

WHV – Crossroads of Culture

Rwenzori Mountains National Park, Uganda

PROJECT DATES

Natural property inscribed on the World Heritage List (1994)

01 May - 15 November 2024

THE SITE - The Rwenzori Mountains National Park covers nearly 100,000 ha in western Uganda and comprises the main part of the Rwenzori mountain chain, which includes Africa's third highest peak (Mount Margherita: 5,109 m). The region's glaciers, waterfalls and lakes make it one of Africa's most beautiful alpine areas. The park has many natural habitats of endangered species and a rich and unusual flora comprising, among other species, the giant heather.

OBJECTIVES - The project aims at promoting capacity building in sustainable economic and heritage management, running creative digital awareness and promotional campaigns, organizing community service and community-led initiatives to protect the environment and heritage, developing business boot camps for economic initiatives that sustainably use culture and heritage, and creating creative advocacy platforms for pro-conservation policies and the protection of heritage, culture, and the environment. The project's primary emphasis on Mt. Rwenzori National Park is grounded in its dual significance as both a biodiversity hotspot and a cultural treasure trove with ecological resilience.

ACTIVITIES - Volunteers will help facilitate knowledge exchange among diverse cultural groups, engage local communities in tree planting for biodiversity conservation, provide youth with training in traditional arts and social media, host digital dialogues with experts on conservation and heritage preservation, and create a digital story to raise awareness about Rwenzori's significance and conservation efforts.

PARTNERS - Uganda Tourism Board, Uganda National Commission for UNESCO, Uganda Wildlife Authority and African World Heritage Fund; Vision International Actors; Faraja Safaris.

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