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SUMMARY

The AFRICA 2009 Programme, a partnership between the World Heritage Centre, ICCROM, CRATerre-EAG, and African cultural heritage organizations, is an instrument for carrying out the strategy of the World Heritage Committee for training immovable cultural heritage professionals in sub-Saharan Africa. 2001 marked the end of the pilot phase of the programme. It included a three-month course (9 July – 28 September 2001) and a Directors Evaluation Seminar (24 – 28 September) in Mombasa, Kenya. An independent assessment of the pilot phase of the programme was carried out by a team of Norwegian, Swedish and Ugandan experts. Activities carried out in 2001 and activities foreseen in 2002 are set out in this document.

AFRICA 2009: Conservation of Immovable Cultural Heritage in Sub-Saharan Africa



FACT SHEET (2001-2002)

Background

AFRICA 2009 was developed as the operational step of the *Training Strategy for Immovable Cultural Heritage in Africa South of the Sahara* approved by the World Heritage Committee at its 20th session in Merida, Mexico in 1996. The programme is an instrument for carrying out the overall strategy of the World Heritage Committee for training immovable cultural heritage professionals in sub-Saharan Africa. The first three years of the programme 1999 – 2001 were conceived of as the pilot phase.

In 2001, the Coordination Committee of AFRICA 2009 requested an independent assessment of the programme to better help in the planning and implementation of activities starting in 2002. This assessment was carried out by a team of Norwegian, Swedish, and Ugandan experts. A Directors Evaluation Seminar was also held in 2001 as the culminating step in the evaluation process.

Partners

Partners in the programme are African cultural heritage institutions, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, ICCROM, and CRATerre-EAG. As part of the recommendations of the Assessment Report and Directors Seminar, the organizational structure will be examined over the next year to clarify the roles and responsibilities of each of the partners.

Financial support for the programme in 2001 came from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Italy, Finland, and Norway, the World Heritage Fund, and ICCROM.

Direct Target Beneficiaries

Target beneficiaries for the various activities include politicians and policy makers who control decisions on conservation of immovable cultural heritage; professionals and craftspeople involved in the planning, management, conservation, and maintenance of immovable cultural heritage; and communities, including women and youth, who are located in or near immovable cultural heritage sites.

Activities carried out in 2001

At the regional level (*Projet Cadre*), the following activities have been implemented or are under implementation during 2001:

- Regional three month course in Mombasa, Kenya, 9 July – 28 September (21 participants, English language);
- Directors Evaluation Seminar in Mombasa, Kenya, 24 – 28 September (33 participants + programme partners, Bilingual, English/French);

- Thematic Seminar on the topic, *Quel(s) argumentaire(s) pour sensibiliser à la conservation du patrimoine culturel immobilier africain?* 5 – 10 November (21 participants, French language);
- Printing of a compilation of articles on traditional conservation and maintenance practices on African sites;
- Printing of a manual on documentation of Rock Art Sites in Southern Africa (done in collaboration with the Southern African Rock Art Project [SARAP] and used in a SARAP course held in Kasama, Zambia);
- Publication of the first AFRICA 2009 Newsletter;
- Regular updating of the AFRICA 2009 World Wide Web page with information about the programme;
- Production of promotional material for the programme including a 12 panel exhibition in English and documents outlining the *Projet Cadre* and *Projets Situés* (both documents bilingual);
- Technical assistance in the form of books and computers;
- AFRICA 2009 Coordination Committee meeting in Mombasa, Kenya, 21 – 23 April (8 participants);
- AFRICA 2009 Coordination Committee meeting in Rome, Italy (tentative at the time of writing of this fact sheet), 24 - 25 November (8 participants);
- Independent assessment of the pilot phase of the programme carried out by experts from Norway, Sweden, and Uganda.

