

THE SUMITOMO FOUNDATION
FISCAL 2026 GRANT FOR PROJECTS FOR
THE PROTECTION, PRESERVATION & RESTORATION OF CULTURAL PROPERTIES
OUTSIDE JAPAN
Application Guide

The Sumitomo Foundation offers this grant program so that cultural properties outside Japan, which are the common heritage of humankind, may be handed down to future generations.

Subjects of Grant

1. Contents of Projects

- (1) Projects for the protection, preservation & restoration of cultural properties (i.e., fine arts or archaeological sites) outside Japan, which are tangible, old and artistically or academically valuable, and ought to be handed down to future generations.
- (2) Preliminary surveys immediately linked up with the projects as mentioned in 1(1) above.

Notes)

- Above (1) include cultural properties constituting a part of structures/buildings, such as murals and sculptures.
- As for archaeological sites, our scope for grant is limited to the projects for the protection, preservation & restoration of historical materials constituting a part of archaeological sites or excavated, or preliminary surveys directly linked up with them. Please take note projects for the protection, preservation & restoration of whole archaeological sites and preliminary surveys linked up with them are out of our scope.
- Digital preservation projects are out of our scope for grant.

Subjects of Grant for Fiscal 2023 are listed on Page 4.

2. Qualifications of Applicants

- (1) Applicants shall be the owners or administrators of the cultural properties or researchers who will actually conduct preliminary surveys.
- (2) The following are not eligible in principle:
 - (i) profit-making corporations
 - (ii) individuals who own cultural properties for profit or whose cultural properties are for private use only.

3. Applicable Expenses

- (1) For 1(1) above; expenses directly required for the projects

- (2) For 1(2) above; expenses are applicable only to the extent that they fall under the items set forth in the table on page 3. Applicants should be reminded that the following are not applicable:

- (i) Remuneration for services rendered by applicants and/or their collaborator(s). The term “collaborators” here refers to any researcher who conducts preliminary surveys in collaboration with applicants and may be considered co-author(s) in the event that the results of preliminary surveys are published.
- (ii) Administrative expenses of universities, research institutes, or other organizations to which applicants and/or their collaborator(s) belong.
- (iii) Expenses for procurement of any instrument, apparatus, or equipment for general use such as facsimile machines, copying machines, and the like.

Note: The submission of parallel applications for grants from The Sumitomo Foundation and from governments and/or other private organizations is acceptable.

Outline of Grant Program

1. Grant Budget

- (1) Total budget for Fiscal 2026
¥35,000,000.-
- (2) Number of projects to be selected:
Approximately 15

2. Duration of Grant

One (1) year, March 2027-March 2028

3. Conditions of the Grant

- (1) (i) Grantees are required to submit a “Consent Letter” to The Sumitomo Foundation. In addition, after completion of the projects, grantees are requested to submit a “Project Completion Report” and a “Financial Report” to The Sumitomo Foundation.

- (ii) The results of the projects mentioned in Subjects of Grant 1 (1) above, shall also be reported in a “Restoration Report” by the restorer and/or conservator.
- (2) Concerning fine arts or archaeological sites mentioned in 1(1) above, grantees are requested to announce to the public that the project has been funded by a grant received from The Sumitomo Foundation after the completion of the projects.
- (3) The results of preliminary surveys mentioned in 1 (2) above, shall also be published in the form of academic papers or by other means. It must be clearly indicated therein that preliminary survey has been supported with a grant received from The Sumitomo Foundation. In this case, please submit a copy of these papers, etc. to The Sumitomo Foundation.
- (4) In the case that governmental approval is required to receive the funds from this grant and/or to conduct the proposed projects, grantees shall complete all necessary formalities.

Selection Procedure

In accordance with the selection criteria as stated below, applications for this grant will be reviewed for selection by the Selection Committee of The Sumitomo Foundation. The Board of Directors of The Sumitomo Foundation, scheduled to meet in March 2026, will give the final approval in the selection of the projects eligible for this grant. Results of the selection will be reported to applicants by e-mail. Please note that The Sumitomo Foundation is unable to respond to any inquiries regarding the reasons for selection. In some cases, The Sumitomo Foundation’s staff may make inquiries in person, by e-mail or facsimile concerning applications during such review for selection.

<Selection Criteria>

The following factors shall be totally considered for selection.

- (1) Significance as a Cultural Property
- (2) Urgency of the Project
- (3) Feasibility of the Project Plan
- (4) Need for the grant

Additionally, the project’s relationship to Japan may be considered, for example: whether the cultural property is a Japanese work of art, whether it has influenced Japanese art, and whether the project is led by Japanese researchers or institutions.

Application Procedures

Applications should be submitted through the website of The Sumitomo Foundation.

1. Application Deadline

30th November, 2026 17:00 (JST)

2. Application Documentation

Please make an application process and prepare the following application documents subject to “Procedure & Instruction for Application”.

- (1) Application form prescribed by The Sumitomo Foundation filled out by the applicant:
- (2) Accompanying materials which include;
 - (i) Letter of recommendation regarding the proposed project and the cultural property to be preserved and/or restored in any format from a person of high academic standing required as a 3rd party independent from the applicant and its affiliation.
 - (ii) Digital images that show the state of the cultural property or areas of the surveys.
 - (iii) Other materials.
For details, please refer to “Procedure & Instruction for Application”.

