

World Heritage Volunteers 2015

Patrimoni takes a stand in a changing global environment

Project Description

Title	WHV - History lives at Herculaneum!
Site	The Archaeological Areas of Pompei, Herculaneum and Torre Annunziata
Status	Cultural site inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1997
Project location	Corso Resina, Ercolano, Campania, Italy
Project dates	04 July 2015 to 15 July 2015
Site description	When Vesuvius erupted on August, 24 th , AD 79, it engulfed the two flourishing Roman towns of Pompei and Herculaneum, as well as the many wealthy villas in the area. These have been progressively excavated and made accessible to the public since the mid-18 th century. The vast expanse of the commercial town of Pompei contrasts with the smaller but better-preserved remains of the holiday resort of Herculaneum, while the superb wall paintings of the Villa Oplontis at Torre Annunziata give a vivid impression of the opulent lifestyle enjoyed by the wealthier citizens of the Early Roman Empire.
Project objectives	The objectives of the Youth action camp organized by "Youth Action for Peace Italia" are to raise awareness about the Archaeological Areas of Herculaneum and World Heritage Volunteers. They also aim to raise awareness about international voluntary service to the local community as a tool for solidarity and for the development of sustainable concepts. Lastly, they want to promote the safeguard of the heritage among local youngsters.
Project activities	The project will consist of awareness raising, educational and maintenance activities. The awareness raising and educational activities will include an introduction about the daily work of the Herculaneum Conservation Project, workshops about the archaeological site, welcome activities and guided tours for the tourists carried out by the volunteers, cultural events with local associations and meetings with social and cultural local institutions. The volunteers will use non formal education tools about World Heritage and social media to share the value of the site and will finally produce a documentary made of interviews with citizens and tourists. In Parallel, the volunteers will carry out different maintenance activities around the archaeological site as collecting garbage and cleaning gardens, with a particular focus on Via Mare – a street in which Herculaneum Centre focuses attention for urban projects to connect a marginalized area to the heritage site.
Organisation	YAP (Youth Action for Peace) Italy
Partners	Pro Loco Herculanevm; Municipality of Ercolano; Youth Forum; Herculaneum Centre
Contact person	Mr. Luca Coppola yap@yap.it

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Project Description

Title	WHV - Zvartnots Cathedral
Site	Cathedral and Churches of Echmiatsin and the Archaeological Site of Zvartnots
Status	Cultural site inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2000
Project location	Zvartnots Cathedral, Ejmiatsin, Armavir Region, Armenia
Project dates	15 July 2015 to 28 July 2015
Site description	The cathedral and churches of Echmiatsin and the archaeological remains at Zvartnots graphically illustrate the evolution and development of the Armenian central-domed cross-hall type of church, which exerted a profound influence on architectural and artistic development in the region.
Project objectives	The project aims to raise attraction for the tourists towards the site and to raise awareness of the volunteers about World Heritage sites in Armenia and the World. In addition, the project mainly aims to maintain of the ruins of Cathedral at the Archaeological Site of Zvartnots.
Project activities	Volunteers will perform dusting, cleaning from dirt and weeds, to clear the main alleys from the entrance to the site Also, the volunteers will help the museum by editing and revising the materials about the site to be published as platters, posters and brochures, as well as translation of those materials in other languages. In the frame of the educational part the volunteers will participate in the sessions on World Heritage and the World Heritage Volunteers programme.
Organisation	HUJ – Voluntary Service of Armenia
Partners	Directorate of Zvartnots Museum; Service for the Protection of Historical Environment and Cultural Museum Reservations at Ministry of Culture of Armenia
Contact person	Philipp Melikyan huj@arminco.com

