



GLOBAL HERITAGE FUND BI-ANNUAL REPORT

2014-2015

 Global Heritage Fund®
BEYOND MONUMENTS

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TOWARDS A FUTURE BEYOND MONUMENTS

It seems that a new cultural disaster happens almost every day. Kathmandu leveled in an earthquake. Syria engulfed in a brutal civil war. Iraq decimated by militancy. Libya cleaved in two between rival governments.

Confronting these challenges has been difficult. But amidst conversation about what to do or how to help, we have a chance to utilize one of the most powerful – and largely untapped – resources available: heritage.

Beyond its immense cultural value, heritage is an economic asset that can empower communities with new skills and pathways to prosperity. By involving local stakeholders in the conservation, preservation, and presentation of their sites, we can work to guarantee a future for heritage independent of politics and national budgetary considerations.

This community development is the defining characteristic of our preservation work and a key to our success. Since its founding in 2002, Global Heritage Fund has worked at almost 30 sites in 19 countries, uplifting communities as we restore the monumental glories of the past. Some of our more recent achievements:

In Pingyao, China, we restored dozens of courtyard houses and created a set of sustainable planning guidelines. This framework will be used for hundreds of years, an everlasting result that will strengthen our work in this priceless city.

In Amtoudi, Morocco, we performed an emergency restoration of two communal granaries that were damaged in the massive storms of 2014. Working towards creating a sustainable management plan for these sites, we expect our work here will

serve as a model for the future of conservation intervention in the MENA region.

In Daia, Romania, we conserved 38 buildings in a town of 500, are well on our way to achieving World Heritage status for the site and its unique vernacular architecture, and have ensured the sustainable procurement of building materials with new kilns in Apos and Chibed.

Heading towards our 15th year, Global Heritage Fund is stronger than ever. With the assistance of our partners, we’re initiating new projects in Greece and Nepal, starting new programs for cultural disaster relief in the Middle East, and being called on by heritage organizations from Morocco to Cambodia to help preserve their cultural treasures. We have achieved this phenomenal success because we are seen as one of the most competent and worthy organizations to preserve heritage in the world.

With your support, we can continue to achieve more. Working together, we can help create a world where heritage is treasured as a priceless cultural asset, a source of communal pride and identity, and a wellspring of wonder for generations to come. Let’s build a future beyond monuments. □



Sincerely,
Daniel K. Thorne
Chairman of the Board
Global Heritage Fund



Sincerely,
Stefaan Poortman
Executive Director
Global Heritage Fund

COMPLETED PROJECTS

BANTEAY CHHMAR, CAMBODIA

BANTEAY CHHMAR, CAMBODIA

A bas-relief on Buddhist themes

© Craig Stennett/Global Heritage Fund

Banteay Chhmar is one of the greatest architectural masterpieces of Cambodia's epic Angkorian Period. However, Banteay Chhmar was also once a ruin overgrown with jungle, surrounded by land mines, and looted by opportunistic plunderers. After eight years of intervention between 2007 and 2015, Global Heritage Fund has removed the overgrowth, restored many of the damaged or disassembled structures of the temple complex, and put the local community on a firm path to sustainable development. As an innovative turn in Cambodian conservation, our work represented a radical shift from the paradigm at Angkor Wat.

Our vision was to conserve the site as a partial ruin with safe, low-impact visitor access. At Banteay Chhmar, tourists will be able to experience a romantic ruin, in a natural environment, with its mystery intact. And since the inauguration of our work in 2007, this plan has increasingly come to fruition: led by the GHF-founded Community-Based Tourism Board (CBT), tourism to Banteay Chhmar has increased by 180 percent and the community is well equipped to manage the growing influx of travellers with English-speaking guides, homestays, and arts and crafts cooperatives. ◻

“One of the great dilemmas of cultural conservation is that tourism and economic development – essential for supporting conservation – often threaten the very heritage that conservation is intended to protect. Almost alone, GHF has mastered the delicate balance of supporting development without putting heritage sites at risk.”

