WHV - Rwenzori Mountain National Park

Rwenzori Mountains National Park, Uganda

Natural property inscribed on the World Heritage List since 1994

The Rwenzori mountains National park covers nearly 100,000 ha in western Uganda and comprises the main part of the Rwenzori mountain chain, which includes Africa’s third highest peak (Mount Margherita: 5,109 m). The region’s glaciers, waterfalls and lakes make it one of Africa’s most beautiful alpine areas. The park has many natural habitats of endangered species and a rich and usual flora comprising, among other species, the giant heather.

Project objectives: The main objective of the action camp is to protect the flora and fauna of the Rwenzori Mountains National Park by taking action on the buffer zones of the protected area. The project also aims at giving a better visibility for the property to the local population in order to increase their sense of ownership of the park.

Project activities: The volunteers will plant and make a survey on endemic trees species in the buffer zones of the park. They will also take part to the establishment of unpalatable crops gardens around the site to prevent primates from crossing into community gardens. To get the population mobilized on the protection of the property, the volunteers will screen relevant films about World Heritage and they will produce awareness raising and advocacy materials. A campaign of promotion of sustainable tourism to safeguard the park and its biodiversity will be also undertaken. Finally, the volunteers will create a documentary, run heritage festivals, organize sensitization workshops in neighboring schools and communities, and conduct dialogue and intercultural exchanges on World Heritage issues with the local communities.

Partners: Local authorities, Uganda Wildlife Authority, Mountain Rwenzori National park, Uganda Tourism Board, and Wildlife clubs of Uganda.

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