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**CONVENTION CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF
THE WORLD CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE**

WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Extended forty-fourth session

**Fuzhou (China) / Online meeting
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Item 5 of the Provisional Agenda: Reports of the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies

5C. Progress report on Priority Africa, sustainable development and World Heritage

SUMMARY

In conformity with Decision **43 COM 5D (Baku, 2019)**, this document presents a Progress report on the implementation of the World Heritage Sustainable Development Policy in Africa.

Draft Decision: 44 COM 5C, see point VII.

I. BACKGROUND

1. In November 2015, the General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention adopted, by Resolution **20 GA 13**, the Policy Document for the Integration of a Sustainable Development Perspective into the processes of the World Heritage Convention (WH-SDP), which text can be found at <https://whc.unesco.org/en/sustainabledevelopment/>. Subsequently, the World Heritage Committee, by Decision **40 COM 5C**, welcomed its adoption and reiterated the need to achieve appropriate balance and integration between the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of World Heritage properties and the pursuit of sustainable development objectives. It called upon States Parties to ensure that Sustainable Development principles are mainstreamed into national processes related to World Heritage, in full respect of the OUV of World Heritage properties.
2. At the 42nd session of the World Heritage Committee, and at the request of the African States Parties, the Committee, by Decision **42 COM 17**, invited the Secretariat, for the first time, to report on Priority Africa, Sustainable Development and World Heritage at its 43rd session. By Decision **43 COM 5D**, the Committee requested the Secretariat to present a progress report on Priority Africa, Sustainable Development and World Heritage at its extended 44th session.

II. STATE OF CONSERVATION OF WORLD HERITAGE IN AFRICA

3. Considered the cradle of humanity, the African continent ('Africa' in this document refers to the continent of Africa including both the Africa Region and part of the Arab States region) hosts 89 cultural properties, including unique archaeological sites, monuments, cultural landscapes, and historic towns that are key testimonies to the development of human civilization. These sites continue to serve as historical markers of identity and belief systems for the communities living in and around them, even if their meanings have changed continuously over the centuries. The 42 natural World Heritage properties in Africa include a wide variety of ecosystems from mountains and deserts, to marine areas, forests, savannah, wetlands, lakes and river systems. The properties, which evidence changes in the earth's geological and biological features, are of great importance due to the unique biodiversity they harbour and the globally important ecosystems they protect.
4. Today, the African continent has 54 States Parties to the World Heritage Convention (in July 2020 Somalia deposited its instrument of ratification of the Convention which entered into force on 23 October 2020), and 137 properties of which 89 cultural, 42 natural and 6 mixed, from 42 States Parties. On the one hand, the African continent remains under-represented on the World Heritage List as 12% of all World Heritage properties are located on this continent. At the same time, 41.5% of the properties on the List of World Heritage in Danger are found on the African continent. Nevertheless, since the last session, the World Heritage Centre together with the African World Heritage Fund in close collaboration with the Advisory Bodies to the World Heritage Committee have stepped up their efforts to build capacity for the revision of the Tentative Lists and the preparation of nomination files. With the support from different donors, including Norway, Flanders / Belgium, the European Commission and others, the World Heritage Centre has also significantly increased its support to the conservation of the World Heritage sites in Africa, in particular the sites inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger. While it will take some time, it is hoped that these projects will lead to a significant improvement of the state of conservation of these properties, between now and the next cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise.
5. The World Heritage properties of Africa face a variety of threats from armed conflict to development pressures, unsustainable use of natural resources, rapid urbanization and population growth, and climate change. Many of the properties inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger are located in conflict and post-conflict areas, which creates very specific challenges for conservation and protection. The impact of climate change increasingly

constitutes an additional conservation challenge for cultural, natural and mixed properties alike. Other significant threats affecting the state of conservation of a number of properties include: management and institutional factors, such as inadequate governance structures; ineffectiveness, or the lack of management plans and inadequate management systems; increasing pressure from development projects incompatible with heritage values; the lack of capacities; impact from over-tourism; encroachment; and the unsustainable use of natural resources. Currently, 12 of the 42 natural properties in Africa (28.6%) are inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger. While only 10 of the 89 cultural properties (11.2%) are on the List of World Heritage in Danger, several face serious challenges that could potentially lead to an increase of inscriptions on the List of World Heritage in Danger. In addition, today, only 3 of the 22 properties in danger have finalized their Desired state of conservation for the removal of their properties from the List of World Heritage in Danger (DSOCR).

6. Disaster risk preparedness also continues to be an issue of concern that calls for additional attention, notably when updating conservation and management plans. Over the past year, this has become apparent, for example in the Historic Town of Grand-Bassam (Côte d'Ivoire) where in October 2019 heavy rains caused considerable floods within the property, triggering an urgent evaluation mission under the Heritage Emergency Fund (HEF). In May 2020, in Rwenzori Mountains National Park (Uganda), heavy rains resulted in the loss of lives, property and tourism infrastructures. Similarly, heavy rains in Sudan during September 2020 have caused floods, impacting several cultural heritage sites, including the World Heritage properties Gebal Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region, and Archaeological Sites of the Island of Meroe, prompting a HEF mission (2-17 November 2020). Furthermore, the Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi (Uganda) suffered yet another fire in early June 2020, and recently, in January 2021, there was an outbreak of avian influenza in the Djoudj National Bird Park (Senegal). In response to this, the Secretariat, together with the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) and ICCROM, has developed an initiative for "Capacity building in Risk management and protection systems in Africa" targeting six cultural World Heritage properties (Uganda (Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi); Benin (Royal Palaces of Abomey); Togo (Koutammakou, the Land of the Batammariba); Côte d'Ivoire (Historic Town of Grand-Bassam), Senegal (Island of Saint-Louis) and The United Republic of Tanzania (Stone Town of Zanzibar)).
7. Africa's rapid pace of development is increasingly challenging its World Heritage sites. Some of the large infrastructure projects, mining or oil projects which affect the sites on the continent are funded by international banks and investments or implemented by foreign companies. Private sector companies committing to not fund or implement development projects which will impact the OUV of properties can play a role in protecting Africa's precious World Heritage properties.
8. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, several World Heritage sites in Africa, as throughout the world, were either partially or totally closed for tourists for over two months (see UNESCO Map of World Heritage site closures during COVID-19 lockdowns <http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2103>). This had significant impacts on tourism as well as on the livelihood of the local communities (see Document WHC/21/44.COM/INF.5A.2). Furthermore, it had specific impacts on natural sites as many of them experienced increased vulnerability to sanitation (especially related to mammal species), poaching and security problems. The assassination of at least 25 staff members in Virunga National Park and Okapi Wildlife Reserve, during this pandemic period, was a tragic outcome of this vulnerability that influences an increased lack of security (see <http://whc.unesco.org/en/news/2114>).

III. PROGRESS IN WORLD HERITAGE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

9. The *IPBES Regional Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services for Africa (2018)* shows that indirect drivers, including rapid population growth and urbanization, inappropriate economic policies and technologies, poaching and illegal wildlife trade, as well

as socio-political and cultural pressures have accelerated the loss of biodiversity on the continent. This decline and loss of biodiversity is reducing nature's contributions to people in Africa, affecting daily lives and hampering the sustainable social and economic development targeted by African countries. Addressing global biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation is therefore important to secure the basis for sustainable development in Africa. Ensuring the conservation and improved management of the network of natural and mixed World Heritage sites in Africa is key to achieving this. The adoption of a new global agenda for biodiversity (the *Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework*) is therefore of utmost importance for the continent (<https://www.cbd.int/conferences/post2020> for more information).

10. Progress in implementing sustainable development principles in the management of World Heritage properties in Africa can be seen through regional and national policies and initiatives, the operationalization of the WH-SDP and tools for its implementation, and the numerous local initiatives at the site level. This has been further facilitated with the Ngorongoro Declaration (2016) which enhances the role of State Parties in the implementation of WH-SDP and supported by the activities of Advisory Bodies. The ICOMOS Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Working Group on the mainstreaming of cultural heritage in the Sustainable Development process and coordinating committees' work on SDGs, have eight members from four African countries, namely Cameroon, Mali, Nigeria, South Africa.

A. REGIONAL AND NATIONAL POLICIES AND INITIATIVES

11. As outlined in the African Union Agenda 2063 - The Africa We Want (Agenda 2063), Africa's culture, heritage and spiritual beliefs play a fundamental role in the construction of African identity. Also, as noted in Aspiration 5 of Agenda 2063, "an Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, shared values and ethics" is directly linked to the conservation and Sustainable Development of African World Heritage. The African Union (AU), in its final document resulting from the 33rd ordinary session of its Assembly in February 2020, recognized and declared that Africa's heritage is "an essential asset to profile the continent in the global arena and to build Sustainable Development, integration and peace in Africa", called on its Member States "to allocate at least 1% of their national budget to the sector by 2030" and endorsed the proposal by the President of the Republic of Mali to declare 2021 the AU Year of the Arts, Culture and Heritage.
12. Several African countries have an official statement endorsing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Forty-one countries (76%) have launched a formal process to map the alignment of existing national strategies with the SDGs. Countries such as Benin, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Namibia, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, and Zambia have adopted national policies for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Integrating the protection of World Heritage properties at the national level in these policy frameworks and monitoring mechanisms will be crucial for a successful implementation of the Convention on the continent.
13. Transboundary and transnational sites provide opportunities for regional cooperation and integration to address shared concerns including local livelihoods, poverty reduction, capacity development, security, and the impact of climate change. For example, UNESCO and the Lake Chad Basin Commission launched a flagship project in 2017 for the Biosphere and Heritage of Lake Chad (BIOPALT). A major achievement so far has been the finalization and submission of a nomination file for the World Heritage List by Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria, in January 2020 of the Lake Chad Cultural Landscape as a transboundary site. Another important initiative by Angola, Botswana and Namibia and supported by the World Heritage Centre is looking at the feasibility of a transboundary / transnational extension of the Okavango Delta World Heritage site as a way to increase its protection and integrity.

14. Climate change has indeed been a recurring conservation issue that is increasingly affecting World Heritage properties around the world, including Africa. The continued preservation of World Heritage properties requires understanding these impacts on their OUV and responding to them effectively. Floods, droughts, wildfires, and other climate-related extreme events present increasing risks to World Heritage properties in Africa despite the fact that, environmental knowledge and practices associated with them, as well as their ecosystem services, are accessible for both cultural and natural heritage properties. The UNESCO programme on Local and Indigenous Knowledge Systems (LINKS) has initiated a project in Africa that seeks to mobilize the knowledge of African pastoralist communities for adaptation to climate change (<https://en.unesco.org/events/knowning-our-changing-climate-africa>). Such knowledge resources need to be further explored towards actions to reduce the risks and impacts of climate change in the context of World Heritage properties in Africa through both mitigation and adaptation (see also Document WHC/21/44 COM/7C).

