

# African World Heritage Fund

## Report for the 38th Session of the World Heritage Committee

### Midrand (South Africa), 04/03/2014

Date of the Report: 4 March 2014

#### 1. Background and mandate of the Centre

The African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) was created in 2006 and endorsed by the African Union Heads of States meeting the same year. It was granted the status of UNESCO Category II Centre in 2009 and the agreement between UNESCO and South Africa signed on 27 January 2010.

The AWHF's mandate is to strengthen the implementation of the 1972 World Heritage Convention in African States Parties, by facilitating the application of the decisions of the World Heritage Committee on the African continent. To that end, the AWHF shall assist African States Parties to:

- Prepare and update national inventories, tentative lists and nomination dossiers;
- Compile integrated management plans for the proper management and conservation of World Heritage properties located in the territory of the relevant African States Party;
- Comply with their obligations under the 1972 World Heritage Convention.

#### 2. Institutional and operational structure of the Centre (Governing Board, Staffing, Operational funding and premises)

The AWHF's 14<sup>th</sup> Board meeting was held in Swakopmund, Namibia on 5-6 December 2013. The Board of Trustees comprises 12 members including representatives of South Africa (host country), African regions and professionals, UNESCO and the African union. The secretariat comprises 8 officers.

The AWHF depends on voluntary contributions from States Parties to the Convention (mainly from Africa) to set up and consolidate the Endowment and Operation Fund. The programmes funding is provided by various partners.

#### 3. Programs and activities implemented since June 2013 and planned for the current year

The table below shows planned and ongoing main programs and activities with reference to the World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy through its 5C (Credibility, Conservation, Community, Communication, and Capacity Building).

N.	Title of the activity	Reference to WHCBS <sup>1</sup>
<b>1</b>	<b>MAKING THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST CREDIBLE REPRESENTATIVE AND BALANCED</b>	
1.1	Regional Tentative Listing Workshop for Southern Africa (South Africa, October 2013)	1.1, 2.3, 10.7
1.2	Online database on the African World Heritage properties ( <a href="http://www.awhf.net/geo-map">www.awhf.net/geo-map</a> )	6.2
1.3	Nomination training course Anglophone (Uganda, August 2013) and Francophone (Grand-Bassam, Cote d'Ivoire, November 2013)	1.1, 1.6, 2.2, 2.5, 2.8, 4.8, 10.7

<sup>1</sup> WHCBS stands for the World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy (see: <http://whc.unesco.org/archive/2011/whc11-35com-9Be.pdf>)

<b>2</b>	<b>CONTRIBUTE TO SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION OF WORLD HERITAGE SITES IN AFRICA</b>	
2.1	Grant assistance to Cote d'Ivoire ( <i>Preparation of a disaster risk management plan for Grand-Bassam</i> ), Madagascar ( <i>Review of management plan of the Royal Hill of Ambohimanga</i> ), Uganda ( <i>Documentation of traditional techniques and materials used in construction of traditional houses by the Ganda community at Kasubi and other communities in the East Africa region</i> )	4.9
2.2	Africa Nature Risk Preparedness workshop Anglophone (Golden Gate Park, South Africa, May 2013)	3.3, 3.6, 4.5
2.3	Risk preparedness workshops Anglophone (Great Zimbabwe, May 2013), Francophone (Dougga/Thugga, Tunisia, November 2013)	3.3, 3.6, 4.5
2.4	Risk management field project Francophone (Abomey Palaces, Benin, April 2013), Anglophone (Le Morne cultural landscape, Mauritius, November 2013)	4.3
2.5	A series of entrepreneurial capacity building activities at World Heritage sites including entrepreneurship workshops Francophone (Saloum Delta, Senegal, May 2014) and Anglophone (Forts and castles of Ghana, May 2014)	5.2, 5.3, 8.2, 8.3
2.6	Ongoing research on traditional management systems in Africa	4.7, 4.9, 7.1
2.7	Publication of " <i>Managing the impacts of development activities and resource extraction in and around World Heritage properties in the Africa region</i> " (Proceedings of expert meeting and situational analysis) and of a coffee table book on " <i>World Heritage sites in Africa</i> "	4.7, 4.9
<b>3</b>	<b>PROMOTION, NETWORKING AND PARTNERING ACTIVITIES</b>	
3.1	Launching of " <i>African World Heritage: A remarkable diversity</i> " (Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, April 2013)	9.1
3.2	Participation consultative meeting of Portuguese Speaking countries (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, September 2013). Coordinated by Lucio Costa	10.4
3.3	Participation to regional groupings meetings in Africa (ECOWAS, CEEAC, SADC)	10.7
3.4	Fundraising side event at the 22th African Union Heads of States Summit (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 31 January 2024) having raised additional US\$ 3.2 million pledges to the Endowment Fund	6.1, 6.3, 10.8
3.5	Participation to various meetings such as the Corporate Social Investment conference (Johannesburg, South Africa, May 2013), the United Nations World Tourism Organization, UNTWO meeting (Victoria Falls, Zambia/Zimbabwe, August 2013), the General Assembly of Consortium of African Funds for Environment, CAFÉ (Antsiranana, Madagascar, September 2013) and the workshop on resource mobilization strategies and 15e RedLAc General Assembly (San Jose, Costa Rica, November 2013)	10.8

4. Website of the Centre: [www.awhf.net](http://www.awhf.net)

5. Designated Focal Point:

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