017 and 2020 to undertake a project entitled The Completion of a New Museum for Basrah in Iraq.

The grants supported the completion of three new galleries and a library space, as well as training for museum staff on museum management, interpretation, and library management.

The CPF evaluation grant allowed BISI to evaluate the medium-term impact of the project, to document its successes, challenges and lessons learnt and to create a knowledge base to support the maintenance and future sustainability of the museum.

Through a literature review, surveys and interviews, focus groups and field observations, the evaluation concluded that the CPF grant significantly enhanced the visibility and accessibility of the museum, raised awareness of cultural heritage and created a sense of pride in the local community.

Durham University

Led by Durham University, the Training in Action project was first awarded CPF funding in 2017. The project trained heritage professionals and institutions in Libya and Tunisia in GIS (Geographic Information System) and survey techniques, site, monument and object recording, preventive conservation and heritage management.

The programme involved 26 weeks of professional heritage training sessions in which 72 heritage professionals and four border police staff were trained. Advanced trainees received further mentorship and went on to deliver 33 mini-projects in their specific heritage interest areas.

The evaluation grant enabled Durham University to determine the extent to which the trainees incorporated the skills they developed in the CPF project into their ongoing professional practice and to find out if the training programme and associated resources have been reused, implemented in different ways or further developed.

The evaluation found that almost all the advanced trainees continued to work in the heritage field having progressed to more senior or influential positions, thereby creating the next generation of heritage leaders and administrators.

The most valuable area of heritage skills development was in documentation and digitisation training. The Heritage Documentation And Protection (HeDAP) application for digital artefact recording which was featured on the course has been adopted in Libya as the national museum database. Community outreach skills are also regarded as important, and advanced trainees reported using and benefitting from those skills which has had a significant, positive impact on their heritage practice.

Khalidi Library

The Khalidi Library (Al-Khalidiyya) is an historic, private library owned and endowed by the Khalidi Family in the Old City of Jerusalem. Founded in 1900, it is home to one of the finest collections of Islamic manuscripts in the region, with over 5,500 volumes spanning ten centuries. The library played a crucial role in Jerusalem's intellectual renaissance in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The library received a CPF grant in 2018 to develop and implement an electronic management system to digitally catalogue its collection of manuscripts. The project also set up adequate security systems in the library premises and established the first manuscript conservation and restoration laboratory in the region; documenting the library's history and collection and curating a permanent exhibition of replica manuscripts.

The objective of the evaluation grant was to assess the impact and effects of the project – both intended and unintended – on the library and on cultural heritage more widely in Jerusalem. The evaluation methodology was in two parts:

- an intensive review of a wide array of existing documentation associated with the library, including project reports and historical background materials
- a series of interviews with the custodians of the Al-Khalidi library, the staff and management as well as visitors and users of the library.

The evaluation concluded that the CPF project transformed the library from a closed, neglected, abandoned and vulnerable place to a lively and active cultural heritage landmark attracting local and international scholars.

The restored library is now accessible to researchers, specialists, the community and the general public and acts as a community hub hosting public events.

‘CPF project transformed the library from a closed, neglected, abandoned and vulnerable place to a lively and active cultural heritage landmark attracting local and international scholars.’

David Dahdal,
Khalidi Library Project Lead



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Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

In 2017 the Cultural Protection Fund awarded a grant to Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE) to protect the cultural heritage of Soqatra, an island of Yemen in the Indian Ocean. Soqatra is a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site and is one of the most biodiversity rich and distinct islands in the world.

The project identified and trained a local cohort of Soqotri people in a wide range of documentation techniques that are applicable to all forms of tangible and intangible heritage. A diverse collection of heritage was documented from over 400 survey locations. The endangered Soqotri language was promoted through poetry, folktales and theatre. Physical interventions were carried out at rock art sites on the north coast, known locally as Dedahaneten.

An evaluation grant was awarded to assess the response of communities and stakeholders to project activities, to measure how project activities had allowed participants to engage and own their heritage and to evaluate the legacy of the project and whether there is potential for similar interventions to be undertaken in the future.

Interviews, field visits and the creation of a documentary film about the project found that the impact of the project activities was still being felt three and a half years after it took place. The young people who participated in project performances reported a feeling of ownership and strength and said that they were more eager to speak the Soqotri language. Participants also said they would like to collect more stories and share them with people because it is their heritage and they want to treasure it.



CPF-Funded Integrating Cultural Heritage in Conservation in Soqatra project © Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

University of Liverpool

Led by the University of Liverpool, the Carved in Stone project delivered an educational and training programme that aimed to reduce looting and vandalism of rock-carved inscriptions and monuments in Turkey.

The project developed an innovative new approach to digital recordings through low-cost Reflectance Transformation Imaging (RTI). It also trained local schoolteachers to raise children's awareness of the damage caused by looting and vandalism to cultural heritage sites.

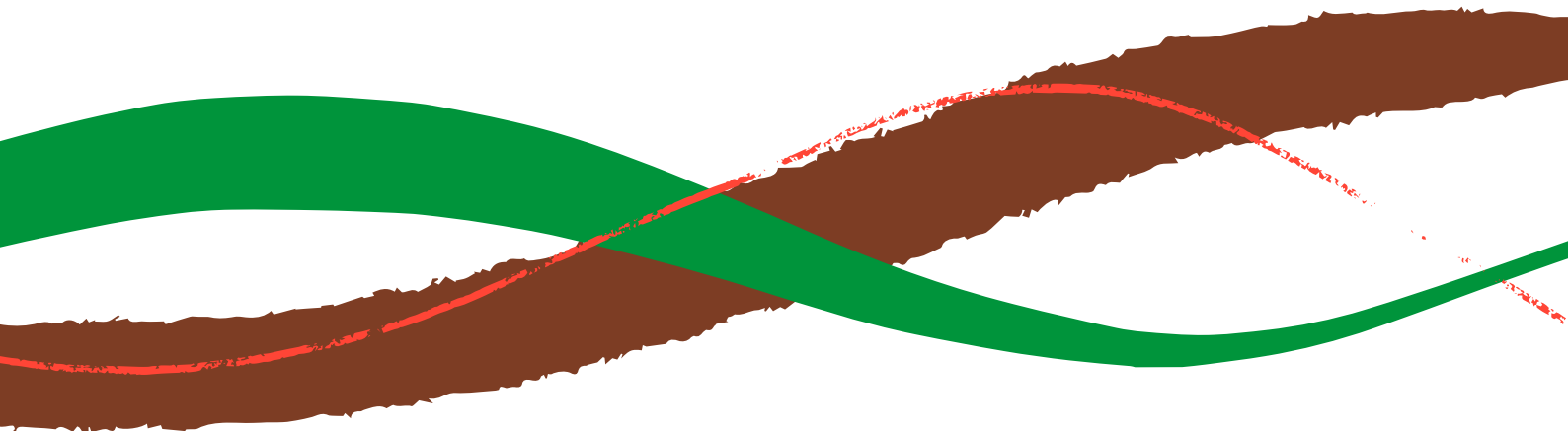
The CPF evaluation grant for this project aimed to determine:

- the extent to which the knowledge gained from the Carved in Stone project has been cascaded to more people
- the extent to which local organisations and communities have increased their capacity and resilience to protect and care for their heritage

- whether teaching practices and educational projects have changed or increased awareness of cultural heritage or the value of the heritage to visitors.

