

# WHV – Restoration of the Great Zimbabwe National Monument

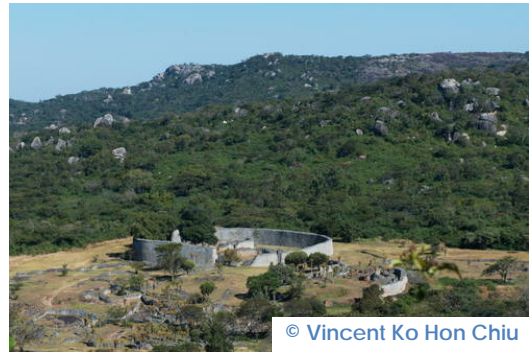
*Great Zimbabwe National Monument, Zimbabwe*

◆ Cultural property inscribed on the World Heritage List since 1986

09/06/2016 – 28/06/2016



The ruins of Great Zimbabwe – the capital of the Queen of Sheba, according to an age-old legend – are a unique testimony to the Bantu civilization of the Shona between the 11th and 15th centuries. The city, which covers an area of nearly 80 ha, was an important trading center and was renowned from the Middle Ages onwards.



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**Project objectives:** The site was partially destroyed and gutted by fire in 2015. In this context, the main objective of project is to restore some areas of the Great Zimbabwe National Monument and get youth involved in the preservation of the site. It also aims to raise awareness among local and international people, particularly local youth, about the need to preserve and protect the site.

**Project activities:** The volunteers will be involved in the restoration of the Monuments stone walls. They will refurbish the houses by building stone walls and houses using clay as cement. They will also remove the invasive plant, called Lantana Camara which weakens the other species in the forest while planting trees in the Rainforest. On the other hand, the volunteers will run awareness raising activities towards local community about preserving the site and their culture. They will collaborate with CBT (Community Based Tourism), a local community, by organizing an intercultural night to share their ideas and experiences of preservation of the World Heritage.

**Partners:** National Committee of UNESCO, Ministry of Rural Development and Culture Heritage, Ministry of Environment, Water and Climate, and Ministry of Tourism and Hospitality industry.