IVAN SELIN

Founding Chairman of The
Museum of American History

BANTEAY CHHMAR, CAMBODIA

A woman carrying produce through the ruins.

© Craig Stennett/Global Heritage Fund



Mok Ngam, 66, is an elder statesman when it comes to conservation. Through driven from his position at Angkor Wat by the repressive Pol Pot regime, his affinity for Khmer history could not keep him away for long: with the fall of the regime, he quickly returned to steward what he considers his life's work.

“I feel like I understand the minds of the people who built this temple, because I have spent my life among their ruins” he says. “I need to share this knowledge with the younger workers, because while I hope to see Banteay Chhmar conserved, I realize I will probably not live to see the last of the work completed!”

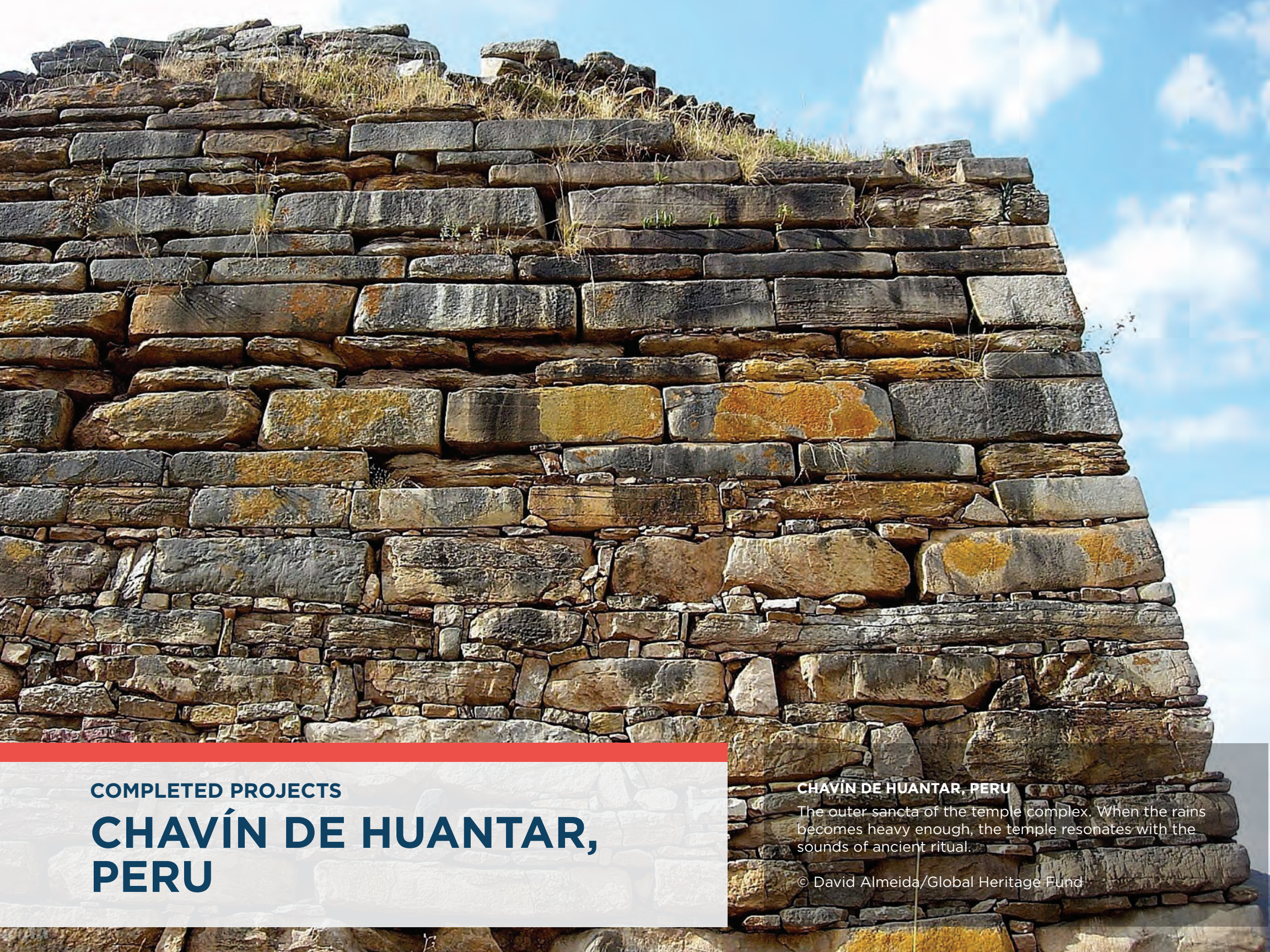
HIGHLIGHTS

\$800,000 investment
14 different partners
\$400,000 lifetime tourism revenue for community

- **\$50,000/year**
- **Increase from 500/year to 1,500/year on average**
- **Daily tourist spending increased from \$6/person to \$32/person from 2007 to 2015**

“I’ve always loved a good ruin, but Global Heritage Fund’s program linking archaeology with local communities means that old sites can have an important new life.”

TONY WHEELER
Co-founder of Lonely Planet



COMPLETED PROJECTS

CHAVÍN DE HUANTAR, PERU

CHAVÍN DE HUANTAR, PERU

The outer sancta of the temple complex. When the rains become heavy enough, the temple resonates with the sounds of ancient ritual.

© David Almeida/Global Heritage Fund

The Chavín people developed a rich civilization of sophisticated temples, complex religious hierarchies, and extensive trade systems in the high mountains of Peru. To preserve the remnants of their society, Global Heritage Fund worked to stabilize the site of their capital city, Chavín de Huántar, and enrich the lives of their descendants, who still live in its shadow.

Chavín de Huántar’s religious import depended on a mind-altering manipulation of the senses. The temple complexes were designed to

