

**Abstracts selected for presentation to the International Conference
“Safeguarding African World Heritage as a Driver of Sustainable Development”,**

Arusha (Tanzania) 31 May to 3 June 2016

**1. Engaging communities in conservation and sustainable development
of African World Heritage: Lessons learned from COMPACT**

Terence Hay-Edie, Programme Advisor on Biodiversity and Regional Focal Point,
UNDP/GEF Small Grants Programme terence.hay-edie@undp.org

Jessica Brown, Principal, Oldtownhill Associates jbrown@oldtownhill.org

SUB-THEME: Environmental sustainability, inclusive social and economic development

Integrating sustainable development perspectives into World Heritage processes in Africa will require community engagement in all stages of the World Heritage cycle. With over 15 years of on-the-ground experience in countries of Africa, Asia, Meso-America and the Caribbean, the *Community Management of Protected Areas Conservation* (COMPACT) initiative offers an innovative model for community engagement in World Heritage – one that links biodiversity conservation with helping to improve the livelihoods of local people, while reinforcing equitable, effective governance and traditional management systems. This rich experience has resulted in a [benchmark publication](#) on lessons learned, and a methodological guide recently published as [World Heritage Paper 40](#).

This presentation will introduce COMPACT and its landscape-level work with indigenous and local communities in and near World Heritage sites in Kenya, Tanzania, Senegal, Mauritania, Ethiopia and Madagascar. An initiative of the UNDP/GEF Small Grants Programme and partners, including the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and United Nations Foundation, the COMPACT model is now being replicated at several new sites in Africa. Using a participatory methodology that takes a common systematic approach, COMPACT has demonstrated how community-based initiatives can significantly increase the effectiveness of biodiversity conservation in World Heritage sites and other globally significant protected areas by working to improve the livelihoods of local populations ([Brown and Hay-Edie 2014](#)). It offers a concrete example of how to operationalize elements of the recently adopted [Policy Document for the Integration of a Sustainable Development Perspective into the Processes of the World Heritage Convention](#). Touching on several key conference themes (environmental sustainability and inclusive social and economic development), COMPACT experts from Africa will present case-study experience highlighting issues related to equitable and effective governance, food sovereignty, and traditional ecological knowledge. Reflecting on lessons learned, they will discuss options for mainstreaming this approach at other World Heritage sites in Africa and globally.

2. Sustainable Heritage Management: The case of Mijikenda Kayas, Kenya

**Herman Kiriama
Research and Extension Division
Kisii University, Kisii, Kenya**

THEME: Inclusive social development

The concept of sustainable development is more often associated with protecting the natural environment than with preserving cultural heritage. Whereas in natural heritage sustainability implies use and replace, for cultural heritage the issue is on preservation and managing change. The cultural heritage sector has for years focused on repairing and restoring sanitized heritage environments without thinking about the future contexts of heritage places. Repairing and restoring heritage places in this case were short term oriented. Sustainable heritage management thus implies not only preservation of the cultural environment but also planning for the future of the heritage place. Sustainable heritage management also recognizes the social and physical environment in which that heritage places find themselves in.

One thus is not only focusing on the benefits that can accrue from the heritage site to the community but also recognizing and maintaining the traditional skills that could be critical in the conservation and preservation of that heritage place.

Cultural heritage places also sustain communities as they act as sites of long term memory of societies. Sustaining this memory within communities also has implications on the survival of heritage places. It has been recognized in many parts of the world that disappearance of heritage places can have serious negative effects on the community that commemorates it. Sustaining heritage is thus a process of sustaining the society spiritually, socially as well as psychologically. Sustainable heritage development thus requires stakeholder involvement in management of common resources like heritage.

This paper using a case study of a World Heritage Listed site in coastal Kenya, argues that archaeologists and heritage practitioners should adopt sustainable heritage as opposed to sustainable development as in the former the focus is placed on the benefits that accrue to both the heritage and the community around it. Sustainable heritage moves away from the commodization/monetarization of heritage.

3. Resisting Disaster with Vernacular Methodologies: Using Heritage to Build the Future

*Feryal Ali Gauhar
Lead Consultant
Cultural Heritage Management Plan
Di Amer Basha Dam Project
Pakistan*

THEME: Inclusive social and economic development

In August 2010, massive floods inundated a large part of the Indus River floodplain in Pakistan, displacing hundreds of thousands of people from their homes. In Sindh, floods devastated entire villages, drowning livestock and destroying crops. Some affectees sought refuge at Makli Hills, one world's largest necropolis's, with a diameter of approximately 8 km. Makli is the burial place of 125,000 local rulers and [Sufi](#) saints and was the capital of lower [Sindh](#) until the 17th century. The loss of livelihoods and homes resulted in the degradation of this World Heritage Site.

In October 2010 a World Heritage Centre fact-finding mission and in 2012 a joint mission by UNESCO/ICOMOS identified factors that compounded the impact of the refugees, including insufficient definition of boundaries and buffer zone of the necropolis, and insufficient monitoring.

The Heritage Foundation (HF), a national heritage conservation NGO, was asked to restore the damaged tomb of Jam Nizammudin at Makli. Realizing that without the engagement of the local communities, protection of the site would be extremely difficult and not sustainable, the Heritage Foundation turned its attention to the rehabilitation of flood-affected communities living near the site. *Build Back Safer with Vernacular Methodologies (BBSVM)* was developed to build DRR-compliant technically sound structures, using a combination of locally sourced materials: mud, lime and bamboo.

Heritage Foundation endeavors to utilize heritage and traditional skills, fostering pride and self-reliance amongst local communities while using sustainable materials. The provision of homes has provided access to communities for larger economic benefits and for engendering women's empowerment. The MDGs were used to develop holistic models and training modules were developed for IPs, NGOs, volunteers, artisans and communities in order to share the concept and skills with others in the region as well as in disaster hit areas such as Chitral in the far north of the country.

**4. Safeguarding African world heritage as a driver of sustainable development
Case study of Virunga National Park in the Democratic Republic of the Congo**

**Dr Cosma Wilungula Balongelwa
Executive Director
Congoese Institute for Nature Conservation (ICCN)**

THEME: Environmental sustainability

With its 2,345,000 km², the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has decided to devote 400,000 km², 17% of its territory, to a network of protected areas for conservation.

This network of protected areas (PAs) at present covers 13% of the country, 300,000 km², which abounds in flora and fauna and other natural resources such as minerals (gold, diamonds, copper and coltan), oil and hot springs.

Since there is a substantial need for development as well as enormous pressure to access and harness resources from both local communities and government strategy, current arrangements for managing PAs are being put at risk and may well become unsuitable for developing countries such as the DRC. Hence the need for a compromise between conservation and development.

A business partnership with innovative PA management initiatives has become inevitable. Hence the experiment with the Virunga National Park, where the National Parks authority (Congoese Institute for Nature Conservation, ICCN) is introducing the Virunga Alliance with private partners (in particular the Virunga Foundation). This will be described, with emphasis on key challenges arising from anthropogenic pressure on conservation in one of the DRC's five world heritage sites.

**5. Infrastructural Development and Conservation of Heritage:
A Case Study of Lamu Old Town World Heritage Site**

Hoseah Wanderi
National Museums of Kenya

SUB-THEME: Cultural heritage

Abstract

Kenya is rich in cultural and natural heritage. Despite of this fact however, conservation of nature and culture is facing stiff challenges owing to macro-economic blueprints designed to catapult the country into a middle income economy. One of the most prominent blue prints is what is known as the Lamu Port South Sudan Ethiopia Development Corridor Project (LAPSSSET). The choice of Lamu posed a challenge in that the Lamu Old Town is a World

Heritage Site inscribed in 2001 for its outstanding Swahili culture. The LAPSSSET projects are likely to disrupt age-old cultural particularities and peculiarities of the town in a very short time. Rapid change is likely to affect the cultural fabric of the old town which has stood the test of time and which the inhabitants are proud to maintain as their identity. Nevertheless, Lamu has been rated as having high levels of poverty and low literacy in Kenya.

