
Criteria

The Programme aims to preserve material relating to pre-industrialised societies. Any theme or region will be considered, although applications concerned with non-Western societies are particularly welcome.

The EAP has a very broad interpretation of the word 'archive' and has funded projects related to:

- Rare printed sources (books, serials, newspapers, ephemera, etc.)
- Manuscripts
- Visual materials (drawings, paintings, prints, posters, photographs)
- Audio and video recordings
- Other objects and artefacts – but normally only where they are found in association within a documentary archive

The Programme is not intended for the purpose of digitising an institution's collection en masse.



doi.org/10.15130/EAP650
Archiving Afro-Colombian history.

Application Process

Applications are considered by an international panel of historians and archivists on an annual basis. Rapid response grants can be submitted at any time. For Pilot, Major or Area grants, the schedule is:

Preliminary applications

September – early November

Invitation to submit a full application

December – February

Announcement of final decision

May – early June

For details of the programme's forms and guidelines visit eap.bl.uk

Contact Information

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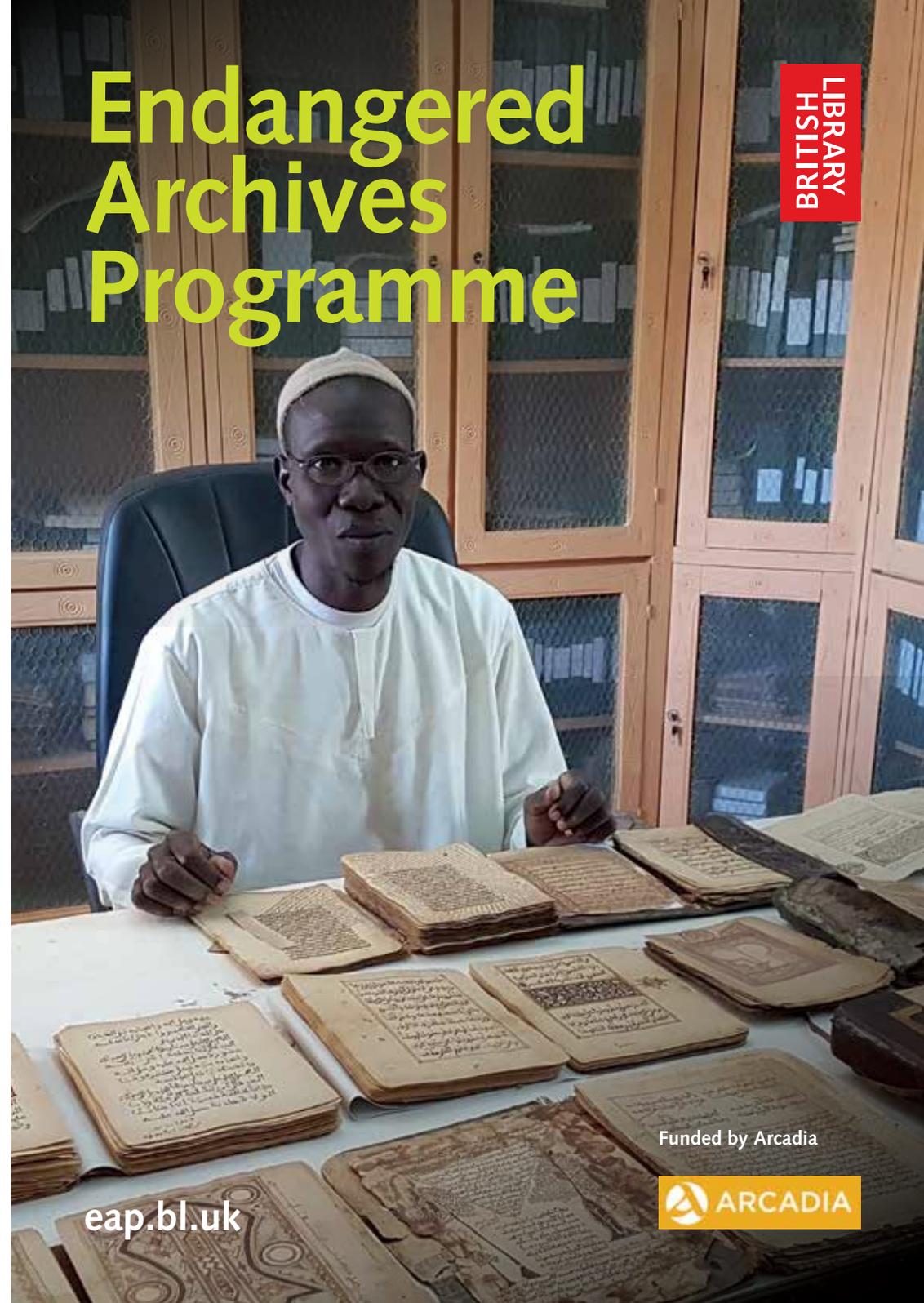
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Endangered Archives Programme

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Archives around the world can be at risk due to general neglect, poor storage or damaging environmental conditions; they can also be in danger due to wanton destruction.

The Endangered Archives Programme, first established in 2004, addresses these issues. It has supported over 350 projects in 90 countries worldwide, digitising and making accessible over 7 million images and 25 thousand sound tracks. In addition to being accessible through local archival partners, the material is available online via the British Library website for the benefit of researchers everywhere.



Cover: doi.org/10.15130/EAP488 Digitising manuscripts in Djenné, Mali. Above L to R: doi.org/10.15130/EAP454 Ecclesiastical documents from Mizoram, India; doi.org/10.15130/EAP692 Temple art of Tamil Nadu, India; doi.org/10.15130/EAP602 Audio recordings from Sherif Harar City Museum, Ethiopia.

Grants

Each year the Programme awards grants to researchers to identify and preserve culturally important archives. Applicants are encouraged, where appropriate, to incorporate professional development and training within their proposals. The original archival material will not leave the country of origin (unless there are exceptional reasons for doing so).

There are four types of grant available:

- **Pilot project**

Pilot grants are worth up to **£15,000** and last less than a year. Individual researchers may apply for funds to assess the necessity, importance and feasibility of preserving a particular archive. Usually this will produce an in-depth survey and sample digitisation. Individuals who have had successful pilot projects are often encouraged to subsequently apply for a major grant. Small scale digitisation projects would also be considered pilot projects.

- **Major projects**

Major grants typically range from **£20,000** to **£60,000** and last up to 24 months. Individual researchers may apply for funds to locate relevant collections, arrange transferral of the documents to a suitable local archival home where appropriate, and to digitise the material.



doi.org/10.15130/EAP644 Digitising the Maison Bonfils photographs, Lebanon.

- **Area grants**

Area grants may be awarded for larger-scale projects. They are similar to a major grant, but larger in scale and ambition. Applicants must demonstrate an outstanding track record of archival preservation work and be associated with an institution that has the capacity to facilitate a large-scale project. They can last for up to 24 months and have a budget limit of **£150,000**. Contact the EAP office in advance if you are considering applying for this type of grant.

- **Rapid response grants**

Rapid response grants may be used to safeguard an archive that is in immediate and severe danger. These grants are intended for situations in which the time scale of the standard EAP decision process could result in extensive damage to the material. They will be accepted on a rolling basis. They must last for less than 12 months and have a budget limit of **£15,000**.