WHV – Tsodilo Hills Maintenance Project, BOTSWANA

Tsodilo, Botswana
Cultural site inscribed in 2001

With one of the highest concentrations of rock art in the world, Tsodilo has been called the "Louvre of the Desert". Over 4,500 paintings are preserved in an area of only 10 km2 of the Kalahari Desert. The archaeological record of the area gives a chronological account of human activities and environmental changes over at least 100,000 years. Local communities in this hostile environment respect Tsodilo as a place of worship frequented by ancestral spirits.

Project objectives: The project aims at preserving and protecting the culture, such as the signs of origin of the First People of The Kalahari (as the Tsodilo Hills provide evidence to the historical lives of the San). It also aims at conserving the environment, since the Tsodilo Hills provide home to a wide range of birds, plants and other forms of wildlife. Thus conserving the environment is very significant. Furthermore, the project aims at motivating the local communities in remote areas to develop a greater interest in the preservation of culture, history and the environment.

Project activities: During the project duration, volunteers will engage in various activities. They will participate in the expansion of service roads to Tsodilo Hills and the Museum, to ensure the access of the site. They will also participate in the re-establishment of trails and footpaths from the Museum to the Hills. The volunteers will have community meetings and various games, and motivate the Tsodilo Community to form local self-help groups that will ensure preservation and protection of culture and the environment. There will be also litter picking and emptying garbage bins around the site to collect litter.

Partners: The project will be supported by the Department of National Monuments, Museums and Art Gallery, Lesotho Workcamps Association, Tsodilo Community, The Local NGOs, Groups and Local Administration Authority.
The town of Ribeira Grande, renamed Cidade Velha in the late 18th century, was the first European colonial outpost in the tropics. Located in the south of the island of Santiago, the town features some of the original street layout impressive remains including two churches, a royal fortress and Pillory Square with its ornate 16th century marble pillar.

Project objectives: The project aims to raise awareness about Ercolano, one of the richest archeological areas of Campania region, among the local community and tourists from all over the world, as well as to improve the welcome area close to the old ruins, for better site management.

Project activities: The volunteers will fully participate in a 14 day long program on World Heritage conservation, composed of an environmental and cleaning campaign at the historical monuments, an awareness campaign at local schools and a Forum on Cultural Heritage: Rethinking Cidade Velha and the impact of UNESCO declaration of World Heritage. These activities will be framed under the 5th African University on Youth and Development, which gathers global youth leaders every year in Cape Verde.

Partners: The project will be supported by: Municipality of Ribeira Grande de Santiago, Cultural Heritage and Research Institute (IIPC), UNESCO National Commission of Cape Verde, Ribeira Grande Youth League, Bons Amigos of Cidade Velha Association, School-Workshop of Cidade Velha, Delegation of the Ministry of Education.
WHV – Fort Jesus, KENYA

Fort Jesus, Mombasa, Kenya
Cultural site inscribed in 2011

Built by the Portuguese at the end of the 16th century at the southern edge of the town of Mombasa, over a spur of coral rock, and kept under their control for one century, Fort Jesus, Mombasa, bears testimony to the first successful attempt by Western civilization to rule the Indian ocean trade routes, which, until then had remained under Eastern influence. The design of the fort, with its proportions, its imposing walls and five bastions, reflects the military architectural theory of the Renaissance. Fort Jesus, Mombasa, bears physical witness, in its structures and subsequent transformations, also to the interchange of cultural values and influences between and among peoples of African, Arab, Turkish, Persian and European origin that fought to gain and maintain their control over this strategic port.

Project objectives: The project aims at promoting the conservation and sustainable use of heritage through documentation and dissemination of research, collection and management of knowledge, information and innovations. The project is aimed to train and empower the community to preserve and promote the heritage.

Project activities: The volunteers will run various activities to promote the World Heritage and sustainable tourism, engaging the surrounding communities in protecting their cultural heritage and fostering dialogue and interaction between local communities. Furthermore, the volunteers will participate in dissemination of information about Fort Jesus, developing promotional brochure of the site and holding workshops and training for tour guides and communities about their heritage.

Partners: The project is supported by the Ministry of Tourism & Information, the Kenya Forest Department, the County Council of Mombasa.
WHV – Maasai Mara Game Reserve, KENYA

The African Great Rift Valley - The Maasai Mara, Kenya

Mixed site included on the Tentative List of Kenya in 2011


© UNESCO
Tentative List since 2011

The National Reserve is situated in Rift Valley Province, Narok and Transmara Districts. The site adjoins the Serengeti National Park along the Kenya-Tanzania border, and is considered part of the same ecosystem. The National Reserve is Kenya's most-visited protected area, world famous for its high density of herbivores and predators, and the annual migrations of Wildebeest, Connochaetes taurinus.