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Project Description

Title	WHV - L'Île d'Aix Liedot Fortification
Site	Arsenal de Rochefort et fortifications de l'estuaire de la Charente
Status	Site on the Tentative List in 2002
Project location	Le Fort Liédot, France
Project dates	03 September 2015 to 24 September 2015
Site description	Créé ex nihilo en 1666 par Louis XIV sur les conseils de Colbert, pour doter la façade atlantique de la France d'une base maritime sûre, l'arsenal de Rochefort, qui compte des monuments aussi prestigieux que la corderie royale (dessinée par Blondel), ou les bassins de radoub, est situé 24 km en retrait de la mer, en suivant le cours de la Charente, afin de se préserver d'un débarquement ennemi. La ville qui s'est construite selon un plan régulier en quadrillage, à proximité et sans jamais fusionner avec l'arsenal, fut à son tour englobée dans une enceinte achevée en 1690. La défense de l'arsenal devait être assurée par la fortification du Pertuis et notamment de l'Île d'Aix, seul point à pouvoir garantir la défense de la rade. L'estuaire de la Charente offre ainsi un ensemble de forts et de redoutes, satellites de Rochefort, préexistants, construits ou prévus dans le même temps que l'arsenal et servant à sa défense.
Project objectives	The project aims to maintain and restore the fort regularly. The aim of this project is also to raise awareness among young people, the local people and the tourists in the region about the World Heritage and the importance to conserve and protect it. In addition, the project aims to promote and preserve of the site by the locals, municipalities and project managers in the near future.
Project activities	The volunteers will focus on the practical works such as dismantling the wall and rebuilding it identically. Additionally, through discussions and the planning of education activities volunteers will raise their knowledge of World Heritage and teach this to other people in the community, creating an atmosphere of education and solidarity. In addition, following up the previous project of last year, the volunteers will begin a second phase of the work, renovating of another walkway which is falling apart. Furthermore, the volunteers will assist to collect the presence sheet from the visitors in order to figure out the number of visitors who get help to visit.
Organisation	Solidarités Jeunesses
Partners	Ministère de la Culture et de la Communication, Regional Council; "Architectes des bâtiments de France", Conservatoire du Littoral ; School of d'Île d'Aix ; High school of Fouras and Rochefort ; Mission Locale of Rochefort-Oléron; Comune of l'Île d'Aix; Cultural and athletic associations of the Pays Rochefortais territory
Contact person	Benoît Fauchereau dr.bateleur@gmail.com

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Project Description

Title	WHV - Keeping on landscaping and caring for Vernazza
Site	Portovenere, Cinque Terre and the Islands (Palmaria, Tino and Tinetto)
Status	Cultural site inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1997
Project location	Vernazza, La Spezia, Italy
Project dates	09 July 2015 to 19 July 2015
Site description	The Ligurian coast between Cinque Terre and Portovenere is a cultural landscape of great scenic and cultural value. The layout and disposition of the small towns and the shaping of the surrounding landscape, overcoming the disadvantages of a steep, uneven terrain, encapsulate the continuous history of human settlement in this region over the past millennium.
Project objectives	During october 2011 "Cinque Terre" were swept away by landslides and floods cause the strong rains with big damages to the houses and the agricultural grounds terraced cultivated in vineyards and sustained by dry wall. Different farmers abandoned the care of the grounds and the vineyards. Some of these grounds have been given by the owners to the association "Tu quoque" to preserve the agricultural and historical patrimony of the territory. The project therefore foresees the reconstruction of dry wall of such grounds. The association invites national and international volunteers who will actively learn how to rebuilt the famous dry stone walls incorporating also the intangible knowledge, become a good working and supportive team and act as sensible educators about the terraced landscape issues towards tourists as well as local people.
Project activities	The volunteers will collaborate with local masters of dry wall building to clear and sort the materials, firstly in small groups of two persons and once learnt the process they can be involved in the positioning of the materials for the construction of the dry wall and the preservation of the cultures from abandonment. There will be a survey to tourists and local inhabitants on how much they are aware of the issue of the dry stone walls to make them aware of the importance of terraced landscapes at local and worldwide scale.
Organisation	Tu Quoque
Partners	Local parish; ITLA (International Terraced Landscape Alliance) and it's Italian branch; IBO (International Building Organization)
Contact person	Margherita Ermirio tuquoquevernazza@gmail.com