disrupt, featuring an acoustic arrangement of masonry that, when calibrated correctly and unleashed during heavy rains, resounded with the jaguar’s totemic roar. Blocked by the detritus of millennia, the excavation, stabilization, conservation, and restoration of this sacred sound system was one of GHF’s most pivotal achievements during our six years of engagement at the site. Commencing apace with our restoration work, we have collaborated with the Chavín National Museum and other partners to create training and educational opportunities for local Chavínos, most notably a ceramics and stone art replication co-operative with over 60 members. □



CHAVÍN DE HUANTAR, PERU

The view into the Labyrinth Gallery. Devotees would descend through portals such as this during religious activities at the site.

© Peter Langer/Global Heritage Fund



At Chavín, occupations often run in the family. **Alexander Espinoza**, the son of longtime worker Alejandro Espinoza, is no exception – with one caveat: After following in his father’s footsteps by joining the conservation team, he became the first indigenous Chavíno to obtain a higher degree in archaeology. Excited to begin his work as a professional conservator, Alexander is bound to make his coworkers and fellow Chavínos immensely proud. □

HIGHLIGHTS

- \$600,000 in GHF funding
- Set up a ceramics program

COMPLETED PROJECTS

EL MIRADOR,
GUATEMALA

From the epic pyramid of La Danta to the massive Popul Vuh Frieze, the grounds of El Mirador encompass a vast wealth of monumental structures. Global Heritage Fund’s work was instrumental in raising the profile of Mirador as the cradle of Maya civilization, and with this recognition have come many rewards: With direct project funding topping \$5 million and in-country partner funding exceeding \$14 million, we identified, excavated, and stabilized the monumental structures of the site in a process unprecedented for its rigor and thoroughness.

EL MIRADOR, GUATEMALA

One of the many pyramids in the precincts of El Mirador as it exists today. Global Heritage Fund has done extensive work to clear the ruins of brush and restore them to their monumental glory.