B. OPERATIONALIZING THE WORLD HERITAGE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT POLICY

15. The WH-SDP document reflects the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development along with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. It also includes, for the first time, a number of key references to natural resource management and cultural heritage. As the different international agreements have been adopted at slightly different moments, the World Heritage Centre conducted a detailed mapping to identify the alignments across different programmes and their policy measures including the Agenda 2063, the UNESCO Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Action Plan, the Sendai Framework, and the Paris Agreement in the draft Synergies Table. The World Heritage Centre, in consultation with the Advisory Bodies, has also developed a draft tool, the *World Heritage Sustainable Development Preliminary Health-Check* for a quick assessment of the sustainability status or 'profile' of World Heritage properties, and another draft tool, the *World Heritage Project Sustainability Check* for an initial assessment of the impact of proposed projects and interventions on sustainable development in and around World Heritage properties to allow adjustments in the design of policies and projects in favor of sustainable development (see also Document WHC/21/44 COM/5D).
16. Also, following Decisions **43 COM 5C**, and **5D**, *World Heritage Canopy* has been developed as a digital platform of innovative and good practices for heritage-based solutions for sustainable futures (see <http://whc.unesco.org/en/canopy>). The first phase of the good practices relate to sustainable cities and settlements and include four case studies from Africa (Algeria, Egypt, Mali and the United Republic of Tanzania).
17. The Third Cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise, currently ongoing for the Africa region, has been an excellent opportunity to train site managers on the WH-SDP, inclusiveness, and gender equality matters with regards to activities related to their World Heritage sites, including enhancing the involvement of youth, disabled people and civil society in the conservation and management of World Heritage properties in Africa. The exercise is also valuable in identifying key challenges to the implementation of the WH-SDP and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Arab States region has finalized the regional Periodic Report and Action Plan in close coordination with the National Focal Points and site managers of the region, as well as the Advisory Bodies and the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH), based in Bahrain. For the Africa region, as a result of the involvement of National Focal Points and site managers, and with the assistance of the World Heritage Centre, a 100% overall completion of the questionnaire was accomplished as of June 2020 and the new draft Action Plan for the region has been finalized in February 2021 (see Document WHC/21/44.COM/10A and also Document WHC/21/44.COM/10B).
18. The Periodic Reporting exercise has shown that several States Parties considered that the operationalisation of the WH-SDP contributes to the achievement of the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly with regards to protecting biological and cultural diversity and ecosystem services and benefits, promoting economic investment

and quality tourism, strengthening capacity-building, innovation and local entrepreneurship, and strengthening resilience to natural hazards and climate change. It also enables States Parties to effectively address the challenge of balancing heritage conservation and development needs, well underlined in the 2016 Ngorongoro Declaration.

19. An important challenge for States Parties is to ensure the environmental and social sustainability of development projects in Africa while providing for economic development for the communities. Development projects which will impact the OUV of World Heritage sites cannot be considered sustainable and can even impede the opportunities for Sustainable Development offered by World Heritage sites. It is important to observe best practices in avoiding negative impacts on the OUV of the sites, for example through the implementation of a no-go policy for mining, oil and gas, and other damaging activities.

IV. LOCAL INITIATIVES FOR INCLUSIVE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES

A. Enhancing Resilience and Environmental Sustainability

20. Cyclones, fires and climate-related disasters including floods and droughts have ravaged different parts of the continent since the last session. From cyclones Idai and Kenneth in Southern Africa, devastating wildfires at Simien Mountains National Park (Ethiopia), Mount Kenya National Park (Kenya) and at the compound of the Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi (Uganda), to the floods at Grand-Bassam (Côte d'Ivoire) and Rwenzori Mountains National Park (Uganda) to name a few. UNESCO has moved quickly to assist some of these countries (Côte d'Ivoire and Uganda) in the needs assessment for impacts on culture, resource mobilization for recovery, and for risk resilience measures for culture resources (<https://en.unesco.org/themes/culture-emergencies>). In addition, technical assistance for pressing conservation and management issues related to environmental sustainability of World Heritage properties were undertaken in a number of countries including for instance, in Benin (Royal Palaces of Abomey that had been previously impacted by fires), Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt (Ancient Thebes with its Necropolis), Ghana, Mozambique (Island of Mozambique) and Togo.
21. The global COVID-19 pandemic has had a negative impact not only on the health and living conditions of the African people but has also been devastating for their economic and natural environment. The pandemic has reduced significantly some economic activities related to tourism and potentially threatened certain species including the mountain gorillas and other primates. The pandemic has also incited, during lockdowns, an increase in poaching and illegal activities in World Heritage natural properties. The economy has been weakened with severe consequences on the livelihoods of local communities. This has resulted in the suspension of community practices, impacting directly the conservation of properties (see also Document WHC/21/44.COM/7).

B. Including Local Communities

22. Technical assistance and resources were mobilized, including through International Assistance requests, the COMPACT Programme, the European Union, Flanders Funds-in-Trust, UNDP/Global Environmental Facility, UNESCO-Netherlands Funds-in-Trust, and the UNESCO/Norway cooperation, to name a few (see Annex), to support conservation activities in World Heritage properties with the engagement of local communities. For example, initiatives were developed to update the Management Plan while strengthening the resilience of communities at Koutammakou, the Land of the Batammariba (Togo) and in the Historic Town of Grand-Bassam (Côte d'Ivoire). Other initiatives aimed at promoting sustainable tourism strategies and employment opportunities and bringing together relevant stakeholders and local communities were developed at Maloti-Drakensberg Park in Lesotho/South Africa and at Gebel Barkal and the Sites of Napatan region in Sudan. Activities were also carried

out to document the role of women in World Heritage properties and encourage artists and youth to create artworks to raise awareness of World Heritage properties, such as in Cairo and Memphis. The UNESCO-Netherlands Funds-in-Trust supported Eritrea in strengthening conservation and management of the Asmara World Heritage site, applying the 2011 Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape (HUL Recommendation), thus promoting local and inclusive social and economic development for local communities.

23. Youth are seen as the 'torchbearers' of the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda. ICCROM, in partnership with the AWHF and other African institutions, has developed 'Youth, Heritage, Africa', a 10-year continent-wide capacity-building and awareness programme. This programme aims at making the heritage of Africa a source of inclusive economic and social benefits for its youth, while promoting innovative ways of engaging with heritage. In response to COVID-19 lockdowns, UNESCO launched a campaign to raise awareness and engage children in submitting artworks on World Heritage properties globally and continues in this regard with its youth programme and collaboration with AWHF.

C. Enabling Inclusive and Equitable Growth

24. The World Heritage Centre is providing technical international assistance to the States Parties of Benin, Ethiopia, Ghana, Malawi, Niger, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda and Zimbabwe in updating and finalizing the management and conservation plans of their World Heritage properties to include Sustainable Development perspectives and effective management processes. By strengthening the conservation and management of World Heritage sites and building capacities of key responsible officials, an effective management process aims to protect the OUV, promote equitable growth, and enable inclusive livelihoods for local communities through sustainable tourism strategies in order to achieve Sustainable Development. Thanks to the UNESCO-Netherlands Funds-in-Trust, the World Heritage Centre supports a comprehensive project to develop required management responses to various threats due to development pressure on Lake Malawi National Park in Malawi (Decision **42 COM 7B.93**). This project, also supported by Norway's contribution to the World Heritage Fund, develops a Sustainable Fisheries project within this World Heritage property. Also with the support of the UNESCO-Netherlands Funds-in-Trust, the World Heritage Centre is finalizing a project to develop a teaching kit for the earthen construction in the Historic centre of Agadez (Niger), which will also promote the creation of jobs and livelihood in the town.

D. Promoting Peace and Security

25. UNESCO has been committed to strengthening cooperation in the field of culture and education with a focus on the implementation of the World Heritage Convention. UNESCO led a process for promoting the benefits of ratification of the Convention by Somalia in the framework of peace-building and Sustainable Development. This ultimately came to fruition with Somalia's ratification of the Convention in July 2020. In Mozambique, UNESCO organized, in October 2020, a conference and a concert to promote Culture for peace and non-violence and to raise awareness on the culture of peace and protection of cultural heritage and diversity.
26. In Mali, the implementation of Phase II of the Action Plan for the rehabilitation of cultural heritage and the safeguarding of the ancient manuscripts of Mali is benefitting notably from financial support from the European Union. UNESCO is continuing its efforts to support the State Party to ensure the safeguarding of its heritage in close cooperation with the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), seeking to promote heritage as a driver for peace, reconciliation and development. Projects supported by the Government of Norway also contribute similarly to enhancing peace and security such

as in the Okapi Wildlife Reserve World Heritage property (Democratic Republic of the Congo) and in the W-Arly-Pendjari Complex (Benin, Burkina Faso, Niger).

27. In Ethiopia, the recent conflict in the Tigray region, home to the Aksum World Heritage property and the Sacred Landscapes of Tigray, inscribed on the Tentative List, has prompted UNESCO to mobilize the Secretariats of all the relevant Culture Conventions to monitor the situation on the ground in close consultation with the UNESCO Field Office in Addis Ababa and the Authority for Research and Conservation of Cultural Heritages (ARCCH) of Ethiopia. In order to address urgent needs to ensure the safeguarding of cultural heritage, UNESCO has been closely following the situation, with the view to initiate a rapid assessment of the impact of the conflict following reports on possible looting of cultural objects and damage to cultural heritage, including on the al-Nejashi mosque, and enhance protective measures, including for the ancient stelae and the St. Mary of Zion church in Aksum.

E. Enhancing Knowledge and Skills

28. The World Heritage Centre, together with the AWHF, the Universities of Kent (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) and Cape Town (South Africa), and the Robben Island Museum (South Africa) organized a workshop on Implementing the WH-SDP in August 2019 to develop guidance for collaborative projects between African Universities and World Heritage sites for implementing the WH-SDP, the African Union's Agenda 2063, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in and around World Heritage sites in Africa. ICOMOS fully participated in the workshop.
29. UNESCO and the AWHF celebrated African World Heritage Day on 5 May, in 2020 and in 2021 by organizing online activities, including a major Webinar on Youth Engagement and Heritage Management in Africa (<https://awhf.net/african-world-heritage-day-celebrations-zoom-webinar-seminar-5th-may-content/>). The AWHF, in partnership with ICCROM and the Robben Island Museum, had planned the African World Heritage Youth Forum to be held on Robben Island (South Africa) in 2020. Due to the global pandemic, it was celebrated through webinars, a virtual concert and a virtual youth forum.
30. The AWHF has established the Moses Mapesa Educational Research Grant to encourage young heritage professionals to produce excellent dissertations and theses focused on the practical issues of conservation, management, and sustainability of World Heritage properties and sites on Tentative Lists in Africa.

