

WHV – Sustaining Heritage: Conservation and Community for World Heritage Recognition

Gashaki-Gumpti National Park, Nigeria

PROJECT DATES

Natural property inscribed on the Tentative List (1995)

20 - 30 September 2025

THE SITE - Nigeria's largest and most diverse National Park is set amidst spectacular scenery with Nigeriats 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 2025 project aims to build on 2024 outcomes to enhance biodiversity conservation and protect cultural heritage. It focuses on empowering local communities through eco-tourism, sustainable agriculture, and renewable energy. The initiative will promote environmental awareness through education on climate change and sustainable practices while expanding partnerships with organizations.

ACTIVITIES - The volunteers will participate in heritage and biodiversity workshops, as well as community education and awareness-raising activities focused on conservation and sustainable development. They will engage in capacity-building sessions alongside local leaders and community members to strengthen skills in conservation and eco-tourism management, contributing to long-term environmental stewardship. The volunteers will also participate in hands-on activities such as wildlife and biodiversity monitoring, water resource management, and tree-planting campaigns. In addition, they will support community-driven eco-tourism initiatives and take part in stakeholder forums involving local, national, and international partners to review project progress and explore opportunities for future collaboration.

PARTNERS - Taraba State Government, Taraba State Ministry of Heritage and Eco-Tourism, Federal Ministry of Environment, National Parks Service, Nigeria National Commission for UNESCO, National Commission for Museums and Monuments, National Council for Arts and Culture, Nigerian Tourism Development Authority, Nigerian Redcross Society, North-east Development Commission, National Institute for Cultural Orientation, Nigerian Film and Video Censors Board, National Troupe of Nigeria, Gashaka traditional Council, Gashaka Local Government, Sardauna Local Government and Traditional Council, Ani Foundation. Nigerian Erosion and Water Management Project, National Agency for the Great Green Wall, Taraba State University, Nigerian Television Authority, News Agency of Nigeria and Highland Tea Farm Kakara.

African International Documentary Festival Foundation

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