



African World
Heritage Fund

QUARTERLY REPORT

INVESTING IN HERITAGE



Lake Malawi- Malawi @chipsteinfiel1

African World Heritage Fund

[July – September 2021]



About Us

The African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) is an inter-governmental organisation that was launched in 2006 with the mission to support the effective conservation and protection of natural and cultural heritage of outstanding universal value in Africa. Together with the African Members States of UNESCO and the African Union, the main aim is to develop a strategy to deal with the challenges that many African countries meet in implementing the 1972 World Heritage Convention.

The UNESCO-designated World Heritage Sites in Africa are some of the most spectacular places on earth. The importance of preserving and promoting this cultural heritage escalates with each passing year. It is vital to raise awareness of this rich heritage while informing people of its value and gaining support for the conservation and development of these sites. Through our Quarterly reports, we invite you to visit our all our platforms and learn more about the work of the African World Heritage Fund.

The work of AWHF covers all countries forming part of the African Union.

Address:

African World Heritage Fund 1258
Lever Road, Headway Hill Midrand
1685, South Africa

Table of Contents

OPINION PIECE

04 Decolonising African narratives and heritage, by: **Dr. Pascal Taruvinga**

HIGHLIGHTS

07 44th World Heritage Committee Meeting

09 Consultative Meeting about World Heritage in CEMAC Member States

10 AWHF signs a six months agreement with the Federal Republic of Germany

10 5th Technical Meeting of African Experts on the World Heritage

CONSERVATION OF WORLD HERITAGE IN AFRICA

12 Professional Immersion Fellowship

13 Conserving Koutammakou, the land of the Batammariba, Togo

14 Risk Prepared for World Heritage in Africa

SUSTAINABILITY OF WORLD HERITAGE IN AFRICA

16 Rethinking Heritage for Development in Africa (results workshop with the University of Kent)

17 Conceptualising Modern Heritage of Africa (workshop with the University of Cape Town (UCT))

18 World Heritage Nomination Capacity Building in Africa (evaluation workshop)

COORDINATION WITH PARTNERS

20 Meeting engagements with Private Sector

21 AWHF embarks on a mission to Senegal

21 AWHF briefs Ambassador of Senegal to South Africa

22 AWHF hosts a webinar on Heritage & Tourism, an asset for Sustainable Development

23 Heritage and Our Sustainable Future: Cultural Heritage for Climate Change

COMMUNICATION

24 AWHF launches a Tourism Campaign

25 Social media enhancement strategy

26 LinkedIn Outreach Campaign & Website

26 Broadcast media

AFRICAN WORLD HERITAGE SITES PROFILED

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

SECRETARIAT



Opinion Piece

"DECOLONISING AFRICAN NARRATIVES AND HERITAGE"

by: *Dr. Pascall Taruvinga*



Heritage production and its relevance to society is a continuous and dynamic process, so should be the power players, knowledge sources and production systems applied to interpret it thereof.

Decolonizing African narratives and heritage: single or multiple narratives?

Decolonisation is a process of dismantling the colonial science, the "gardens of Eden" and many exclusionary approaches created in Africa such as the experiment of Ngorongoro Conservation Area (Tanzania) with its unresolved issue of who, between the Maasai and wildlife, have the right to live in the area. There is need to understand heritage from the context and foundations of society that created, managed and facilitated its access through dynamic approaches embedded in Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS). Decolonization is a deliberate knowledge production process undertaken by previously colonised nations seeking identity, self-affirmation, development, well-being and internal energy to strategically position themselves in global discourses as equal players, but more importantly giving them power to tell their own narratives and experiences. This process has become a function and formulation of different power players, simply defined as "creators, enablers and publics"! These players, imbued with post-colonial and democracy thinking, are redefining knowledge sources and

production context, thereby providing alternative but Africanised narratives and heritages.

The creators, enablers and publics!

The above players, though with varying powers of telling narratives are all, agenda setting and facilitators of decolonised narratives and heritages. "Creators" are the primary and secondary producers of knowledge and narratives. Primary producers are the Indigenous and Descendant Communities (IDCS) of Africa who still produce knowledge and narratives about themselves, while secondary producers are those that interpret and package what primary creators have and are producing and share it with the publics. These could be researchers, experts and their supporting institutions. "Enablers" are those facilitating knowledge production and interpretation, and these variedly manifest as researchers/academics, experts and supporting institutions, private and tourism players, including IDCS themselves! "Publics" are the different consumers of the knowledge produced by the creators and facilitated by the enablers. Publics are domestic, regional and international.

However, the creators, enablers and public compositions are further complicated given the colonial history ushering multi-racial societies and heritages of diversity in Africa. This includes the challenge to understand what all of them are expecting from the decolonisation processes, which is both a scientific, political and emotional affair influenced by levels of power the hold in the process. The power interplay among creators, enablers and publics presents both opportunities and challenges for moving beyond colonial science and narratives in Africa and the following is important to consider in this process.

- *Heritage production and its relevance to society is a continuous and dynamic process, so should be the power players, knowledge sources and production systems applied to interpret it thereof.*

Decolonising narratives should not be shy in unmasking the continuous and dynamic process associated with heritage, knowledge production systems and the continuously evolving role players. However, primary creators are best placed to become co-creators of knowledge alongside the secondary creators and the varied enablers in their quest to educate the different publics. The inequalities and imbalances caused by unequal access to resources and infrastructure among and between creators, enablers and publics is not an excuse to implementing co-creation in knowledge production. This needs to be addressed to avoid sustaining exclusionary approaches of the colonial era in the presence of unlimited and inclusive opportunities to widen knowledge sources and production systems that offer improved and alternative narratives in Africa!

For example, the handling of previously ignored and new heritage typologies in Africa is showing a dysfunctional link between the local and global understanding of what are African narratives and heritages. This can be addressed through co-creation together with creators. While some international communities view sites of memory in Africa as hurtful and divisive, Africans themselves see these as symbols of the painful past that should be memorised, just like the Auschwitz (Poland) inscribed as a World Heritage site. New heritages in Africa should not be defined and

Decolonising narratives should not be shy in unmasking the continuous and dynamic process associated with heritage, knowledge production systems and the continuously evolving role players

interpreted in a way that suits international perspectives but rather should reflect the understanding and the values placed on them by Africa communities themselves. While decoloniality should accept cultural progression and changes rather than fixing narratives and heritages in the past, there is need to correct the erroneous colonial frameworks applied in Africa. Such a process should not apologetic, politicised, but rather promote production inclusivity. Africa should guard against undermining her own peculiarity in the spirit of being part of the global thinking without giving credence to their own narratives and heritages. Multivocality has the potential of redefining heritage definitions, practices and theories. This includes dealing with the intensifying and systematic scientific 'hijacking' of alternative knowledge sources and production to retain the status quo in Africa.