The evaluation discovered an increased capacity of heritage professionals in the usage of Reflectance Transformation Imaging, photography and software processing skills that has led to increased professional opportunities for this group.

Evidence from interviews with teachers and the volunteers has demonstrated that as a result of the project the profile of children engaging with cultural heritage has diversified in terms of gender, disability and ethnolinguistic background. This has led to increased awareness and understanding of the value of the heritage by the children communicating with their parents, resulting in improved cohesion and wellbeing in the community.



World Monuments Fund

Awarded in 2017, the Syrian Stonemasonry project led by World Monuments Fund has been a major success story for the Cultural Protection Fund and was the subject of this **Bettany Hughes documentary** in 2018.

[<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PV3y9QxbcT0I>]

The project equipped Syrian refugees displaced in Jordan and Lebanon with stonemasonry skills so that they might one day rebuild what had been destroyed during the conflict in Syria. Eighty-two people were trained in stonemasonry, with a high proportion of female trainees who would not traditionally take up the craft.

The evaluation aimed to reconnect with trainees from the Syrian Stonemasonry project to measure the impact of the project activities on their current lives and careers.

A mixed methods evaluation involving desk research, surveys, interviews and field observations was used to assess whether the project achieved the initial aims of improving livelihoods and heritage conservation.

The evaluation found that the investment in heritage skills had a positive impact on the built heritage and that the skills enhancement of the trainees has led to increased remuneration, promotions, new employment opportunities, improved access to the job market and increased confidence for them.

The stonemasonry training programmes also gave participants a broader range of transferable skills – for example, knowledge of geometry which can also be used in carpentry, tile and plasterwork, calligraphy and art.

Four of the stonemasons are now working out of Mafraq in Jordan and have produced some high-quality artisanal pieces, including a bird bath gifted to King Charles III.



Bird bath created for King Charles III by World Monuments Fund stonemasons
© Gina Haney

Literature Review on Cultural Heritage and Climate Change

Triple Line

Since 2019 the Cultural Protection Fund has been supporting projects which protect heritage against the risk of climate change and there became a clear need for stronger evidence on the impact that climate change has on both tangible and intangible cultural heritage. The CPF awarded a grant to research consultants Triple Line to carry out a systematic literature review to synthesise the international literature, evidence and research on this topic.

The review was conducted in three phases – research phase, synthesis phase, and analysis phase. It analysed thousands of articles and publications from both the Global South and Global North, including research not in English. The aim of the research was to support future CPF projects and the wider cultural heritage sector to enable both to respond to the challenges of climate change resilience and climate mitigation.

The report highlighted that there are big gaps in both the understanding and awareness of the vulnerability of cultural heritage to climate change, as well as the extent of the damage and loss of cultural heritage due to climate change.

It also concluded that as the impacts of climate change mount, millions of vulnerable people face disproportionate challenges including the loss of cultural identity. However, the perspectives, skills, and wealth of knowledge of communities at the forefront of this issue are being increasingly valued in the quest for ways to strengthen resilience and address climate change.

The full report from Triple Line is available **to read here**.

[<https://www.britishcouncil.org/research-insight/british-council-strategic-literature-review-climate-change-impacts-cultural>]



Reconstruction taking place on the Governor's HQ Complex (Former British Residency) main building in Mukalla, Yemen.
© Daw'an Architecture Foundation



Main temple in Samling, Nepal © Kai Weise

Essay Collection

York Archaeological Trust

As part of the British Council's Cultural Heritage for Inclusive Growth programme, a number of essays and thought pieces were commissioned from a range of different authors on the value of cultural heritage. In 2023, CPF awarded a grant to York Archaeological Trust to update and edit these essays and to analyse them as a collection.

Together, the essays explore the role of cultural heritage in bringing about the change which is needed to secure a sustainable future for people and the planet. The essays are bound by common themes, namely:

- that cultural heritage is at the heart of human development;
- that cultural relations create conditions in which human development can occur;
- and that human development is enabled by people-centred approaches and transparent, accountable and participatory governance.

Three overarching conclusions emerge from the collection as a whole:

Cultural heritage is at the heart of human development.

The fulfilment of people's right to cultural life is an essential part of sustainable development because cultural life, in all its forms, is essential to human wellbeing and dignity.

Cultural relations create conditions for human development.

Cultural relations activities bring people together within the space of culture and civil society to build relationships based on the principle of mutuality. For relationships which cross national and cultural boundaries to flourish and be equitable, a deep understanding of cultural differences is needed.

Alongside the evidence for what works, analysis of how it works is critical to the spread of good practice.

While human development has a specific context made up of many factors, analysis of how positive change has been achieved in particular circumstances can generate learning which is of wider relevance. The focus is on identifying the underlying principles which characterise successful and ethical human development processes.

The detailed report is **available here**.
[<https://www.britishcouncil.org/research-insight/cultural-heritage-inclusive-growth-essay-collection>]