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Project Description

Title	WHV - Parks and Gardens of Classical Weimar
Site	Classical Weimar
Status	Cultural site inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1998
Project location	Weimar, Germany
Project dates	18 July 2015 to 01 August 2015
Site description	In the late 18 th and early 19 th centuries the small Thuringian town of Weimar witnessed a remarkable cultural flowering, attracting many writers and scholars, notably Goethe and Schiller. This development is reflected in the high quality of many of the buildings and of the parks in the surrounding area. The World Heritage properties comprise twelve separate buildings or ensembles.
Project objectives	The project aims to carry out practical works at the gardens and parks by restoration, reconstruction and maintenance. In addition, they will promote World Heritages and World Heritage Volunteers initiative to the local public by creating 'stable structure'. The project also combines preservation and protection activities at the World Heritage site with an educational part aiming to contribute to the sustainable management of natural and cultural heritage and a promotional part about World Heritage.
Project activities	As following of the WHV, projects started in 2012. The project will support the revitalisation of abandoned parts of <i>Belvedere Park</i> . The 14 volunteers from 14 countries will uncover and restore historical paths which had been disappeared some decades ago based on historical plans and in intensive cooperation with the site management. Working in group alternating day to day work, they will carry out different gardening, preservation and protection works in the other parks belonging to the World Heritage together with the local workers. A special highlight will be the opening of a photo exhibition about all German World Heritage Sites prepared by the German National Commission for UNESCO and the German Federal Foreign Office and presented in cooperation with European Heritage Volunteers and Klassik Stiftung Weimar. The vernissage of the exhibition will be combined with a public presentation of World Heritage sites in the countries of origin of the participants of the World Heritage Volunteers project.
Organisation	Open Houses
Partners	Klassik Stiftung Weimar (Weimar Classic Foundation); German National Commission for UNESCO; European Heritage Volunteers; Weimar-Jena Academy; Thuringian Green League
Contact person	Mr. Bert Ludwig info@openhouses.de

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Project Description

Title	WHV – United for nature conservation in Curonian Spit
Site	Curonian Spit
Status	Cultural site inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2000
Project location	Nida, Neringa county, Lithuania
Project dates	30 July 2015 to 10 August 2015
Site description	Human habitation of this elongated sand dune peninsula, 98 kilometres long and 0.4 – 4 kilometres wide, dates back to prehistoric times. Throughout this period it has been threatened by the natural forces of wind and waves. Its survival to the present day has been made possible only as a result of ceaseless human efforts to combat the erosion of the Spit, dramatically illustrated by continuing stabilisation and reforestation projects.
Project objectives	The project aims to contribute to the preservation of Curonian Spit's biodiversity as a part of World Heritage landscape by eradication of invasive species and to increase public awareness about eutrophication – the single biggest threat to the Baltic Sea, Curonian Lagoon and their coastal areas. At the end of the 10 days project 500 people will know about threat of eutrophication and their personal impact to this process and mostly by invasive species affected areas in Curonian Spit will be cleaned.
Project activities	The project combines a practical part and an awareness raising part: For four days the local and international volunteers will clean under supervision of experts areas, mostly affected by invasive plant – <i>Robinia pseudoakacija</i> . The three days at the beginning of the project and the three days at the end – the weekends when tourists are usually visiting the Curonian Spit – will create the frame for the practical works: The volunteers will carry out a campaign in order to increase environmental awareness about eutrophication in Baltic Sea, spreading printed material in different locations of Curonian Spit, explaining causes and consequences of eutrophication, supporting educational events about eutrophication and teaching visitors how to use the eutrophication footprint calculator.
Organisation	Lithuanian Fund for Nature
Partners	Kursiu nerija (Curonian Spit) National Park administration
Contact person	Mrs. Julija Petrošiūtė julija.p@glls.lt