- *Redefining the localness and uniqueness of African heritage*

Decolonisation is an opportunity for redefining heritage narratives, concepts and practices in a sea of contested and borrowed definitions, misused and abused heritages, marginalised and neglected, emerging and controversial, as well as legislative and time defined heritages! Local notions and perspectives of what is heritage is, what is important and how it should be looked after in Africa are critical dimensions in this process. Also, deducing messages from student protests (#Rhodesmustfall, South Africa), #blacklivesmatter movements, covid-19 debates, rights based approaches, African diaspora notions and new heritage typologies of Africa provides decolonisation insights. How heritage is viewed and interpreted through time and space by different role players promotes inclusive ideas of decolonisation. Desiring to redefine the localness and uniqueness of African narratives and heritages is important. The first museum and Chief curator I met is my mother and her kitchen (family museum) in our village, consistently demonstrating what we now understand as good principles

of collections management in a vernacular and cultural context of preservation! I consider my parents as pioneers in concepts of preservation, restoration and displaying utensils and equipment, including constructing storage facilities for preserving cereals and other delicacies (special collections !). This African museology perspective is rarely acknowledged and used in modern conservation practices. Neither do we have African universities with schools of IKS to further promote the applied abstraction of ideas, innovation, creativity, resilience and the experiences of creators. If that happens, alternative thinking from Africa is easily infused in global processes, innovation and understanding of Africa. Also, African universities should not remain victims of external funders in the absence of meaningful and sustainable funding from African governments themselves as decolonisation is the foundation for development, growth, prosperity and well-being of their nations.

- *Reimagining and reconceptualising African narratives and heritages*

Reimagining and reconceptualising African narratives and heritages is inseparable from decolonisation seeking alternative, inclusive, holistic and cross-cutting narratives that should influence heritage theories and practices in Africa. The case of repatriated masks that no longer have space in present day rituals in Africa due to the “expatriate and explain conditionalities” approach

used by those returning them, except for nostalgia and historical reasons is a good example of how reimagining and reconceptualization as a local process has become important in Africa. Which narrative should be dominant about these returned objects; nostalgia and history or the current practices in their reimagined context? Also, IDCS in Africa have past and current experiences in reducing their vulnerability to climate change, but have remained peripheral to formulating mitigation measure to minimise the impact of climate change at WHS. Why is it difficult for universities to appoint IKS specialist lecturers without worrying about their academic qualification, the number of researches conducted, papers presented, published and students supervised. They can become tenured lecturers in their own context. There is need to employ a local-global nexus in re-conceptualisation of African narratives. Co-creating widens alternative knowledge sources and production systems in Africa.

In conclusion, knowledge sources and production systems in Africa remain intertwined with the variable roles of creators, enablers and publics. Also, decolonisation is no longer a single discipline or single sector approach, or single player or single story approach, but rather an inclusive, inter and multi-disciplinary and power play process driven by multiple role players.

Heritage has become an inclusive process that capitalises on the perceptions, power and formulations negotiated among creators, enablers, publics towards re-defining the common stewardship of narratives and heritages in Africa. Co-creation gives opportunity to alternative local knowledge sources and systems in dealing with persistent and underlying academic toxicity characterising Africa narratives and heritages! Africa cannot remain as a recipient of academic, internationally stereotyped and intellectual ideas in the post democracy period!

Dr. Pascall Taruvinga

World Heritage Specialist

HIGHLIGHTS

EXTENDED 44th SESSION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE

COMMITTEE



The World Heritage Committee inscribed 34 new properties on the World Heritage List with 2 properties from Africa. The committee also approved the extension of 3 properties on the List.

Left: Sudanese Style Mosques - Cote d' Ivoire & Right: Ivindo National Park – Gabon ©AWHF

“Thank you to the African World Heritage Fund for all the efforts made during the whole process which has led today to the inscription of the Sudanese style mosques on the World Heritage List. Conscious of the important role that the Fund plays in supporting African countries, Cote d'Ivoire is committed to supporting the work of the Fund like other African countries”
- Hon. Harlette Badou N'guessan Kouame, Minister of Culture, Arts and Entertainment Industry

The extended 44th session of the World Heritage Committee was held in Fuzhou, China from 16th to 31st July 2021. The online session was presided over by His Excellency Mr Tian Xuejun, Vice Minister of Education and Chairperson of the National Commission of the People's Republic of China for UNESCO, Chairperson of the extended 44th session of World Heritage Committee. The World Heritage Committee decided to inscribe **Ivindo National Park** on the World Heritage List under criteria (ix) and (x).

Ivindo National Park, situated in northern Gabon encompasses an area of about 300,000 ha crossed by several rivers including Ivindo River. The World Heritage Committee also decided to inscribe **Sudanese Style Mosques** in northern Côte d'Ivoire on the World Heritage List under criteria (ii) and (iv). The mosques are remains of hundreds of mosques that existed with distinctive Sudanese style, specific to the savannah region of West Africa, which were constructed between the 17th and 19th centuries.



“The inscription by UNESCO of the Ivindo National Park on the List of World Heritage is a reward to the efforts of Gabon in the field of forest protection, whose role is decisive in the fight against global warming. A great day!” H. E. Ali Bongo Ondimmba, president of Gabon tweeted.

Salonga National Park is removed from the List of World Heritage in Danger

The World Heritage Committee also decided to remove Salonga National Park in the Democratic Republic of Congo from the List of World Heritage in Danger following significant improvement in site conservation. The property has in recent years experienced serious conservation challenges including extractive activities and poaching. The property has been on the List of World Heritage in Danger for past 22 years.



Congolese Institute for the Conservation of Nature (ICCN)

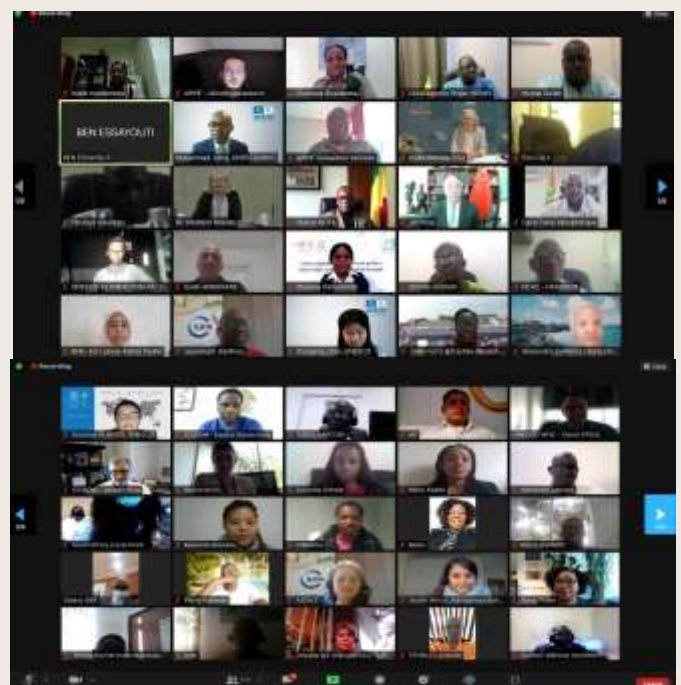


SIDE EVENT: WEBINAR ON “LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE, HIGHLIGHTS OF THE REGIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR AFRICA, 2021/20217”



On 30th July 2021, the African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) in collaboration with the World Heritage Centre (WHC) organized an online side event, “Looking into the future: Highlights of the Regional Action Plan for Africa (2021/2027)”. The event reflected on the objectives and challenges in the implementation of the approved Action Plan (2021-2027) for Africa, as a result of the report of the Third Cycle of the Periodic Reporting exercise in the region. The meeting was attended by among others, the Director of the UNESCO WHC, Dr Mechtild Rössler, who lauded the remarkable achievement made.