F. Strengthening Governance

31. One of the key challenges in integrating Sustainable Development into heritage management in Africa remains the weakness of governance structures and frameworks. Through International Assistance projects, the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies work closely with the States Parties to review their legislative frameworks in order to strengthen their governance. Such assistance is noticeable in the development of an efficient management system and a new legislative framework for the Lamu Old Town (Kenya) and in the Island of Mozambique World Heritage properties, or as part of the nomination file under preparation for Comoros. Transboundary and transnational sites require especially strong and well-coordinated governance mechanisms. For example, UNESCO led discussions between the State Parties of Angola, Botswana and Namibia in 2019 to facilitate discussion of transboundary cooperation and ways to improve conservation of the Okavango Delta World Heritage property. A joint steering committee was set up in February 2020 on the proposed transnational boundary extension of the site to protect the river basin and the unique wetland system.

G. Preparation of Tentative Lists and nomination files

32. A key effort of the World Heritage Centre in implementing the World Heritage Global Strategy has been to provide technical assistance for the preparation of Tentative Lists of States Parties for World Heritage as well as nomination files for African States Parties. The World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies have organized numerous capacity-building workshops towards this in collaboration with the AWHF, and the States Parties. Since the last session, such technical assistance and guidance has been provided to the States Parties of Angola, Botswana, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Libya, Namibia, Nigeria, South Sudan, South Africa, and Togo while others are planned for Equatorial Guinea, Guinea and Sao Tome and Principe.
33. The World Heritage Nomination Training Programme implemented by the AWHF in partnership with the World Heritage Centre, the Advisory Bodies, and training institutions has assisted African countries in preparing more robust nomination files and supports the integration of actions to promote Sustainable Development for the proposed World Heritage Sites. In addition, experts from Africa have contributed to ongoing discussions on sites associated with the memory of recent conflicts (see <https://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1551/?p=info-2021>).
34. The Modern Heritage Programme of the World Heritage Centre was established in 2001 in response to the Global Strategy adopted by the Committee in 1994 which identified Modern Heritage as a less-represented category of heritage on the World Heritage List. Twenty years later, only the World Heritage properties of Rabat and Asmara feature distinctly in this category for the African continent. The World Heritage Centre together with the AWHF, the Advisory Bodies, and other experts has launched a new initiative on the 'Modern Heritage of Africa' with a view to supporting the conceptualization, identification, conservation, and potential nominations of Modern Heritage sites in Africa (<https://whc.unesco.org/en/modernheritage>). An expert meeting was organized in April/May 2021 by the University of Cape Town, together with the World Heritage Centre, gathering the AWHF, the Advisory bodies and numerous experts to reflect on a preliminary identification of values and conceptual distinctions of Modern Heritage of Africa, with a view to preparing towards the International Symposium on Modern Heritage of Africa to be held in Cape Town/hybrid on-line in September 2021. The World Heritage Centre is grateful for the support of the States Parties of France and of the Netherlands in the undertaking of a thematic study/gap analysis of Modern Heritage in Africa that will be instrumental to support States Parties wishing to harmonize their Tentative Lists this being the first step leading to the development of nominations.

H. Addressing the Most Vulnerable World Heritage properties

35. The 2030 Agenda's Target 11.4 has identified the conservation of the world's cultural and natural heritage as an important target of Sustainable Development. In accordance with Article 11.4 of the World Heritage Convention, World Heritage properties whose state of conservation is in the most vulnerable condition are generally placed on the List of World Heritage in Danger, with the aim of bringing visibility to their key conservation concerns and garnering international support. Recognizing the importance of supporting properties on the Danger List, the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies have worked closely with States Parties to establish road-maps to mitigate the threats, improve the state of conservation of those properties, and meet the conditions established for the eventual removal of those properties from the Danger List.
36. By setting clear objectives and benchmarks, the World Heritage Centre works cooperatively towards them following an established Desired State of Conservation (DSOCR) and a set of corrective measures, including a timeframe for their implementation. This has resulted, for example, in Simien National Park in Ethiopia, and Comoé National Park in Côte d'Ivoire to be removed from the List of World Heritage in Danger in 2017. Following a fire that devastated

the Muzibu-Azaala-Mpanga building in 2010, a major component of the Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi (Uganda), the property was placed on the List of World Heritage in Danger. Through consistent efforts by the State Party, technical assistance from the World Heritage Centre and Advisory Bodies, and thanks to the support of the International Assistance Programme and the Japanese Funds-in-Trust, significant progress has been made towards achieving the DSOCR. Workshops are also organized by the World Heritage Centre with the Libyan authorities, since March 2020, towards identifying key challenges and actions for the five Libyan sites on the Danger List as well as establishing the DSOCR for the Old Town of Ghadames and the Archaeological Site of Leptis Magna, supported by the Netherlands Funds-in-Trust. Similar efforts have been made in Manovo-Gounda St Floris National Park to support its management and the implementation of the emergency plan in order to assess the perspectives for regeneration of the characteristics of the property, thereby justifying its OUV. Likewise, the World Heritage Centre has elaborated a programme and secured funding for the development of the DSOCR of three properties in Mali, and to revise the corrective measures previously adopted.

37. However, the purpose and benefits of the inscription of a property on the List of World Heritage in Danger are still insufficiently understood by many States Parties and rather considered as a sanction, and not as a system established to respond to specific conservation needs in an efficient manner. The Committee already expressed its concern over this at its 40th session (Istanbul, 2016) and requested the World Heritage Centre, in consultation with the Advisory Bodies and the States Parties, to promote better understanding of the implications and benefits of properties being inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger (Decision **40 COM 7**). In addition to activities towards the establishment of DSOCR of properties on this List, the World Heritage Centre is implementing a project, with the financial support by the Government of Norway, with the objective of conducting an overall reflection and study on the image and perception of the List of World Heritage in Danger and developing a strategy to reverse this negative perception and highlight both the implications and the benefits of this fundamental component of the Reactive Monitoring framework (see also document WHC/21/44.COM/7).

I. Monitoring and Measurement

38. One necessary way forward is to enhance monitoring and measurement to enable accurate and regular assessment of the progress made. The Periodic Reporting exercise is the most important monitoring mechanism to assess the implementation of the Sustainable Development policies and the WH-SDP.
39. The *Culture|2030 Indicators* is a framework of thematic indicators whose purpose is to measure and monitor the progress of culture's enabling contribution to the national and local implementation of the Goals and Targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (see <https://whc.unesco.org/en/culture2030indicators/>). The indicators provide a conceptual framework and methodological instruments for countries and cities to assess the contribution of culture to the SDGs as part of the existing implementation mechanisms of the 2030 Agenda at the national or local levels. A consultation with all Member States was held in 2019 where the highest number of responses (26%) came from the African Member States.
40. Through the implementation of the *Culture|2030 Indicators*, valuable measures and data would be gathered and analyzed to support evidence-based policies and actions to enhance the role and contribution of cultural and natural heritage for sustainable development that could also be highlighted in National Voluntary Reviews and Local Voluntary Reviews to the United Nations High Level Political Forum on the Sustainable Development Goals.

V. KEY GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS

41. World Heritage International Assistance provides financial support for States Parties to prepare management plans and address key conservation challenges to improve the state of conservation of World Heritage properties, provides emergency assistance, and supports the preparation of Tentative Lists and nomination files. In October 2019, the World Heritage Centre received 25 International Assistance requests from African States Parties. Following examination by the second panel in March 2020, eight requests were approved for International Assistance. In October 2020, the World Heritage Centre received 16 International Assistance requests from African States Parties out of which 10 were recommended to be submitted to the Chairperson of the World Heritage Committee for approval.
42. The UNESCO-Africa-China Forum on World Heritage Capacity-Building and Cooperation, held in June 2019 at UNESCO Headquarters, gathered 227 participants, including African and Chinese experts, nine African ministers, the Vice President of the African Development Bank, and representatives from the AU, Advisory Bodies, and the African and Chinese Category 2 Centres under the auspices of UNESCO (see <https://whc.unesco.org/en/events/1472/> and <https://en.unesco.org/news/unesco-africa-and-china-agree-projects-safeguard-world-heritage-africa>).
43. The Forum concluded with Recommendations and an Action Plan for joint projects to support long-term capacity-building, develop several conservation projects to strengthen monitoring and management systems and assist in developing Tentative Lists and preparing World Heritage nomination files. As a result, in 2020, the State Party of Chad submitted to the Secretariat the nomination file for Zakouma National Park. Cameroon and Nigeria agreed to prepare a nomination for Diy-Gid-Biy Cultural Landscape as an extension of the Sukur Cultural Landscape World Heritage property. To this end, Cameroon updated its Tentative List in June 2020. A preparatory mission for the preparation of the Tentative List of Sao Tome and Principe took place in December 2019. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, development on conservation projects has been delayed, but the discussion is ongoing to finalize a project on the creation of small-scale conservation enterprises in Cote d'Ivoire and Guinea. The World Heritage Centre is also finalizing the capacity-building activity to enhance the implementation of the 1972 Convention at the natural World Heritage sites in Ethiopia (see Annex).
44. The University of Botswana has established a UNESCO Chair on African Heritage Studies and Sustainable Development, and the Great Zimbabwe University now hosts a UNESCO Chair on African Heritage. Both institutions will partner with the AWHF and other partners in priority areas of intervention, including capacity-building and training.
45. Thanks to the support of the Government of Norway, various projects aimed at supporting the conservation of natural and cultural World Heritage sites in the Africa region have been launched for the improvement of the state of conservation, including to reinforce institutional and legal frameworks for heritage protection and management, and to promote Sustainable Development with the increased participation of civil society, women and youth (see Annex).
46. The AWHF and IUCN have renewed a partnership agreement: "World Heritage & Green List Programme in Africa 2019-2022" to support States Parties in the preparation of nomination files of natural sites in West and Central Africa. The UNESCO-EU and Flanders Funds-in-Trust have been invaluable in supporting conservation work in African World Heritage properties. The Japanese Funds-in-Trust and the Oman Funds-in-Trust have established a capacity development programme for the elaboration of Tentative Lists and the preparation of nomination files from African States Parties that are under-represented on the World Heritage List (see Annex).