The main dilemma for Kenya's heritage conservators and Lamu local communities is that though economic development is welcome, in some instances, project planners disregard basic procedures for heritage protection. Some policies also have not been holistically modelled leaving out critical areas of inquiry before a project can be verified and approved. The other challenge is that the project areas being rapidly opened up are the main carriers of distinctive heritage on the African soil. This has caused conflict of interest between different stakeholders.

The Kenyan dilemma is replicated across Africa where the question is how the diverse interests can be accommodated for sustainable development. This paper discusses the experience specifically witnessed in the Lamu Old Town with highlights of efforts made to address the dilemma.

**6. Tourism in natural world heritage sites and local community livelihoods:
a Tanzanian experience**

James V Wakibara
Tanzania National Parks P O Box 3134 Arusha
Tanzania National Heritage Committee
P O Box 972 Dar es Salaam.

SUB-THEME: Inclusive social and economic development

ABSTRACT

Tanzania is amongst the most popular tourist destinations in Africa that continues to attract an increasing volume of Tourists. Currently it is also one of the topmost sources of foreign income for the country, with the three iconic natural World Heritage sites of Serengeti, Kilimanjaro, and Ngorongoro (mixed heritage site since 2011) combined generating the largest share compared to other destinations. Rural populations residing adjacent or within these sites, gain from improved livelihoods through direct and indirect tourism related benefits. In line with this, Tanzania's Tourism policy is focusing on ecological sustainability, social acceptability and economic viability while underpinning poverty reduction for the rural poor. Thus, while facilitating the flow of tourism-related benefits from the World Heritage Sites to the rural communities, Tanzania is also promoting community-based conservation adjacent these sites so as to enhance complementarily hence sustainability. These policy directions have progressively strengthened public-private-rural community partnerships in sustainable tourism investments and linkages within and adjacent World Heritage Sites. Consequently, the engaged local communities are increasingly becoming more socio-economically secure than before. This paper explores in detail the tourism-based livelihood enabling fortunes for the local communities living adjacent or within three Heritage sites of Serengeti, Ngorongoro and Kilimanjaro, in Northern Tanzania as case examples. The inherent linkages, complexities and lessons related to accrual of such benefits are examined in detail.

7. Cultural Values Conservation: An approach for preservation of cultural heritage and local economic development: Experiences of Rwenzori Mountains National Park World Heritage Site, Uganda, East Africa.

*Nelson Guma
Conservation Area Manager
Uganda Wildlife Authority.*

THEME: Cultural heritage

Rwenzori Mountains National Park (RMNP) covering 995 square kilometres is located in Western Uganda. It is the largest and most significant water catchment area in Uganda and constitutes a major source of the White Nile. It is a source of various resources and important cultural heritage for the local communities.

The worship sites in the park are sacred areas revered by the communities adjacent to the world property and believed to be abode of the deities. They constitute the cultural values for the local community. These values are being conserved through a unique and innovative programme known as cultural values conservation approach. Under this programme the cultural sites were mapped, cultural values identified and plans to conserve them were developed and incorporated in the General Management Plan of the park as a management frame work for these cultural values. An institution, Rwenzori Mountains Cultural Values Conservation Association was established to develop and manage these cultural sites through a collaborative resource use agreement with the protected area authority. A survey of an endangered species, a chimpanzee, *Pan troglodytes* a totem for the local community was conducted and conservation strategy developed to protect the species as a tourism resource. Two cultural sites are being developed and managed as unique cultural tourism product in partnership with cultural institutions leveraging on traditional management system to contribute to local economy

The inherent cultural values being conserved in the park through the cultural values conservation approach has enhanced cultural heritage of the communities, enlisted support for conservation of biodiversity and contributed to the local economy

Key words: Cultural values, Conservation, Traditional Management System, Economic Development

8. The N'zima's symbolic ownership of the French Quarter in Grand Bassam

Affoh Guenneguez
Affiliated to the African Studies Centre, Leiden University, Netherlands
Contact: affoh.guenneguez@gmail.com
+ 316 49 52 65 24

THEME: Cultural heritage

The historic town of Grand Bassam in Côte d'Ivoire has been on the World Heritage List since June 2012. Comprising the old colonial city, the French Quarter and an N'zima village, it therefore includes two types of heritage.

The first is tangible, represented by extensive colonial architecture, an urban structure that has remained the same since the settlement was founded, and the N'zima village. The second is intangible, represented by the presence of the N'zima Kingdom, its social space and the Abissa festival, seen as a major cultural attraction in Côte d'Ivoire.

Since June 2012, the N'zima monarchy has shown its commitment to heritage through its close cooperation with the Cultural Heritage Centre, a body set up by the government to preserve and develop the French Quarter. The N'zima are involved in all events relating to the colonial architecture.

The monarchy has also rallied support for heritage within the village as a result of outreach and the creation of a new identity discourse fostering emotional attachment to the architecture. Today part of the population considers itself responsible for protecting this architecture and preserving a positive image of the French Quarter.

Last but not least, not only does the Abissa festival provide considerable economic benefits for the N'zima but it also helps them to take symbolic ownership of the French Quarter. The Abissa Association, which organizes the event, uses the French Quarter as a symbolic resource.

How has the traditional system facilitated this symbolic ownership of the colonial heritage by the N'zima? How are the N'zima combining their intangible heritage (the Abissa festival) with the tangible heritage (colonial architecture) to create a new image of Grand-Bassam?

9. AfriCAP2016, capacity building and synergies between heritage actors in West Africa

SUB-THEME: Cultural heritage

Author(s): Adegbidi V. and Balde I. (EPA), Rakotomamonjy B. (AIMF), Gandreau D.(CRAterre)

The AfriCAP2016 program is based on the observation that the various stakeholders involved in conservation of heritage in Africa would gain to be empowered to work in synergy on a conservation approach towards sustainable development. This triennial program on capacity building, financed mainly by the European Union within the ACPcultures+ programme, suppose that one of the most effective way to build this capacity is to “learn while demonstrating the contribution of the African heritage to sustainable development”. As a result, training in the three conservation projects of AfriCAP2016 produced tools for managing heritage issues, accelerated creation of sustainable solution at local level and fostered better coordination at a national level.

At Grand Bassam – Ivory Coast, the project answered to several WHC’s recommendations and some of the main objectives of its management plan. The participants from seven WH sites, the local municipality, the heritage institution and the traditional leaders have identified threats on the heritage, defined manageable indicators, and launched an awareness campaign for a better effectiveness of the legal protection in place, as a preventive strategy.

At Nikki-Benin, the participants, the traditional management stakeholders and the municipality, built the first steps to go beyond the existing tourism offer focused around two-week traditional festivity of the Gaani, to the recognition throughout the year of the entire Baatonou culture shared by communities in Nigeria and Benin.

The cultural bank of Teliméle in Guinea offered an alternative to the illicit sale of cultural objects, while enabling the development of income generating activities.

These cases studies invite to reflect on the strategy for capacity building and on how this bottom-up approach can benefit also to the subregion through the sharing of methodologies for implementation.

10. Towards a community based conservation and sustainable use of Tanzania's heritage: Lessons from Zhoukodian (China) to Laetoli (Tanzania) World Heritage Sites.

