WHV - Borobudur the 25th anniversary listed in UNESCO WH List and beyond: LMTV Program

Borobudur Temple Compounds, Indonesia

Cultural property inscribed on the World Heritage List since 1991

01/02/2016 - 30/09/2016

The Borobudur Temple Compounds is one of the greatest Buddhist monuments in the world, and was built in the 8th and 9th centuries AD during the reign of the Syailendra Dynasty. The monument is located in the Kedu Valley, in the southern part of Central Java, at the centre of the island of Java, Indonesia. The main temple is a stupa built in three tiers around a hill which was a natural centre: a pyramidal base with five concentric square terraces, the trunk of a cone with three circular platforms and, at the top, a monumental stupa. The walls and balustrades are decorated with fine low reliefs, covering a total surface area of 2,520 m². Around the circular platforms are 72 openwork stupas, each containing a statue of the Buddha. The vertical division of Borobudur Temple into base, body, and superstructure perfectly accords with the conception of the Universe in Buddhist cosmology.

Project objectives: The project, which is the only World Heritage Volunteers activity where participants serve for several months, aims at raising awareness, developing and implementing ideas with local students from different schools nearby the site, in Central Java and Jogja Provinces. This project aims to involve them in the celebrations for the 25th Anniversary of the inscription of Borobudur Temple Compounds in the World Heritage List in 1991.

Project activities: The medium- and long-term volunteers will visit junior high schools and high schools in Magelang Regency to promote the Heritage Hunt organized at the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of Borobudur's inscription. They will also work with the local Young Guardians Club for their annual planning and training, joining and supporting the organization of their weekly activities, and introducing through
lectures and presentations World Heritage sites from other countries. They will also be engaged with the site management to discuss and contribute to the long term strategies put in place for Borobudur, between the challenges of tourist management and the conservation needs of the property. They will at this occasion also have the possibility to learn hands-on about the tools and techniques used to clean the stones of Borobudur Temple Compounds.

**Partners:** Young Guardians Club Borobudur, Borobudur Conservation Office, and Office of Education and Culture of Magelang Regency.