Performing Goma Dance ©Twaweza Comms Center Ltd

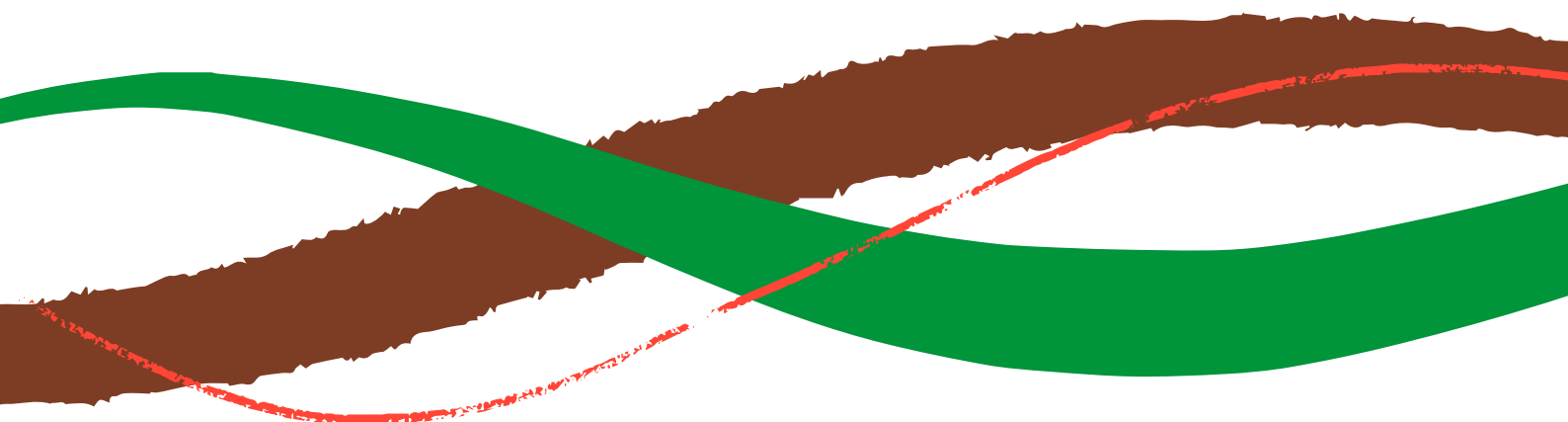
Emergency Response

While the Cultural Protection Fund does not have a formal programme for emergency response, in each year of the programme the fund will endeavour to either ringfence or reallocate funding to respond to emergency situations (such as extreme weather events or eruptions of conflict) that severely impact cultural heritage. In 2023–2024, £0.2m of the annual budget was dedicated to emergency response.

Our trusted partner **Cultural Emergency Response** (CER), is an international NGO, based in the Netherlands, whose main purpose is to provide first aid to cultural heritage threatened or damaged by conflict or disaster. In 2023–2024 the CPF awarded CER a grant of £85,000 to contribute flexibly to the organisation's response to several events which threatened cultural heritage, including an earthquake in Morocco, flooding in Libya, an earthquake in Afghanistan and the continuing conflict in Ukraine. [<https://www.culturalemergency.org/programs/about-cer>]

In the Occupied Palestinian Territories, the CPF awarded a direct grant to the Centre for Cultural Heritage Preservation (CCHP) based in the West Bank, to carry out emergency intervention, damage and risk assessment of cultural heritage in Gaza. The work was undertaken in partnership with the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities in Palestine and the Endangered Archaeology in the Middle East and North Africa (EAMENA) project, with additional expertise from the Maritime Endangered Archaeology (MarEA) project and the University of Bradford.

The grant will support preparations for remote damage and risk assessment of cultural heritage in Gaza and the documentation of damage to sites. The data collected can inform set procedures for carrying out systematic, rapid condition assessment or ground recordings that can be implemented and used for the prioritisation of emergency interventions, when they can be safely undertaken.



Some emergency coordination, stabilisation and other interventions in both Gaza and the West Bank have been carried out by CPF-funded projects that were already operating in those territories when the most recent conflict began. The CPF's main priority is always the safety and wellbeing of the project delivery team and any project participants. The CPF team has continued to keep close and frequent contact with its Palestinian projects and has been flexible in the revision of objectives and reallocation of funds.

The CPF's largest project, led by Mallinson Architects in partnership with the National Corporation of Antiquities and Museums (NCAM), was operational in four museums across Sudan at the time when the war started.

An emergency response agenda was set up to tackle the different dimensions of the challenges that developed as the situation evolved. The immediate priority was to evacuate the project team to safety, in most cases out of Sudan. The project team is now working across 11 other countries.

The project supported the evacuation of NCAM's Director General to Cairo, where two International Emergency Response conferences were organised. A NCAM emergency response committee was established, which created an inventory of heritage sites and museums, a plan of work, and activated an international funding body coordination group.

Together with the British Museum, over \$236,000 was raised from donors to keep guards on site where possible at places where cultural heritage was under threat, to undertake emergency repairs, and to safeguard collections.

The CPF team has worked with the project to continuously review its objectives and reallocate resource and funding where it is safe to deliver heritage protection activities, including its online awareness raising campaign, **featured earlier in this report.**



Looking Forward to 2024–2025

Given that 2024–2025 is the final year in the current three-year CPF programme, much of the fund's work is focussed on securing the future. We are confident that the fund will continue to support heritage protection where it is most needed, and we are determined to grow, through continued partnership with DCMS and through potential new partners and funders.

Highlights in the next CPF annual report will include:

- The launch of an exciting piece of research into digital innovation in heritage protection projects
- The details and results of our pioneering Peer & Collaborative Learning Programme delivered by the Audience Agency across 19 countries
- A collaborative, large-scale conference event in Amman, in partnership with International National Trusts Organisation and Petra National Trust
- The release of a film made and presented by BAFTA-winning history broadcaster and best-selling writer Dan Snow, which features the four stonemasons from the World Monuments Fund project in Jordan.

If you have any questions about the content of this report, contact culturalprotection@britishcouncil.org

