WHV - City of Potosí

City of Potosí, Bolivia

Cultural property inscribed on the List of World Heritage in danger since 1987

17/08/2017 – 30/08/2017

In the 16th century, this area was regarded as the world’s largest industrial complex. The extraction of silver ore relied on a series of hydraulic mills. The site consists of the industrial monuments of the Cerro Rico, where water is provided by an intricate system of aqueducts and artificial lakes; the colonial town with the Casa de la Moneda; the Church of San Lorenzo; several patrician houses; and the barrios mitayos, the areas where the workers lived.

Project objectives:

The project aims at raising awareness and sensitising the local population, authorities, youth groups and international volunteers about the cultural value of the heritage site and the need of protecting its biodiversity. Furthermore, the activities intend to empower and involve youth and children by using non formal education tools to get them involved in World Heritage preservation while learning aside the site’s history.

Project activities:

The volunteers will participate in the organisation of a fair about Cultural Heritage and about the World Heritage Volunteers Initiative. They will prepare an exhibition on the historical City of Potosí, Cerro Rico and its biodiversity. They will also be involved in workshops and reflective dialogues on the theme of World Heritage in collaboration with leaders of indigenous rural communities near the site. They will be trained on the issues of World Heritage, its importance and its relationship with biodiversity. Furthermore, the volunteers will have the opportunity to meet the miners’ cooperative to get to know about the history and importance of the activity linked to the site of Potosí.

Partners:

The Governor of the Departmental Government of Potosí, The site manager of Casa de la Moneda, Museum of Santa Teresa (former convent), Cathedral of Potosí City, Torre de la Compañía, San Francisco Museum, Arco de Cobija, Potosí Mines Museums, Bolívar House and Cerro Rico, A director of the Cultural Center Potoquito,

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