

# WHV - Projet de Protection et de développement durable du site koutamakou

## Koutamakou, Togo

Cultural property inscribed on the List of World Heritage since 2004

14/07/2017 – 31/07/2017



The Koutammakou landscape in north-eastern Togo is home to the Batammariba whose remarkable mud tower-houses (*Takienta*) have come to be seen as a symbol of Togo. In this landscape, nature is strongly associated with society's rituals and beliefs. The 50,000-ha cultural landscape is remarkable due to the architecture of its tower-houses which are a reflection of the social structure; its farmland and forest; and the associations between people and landscape. Some of the buildings have flat roofs, others have conical thatched roofs. They are grouped in villages, which also include ceremonial spaces, springs, rocks and sites reserved for initiation ceremonies.

### Project objectives:

The main objective of the action camp, implemented since 2008, is to preserve and promote the *Takientas (tatas)*, which are the traditional house, which are threatened by the construction of modern houses and indirectly by the deforestation. Those do not make use traditional building materials, replacing ages of tradition.

### Project activities:

The volunteers will take part in the process of replanting and preserving plants at the Koutamakou site. These plants are used as building material and are necessary for the construction and maintenance of the *tatas*. The volunteers will participate in raising awareness activities about the importance of reforestation and preserving the plants already existing. They will also have the opportunity to discover the local culture and learn about animal traction.

### Partners:

Ministry of culture & sports. Conservatory of the site. Management committee of the site.

**FAGAD(Frères AGriculteurs et Artisans pour le Développement)**

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