

# WHV – Preserving Nature, Empowering Communities: on the path to World Heritage

## Gashaki-Gumpti National Park, Nigeria

### PROJECT DATES

Natural property inscribed on the Tentative List (1995)

17 - 27 September 2024

**THE SITE** - Nigeria's largest and most diverse National Park is set amidst spectacular scenery with Nigeria's highest peaks, Chappal Wadi (the "Mountain of Death") at 2,400 metres and Chappal Hendu ("Mountain of Wind") at 2,030 metres. The vegetation consists of an intricate patchwork of guinea savannah, gallery forest, montane forest and montane grassland. Traditional lore serves to protect some of the highest populations of primates in West Africa, including chimpanzees. Other fauna include the giant forest hog, leopard, lion, hippopotamus, buffalo, hartebeeste, yellow-backed duiker and an abundance of bird life.

**OBJECTIVES** - The project aims at contributing to the preservation and protection of outstanding scenic, natural, scientific, recreational and other significant property values of the National Park along with the protection and maintenance of crucial wetlands and water catchment's areas has been the prime goal to sustainable ecotourism development.

**ACTIVITIES** - The volunteers will implement an awareness and conservation plan that includes a round table conference with various government and community stakeholders, production of promotional materials, road assessments, cultural exchange events, formation of project committees, school outreach programs, guided nature walks, subcommittee meetings for action planning, courtesy visits to traditional rulers and security agencies, and mapping an international peace park trail. Volunteers will also participate in wildlife monitoring programs, helping to track and record sightings of various species within the park; they will take part in tree planting initiatives aimed at restoring degraded areas of the park or expanding existing forests, and will be involved in maintaining existing trails or building new ones within the national park, helping to improve accessibility for visitors while preserving the natural environment.

**PARTNERS** - National Commission for Museums and Monuments, Nigeria (NCMM); Northeast Development Commission (NEDC); Nigerian National Park Services (NPS); Nigeria Television Authority; Kinjir Foundation; Federal Ministry of Arts, Culture and Creative Economy; Taraba State Government; Gashaka Gumti Traditional Council; National Institute for Cultural Orientation (NICO); Taraba State University Jalingo; American University of Nigeria (AUN); Nigerian Red Cross Services; Nigerian Tourism Development Cooperation (NTDC); Ministry of Heritage and Eco Tourism Taraba State; Triumph college and consultancy services Jalingo.

**African International Documentary Festival Foundation**

Ms. Malame Mangzha

[info@afidff.org](mailto:info@afidff.org)



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