



INTERNSHIP: 6 MONTH INTERNSHIP

VENUE 1: Midrand, South Africa (AWHF) **DATE:** 01 April – 30 September 2015

VENUE 2: Porto-Novo, Benin (EPA) **DATE:** 01 March – 31 August 2015

ORGANISERS: The African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) and Ecole du Patrimoine Africain (EPA)

FUNDING: Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, African World Heritage Fund

1- Background

In accordance with the World Heritage Convention, the Second Cycle of Periodic Reporting for the Africa region took place in 2009-2011. The Action Plan from the Periodic Report (2011) identified five priority areas to be addressed in the region:

- i. Improve the representation of African heritage sites on the World Heritage List through the preparation of successful nomination dossiers;
- ii. Improve the state of conservation at World Heritage properties by effective risk management, increased community involvement and direct economic benefits to local communities;
- iii. Effectively manage existing properties by recognizing, documenting and formalizing traditional management systems and fully incorporating them into existing management mechanisms;
- iv. Develop and implement strategies to enable States Parties to effectively address the challenge of balancing heritage conservation and development needs, and;
- v. Establish, and implement, necessary mechanisms for heritage conservation, protection and management in pre-conflict, conflict and post-conflict situations.

The Periodic Report identified capacity building as a critical tool for effective conservation and management of World Heritage properties. Capacity building initiatives, which may include workshops, field projects and research projects, ensure sustainable implementation of the Convention. The African World Heritage Fund (AWHF), in collaboration with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, ICCROM, the Ecole du Patrimoine Africain (EPA), the Centre for Heritage Development in Africa (CHDA) and the Nordic World Heritage Foundation (NWHF), has developed an Implementation programme to start addressing the priority areas identified in the Periodic Report. The programme includes research, training workshops, field projects and internships. Although all these initiatives contribute significantly to skills development, internships tend to offer in-depth training and more exposure to practical work in capacity building institutions or at World Heritage sites.

Two internships will run in 2015, one at AWHF in Midrand (South Africa) and one at EPA in Porto-Novo (Benin). AWHF was launched in 2006 to support African State Parties in implementing the UNESCO Convention on the protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage. EPA was established in 1998 and is a post-graduate university institution specialised in the preservation and promotion of both tangible and intangible heritage.

2- Objectives of the internship

- Provide an opportunity for young African professionals to gain regional experience in international heritage organisations.

- Build capacity and enhance skills in heritage conservation and management for both heritage professionals and heritage institutions.
- Establish an African/international support network for management of cultural/natural heritage in order to build the institutional capacity needed to implement the Convention
- Support the successful implementation of the programme.

3- Expected outcomes

- The interns have gained experience and knowledge in heritage management and in the implementation of projects.
- A programme and internship report produced by the intern.

4- Structure of the internship

The internship will be 6 months and be structured as follows:

- Interns will be mainly based at the work place of the institutions to gain experience in the structure and dynamic of heritage institutions and to support the implementation of the programme initiatives.
- There will be a degree of field based learning through site visits of World Heritage Properties and/or during the implementation of programme initiatives.
- The internship system will combine theory and practice in order for interns to get as much exposure as possible.

5- Working language

The working language is English for the AWHF internship and French for the EPA internship.

6- Participants

2 interns will be selected to take part in 2 separate internships. Applicants include students (graduate), professionals or members of natural/cultural heritage and academic institutions (not necessarily within the heritage sector). Applicants must be 30 years of age or below. The project is open to participants from all African countries. Applicants are required to be competent in either English or French, bilingualism is preferable (English/French) and knowledge of Arabic or Portuguese can be an advantage.

Eligible female practitioners are encouraged to apply.

7- Applying for the internship

All applicants should submit the following **application package**:

1. The completed **application form**;
2. A signed letter of recommendation from applicant's university or administrative authority/supervisor;
3. A letter of motivation by the applicant (1 page);
4. Applicant's updated curriculum vitae (3 pages maximum).

8- Deadline

The complete application package should be sent **at the latest on the 6th February 2015 via electronic emails to:** AWHF - Pamela Mac Quilkan (PamelaM4@awhf.net) with copy to EPA (epa@epa-prema.net).

Please copy your electronic application and any appendix or request/information to the two emails above.

9- Funding

The costs for the internship will be covered by the organisers.