Project objectives: The main objective of the project is to raise awareness both locally and internationally among young people of the importance of site, to encourage young people to become involved in Maasai Mara heritage conservation, and to promote the concept of sustainable tourism.

Project activities: The volunteers will participate in various activities at the site, including clean-up campaigns and planting trees in school and community. They will also conduct activities in order to raise awareness in the local community, disseminate information about the Maasai Mara, and mobilize the surrounding communities to protect their cultural heritage, foster dialogue and interaction among the communities. Furthermore, at local schools, the volunteers will teach English and implement classroom activities related to promotion and preservation of World Heritage, such as school drawing contest.

Partners: The project will be mainly supported by local partners such as the Ministry of Tourism & Information, Kenya Forest Department and County Council of Narok.
**WHV – Sacred Mijikenda Kaya Forest, KENYA**

**Sacred Mijikenda Kaya Forests, Kenya**
Cultural site inscribed in 2008

The Mijikenda Kaya Forests consist of 11 separate forest sites spread over some 200 km along the coast containing the remains of numerous fortified villages, known as kayas, of the Mijikenda people. The kayas, created as of the 16th century but abandoned by the 1940s, are now regarded as the abodes of ancestors and are revered as sacred sites and, as such, are maintained as by councils of elders. The site is inscribed as bearing unique testimony to a cultural tradition and for its direct link to a living tradition.

**Project objectives:** The project is built on the theme of enhancing sustainable development initiatives within the local community. This project has the following objectives: to enhance cultural awareness among local school children; to increase the sustainability of the economic environment through shared ideas and information; to contribute to conservation, protection and promotion of the site by active involvement of community stakeholders.

**Project activities:** During the workcamp, international volunteers, local community members and local school students will create promotional and educational materials which will be used for raising awareness workshops within the local community. Volunteers will also assist the local groups in creating an activity plan that will contribute to the general protection, conservation and promotion of the cultural site. Participants will be involved in cultural discussions, creating walk paths to the sacred sites within the forest, construction of a fence to protect the site, planting indigenous trees, offering talks to school children of the site. At the end of the workcamp the participants will organize a cultural festival that will be able to bring out the traditional richness of the local community.

**Partners:** The implementation of this project will draw partners from different levels which include: Kaya Kinondo Eco-tourism center, Ganja La Simba Primary School, Other local learning institutions, Shimba Hills Forest Guides Association, local media station, community elders, local Municipality, local government departments, UNESCO National Commission in Kenya.

Kenya Voluntary Development Association (KVDA)
Contact: Isaac Oneka Munanairi
kvdakenya@yahoo.com

"World Heritage Volunteers 2013 – Patrimonito Voluntary Action - Inspiring change"
WHV – Save Our Forests, MADAGASCAR

Rainforests of the Atsinanana, Madagascar
Natural site inscribed in 2006 / List in Danger since 2010

The Rainforests of the Atsinanana comprise six national parks distributed along the eastern part of the island. These relict forests are critically important for maintaining ongoing ecological processes necessary for the survival of Madagascar’s unique biodiversity, which reflects the island’s geological history. Having completed its separation from all other land masses more than 60 million years ago, Madagascar’s plant and animal life evolved in isolation. The rainforests are inscribed for their importance to both ecological and biological processes as well as their biodiversity and the threatened species they support. Many species are rare and threatened especially primates and lemurs.

Project objectives: The project aims to conserve the nature and the site by involving and raising awareness of the local communities to preserve the Forest. It also aims to promote sustainable development and in particular, sustainable tourism, in relation to the importance and value of the World Heritage Sites. It is hoped to promote Ranomafana National Park as a model for the preservation of heritage sites in Madagascar.

Project activities: During the workcamp, volunteers will participate in educational activities on environment, such as youth workshop on Sustainable Development, with the local communities and school. They will participate in cleaning up of the site, as well as some cultural activities for the UN designated World Environment Day 2013 on June 5th. The volunteers will promote sustainable tourism in the Park by initiating participative tourism as planting trees, training tourist guides and establishing green charters for tourist operators that set up around the site.

Partners: United States Ambassy, Ministry of culture and Heritage, UNESCO Program Madagascar, Madagascar National Park, Valbio Ranomafana, Wash Project, Mayor with local authorities in Ranomafana.
Khulubvi sacred shrine is located in Nsanje District, in the lower Shire Valley in Southern Region of Malawi. It is an important spiritual place among the people of Mang’anja tribe. According to Mang’anja oral tradition, Mbona was a legendary figure with super human powers who lived in the area during the rise of the Lundu Kingdom. Mbona is said to have had magic powers of bringing rain, creating wells of water on sandy lands, creating forests where they did not exist and hiding from enemies by turning into other creatures such as guinea fowls. A traditional hut within Khulubvi natural thicket of approximately 100 square metres was constructed as a worshipping site.

