

"World Heritage Volunteers - "Patrimoine Voluntary Action 2011"



WHV – Koutammakou, TOGO

16 July – 5 August 2011

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.



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Cultural site inscribed in 2004

Project objectives: The project aims to contribute to the World Heritage Koutammakou protection and to promote both the land and the culture of Batammariba through raising awareness of the local community.

Project activities: The volunteers will be involved in the maintenance of the main entrance and other tracks leading to the inner communities, create sign boards and make visible indicators. They will work to take at least one typical Tata guests house available and 200 m² is to be reforested with local plants. The volunteers will run awareness raising campaigns involving all the 5 Koutammakou communities and conduct debates, reflections and exchanges on World Heritage issues (Koutammakou facing modernism, urbanization, environment and tourism) with the international volunteers and the local population as well as developing visual document for tourist and partners.

Partners: The project will be supported by the Ministry of Arts and Culture and at the local level from the Koutammakou Promotion and Conservation Service.

FAGAD (Frères Agriculteurs et Artisans pour le Développement)

Contact : Kossi Ayeh

fagadtogo@yahoo.fr

