

The LidArc Initiative

Revealing the unseen: A Global Leap Forward in Archaeological Discovery







Funded by Hitz Foundation Through Global Digital Heritage



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Building on the success of LiDAR projects previously funded by the Hitz Foundation in Latin America and the Mediterranean, the GDH LidArc Initiative aims to expand the global use of aerial LiDAR, increasing access to this technology among stakeholders who would not typically have it available. Collaborations between the Principal Investigators and local archaeologists, regional governments, and relevant stakeholder groups are already being formed. This initiative, currently funded for five years and exceeding \$10 million US dollars, is one of the most significant archaeology research grants ever awarded, and the first to create greater access to LiDAR technologies on a global scale.

The first projects will cover large areas (100-5,000 sq km or 60-3,000 sq mi) in Italy, Malawi, South Africa, Central America, and the Amazon, utilizing aircraft-based LiDAR. Smaller projects (2-20 sq km or 1-6 sq mi) will be conducted in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Jordan, Spain, Italy, Albania, Guatemala, and throughout southern Africa using UAV-based LiDAR. The team is actively seeking new collaborations worldwide.

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About

About Global Digital Heritage (GDH): We are a not-for-profit, private research and educational organization dedicated to documenting, monitoring, and preserving the world's cultural and natural heritage (https://globaldigitalheritage.org/). Primarily funded by the Hitz Foundation (https://www.hitzfoundation.org/), GDH has offices in the United States, South Africa, Spain, and Italy, as well as ongoing and developing projects in 17 countries. With over 10,000 objects, monuments, sites, and landscapes in 3D, our digital repository is the ultimate location for global archaeology, heritage, museums, and history. Curate your own collection, conduct your own research, discover new places and technologies, and get inspired.