© Bob Stanton/Global Heritage Fund

To ensure the lasting significance of our 13 years of work, we organized a massive documentation project, including the largest LiDAR survey in Mesoamerican history, the invention of protective roofing structures unique in world conservation, and the complete laboratory analysis of millions of preserved artifacts unearthed during excavation. Investing over half a million dollars in the local community and contributing to the nearly \$3 million in tourism revenue reaped at the site, we have both preserved the treasures of El Mirador and empowered its people to steward their heritage. ▣

“As an explorer dedicated to leveraging technology for positive change, I’m deeply aligned with GHF’s truly innovative approach to cultural preservation. Based upon its focus on sustainable empowerment, dedicated team, and forward-looking vision, I remain highly motivated to support GHF’s purpose-driven ethos as a global force for good in this rapidly changing world.”

SAM COSSMAN
Explorer and Entrepreneur



EL MIRADOR, GUATEMALA
A detail from the Popul Vuh frieze at El Mirador.

© Bob Stanton/Global Heritage Fund



Faced with the wages of necessity, the uneducated and unemployed **Juan Carlos Calderon** subsisted on a twilight life of illegal wildlife poaching and heritage looting to support his family. It is hardly surprising that Juan, who struggled for even the most basic of necessities within the shadow of Mirador Rio Azul National Park, did not pause to think his family’s meager fortunes had to be purchased at the price of their own cultural heritage.

Juan’s story could have ended there. But, between 2002 and 2015,

HIGHLIGHTS

- \$14 million in-country co-funding
- \$5 million GHF funding
- \$3 million in tourism revenue

Global Heritage Fund led an integrated program of planning, scientific conservation, community development, and funding at Mirador. And for the last five years, Juan Carlos has worked as a guard in the park. With a job that provides him with a steady income, access to basic health care, and educational opportunities, Juan Carlos now defends the very assets that he had plundered for most of his life. Most importantly, the cycle of impoverishment has broken: his eldest son Enrique completed high school and is now studying law at university in Guatemala City. ▣

PINGYAO, CHINA

A panorama of Pingyao's city walls. Nicknamed the "Turtle City" for its fortifications, Pingyao is one of the few ancient walled cities left in China.

© Kuanghan Li/Global Heritage Fund

COMPLETED PROJECTS
PINGYAO,
CHINA



From its many elegant courtyard houses to its still well-preserved halls of commerce, Pingyao retains an indelible memory of its prestige as China's first banking capital. However, Pingyao's dilapidated architecture would have continued on a path towards decay without Global Heritage Fund's intervention.

Encompassing both building restoration and extensive planning, our work centered on an innovative private-public partnership that incentivized

the local and national governments, regional organizations, and private stakeholders to preserve their built heritage through collaborative effort.

However, our most lasting achievement, compiled over eight years of conservation from 2007-2015, is the two sets of guidelines we published on sustainable restoration work. These guidelines will be instrumental over the coming centuries to ensure the continued sustainable growth of this monumental heritage site, one of the few remaining walled cities left in China. ▣



PINGYAO, CHINA
A courtyard house after its restoration.
© Xiaodong Wang/Global Heritage Fund



HIGHLIGHTS

Two sets of conservation guidelines for courtyard houses, one for professionals and one for homeowners.

UNESCO Award of Merit for homeowners guidelines

Liu Xiaoli got her job at the Pingyao Urban and Rural Planning Bureau by chance. Originally an administrative staffer at the plan review department, the graduate of business management and international trade was transferred to work directly with GHF at the beginning of our collaboration with the local government.

Coming from a completely different background, Xiaoli had to learn everything about heritage from the bottom up. She immersed herself in the rigors of her work and quickly became interested in historic buildings

and conservation, becoming motivated to learn as much as she could from her more-experienced colleagues. Her hard work has paid off: over the course of a year and a half, Xiaoli advanced from a beginner to a proficient historic building surveyor, draughtsman, and site supervisor. Even though she is doing something completely different from her background, Liu has no regrets. *"I find the ancient architecture very interesting and I like to give my best and learn as much as possible; I hope that I can continue to hold the position and deepen my knowledge of historic buildings."* ▣

“We owe our success to everyone that came before us. Preserving our heritage is one way of giving back to our ancestors and making sure the next generations have something to be proud of.”

