

WHV – Strengthening resilience and sustaining the values of Sukur heritage

Sukur Cultural Landscape, Nigeria

PROJECT DATES

Cultural property inscribed on the World Heritage List (1999)

22 October - 31 October 2023

THE SITE - The Sukur Cultural Landscape, with the Palace of the Hidi (Chief) on a hill elevated above the villages on the plains, the terraced fields and their sacred symbols, and the extensive remains of a former flourishing iron industry, is a remarkably intact physical expression of a society and its spiritual and material culture. It graphically illustrates a form of land-use that marks a critical stage in human settlement and its relationship with its environment and has survived unchanged for many centuries, and continues to do so at a period when this form of traditional human settlement is under threat in many parts of the world.

OBJECTIVES - The main objectives of the project are to raise awareness of the values of the property; create synergy among stakeholders in promoting and fostering development in World Heritage; build local capacities in conservation techniques and rehabilitation methods; and provide materials for multi-disciplinary research on Sukur culture.

ACTIVITIES - With the involvement of volunteers, the project intends to sensitize youth and communities about the values and the importance of the site preservation, through meetings, press release, consultations, mobilization workshop and community survey. Besides an immersive experience in handicraft production, the volunteers will partake in the hands-on conservation work to restore paved stone ways, initiation rooms, iron smelting furnaces, the Yawal festival ground and the royal grave yard.

PARTNERS - NATCOM-UNESCO, National Commission for Museums & Monuments, Adamawa State Agency for Museums and Monuments, Nigerian Tourism Development Corporation, National Troupe of Nigeria, Sukur Traditional Council, Sukur Development Association, Nigerian Red Cross Society, Local /National media, American University of Nigeria.

African International Documentary Festival Foundation

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