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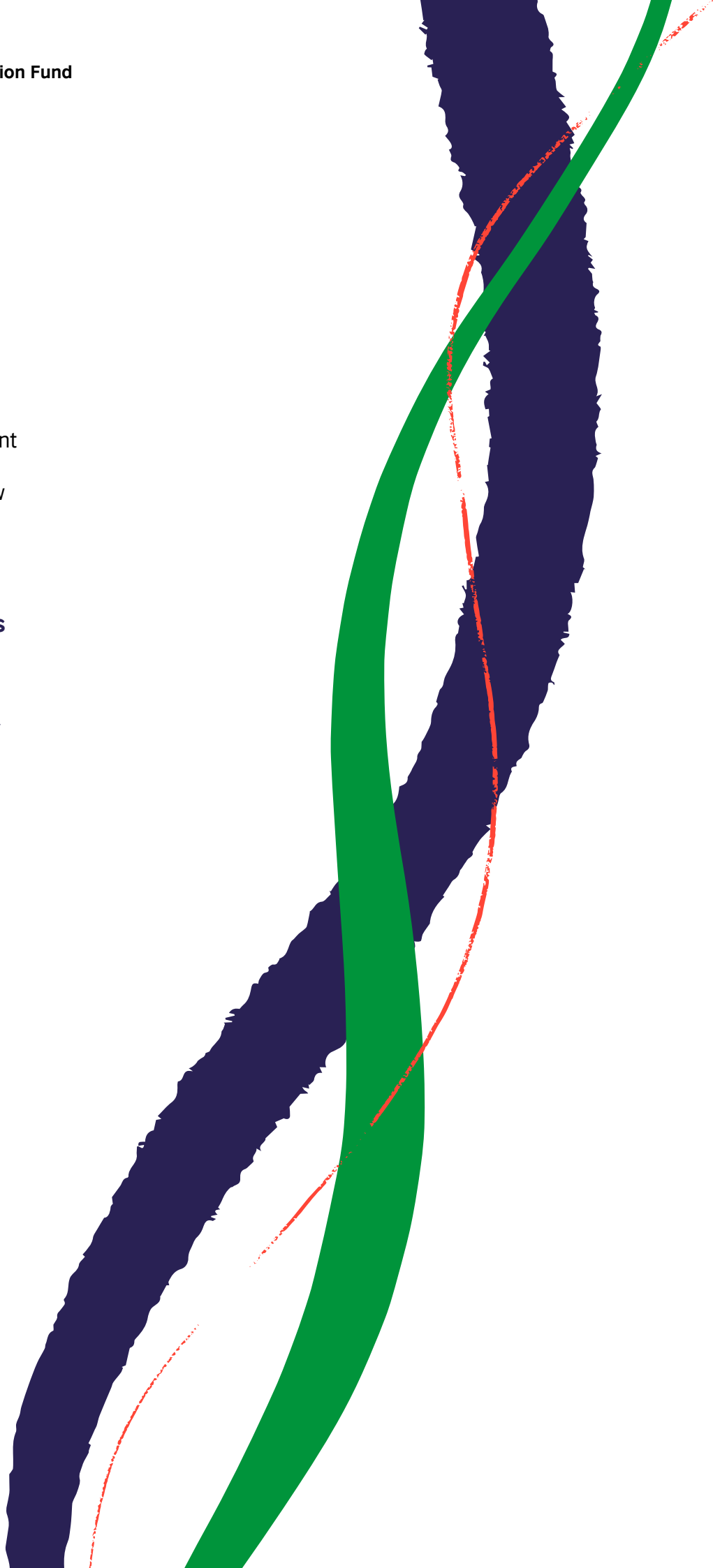
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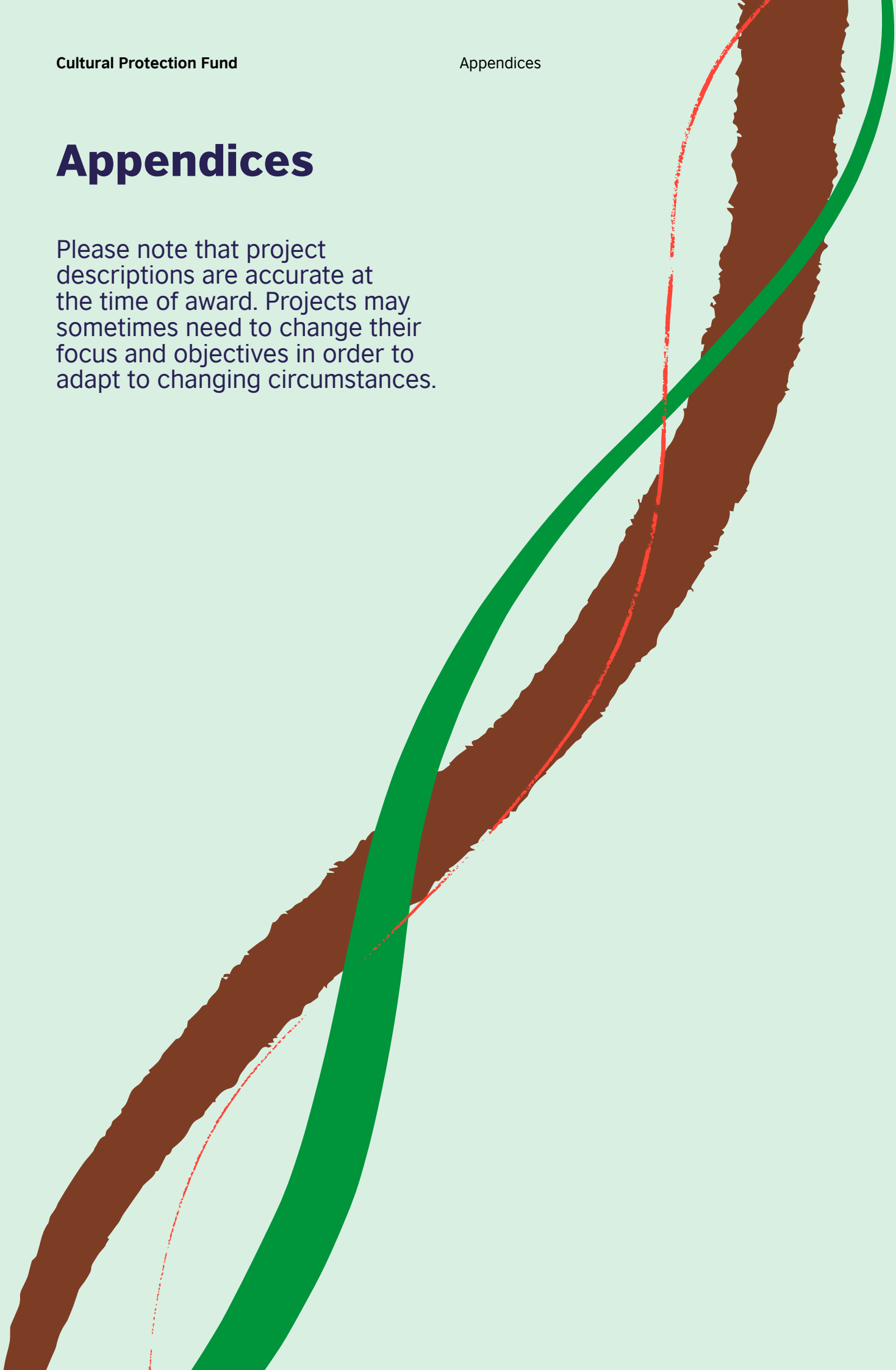
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Appendices

Please note that project descriptions are accurate at the time of award. Projects may sometimes need to change their focus and objectives in order to adapt to changing circumstances.



Appendix 1

Full list of Large Grants awarded in 2022–2023

Withstanding change: heritage amongst climate uncertainty

Led by the International National Trusts Organisation, this project will restore six historic buildings in six countries across the Middle East, North Africa and East Africa, protecting them against the severe impacts of climate change and installing new exhibition spaces to engage local communities. Positive connections will be made between National Trust properties in the UK and the sites in each country enabling knowledge sharing around safeguarding heritage in the face of climate-induced threats. The project will culminate in a conference to cement learning and strengthen international relationships.

Grant awarded
£1,687,819

Lead organisation

The International National Trusts Organisation (INTO)

Partner organisations

The Cross-Cultural Foundation of Uganda, Uganda; Heritage Watch Ethiopia Association, Ethiopia; The Zanzibar Stone Town Heritage Society, Tanzania; Egyptian Heritage Rescue Foundation, Egypt; Petra National Trust, Jordan

Target countries

Egypt, Ethiopia, Jordan, Syria, Tanzania, Uganda

Middle East People's Culture Conservation Collective

This project will empower young people across Syria, Iraq and Egypt to protect the heritage of marginalised religious, ethnic and linguistic minorities within their own communities. Where heritage is at risk due to the effects of conflict, training in digital archiving and data preservation will mean that oral histories, interviews, photos and videos capturing dance, language, festivals, feasts, music, pilgrimages and more are archived and preserved for future generations.