GEORGE MARCUS
CHAIRMAN AND CO-FOUNDER,
MARCUS AND MILLICHAP

IN PROGRESS

SAGALASSOS, TURKEY

Sagalassos was once a regional center of trade and religious worship in southern Turkey, but the mass exodus of its residents hundreds of years ago accelerated its decline. Rediscovered in the 18th century, the “City of Dreams” was little more than a collection of dilapidated ruins until excavation began in 1989 under the aegis of the University of Leuven. Joining the effort in 2014, Global Heritage Fund is focused on preserving and restoring the monumental glories of the site while providing a new tourism asset for the region.

In partnership with the University of Leuven in Belgium, Global Heritage Fund began its work at Sagalassos with the restoration project of the Southeast Gate of the Upper Agora, or marketplace. Having completely reassembled the scattered stones of this gate, Global Heritage Fund and our partners are now working to help complete the conservation and consolidation of the entire Upper Agora, in addition to a conservation plan for the Roman *thermae*, or baths.

To ensure Sagalassos is stabilized for many years to come, we are working to create a Site Management Plan to define its legal status, upgrade existing developmental plans, and help prepare for World Heritage status nomination. We are also working on a community development plan for the nearby town of Ağlasun, the descendant of the ancient city, which will focus on regional tourism improvements, jobs and income development, entrepreneurship incubation, and more.

SAGALASSOS, TURKEY

A bust of the Roman emperor Hadrian. Sagalassos was particularly beloved of Hadrian, who named it the “first city” of the province of Pisidia and the local center of his imperial cult.

© Bruno Vandermeulen and Danny Veys/Global Heritage Fund



SAGALASSOS, TURKEY

The Antonine nymphaeum beneath Mount Akdağ. Completely reconstructed with GHF's help, it is flowing with fresh water for the first time in thousands of years.

