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**The U.S. Embassy in Vientiane is Accepting Applications for the
2010 Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation**

The U.S Embassy Vientiane is accepting project proposals for the U.S. Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation (AFCP) 2010 Competition. The deadline for submitting proposals is **December 04, 2009**.

BACKGROUND: Since 2001, Congress has directed the Department of State to support and implement the U.S. Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation (AFCP). The Senate report on this bill noted that the preservation of cultural heritage offers an opportunity to show a different American face to the world, one that is non-commercial, non-political, and non-military. The AFCP has supported more than 500 projects to preserve cultural heritage in more than 100 countries, an achievement representing contributions of more than \$16 million towards cultural preservation needs around the globe.

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

Project Types:

AFCP supports projects to preserve cultural heritage in the following three categories:

CULTURAL SITES includes (but is not limited to) historic buildings and sites, sacred places, monuments, and archaeological sites;

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

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

Please see the Embassy's website (<http://laos.usembassy.gov>) for past AFCP projects in Laos.

HOW TO APPLY: Who are interested must submit completed project proposals through:

U.S Embassy

Bartholonie, That Dam

Vientiane, Lao PDR

Tel: (856 20) 267 263

Contact Mrs. Sengsouriya Luanglitsakda at 021 267 263 or sengsouriyax@state.gov for the suggested format for the proposal and budget, or if you have any questions concerning.