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Project Description

Title	WHV – National Park Durmitor – Green (R)evolution
Site	Durmitor National Park
Status	Natural site inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1980
Project location	Zabljak, Montenegro
Project dates	30 June 2015 to 11 July 2015
Site description	Durmitor National Park comprises Mount Durmitor plateau and the valley formed by the canyon of the River Tara, incorporating three major geomorphologic features: canyons, mountains and plateaux. This breathtaking national park was formed by glaciers and is traversed by rivers and underground streams. Along the Tara river canyon, which has the deepest gorges in Europe, the dense pine forests are interspersed with clear lakes and harbour a wide range of endemic flora. Because of its geographical location and range in altitude, the park is under the influence of both Mediterranean and alpine microclimates, which has resulted in an exceptional range of species.
Project objectives	The organisers aim by support of the national and international volunteers to empower the local community to develop a responsible attitude towards natural resources and their place of residence. This is followed by promotion of ways of sustainable development and sustainable use of resources for the development of rural areas in protected regions to the local community and beneficiaries. Also the project aims to serve as a best-practice example for other communities in the north of Montenegro. The project seeks to work towards sustainable management of households and the environment in Durmitor and the promotion of the concept in the north of Montenegro in general.
Project activities	The first steps in achieving the projects' objectives are holding workshops on composting units to international and local volunteers. Volunteers can gain knowledge of the Almost parallel to this, the volunteers will conduct a promotional campaign in the city of Žabljak with focusing on sustainable development and composting. The campaign will include door to door flyer distribution, since Žabljak is a small and hospitable town, and the volunteers will present the project activities along with promotion of World Heritage sites. In addition, volunteers will construct houses with composting and sustainable living conditions for households And finally, an open-house demonstration of the units for the local community is planned.
Organization	Association for democratic prosperity-Zid (ADP-Zid)
Partners	National Park Durmitor, Touristic organization Žabljak; Office for Youth
Contact person	Mrs. Nina Lončarević voc@zid.org.me

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Project Description

Title	WHV - Suomenlinna - Impacting the Sustainability of a Fortress
Site	Fortress Suomenlinna
Status	Cultural site inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1991
Project location	Suomenlinna, Helsinki, Finland
Project dates	02 August 2015 to 15 August 2015
Site description	Built in the second half of the 18 th century by Sweden on a group of islands located at the entrance of Helsinki's harbour, this fortress is an especially interesting example of European military architecture of the time.
Project objectives	The project aims to maintain the most ecologically vulnerable parts of the fortress landscape, to speed up of the most labour intensive restoration works, to raise awareness of Suomenlinna's sustainability issues among the visitors and local Helsinki residents and to promote voluntary work and participation for the protection and development of the fortress.
Project activities	Under supervision of the experts of the Governing Body of Suomenlinna, the volunteers will remove harmful vegetation and thereby prevent – especially on the ramparts – the expansion of harmful species. In addition, they will repair window frames, carry out painting works, construct steps on the ramparts and collect seeds as the restoration work. The volunteers will also activate social media of the volunteering in Suomenlinna and organize the open forum on exchange of ideas among the local residents, artists and artisans. In order to help waste management and recycling, the volunteers will perform an testing-group in choosing the symbols and images. Lastly, they will produce the film documentation of the World Heritage Volunteers Work Camp.
Organisation	The Governing Body of Suomenlinna
Partners	Allianssi Youth Exchanges; Finnish Youth Centres & Hostel Suomenlinna; Viapori Forum association for artists and artisans in Suomenlinna; Helsinki International Artist Programme; Ehrensverd Society; Voluntary residents of Suomenlinna
Contact person	Mr. Petteri Takkula petteri.takkula@suomenlinna.fi

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Project Description

Title	WHV - China meets Hallstatt
Site	Hallstatt-Dachstein / Salzkammergut Cultural Landscape
Status	Cultural site inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1997
Project location	Hallstatt, Austria, Europe
Project dates	19 July 2015 to 01 August 2015
Site description	Human activity in the magnificent natural landscape of the Salzkammergut began in prehistoric times, with the salt deposits being exploited as early as the 2nd millennium BC. This resource formed the basis of the area's prosperity up to the middle of the 20th century, a prosperity that is reflected in the fine architecture of the town of Hallstatt.
Project objectives	In the city of Huizhou in the province of Guangdong in China an estate company and investment group rebuilt the Austrian alpine village of Hallstatt World Heritage Site. This project had aroused an intensive discussion about the value and uniqueness of historic buildings and sites in Austria. "China meets Hallstatt" focuses on two key aspects. Through the international youth exchange Chinese volunteers got the chance to get to know the real Hallstatt. They will have the possibility to learn about day-to-day business of this unique alpine village and about the duties and challenges to preserve the village. The volunteers aren't going to see Hallstatt as a touristic scenery but as a vivid, active and prosperous world heritage site and work and live together with Austrian volunteers. "China meets Hallstatt" is also an instrument to promote tourism and peace and to develop new friendly relations between Austrian and Chinese youth organisations. 2015 it will be the second year of "China meets Hallstatt".
Project activities	The volunteers will help to maintain the avalanche protection and the protection forest. They will get a deep knowledge and understanding of the significance how alpine villages struggle with natural disasters in the past, present and in the future. In addition the project fosters the intercultural understanding among the Austrian and Chinese Volunteers about living and working in a World Heritage Site in the Alps. There will be a strong intercultural exchange between the Chinese and Austrian volunteers and the local youth.
Organisation	Marktgemeinde Hallstatt
Partners	Austrian Youth Alpine Association; Austrian Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control; Austria Federal Forests; Catholic Church Club of Hallstatt
Contact person with email address	Mr. Ronald Würflinger ronald.wuerflinger@gmx.at