© Bruno Vandermeulen and Danny Veys/Global Heritage Fund



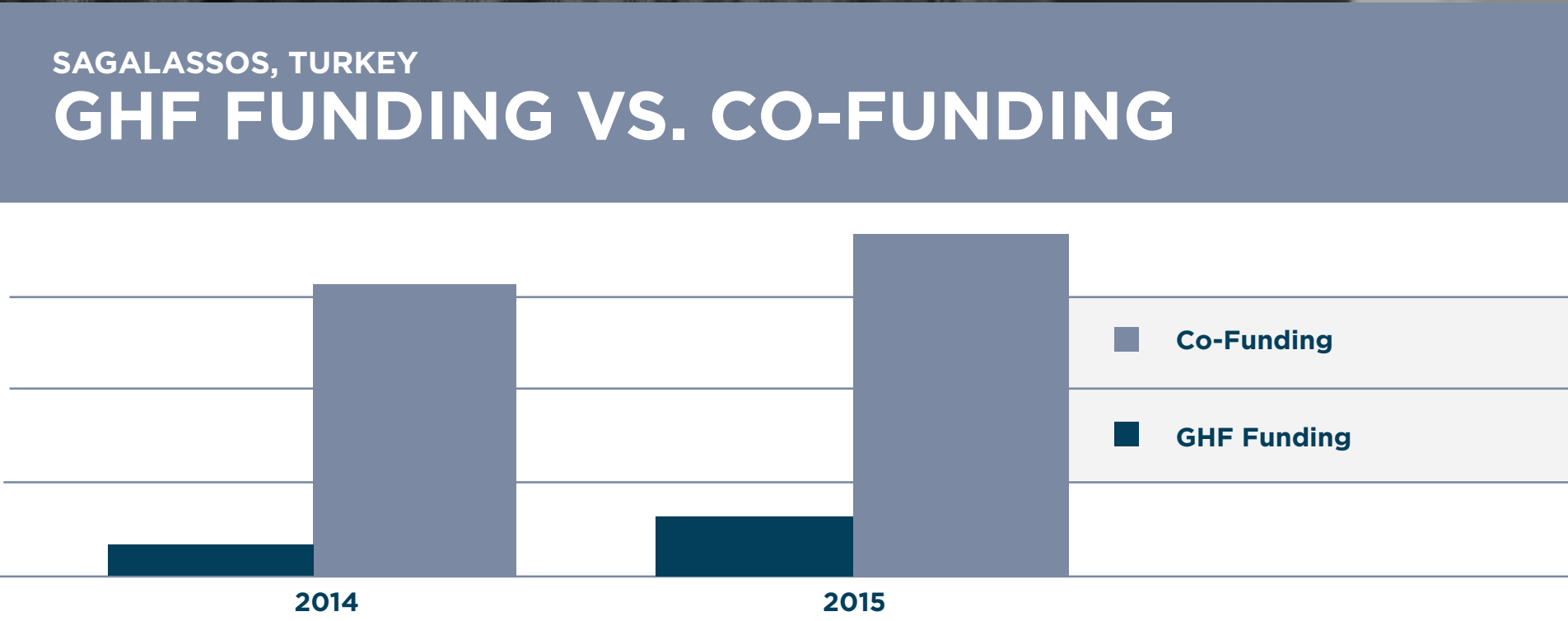
SAGALASSOS, TURKEY

Men hard at work excavating in Sagalassos.

© Bruno Vandermeulen and Danny Veys/Global Heritage Fund

Though it took centuries of neglect, the City in the Clouds is now receiving its long-awaited recognition. Investment in the site has risen over the last two years as Global Heritage Fund and the University of Leuven have progressed in our work there, with total funding increasing by 30 percent and partner funding by 17 percent between the exploratory year of 2014 and the beginning of GHF-funded work in 2015. During this time, much of our work has centered on preservation rather than excavation: though the site has been excavated for over 20 years, corresponding documentation, diagrams, and drawings did not accompany these efforts.

With our partners at the Istituto per I Beni Archaeologici e Monumentali (IBAM) and KU Leuven, we have worked to rectify this imbalance through multiple conservation studies and documentary efforts. Simultaneously, we have focused on conserving the west wing of the complex, with anastylosis performed on the southwest and southeast honorific columns, the southeast Claudius gate, and pavement slabs in the Upper Agora. □



CIUDAD PERDIDA, COLOMBIA

Ciudad Perdida from a drone's eye view. Drone technology is helping archaeologists discover new sites.