**Project objectives:** The project aims at raising awareness on the values of the site to the general public at local, national and international levels. The project will actively involve the local communities in the management, conservation and promotion of the proposed cultural heritage site. It will contribute to formulate local Cultural Community Based Organisations (CCBOs), Youth Clubs, School Cultural Heritage Associations and a community umbrella body of local Community Management Committee, whom they will help to train and empower with knowledge and resources to better manage, conserve and interpret the cultural heritage resources.

**Project activities:** During the project, the international volunteers and local and national volunteers drawn from local schools, private cultural and natural heritage institutions, traditional religious churches, and villages around the proposed heritage sites will carry out an on-site conservation training workshop at Khulubvi Sacred Site by actively involving them to clean the site. The volunteers will also construct a welcome sign using bricks and cement at the entrance of Khulubvi sacred site. They will also develop a visitor’s trail and walkways in consultation with the local custodians.

**Partners:** Department of Culture, Nsanje and Chikhwawa District Assemblies, Tisunge Cultural Heritage Centre, Department of Parks and Wildlife, Department of Tourism, Active Youth Initiative for Social Enhancement (AYISE), Department of Education, UNESCO Malawi National Commission, Traditional Religion Association, Nsanje Community Development Association, Local School.
WHV – Idanre Hill, NIGERIA

Oke Idanre Hill (Idanre Hill), Nigeria 16 September – 28 September 2013
Cultural site included on the Tentative List of Nigeria in 2007

Oke Idanre hill consists of high plain with spectacular valleys interspersed with inselbergs of about 3,000 ft above sea level. Its physical attributes include Owa's Palace, Shrines, Old Court, Belfry, Agboogun foot print, thunder water (Omi Aopara) and burial mounds and grounds. It also has diverse and variegated eco-systems of flora and fauna. Oke Idanre contains very important bio-physical and land form features whose interaction with the physical features created an enduring cultural landscape within the setting.

Project objectives: The absence of public toilet has been a major constraint and challenge, hindering true appreciation of the beauty and natural posture of the site. The project aims to reduce the risk of damages and to increase the comfort of residents and visitors of the Oke Idanre Hills by constructing public toilet facilities.

Project activities: The volunteers will participate in the construction of a public toilet at the site. Few blocks will be moulded and concrete slabs will be made to cover the lower and bigger chamber, where wastes will be collected for manure or fertilizer purposes. A small hut will be made to shield the project from any damage. During the workcamp, the volunteers will live together at a camp, and cook for themselves. They will also participate in intercultural group sessions.

Partners: Natural & Cultural Heritage Foundation (N&CF), State Chapter of National Youth Council and VWAN Branch Chapter in Ondo State will play a vital role in the project. Press crew and some local authority along with Traditional rulers will be partners in the project.
WHV – Koutammakou, the land of the Batammariba, TOGO

Koutammakou, the land of the Batammariba, Togo
Cultural site inscribed in 2004

The Koutammakou landscape in north-eastern Togo, which extends into neighbouring Benin, is home to the Batammariba whose remarkable mud tower-houses (Takienta) have come to be seen as a symbol of Togo. In this landscape, nature is strongly associated with the rituals and beliefs of society. The 50,000-ha cultural landscape is remarkable due to the architecture of its tower-houses which are a reflection of social structure; its farmland and forest; and the associations between people and landscape. Some of the buildings have flat roofs, others have conical thatched roofs. They are grouped in villages, which also include ceremonial spaces, springs, rocks and sites reserved for initiation ceremonies.

Project objectives: The project aims to promote the Koutammakou site at a global level through participation of international volunteers. It also aims to increase the involvement of local communities in the preservation process through awareness raising activities and in reforestation of the main species that were used in the construction of Tata, the major symbol of the site.

Project activities: During the work camp, volunteers will provide training sessions for discussion with young students and local farmers, on the opportunities offered by the inscription on the World Heritage List and the need to protect this site. Volunteers will also plant local plants for reforestation, for area about 200m². At the end, they will produce short written reports to serve as references and experiences to future volunteers.

Partners: Commission Nationale du Patrimoine Culturel (CNPC), Cellule Nationale pour la Production des Statistiques Culturelles (CNPSC), The Ministry of Arts and Culture, The conservation service of the Koutammakou site will support the project.
WHV – Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi, UGANDA

The Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi constitute a site embracing almost 30 ha of hillside within Kampala district. Most of the site is agricultural, farmed by traditional methods. At its core on the hilltop is the former palace of the Kabakas of Buganda, built in 1882 and converted into the royal burial ground in 1884. Four royal tombs now lie within the Muzibu Azaala Mpanga, the main building, which is circular and surmounted by a dome. It is a major example of an architectural achievement in organic materials, principally wood, thatch, reed, wattle and daub. The site’s main significance lies, however, in its intangible values of belief, spirituality, continuity and identity.