VI. CHALLENGES, PRIORITIES, AND THE WAY FORWARD

47. By bringing together numerous partners, significant progress has been made towards implementing the goals and objectives of the World Heritage Sustainable Development Policy as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063 - The Africa We Want. However, the dilemma that Africa is faced with continues as highlighted in Decision **43 COM 5D**. On one hand, there are the growing development needs of the rapidly evolving demographics and socio-economic aspirations of an increasing youth; on the other hand there are the challenges posed by climate change, large scale threats to natural resources, and unfettered development processes. They point to the necessity of envisioning concrete solutions in ways that enhance the safeguarding of the OUV of the World Heritage properties while also meeting pressing development needs. Thus, a delicate challenge resides in reconciling conflicting urges and making thoroughly considered decisions while adopting an inclusive approach and a Sustainable Development framework. In meeting this challenge, the well-being of local communities would ultimately be enhanced while safeguarding the OUV of World Heritage properties, therefore protecting, conserving, and enhancing the biodiversity and ecosystem services of Africa.
48. Africa has a lot to gain in harnessing its vast natural resources, both natural and cultural, to drive the Sustainable Development agenda towards inclusive social and economic development. Elaborating national strategies for Sustainable Development that integrate the management of cultural and natural heritage would be a valuable way forward in ensuring the desired outcomes of both development and conservation – rather than one at the cost of the other. The rich and diverse ecosystems of Africa provide for the continent's food, water, energy, health, and livelihood needs, with 62% of its population depending directly on ecosystem services in the rural areas, while the urban population supplement its incomes, medicines, food, energy, and other essentials from ecosystem-based resources. Africa's World Heritage properties could be catalysts in transforming Africa's models for achieving sustainable socio-economic development while protecting their OUV.
49. Certainly, inventive efforts for capacity-building and awareness raising must be further incited to implement better tools and policies. More broadly, Sustainable Development is about reconciling priorities and seeking solutions that benefit both the needs of the local communities and the protection of World Heritage properties, rather than oppose these. Policies, actions, and decisions must coherently and consistently take into account the needs and aspirations of local communities in and around World Heritage properties while pursuing the global obligation to protect the OUV. This global obligation would only be achieved through the partnership of global actors mindful of all stakeholders concerned. Such an approach focused on both local communities and global stakeholders is enshrined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063. It will eventually lead to a 'win-win' for local communities, World Heritage conservation, and Sustainable Development with inclusive economic prosperity.

VII. DRAFT DECISION

Draft Decision: 44 COM 5C

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC/21/44.COM/5C,
2. Recalling Decision **43 COM 5D** adopted at its 43rd session (Baku, 2019) and Resolution **20 GA 13** adopted by the General Assembly at its 20th session (UNESCO, 2015),
3. Notes with appreciation the continued efforts of the African States Parties, with the support of partners under UNESCO's Global Priority Africa, for the conservation and management of the unique biodiversity and rich cultural heritage of Africa that must be transmitted to future generations, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union's Agenda 2063;
4. Welcomes the activities of the World Heritage Centre along with UNESCO Field Offices, Advisory Bodies, the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF), the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH) and other partners in raising awareness, building capacities around World Heritage and Sustainable Development Policy in Africa, and developing innovative tools, including the drafts of the World Heritage Sustainable Development Preliminary Health-Check and the World Heritage Project Sustainability Check to assess the sustainability status of World Heritage properties and conduct preliminary assessments on sustainable development impacts of proposed projects, and requests that the refinement and implementation of these tools and the World Heritage Canopy platform of innovative and good practices be pursued and their implementation supported for the African context as funds permit;
5. Also welcomes the World Heritage Centre's analysis of the synergies and alignments of the World Heritage Sustainable Development Policy with other major international agreements on Sustainable Development, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and reiterates the need to integrate the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of World Heritage properties with inclusive sustainable development to meet the socio-economic needs of local communities, through the effective implementation of the World Heritage Sustainable Development Policy and its supporting tools, including mitigation and adaptation strategies to address climate change;
6. Encourages the African States Parties to strengthen the governance of World Heritage properties, engage local communities in decision-making processes and also enhance their knowledge and skills for further inclusive and equitable growth in line with the World Heritage Sustainable Development Policy and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as the African Union Agenda 2063 - The Africa We Want;
7. Invites African States Parties to mainstream heritage conservation in national and local development planning to integrate their conservation management efforts with sustainable development efforts in and around World Heritage properties and to implement the UNESCO Culture|2030 Indicators with a view to measuring and enhancing the role of heritage in sustainable development;

8. *Thanks the States Parties and partners who have generously contributed to strengthening sustainable development in Africa and invites all States Parties to the World Heritage Convention to support, both financially and through other means, the mainstreaming and awareness-raising of the World Heritage Sustainable Development Policy for integrating protection, conservation and management activities in Africa into sustainable development policies and actions as well as for the development and implementation of tools, innovative and good practices and strategies towards this end;*
9. *Invites the African State Parties, with the guidance and coordination of the Secretariat and Advisory Bodies, and in collaboration with the AWHF, ARC-WH and other stakeholders, to implement actions and measures for sustainable development that conserve and protect the Outstanding Universal Value of World Heritage properties, both cultural and natural, and that benefit local communities in alignment with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union Agenda 2063 and also in favour of climate action;*
10. *Requests the World Heritage Centre to present at its 46th session a progress report on Priority Africa, sustainable development and World Heritage in line with the Medium-Term Strategy 2022-2029 and Programme and Budget for 2022-2025.*

ANNEX

Major initiatives recently completed or ongoing in Africa

CENTRAL AFRICA

(Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, D.R of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Sao Tome and Principe)

No.	Period	Donors/Funds	Amount	Project
1	2019-2020	Government of China Funds for Capacity- building and cooperation for World Heritage in Africa	30,000 USD	<p>Nigeria and Chad/ Financial support provided to both States Parties for the finalisation of the following nomination files:</p> <p>For the Surame Cultural Landscape file (Nigeria) activities aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake documentation and restoration work on the cultural landscape and more precisely on the restoration of the city walls of Surame and the wall enclosure, the stone works on the 14 gates and the stone works on the 219-house foundation. • Conduct research on archaeology and history to acquire more data and produce a synthesis of this research. • Improve visitor facilities and site trails within the landscape, including the installation of signage and billboards, and the establishment of VIP latrines. • Develop a Management plan. <p>For the Zakouma National Park file (Chad):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revision and finalisation of the draft nomination file • Finalisation of topographic maps <p>https://en.unesco.org/news/unesco-africa-and-china-agree-projects-safeguard-world-heritage-africa</p>
			10,000 USD	<p>Gabon/ Financial support provided for the inventory of the cultural heritage of Gabon. This activity will contribute to identifying cultural and mixed sites with the view of updating the Tentative List.</p>

			10,000 USD	Cameroon/ Feasibility study for the Diy-Gid-Biy Cultural Landscape nomination file. This project will contribute to strengthening the different parts of the nomination file for the Diy-Gid-Biy (DGB) cultural landscape of the Mandara Mountains on the World Heritage List, as an extension of the Sukur Cultural Landscape (Nigeria).
			18 691 USD	Congo/ Supporting the nomination process of the Royal Estate of Mbé.
			45 000 USD	Sao Tome and Principe/ As part of signed MoU between the AWHF-WHITRAP, to train and support the implementation of the World Heritage Convention in Sao Tome by assisting the State Party to prepare a Tentative List under a Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) -driven urban management/planning system.
2	2019-2021	Government of Norway	300,000 USD	DRC/ Support the Conflict mitigation in the Okapi Wildlife Reserve in line with Decision 43 COM 7A.9 to resolve conflicts related to the use of natural resources and empower local communities (https://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/974/).
			1,000,000 USD	CAR/ Securing Manovo-Gounda St. Floris National Park based on the recommendations of the March 2019 mission and Decision 43 COM 7A.5 to establish an emergency strategy, identify, and secure a protection zone. https://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/973/
			200,000 USD	DRC/ Ecological Monitoring in Garamba National Park to ensure effective protection and management of the property. https://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/972/
3	2016-2021	Central Africa World Heritage Forest Initiative (CAWHFI) European Union	5,000,000 EUR (approx 6,100,000 USD)	Cameroon, Central African Republic, Gabon, Republic of Congo / Strengthening the management of natural World Heritage sites and protected areas in the Cameroon, Central Africa Republic, Republic of Congo, Gabon trans-border forest zone, while improving their integration within the region's various ecological landscapes. In particular, the project has strengthened the monitoring of the TRIDOM and TNS landscapes, an area of more than 225,000 km ² that includes three World Heritage

				<p>sites (Dja Faunal Reserve, Ecosystem and Relict Cultural Landscape of Lopé-Okanda and Sangha Trinational), by increasing anti-poaching patrol efforts (more than 3,500 patrols and 300,000 km travelled), the use of innovative technologies (SMART, trap cameras, drones and remote sensing, etc.) and the training of more than 350 eco-guards. The Central Africa World Heritage Forest Initiative's (CAWHFI) support has also improved site management through the rehabilitation of infrastructure, the promotion of eco-tourism, the involvement and training of local communities (more than 3000 people) and the updating/production of wildlife inventories (e.g. elephants, gorillas and chimpanzees). In addition, CAWHFI provided technical support to the Congolese and Gabonese authorities for the preparation of nomination files for Odzala-Kokoua and Ivindo National Parks respectively (https://whc.unesco.org/fr/activites/971/).</p>
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EAST AFRICA

(Comoros, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania)

No.	Period	Donors/Funds	Amount	Project
1	May to Jul 2019	UNESCO	25,000 USD	Kenya and Ethiopia/ Increased awareness and capacities of World Heritage site managers in Kenya and Ethiopia to develop disaster risk management plans through two national workshops following devastating fires at Mount Kenya National Park and Simien Mountains National Park World Heritage properties.
2	Oct to Dec 2019	UNESCO	10,000 USD	Djibouti/ Supported efforts to increase representation of African natural and cultural heritage on the World Heritage List through sending technical expert mission to Abourma Rock Art site in Djibouti to advise on conservation and management and assist with the preparation of a World Heritage international assistance request for the preparation of a nomination file for Djibouti's first World Heritage site.
3	2019-2021	UNESCO-Africa-China Forum on World Heritage Capacity-building and Cooperation	25,000 USD	Ethiopia/ Building capacities for the implementation of the 1972 Convention at the Natural World Heritage site. https://en.unesco.org/news/unesco-africa-and-china-agree-projects-safeguard-world-heritage-africa
4	2016-2020	European Union	400,000 EUR (approx 488,000 USD)	Ethiopia/ Strengthened capacities for sustainable tourism development through a project to support management and development of sustainable tourism at two World Heritage sites in Ethiopia (Lower Omo Valley and Lower Awash Valley) https://whc.unesco.org/en/partners/488/ .
5	Sep 2019	UNESCO	15,000 USD	Ethiopia/ Increased capacities for protecting and promoting natural World Heritage through organization of a Workshop "Enhancing capacities in the preparation of Nomination file of Natural World Heritage" in Gondar, Ethiopia.