Grant awarded
£950,318

Lead organisation

Institute of Development Studies

Partner organisations

Refcemi, United Kingdom; The University of Duhok

Target countries

Egypt, Iraq, Syria,

Safeguarding the cultural heritage of the Bajuni dialect of Swahili, oral traditions and poetry

Working directly with local communities in the northern area of Kenya's Swahili Coast, this project will record and document the Bajuni dialect spoken by more than 15,000 people in the region. The project will also work with teachers and government to embed education on indigenous languages in schools as well as conduct public performances of Bajuni poetry to engage community members more widely.

Grant awarded
£155,641

Lead organisation

Twaweza Communications Center Ltd

Partner organisations

Swahili Resource Center, Kenya; Shungwaya Welfare Association, Kenya

Target countries

Kenya

EAMENA: Mitigating Conflict and Climate Change Risks Through Digital Heritage, Capacity Building, and Consolidation

This project will build upon the transformative work undertaken by the EAMENA project across the Middle East and North Africa, working with national NGOs and governments to embed critical skills in the management of built historic and archaeological assets in six countries. A range of heritage professionals will be engaged to assess the condition of nationally important sites that have been damaged as a result of climate change and will utilise these sites as case studies to inform future safeguarding work across the region.

This will result in a more robust EAMENA database, capable of rapidly tracking changes to sites, enabling swift intervention to prevent further damage. A conference will bring government officials together to influence policy change at a regional level to ensure better care of their globally important heritage assets.

Grant awarded
£970,448

Lead organisation
University of Oxford

Partner organisations
Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Palestine; Department of Antiquities, Libya; University of Tipasa, Algeria; ICOMOS Jordan; Ministry of Culture – Directorate General of Antiquities, Lebanon; Heritage for Peace, Spain; St. Catherines Monastery and St. Catherines Foundation, Egypt

Target countries

Algeria, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Syria

Partnership for Heritage: Safeguarding Traditional Architecture and Intangible heritage of Tataouine (Tunisia) and the Nafusa mountains (Libya)

The rich and varied heritage of the indigenous Imazighen communities living in the Nafusa Mountains (Libya) and in Tataouine, Tunisia, will be documented and conserved through the protection of two ancient, fortified granaries at risk due to climate change.

Alongside the restoration of these unique buildings, a programme documenting and reviving local craft and associated skills will support the development of female-led local businesses.

Grant awarded
£460,675

Lead organisation
University of the West of England

Partner organisations
Durham University, UK; Institut National du Patrimoine de Tunisie, Tunisia; Department of Antiquities of Libya, Libya; Azzaytuna University, Libya; Institut superieur Des Arts et Métiers de Tataouine – Association du Ksour, Tunisia; Aran NKabaw Foundation for Restoration of Ancient Buildings, Libya; Association Chenini pour la responsabilité sociale, Tunisia; Ecole Nationale d'Architecture et Urbanisme, Tunisia

Target countries
Libya, Tunisia

Safeguarding endangered oral traditions and minority heritages in Syria

This project will safeguard a wide range of Syrian intangible heritage, including oral traditions, folk stories and proverbs which are central to communities' identities. The project will create podcasts and web-series around mythological storytelling to engage large numbers of people and provide heritage safeguarding training to empower local organisations to conduct research on minority heritages.

Training for young people in the traditional craft of woodblock printing will be provided, boosting skills and employment opportunities in the region.

Grant awarded
£416,502

Lead organisation
Directions Independent Culture

Partner organisations
Hakawati Inc., USA

Target countries
Syria

Athar Lina Heritage Climate Change: Conservation and Capacity Building

This project will oversee the protection of Yahya al-Shabih and Safiyy al-Din Jawhar, two medieval Islamic monuments that are currently at risk due to climate change-related threats, while reopening the sites to visitors and the local community.

Situated in Historic Cairo, the conservation of these buildings will include a programme of on-site training, workshops and community outreach, where 200 professionals and technicians will learn techniques to protect heritage from climate change and urban greening climate change action projects will provide opportunities for local women and children.

Grant awarded
£953,776

Lead organisation
Megawra Built Environment

Partner organisations
The Egyptian Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities (MoTA), Egypt; Mansour for Architecture and Conservation, Egypt; 10Tooba, Egypt

Target countries
Egypt

On the Tracks of Music – Folk Music in the Levant and Mesopotamia

This project will preserve and promote the disappearing traditional folk music and musical instruments of marginalised rural communities in areas severely affected by conflict and climate change, across Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq and Syria.

The rarely documented folk music is specific to each community's history and these traditions are thought to date back to 2500 BC. Musicians and instrument makers will participate in research and training to record and document 100 folk music pieces and historic processes. An ambitious awareness-raising campaign will also promote folk music of the Levant and Mesopotamia to local and global audiences.

Grant awarded
£537,497

Lead organisation
Action for Hope ASBL

Partner organisations
MedeArts, Jordan; Sumer Foundation for Artistic Talents Development, Iraq; The Book Forum, Iraq; Inherit, UK; Smart History Ltd, UK

Target countries
Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria

Preserving the past, safeguarding the future: protecting cultural heritage at risk in Gaza through restoration and community engagement

This project will support the complete renovation of the Dar Al-Saada Dome, an important example of Mamluk masonry and architecture in Gaza, for its adaptive reuse as a multi-purpose community education and exhibition centre.

The restored dome will also create a safe environment for manuscripts from the 13th century library of the Great Omari Mosque, which will undergo conservation as part of a specialised training programme for local conservators.

A community outreach programme will support efforts to improve the local school's heritage curriculum through the development of a cultural heritage education programme and participatory research activities will culminate in a three-day festival to share and celebrate community-created outputs.

Grant awarded
£200,125

Lead organisation
CISS – Cooperazione Internazionale Sud Sud

Partner organisations
University College of Applied Sciences (UCAS), Palestine; Recanati e Restauro, Italy

Target countries
Occupied Palestinian Territories

The Rehabilitation of the Governor's HQ Complex (former British Residency) in Mukalla

The Governor's HQ and former British Resident Advisor's Complex represents a remarkable landmark in Mukalla, Yemen.

This project will oversee the protection of the skills required to undertake the rehabilitation of the building and surrounding area. Approaches to the traditional methods of Hadrami earth construction in mud brick and stone construction will be safeguarded through documentation and training of local people.

Grant awarded
£626,412

Lead organisation
Cultural Emergency Response (CER)

Partner organisations
Daw'an Architecture Foundation, Yemen

Target countries
Yemen

Safeguarding Sudan's Living Heritage

This ambitious project will completely renovate the currently inaccessible Ethnographic Museum in central Khartoum, protecting it from the impacts of climate change-induced flooding, creating a new landmark domed roof and improved facilities for visitors.