Mr. Souayibou Varissou, Executive Director of the AWHF, congratulated African States Parties for achieving 100% of completing the questionnaires. Mr Varissou urged all actors to commit on the vision of having all African countries represented on the World Heritage List by 2027



HIGHLIGHTS

CONSULTATIVE MEETING ABOUT WORLD HERITAGE IN CEMAC MEMBER STATES



Group photo of Ambassadors and High Commissioners of the CEMAC Member States in South Africa ©AWHF

On 24th August 2021, AWHF in partnership with the High Commissioner of Cameroon to South Africa H. E. Anu'a-Gheyle Solomon AZOH – MBI and H. E. Mr. Andrea William ANGUILÉ, Dean of CEMAC Member States and Ambassador of Gabon to South Africa, held a robust Consultative Meeting about World Heritage in CEMAC Member States at the premises of the High Commission

of Cameroon to South Africa in Pretoria. All the six Ambassadors and High Commissioners of the countries representing the CEMAC Member States in South Africa were present. They are **Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Equatorial Guinea and Gabon**. The event aimed to acknowledge the successes of the CEMAC countries and celebrate the wealth of display of the richness of the

biodiversity, forestry and cultures. It was also to highlight the World Heritage status in the CEMAC countries and make a conscience call for better representation to be achieved on the World Heritage List. The engagement and cooperation embarked on, marked the beginning of a new quest for sustainable development.



Left: H.E. Mr. Solomon Azoh-Mbhi, Centre: H.E. Mr. Andrea William ANGUILÉ, Right: Mr. Souayibou Varissou ©AWHF

HIGHLIGHTS

AWHF SIGNS A SIX MONTHS AGREEMENT WITH THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY



Mr. Souayibou Varissou and Mr. Thomas Metz formally signing the six months agreement ©AWHF

On 19th August, the AWHF represented by Mr. Souayibou Varissou (Executive Director) and the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, represented by Mr. Thomas Metz (Acting Head of the Cultural Section) signed a financial agreement which will cover a six months period (July-December 2021). The financial agreement will see the “Implementation of the Modern Heritage of Africa (MoHoA)” programme and will include an International Symposium and a thematic expert meeting. Also present in the signing session were, Ms. Antje Vanselow (Cultural Affairs) and Mr Steffen Scholz (Press Section). AWHF extends sincere gratitude to the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Germany for the support.

5th TECHNICAL MEETING OF AFRICAN EXPERTES ON WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE



As the chair of the Regional Group 5A, the State Party of Uganda through the Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities and the AWHF organized the virtual fifth meeting of the African experts of the World Heritage Committee held from 30th June to 2nd July 2021. The meeting constitutes a capacity building platform for African experts to come up with a collective understanding and intervention strategy, on the implementation of the 1972 Convention for the Protection of the Cultural and Natural Heritage, with regard to Africa.

Key heritage related discussions were the focus area including the state of conservation of heritage properties. Experts critically discussed the state of conservation of World Heritage properties inscribed on the World Heritage List. AWHF Executive Director, Mr Souayibou Varissou delivered a valuable presentation on various key aspects of Our World Heritage initiative at the "Inaugural Session: Our World Heritage and Sustainability" Webinar

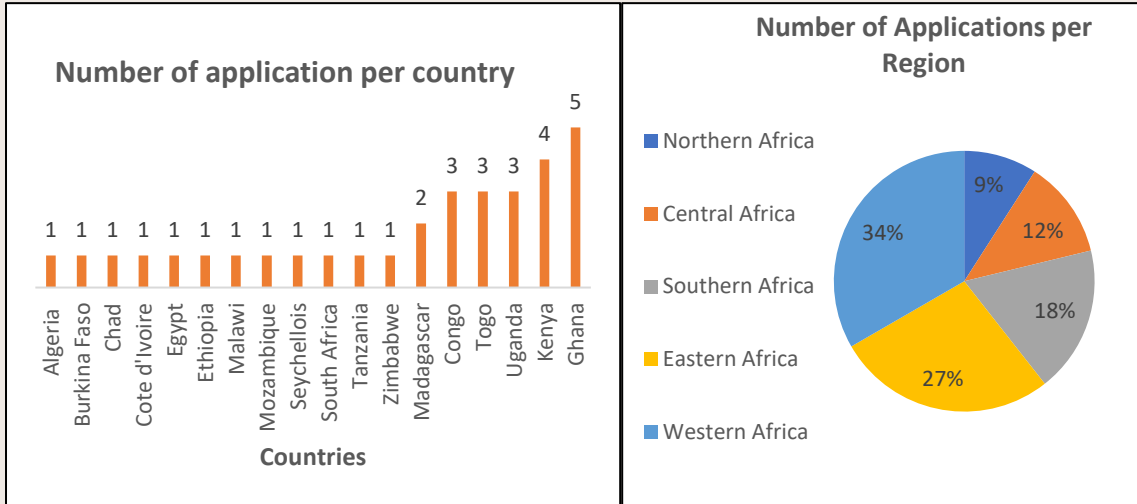
Position Paper on World Heritage and Sustainable Development in Africa (STC3 - Oct 2018)

12. To take on board the needs of the African continent in the context of the WH-SD concept, and in light of the Agenda 2063, we urge UNESCO to support the aspirations of Agenda 2063 in identifying, building, promoting and supporting the pre-requisite capacity within the workings of the World Heritage Convention to adequately manage, and in a timely manner, the use of Africa's cultural and natural heritage as a multifaceted resource for sustainable development and poverty reduction, particularly for people closest to that heritage.





CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES



Left: Distribution of Professional Immersion Fellowship applications per country
Right: Regional Distribution of Professional Immersion Fellowship applications

The evaluation panel gathered and shortlisted five projects from: Burkina Faso, Madagascar, Mozambique, Tanzania and Uganda

PROFESSIONAL IMMERSION FELLOWSHIP

The Professional Immersion Fellowship is designed to facilitate the engagement of heritage scholars and practitioners in field projects to improve the sustainability and state of conservation of World Heritage properties in Africa. This programme is designed to rationalize working heritage conservation methods and approaches and adapt them to the realities on the ground to respond to the specific needs of the selected World Heritage Site as declared by UNESCO. A call for proposals was sent out on the 5th of February 2021 and the application period closed on 12 March 2021. The AWHF received 55 applications from 18 African countries.