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Project Description

Title	WHV - The Whitewashed Heritage of Évora
Site	Historic Centre of Évora, Portugal
Status	Cultural site inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1986
Project location	Évora, Portugal
Project dates	02 October 2015 to 15 October 2015
Site description	This museum-city, whose roots go back to Roman times, reached its golden age in the 15th century, when it became the residence of the Portuguese kings. Its unique quality stems from the whitewashed houses decorated with <i>azulejos</i> and wrought-iron balconies dating from the 16th to the 18th century. Its monuments had a profound influence on Portuguese architecture in Brazil.
Project objectives	The project aims to insure an active participation of Évora's youth in the preservation of the Historic Centre, to educate the youth in the matters of the difficulty and responsibility in the management and preservation of the Historic Centre, to implement a sense of community in the preservation of the architectural and urban integrity of the classified area of Évora, to preserve and develop the application of traditional techniques of the region in the maintenance of the Historical Centre and to honor the responsibility of the World Heritage acknowledgment by UNESCO.
Project activities	The volunteers will receive a formation in limestone preparation for the whitewash coating, in order to access the restoration of specific areas within the classified historical centre. The formation and application process will be held with specialists in the field of traditional techniques, which will accompany all stages of the volunteer work. Within the framework of the practical activities, there will be held specific guided tours directed at the preservation of traditional techniques as well as visits to the Historical Centre, in order to raise awareness regarding the singularity that defines this specific site.
Organisation	Évora's Municipality
Partners	Academic Association of the University of Évora, UNESCO Centre «Sciences Village»
Contact person with email address	Mr. Gustavo Val-Flores guvalflores@cm-evora.pt

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Project Description

Title	WHV – Ancient L'viv – Crossroads of Cultures
Site	L'viv – the Ensemble of the Historic Centre
Status	Cultural site inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1998
Project location	L'viv, Ukraine
Project dates	02 August 2015 to 16 August 2015
Site description	The city of L'viv, founded in the late Middle Ages, was a flourishing administrative, religious and commercial centre for several centuries. The medieval urban topography has been preserved virtually intact (in particular, there is evidence of the different ethnic communities who lived there), along with many fine Baroque and later buildings.
Project objectives	The project aims to raise awareness of the group of international volunteers about World Heritage issues. At the same time it aims to raise awareness in the local community on the issues related to the World Heritage, to continue campaigning for preservation of the World Heritage site, for more thoughtful utilization of it and the role of the community in it. Finally, the project will perform concrete tasks which would help to preserve a historical park in the centre of L'viv city.
Project activities	The project will start with seminars and workshops open for both international and Ukrainian volunteers on World Heritage topics. At the seminars and workshops, the volunteers will be able to run discussions and activities with locals regarding World Heritage issues. On the base of the hereby received knowledge the volunteers will be able to organize and run non-formal education workshops for local children and youth about cultural heritage which will be promoted and supported by local mass-media. Additionally the volunteers will prepare stands dedicated to World Heritage sites in countries of participants. In Parallel, for those awareness raising activities, the volunteers will clean and maintain concrete zones of one of the parks of L'viv.
Organisation	Alternative-V
Partners	"Zelenyi L'viv" (Green L'viv), L'viv City State Administration
Contact person	Mrs. Anna Isaieva alterplace@gmail.com