Notes

- (1) Personal information provided in the application is to be used strictly for the purpose of selection as well as notification of the results of selection to the applicants. Please note, however, that the name of grantees (successful applicants), his/her affiliation, title, project name and grant amount will be announced to the public in due course.
- (2) Application and accompanying materials shall be written in English and/or Japanese.
- (3) Amount applied for shall be in Japanese yen or in U.S. Dollars. (The grant will be transmitted to your account either in Japanese yen or U.S. Dollars as applied for.)
- (4) None of application and accompanying materials submitted will be returned to applicants.
- (5) A registration number will be notified to the applicant’s e-mail address. If it is not notified within next business day, please contact The Sumitomo Foundation immediately at the e-mail address for inquiry, or it will result in the failure of registration.

Contact:

The Sumitomo Foundation

1-12-16 Shibadaimon

Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-0012 JAPAN

Phone: 81-3-5473-0161

Fax: 81-3-5473-8471

E-mail:

kaigai.bunkazai@mail.sumitomo.or.jp

URL <https://www.sumitomo.or.jp/e/>

Applicable Expenses

(For Preliminary Surveys)

Applicable Expenses	Remarks
Transportation	Transportation for business trips (*)
Accommodation	Accommodation for business trips
Communication & Transportation	① Communication (e.g., telephone, mail) ② Transportation (e.g., couriers)
Rentals	Rental of: ① Instruments/apparatus/equipment (including lease/rental of computer hardware, licensing of computer software use, data handling, etc.) (**) ② Materials (e.g., books, databases)
Procurements	Procurement of: ① Consumables and special purpose instruments/apparatus/equipment (e.g., stationery, facsimile paper, copier paper, custom-made goods) (**) ② Materials (e.g., books, databases)
Remuneration: ① Survey Cooperators ② Survey Assistants ③ Other Third Parties	Remuneration for: ① Cooperation/advice rendered by third parties other than Applicants and their collaborator(s) ② Assistant work rendered by temporarily-employed third parties ③ Other services rendered by third parties contracted for non-essential parts of the preliminary surveys for Applicants or their collaborator(s) (e.g., interpretation, translation, stenographing, filling-in of prescribed questionnaires)
Printing and Dissemination	Printing, including copying services, and publication of survey results
Meetings	Rental fee and refreshments for meetings
Other Expenses	Admission fees for research symposia and other expenses, which are to be specified

(*) Limited to round-trip economy-class actual fare for shortest routes between nearest airports.

(**) May include expenses for upkeep of equipment and goods, if any.

Fiscal 2025 Subjects of Grants

Area	Country	NO	Subjects of Grants	Grantees	Amounts of Grants
Americas	USA	1	Conservation of "Bugaku dancers" handscroll (In progress)	Asian Art Museum Foundation of San Francisco	\$25,000
		2	Conservation of "Birds and Flowers," a pair of six-fold screens (In progress)	Portland Art Museum	\$20,400
		3	Conservation of six-panel folding screen, "Views of Higashiyama"	Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art	\$16,000
		4	Conservation of "Daruma",1888, Hanging scroll by Kawanabe Kyosai	Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA)	\$23,000
		5	Conservation of Hanging scrolls with Rats and Rice Bales by Katsushika Hokusai and Yujo doing her hair by Hishikawa Moroyasu	Smithsonian Institution-National Museum of Asian Art (NMAA)	\$24,000
		6	Conservation Survey of Two Edo Period Tokugawa Bronze Lanterns from the Mausoleum of Keisho-in	The University of Pennsylvania,Penn Museum	\$22,900
Europe	UK	7	Collaborative Project for the Conservation of Japanese Paintings (In progress)	The British Museum	¥2,400,000
	Switzerland	8	PPR of the Buddhist hanging scroll"Aizen Myo"	Museum Rierberg Zurich	¥1,500,000
	Poland	9	Conservation of "Wild Geese and Reeds" a pair of six-panel folding screens	The National Museum in Poznan	¥3,450,000
Asia/ Middle East/	Turkey	10	Conservation of the Trenches on Kaman-Karehoyuk (in progress)	Japanese Institute of Anatolian Archaeology The Middle Eastern Culture Center in Japan	¥2,000,000
	India	11	Preservation of the pagoda mural of Ensa gompa in Ladakh (in progress)	Shougaki Masako Associate Professor Kyoto City University of Arts	¥1,130,000
	Egypt	12	Restoration of the Sarcophagus of Princess Isisnofret (in progress)	Kawai Nozomu Professor University of Tsukuba	¥3,000,000
	Vietnam	13	Preservation of Ancient Waterlogged Boat in Vietnam	Vietnam National Museum of History	\$10,700
	Egypt	14	Conservation Survey for making preservation plans of the tomb of Irukaptah at Saqqara archaeological site	Higo Tokihisa Assistant Professor University of Tsukuba	¥750,000
Grand Total 14 Subjects					¥14,230,000 US\$142,000