Following the administrative evaluation from the AWHF secretariat, a total of 34 applicants met all the selection criteria indicated in the call for applications. Following the assessment of the administrative requirements for each application by the AWHF Secretariat, the applications were evaluated for their technical feasibility by two African experts (Consultants) in the field of cultural and natural heritage who produced technical evaluation reports to the Secretariat following the criteria set out in the call for application. The reports from the Consultants were then analysed by an Evaluation Panel consisting of nine independent experts and AWHF partners.

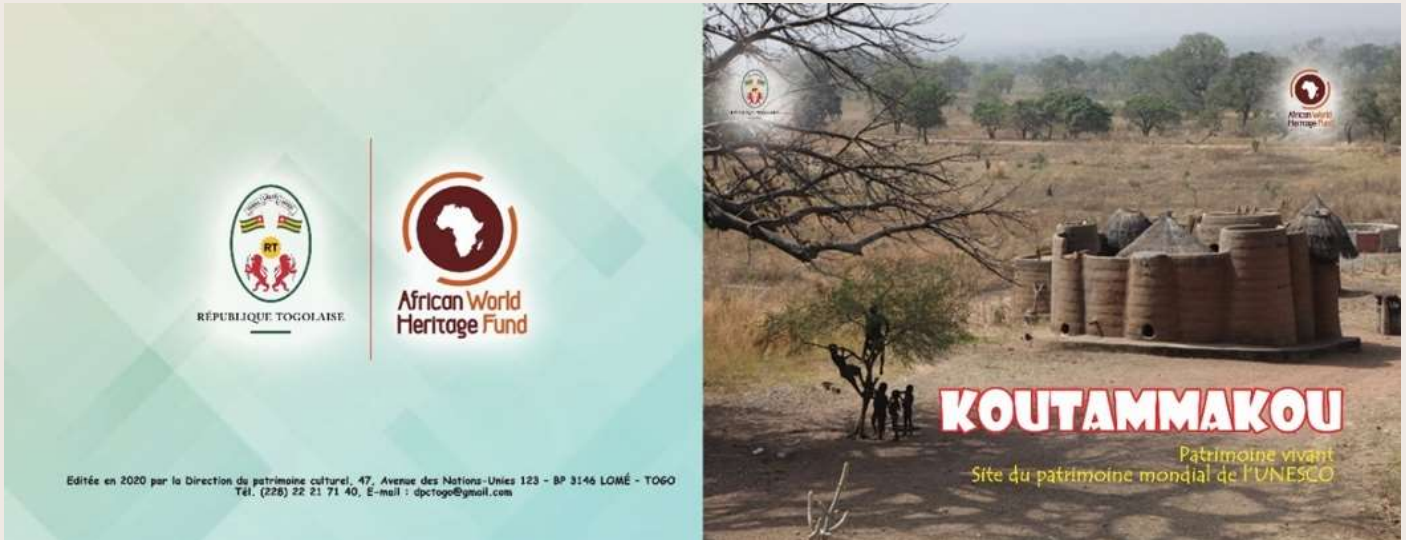


OUTCOME

A Professional Immersion Fellowship of \$ 9876 was awarded to a project on "Preservation of the integrity of Zahamena National Park" in Madagascar.

Left: Experts on Professional Immersion Fellowship evaluation panel gathered @AWHF

CONSERVING KOUTAMMAKOU, THE LAND OF THE BATAMMARIBA, TOGO



Brochure produced to promote the conservation of Koutammakou, the Land of the Batammariba, Togo

The AWHF has financed an awareness capacity-building project for administrative officials for the safeguarding of the Koutammakou, the Land of the Batammariba in Kara, Togo. Koutammakou is the only property in the country inscribed on the World Heritage List. It is a cultural landscape marked by the exceptional character and the singularity of its habitat. This blockhouse habitat called Takienta or Tamberna Castle has for centuries allowed Batammariba to protect and defend itself against both wild animals and slave hunters. Today, this habitat is threatened by modern urban developments that has not considered the local cultural architecture. This may lead to a complete transformation of the sight which plays a risk to the inscription.



AWARENESS WORKSHOP INITIATED

To help safeguard the property, the Ministry of Culture of Togo initiated an awareness workshop for 19 executives of public administration to make local authorities and communities aware of the importance of the Koutammakou site.

Participants attending the Koutammakou World Heritage Site Workshop

RISK PREPAREDNESS FOR WORLD HERITAGE IN AFRICA



Participants attending the official launch of the regional project for capacity building in risk management and protection systems in Africa ©AWHF

The one-year project is to be implemented in two phases, beginning with online webinars, and followed by a field visit to the Royal Palaces of Abomey World Heritage site. It will target six pilot sites in six countries: Uganda (Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi); Benin (Royal Palaces of Abomey); Togo (Koutammakou, the Land of the Batammariba); Côte d'Ivoire (Historic Town of Grand-Bassam), Senegal (Island of Saint-Louis) and Tanzania (Stone Town of Zanzibar), contribute towards the development of disaster risk management plans adapted to the constraints of each of the properties.

The increasing impact of threats to African World Heritage sites and their growing complexity is a great concern for the World Heritage Committee as expressed in its Decisions 40 COM 7, 42 COM 7 and 43 COM 7.2. In the Africa region, many World Heritage sites were recently affected by various disasters such as flooding in the Historic Town of Grand-Bassam (Côte d'Ivoire) and Koutammakou, the Land of the Batammariba (Togo), and fires in Royal Palaces of Abomey (Benin), Tombs of Buganda Kings at Kasubi (Uganda), and the Stone Town of Zanzibar (The United Republic of Tanzania). In most of these cases, the lack of risk management and protection systems was pointed out. The WHC, in collaboration with the AWHF and ICCROM, is developing a project for "Capacity building in Risk management and protection systems in Africa", aiming at building the capacities of

Site Managers in management and evaluation of risks to cultural heritage and assisting in the elaboration of preparedness and preventive measures to reduce these risks. This capacity building initiative implemented between July 2021 and May 2022, will help sites managers and young professionals gain familiarity with the basic concepts of disaster risk management and protection systems.

On 21 June 2021, the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, ICCROM, AWHF and the École du Patrimoine Africain (EPA) brought together Ambassadors, site managers, and African heritage experts for the online launching of the project for the capacity-building in risk management and protection systems in Africa.



