

WHV – Youth for Virunga

Virunga National Park, Democratic Republic of Congo

PROJECT DATES

Natural property inscribed on the World Heritage List (1979)
and on the List of World Heritage in Danger (1994)

1 April - 15 April 2023

THE SITE - Virunga National Park (covering an area of 790,000 ha) comprises an outstanding diversity of habitats, ranging from swamps and steppes to the snowfields of Rwenzori at an altitude of over 5,000 m, and from lava plains to the savannahs on the slopes of volcanoes. Mountain gorillas are found in the park, some 20,000 hippopotamuses live in the rivers and birds from Siberia spend the winter there.

OBJECTIVES - Organized for the first time as part of the World Heritage Volunteers campaign, the programme aims to train 20 local volunteers on heritage values and concepts, who will in turn organize community awareness campaigns on heritage protection, conservation and promotion in five villages in the Park area.

ACTIVITIES - During 15 days, the young local volunteers will be trained on the natural and cultural heritage of Virunga National Park. There will be a visit of the site's infrastructures at the park's headquarters so that they know what they are called to protect and conserve. At the end of the training, mass public awareness campaigns will be carried out in five villages bordering the site during which the entire community will be invited to learn and become aware of the protection, conservation and promotion of the Virunga heritage.

PARTNERS - Virunga Fondation, Institut Congolais pour la Protection de la Nature, Réseau pour la Conservation et la Réhabilitation des Ecosystèmes Forestiers, Congo Tourism Gate

Gorilla Ambassadors Program / Congo Tourism Gate

Mr. Alain Mukiranya

alainmukiranya@gmail.com



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