Charles M. Musiba¹ and Dongjing Kang²

¹Department of Anthropology, University of Colorado Denver, Colorado 80217, USA

²Department of Communication, University of Colorado Denver, International College Beijing

THEME: Inclusive social and economic development

Cultural World Heritage Sites in Africa are increasingly playing a major role in shaping the socioeconomic, stewardship, preservation, conservation and sustainable use of these sites. Many African countries now recognize that apart from constructing national and socio-cultural identities, cultural World Heritage Sites have the potential to also propel the economic growth for communities surround these sites. If properly managed, these sites have the capacity of not only becoming beacons of peace but they can also become centres of education innovation and tourism (Ho and McKercher 2004; Mabulla 2000). For many years, the management of cultural heritage sites and the designation of some of them as World Heritage Sites in Africa were based on European ideas of conservation and this disconnected many African local communities from their cultural heritage sites. As a result, local African communities living near cultural heritage sites were not involved in their conservation and management. Discourses on the administration of cultural heritage sites in many African countries, such as Botswana, South Africa, Kenya, Tanzania and Zimbabwe, are now making it possible to engage local people in the management of these sites (see for example, Pwiti 1997; Musiba and Mabulla 2003). Part of the strategy of sustainable management of cultural World Heritage Sites in many parts of Africa includes creating opportunities for the local communities to be involved in education and tourism activities so as to economically empower them and improve their lives. Drawing from the experiences we observed at Zhoukodian World Heritage Site, we will discuss the planned development of paleoanthropological sites of Laetoli and Olduvai Gorge in Tanzania as examples to show how local communities can socioeconomically and educationally benefit from cultural World Heritage Sites.

11. Integrated conservation of the Dougga/Thugga site: a tool for sustainable local development

Hamida Rhouma-Ghmari
Dougga/Thugga Site manager,
Chief Architect and Head, Department of Ancient Monuments and Sites,
National Heritage Institute, Tunisia

THEME: Cultural heritage

The archaeological site of Dougga/Thugga has been on the World Heritage List since 1997. It is an exceptional complex reflecting an amalgam of three different cultures: Numidian, Punic and Roman.

There used to be a small rural village on the Dougga/Thugga site until its residents were transferred by the Tunisian Government in the 1960s to a village below the site called New Dougga. This change was not accompanied by the creation of new activities that would have positively offset the loss of some of their land. For years, the archaeological site coexisted with a local community that had turned its back on it.

The National Heritage Institute has begun preparing a Protection and Enhancement Plan for the site. This legal instrument will ensure preservation of the archaeological site and control of any changes to the cultural landscape, the goal being sustainable local development. The plan is supposed to be a strategic tool for development and local management, but its effectiveness will depend on strong support for its strategic choices by the various stakeholders, therefore necessitating consultation, coordination and concerted action.

This presentation will attempt to explain the challenges of the Protection and Enhancement Plan in greater detail, offer some answers, and outline the legal and institutional resources needed to guarantee the principles of good local governance with due regard for the law and citizens' rights.

This new method of management would aim at making cultural heritage in general and archaeological heritage in particular an asset for sustainable development, especially in disadvantaged areas such as the Dougga region.

12. Timbuktu: The future of traditional masons

Alpha Diop

Architect/President, ICOMOS, Mali

B.P. 2569 Bamako, Mali

THEME: Cultural heritage

During the multiple crisis of 2012 in Mali, a substantial proportion of Timbuktu's cultural heritage suffered serious damage. When the crisis was over, the damaged architectural heritage was rebuilt and/or rehabilitated.

Traditional masons, together with other local craftspeople, particularly carpenters, played a major part in this work. As collective and individual custodians of traditional knowledge and skills, they were involved even at the evaluation phase for destroyed and damaged property and played a key role in the reconstruction process. UNESCO recognized their value by awarding a medal to the guild of Timbuktu masons in July 2015 in Bonn (during the World Heritage Committee session).

This process highlighted the threats to their craft. Traditional masons, specialized in building with local materials (mainly earth), are finding it increasingly difficult to make a living. These difficulties have been compounded by the city's urbanization and widespread use of new materials, jeopardizing their livelihoods.

The preservation of this craft is a major challenge, not just for the masons themselves but also – particularly – for conservation of the Timbuktu cultural sites on UNESCO's World Heritage List. This earthen architectural heritage requires periodic maintenance work that is a means of perpetuating and passing on both tangible and intangible local knowledge and skills.

Traditional masons should be involved in formal training and apprenticeships for young masons and be recruited as employees at classified architectural heritage sites.

On grounds of preserving cultural heritage, at the very least, the long-term future of the crafts of traditional masons and other local craftspeople must be ensured.

**13. Cultural heritage and sustainability:
focusing on the implementation phase of major projects**

Christopher R. Polglase, Cultural Heritage Practice Leader
Gray & Pape, Inc.
7508 Ridge Road
Frederick, Maryland 21702, United States of America
chrisspolglase80@gmail.com
+1 301 525 6631

SUB-THEME: Cultural heritage

The protection and management of cultural heritage has gained an important role in major international projects. The importance now placed on managing cultural heritage derives from the material and reputational risks that project proponents and lenders can face if heritage resources are not managed effectively, from the significance placed on these resources by stakeholders and from the opportunities to be found in aligning the interests of project proponents, project lenders and cultural heritage stakeholders during the implementation phase of a project.

Experience from recent major projects indicates that the successful implementation of a project-based cultural heritage management programme can be crucial in establishing a sustainable cultural heritage programme at the national level in developing countries. This experience also indicates that a sustainable national-level cultural heritage programme can reinforce efforts to augment the tourism sector and to empower a variety of local stakeholders, including indigenous groups. The proven mechanism for these positive changes is the incorporation of capacity-building into project impact assessment commitments and the execution of these commitments during the projects' implementation phase.

In this paper, the author will summarize efforts taken over the past decade to successfully reinforce national-level cultural heritage practice in Azerbaijan through the implementation of commitments made during the impact assessment phase for two Bureau of Programme Planning (BP) major projects. Capacity-building efforts were undertaken with national-level cultural heritage managers and institutions, with non-governmental organizations and within BP to enhance capabilities, resources and understanding of the issues. These efforts have led to increased professionalism among all the relevant parties and the availability of greater resources that have been applied to a variety of more recent projects and resource management needs. The author also will suggest how this successful approach can be applied to projects in Africa to stimulate sustainable national-level cultural heritage programmes.

14. Case study: Project on “Instructional aids on the African cultural heritage in a post-conflict setting”

Hyeon Ju Kim,
UNESCO Africa Department
UNESCO

SUB-THEME: Fostering peace and security

UNESCO, a recognized leader in the field of heritage, possesses resources based on proven scientific credibility. Those resources, however, are not well known to the general public or well publicized. The case study presented here stems from the belief that the design and dissemination of instructional aids on the basis of those available resources for formal and non-formal education could further strengthen the work already being done by the Organization for the safeguarding of cultural heritage by placing African youth at the heart of the mission.

The pilot project on “Instructional aids on the African cultural heritage in a post-conflict setting” that we have conducted in Mali aims to develop and disseminate high-quality material to raise awareness and mobilize Malian youth for the safeguarding of their heritage and to promote the values of tolerance and peace. Mali, particularly the parts of the country most affected by the conflicts of the past few years, are the main beneficiaries of the project.

The first phase involved the organization of an exchange and design workshop in Bamako in January 2016, prepared by the UNESCO Africa Department and the UNESCO Office in Bamako. Malian experts from various walks of life worked together to design the educational content, focusing on the country’s four properties on the World Heritage List – the old towns of Djenné, the cliff of Bandiagara, the tomb of Askia and the Timbuktu World Heritage Site – and a number of ancient manuscripts from Timbuktu.