At the *Projets Situés* level, the following activities have been implemented or are under implementation during 2001:

- Completion of work on a management plan and nomination dossier for the World Heritage List for James Island in the Gambia;
- Ongoing work on a management plan and nomination dossier for the World Heritage List for the Kondoa Irangi Rock Paintings site in Tanzania;
- Ongoing work in collaboration with Ghanaian authorities at the Asante Traditional Buildings World Heritage site;
- Ongoing work for improved conservation and management of sites at Agadez and Zinder in Niger;
- Commencement of work on a management plan and nomination dossier for the World Heritage List for the Tombeau des Askia à Gao in Mali.

Results of the Assessment Report and Directors Seminar

Among the main findings of the Assessment Report are the following:

- Africa 2009 has responded to training needs as identified in the baseline study conducted in 1996. The methodology applied with regional courses combined with *Projets Situés* has been innovative and proven as a valuable approach in making the training more relevant and improved overall quality.
- Through the implementation of Directors Seminars, the program has ensured a participatory approach to implementation and has assured quality assurance.
- Based on the information provided the cost per participant in the regional courses and seminars compares well with similar opportunities overseas.
- The programme appears to have been implemented by a highly motivated management and support staff from all the various institutions participating.
- The objective to develop policy and legal frameworks of participating countries has only partially been met. So far the main output has been through training of participants in the regional courses.

- The training provided has gradually used expertise in the region as substitution of international expertise and also used previous participants as contributors and resource persons to the courses ensuring even further regional ownership to the program.
- The quality of the training provided appears to meet the needs judging from course evaluations. The selection process of participants for training and the design of the programme have, however, not taken into account that the capacity and training needs differ substantially between the countries.
- The *Projets Situés* have created national awareness on the importance of heritage conservation in general and in the countries where they are located in particular. The use of *Projets Situés* as opportunities for additional training for participants could, however, be further explored with the opportunity they give for field experience across countries and different types of conservation work.
- Networking has been established through procedures for exchange of information supported by installation of some computer hardware in institutions in need as well as through the development of a homepage for exchange of information and general promotion. However, networking could also be developed through use of resources across countries facilitating even closer cooperation between national institutions in the region, as means of supporting awareness, as a cost efficient avenue for implementing national conservation projects and as means of promoting additional training.

However, the report also noted:

- The program lacks a consistent design. If the main objective is *capacity building* some of the program components need to be adjusted to ensure an outcome consistent with the objective.
- The weaknesses in program design are also reflected in the lack of clearly defined indicators to monitor progress for some of the components and lack of basic program information and/or procedures to collect and analyze them to assess outcome.
- The current program organization appears to need some clarification concerning roles and responsibilities.

The report made a number of recommendations related to the following areas:

- *Programme Design* – Implementation of a more in-depth impact study/needs assessment. Restructuring of the programme using the Logical Framework method. Scaling up of the number of activities to have a greater impact. Increasing attention to gender issues within the programme design and implementation.
- *Programme Management* – Clarification of the roles and responsibilities of the programme partners including ensuring that the “ownership” of the programme is with the African cultural heritage institutions. Increasing programme staff and funding to be able to handle additional activities. Gradually institutionalizing project activities in the region. Improvement in financial monitoring.

The report recommended a series of steps to be carried out in the next year in order to implement the above recommendations. These activities would be carried out in addition to regular programme activities.

- Elaboration of the proposal for the next phase (2002 – 2005) in a logical framework with an achievable objective and with output indicators for monitoring.
- Implementation of an impact and needs assessment as means of acquiring information to adjust programme during the next phase.
- Hold a programme formulation workshop following the above impact and needs assessment to adjust the programme, if the outcome of the assessment suggest there is a need for an adjustment.

- Address the issue of sustainability by elaborating a plan for gradual transition of management and implementation responsibilities of core programme activities to institutions in the region. It would need to take into account the implication for the future organizational structure of the programme.

At the Directors Seminar, the Assessment Report was discussed, and its main recommendations adopted. The Directors, taking stock of their deep-seated recognition of the unprecedented importance of the AFRICA 2009 programme for the conservation and promotion of African immovable cultural heritage, also affirmed their shared strong will to continue and reinforce the programme. A series of recommendations related to specific activities were also made.

