

# WHV – Amu Fakhri Yangu World Heritage Programme

## Lamu Old Town, Kenya

Cultural property inscribed on the World Heritage List since 2001

01/06/2022 – 30/06/2022



Lamu Old Town is the oldest and best-preserved Swahili settlement in East Africa, retaining its traditional functions. Built in coral stone and mangrove timber, the town is characterized by the simplicity of structural forms enriched by such features as inner courtyards, verandas, and elaborately carved wooden doors. Lamu has hosted major Muslim religious festivals since the 19th Century, and has become a significant centre for the study of Islamic and Swahili cultures.

### Project objectives:

Being implemented for the first time, the project aims to raise awareness on the importance of preservation of World Heritage sites, enhance the participation of the volunteers and the local community in the conservation and management of the site, and encourage innovation in the development of sustainable eco-tourism within the complementary buffer zone areas.

### Project activities:

The volunteers will assist and be involved in preservation activities, such as mapping urban management issues and contributing to the draft of the management plan of the site, conducting surveys on socio-economic impact and SWOT analysis during the community meetings. With the support of volunteers, the project also intends to carry out community sensitization workshops, produce documentary videos, and organize a cultural talent show for youth and an exhibition at the Lamu Fort showcasing the role of different government agencies at the site.

### Partners:

County Government of Lamu, Pwani University, Kenya National Commission for UNESCO, Lamu Heritage Group, University of Bergen

**National Museums of Kenya-Lamu**

Mr. Mohammed Ali Mwenje

[mamwenje@gmail.com](mailto:mamwenje@gmail.com)