The second phase of the project, currently under way, involves the production and extensive distribution of educational aids. It will be possible to apply the methodology and results of the project to other areas that face similar difficulties.

15. *Community resource management areas (CREMAs) in Ghana; a promising framework for community-based conservation*

Godwin Evenyo Dzekoto
A Rocha Ghana
PO box 61, Damongo, Northern Region
+233 246 722 625/+233 202 774 869

SUB-THEME: Environmental sustainability

Mole National Park, the largest protected area in Ghana, is bordered on its fringes by 33 communities with a population of over 40,000 people who depend directly on the natural resources in the park and surrounding areas for their livelihood. Over 40 years after the establishment of Mole, the threats from illegal natural resource exploitation by fringe communities is gradually undermining the conservation goals for which the park was established. Communities agitate for more rights to resources and also for more livelihood opportunities, as their main source of livelihood has been converted into a protected area. The problem is further compounded by the absence of a buffer zone around the protected area resulting in direct access to resources in the park.

The Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission of Ghana, in strategic partnership with some key non-governmental organizations, is empowering some communities to commit off-reserve communal lands to sustainable land use management systems.

Community resource management areas (CREMAs) in Ghana represent an adaptive, home-grown, solution to address increasing levels of deforestation and degradation in off-reserve areas. They hinge on a governance system that adapts existing recognized social leadership frameworks and are strengthened by state recognition through the devolution of management authority and empowerment with enforceable legal frameworks. It is a community-owned process that is built on self-will, informed consent and respect and recognition for site-specific diversity in management and governance style.

CREMAs are also adaptive and effective boundary tools for conservation and development and, hence, provide unique opportunities for the implementation of innovative mechanisms, such as the Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) mechanism for financing and the payments for ecosystem services (PES) incentive.

16. Invoking co-management as a tool in the conservation and sustainable development of world heritage properties in Africa

Kelvin C. Chanda

Senior Conservation Officer (Natural Heritage)
PO Box 410339, National Heritage Conservation Commission (NHCC), Kasama, Zambia.

SUB-THEME: Environmental sustainability

Cultures the world over tend to be shaped by and, indeed, to evolve in harmony with ambient environments and the inherent (endowment of) biotic and abiotic resources. The Victoria Falls World Heritage property, for example, is millions of years old but has continued sustaining livelihoods for surrounding populations. This geomorphological structure, like other properties, has shaped most of the traditions and cultural life of the surrounding communities. Indeed, waterfalls worldwide provide the only source of livelihood to millions of local community populations.

However, poorly planned developmental projects are a sure trajectory to the destruction of World Heritage and associated biodiversity. For example, the development of Hydro Electricity Power stations at waterfall sites has a tendency of disturbing the natural flow regimes of rivers due to impoundments thus compromising their Outstanding Universal Values (OUV).

In essence, there is need for detailed harnessing and documentation of indigenous knowledge on natural river flow regimes, local Climate Change patterns, critical medicinal plant and animal products and indeed spiritual significance. It is simple “common sense” that, *if a particular World Heritage resource has been in existence for millions of years, during which time its OUV has NOT been compromised, then there must have been a form of knowledge among the indigenous peoples; the knowledge which facilitated or fostered the perpetual existence of this particular resource or property even before contemporary science came into play.*

Thus, embracing indigenous peoples and their knowledge in planning for sustainable environmental management and development through CO-MANAGEMENT is one promising tool in this quest. This, nevertheless, calls for dialogue and need for benefits sharing.

Without Traditional Management Systems (TMS), planning may exclude bedrock elements of World Heritage. This is also in line with UNESCO’s Strategic Objectives of the World Heritage Committee which “encourages participation of the local population in the preservation of their cultural and natural heritage”.

REFERENCES

1. **Child, B. 2004.** *Parks in Transition. Biodiversity, Rural Development and the Bottom Line.* Earthscan, UK and USA.
2. **NPE 2007.** National Policy of Environment. Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources.
3. **Rio Tinto. 2011.** Why Cultural Heritage Matters; A Resource Guide for Integrating Cultural Heritage Management into Communities Work at Rio Tinto.
4. **Srinivasan, t. j. 2005.** State Regulation versus Co-management: Evidence from the Cochin Estuarine Fisheries in India. In “Environment and Development Economics”, Vol. 10, Part 1, February 2005.
5. **UNESCO. 2012.** Managing Natural World Heritage World Heritage Resource Manual. 7, place de Fontenoy, 75352 Paris 07 SP, France, © UNESCO/ICCROM/ICOMOS/IUCN, 2012.

17. Contribution of local communities to biodiversity management and conservation in the Aïr and Ténéré Natural Reserve, Niger

Mr Hamissou Halilou Malam Garba, Chief of the Protected Areas Division, Fauna, Hunting and Protected Areas Directorate, Niamey, Niger

SUB-THEME: Environmental sustainability

Summary:

The Aïr and Ténéré Natural Reserve is one of the two World Heritage Sites in Niger. It was designated in 1991 and placed on the List of World Heritage in Danger in 1992, following the armed conflicts in the area.

This Reserve was established for the conservation of certain emblematic fauna resources of the Sahel-Sahara region which are found in Niger. These include the last remaining populations of the Addax antelope (*Addax nasomaculatus*), Dama gazelle (*Nanger dama*), Barbary sheep (*Ammotragus lervia*), North-west African cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus hecki*) and North African ostrich (*Struthio camelus camelus*).

To achieve the reserve's conservation goals, management structures were established to safeguard this world heritage resource. In light of the reserve's complexity and its great size, local leaders (*chefs de vallée*) were selected from local communities to provide close-range monitoring of the reserve's natural resources in their respective areas. With the outbreak in the 1990s of an armed rebellion, some of the structures of this system were eroded, but others held firm despite the risks and threats to which they were subjected.

In the context of local people's participation in the management of the Reserve's natural resources, in light of endogenous knowledge of biodiversity and of the familiarity with the local environment shown by former members of the region's armed groups, certain local leaders have devoted themselves to nature conservation by serving as guides to accompany technical teams carrying out inventories.

Another dimension of the involvement of local communities is the protection of the last remaining specimens of ostriches, which were once so abundant in the area but are no longer present in the wild; an indigenous family in Iférouane has started up an ostrich farm in order to repopulate the species.

18. A demonstration of Conservation of Bwindi Impenetrable and Rwenzori Mountains National Parks and World Heritage Sites as a centres of wealth creation and improve livelihoods

John Makombo
Director Conservation
Uganda Wildlife Authority,
Plot 7, Kira Road, Box 3530
KAMPALA, UGANDA
Tel: (Office) +256 414 355000; (Mob.) +256 772 665225
Email: john.makombo@ugandawildlife.org

SUB-THEME: Environmental sustainability

Both Bwindi Impenetrable National Park and Rwenzori Mountains National Park were both gazetted in 1991 and inscribed World Heritage properties in 1994 after the realization that their critical biodiversity was at the verge of extinction as a result of unsustainable resource harvest. Poaching was prevalent as a food source for impoverished communities. The change in status from forest reserves to national parks came along with community hostility as communities perceived it as loss of benefits for their livelihoods.

Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) instituted programs that promoted the parks' protection through enhanced law enforcement and awareness, and benefits from sustainable nature-based tourism (UWA, 2013). These programs changed community attitude and improved community involvement in park management.

Through enhanced economic and social benefits, tourism is currently generating over US \$5.3 million annually for government (UWA, 2014), over US \$796.085 received by neighboring communities from the parks' revenue sharing schemes, and an average of US \$13.3 million generated from lodges around the parks annually. Local community employment has reached US \$333.333 per annum. The areas around the parks have been transformed into development centres and community way of life changed to the better.

