

Report for the extended 45th Session of the World Heritage Committee

(Riyadh, 10-25 September 2023)

Reporting period: July 2021 to June 2023

1. General information

Name of the Centre: African World Heritage Fund

Name and contact information of the Acting Director/Head: Jacob Nyangila, Email: jacobn@dbsa.org

Designated Focal Point(s) (name, title and contact information): Albino Jopela, Head of Programmes, jopsi@dbsa.org

Website of the Centre (if available): www.awhf.net

2. Institutional and operational structure of the Centre (Governing Board, Staffing, Operational funding and premises)

The Board of Governors meets twice a year in July and December. Extraordinary Board meetings are held when need arises. It's composed of 5 regional members (East, West, North, Centre and Southern Africa), 2 institutional members (UNESCO, African Union), 3 professional members and 4 Observers (ICCROM, ICOMOS, IUCN and the Development Bank of Southern Africa). The host is represented by 3 Trustees: the Director General of the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture; Deputy Director General Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Environment; and the Permanent Delegate of South Africa to UNESCO. The Secretariat is currently composed of 7 staff and 2 interns. The operation of the Secretariat is partially funded by the host country. Contributions from other States Parties assist in consolidating the operation and implementation of programmes. The AWHF also has an Endowment Fund which returns from the investment is used to finance its operation and activities. The AWHF's offices are located at the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) which provide operation support to the Fund.

3. Updates on the management of the Centre – particularly on meetings of the Governing Board and key decisions adopted

At the 2nd Extraordinary Board meeting held on 17th March 2022, the Board approved the AWHF Strategic Plan for the Period April 2022 – March 2027. The Board also approved amendment to the AWHF Deed of Trust and extended the period of Board membership to 5 years (renewable once). Previously, the board members served a maximum of 4 years.

4. Main programmes and activities implemented since June 2021 and planned for the current year

No	Title of the activity	Reference to WHCBS ⁱ
1.	BETTER REPRESENTATION OF AFRICAN CONTINENT ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST	
1.1	Francophone Regional Tentative Listing Workshop from 20 th to 21 st September 2021 (Virtual)	2.3
1.2	The Regional World Heritage Nomination Training Course was held from 2-14th December 2021 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.	2.2, 2.5
1.3	Technical and financial assistance awarded six World Heritage Nominations projects (Cameroon, Malawi, Zambia, Burkina Faso, Kenya and Uganda)	2.2, 2.5
1.4	Workshop on "Conceptualization of Modern Heritage of Africa", 8 th July 2021, Mombasa, Kenya	2.4
1.5	International Symposium on the Modern Heritage of Africa, 22 - 24 September 2021.	2.4
1.6	World Heritage Nomination Training Workshop, 5 – 17 May 2022, Kribi, Cameroon	2.2, 2.5
1.7	Workshop on Strengthening Capacities of World Heritage Professionals in Africa, 23 – 28 May 2022, Maloti-Drakensberg, South Africa	2.5
1.8	Expert Meeting on the World Heritage Convention in Africa, 26 – 28 May 2022, Cape Town, South Africa	2.6
1.9	World Heritage Tentative Listing Field Project in São Tomé e Príncipe, 24 – 28 October 2022	2.2, 2.3, 2.5
1.10	Regional Tentative Listing Workshop, 29 November – 3 December 2022, Kigali, Rwanda.	2.3, 2.4, 2.5
2.	CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVING THE MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION OF WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES IN AFRICA	
2.1	Conservation grants awarded to Cote d'Ivoire, Niger, Cape Verde, Tanzania, Mali, Togo, Namibia, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Nigeria and Zambia	4.9, 5.3, 6.1
2.2	Capacity building in risk management and protection systems in Africa, 21 June 2021 (online)	4.5, 5.2, 5.3, 8.3
2.3	5 th Meeting of African Experts on the World Heritage Committee, 30 June – 2 July 2021 (Online)	1.5
2.4	Workshop on Desired State of Conservation for Properties on the List of World Heritage in Danger, 13 – 17 June 2022, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo	4.9, 6.1
2.5	Moses Mapesa Educational Research grants were awarded to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Mr. Prosper Bombula Mosali</i> to undertake research on "Actors' participation and conflicts in the Okapi Wildlife Reserve (DRC), - <i>Ms. Amenan Sylvie Konan</i> to undertake research on the "Effect of climate change on the savanna dynamics of the Comoe National Park World Heritage Site" in Cote de Ivoire. - <i>Mr Abiola Romain Ognonkiton</i> (Benin) for a Master's Degree in Protected Areas Management on the "Use of the drone for the monitoring and surveillance of large land mammals in the W National Park of Benin". 	4.7,4.9