6	Dec 2019	UNESCO	3,000 USD	Somalia/ Increased awareness of contribution of World Heritage to Sustainable Development through media training workshop in Somalia on World Heritage and other conventions in the UNESCO Culture Programme.
7	2019	UNESCO and World Heritage Fund	77,047 USD	South Sudan/ Supported South Sudan with capacity-building, awareness raising, site management, and development of an Action Plan for the preparation of a nomination file for World Heritage through site management support and community awareness raising consultations at Boma Bandingilo Migratory Landscape, through documentation and research of Diem Zubeir Slave Route site and through organization of an Advisory Bodies meeting to develop an Action Plan for nomination support.
8	Through Dec 2020	Japan Funds-in-Trust to UNESCO	650,000 USD <i>(full budget in 2013, now approx. 250,000 USD remaining)</i>	Uganda/ Technical and financial assistance for the reconstruction of Muzibu-Azaala-Mpanga, architectural masterpiece of the Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi, Uganda, World Heritage property in Danger. https://whc.unesco.org/en/partners/277/ .
9	2020-2021	Heritage Emergency Funds - HEF	30,000 USD	Uganda/ Supported preparation of Disaster Risk Management Plan and onsite training - Kasubi Tombs World Heritage site
10	2020	UNESCO Regular Programme	15,688 USD	Uganda/ Procured short-term firefighting equipment following June 2020 fire at Kasubi Tombs World Heritage site
11	2019- 2021	World Heritage Fund	24,071 USD	Uganda/ Restoration of the Bujjakukula (Gate House) at the Kasubi Royal Tombs of Buganda Kings
12	2020-2021	Netherlands Funds-in-Trust	49,620 USD	Comoros/ Capacity Building in Sustainable Tourism Development and Management for World Heritage in Comoros

13	2020-2021	French Government Support	20,000 EUR (approx 24,500 USD)	<p>Djibouti/ Support to the preparation of the first nomination file of Djibouti</p> <p>The main objectives of the project are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build national capacities for the preparaiton of a global Plan for conservation and management of the site selected for nomination; • Prepare a first nomination file by the State Party of Djibouti; • Promote and implement the recommandations of the sustainable development policy and the UNESCO World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism Program.
14	2020-2022	Oman Funds-in-Trust	709,935 USD	<p>Comoros, Kenya, Somalia, Madagascar, Tanzania / Supporting Capacity-building for Nomination projects and promotion of World Heritage sites in East Africa.</p> <p>The specific objectives of the programme are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Train three World Heritage practitioners from each of the targeted countries to increase their capacity to develop and submit complete nomination files for inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List. b) Build capacity of the stakeholders, improve the awareness and engagement of decision makers and private sectors, and widely communicate to the local communities and other key stakeholders about the value and benefit of protecting and promoting their natural and cultural heritage, and especially their (potential) World Heritage sites. c) Contribute to the revision of Tentative Lists, the selection of sites for nomination and assist in the preparation of robust nomination files for sites with OUV from at least four States Parties in the East Africa region (Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, and Somalia). d) Support a rehabilitation project in the United Republic of Tanzania.

NORTH AFRICA

(Egypt, Libya, Sudan, Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia)

No.	Period	Donors/Funds	Amount	Project
1	Nov 2019	UNESCO and the Ministry of Culture of Algeria	10,000 USD	Algeria/ Workshop on the safeguarding of urban heritage in the context of the World Heritage Convention, organized for heritage professionals of the Ministry of Culture. The purpose of the workshop was to improve the general knowledge of the World Heritage Convention and its main mechanisms.
2	2019	Egypt	277,010 USD	Egypt/ “Safeguarding Architectural Legacy of Hassan Fathy in New Gourná” under the project “Development of the Management Plans for the World Heritage Sites of Historic Cairo, Memphis and Luxor”. The project aims to assist the Egyptian authorities to rehabilitate and restore the buildings designed by Hassan Fathy at New Gourná Village in Luxor. As of February 2021, approximately 35% of the restoration work of the Theatre, the Khan and the Mosque were completed with particular attention to ensuring community involvement in the safeguarding activities as much as possible.
3	2019	Egypt	13,384 USD	Egypt/ Improved Accessibility and Presentation at Cultural Sites in Egypt, including World Heritage sites. The objective is to improve the cultural sites’ presentation and accessibility. It strives to enhance presentation at selected sites in Egypt, including the World Heritage sites, through the design and instalment of signage, tourist reception, and interpretation areas at these cultural sites.
4	2020-2021	Netherlands Funds-in-Trust	44,871 USD	Egypt/ “Strengthening national capacities for the implementation of World Heritage Impact Assessments”. The project, which correlates with the latest World Heritage Committee Decisions, aims at ensuring an enhanced protection of World Heritage and other sites in Egypt through the establishment of frameworks to assess and mitigate the impact of development projects, notably through capacity-building activities.

5	2021	World Heritage Fund	2,022 USD	Egypt/ A UNESCO World Heritage Advisory Mission visited Egypt from 30 January to 4 February 2021 to review the state of conservation and recent developments at the World Heritage properties of Memphis and its Necropolis – the Pyramid Fields from Giza to Dahshur; Historic Cairo and Ancient Thebes with its Necropolis. Online capacity building on processes and procedures under the World Heritage Convention (January 2021), and an in-person workshops on site management, boundaries and Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) (February 2021) were organised with the presentations of WHC and the Advisory Bodies for government officials, site managers, and other stakeholders in Egypt.
6	2020	UNESCO Cairo Office	700 USD	Egypt/ Within the framework of the World Heritage Capacity Building Programme in Egypt, the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Sciences in the Arab States, in collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities (MoTA), organised an online seminar on 2 June 2020 using the Amarna archaeological site as a case study, which also permitted to create a network to work on the development of a nomination dossier.
7	2021 - 2022	Government of France	152,212 USD	Egypt/ Within the framework of the recently approved project “Enhancing Capacities for the Protection of World Heritage Properties in Egypt”, capacity building activities are foreseen in the field of Heritage Impact Assessments, and the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.
8	2020-2021	Netherlands Funds-in-Trust	50,000 USD	Libya/ “Strengthening national capacities for the elaboration of corrective measures for Libyan World Heritage properties”. The project, which correlates with the latest World Heritage Committee Decisions, aims at ensuring an enhanced protection of the Libyan World Heritage sites through the establishment of medium- and long-term conservation measures that will contribute to the removal of the Libyan World Heritage sites from the List of World Heritage in Danger. Several workshops have taken place since March 2020, leading to the development of the DSOCR for the Old Town of Ghadames, and initiating the DSOCR for the Archaeological Site of Leptis Magna (with funding support from the WHF as well).
9	Apr to Jun 2020	N/A	No cost	Libya/ A series of online workshops for heritage professionals was provided in view of the elaboration of the first Tentative List of the country, as well as the elaboration of RSOUV, boundary clarification/modification, and definition of DSOCR for the Libyan World Heritage sites.

10	Sep 2019	N/A	No cost	Morocco/ Workshop on the nomination of the oasian area of Oued Noun in Morocco as a World Heritage site. The aim of the workshop, organized by the Moroccan authorities, was to further advance the nomination of the site on the Tentative List of Morocco since 2016.
11	Nov 2019	N/A	No cost	Morocco/ Technical support provided to the authorities of the city of Rabat in order to develop Heritage Impact Assessment studies for the World Heritage site of Rabat and integrate culture into the management system.
12	Jan 2020	N/A	No cost	Morocco/ An agreement between UNESCO and the Moroccan Ministry dealing with urban development was signed in January 2020 in view of integrating culture in the country's urban development strategies. The objective is to strengthen the implementation of Agenda 2030 into the country's urban development strategy, notably SDG 11 "Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable".
13	Jan 2020 – Nov 2021	UNESCO RP	10,000 USD	Sudan/ Community Based Tourism Trainings for the World Heritage properties "Archaeological Sites of the Island of Meroe" and "Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region". The aim of this activity is to develop World Heritage sites related tourism in Sudan.
14	Jan 2020 – Nov 2021	UNESCO RP	10,000 USD	Sudan/ Developing Tourist Guides for the "Archaeological Sites of the Island of Meroe" and "Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region" World Heritage sites.
15	Jan 2020 – Nov 2021	UNESCO RP	10,000 USD	Sudan/ Further promoting the World Heritage properties "Archaeological Sites of the Island of Meroe" and "Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region", together with other Sudanese heritage sites. The aim of this activity is to review the Sudanese Tentative List for the World Heritage Convention.

16	2019	Heritage Emergency Fund	44,555 USD	<p>Sudan/ Development of emergency preparedness and response plans for the Sudanese National Museum and two World Heritage properties (“Archaeological Sites of the Island of Meroe” and “Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region”).</p> <p>This activity supported the organization of a workshop in April 2019 on <i>General Principles of Risk Management for Culture</i>, which was followed by the dispatch of expert missions to the National Museum and at the two World Heritage properties in order to assess vulnerabilities, risks, and threats for each heritage component and to identify targeted risk mitigation strategies. A second workshop was organized in October 2019, where the outcomes of the risk assessments were presented and discussed.</p>
17	2019	Heritage Emergency Fund	19,700 USD	<p>Sudan/ Support to the rehabilitation of the Institute of African and Asian Studies and Folklore Department of the University of Khartoum.</p> <p>The activity supported asset replacement to ensure resumption of research and work at the Institute of African and Asian Studies (IAAS), notably in the form of office equipment. To ensure sustainability of the action and support the documentation and archival efforts of the IAAS, a copy of existing archives of IAAS’s ethnographic and research database was created and shared with the National Council for Cultural Heritage and Local Languages Development.</p>
18	2020 - 2021	Netherlands Funds in-Trust	38,398 USD	<p>Sudan/ Sustainable Tourism and Community Engagement at the World Heritage site of “Gebel Barkal and the Sites of the Napatan Region”.</p> <p>The main objective is to develop a sustainable tourism strategy, which will create policies specifically catered to the site to accommodate the increase in tourism. The strategy will include guidelines that aim to safeguard the protection and preservation of the site, while also including the local community and ensuring that they also benefit directly from tourism activities: https://whc.unesco.org/en/nfit</p>

WEST AFRICA/SAHEL

(Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Togo / Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Niger, Senegal)