The economic natural resource-based initiatives in conservation have turned neighboring communities into partners instead of enemies of the parks. The earlier hostility is now history and communities are instead focusing on harnessing more benefits through collaborative forest management with UWA.

Reference:

- UWA (2013): Uganda Wildlife Authority Strategic Plan 2013 – 2018
- UWA (2014): Bwindi Impenetrable National Park – General Management Plan 2014 – 2024

**19. A Contested Territory in a Sacralized Landscape:
The Fight of the Gich Community over Semien Mountains National Park**

Marshet Girmay Endeshaw
M.A in History, M.A in Educational Leadership
Department of History and Heritage Management
College of Social Sciences and Humanity
University of Gondar

THEME: Promotion of peace and security

Local community involvement is widely considered vital for the sustainability of heritage management projects. Yet, it is often the case that heritage-related projects lag behind in community involvement. In the Semien Mountains the creation, first, and expansion, later, of the National Park has led to several conflicts with the local communities that for centuries have inhabited the area. Local communities have only been passive actors in the plans to expand the Park set up by UNESCO and by local decision makers. This paper investigates the causes that led the Gich community, one of the communities affected by the Park's expansion, to refuse the resettlement plan offered by the authorities. Qualitative research methods were employed, including document analysis, community conference and interview of informants. The paper shows that although the local community of Gich was highly attached to the Park's heritage assets, their level of involvement in the heritage management was very low due to shortcomings in the design and implementation of official policies. Therefore, their attitude towards the Park's managers has been until the present day one of mistrust and opposition. The paper recommends to policy-makers a series of measures more sensitive towards local communities, such as that the development agencies act as true communication facilitators and regional authorities nurture sincere relationships with the locals.

Keywords: Gich, Heritage Management, local communities, Semien Mountains, sustainability, UNESCO, World Heritage Site

20. The Tomb of Askia, in Gao, an example of conflict prevention and settlement

Aldiouma YATTARA
Cultural Heritage Manager
Museum Conservator
Gao – BP 141, Mali

THEME: Promoting peace and security



Built by Askia Mohamed, the Emperor of Songhai, the Tomb of Askia is a historic example of Sudano-Sahelian earthen architecture. Over 500 years old, it has stood up to the elements and to the events which have marked the life of Gao, including the recent armed conflict in 2012.

An identifying and unifying site for local communities, the Tomb is also the Friday mosque for Gao, which explains the people's strong mobilization for the work of maintaining and plastering the building. This work takes place during major popular gatherings, and each of the inhabitants contributes, either in

kind, in labour or monetarily. This reinforces relationships among the population. In 2012, the Tomb of Askia almost met the same fate as the Timbuktu mausoleums; fortunately, the people of Gao resisted by a variety of means and took charge in an extremely positive manner, showing how important the site is to them.

In 2014, the local population groups further strengthened their social relationships on the occasion of the replastering of the building; participation by the Malian communities was stronger than usual, a sign of national reconciliation. This was a powerful gesture, demonstrating the Gao communities' strong feelings about this precious site, which is both a historical monument, a meeting place, a tourist attraction and a venue for social cohesiveness and dialogue for the promotion of peace and security, which must be preserved at all costs.

21. The contribution of the World Heritage Status in Mauritius: the case of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site

Corinne Forest
Head Technical Unit – ICOMOS Mauritius
Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund, 1 Quay Street, Port Louis, Mauritius

THEME: Cultural heritage

In a post-colonial society such as Mauritius, the notion of heritage was inherited from the colonial Elite, which identified as heritage, symbols of their own presence on the territory. The examination of the list of national heritage (2003) reveals that 92% of listed heritage refers to the experience of the French (1721-1810) and British (1810-1968) presence on the island. Only 1% refers to slavery and 4% to indenture although this heritage speaks to the experience of 90% of the Mauritian population. A change occurred when the Aapravasi Ghat (2006) and Le Morne (2008) were listed as World Heritage Sites by UNESCO because it marked the recognition of the experience of the descendants of slaves and indentured labourers on the island.

Ultimately, the World Heritage Status led the government to expand the notion of heritage defined as a “monument” in the legislation inherited from the British colonialization. With the establishment of a buffer zone around the Aapravasi Ghat located in the capital city, the context of evolution of the site was considered as an integral part of the heritage that required protection. Consequently, the planning documents were reviewed to integrate heritage in the development strategies. The new planning legislation adopted in 2011 rests on a vision that advocates the use of heritage as a driver for sustainable development. With the preparation of a Local Economic Development Plan for the buffer zone of the Aapravasi Ghat partly funded by UNESCO, Mauritius is currently considering using heritage as a main component for the revitalization of the capital city. The paper proposes to present how the World Heritage Status gradually contributed to the elaboration of a new framework to preserve and valorize the heritage. It also intends to expose how heritage was integrated into development strategies to support sustainable development in the capital city of Mauritius.

References

Arno, T., et C. Orian. 1986 *Ile Maurice, une société multiraciale*, Paris: l'Harmattan

Choay, Françoise. 1999 *L'allégorie du patrimoine*, Paris: Editions du Seuil

Forest, Corinne, 2013 “Management and conservation of heritage: challenges and opportunities for the future” in *Angage: explorations into the history, society and culture of indentured immigrants and their Descendants*.

2013 “Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site: a change in the perception of heritage in Mauritius” in *Angage: explorations into the history, society and culture of indentured immigrants and their Descendants*.

Hempel, L. M. 2009. “Power, wealth and common identity: access to resources and ethnic identification in a plural society.” *Ethnic and Racial Studies* 32, No. 3: 460-489. Organisation des villes du Patrimoine Mondial (OVPM)

2012 « Villes historiques en développement : des clés pour comprendre et agir, Un recueil d'études de cas sur la conservation et la gestion des villes historiques », rapport octobre 2012, UNESCO and OVPM.

Peghini, Julie. 2009. « Les impasses du multiculturalisme: politiques, industries et tourisme culturels à l'île Maurice. » Thèse de doctorat en sciences de l'information et de la communication. Université Paris VIII- Vincennes- Saint-Denis, Décembre 2009.

22. Sustainable Development at World Heritage Sites through government, private sector, NGO and local communities partnership; The Case of Tsodilo Hills Community Initiatives Project; Experiences, Challenges and Prospects.

Gertrude Mamotse Matswiri, Botswana National Museum, Principal Curator Archaeology and Heritage Management. (Regional Heritage Manager) – North West Region, Maun
Msc Archaeology (Heritage) Student, University of Cape Town

THEME: Inclusive economic development

Africa is rich in both cultural and natural heritage of outstanding universal value. Recently this World heritage has been seen as having the potential to contribute to socio- economic development. There have been calls through different forums and policies to establish the role of heritage in contributing to sustainable development both at international and national level. It has been established through case studies at World Heritage sites that if properly managed, world heritage sites can contribute to improvements of livelihoods and poverty alleviation. Since most of this heritage is found in rural areas, it is better placed to contribute to rural development. This paper will discuss the Tsodilo Hills Community Initiative Project, its contribution to socio-economic development of the people of Tsodilo. The project is a community driven project initiated through a partnership between government, private sector (Diamond Trust), NGO (TOCaDI, Trust for Okavango Cultural Development Initiative) and the community of Tsodilo Hills through their Community Based Organization, The Tsodilo Community Development Trust. It will explore how the project has transformed the lives of the people of Tsodilo. It will further discuss the government, private sector, NGO and local community partnership in implementing the project. The paper will demonstrate that sustainable development can be achieved at world heritage sites through partnerships that lead to capacity building for local entrepreneurs. Lastly it will discuss the challenges in implementing projects of this nature and how these could be addressed to improve the effectiveness of the project.