© Plinio Barraza/Global Heritage Fund

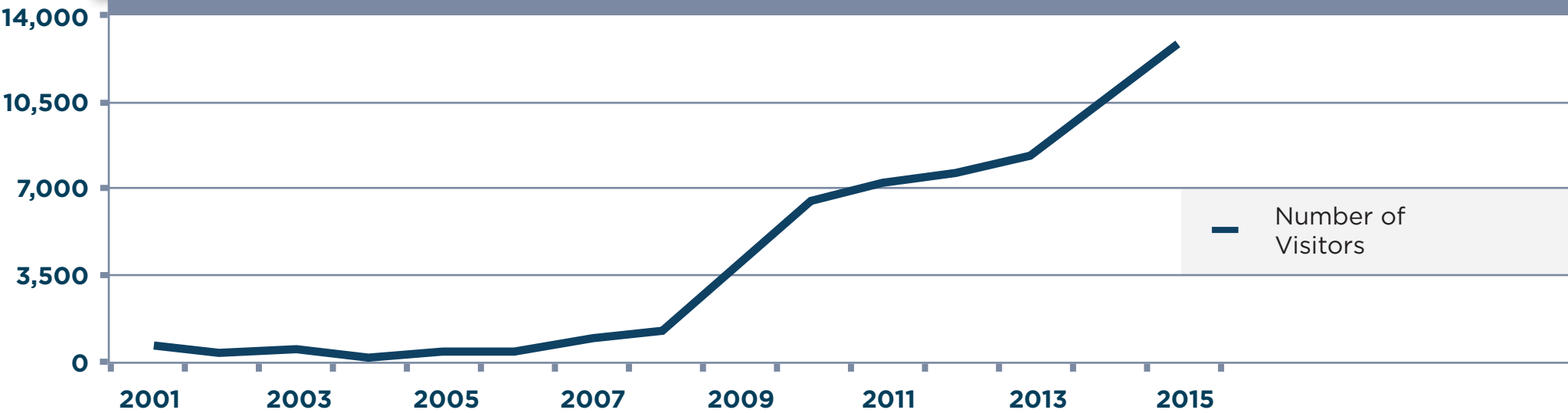
IN PROGRESS

CIUDAD PERDIDA,
COLOMBIA

Ciudad Perdida formed the political, economic, and social center of the Tayrona civilization from 800 CE until it was abandoned in the Spanish conquest of the 16th century. Since 2008, Global Heritage Fund has played a major role at Ciudad Perdida, overseeing the growth of new industries and increased investment from the Colombian government and our regional partners: between 2014 and 2015, government funding increased by 80 percent, with a total increase in investment of approximately 30 percent.

At the same time, we have built up capacities in the surrounding community to grow and sustain new economic models. Our school, healthcare center, greywater treatment facilities, and training opportunities have created new pathways to prosperity in the villages near the site, diversifying an otherwise stagnant *campesino* economy. Perhaps most importantly, tourism numbers increased by 18 percent and revenue reached \$3.6 million, a figure whose upward trajectory indicates the continuing success of our efforts. □

CIUDAD PERDIDA
VISITATION



DAIA, ROMANIA

A multi-colored row of houses adorns the Carpathian landscape.

© Brian Curran/Global Heritage Fund

IN PROGRESS

DAIA,
ROMANIA

Founded by Saxon settlers beginning in the 12th century, the village of Daia was one of many settlements built along the north side of the Transylvanian Alps as defensive outposts. Symbionts of forests, fields, and towns, these vestiges of the medieval European social order lost much of their vitality after their inhabitants decamped in the 1990s. The houses became dilapidated, the painting on their facades chipping and the intricately carved woodwork of their doors and windows rotting in the Carpathian snow. Revitalizing the derelict remnants of the

economy and providing resources for heritage building conservation have thus been primary objectives for Global Heritage Fund.

Our work in the last two years has been significant: in 2015 alone, the kiln in Apos produced upwards of 60,000 tiles – sufficient to completely restore between 40 and 60 houses throughout the Carpathian conservation zone – and reaped a profit of €6,729. We also performed restoration and emergency preservation work on

many houses, processes aided by local villagers we trained in lime plastering and other conservation techniques. The importance of our work has been recognized by multiple organizations, including the Prince of Wales and his eponymous foundation, which have entered into a partnership with us for the preservation of the vernacular architecture of the region. □

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Direct Project Funding Increased from \$27,000 to \$69,000**
- **15 buildings restored or repaired**
- **Apos Kiln produced 60,000 tiles with a net profit of €7,000**

IN PROGRESS

GÖBEKLI TEPE, TURKEY

Göbekli Tepe is the oldest place of worship ever discovered, and its foundation in the pre-history of the Early Neolithic predates the Egyptian pyramids by 6,500 years. Now exposed for the first time in millennia, these monumental structures are in danger: the hot, dry summers and cool, wet winters of southern Turkey are extremely damaging to the soft rock structures, a situation Global Heritage Fund has sought to rectify with extensive research into site-specific conservation measures: Between 2014 and 2015, we conducted six conservation studies to determine weather and weathering patterns and their impact on the site. With in-country co-funding increasing by 36 percent and mounting interest

in the history and significance of Göbekli Tepe, we have embarked on a comprehensive planning effort, completing both site management and conservation plans as well as a socio-economic baseline development assessment for the surrounding community of Şanlıurfa. As we continue to assess the best steps for the future, we have taken decisive action to preserve the site now with the erection of the longest site fence in Turkey – a full six kilometers around the site – and the construction of a shelter over the exposed archaeological remains. □

GÖBEKLI TEPE, TURKEY

Workmen minister to a double portal, a rare feature among the monoliths of Göbekli Tepe

© Vincent Musi/National Geographic

GÖBEKLI TEPE, TURKEY GHF FUNDING VS. CO-FUNDING