Project objectives: The aim of the project is to identify different possibilities for innovative non formal education methods, especially through intercultural and international volunteering. This project also aims to underscore the role of voluntary experiences in promoting the values of the heritage site and local cultural heritage. It will help to support long term cultural heritage preservation by providing a sound basis for sustainable tourism.

Project activities: The volunteers will actively participate in the reconstruction work on the site and will organize activities such as the following: tree planting, construction of garbage collection centers, production of awareness raising materials, and screening of relevant cultural films. They will also run a cultural gala and an awareness raising workshop with debates, reflections and discussions on World Heritage issues, involving local communities.

Partners: The project will be supported by the Buganda Kingdom and local companies specialized in Heritage preservation and promotion.

Uganda Voluntary Development Association (UVDA)
Contact: Edward Kaweesa
uvdaoffice69@yahoo.com; uvda69director@gmail.com

“World Heritage Volunteers 2013 – Patrimonito Voluntary Action - Inspiring change”
WHV – Victoria Falls, ZAMBIA

Mosi-oa-Tunya / Victoria Falls, Zambia  
Natural site inscribed in 1989

The Mosi-oa-Tunya/Victoria Falls is the world’s greatest sheet of falling water and significant worldwide for its exceptional geological and geomorphological features and active land formation processes with outstanding beauty attributed to the falls i.e. the spray, mist and rainbows. This transboundary property extends over 6860 ha and comprises 3779 ha of the Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park (Zambia), 2340 ha of Victoria Falls National Park (Zimbabwe), 741 ha of the riverine strip of Zambezi National Park (Zimbabwe). A riverine strip of the Zambezi National Park extending 9 km west along the right bank of the Zambezi and islands in the river are all within the Park as far as Palm and Kandahar Islands, with the Victoria Falls being one of the major attractions.

**Project objectives:** The project aims at involving the local community and all the stakeholders, as well as international volunteers, in site management and preservation. In particular, one of the objectives of the project is to facilitate a tour of the site for local students, in order to give them a better understanding of the value of the site and World Heritage values. It will also contribute to local community’s image.

**Project activities:** Various activities such as the following are planned: a day long tour of Victoria Falls to learn about the cultural heritage that has evolved around the site; painting school classroom blocks; meeting local community members and the Victoria Falls management team; cutting down invasive species and replacing them by planting new trees; and promoting the importance of responsible tourism at a World Heritage site.

**Partners:** Palm groove Basic School and National Heritage Conservation Commission.
The Mosi-oa-Tunya/Victoria Falls is the world’s greatest sheet of falling water and significant worldwide for its exceptional geological and geomorphological features and active land formation processes with outstanding beauty attributed to the falls i.e. the spray, mist and rainbows. This transboundary property extends over 6860 ha and comprises 3779 ha of the Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park (Zambia), 2340 ha of Victoria Falls National Park (Zimbabwe), 741 ha of the riverine strip of Zambezi National Park (Zimbabwe). A riverine strip of the Zambezi National Park extending 9 km west along the right bank of the Zambezi and islands in the river are all within the Park as far as Palm and Kandahar Islands, with the Victoria Falls being one of the major attractions.

**Project objectives:** The project aims to involve youths in the conservation of one of the most amazing sites found in the country by eradicating invasive alien species, such as Lantana Camara, which is a big threat to the biological diversity of the Victoria Falls rainforest. The project also aims at raising the level of environmental awareness amongst young people and local communities at large.

**Project activities:** The volunteers will run various activities. For example, they will be involved in eradication of Lantana Camara, by mapping infested and cleared areas at the World Heritage Site. They will also conduct school discussion forums on invasive alien species at 5 schools in Victoria Falls, and produce a manual on eradication methods of invasive alien species that can be distributed.

**Partners:** The project will be supported by Environment Africa and National Parks and Wildlife Authority.
WHV – Restoration of Khami National Monuments, ZIMBABWE

Khami National Monuments, Zimbabwe
Cultural site inscribed in 1986

Khami, which developed after the capital of Great Zimbabwe had been abandoned in the mid-16th century, is of great archaeological interest. The discovery of objects from Europe and China shows that Khami was a major centre for trade over a long period of time.

Project objectives: The project aims to preserve and restore Khami National Monuments for both education and cultural purposes. This is a very important project, because the ruins are one of the most impressive stone walled settlements of pre-historic Zimbabwe, and was the last to be inhabited in the country. The volunteers will work with the local community, encouraged to discover different cultures, and assist promote international understanding through voluntary service.

Project activities: Main activities will consist of counting and authenticating the dry stones, working on the reconstruction and restoration of the monuments, and renovating the painting of Khami National Monuments Museum.


© UNESCO
Cultural site inscribed in 1986

18 July – 05 August 2013