SUSTAINABILITY ACTIVITIES

RETHINKING HERITAGE FOR DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA – RESULTS WORKSHOP WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF KENT



Professor Sophia Labadi presenting the results of project "Rethinking Heritage for Development" @AWHF

The African World Heritage Fund has partnered with the University of Kent to address World Heritage and Sustainable Development issues in Africa. One of the initiatives supported by the AWHF is the project "Rethinking Heritage for Development: International Framework, Local Impacts," led by Professor Sophia Labadi, which included case studies in the World Heritage sites of the Island of Mozambique in Mozambique and Saloum Delta in Senegal. This project

aims to understand why heritage was marginalised from the Sustainable Development Goals (2015-2030), drawing lessons from past mistakes and presenting recommendations for the greater inclusion of heritage into development frameworks. On 4 of November 2020 Professor Labadi presented the preliminary results focusing on some of the key issues and contradictions preventing intangible and tangible heritage from contributing fully to sustainable development. The presentation also

discussed the danger of Sustainable Development Goal 11.4 and its focus on the protection and safeguarding of heritage, which contributes to the continued opposition between heritage and development. A series of meetings targeting international organisations, national governments, civil society and NGOs in Africa will widely disseminate and discuss these conclusions and recommendations in April 2021.

CONCEPTUALISING MODERN HERITAGE OF AFRICA (MoHoA) – WORKSHOP WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN (UCT)



Participants attending the SwahiliPot workshop on conceptualising Modern Heritage of Africa @AWHF



Prof. George Abungu delivering a lecture on modern heritage within the context of UNESCO culture Conventions @AWHF



Dr Piruty Kiura, Deputy Director of the National Museums of Kenya welcoming participants to the workshop @AWHF

As part of the Modern Heritage of Africa (MoHoA) programme, the National Museums of Kenya (NMK) in partnership with the AWHF and University of Cape Town (UCT) organized the workshop on “Conceptualization of Modern Heritage of Africa”. Workshop took place on 8 July 2021 and was held at the SwahiliPot Heritage Hub located in Mombasa and gathered 30 participants mostly youth. Using the Kenyan Swahili Coast as a model site, the focus of the workshop was geared towards the conceptualisation of African modernity. The youth participants were drawn from a diverse field of the creatives including performing arts, architecture, fashion, design, videography etc.

The youth were introduced to the concept, meaning and identification of Modern Heritage of Africa through a series of lectures and using each of their strengths in the creatives, they were required to showcase their understanding of the same. The workshop was held in hybrid format with participants gathering in person at the SwahiliPot and others through ZOOM. For widespread dissemination the recording of the workshop was made available on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KhL0cVqDtEU>). The photographic recording of the meeting are also available <https://www.flickr.com/photos/193520557@N06/51322691047/>.

WORLD HERITAGE NOMINATION CAPACITY BUILDING IN AFRICA (EVALUATION WORKSHOP)

The AWHF in partnership with the WHC, Advisory Bodies, training institutions and various key stakeholders has developed a new upstream support initiative (2018-2022) which includes an enhanced strategy for the World Heritage Nomination Capacity Building Programme (WHNCBP). The WHNCBP is a response to the Global Strategy for a Representative, Balanced and Credible World Heritage List (1994) and the *Algiers Call to Action: Our Living Heritage for the African Renaissance*, approved by the African Union Ministers of Youth, Culture and Sports in October 2018 in Algeria. The WHNCBP is implemented within the collaborative framework of *Youth.Heritage.Africa* Programme as part of the Memorandum of Agreement between ICCROM and AWHF.

The WHNCBP comprises three distinct but interrelated components:

- Six-days online World Heritage Nomination Workshops (Anglophone and Francophone) for African States Parties with nomination dossiers that are considered in advanced stage of preparation.¹
- Follow up programme that is implemented after the workshop aiming at assisting the States Parties to development/finalize the nominations dossiers. This programme includes mentorship, technical and financial assistance (through Nomination Grants) and constant monitoring of progress.¹
- Three weeks face-to-face World Heritage Nomination Training Course for African States Parties that are in the beginning of the nomination projects.

Within the framework of WHNCBP an online Anglophone World Heritage Nomination Workshop for advanced dossiers was implemented from 10th to 17th September 2020. The Francophone edition of the WHNCBP for advanced dossiers was implemented from 24th September to 1st October 2020. The 7th edition of the Francophone World Heritage Nomination Training Course was held at School of African Heritage (EPA) in Porto Novo, Benin, from the 9th to 27th November 2020.



Anglophone World Heritage Nomination Workshop for Advanced Dossiers @AWHF



Francophone World Heritage Nomination Workshop for Advanced Dossiers @AWHF



Participants of the 7th edition of the Francophone World Heritage Nomination Training Course in Porto Novo, Benin @AWHF



PARTNERSHIPS

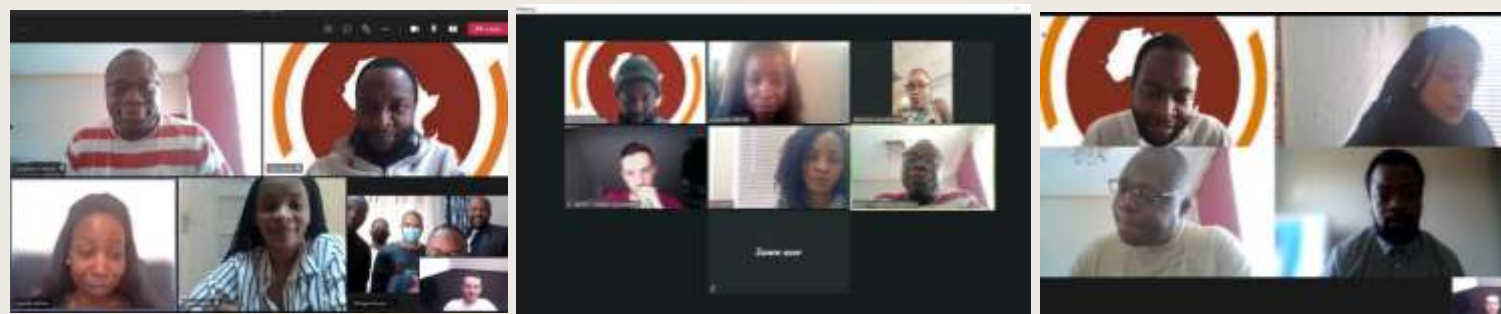
MEETINGS WITH PRIVATE SECTOR



Left: Wild Bird Trust (WBT)

Centre: Think opal Solutions - Kenya

Right: Total Energies - Nigeria



Left: Tshikulu Social Investments - South Africa

Centre: Stanbic Bank - Uganda

Right: African Development Bank

AWHF held several promising introductory meetings with Private Sector where various areas of synergy were identified. The meetings are envisioned to yield positive heritage empowerment through sector and business collaborations. The meetings further highlighted the need to create social impact and sought to impart initiatives and opportunities to uplift vulnerable communities. Additionally, it became apparent that both AWHF and business want to work towards uplifting Africa's rich heritage.