No.	Period	Donors/Funds	Amount	Project
1	2019-2021	UNESCO-Africa-China Forum on World Heritage Capacity-building and Cooperation	23 364 USD	Benin and Togo/ Support to both States Parties for the preparation of the nomination file of Koutammakou, the Land of the Batammariba as a transboundary site. https://en.unesco.org/news/unesco-africa-and-china-agree-projects-safeguard-world-heritage-africa
			25,000 USD	Nigeria/ Continuous support to the finalisation of a nomination file for Surame Cultural Landscape site for inscription on the World Heritage List.
2	2019-2021	Government of Norway	102,298 USD	Togo/ Improvement of the conservation of Koutammakou, the Land of the Batammariba. This project aims at implementing activities to improve the state of conservation of Koutammakou, the land of the Batammariba. More specifically, it will contribute to undertaking an inventory of the site (boundaries of the site and its buffer zone, attributes, conservation issues), enhancing the capacity-building of the management team, updating the management plan of the property (including a risk management plan) and implementing a methodology for the reconstruction of the Takienta. https://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/975/
3	2019-2021		106,400 USD	Côte d'Ivoire/ Preservation of the Historic Town of Grand-Bassam by the preparation of a complete inventory and a cadastral plan of the property, and the updating of the conservation and management plan. The project aims to develop an inventory and a cadastral plan; elaborate an updated Management and Conservation Plan; revise and publish the Intervention Guide (by CRAterre) offering guidance on key heritage prerogatives on built

				heritage; support the creation of a Committee for the monitoring of building restoration/rehabilitation works; train tour guides and the community in the values (OUV) of the property and in risk management; organize an on-site school workshop https://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/976/ .
4	2019-2021		150,000 USD	Senegal/ Protection measures against the impacts of agricultural and agro-industrial projects in Djoudj National Bird Sanctuary https://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/981/ .
5	2019-2020	Netherlands Funds-in-Trust	45,000 USD	Niger/ Job creation and reduction of emigration in the Sahel region. The project aims to develop an educational kit on heritage construction techniques for job creation and reduction of emigration in the Sahel region, as well as to train young people from Agadez in these techniques. It aims to respond to the need and desire of the populations of Agadez to rehabilitate and preserve their housing while respecting the original earth construction techniques, and to decongest the old city by building new similar dwellings, while respecting the original architectural heritage. This project will develop the capacities of a set of actors who will be able to be involved in this construction, development and restoration work. https://whc.unesco.org/en/nfit
6	2020-2021		50,000 USD	Nigeria/ Supporting the Implementation of the World Heritage Decision to Protect Osun-Osogbo Sacred Grove. The project aims to carry out the following activities: 1. Develop a Conservation Methodology based on research into appropriate materials for the mud sculpture as an alternative to cement, as requested by the World Heritage Committee; 2. Provide training in the Conservation Methodology to local actor(s); 3. Conduct detailed digital documentation of the sculptures, the appliance of the conservation methods, as well as sites of cultural and traditional importance at the Grove; 4. Support the review and updating of the outdated Conservation Management Plan 2015-2019, which is due for evaluation and revision, including the Tourism

				Management Plan, notably by incorporating the recommendations of the Reactive Monitoring Mission of 2015 and 2020. https://whc.unesco.org/en/nfit
7	2019-2021		33,593 USD	<p>Ghana/ The rehabilitation of Ussher Fort Slave Museum and Documentary Centre</p> <p>The project aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Revise and update the narrative on slavery and the transatlantic slave trade with due regard to the role of the Ussher Fort and the shared Ghana-Dutch heritage it represents. b) Enhance the capacities of staff and selected community members from Ussher and James towns in basic methods of preventive conservation. c) Enhance the virtual museum, as other exhibits need minor attention.
8	2020-2021	EU	558,036 USD	<p>Mali/ Support from European Union to the programme for the Rehabilitation of Cultural Heritage and Safeguarding of Ancient Manuscripts in Mali.</p> <p>The project aims to support the government of Mali in the safeguarding and promotion of cultural heritage, including ancient manuscripts in Mali. The objective is to carry out actions to safeguard and promote Mali's cultural heritage, which continues to face the negative impacts of insecurity, and thus to strengthen the Culture of Peace in Mali. The main challenges of this new project are to maintain the actions carried out to date, and to contribute to the efforts of the Malian Government in the sustainable recovery of the country through actions for the promotion, revitalization and sustainable protection of this heritage.</p>
9	2017-2019	AICS/Italy	220,000 USD	<p>Senegal/ Promotion of cultural heritage and citizenship education in Senegal.</p> <p>Implemented jointly with the UNESCO Education Sector, the project enabled to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Develop a professional Inter-University Master's degree in "Management and conservation of heritage" (MIGECOP) according to an innovative approach involving three universities (Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar (UCAD), Thiès and Ziguinchor) and on the basis

				<p>of a study of the market demand for heritage professionals, which made it possible to define the curricula;</p> <p>b) Development and online launching of 3 courses of the MIGECOP Master's degree in the platform of the Faculty of Letters and Human Sciences of UCAD (https://fad.flsh.ucad.sn/?lang=en);</p> <p>c) Reinforce heritage teaching with the initiation of an S-8N and N-S mobility programme (selection, organization, supervision and monitoring of study trips for 14 teachers and students from Senegal and Italy) and implementation of research projects between UCAD, Gaston Berger University (UGB) and the University of Bologna;</p> <p>d) Restore the slave ship "Le Bienfaisant" and accompany the process of its valorization in Gorée;</p> <p>e) Support for 10 study tours for 300 students;</p> <p>f) Hire 3 apprenticeship/professional integration contracts for Master's students at UCAD and UGB in 2 World Heritage sites and a Museum;</p> <p>g) Strengthen the capacities of the T. Monod Museum/preventive conservation training course of the chief technician in Bologna;</p> <p>h) Acquire equipment for UCAD and the T. Monod Museum;</p> <p>Organize a restitution day with technical and financial partners and beneficiaries on the development of professional skills and the transition to the labour market.</p>
10	2020-2021	French Government Support	20,000 Euros (approx 24,400 USD)	<p>Senegal/ Strengthening of the promotion and communication on the World Heritage site "Island of Gorée".</p> <p>The project aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen the capacities of local tour guides and improve the information to visitors; • Raise awareness of the guides, local populations and visitors to the conservation of the property; • Improve the narrative on the OUV of the property through the development of signage and support to the Museum of the Sea.

11	2019	Heritage Emergency Fund	35,931 USD	<p>Mali/ Needs assessment of cultural heritage at the World Heritage property of Cliff of Bandiagara (Land of the Dogons).</p> <p>Following increasing civil unrest involving the dogon and peul communities in the areas immediately surrounding the World Heritage property of the Cliff of Bandiagara (Land of the Dogons), technical support was provided to the Government of Mali through an assessment of needs related to tangible and intangible cultural heritage, as well as to associated objects and practices in approximately 10 municipalities in and around the World Heritage property. A detailed Action Plan was developed and presented to a group of about 200 stakeholders (including communities, authorities and experts).</p>
12	2019		35,617 USD	<p>Côte d'Ivoire/ Damage assessment of the World Heritage property of the Historic Town of Grand-Bassam.</p> <p>From 11 to 13 October 2019, heavy rains caused the overflow of the Comoé river as well as floods in a large part of the World Heritage property of the Historic Town of Grand-Bassam. A damage assessment mission, conducted in close cooperation with national and local authorities, and with the support of the UNESCO Office in Abidjan, visited 10 affected sites and met representatives of different stakeholder institutions. The mission conducted an assessment covering the different dimensions of heritage (tangible, intangible and movable), identified measures to be implemented in the short-, medium-, and long-term and formulated recommendations for the integration of a DRR strategy in the overall management plan for the property. The resulting Action Plan has framed a project on Grand-Bassam supported by Norway.</p>
13	Ongoing	Heritage Emergency Fund	77,858 USD	<p>Burkina Faso/ Safeguarding of museum collections.</p> <p>The recently deteriorated security context in Burkina Faso made the destruction, looting, illicit trafficking and sale of cultural objects highly likely, as has been the case in recent years in neighbouring African countries such as Mali and in conflict zones around the world. In this context, the General Directorate of Cultural Heritage (DGPC) of Burkina Faso identified the collections of the Pobé-Mengao Museum, the Kaya Communal Museum and the Oursi Museum, as well as the archaeological site next to this latter museum, as being threatened by looting, irreparable damages</p>

				<p>and irreversible destruction by terrorist groups. The activity is supporting an urgent intervention to mitigate such potential risks through the organization of a training workshop in December 2019 focused on rapid inventory, emergency conservation and evacuation of heritage collections; the actual rapid inventory, packing, evacuation and securitisation of the artefacts from the three museums involved; the securitisation, organization and internal installation of the cultural objects in a safe location; and the digitization of the inventories of the three museums.</p>
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SOUTHERN AFRICA

(Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Eswatini, Zambia, and Zimbabwe)

No.	Period	Donors/Funds	Amount	Project
1	2019-2021	Government of Norway	150,000 USD	South Africa and Lesotho/ Mobilizing the Community Management of Protected Areas Conservation (COMPACT) initiative to engage local communities in the conservation of the Maloti-Drakensberg Park World Heritage site. https://whc.unesco.org/en/activities/982/
2	2019-2020	Netherlands Funds-in-Trust	45,000 USD	Malawi/ Supporting biodiversity and sustainable livelihoods in Lake Malawi National Park. The project aims at improving the state of conservation of the Lake Malawi National Park World Heritage property and its biodiversity of Outstanding Universal Value by increasing direct involvement of local communities in conservation, strengthening sound co-management of the World Heritage property's heritage assets (natural resources), and supporting sustainable livelihoods (https://whc.unesco.org/en/nfit).
3	2018-2021	Flanders Funds-in-Trust	150,000 USD	Southern Africa/ Engaging local communities in the conservation and management of World Heritage sites in Africa, in particular in the Okavango Delta in Botswana. This is being done by applying the Community Management of Protected Areas Conservation (COMPACT) initiative. https://whc.unesco.org/en/partners/423/
4	Apr 2020	UNESCO	20,000 USD	16 Member countries of the SADC region/ From Angola to Zimbabwe: Discover the World Natural and Cultural Heritage of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) region. The publication aims to present all the World Heritage sites in the SADC region, covering the various categories (cultural, natural and mixed sites), including the revised Tentative Lists, to include SADC nations without a single World Heritage site. It seeks to offer to the diverse readers (public, relevant public, development

