

WHV – Restoration and Protection of the Island of Mozambique, World Cultural Heritage

Island of Mozambique, Mozambique

PROJECT DATES

Cultural property inscribed on the World Heritage List (1991)

18 August - 31 August 2025

THE SITE - The fortified city of Mozambique is located on this island, a former Portuguese trading post on the route to India. Its remarkable architectural unity is due to the consistent use, since the sixteenth century, of the same building techniques, building materials (stone or macuti) and decorative principles. The town and the fortifications on the Island of Mozambique are an outstanding example of an architecture in which local traditions, Portuguese influences and, to a somewhat lesser extent, Indian and Arab influences are all interwoven. The Island of Mozambique bears important witness to the establishment and development of the Portuguese maritime routes between Western Europe and the Indian sub-continent and thence all of Asia.

OBJECTIVES - The project aims to contribute to reducing the effects of erosion on the Island of Mozambique, and specifically to: raise awareness of the risks of erosion on the Island of Mozambique; interact, exchange and build networks between communities and participants; plant mangroves around the island; train local young people in the use of sustainable tools to be active members in the preservation of World Heritage.

ACTIVITIES - The volunteers will participate in community dialogues aimed at fostering inclusive discussions around the preservation of the Island of Mozambique, a World Cultural Heritage site. These sessions will involve local, religious, and traditional leaders, creating a strong network of community actors who serve as agents of change. By introducing the objectives of the WHV 2025 project and aligning them with community interests, the dialogues will encourage collaboration, strengthen relationships between leaders and residents, and lay the groundwork for collective environmental and cultural preservation efforts. The volunteers will also take part in practical activities that emerge from these dialogues, such as planting native vegetation in coastal areas to combat erosion and restoring historical monuments with active community involvement. These initiatives will be complemented by capacity-building workshops on environmental preservation practices and traditional crafts, reinforcing cultural identity. Awareness campaigns and continuous monitoring by AJOV will ensure broad participation and help sustain long-term impact.

PARTNERS - Gabinete de Conservação da Ilha de Moçambique (GACIM), Conselho Distrital da Juventude, Liga dos Escuteiros de Moçambique.

Associação dos Jovens Voluntários

Mr. Eltimim Luxo and Mr. Geraldo Pedro Zacarias

ajovmoz@yahoo.com.br