AWHF MEETS WITH UNESCO REGIONAL OFFICE IN CENTRAL AFRICA (ROCA)

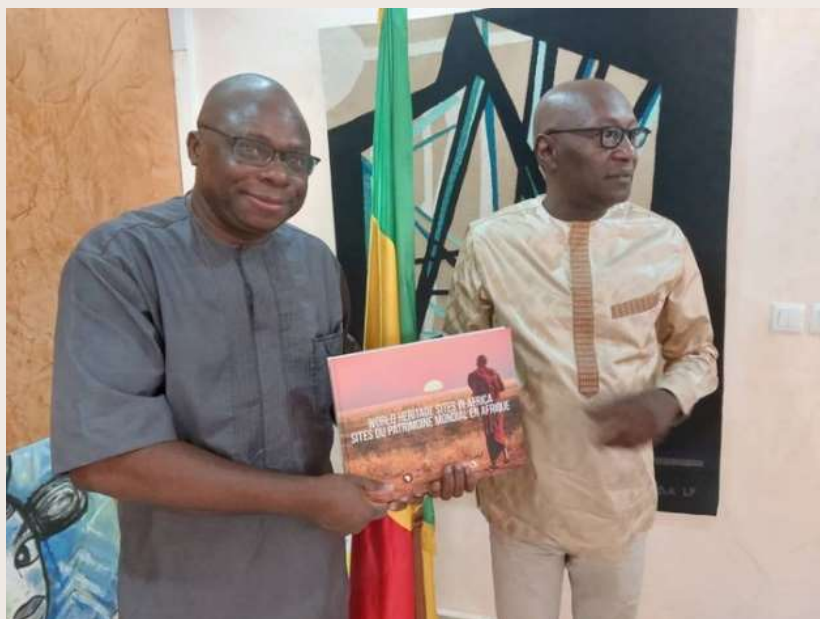
A progressive discussion was engaged on between AWHF and ROCA on the Central Africa Sub-Region. Collaborative implementation and monitoring to play a key role going forward. It was emphasized that joint efforts will be beneficial for the region and the African continent at large.

**THE CENTRAL AFRICA REGION
CONSISTS OF 9 AFRICAN
COUNTRIES WITH A TOTAL OF 13
WORLD HERITAGE SITES COMBINED**



Meeting with ROCA on the Central Africa Sub-Region in Progress
©AWHF

AWHF EMBARKS ON A MISSION TO SENEGAL



Meeting with Hon. M. Abdoulaye Diop, Minister of Culture & Communication - Senegal. ©AWHF

The AWHF Executive Director, Mr. Souayibou Varissou embarked on a mission to Senegal to solidify preparations for the envisioned Fundraising Event planned in Senegal. During his mission, he met with **Hon. M. Abdoulaye Diop**, Minister of Culture & Communication of Senegal. Through the minister, the Senegalese government committed to provide financial support to the work of AWHF. In addition, they relayed to host an expert meeting on African heritage and the Fundraising event.

Within the same mission in Senegal Mr. Varissou attended meetings at the Regional Office of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and at Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA) to discuss potential areas of partnership. The Director also ensured to visit heritage places in Dakar including the Black Civilizations Museum and the African Renaissance Monument.



Meeting with the Regional Office of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) ©AWHF



Meeting with Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA) ©AWHF

AWHF BRIEFS AMBASSADOR OF SENEGAL TO SOUTH AFRICA



AWHF met with **H.E Safiatou Ndiaye**, Ambassador of Senegal to South Africa on 21st September 2021, to brief her on the mission to Senegal which Mr. Souayibou Varissou, Executive Director had undertaken. The meeting discussed the preparation developments of the upcoming Fundraising event planned in Senegal. It also shared the prospects of the Expert meeting that will take place in December in Senegal.

Her Excellency further expressed her interest to attend the Expert meeting and deliver a presentation.

Left: Meeting with H. E. Safiatou Ndiaye ©AWHF

AWHF HOSTS A WEBINAR ON HERITAGE AND TOURISM, AS AN ASSET FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

HACK UR CULTURE
LEKGOTLA
PANEL DISCUSSION

TOPIC:
Heritage & Tourism: An Asset for Sustainable Development

DATE:
28 SEPTEMBER 2021

TIME:
11H30 - 12H30

MANDISA MAGWAXAZA
TOURISM MARKETING SPECIALIST

DR. THABO MANETSI
CHIEF DIRECTOR FOR HERITAGE & TOURISM INTEGRATION

PHAKAMILE HLAZO
STRATEGIST/OPERATIONAL LEAD

KNWEZI MPUMLWANA
FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR OF ZENALIA CONSULTING

ALYSSA BARRY
A HERITAGE SPECIALIST AT UNESCO

DR. ALBINO JOPELA
HEAD OF PROGRAMMES AT THE AFRICAN WORLD HERITAGE FUND

Logos: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, African World Heritage Fund under the auspices of UNESCO, SADiLaR, HSRC, Telkom, Goethe Institut, credipple.

On 28th September 2021, AWHF hosted a webinar centered around heritage and tourism with the theme, *"Heritage and Tourism, an asset for Sustainable Development"*. The webinar was conducted under the banner of the African Union Year for Arts, Culture in collaboration with Zulu Nomad - Innovate Tourism, Hack Ur Culture Lekgotla, the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture, (DSAC), National Department of Tourism (NDT) and Government Communications and Information Systems (GCIS), South Africa. In line with heritage month in South Africa, the aim of the webinar was to discuss the important role that heritage and tourism play towards sustainable development. It further aimed to reinforce the need to value heritage and tourism promotion. Through the webinar engagement, we believe that was achieved. Both sectors must continuously create awareness about tangible and intangible heritage when underlining the benefit of their balanced development for sustainable development

The webinar featured key speakers in the field of heritage and tourism which included: **Dr Albino Jopela** – Head of Programmes at African World Heritage Fund (AWHF), **Mrs. Phakamila Hlazo** – Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at Zulu Nomad, Innovate Tourism, **Dr Thabo Manetsi** – Heritage, Tourism Specialist at Transnet & Former Chief Director of Tourism Enhancement at National Department of Tourism, South Africa (NDT), **Ms Alyssa Barry** – African Cultural Heritage Specialist at UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Africa Unit and **Mr. Khwezi Mpumlwana** – World Heritage Specialist at the National Heritage Council (NHC).

HACK UR CULTURE
LEKGOTLA

PANEL DISCUSSION

TOPIC: Heritage & Tourism: An Asset for Sustainable Development

DATE: 28 SEPT. 2021 **TIME:** 11H30-12H30

Logos: SADiLaR, HSRC, Telkom, Goethe Institut, credipple.

PANELIST:
Dr. Albino Jopela

TITLE:
The Head of Programmes at the African World Heritage Fund. His professional interests include heritage management (custodianship) systems, rock art, liberation struggle heritage in Africa and World Heritage.

Logos: SADiLaR, HSRC, Telkom, Goethe Institut, credipple.

