



ANNOUNCEMENT/CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Theme: “Living with World Heritage in Africa”
(26-29 September 2012), South Africa

The Government of the Republic of South Africa, in collaboration with the African World Heritage Fund and the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, are pleased to announce an International Conference on **“Living with World Heritage in Africa”**. The Conference is being organised on the occasion of the worldwide celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the UNESCO World Heritage Convention under the theme **“World Heritage and Sustainable Development: the role of local communities”**. The Conference will bring together high level decision makers from African Governments, heritage institutions, local communities and development sectors.

AFRICA CELEBRATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
“**LIVING WITH WORLD HERITAGE IN AFRICA.**”
26th -29th September 2012, South Africa

The Government of the Republic of South Africa, in collaboration with the African World Heritage Fund and the World Heritage Centre, are pleased to announce an **International Conference on “Living with World Heritage in Africa”** on the occasion of celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention. South Africa is hosting the conference on behalf of African States Parties to the World Heritage Convention. The International conference offers a platform for dialogue among stakeholders from Government institutions, heritage organisations, local communities and the development/private sector to discuss issues around World Heritage and Sustainable Development on the continent. The conference will result in the establishment of best practices and sustainable management approaches for World Heritage properties in Africa.

CONFERENCE THEME AND CONTENT

The conference will discuss experiences and explore possibilities related to “World Heritage and Sustainable Development” in Africa. The sub themes are (i) *World Heritage, sustainable development and poverty alleviation* and (ii) *World Heritage and Local Communities*. The conference will discuss the means and strategies of creating sustainable management systems for World Heritage on the African continent in the face of increasing developmental pressure. This will include addressing the changing land-use systems. Aspects that will run through the two sub-themes include identification of key issues and recommendations on good practices and strategies. The latter is expected to offer alternative but complimentary linkages between conservation and development as part of the African position in the global discussions on World Heritage and sustainable development at the occasion of celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention.

The International conference will consist of **colloquiums** for (i) African Ministers of Culture, Tourism, Environment and Mining (ii) local communities invited from World Heritage in Africa, (iii) development and private sector and (iv) Tourism Industry, and an **academic seminar** consisting of presentations of papers on cross cutting issues. On the side-lines of the conference programme videos/films and exhibitions will be shown to delegates.

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

The programme for the International conference will consist of colloquiums and an academic seminar:

1. Colloquiums (for):

- **Colloquium for African Ministers of Culture, Tourism, Environment and Mining**

The Colloquium for African Ministers will provide an opportunity for discussing World Heritage and Sustainable Development at regional level, thereby giving guidance to the African position for consideration by the World on the occasion of celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the World Heritage Convention.

- **Colloquium on World Heritage, Sustainable Development and poverty alleviation**

This sub-theme will have two parallel colloquiums:

a. Colloquium on World Heritage and Development/private sector

The colloquium will discuss strategies to ensure that development in Africa meets the present socio-economic needs but without compromising the future of World Heritage in Africa. This colloquium will discuss (1) how the pillars of sustainable development (environment, economics and social) are integrated into extractive and developments activities in and around World Heritage, (2) good practices for Sustainable Development around World Heritage properties, (3) implementation and challenges associated with Environmental Impact Assessments, (4) Sustainable Development and politics, and (5), strategic framework for achieving sustainability between World Heritage and extractive processes. The colloquium will also discuss (6) the varied and diverse poverty alleviation programmes and their impacts on World Heritage, and (8) provide guidelines on how communities can identify programmes that can co-exist with the values of the site. Target sectors include extractive industries,

fishing, forestry, oil and gas industries, infrastructural development agencies, agriculture, etc. in the context of public-private sector partnership.

b. Colloquium on World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism

The colloquium on World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism will explore: (1) tourism as one of the poverty alleviation strategies, (2) tourism policy and heritage resources in Africa; (3) marketing and financing for World Heritage, (4) the role of the private tourism sector at World Heritage sites, (5) sustainable management of World Heritage sites, (6) community (grass roots) beneficiation and involvement in World Heritage tourism projects.

- **Colloquium on World Heritage and Local Communities**

A colloquium on World Heritage and Local Communities seeks to understand and define the potential, but also the untapped role of communities in the management and development of World Heritage. Aspects to be discussed include: (1) experiences in living with World Heritage (from a community perspective), (2) the reality of beneficiation and involvement of communities living in and around World Heritage sites, (3) obligations/responsibilities of communities in the protection and conservation of World Heritage sites, (4) entrepreneurial opportunities at World Heritage, (5) strategies to strengthen local communities' role in sustainable tourism in and around World Heritage and (6) educational programmes to empower communities. The highlight of this sub-theme will be testimonies from invited communities living in and around World Heritage in Africa.

2. Academic seminar

The seminar on cross cutting issues will consist of parallel presentation of papers on: (i) World Heritage, sustainable development and poverty alleviation and (ii) World Heritage and Local Communities. The presentations will be guided by the number of approved papers.

SUBMISSION OF ACADEMIC PAPERS, VIDEOS/FILMS AND POSTER EXHIBITIONS

Potential delegates are invited to submit any or a combination of the following options for the International Conference: *academic papers, videos/films or poster exhibitions* no later than 16 July 2012.

a. Academic papers: Abstracts

Abstracts format (maximum 500 words):

- Preferred sub-theme
- Paper title
- Summary of the paper
- Name and affiliation of authors
- Contact details (*functional telephone and emails required*)

Submission of full papers

All delegates whose abstracts are approved for presentation during the International Conference will be expected to submit the full paper no later than 15 August 2012. The format and specifications for the papers will be sent to successful applicants.

b. Videos/films

Videos should be related to the theme of the conference and in your submission provide the following information:

- Title of the Video/film
- Theme of the video/film
- Summary of the video
- Duration of the video/film
- Name and affiliation of producers
- Contact details (*functional telephone and emails required*)

c. Posters/exhibitions

Delegates wishing to submit Poster Exhibitions are encouraged to provide the following information:

- Preferred sub-theme

- Exhibition title
- Summary of the exhibition
- Space requirements for the exhibition
- Any special considerations for the exhibitions
- Name and affiliation of authors
- Contact details (*functional telephone and emails required*)

Note: the organisers will not carry any cost of either sending/shipping the posters/exhibition materials to South Africa, or providing insurance for the material.

CONFERENCE GRANT (GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA)

The Government of the Republic of South Africa has limited grants for supporting selected delegates. The selection will be based on submission and approval of abstracts, posters and films prior to 15th July 2012. The limited grant will only cover a return ticket in economy class, transfers from the airport to the venue, accommodation and meals for the duration of the conference.

CONTACTS

For submission of abstracts, posters/exhibitions and films and further information on the International conference please contact:

- Thembi Malao: ThembiM@dac.gov.za
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