				<p>partners and private institutions) a snapshot of the rich and diverse World Heritage of Southern Africa.</p> <p>As such, it is a unique item serving the objectives of promotion of heritage safeguarding in the 16 countries of the regional economic community of SADC. More importantly, such a publication plays a large role in the Regional Office for Southern Africa's overall promotional effort, as well as resource mobilization and linkages to the larger strategic frameworks such as Agendas 2030 and 2063 with their specificities in the concerned countries.</p>
5	October 2020		10,000 USD	<p>16 Member countries of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region.</p> <p>The Southern Africa Sustainable Tourism Strategy is being developed in partnership with the SADC Secretariat. To be launched in 2021, the strategy aims to transform Africa's rich cultural assets into living heritage, to benefit local communities, and for sustainable economic development and SDG achievement in the region.</p>
6	2019-2020	Norwegian Embassy in Mozambique	19,965 USD	<p>Mozambique/ Manual on Regional Youth Forum for World Heritage Conservation.</p> <p>As the follow up of the 2018 African Regional Youth Forum, UNESCO-Maputo with the technical assistance of the AWHF are producing a manual on Regional Youth Forum for Conservation of World Cultural Heritage which has an instrument to be used for sustainable capacities of the target group in Africa.</p>
7	2019	Heritage Emergency Fund	30,535 USD	<p>Mozambique/ Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) for Culture.</p> <p>Following Tropical Cyclone Idai which hit Mozambique in March 2019, the Government of Mozambique (GoM) requested the assistance of the UN, the World Bank, the EU, and other international partners, to conduct a Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA). In this context, UNESCO was designated as the lead UN agency in the coordination of the assessment for the culture sector, implemented in close consultation with the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Mozambique. The activity supported the dispatching of a mission to Mozambique in April 2019 and consisted of: the provision of a training on the PDNA methodology to eight</p>

				representatives (including two women) from the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Mozambique, the Mozambique National Commission for UNESCO, and the Mozambican Institute for Socio-Cultural Research; baseline data collection and analysis; and field visits to the main affected areas.'
8	2019		29,652 USD	Mozambique/ Damage assessment mission to Cabo Delgado and Nampula. One month following Tropical Cyclone Idai, Tropical Cyclone Kenneth made landfall in Mozambique in April 2019, affecting the northern provinces of Cabo Delgado and Nampula. The cyclone had an important impact on the country's cultural heritage, including at the World Heritage property of the Island of Mozambique. The cyclone also disrupted a number of ICH practices. At the request of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of Mozambique, the activity supported the dispatching of a mission to conduct a needs assessment for the culture sector, which built on the methodology and experience acquired during the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) for Tropical Cyclone Idai.
9	2018-2019		42,178 USD	Mozambique/ UNESCO Maputo, in collaboration with UNESCO Jakarta implemented the project for Capacity Building for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) for the Island of Mozambique through Knowledge Sharing with the Asia-Pacific Heritage Cities, as a response to the recent hit of the site by natural disaster and as the effort to develop a DRR strategy to address the issue in that region. The project considered the similar hazard as the Island of Mozambique faces as those of George Town & Melaka, Kota Lama Semarang, Levuka Port Town and Samoa, namely, high rainfall, tropical storms, cyclones and coastal erosion, which often leads to flooding. While a Disaster Risk Management plan was drafted for the site, there is still a need to ensure the involvement of multiple government departments as well as the local communities in the execution and to integrate the DRR plan into the general site management plan and a larger government strategy.

ACROSS SUB-REGIONS

No.	Period	Donors/Funds	Amount	Project
1	2019-2021	UNESCO-Africa-China Forum on World Heritage Capacity-building and Cooperation	20 000 USD	Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal, Togo, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania/ Build the capacities of the Site Managers in the management and evaluation of different risks to cultural heritage associated with disasters, and assist in the elaboration of preparedness and preventative measures to reduce risks to cultural heritage. https://en.unesco.org/news/unesco-africa-and-china-agree-projects-safeguard-world-heritage-africa
				Support provided to 20 African Experts in the framework of AWHF-WHITRAP agreement to prepare two (2) knowledge-sharing expert visits in China.
2	2019-2021	UNESCO, World Heritage Fund, and AWHF	160,000 USD	Africa Region/ Support African State Parties, in collaboration with AWHF, with preparation of the Third Cycle of the Regional Periodic Reporting on implementation of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention in the Africa Region, through National Focal Point participation in September 2019 training workshop and Anglophone site manager participation (including Mozambique) in February 2020 training workshop.
3	2017-2021	African Development Bank	6,456,000 USD	Cameroon, Chad, the Central African Republic, Niger and Nigeria/ BIOSphere and Heritage of Lake Chad (BIOPALT) jointly implemented with the Lake Chad Basin Commission and funded by the African Development Bank; Results: elaboration of the development of the Transboundary Management Plan for Lake Chad Cultural Landscape (Niger, Nigeria, Cameroon and Chad); training session on the Convention for the Heritage national experts of the four countries; the nomination file was submitted to the Secretariat in January 2020. The project also updated and improved knowledge of the biological, cultural and hydrological resources of Lake Chad through six field studies, which were carried out in each country. Finally, the other important contribution of the project is the construction of

				a common vision of cross-border cooperation and the application of models of biosphere reserves and World Heritage sites in the Lake Chad region. https://en.unesco.org/biopalt
4	2016-2019	Hungary Funds-in-Trust	100,334 USD	Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad and Nigeria/ Support conservation and promotion of World Heritage in West and Central Africa - Rehabilitation, Research and Promotion. The project aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the conservation of the Sukur Cultural Landscape (Nigeria) • Improve promotion and interpretation of the Ruins of Loropéni World Heritage property • The preparation of a Heritage Passport for Burkina Faso, Cameroon and Chad.
5	2019	UNESCO	57,768 USD	Arab Region in Africa/ Supporting Operational Management at World Heritage Sites in the Cluster and in the Arab Region (Egypt, Libya and Sudan). Some 150 stakeholders including site managers, heritage professionals, government officials, and youth champions received training opportunities in conservation and management of World Heritage properties and attended awareness-raising events in Cairo. These activities were organized in close cooperation with the Egyptian authorities, ICOMOS, and in partnership with the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH), Category II Centre in Bahrain.
6	2019-2021	Flanders Funds-in-Trust	250,000 USD	Angola, Botswana, Ethiopia, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe/ Improving the representation of African sites on the World Heritage List: upstream support for natural heritage (https://whc.unesco.org/en/partners/423/).
7	April-May 2021	AWHF, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, WHC,	20,000 USD	South Africa/ African World Heritage Youth Forum. The 5 th edition of the African World Heritage Youth Forum was implemented online under the theme <i>Youth, Entrepreneurship and Heritage Sustainability in Africa</i> . This

		ICCROM, Robben Island Museum (South Africa)		<p>edition aimed at (i) empowering African youth through training and mentorship that will equip them with innovative and creative entrepreneurship skills in the field of heritage; (ii) providing an opportune platform for the creation of networks, exchange of knowledge, sharing of experience and success stories between and among the youth across Africa and (iii) raising youth awareness and appreciation of issues and threats facing Africa's heritage while stimulating their involvement in entrepreneurship activities that could bring direct economic benefits to local communities living in or around World Heritage properties in Africa.</p> <p>At the end of the Forum, it is expected that the 35 selected participants are capable of (i) using innovative and entrepreneurship knowledge and skills in business opportunity identification, financial resource mobilization for business start-ups and/or expansion, business plan development, the sustainability of World Heritage; (ii) identifying innovative and creative ideas, products or processes in the heritage field that could be used to form successful and sustainable business ventures; (iii) critically assessing their work product(s) and identify the sources of potential funding/partnership for their business start-ups and/or expansion; and (iv) producing a feasibility study of their business concept and develop a business plan for their business start-ups and/or expansion. Technical and financial support (grants) will be available to the most relevant and innovative entrepreneurship initiatives.</p>
8	October 2020	AWHF, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, WHC, ICCROM, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture of Benin	115,000 USD	<p>Benin/ Francophone Nomination Training.</p> <p>This training aimed at starting nomination projects. It included lectures, case studies, practical exercises aiming to introduce the World Heritage Convention (including the directives of the Operational Guidelines), management and conservation systems, sustainability strategies, etc. This workshop aimed at helping participants to familiarise themselves with World Heritage Nomination processes, including the identification of property attributes and values, assessment of potential OUV, conservation, protection and management requirements, as well as the entrepreneurship initiatives at World Heritage sites. A total of 20 participants were selected for the training, including 16 participants (2 participants per State Party working together on a nomination project) and 4 young participants (between 18 and 35 years old) with a project or experience in entrepreneurship.</p>

				As for the first workshop, a follow-up strategy will be developed through grant and mentorship in order to support the development of the nomination projects.
9	August 2020	AWHF, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, WHC, ICCROM, and Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment of South Africa	55,000 USD	<p>South Africa/ Online Nomination Workshop for Advanced Files.</p> <p>This online nomination workshop focused on the analysis and development of World Heritage nomination files currently being prepared by the African States Parties and which have reached an advanced stage of development. The workshop evaluated the state of readiness of the nomination projects and assisted in addressing outstanding issues. The workshop targeted up to 10 participants (2 per country) working on 5 nomination projects. The follow-up period has involved continuous mentorship as well as financial assistance (e.g. through Nomination Grants) for targeted nomination projects to be completed. Other support mechanisms were actively employed for timely and improved results such as the submission to the World Heritage Centre for a completeness check by 30 September 2020. The ultimate target was to assist States Parties in submitting complete nomination files to the World Heritage Centre by January 2021.</p>
10	November 2020	AWHF, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Malawi	55,000 USD	<p>Malawi/ Regional Field Workshop on Entrepreneurship around World Heritage sites in Africa. As part of the sustainable entrepreneurship programme promoted by AWHF, a field workshop was organized at Chongoni Rock Art Heritage Site in Malawi from 16th to 27th November 2020. The workshop has gather 16 participants mainly from African Rock Art Sites in view of defining economic potential, analysing stakeholders' spectrum and developing a sustainable business framework in relation to that kind of heritage asset. The management plan of Chongoni Rock Art Heritage was updated recently thanks to support from the World Heritage Fund.</p> <p>A similar field workshop is planned at Lope Okanda Cultural Landscape WHS, Gabon, in May 2021. It will be combined with the regional youth forum and provide on-site experience to African youth at World Heritage sites.</p>

Future projects (with funding sources identified)

CENTRAL AFRICA

(Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, D.R of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Sao Tome and Principe)

No.	Period	Donors/Funds	Amount	Project
1	2021-2023	European Union, World Bank	1,500,000 USD	<p>DR Congo/ Project to support the development of sustainable tourism in World Heritage properties.</p> <p>The objective of this project is to promote sustainable tourism which is one of UNESCO's strategic pillars. It involves fostering the diversification of World Heritage stakes and setting up mechanisms for community participation in sustainable tourism, by adopting an open conception of communities, meaning the consideration of plural and divergent visions. In a competitive context, promote the prestige of the World Heritage label of sites as a competitive advantage, making sustainable tourism a driver of community development, rather than just a banner to attract more visitors.</p>
2	2020-2025	FONAREDD	15,000,000 USD	<p>DR Congo/ UNESCO-WWF Joint Project in Supporting Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Environmental Education.</p> <p>The project, which will be developed jointly with WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature), will focus on six main lines of action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support to the National Strategy and Policies on Environmental / Territorial Planning; 2. Transboundary Resource Management / Regional Context;

				<ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Biodiversity and sustainable management (Synergy with the MAB programme, Integration of sustainable development/management);4. Protection and management of sites inscribed on the World Heritage List;5. Promotion of traditional knowledge, recognition and integration of the rights of indigenous peoples;6. Sensitization of youth and general public.
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EAST AFRICA

(Comoros, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania)