HERITAGE AND OUR SUSTAINABLE FUTURE: CULTURAL HERITAGE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate Change and World Heritage

- Third Periodic Reporting Cycle

Arab States

- 15 of 17 States Parties strengthen resilience to natural hazards and climate change

Africa region

- climate change and severe weather events top five factors affecting World Heritage



Dr Ishanlosen Odiaua from ICOMOS-Nigeria highlighting the role of culture and heritage in climate action in Africa ©AWHF

This insightful session was held on 3rd July 2021 and focused on climate change, one of the most significant risks for World Heritage sites worldwide. There is an urgent need to understand the ways climate threatens various sites and to understand what adaptation strategies if any are appropriate for their conservation. The iconic character of World Heritage sites is an important asset for raising public concern and enthusiasm and, therefore, building up support to take preventive and precautionary measures for adapting to climate change. Furthermore, World Heritage Sites often embody age-old solutions to support climate change mitigation and adaptation measures. This session was aimed at raising awareness about the impact of climate change on World Heritage and emphasizing the role of culture and heritage in addressing the challenges of climate change and building more locally empowered, just and resilient societies.



Kilwa Kisiwani & Songo Mnara World Heritage Site, Tanzania ©TAWA, the Indian Ocean sea level rise and increasingly intense storm activity is causing the loss of archaeological deposits and land, exacerbating other socio-economic and ecological stresses, including land management practices.



Sukur Cultural Landscape World Heritage Site, Nigeria © DipoTayo, is threatened by changing rainfall patterns, windstorms and reduced vegetation cover which is impacting agricultural production and the availability of culturally important traditional building material.

COMMUNICATION

AWHF LAUNCHES A TOURISM

In August 2021, AWHF launched a tourism campaign on all its Social media platforms. The campaign aims to elevate the profile of World Heritage Sites in Africa due to their prestige rating as a result of their Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) features. The sites play an immense role in boosting tourism in the continent, thus should be promoted to encourage tourists to make time to experience them as part of their adventure fulfillment. Each week, a short World Heritage Site video is shared on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram where a Site Manager or representative at the site shares valuable information about the site. To drive the campaign further, AWHF has aligned with ZuluNomad through their #LetsInnovateTourism and Hospitality initiative, where both campaigns will support and leverage off each other to reach a wider audience and solidify the impact.



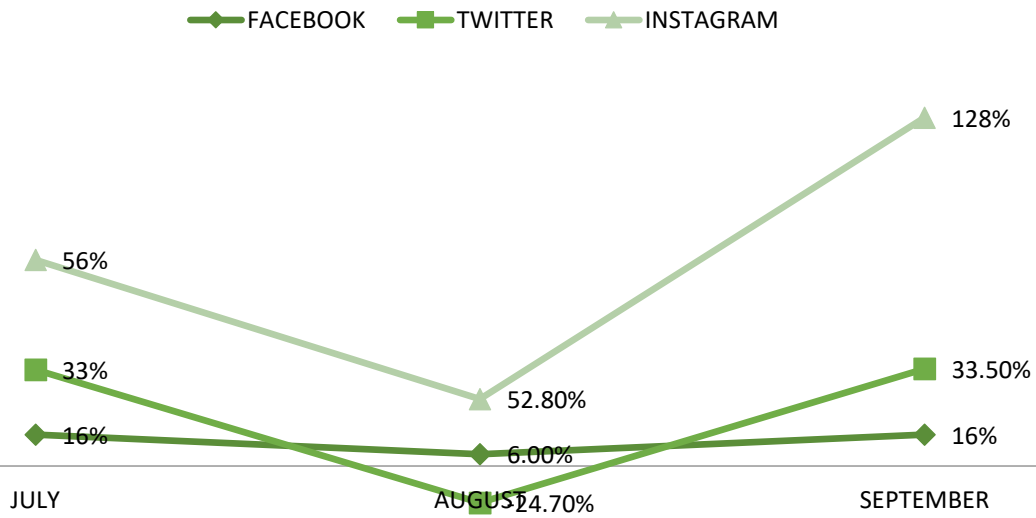
TO DATE, 8 WORLD HERITAGE SITES HAVE BEEN PROFILED:

- Ruins of Kilwa Kisiwani and Songo Mnara (Tanzania)
- Twyfelfontein (Namibia)
- Mount Kilimanjaro (Tanzania)
- Le Morne Cultural Landscape (Mauritius)
- Royal Hill of Ambohimanga (Madagascar)
- Town of Zanzibar (Tanzania)
- Fort & Castles, Volta, Greater Accra- (Ghana)
- Fossil Hommid Sites of South Africa

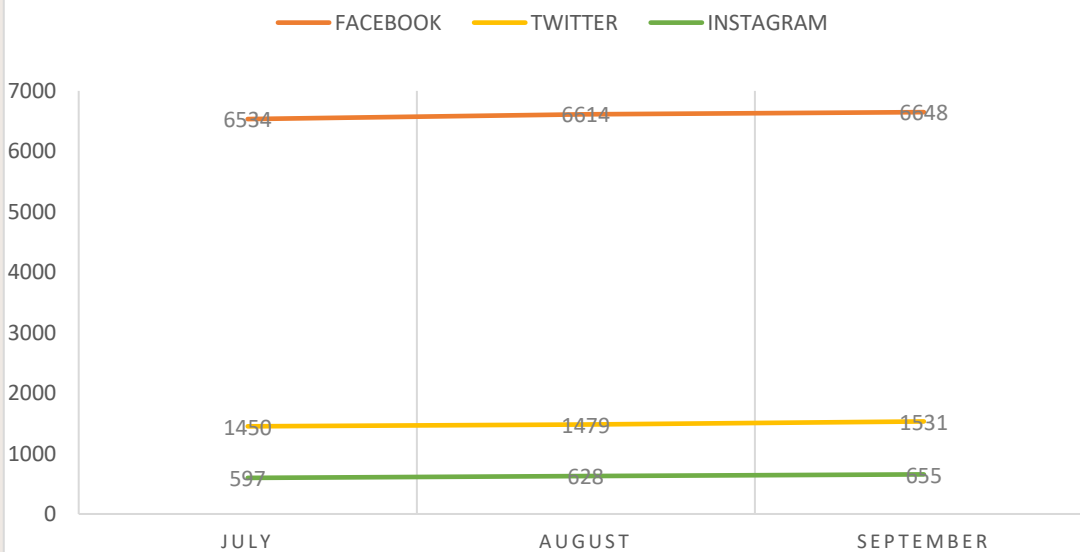


SOCIAL MEDIA ENHANCEMENT STRATEGY

INCREASE OF SOCIAL MEDIA CONTENT REACH



SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS GROWTH



Facebook Followers

7202

Twitter Followers

1553

Instagram Followers

671



Facebook Engagement :
+173%



Twitter Engagement :
+33.5%



Instagram Engagement :
+55.9%

LINKEDIN OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

The AWHF LinkedIn Outreach Campaign was launched in July 2021, with the aim of diversifying AWHF's partners and key private sector networks. The campaign is ongoing and has proven to be successful in connecting AWHF to a wider network pool of key organisation. AWHF will collaborate with these companies from time to time to drive various programme and initiatives. To date several introductory meetings have been facilitated and a few MOU's have been signed.