Key words

World Heritage, Rural Development, livelihood improvement, Partnerships, Sustainable Development, Entrepreneurship

References

1. Galla, A. (ed) (2012). World Heritage: Benefits beyond Borders. Cambridge. Cambridge University Press.
2. Ndoro, W. (2015). World Heritage Sites in Africa: What are the benefits of Nomination and Inscription? In U. Kockel et al (eds), A Companion to Heritage Sites. John Wiley & Sons, Inc. pp. 392-409.
3. Africa 2063 Agenda “The Africa We Want” (African Union).
4. Integrated Management Plan for the Tsodilo Hills World Heritage Site 2005. By Ecosurv (Pty) Ltd.
5. Tsodilo Hills World Heritage Site Funding Proposal for the Implementation of the Integrated Management Plan 2005. By Letloa and TOCaDI.

23. Revamping a Heritage Tourism Destination for more Sustainable Growth

Baba Ceesay

Director General

National Centre for Arts and Culture

Independence Drive PMB 151 Banjul, The Gambia

THEME: Inclusive economic development

The villages of Albreda and Juffureh which form the heart of the Kunta Kinteh Island and Related Sites World Heritage Site have been a popular tourism destination since the publication of Alex Haley's 'Roots' and the accompanying television series in the early 70s. With tourism came many socio-cultural ills that threatened to harm the fabric of society. Nevertheless, the destination was given a boost in 2003 with the inscription of Kunta Kinteh Island and Related Sites in the WHL. However, neither the benefits of tourism nor the newly acquired world heritage status made any significant difference to the lives of the communities that live around the site.

In the wake of persistent complaints from tour operators and a threat to withdraw from the destination if the hassling of tourists does not desist, the Juffureh-Albreda Revamp Project was conceived to mobilize the communities, diagnose the problems and find solutions. Consequently, an action plan was developed around four main objectives: (1) Use the local resources (cultural and natural) to generate sustainable development within the community, (2) Develop awareness on the value of the local resources, (3) Stabilize the state of conservation of the heritage sites, and (4) Improve the visitor's experience.

Two years after the start of the project commendable improvements have been seen after the training of local youth to serve as guides for visitors on payment of a fixed contribution to a community fund by each visitor; and the training of local women on plastic waste recycling to make useful objects that can be sold to tourists. Government also weighed in with the construction of a visitor information centre, designed on sustainable principles, to inter-alia galvanize visitor interest on the wide range of community resources and potential attractions. This paper aims to elucidate the process and achievements of the initiative.

24. Conservation and socio-economic: challenges and opportunities of involving stakeholders in developing World Heritage sites as “hybrid” institutions; case of Mapungubwe and Robben Island cultural landscapes.

Pascall Taruvinga
Chief Heritage Officer/Ph.D. Candidate (University of Cape Town)
Robben Island World Heritage Site
Cape Town, South Africa.

THEME: Inclusive social development

The concept of “stakeholder” has assumed a prominent place in heritage management in Africa over the last few decades. Stakeholders are “any individual or group who can affect or is affected by the actions decisions, policies and practices, or goals of the organisation”. Indigenous people and local communities are considered to be part of these stakeholders. While stakeholders can be theoretically identified, the practicality of allowing them to play an equal role in heritage matters is still in its infancy stage. Using the *Multiple-Multilayered Stakeholder Theory (MMST)* to bring together the views, perceptions, power matrix, roles, responsibility and ability of the multiple and multi-layered stakeholders of Mapungubwe and Robben Island Cultural Landscapes, this paper demonstrates how heritage management is now “entangled in power dynamics and tug of war” of stakeholders. Both sites have local communities but these are not living in the sites due to various reasons, yet they have other stakeholders making decisions on different socio-economic interests at these sites. A pathological analysis of the two sites shows that heritage management is now for the future change rather than simply the protection of the fabric of the past. The paper argues for a local-global nexus (focusing on consulting and involvement of indigenous peoples and local communities), as opposed to the current global-local nexus (where decisions are imposed at local level). This approach recognises the diverging dimensions of multiple and multi-layered stakeholders in making decisions around conservation and socio-economic development at heritage sites in Africa. A pan African approach, anchored on traditional principles of communal participation, is advocated for given the growing complexities and dynamics of the social context in which heritage sites operate yet local perspectives are not considered. Local solutions should give birth to sustainable socio-economic development initiatives that support conservation at World Heritage sites in Africa.

Key words: stakeholders, multiple and multi-layered stakeholders, hybrid, conservation, socio-economic development and cultural landscapes

References

1. John M. Bryson. 2004. What to do when stakeholders matter. Stakeholder Identification and Analysis Techniques. *Public Management Review*. Vol 6 Issue 1: 21-53: ISSN 1471-9045: DOI: 10.1080/14719030410001675722.
2. Shadreck Chirikure. 2014. Power Imbalance and unequal benefit at UNESCO World Heritage Site. *Africa Review of Books/Revue Africaine des Livres*. Vol. 10, No. 1-Mars 2014
3. 2nd Integrated Conservation Management Plans for Robben Island (2013).
4. Mapungubwe World Heritage Site Environmental Management Framework (2015)
5. Africa 2063 Agenda (African Union)

**25. World Heritage Sites and Sustainable Futures:
a view from the cultural landscape of SE Senegal**

**Ibrahima Thiaw
Laboratoire d'Archéologie
IFAN-UCAD
BP 206 Dakar**

SUB-THEME: Inclusive social development

South-eastern Senegal is home for small-scale decentralized communities. This region with warp landscapes encompasses a number of world heritage properties including the Bassari, Bedik and Peul cultural landscape and the Niokolo Koba natural park. It also encompasses the eastern fringes of the Kankourang intangible world heritage property. In addition to that rich cultural and natural heritage, south-eastern Senegal has become, over the past two decades, an important mining region which attracts major global investments with immense consequences on national and regional population mobility and on the preservation of cultural and natural resources. Yet, it remains today, one of the most marginal and impoverished lands of Senegal as world heritage properties contribute, so far, very little to economic growth and, have brought little social and environmental benefits to the local communities. The state party has invested neither on site accessibility, nor in inclusive social and economic development or culture heritage management. Modern industrial mining could support such efforts as part of their social and environmental responsibilities but cultural authorities are not involved in the process at any step. Heritage resources have potentials to inform us not merely about past lifeways but can also help us imagine new and creative ways to fulfill our aspirations for a better present and more sustainable futures. Evidence collected in south-eastern Senegal show immense potentials of world heritage sites for inclusive social and economic development and the creation of new employment and educational opportunities. These possibilities are explored in this paper but, it is argued that a more robust engagement of the state party and other stakeholders, beyond political propaganda, is a must.

Keywords: Senegal, south-eastern Senegal, world heritage property, heritage management, industrial mining, local community, economic, social and environmental benefits, sustainable futures.

26. Safeguarding African Heritage - Media the Missing Link?

Kizito Sikuka

Senior Researcher/Writer, Regional Economic Development Institute
Southern African Research and Documentation Centre (SARDC)
15 Downie Avenue, Belgravia, Harare, Zimbabwe
P.O. Box 5690, Harare

THEME: Inclusive social development

Africa's aspirations are clearly spelt out in "Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want". The continent aims for "an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa". Achieving this vision depends on a number of factors, one of which is safeguarding Africa's heritage that range from the great pyramids in Egypt to the Serengeti in the United Republic of Tanzania and the Victoria Falls between Zambia and Zimbabwe. While political leaders, environmentalists, economists, researchers and other experts are well aware of the benefits of safeguarding and conserving world heritage for socio-economic development, the media – a critical player in shaping society's view on how to successfully turn world heritage into a driver of sustainable development is broadly unaware of the benefits. This lack information about the most basic knowledge on world heritage has hampered the development as well as implementation of national, regional and continental strategies on preservation African heritage, thus diminishing the sense of respect or belonging to these heritages.