No.	Period	Donors/Funds	Amount	Project
1	2020-2021	Netherlands Funds-in-Trust	50,000 USD	Comoros/ Capacity-building in Sustainable Tourism Development and Management for World Heritage in Comoros. https://whc.unesco.org/en/nfit
2	2020-2021	Italian Agency for Development Cooperation	2,000,000 EUR (approx. 2,440,000 USD)	Ethiopia/ Restoration and Development of Historical Vernacular Buildings in the World Heritage Site of Aksum, Ethiopia.
3	2020	UNESCO	15,000 USD	Somalia/ Development of a national strategy for development of the culture sector, including establishment of a Tentative List and capacity-building in management and conservation.
4	2020	Japanese Government	400 000 USD	Tanzania/ Support the conservation work within the World heritage property by rehabilitating the only remaining cinema of Stone Town of Zanzibar (the Majestic Cinema) in order to revitalise the socio-economic development of the World Heritage site.
5	2021-2023	Government of Norway	250 000 USD	Kenya/ Support the development and implementation of corrective measures and a desired state of conservation for the removal of the Lake Turkana National Parks from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

WEST AFRICA/SAHEL

(Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Togo, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Niger, Senegal)

No.	Period	Donors/Funds	Amount	Project
1	2020-2022	ALIPH	909,324 USD	<p>Mali/ Reconstruction and rehabilitation of the built heritage of Bandiagara.</p> <p>This project aims to reconstruct and rehabilitate the destroyed built heritage, including houses, granaries, places for traditional cultural practices and cultural centres, as well as to replace and revive the production of cultural artefacts, and to safeguard non-functional ceremonial objects in a memorial collection. Thus, this project will contribute to the stabilization of the area and the strengthening of the social fabric, social cohesion and peace among all the communities of the Land of the Dogons, through the safeguarding and revival of cultural practices in the region.</p>
2	2020-2022		500,000 USD	<p>Mali/ Project of Rehabilitation of the Tomb of Askia.</p> <p>This project, entirely implemented by the Ministry of Culture of Mali and CRAterre, aims to implement several activities in order to achieve objectives for (i) the physical conservation of the buildings, (ii) the improvement of user comfort, (iii) the restoration of the integrity of the components of the property, (iv) the enhancement of knowledge and know-how, and (v) the promotion of the values of the property.</p>
3	2021-2024	MINUSMA German cooperation	3,000,000 USD	<p>Cultural Resilience Programme for Peace and Development in Mali.</p> <p>This programme is a large-scale intervention designed to integrate the national cultural heritage, revive cultural regeneration, stimulate the expansion and growth of cultural and creative industries while safeguarding Mali's intangible cultural heritage. The programme is consistent with Mali's reconstruction and development framework in which culture is defined as a priority, with a focus on Malians in terms of consultation, dialogue and re-engagement in development programmes such as cultural resilience and economic revitalization.</p>

4	2021-2022	Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	100,000 USD	<p>Côte d'Ivoire/ Support Program for the Preservation of the Historic Town of Grand-Bassam.</p> <p>This project aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the involvement of the private sector and patrons in the conservation in the Town of Grand Bassam; • Reinforce and deepen technical capacities and promote architectural prescriptions through South-South cooperation; • The touristical and cultural valorization of the Town of Grand Bassam.
5	2021-2022	France (French Ministry of Culture, Directorate General of Heritage and Architecture - World Heritage Mission)	30,000 EUR (approx. 36,500 USD)	Consolidation and maintenance of the structural integrity of Fort Amsterdam, a component of the Forts and Castles, Volta, Greater Accra, Central and Western Regions World Heritage property (Ghana).

SOUTHERN AFRICA

(Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Eswatini, Zambia, and Zimbabwe)

No.	Period	Donors/Funds	Amount	Project
1	2020-2021	Japanese Government	1,004,817 USD	<p>Zimbabwe/ Engaging with local communities in the conservation of the Matobo Hills Cultural Landscape.</p> <p>Duration: 2 years</p> <p>The project aims to strengthen the conservation and management strategy of the Matobo Hills Cultural Landscape (e.g. regular surveys of rock art sites to check the general state of conservation and report alterations, increase awareness of local communities/visitors on the importance of safeguarding the World Heritage site).</p> <p>It realizes the importance of social and economic empowerment of local communities (e.g. reinforcement of the Communal Areas Management Programme for Indigenous Resource (CAMPFIRE), support in the development of entrepreneurial skills, training in tourism-related competencies via the development of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) specific training modules).</p>
2	2020-2022	Japanese and Korean Governments	5,000,000 USD	<p>Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe / Unlocking the potential of cultural and natural heritage for socio-economic development.</p> <p>Duration: 3 Years</p> <p>This project aims to create a conducive environment to unlock the economic potential of cultural tourism and ecotourism in the region, as well as broaden and diversify cultural tourism on a regional level. The action will include the development or updating (where necessary) of an inclusive and comprehensive sustainable tourism strategy encompassing natural and cultural heritage. Particular attention will be placed on improving collaboration and cooperation among stakeholders identified as key actors in fostering cultural tourism. Project proposals are being</p>

				submitted to potential developing partners to include private sector partners, the Japanese, and the Korean Governments.
3	2020	Government of Norway	USD 100,000	Malawi/ Engagement with communities in the village enclaves and in the periphery of the Lake Malawi National Park to develop Sustainable Fisheries resource management programmes.

ACROSS SUB-REGIONS

No.	Period	Donors/Funds	Amount	Project
1	12-16 April 2021	AWHF, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kent University, Ministry of Arts and Culture of Cameroon	60,000 USD	Cameroon/ Regional Workshop on World Heritage and Sustainable Development in Africa: Implementing the 2015 Policy. Like the Anglophone experts workshop held in August 2019 at Robben Island (South Africa), this Francophone workshop aims to discuss ways to operationalize the 2015 Policy of World Heritage and Sustainable Development within the context of the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the United Nations' SDGs. The workshop to be organised in 2021 will gather 18 participants from various fields of expertise (heritage practitioners, academics, extractive industries, tourism, policy makers, etc.) who will reflect on their experience and on the possibility of improved dialogue, especially at site level including the Dja Faunal Reserve property. A follow up strategy will also be developed in combination with the outcomes of the Anglophone workshop.
2	February 2021 <i>(postponed until further notice)</i>	AWHF, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, WHC, WHITRAP, Ministry of Culture of Sao Tome e Principe	80,000 USD	Sao Tome and Principe/ Conservation and Tentative Listing field project. This field project is a collaborative initiative of AWHF with the World Heritage Institute of Training and Research in Asia and the Pacific (WHITRAP), a Category 2 centre under the auspices of UNESCO. Following up on previous efforts, this capacity-building project will aim to respond to the Global Strategy for a Representative, Balanced and Credible World Heritage List (1994) and the "Algiers Call to Action: Our Living Heritage for the African Renaissance", approved by the African Union Ministers of Youth, Culture and Sports in October 2018 in Algeria, which pays special attention to the eleven African States Parties to the World Heritage Convention without a single property inscribed on the World Heritage List. Sao Tome is one of those countries. The workshop will be structured around Tentative Listing, Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) and Impact Assessment approaches. It will target 16 participants from Portuguese Speaking Countries in Africa and Equatorial Guinea, and will constitute a building block for subsequent

				activities aiming at improving the conservation and management of heritage in Sao Tome and future World Heritage Nomination projects in Africa. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the workshop was postponed.
3	2020-2023	Japan Funds-in-Trust	800,000 USD	Burundi, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, South Sudan, Sierra Leone / Capacity-building programme for the nomination of World Heritage sites in the Africa Region Duration: 3 years
4	2021-2022	Netherland Funds-in-Trust France	50,000 USD 25,000 EUR (approx. 30,500 USD)	Modern Heritage of Africa (MoHoA) – Supporting the thematic study/gap analysis, the harmonization of Tentative Lists and the development of nominations. The objectives of the project will aim at supporting and integrating the Modern Heritage concept into World Heritage in the African context. Specifically, it aims to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • raise global awareness of the significance of Africa’s modern heritage and redefine the narrative and understanding of modern heritage in the African context; • organize an experts meeting on how to address Modern heritage of Africa under the World Heritage framework, following the recommendation of the Symposium on ‘Modern Heritage of Africa’; • dispose of a thematic study and gap analysis, and disseminate the outcome for better addressing modern heritage of Africa under the World Heritage framework; • promote the MoHoA initiative through a regional workshop for African National focal Points.

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE

No.	Date of approval	Amount	Country	Project
3184	12/05/2020	29 800 USD	Cameroon	Inventory of cultural heritage in and around the sites associated with the site of the Ancient Slave Port of Bimbia in view of their documentation and the strengthening of the UNESCO World Heritage nomination file.
3176	12/05/2020	24 425 USD	Côte d'Ivoire	Support for strengthening the monitoring and control of illegal gold panning in Comoé National Park (Côte d'Ivoire).
3175	12/05/2020	27 980 USD	Djibouti	Conducting a feasibility study of a site on the Tentative List for the preparation of a first nomination file.
3172	09/03/2020	4 527 USD	Ethiopia	To continue to work towards the identification of accessible limestone sources in Amhara regional state and the development of costed feasibility study for building a small-scale permanent lime kiln in Amhara Region (...).
3104	03/03/2020	29 760 USD	Gambia	Strengthening the valorisation of the Stone Circles of the Senegambia.
3084	10/07/2019	42 385 USD	Niger	International assistance request for the assessment of the 2012-2018 management plan and the development of the new management plan (2019-2024) of the Historic Centre of Agadez.
3173	09/03/2020	4 950 USD	Rwanda	Updating of the Tentative List of Rwanda and establishment of the National Committee for World Heritage.

No.	Date of approval	Amount	Country	Project
3180	12/05/2020	28 956 USD	Senegal	Project to strengthen the protection and promotion of the Djoudj National Bird Sanctuary.
3090	10/07/2019	96 850 USD	Seychelles	Minimising impacts of the invasive yellow crazy ant <i>Anoplolepis gracilipes</i> at the Vallée de Mai UNESCO world Heritage site, Seychelles to preserve its outstanding universal values.
3152	03/03/2020	29 500 USD	Tunisia	Finalization of the Protection and Promotion Plan (PPMV) for the Dougga / Thugga cultural site.
3189	12/05/2020	30 000 USD	Tunisia	Elaboration of the Conservation and Promotion Plan (PSMV) for the Medina of Tunis.
3177	12/05/2020	29 832 USD	United Republic Tanzania	of Elimination of waves and tides scouring action, restoration of stairs at Husuni Palace and community awareness educational programme.
3188	12/05/2020	30 000 USD	United Republic Tanzania	of The Review and the Update of the Management Plan Framework for Kondoa Rock Art World Heritage Site in Tanzania.
3185	12/05/2020	30 000 USD	Zimbabwe	Finalisation of the Mana Pools National Park, Sapi and Chevore Safari Areas Management Plan.