Activities for 2002

In light of the recommendations of the Assessment Report and their endorsement by the Directors Seminar, the approach adopted in the report will be implemented during 2002 by the programme team.

Projet Cadre

Within the framework of the *Projet Cadre* the following capacity building activities are planned for the year 2002.

Three Month Course (French Language) – Scheduled to take place in Porto Novo, Benin at the *Ecole du Patrimoine Africain* (pending confirmation by EPA), the course will be aimed at managers responsible for immovable cultural heritage in their national heritage institution. The course is the 4th in a series and will be based on those carried out in Mombasa, Kenya in 1999 and 2001 and in Porto Novo in 2000. It will emphasize interactive participation rather than a typical lecture hall format and will include field trips. The 2002 course will be designed around a hands-on management planning exercise at a site or sites in Porto Novo (which is on Benin's tentative list). Topics for the course may include:

- introduction/familiarization of participants with heritage found throughout the region;
- introduction to conservation theories and terminology;
- participatory management of immovable heritage sites;
- legal and administrative issues related to conservation;
- mechanisms for sustainable cultural tourism;
- documentation and inventory;
- partnership, fundraising, and communication.

The total cost of the three month course has been estimated at approximately US\$ 215,000.

Directors Seminar (French Language) – A separate but related element of the course will be a seminar attended by the directors of the course participant's home institutions. The expected attendance is approximately 18 directors. The aims of this seminar will be:

- present the progress of the AFRICA 2009 programme to-date;
- to allow participants to present various aspects of the course to the directors;
- to allow the directors to explore the important issues related to improving communication and networks in Africa for the conservation and better international recognition of immovable cultural property;
- to work with the directors on the future orientations of AFRICA 2009.

The total cost of this seminar has been estimated at approximately US\$ 45,000.

Thematic Seminar (English Language) – A final theme has not yet been selected for this seminar, but a strong possibility might be Improvement of Legal and Administrative Frameworks for Conservation of Immovable Cultural heritage. The final decision on topic and location will be made by the Coordination Committee in November of 2001. Attendance

is expected to be approximately 20 - 25 professionals. The total cost of this seminar has been estimated at approximately US\$ 60,000.

Programme of Research – It is expected that the programme of research will take the form of the development of working groups on selected topics. These working groups are expected to identify key issues, develop appropriate methodologies for response, and identify possible pilot projects/actions to test the methodologies. Final decision on topics to be addressed will be made by the Coordination Committee, but are expected to include:

- traditional conservation and maintenance methods (a continuation of work already started in 2001)
 - participatory management planning (it is expected that this group would consolidate work already carried out on a number of *Projets Situés* and during the regional courses);
 - documentation and inventory (a follow-up to the 2000 seminar in Livingstone, Zambia);
- Other research projects may also be developed during 2002. The total cost of the research programme has been estimated at approximately US\$ 25,000.

Technical Assistance – AFRICA 2009 has launched a small technical assistance programme to help organizations in the region obtain the necessary equipment and information to better their practices of conservation and maintenance of immovable cultural heritage. This assistance usually takes the form of computers, books, or other small equipment useful in the field. An amount of US\$ 20,000 has been set aside for technical assistance requests.

Networking, Promotional, and Follow-up Activities – AFRICA 2009 will diversify activities aimed at networking, promotion, and follow-up by:

- identifying African institutions which would disseminate, systematically and regularly, information related to the programme on a proactive basis;
- conducting surveys at regular intervals to monitor activities, achievements, difficulties, and proposals from the participants;
- providing forums for professionals in the region to gather and discuss, both formally and informally, the issues that they face regularly as part of their work (the Directors Seminars are good examples of how this networking takes place).