The project will also meaningfully engage pastoralists in Darfur and Kordofan, empowering local communities to record accounts of their own living heritage. This will inform new displays in the Ethnographic Museum, enabling people to engage with the critically important collections related to Sudanese intangible culture.

Grant awarded
£1,917,079

Lead organisation
Mallinson Architects

Partner organisations
Sudan National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums, Sudan; British Institute Eastern Africa, UK; ICCROM-ATHAR Regional Conservation Office, UAE; Cambridge Heritage Research Centre (CHRC) and Mapping Africa's Endangered Archaeological Sites and Monuments Project (MAEASaM), UK; Centre for Darfur Heritage, University of Nyala, Sudan; Durham University: Archives and Special Collections, Sudan Archive, UK; British Museum, UK; Sudan Memory, France

Target countries
Sudan

Heritage Challenging Fragmented Geography

This project will restore and enhance significant and endangered buildings and public spaces across four historic centres in the West Bank of the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

These processes will be documented and supported by a heritage training programme for young architects and transformed spaces will be adapted for reuse as community centres to be led by active cultural organisations.

Collaborations at a regional and international level will support the creation of new records of traditional practices, provide new opportunities for knowledge exchange and showcase Palestinian cultural heritage to global audiences.

Grant awarded
£1,216,264

Lead organisation
RIWAQ-Centre for Architectural Conservation

Partner organisations
The Municipality of Kafr 'Aqab, Palestine; NAWA for Culture and Arts Association, Palestine; The Municipality of Beit Hanina, Palestine; Qalandiya Village Council, Palestine

Target countries
Occupied Palestinian Territories

Protection and promotion of Palestinian tangible and intangible cultural heritage at local, national and international levels

This ambitious project will undertake a number of preventive and emergency interventions at three important archaeological sites in the Gaza Strip. These sites include the Roman Necropolis of Ard-al-Moharibeen which was discovered in January 2022 and the newly discovered Mosaic of Al Bureij, a spectacular mosaic pavement, which is currently considered to date back to the 5th–7th century.

An oral history training programme will enable young people in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank to develop new skills and a further exchange programme between Syrian and Gazan adolescents will be implemented to support new regional collaborations.

An inclusive and varied series of cultural activities in collaboration with civil society and youth focussed groups will also engage local audiences and celebrate Palestinian cultural heritage.

Grant awarded
£1,297,120

Lead organisation
Première Urgence Internationale

Partner organisations
The French Biblical School of Archaeology of Jerusalem – École biblique et archéologique française de Jérusalem (EBAF), Occupied Palestinian Territories; Centre for Trust Peace and Social Relations (CTPSR), Coventry University (CU), UK; Institut National des Sciences Appliquées de Strasbourg, France; The University of Palestine, Occupied Palestinian Territories; Islamic University of Gaza, Occupied Palestinian Territories

Target countries
Occupied Palestinian Territories

Insitu Preservation of 1.5-Million-Year-Old Footprints at Ileret, Northern Kenya: Evidence of Early Hominin Foot Morphology and Paleobiology

National Museums of Kenya will work with international partners to safeguard the globally important heritage of the 1.5-million-year-old hominin footprints found at Ileret, near Lake Turkana, an area known as the “cradle of humankind”.

A physical canopy will protect the site from the effects of wind erosion driven by climate change and the local community will gain skills in heritage management in order to protect the site into the future and present the heritage at a new exhibition and community space.

Grant awarded
£366,241

Lead organisation
National Museums of Kenya

Partner organisations
Chatham University, USA; Technical University of Kenya, Kenya; Rutgers University, USA; George Washington University, USA; International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM), Italy; Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), Kenya.

Target countries
Kenya

Dessie Museum Renovation

This project will support the complete renovation of the Dessie Museum in Ethiopia’s Amhara Region, which was destroyed during conflict in 2021.

Through a combination of physical interventions to restore and upgrade museum facilities, community focussed heritage training and a collections growth initiative to replace damaged and lost objects, the museum will reopen and continue as an important regional centre for culture and education.

Grant awarded
£255,811

Lead organisation
Ethiopian Heritage Trust (EHT)

Partner organisations
Ethiopian Heritage Conservation Authority (EHCA), Ethiopia; Ethiopian Institute of Architecture, Building Construction and city Development, Ethiopia; Wollo University, Ethiopia; Amhara National Regional State Culture and Tourism Bureau, Ethiopia; Dessie culture and Tourism Department, Ethiopia.

Target countries
Ethiopia

Abbas Bazaar, Recovery Lab of Port Said

This project will protect the 19th century Khedive Abbas Helmy II Bazaar in Port Said, Egypt. The Bazaar is a unique hybrid of local architectural style and European modernism that has suffered extensive damage as a result of past conflicts on the Suez Canal.

Its partial reconstruction will preserve original features, including the timber verandas, and the combined research, education and training initiatives will capture the collective memory of the bazaar's sociocultural importance and provide a model for future urban heritage interventions in the historic core of Port Said.

Grant awarded

£236,701

Lead organisation

Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus

Partner organisations

Al-Yakaniya for Heritage and Arts, Egypt; Galala University, Egypt; Port Said Ala Adeemo, Egypt; Alliance Française de Port-Said, Egypt

Target countries

Egypt

Ark for Iraq (Phase 3)

This project marks the expansion of an ambitious initiative to protect and promote Iraq's unique and endangered inland watercraft heritage, that is in rapid decline due to the ongoing impact of climate change.

Working across locations in Southern Iraq, skilled artisans will work with local students to document and create new models of traditional boats and associated crafts with varied historic use along the Tigris and Euphrates rivers.

A series of workshops and field testing will support new research into climate mitigation measures and a diverse range of educational, sports, leisure and tourism activities will engage local communities and civil society groups.

Grant awarded

£779,737

Lead organisation

Safina Projects CIC

Partner organisations

Basrah Museum (managed by Basrah Directorate of Antiquities and Heritage), Iraq; University of Basrah, Iraq; British Institute for the Study of Iraq, UK; Al-Turath al-Sha'bi (Journal) / Shanashil Foundation for Humanitarian Heritage Revival (NGO), Iraq.

Target countries

Iraq

Appendix 2

Full list of Small Grants awarded in 2022–2023.

Small Grants 1 (SG1).

SG2 decisions were made in 2023–2024

Turath Benghazi (Building Heritage Capacity & Local Engagement in Benghazi’s Historic City Centre)

The historic city centre of Benghazi in Libya hosts many important religious and cultural sites and has suffered significant damage due to civil war.

This project will provide local architects and officials with training in cultural heritage preservation and urban design, building capacity for conservation and restoration of this ancient city.

Grant awarded
£99,750

Grantee
World Monuments Fund Britain

Partners
Historical City Administration Authority/Benghazi, Libya; Create Streets Foundation (UK), UK; Barah Organization for Culture and Arts, Libya; Institut Français d’Archéologie Orientale (IFAO), Egypt.

