

WHV - Sauvons la Takienta

Koutammakou, the Land of the Batammariba, Togo

Cultural property inscribed on the List of World
Heritage since 2004

01/10/2018 – 15/10/2018



The Koutammakou landscape in north-eastern Togo, which extends into neighbouring Benin, 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 the rituals and beliefs of society. The 50,000-ha cultural landscape is remarkable due to the architecture of its tower-houses which are a reflection of social structure; its farmland and forest; and the associations between people and landscape.

Project objectives:

The project aims to contribute to the restoration and enhancement of the Takienta (Tata, traditional houses) by involving volunteers and local communities, especially the younger generations who have abandoned this ancient method of house building. It also aims to train volunteers to the techniques and knowledge needed to preserve the Takienta.

Project activities:

The volunteers will animate two awareness raising sessions for Takienta owners on the importance of the maintenance and preservation of these traditional houses with the site management authorities. They will also be trained on traditional conservation and preservation techniques of the Takienta, and will assist in identifying and restoring five destroyed Takienta with the help of local communities and under the supervision of the site management authorities.

Partners:

Service de Conservation et de Promotion du Koutammakou (SCPK)

Corps des Volontaires Béninois

Mr. Tchan Issifou Ibrahim

ibnfat85@gmail.com