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Ms Msangi Zuhura</i> (Tanzania) for a Master's Degree on the "Evaluation of reforestation programs around the slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro World Heritage Site". - <i>Ms Loke Maphole Emelly</i> (Lesotho) for a Doctoral Degree (Ph.D.) in Civil Engineering for the "Analysis of the materials (original mortars) of the Castle of Good Hope and the production of compatible restoration mortars for heritage buildings in the Western Cape Province (Robben Island), South Africa." - <i>Ms Jmei Imen</i> (Tunisia) for Doctoral Degree (Ph.D.) in Geological Sciences for "Safeguarding the cultural heritage of the Medina of Sousse World Heritage and its surroundings in Tunisia." - <i>Mr Balouzola Arsène Dah</i> (Burkina Faso) for a Doctoral degree research project on "The tourism development of World Heritage properties in Burkina Faso: Case of the Ruins of Loropéni" at the Senghor University in Alexandria, Egypt. - <i>Ms Rim Kelouaze</i> (Algeria) for a Doctoral degree research project on "World Heritage Capacity Building for Sustainable Development in Africa" at the University of Cape Town, South Africa. - <i>Ms Ango Anne Ermine</i> (Cameroon) for a Doctoral degree research project on "Sustainable Land Management by Rural and Indigenous Women in the Dja Faunal Reserve in South-East Cameroon" at the University of Douala, Cameroon. 	
3.	INCLUSION OF WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES IN SUSTAINABLE GROWTH FOR LOCAL COMMUNITIES	
3.1	Workshop on Strengthening Capacities of World Heritage Young Professionals in Africa, 20 - 25 May 2022, Cape Town, South Africa	1.1, 7.2, 8.2
3.2	6 th African World Heritage Youth Forum, 10 – 14 October 2022, Yaoundé, Cameroon	1.1, 7.2, 8.2
3.3	Workshop on Entrepreneurship at World Heritage Sites in Africa, 1 – 7 June 2022, Lope, Gabon	3.7, 7.2, 8.2, 8.3
3.4	Regional Field Workshop on Entrepreneurship around WH Sites in Africa, 29 November – 10 December 2021, Botswana	3.7, 7.2, 8.2, 8.3
3.5	AWHF's Strategic Plan April 2022 – March 2027	1.6, 10.7
4.	PROMOTION, NETWORKING AND PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	
4.1	Celebration of African World Heritage Day, 5 th May 2021 & 2022 (online)	9.1
4.2	Profiling African World Heritage Sites on AWHF social media platforms Facebook, Twitter and Instagram under the hashtag <i>#MyAfricanHeritage</i> .	9.1
4.3	Publication of Annual and Quarterly Reports, 2021, 2022 & 2023	9.1
4.4	Exhibition at UNESCO Africa week, 5 – 9 May 2023 at UNESCO Headquarters Paris	9.1
4.5	Series of fundraising events and missions organized in 2021, 2022, 2023 to mobilize resources from States Parties and partners in support of AWHF programmes and operation.	10.8

ⁱ World Heritage Capacity Building Strategy (WHCBS) - <https://whc.unesco.org/archive/2011/whc11-35com-9Be.pdf>