The programme has also tried to ensure the continued involvement of some previous participants in new activities to allow for a continued connection to the programme. AFRICA 2009 has also developed other networking mechanisms including its Web Page, an email distribution list, a newsletter, and a database of participants of the programme. Continued networking will also be ensured through the Exchange/Internship activity mentioned below. Promotional materials will also continue to be produced as necessary for the programme. The total cost of networking, promotion and follow-up has been estimated at approximately US\$ 45,000.

Exchange and Internship Programme – The exact modalities will need to be finalized by the Coordination Committee on the basis of job descriptions, assessed needs, and professional profiles. This programme would allow participants of previous activities of the *Projet Cadre* and *Projets Situés* to take part in later *Projets Situés* and other activities. A recommendation regarding this type of activity can be found in the Assessment Report and can be seen as fitting within the larger framework of reinforcing the network of professionals and raising awareness in the region. The total cost of the exchange and internship programme has been estimated at approximately US\$ 20,000.

National Seminars – The need for national seminars has been raised in all of the previous Directors Seminars. Each would be targeted at specific issues of importance in a particular country, but would have the overall aim of raising awareness and capacity at the national level. Funding for national seminars would have to come, at least in part, from national fundraising. An amount of US\$ 30,000 has been budgeted to help in the implementation of these seminars.

The following programme development and Management activities are also planned for the year 2002 in line with the Assessment Report and Recommendations of the Directors Seminar.

Impact and Needs Assessment – Due to the short amount of time to carry out the assessment exercise, all parties concerned agreed that it would be useful to carry out a more in-depth impact assessment on the ground. This assessment should include site visits to several of the *Projets Situés* and questionnaires and interviews aimed at the various participants of programme activities. Coupled with this impact assessment, the programme plans to do a new formal needs assessment to update the work carried out in 1996 as part of the initial programme development. It is expected that this assessment will be carried out in the first 6 months of 2002 in time to hold a Programme Design Seminar mentioned below. The total amount for this needs assessment has been estimated at US\$ 35,000.

Programme Design Seminar – In order to develop a true logical framework for the remaining period of the programme through 2009, it will be necessary to convene a Programme Design Seminar during the second half of 2002. The seminar would be attended by approximately 10 African stakeholders (made up of Directors and former participants) and AFRICA 2009 Programme staff. A neutral moderation would also be necessary to lead this seminar. The output would be a well developed programme document within the Logical Framework including achievable objectives, indicators of success, necessary inputs, and potential risks. The amount estimated for the implementation of this seminar is US\$ 20,000.

Coordination Meetings – The Coordination Committee is made up of 4 professionals from sub-Saharan Africa and one member each from ICCROM, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, and CRATerre-EAG. The Coordination Committee is currently made up of the following individuals:

- George Abungu – National Museums of Kenya
- Elizabeth Gomani – Department of Antiquities, Malawi
- Justine Mintsa mi-Eya – Direction de la Culture, Gabon
- Neino Chaibou – Direction du Patrimoine et des Musées, Niger
- Joseph King – ICCROM
- Thierry Joffroy – CRATerre-EAG
- Giovanni Fontana – UNESCO World Heritage Centre

2002 will be a particularly important year for the Coordination Committee as it will have to oversee the programme development activities mentioned above in addition to the regular activities of the programme. Of particular concern to the Committee will be the future organizational structure of the programme and the need to create a path towards sustainable continuation of activities after 2009. The biannual meetings cost **US\$ 30,000**.

Projets Situés

Projets Situés are incorporated into the project on a case by case basis. As of now, the following projects are planned for 2002.

- Continued work in collaboration with Ghanaian authorities on the Asante Traditional Buildings World Heritage site;
- Ongoing work for improved conservation and management of sites at Agadez and Zinder in Niger;
- Completion of work on a management plan and nomination dossier for the World Heritage List for the Tombeau des Askia à Gao in Mali.
- Work on a management plan and nomination dossier for the world Heritage List for the *Habitat Vernaculaire Betammaribe* in Togo.

Other *Projets Situés* will also be considered depending on the capacity of the programme.