WEBSITE OVERVIEW

Website: The Customer Relationship Management (CRM) integration has been applied on the website for ease of access of the database of all AWHF networks and associates.



BROADCAST MEDIA - INTERVIEWS

Interviewee	Media Platform	Date	Topic
Mr. Souayibou	SABC Channel Africa	07 July 2021	African Experts Meeting: Build up to 44 th session of WHC
Mr. Souayibou	The Economist	07 July 2021	Global disparities in World Heritage Site placement
Mr. Souayibou	SABC Channel Africa	09 July 2021	African experts Meeting / 44 th Session of WHC
Mr. Souayibou	Newsroom Afrika	31 July 2021	44 th Session of WHC
Ms. Luyanda Sithole	SABC Channel Africa	06 September 2021	Heritage Month in South Africa
Mr. Vusumuzi Mkhize	SABC Channel Africa	07 September 2021	Heritage Month in South Africa
Ms. Luyanda Sithole	SABC Channel Africa	07 September 2021	Tangible and Intangible Heritage
Mr Souayibou Varissou	SABC Channel Africa	10 September 2021	Natural and Mixed Heritage
Dr. Albino Jopela	SABC Channel Africa	27 September 2021	Heritage & Tourism Webinar

AFRICAN WORLD HERITAGE SITES PROFILED

TWELVE AFRICAN WORLD HERITAGE SITES WERE PROFILED FROM THE FIVE AFRICA REGIONS



GREAT ZIMBABWE NATIONAL MONUMENT

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. It was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in **1986**.

ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE OF CYRENE

The Archaeological Site of Cyrene in Libya is a colony of the Greeks of Thera. Cyrene was one of the principal cities in the Hellenic world. It was Romanized & remained a great capital until the earthquake of 365. It received UNESCO World Heritage status in 1982.



LAKE MALAWI NATIONAL PARK

Lake Malawi National Park is located at the southern end of the great expanse of **Malawi**, with its deep, clear waters and #mountain backdrop, the national park is home to many hundreds of fish species, nearly all endemic. It was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1984.





ENNEDI MASSIF

Ennedi Massif located in the north-east of **Chad** of Romania and is filled with thousands of images that have been painted & carved into the rock surface of caves, canyons & shelters, presenting one of the largest ensembles of rock art in the sahara. It was inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2016.

THE HISTORIC CENTRE OF AGADEZ

The Historic Centre of Agadez in **Niger** known as the gateway to the desert, developed in the 15th and 16th centuries by the Sultanate of Air and Touareg tribes, was an important crossroads of the caravan trade. It was inscribed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO World Heritage Centre (WHC) in 2013.



MALOTI DRAKENSBERG PARK

Maloti-Drakensberg Park is a transnational property inscribed as a World Heritage Site in 2013 comprising Sehlabathebe National Park in **Lesotho** & uKhahlamba Drakensberg Park in **South Africa**. It is the largest Protected Area complex along the Great Escarpment of Southern Africa.

DJEMILA

Situated 900 m above sea-level, Djémila, or Cuicul in **Algeria** with its forum, temples, basilicas, triumphal arches and houses, is an interesting example of Roman town planning adapted to a mountain location. It was inscribed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1982



ISLAND OF MEROE

The Island of Meroe in **Sudan** is the heartland of the Kingdom of Kush, a major power in the ancient world from the 8th century BCE to the 4th century CE. Meroe became the principal residence of the rulers and royal burials. It was inscribed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 2011.

ALDABRA ATOLL

Aldabra Atoll in **Seychelles** was inscribed as a World Heritage Site in 1982. This isolated site comprised of four large coral islands surrounded by a coral reef is characterized by a unique aesthetic appeal & an ecosystem that harbors the world's largest population of giant tortoises.

MANOVO-GOUNDA ST FLORIS NATIONAL PARK

Manovo-Gounda St Floris National Park in **Central African Republic** is the largest park in the Central African savannas & home to many endangered species of flora & fauna including the black rhino, elephant & hippopotamus. It was inscribed as a World Heritage Site in 1988.

ANCIENT KSOUR OF OUADANE CHINGUETTI, TICHITT & OUALATA

Ancient Ksour of Ouadane, Chinguetti, Tichitt & Oualata in **Mauritania** was inscribed as a World Heritage Site in 1996. Founded in the 11th & 12th c. to serve the caravans crossing the Sahara, these trading & religious centres became focal points of Islamic culture.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

AWHF CALENDAR OF EVENTS (JULY – DECEMBER 2021)

N°	EVENT	PARTNER	DATE/VENUE
1	Workshop on WH and Sust. Develop. In Africa (Online) + Publication		5-7 July 2021
2	29TH AWHF Board Meeting (Online)	Africa Region	12-14 July
4	AWHF Side Event at the 44th WH Committee Meeting	World Heritage Centre (WHC)	30 July
5	Central Africa Region profiling with High Commissioner of Cameroon	Government of Cameroon	05 August
6	Study + Workshop on Curriculum Development on WH and Sustainable Development in Africa (Online)	Africa Region	25-27 August
7	Thematic gap study + Validation meeting (Online)		1 Sep-30 October
8	WH Nomination Training Course (Cameroon)	Government of Cameroon	6-26 September
9	AWHF Grants Evaluation Panel Meeting (Online)	AWHF	14 September
10	AWHF Board Committees Quarterly meetings - Finance, Fundraising, Technical (Online)	Africa Region	27-30 September
11	WH Workshop for Mentors (South Africa)	South African Government	4-9 October
12	Professional Immersion Fellowship (TBC)	ICOMOS	1-30 October
13	Risk management Workshop (Online + Benin)	Government of Benin	10-15 October
14	Fundraising Event (Senegal)	Government of Senegal	5-6 November
16	South African Fundraising Event	South African Government	November
17	Regional Field Workshop on Entrepreneurship around WH Sites in Africa (Botswana)	Government of Botswana	15-24 November
18	AWHF Board Committees Quarterly meetings - Finance, Fundraising, Technical (Online)	Africa Region	7-9 December
19	30th AWHF's Board of Trustees Meeting (TBC)	TBC	9-10 December

SECRETARIAT



**Mr. Souayibou
Varissou.**
Executive Director



Dr. Albino Jopela
Head of Programmes



Mr. Jacob Nyangila
Programmes Specialist



**Ms. Roxanne
Skosana.**
Programmes Officer



**Ms. Tsholofelo
Legae**
Finance Officer



**Ms. Luyanda
Sithole**
Partnership Officer



**Ms. Prisca
Lete**
*Administrative
Assistant*



**Mr. Milutin
Djuraskovic**
Partnership Intern



**Ms. Mpho
Kobeli.**
Partnership Intern



**Mr. Katlego
Panana.**
Programmes Intern