The paper, therefore, seeks to highlight the importance of engaging the media in promoting sustainable development and protection of African heritage, which are facing multi threats including commercial extractive activities, poaching, weak management and climate change. Since the drive towards safeguarding African heritage requires the buy-in of all stakeholders, the paper will make an attempt to explore how other countries in Asia, Europe and other continents have successfully engaged the media in encouraging stakeholders to preserve world heritage for socio-economic development.

27. Heritage Guardians

Marcela Jaramillo Contreras
Consultant - Ministry of Culture of Colombia, Mundo Espiral and
Cultural Heritage without Borders-Albania

THEME: Inclusive social development

My proposal is to present a model of a program that has been developed in Colombia since 15 years ago with excellent results concerning the heritage as driver of the sustainable development, the Heritage Guardians program¹ led by the Ministry of Culture of Colombia. The population in Colombia, as in Africa, is multi-ethnic and multi-cultural, besides that is also facing huge problems of poverty and armed conflict². Through this program, the heritage properties are being protected by and for the local communities at the same time that is improving the economic development, inclusive social, environmental sustainability³.

Taking into account that one of the African aspirations for 2063 is to “strong cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics”⁴, then this program is going to reach this goal at the same time that is contributing to the inclusion of local community and indigenous, strengthen capacity building and contribute to post-conflict recovery⁵. The “Heritage Guardians”, based on the system of Red Cross volunteers, seeks to integrate through a national network, mainly high school students who are trained through the UNESCO kit “World Heritage in Youth hands”, to develop their internships in; either to develop projects of cultural and natural heritage that involve local communities and indigenous, or to be first aiders for cultural heritage in times of armed conflict or natural disaster. From these projects have also emerged some economical proposals for the graduate students. The budget to develop this program are minimums, while the impacts are huge, for instance Colombia currently counts with 2695 guardians in 28 regions of Colombia. I consider that this program could be replicated in Africa with successful results⁶.

¹ In Spanish: Vigías del Patrimonio Cultural.

² One of the longest in the world.

³ The three dimensions of the Sustainable Development.

⁴ Agenda 2063: the Africa We Want. Africa Union (2015). 5 Aspiration.

⁵ Ones of the policies mentioned in the document for the Integration of a Sustainable Development Perspective into the Processes of the World Heritage Convention (2015).

⁶ This program has also been replicated in some countries in Latin America.

28. Rainforests of the Atsinanana

Mr Gérard Rambeloarisoa, Executive Director

Ms Julie Ranivo, Grant Officer

Ms Ambinintsoa Ratsitoarison, Project Officer

Foundation for the Protected Areas and Biodiversity of Madagascar (FAPBM)

THEME: Environmental sustainability

The Rainforests of the Atsinanana, on the World Heritage List since 2007 (criteria IX and X), in addition to their “megadiversity”, provide local people with crucial ecosystem services. This site is an essential part of the global response to climate change on the planetary scale. It protects natural ecosystems and reduces greenhouse gas emissions through carbon capture and storage. In this way, it acts as a buffer against extreme events. The site helps the population to adapt to the impact of climate change by preserving the essential environmental services on which it depends. These sites are also a source of income for communities through microprojects and conservation and ecotourism activities.

Its integrity is threatened by a number of pressures such as illicit logging of precious woods and poaching; this is why the site was classified as threatened in 2009. Madagascar regularly experiences situations of political instability, leading to impoverishment of the population and natural resource dependence, growing insecurity and widespread bad governance. All this has a negative impact on the site and presents a major sustained challenge.

The Foundation helps to secure the site’s future through actions involving the local population, managers and local authorities in locally-based management. The establishment of “Dina”, local customary rules, makes it easier to resolve conflicts and deal with criminal acts. Supporting measures, such as the creation of income-generating activities, can provide financial autonomy and reduced dependence on natural resources. All this is taking place in a broad context of sustainable development which takes account of the importance of ecological services provided by ecosystems. This complementarity of conservation and development remains a considerable challenge for a poor country.

PARTNERS

29. Kilwa, Tanzania: Promoting the cultural capital beyond the World Heritage boundaries

Sébastien Moriset, architect, CRAterre, coordinator of the EU-Kilwa project

Nuria Sánchez Muñoz, architect, CRAterre

Tatu Magina, local coordinator of the EU-Kilwa project

THEME: Cultural heritage

The Ruins of Kilwa Kisiwani and Songo Mnara islands represent the remains of one of the major East African city-ports admired by travelers since the 13th century. The exceptional quality of the architectural vestiges bears evidence of the growth of Swahili culture over the past millennium. Today, both islands have turned back into quiet villages dotted with small houses together with ruins of magnificent palaces, mosques and castles. But Swahili culture remains strongly rooted in the landscape.

Substantial efforts have been undertaken by the Antiquities division and its international partners during the last decades to conserve these ruins. But, despite having a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1981 on its territory, the district has not been able to develop a sustainable tourism policy in the region. The population also felt frustrated as they do not really see the economic benefits of these heritage assets.

This is why in 2013, local authorities started a new programme to expand the cultural tourism offer and enhance the attractiveness of the region. Thanks to the financial support of the European Union and the Government of France, combined with the technical support of the French NGO CRAterre, the district launched in 2014 an inventory of its other cultural and natural assets. The target was to identify as many sites as possible in the district to encourage visitors to spend more time in Kilwa. This quest for exciting places to share with visitors was a great success and led to the production of an attractive illustrated catalogue that was widely distributed. From this inventory, a whole series of activities emerged to preserve the vernacular architecture, adapt traditions, develop sustainable tourism activities, but also to create sustainable jobs.

This paper will explain how, under the EU project, heritage resources have gradually been considered by local authorities as a cultural capital which can serve as a lever for socio-economic development.

References

MORISSET Sébastien. Karibu Kilwa, Kilwa District Heritage Resources. Tanzania. February 2015. Grenoble: CRAterre-ENSAG.

GUILLAUD Hubert, MORISSET Sébastien, SANCHEZ MUNOZ Nuria, SEVILLANO GUTIERREZ Enrique, 2014. Versus: lessons from vernacular heritage to sustainable architecture. Grenoble: CRAterre-ENSAG. 72 p. (available on the Internet).

BROWN Jessica, HAY-EDIE Terence. Engaging Local Communities in Stewardship of World Heritage, UNESCO World Heritage Papers Series, No. 40 – November 2014 (available on the Internet).

BARILLET Christian, JOFFROY Thierry, LONGUET Isabelle et al., Cultural Heritage and Local Development, A guide for African Local Governments, published by CRAterre/Convention France-UNESCO, September 2006 (available on the Internet).

30. Cultural Heritage Preservation as a Catalyst for Positive Change – Case studies at Kilwa Kisiwani and Songo Mnara, Tanzania and Lalibela, Ethiopia.

Stephen Battle
World Monuments Fund

THEME: Cultural heritage

Africa's cultural heritage is extraordinary. The richness and diversity of cultural expression found on the continent equals that of any part of the world. Cultural heritage binds communities together, embodying a shared framework of values, myth and ritual. In this respect, heritage is a bearer of knowledge. Craft knowledge was traditionally passed from craftsman to apprentice, teacher to pupil, parent to child, but as more and more young people move to cities, leaving the old behind, the opportunities for passing knowledge between generations become fewer and fewer.