Target countries
Libya

Khan Musallah, Najaf, Iraq

This impressive 19th century monument in Iraq was built to accommodate pilgrims travelling between the holy cities of Najaf and Karbala and was a key point for contact and exchange along the Silk and Ottoman trade routes.

It suffered significant damage during conflict and faces further deterioration due to climate change. This project will improve the condition of the site, create a conservation plan and support local heritage professionals and the community to care for and protect this and other local heritage sites in the future.

Grant awarded
£69,074

Grantee
Living Mesopotamia CIC

Partners
Not applicable

Target countries
Iraq

Global Bethlehem: Securing the Archives of a Travelling Merchant

The 19th century Dar Jacir house and its rare archival collection in the Occupied Palestinian Territories, are in danger of being lost due to ongoing conflict.

This project will protect the building against further damage, provide access to new areas for collections and display and will enable the creation of a professional standard archive room.

Grant awarded
£99,839

Grantee
Dar Yusuf Nasri Jacir for Art and Research

Partners
The Khalidi Library (Al Khalidiyya), Palestine

Target countries
Occupied Palestinian Territories

Cultural Heritage Preservation and Responsible Tourism for Sustainable Development of the Ik community in Northern Karamoja, Uganda

The Ik community in Northeast Uganda has a unique language and culture that is under threat due to marginalisation and displacement through conflict and climate change. This project aims to protect their cultural identity through documentation, community engagement and training.

Grant awarded
£76,191

Grantee
Kara-Tunga Foundation

Partners
Ik Agenda Development Initiative, Uganda; EyeOpener Initiative, Uganda; Urithi Studio Enterprises Limited, Uganda

Target countries
Uganda

Emergency intervention and damage assessment in Manbij, Syria

This project will see the implementation of emergency and consolidation interventions to stabilise three at-risk monuments in Northern Syria, dating from the late Byzantine to early 20th century.

Grant awarded
£79,987

Grantee
Heritage for Peace

Partners
RehabiMed, Spain

Target countries
Syria

Revitalise the Roots: Bikaptooris

The Endorois were some of the first inhabitants in the Baringo and Laikipia counties in Kenya and their intangible heritage is at risk due to the rising water levels of nearby Lake Bogoria.

The project will deliver training in oral history skills and record conversations with Endorois Elders focusing on the knowledge systems, practices and rituals connected to their pastoralist culture.

Grant awarded
£100,000

Grantee
Jamii Asilia Centre

Partners
Global Wisdom Collective, USA; Endorois Welfare Council (EWC), Kenya; Endorois Indigenous Women Empowerment Network (EIWEN), Kenya

Target countries
Kenya

Documentation and Conservation of Lebanon's Coastal Castles

The coastal heritage of Lebanon is at risk of erosion due to climate change. This project will carry out conservation, documentation and 3D photogrammetric digitisation of four historically significant archaeological sites, as well as building capacities by providing local training in heritage preservation.

Grant awarded
£86,747

Grantee
Iconem Fund

Partners
Lebanese Ministry of Culture – DGA (General Directorate of Antiquities), Lebanon

Target countries
Lebanon

Appendix 3

Full list of Small Grants 2 (SG2) awarded in 2023–2024

The Protection of Sakiya’s Cultural Heritage Site

Tangible and intangible cultural heritage at a site in the Occupied Palestinian Territories is at risk of loss due to ongoing conflict and instability.

Led by Sakiya – Research and Experimental Development, this project will support the ongoing rehabilitation and preservation of the site, through research, documentation and restoration of its ancient Ayyubid architectural features and the mythologies, rituals and practices associated with it.

An established education and cultural programme will give the local community opportunities to participate in the creation of visual and performance pieces and to learn new skills in traditional building methods, heritage management and protection.

Grant awarded
£99,999

Grantee
Sakiya – Research and Experimental Development

Partners
Masahat Cooperative Association for Arts and Culture, Occupied Palestinian Territories

Target countries
Occupied Palestinian Territories

Protection and Participation: IAAS Archive of Sudanese Intangible Cultural Heritage

Over 6000 hours’ worth of historic material is held by the Institute of African and Asian Studies (IAAS) Archive of Sudanese Intangible Cultural Heritage. Much of the material is irreplaceable and, in some cases, it documents intangible cultural heritage that is no longer practised.

The collection has been damaged in past conflicts and the current conflict continues to threaten its security. Led by TransformMedia, this project hopes to conduct remote digitisation to permanently preserve the collection and make it more widely accessible.

Grant awarded
£99,000

Grantee
Transformedia CIC

Partners
Institute of African and Asian Studies, University of Khartoum, Sudan

Target countries
Sudan

The traditional tattoos of Babylon, Iraq: documenting and preserving a threatened heritage

Deg is an endangered custom of tattooing, often used as a way to remember important people and events.

As the practice of traditional tattooing declines, this project led by The American Academic Institute in Iraq (TAARI), will document the knowledge of Deg held by its elderly practitioners, to enable greater understanding of the roots of this tradition and its significance and role in local society.

The project will focus on the ancient province of Babylon, collecting and documenting images of the tattoos and the stories of the women who wear them, which will be shared in an exhibition in the Museum of Babylon.

Grant awarded
£45,155

Grantee
The American Academic Research Institute in Iraq (TAARI)

Partners
Not applicable

Target countries
Iraq

Mosul Maqam

Maqam is an Arabic musical tradition with a highly structured system of melody, poetry and vocal technique that is currently at risk of total loss due to conflict and instability.

In a project led by the University of Exeter, this historic art form will be preserved and rejuvenated. It will focus on the musical and lyrical heritage of the city of Mosul, where Maqam is uniquely precious to the local population in the form of folk tales, love stories and spiritual ceremonies.

The project will collate, document and digitise records of authentic Maqam practices, inspiring the creation of new musical and visual artworks which will connect future generations in and beyond Mosul with this significant element of Iraq's cultural heritage.

Grant awarded
£99,992

Grantee
University of Exeter

Partners
American University of Iraq Sulaimani (AUIS), Division or Department: Kashkul centre for arts and culture, Iraq; University of Mosul, Iraq; Volunteer with Us Foundation for Relief and Development NGO (Mosul Branch), Iraq

Target countries
Iraq

#NBOLibraries: New Futures for Kenya's Archives

The McMillan Memorial Library is the oldest library in Nairobi and the second oldest in Kenya. Its contents span Kenya's colonial and post-colonial history and are of significant value to the country's culture, heritage and identity.

A project led by Book Bunk Trust will build on existing work to preserve and digitise additional endangered collections which include paper, glass film slides, photographs and film reels, while also increasing public engagement by making the library more accessible.

