One Vision
One Network
KulturGutRetter
One Vision
Developing an emergency mechanism for cultural heritage in crisis situations worldwide.

One Network
The Archaeological Heritage Network (ArcHerNet) was founded in 2016 and pools German expertise to safeguard and protect cultural heritage worldwide.

KulturGutRetter (KGR)
The KGR project developed within the Archaeological Heritage Network is carried by three strong partners:

German Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW)
For 70 years now the THW has provided technical and humanitarian assistance in crises and natural disasters in Germany and abroad on behalf of the federal government. It is a federal agency under the jurisdiction of the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community.

German Archaeological Institute (DAI)
Founded nearly 200 years ago, the DAI is a globally active scientific institution. Operating as a federal agency within the area of responsibility of the Federal Foreign Office, it is committed to protecting and preserving cultural heritage.

Römisch-Germanisches Zentralmuseum (RGZM)
The RGZM is an archaeological research facility founded in 1852. Part of the Leibniz Association, it combines the humanities and natural sciences with restoration expertise and is active in an international context.

Federal Ministry of Education and Research

Federal Foreign Office

KulturGutRetter

ArcHerNet
A coastal town
18:30 local time
Disaster strikes
Severe earthquake in the night

+++ 3:15 local time +++ coastal town hit by earthquake +++ magnitude 7 on Richter scale +++ many buildings damaged +++ critical infrastructure destroyed +++ warning of aftershocks +++ 3:15 local time +++ coastal town hit by earthquake +++ magnitude 7 on Richter scale
The morning after

Rescue operations begin

Earthquake in the night

National aid efforts begin

Unique collections badly damaged.
Museum warns of aftershocks.

+++ humanitarian crisis +++ state of emergency declared +++ severe damage in town centre +++ appeals for international aid +++ cultural heritage at risk
Preparation and planning

in Germany
On site
Assessment team

- evaluation and operational planning
- personnel/specialists
- data uplink via satellite
- central storage depot

- first responders
- damage assessment
- risk analysis
- needs assessment
- protective equipment
- measuring devices
- lighting
KulturGutRetter
in action
Emergency stabilization
in the rescue tent

Modular tables
A standardized and lightweight system for emergency conservation, documentation and protective packaging. Units can be fitted together serially and scalably as required.

Layout of stations in tent
Process-oriented layout with entrance depot. Variable work station sections for different material groups and air-conditioned temporary storage area.

+++ temporary storage +++ relocation +++ textiles +++ sculptures +++ ceramics +++ glass +++ papers +++ archives +++ manuscripts +++ films and photos
Safeguarding measures successful
Post-Disaster
The emergency recovery measures aren’t the end of the job

Training decision-makers
KulturGutReter and ArchHerNet can share the expertise of their partners, contributing to disaster recovery and emergency preparedness.

Capacity building
Physical and digital capacity building globally is an important component of disaster recovery and emergency preparedness.

Digitization and long-term structures
ArchHerNet projects as well as KulturGutReter support the establishment of long-term digital structures and systems for cultural preservation and the protection of cultural assets around the world.

Standardizing and optimizing procedures
Minimum standards (MSPs) and standard operating procedures (SOPs) are essential components of an effective emergency response mechanism and as such should be continuously maintained, evaluated and updated.

For more information