

WHV – Building climate resilience around Mt Rwenzori

Rwenzori Mountains National Park, Uganda

PROJECT DATES

Natural property inscribed on the World Heritage List (1994)

10 August - 20 August 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 exploring the relationship between cultural heritage and climate change, identifying the impacts of climate change on Mt Rwenzori and how it has affected the populations that live around the Mountain. It also aims at proposing solutions to tackle the issue of climate change around Mt Rwenzori, leveraging the indigenous knowledge of the Bakonzo people as a means of building resilience in the face of the climate crisis.

ACTIVITIES - The volunteers will conduct a radio campaign and host climate education workshops, engaging locals, experts, and students to discuss the impact of climate change on the Mt. Rwenzori World Heritage site and to address indigenous community challenges, facilitating knowledge exchange and highlighting concerns to the government.

PARTNERS - Uganda National Commission for UNESCO, Uganda Wildlife Authority and Ministry of Tourism; Bakonzo leaders; Five secondary schools in the region.

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