Grant awarded
£98,957

Grantee
Book Bunk Trust

Partners
Studio NBO, Nairobi, Kenya; African Digital Heritage Foundation, Kenya

Target countries
Kenya

Storytelling as Safeguarding: Protecting South Sudanese Women's Cultural Heritage in Refugee Settings in Uganda and Kenya

In Uganda and Kenya, South Sudanese women in refugee settings will document folk songs that have been passed down through generations, thanks to a project being led by the Likikiri Collective.

These songs document the robust heritage of South Sudanese communities who have migrated to neighbouring countries due to fluctuating conflicts in their region.

Grant awarded
£98,050

Grantee
Likikiri Collective

Partners
Community Development Centre (CDC), Uganda; SheLeads Kakuma, Kenya; University of London (SOAS) School of Arts, Department of Music, UK; British Library Sound Archives, UK; British Institute for Eastern Africa (BIEA), Kenya

Target countries
Kenya, Uganda

Tell Baya'a Mission House Rehabilitation, as a community centre, and archaeological site of Tuttul protection

In northern Syria, several structures at the remains of an ancient city in one of the oldest archaeological sites have been severely impacted by the effects of conflict.

Damage assessment and consolidation will be carried out by project lead Asociacion RehabiMed on these structures and highly significant artefacts and archaeological materials at risk of being looted will be documented and stored. Local architects and archaeologists will also be trained in assessment, monitoring and preservation techniques.

A number of people living around the site will be trained in traditional building skills before assisting in the renovation of an on-site complex. Upon completion this will provide an invaluable community and civil society resource.

Grant awarded
£97,587

Grantee
Asociacion RehabiMed

Partners
Heritage for Peace, Spain

Target countries
Syria

Restoration and Conservation of Ge'ez Manuscripts in War Affected North Gondor and North and South Wollo Zonal Districts

Gospels, hymns, civil law, patristic literature, medicine, magic, astronomy and bibles are just some of the contents of manuscripts written in Ge'ez, a language only fluently used by a small number of priests in some war-affected parts of Ethiopia.

The project team from Bahir Dar University will work on conserving manuscript preparation knowledge through providing intergenerational training and workshops in conservation and restoration for the local community.

Grant awarded
£99,989

Grantee
Bahir Dar University (BDU)

Partners
Amhara National Regional State Culture and Tourism Bureau (ANRS-CTB), Ethiopia; Authority for Research and Conservation of Cultural Heritage (ARCCH), Ethiopia

Target countries
Ethiopia

Developing Capacities in Marine Cultural Heritage Management and Protection

The Khalidi Library – Khalidi Waqf – will lead a project to support the preservation of, and efforts to increase public access to East Jerusalem's written and archaeological heritage, which is at risk due to conflict and instability and climate related changes.

The creation of a comprehensive architectural and archaeological study will inform planned future physical interventions to rehabilitate an important cultural centre.

A separate intensive programme in the emergency preservation of ancient manuscripts will allow trainees to develop theoretical and practical skills, before applying this learning to safeguarding endangered collections.

Grant awarded
£96,650

Grantee
Khalidi Library Waqf

Partners
Not applicable

Target countries
Occupied Palestinian Territories

Developing Capacities in Marine Cultural Heritage Management and Protection

A project that focuses on the protection of endangered marine cultural heritage in Gaza and Libya through capacity building in maritime archaeology.

Grant awarded
£73,852

Grantee
The Palestine Exploration Fund

Partners
Maritime Endangered Archaeology Project (MarEA), UK; Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities, Occupied Palestinian Territories; Department of Antiquities Libya; Alexandria Centre for Maritime Archaeology and Underwater Cultural Heritage, Egypt; Department of Archaeology, University of Benghazi, Libya

Target countries
Egypt, Libya, Occupied Palestinian Territories

Mitigation of Present and Future Climate Change Impact on the 3.6 million-years Laetoli Footprint Site and Winde Slaves' Warehouse along the Tanzanian Coast

The Laetoli footprint site in Tanzania is the oldest unequivocal evidence of human ancestors walking on two feet. It is currently at risk due to erosion caused by increasing storms and rainfall.

In Winde, a 19th Century slave warehouse complex faces similar erosion caused by rising sea levels. Both sites will be documented in a project led by the University of St. Andrews.

Through digital documentation, training and community engagement, the project will address the threats facing the physical sites as well as capturing local stories, myths, dance and rituals which are linked to them, ensuring that the heritage is permanently preserved and available to future generations.

Grant awarded
£84,029

Grantee
St Andrews University

Partners
University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Target countries
Tanzania

Syrian Cassette Archives: Three New Collections

Recorded in Syria between the 1950s and 2010s, audio recordings including a wide range of Syrian music-related heritage are currently stored in privately owned archives across the country.

Featuring raw folk recordings, live wedding concerts, studio albums, soloists, classical and children's music, the audio represents decades of Syrian intangible heritage and reflects the lived experience of large numbers of Syrian people.

The material is currently at risk due to the effects of conflict in Syria, worsening the physical deterioration of the cassettes as well as causing the displacement of collectors and distributors of the music.

As part of this project, the music will be documented, digitalised, recorded and safeguarded for future generations.

Grant awarded
£91,585

Grantee
SCA Initiative

Partners
Not applicable

Target countries
Syria

Appendix 4

Meeting group members Programme Board

The Cultural Protection Fund programme board meets bi-monthly and is made up of senior staff from DCMS and British Council. Permanent board members are as follows:

Stephen Stenning

Director Culture in Action, British Council – Chair

Mark Stephens

Director Cultural Engagement, British Council

Duncan Parish

Deputy Director, Tourism & Cultural Diplomacy, DCMS

Charlotte Hanson

Head of International Cultural Heritage Protection, DCMS

Temporary board members are as follows:

Joseph Heap

Interim Head of International Cultural Heritage Protection, DCMS (cover for Charlotte Hanson)

Cortina Butler

Director Arts British Council (cover for Mark Stephens)

Advisors from DCMS:

Emily Driscoll

Head of Cultural Diplomacy, DCMS

Jack Dryden

Finance Manager, DCMS

Cultural Protection Fund team members reporting to the board:

Stephanie Grant

Director Cultural Protection Fund, British Council

Daniel Head

Senior Grants Manager, Cultural Protection Fund, British Council

Small Grants Round 2 Approvals Panel (May 2023)

Stephen Stenning

Director Culture in Action, British Council – Chair

Farai Ncube

Regional Director of Arts Sub-Saharan Africa, British Council

Stephanie Twigg

Director Operations and Programme Management Arts, British Council

Martin Daltry

Country Director Occupied Palestinian Territories, British Council

Sandra Chege

Head of East Africa Arts, British Council Kenya

In partnership with



Department
for Culture,
Media & Sport

Cultural Protection Fund



**For further information on
the Cultural Protection Fund,
please contact:
culturalprotection@britishcouncil.org**