As African heritage crumbles, knowledge is lost and with it a sense of identity. It will take self-confidence, drive and ingenuity to overcome the obstacles in Africa's future, qualities found in vibrant communities with strong social cohesion and a strong sense of identity. When communities lose their foothold in the past, their identity is weakened. A future without a past is a far poorer place.

Losing cultural heritage erodes something essential at the core of a community. But it also represents a lost opportunity. Heritage is increasingly recognised as an asset. In low-income communities, investment in preservation of cultural heritage can help tackle poverty. Through stimulating cultural industries, facilitating cultural tourism and encouraging micro-businesses, heritage can be put to work, raising standards of living.

The case for investing in African heritage is clear, but the question remains; how best to go about it? How to conserve the continent's heritage in sustainable and efficient ways? How to ensure that African heritage is conserved by Africans? How to ensure that its potential to be a catalyst for positive change is realised?

World Monuments Fund (WMF) has recently completed major preservation projects at the World Heritage Sites of Kilwa Kisiwani and Songo Mnara in southern Tanzania, and at Lalibela in Ethiopia. With reference to these sites the paper will describe practical applications of heritage preservation and strategies to ensure that investment in preservation brings positive and sustainable benefits to local communities living adjacent to heritage sites.

31. Sustainable Development and African Natural World Heritage Sites in Danger

Alison Clausen, Matthew Hatchwell and Robert Mwinyihali
Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), 2300 Southern Blvd., Bronx, NY 10460, USA

THEME: Promotion of peace and security

The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) works with national protected area management authorities to support five natural World Heritage sites in danger in Africa: Kahuzi-Biega, RFO, Salonga and Virunga in DRC, and Rainforests of the Atsinanana (including Masoala NP) in Madagascar.

All five sites have the potential to act as local focal points for sustainable development around tourism, through the development of community-based conservation enterprises and/or otherwise as catalysts for development funding.

Apart from the direct benefits generated by such activities, they offer the secondary benefit of supporting the socio-organization of communities and empowering them to become advocates for their own needs, thus improving demand-side governance in countries with generally weak governance structures. For the full potential of these sites as focal points to be realized, a clear vision is required that is embraced and implemented by a wide range of partners including governments, private sector, NGOs and communities. National protected area management authorities are not always best-placed to lead the implementation of such a broad, integrated vision in the initial phases of its development owing to a lack of resources and capacity to convene and influence the spectrum of national and international partners needed for success. The breakdown of the rule of law, e.g. due to civil conflict, poor governance or corruption, can also discourage the engagement of private sector partners who are essential to achieving long-term, sustainable development.

In such situations, co-management of natural WH sites in danger by NGO partners may provide a short- or medium-term solution and allow real progress to be made towards the establishment of resilient, autonomous socio-ecological systems that generate community well-being and conservation benefits. Any co-management arrangements should include support for building national capacity to safeguard natural WH properties in the long term.

32. Safeguarding African World Heritage sites from extractives activities

Dr Noëlle Kümpel, Zoological Society of London (ZSL), Regent's Park, London NW1 4RY, UK;

“Environmental Sustainability” and “Inclusive Economic Growth”

In 2015, the General Assembly of States Parties to the World Heritage (WH) Convention adopted a *Policy Document for the Integration of a Sustainable Development Perspective into the processes of the World Heritage Convention*. While a key objective of this policy is inclusive economic development, it notes that ‘Not every economic activity will be compatible with the conservation of OUV. Extractive industries related to oil, gas and mineral resources, for example, present considerable challenges. By its decision 37COM 7 (§8), the World Heritage Committee urged all States Parties to the Convention and leading industry stakeholders “to respect the “No-go” commitment by not permitting extractive activities within World Heritage properties, and by making every effort to ensure that extractives companies located in their territory cause no damage to World Heritage properties, in line with Article 6 of the Convention”.’ In support of the WH Committee’s position, a group of leading conservation NGOs released joint statements at the IUCN World Parks Congress in 2014 and the WH Committee meeting in 2015, calling for no-go and no-impact policies for extractives activities in natural WH sites (WHSs).

Despite this, an increasing number of WHSs, particularly in Africa, are under threat from extractives activities. We will review the issues surrounding industrial-scale extractives and natural WHSs, including (1) trends in threats from extractives activities on WHSs and data availability, (2) international regulatory frameworks, (3) extractive/finance industry policies relating to extractives operations in WHSs, (4) spatial distribution of extractives activities/threats in and around case study WHSs, including Dja Faunal Reserve in Cameroon and Virunga National Park in DRC, and potential impacts of such activities on their Outstanding Universal Value. We will then look at how the WH Committee, States Parties, UNESCO, development banks, the private sector and civil society can work together to safeguard WHSs from extractives.

Joint NGO calls for wider no-go and no-impact measures for extractive activities in natural and mixed World Heritage sites were issued by AWF, FFI, FZS, RSPB, TNC, WILD Foundation, WCS, WWF and ZSL at the IUCN World Parks Congress in Sydney in 2014 (see <http://www.zsl.org/sites/default/files/media/2014-11/NGO%20WHS%20no-go%20statement%20final%20with%20logos%2018-11-14.pdf>) and by AWF, FFI, FZS, The WILD Foundation, WWF and ZSL at the World Heritage Committee meeting in Bonn in 2015 (see <https://www.zsl.org/sites/default/files/media/2015-07/ANWHSSN%20WHS%20no-go%20statement%20for%20WH%20Cttee%20Bonn%2028-06-15.pdf>). Further details, references and background information is contained in both of these joint statements.

More information on ZSL’s work on World Heritage, including the joint NGO statements, can be found at www.zsl.org/worldheritage.

33. Improving People's Livelihoods Through Nature: Natural World Heritage Sites as Drivers of Sustainable Development

Dr Amani Ngusaru, Country Director, WWF-Tanzania

I report recently published by WWF report has suggested that at least 11 million people globally depend on natural World Heritage sites for their livelihoods and wellbeing. Yet the same report noted that almost half of all natural and mixed properties are threatened by harmful industrial activities which threaten to degrade the value they represent to those people who depend on them. The sorts of economic activities which threaten these sites include exploration or exploitation of oil, gas or minerals, potentially damaging large-scale infrastructure projects such as highways, pipelines, hydropower dams or megaports, and commercial-scale logging and wildlife poaching. These activities – when permitted by governments and undertaken by businesses, often with the backing of financial institutions – threaten not only the *outstanding universal value* of World Heritage properties, but also the long-term socio-cultural, economic and environmental value on which many millions depend.

Threats to natural World Heritage sites from harmful industrial activities are most acute in Africa. Another report, published by WWF-UK, Aviva Investors and Investec Asset Management in 2015, suggested that 61% of properties are overlapped by oil, gas or mining concessions or activities. Global, and regional, demands for resources, and the imperative of development are increasingly putting Africa's natural heritage under pressure; from industrial scale logging in Madagascar, to mining licenses granted over Comoé National Park in Côte d'Ivoire to the continued threat of oil to Virunga National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo. And in Tanzania, the Selous Game Reserve – once home to the largest elephant populations in East Africa's protected areas – has lost 66 per cent of this natural heritage between 2009 and 2013, and Serengeti National Park faces a combination of pressures from harmful industrial and infrastructural activities.

It is possible to strike a balance between development and conservation. Addressing the challenge of conserving these places and the value they represent – for now, and for future generations – is more stark in the light of the recently-agreed sustainable development goals. Yet effective management of these sites – taking a primary focus on maintaining their long-term value, and working in partnership with government authorities and local communities – can deliver sustainable development outcomes for both people and nature.