

## WHV – Safeguarding of the unique Zimbabwean Culture

### Great Zimbabwe National Monument, Zimbabwe

### PROJECT DATES

Cultural property inscribed on the World Heritage List (1986)

08 August - 19 August 2025

**THE SITE** - The ruins of Great Zimbabwe – the capital of the Queen of Sheba, according to an age-old legend – are a unique testimony to the Bantu civilization of the Shona between the 11th and 15th centuries. The city, which covers an area of nearly 80 ha, was an important trading centre and was renowned from the Middle Ages onwards.

**OBJECTIVES** - The project aims at safeguarding the unique Zimbabwean culture and architectural heritage of Great Zimbabwe, protecting its historical significance and preserving its distinctive architecture. It promotes cultural diversity, involving the local community in conservation, balancing tourism with sustainable development and enhancing international recognition of its cultural and historical value. .

**ACTIVITIES** - The volunteers will support the establishment of a Youth Heritage Council within the area of Great Zimbabwe, conduct community workshops, and organize interactive educational programs to empower and engage the community in preserving Great Zimbabwe Ruins. They will also implement a digital awareness campaign, lead community-led preservation initiatives, and form partnerships with NGOs and international organizations to support sustainable development and cultural heritage conservation.

**PARTNERS** - Student Christian Movement Zimbabwe (SCMZ), Zimbabwe National Commission for UNESCO; UNISA; USAID, UNISA, YALI RLC SA Botswana and Mozambique, Bolivia Hire and Catering Services, Listen and Initiate Transformation Trust.

**Young African Leaders Initiative Regional Leadership Center  
Southern Africa (YALI RLC SA) - Zambia and Zimbabwe Chapter**

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