



2009 Activity report

I. Workshops / Courses

A -Inventory of cultural and natural heritage of Sao Tome and Principe

Context: Nowadays, even though most of African countries ratified or are preparing themselves to ratify the UNESCO's Conventions of 1972 and 2003, they have difficulty in appropriating these international tools and deriving the maximum benefit for the preservation and the enhancement of their cultural heritage. One of the major causes of this situation is the lack of trained professionals who possess the skills necessary both in the design and in the implementation of technical programs of inventory and management of cultural heritage.



Target: About 20 African professionals from cultural services or heritage departments of their country.

Objectives:

Train professionals to be able to:

- achieve or participate in the implementation of a national programme of inventory of immovable cultural heritage in their countries;
- draw up or participate in the drawing up of a site management plan and submission file to the World Heritage List

Results:

- a pre-inventory of nine elements of immovable heritage in Sao Tome
- an outline of the various chapters of the management plan of Fortaleza S. Sebastiao (Museu Nacional de Sao Tome e Principe)
- a draft of the tentative list of Roça Agosthino Neto

Dates: 12 - 17 January 2009

Location: Sao Tome, Sao Tome e Principe

Teaching coordination: Ecole du Patrimoine Africain-EPA

Logistics accompanying: Ministry of Culture Sao Tome and Principe

Financing: UNESCO Cluster Office in Libreville

B - Drawing up of Tentative Lists.

Context: On the request of several countries, EPA, in partnership with the African World Heritage Fund proposed a workshop on the Tentative List, giving priority to the countries that have never submitted a Tentative List.

Target: 16 (2 from each country) heritage professionals from Sub-Saharan Africa, mainly from countries that have no tentative list, Portuguese and Spanish speaking countries

Objectives: This workshop aims to increase the number of tentative lists of States Parties in Africa, especially those without a List, Portuguese and Spanish speaking countries and the updating of some tentative lists before the end of the year 2009. Specifically, it involves the setting up a tentative list for Sao Tome e Principe.

Results:

- Thirteen (13) participants from Angola, Cap Verde, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Rwanda and Sao Tome and Principe trained in drawing up a tentative list.
- A draft of tentative list on the old urban architecture of Sao Tome
- A draft of tentative list of the Roças of Sao Tome (especially the Roça d'Agosthino Neto)

Dates: 09 -13 March 2009

Location: Sao Tome, Sao Tome and Principe

Teaching coordination: Ecole du Patrimoine Africain-EPA

Logistics accompanying: Ministry of Culture of Sao Tome and Principe

Financing: African World Heritage Fund through the generous contribution of the Government of Spain.

C - Preparation of nomination proposals on the World Heritage List

Context: In order to find solutions for the representation gap and to increase the number of African sites on the World Heritage List, the African World Heritage Fund, in partnership with the African institutions in charge of heritage set up in its 2008-2010 strategic plan, a training programme for African professionals on the preparation of nomination proposals on the World Heritage List. This French-speaking course follows the first one organized for the English-speaking African countries, coordinated by the Centre for Heritage Development in Africa – CHDA in November 2008 in Lesotho.



It has three phases; the first is materialized through this workshop. The second will focus on improving and finalizing the nomination folder of States Parties. It will be developed with the assistance of an experienced expert in preparation of nomination files and will be run for eight (08) months. The third will focus on the evaluation and finalization of files in order to submit them to the World Heritage Center.

Target: Professionals and managers of cultural and natural sites (Benin, Cameroon, Comoros, Gabon, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Madagascar, Niger and Central African Republic) have begun drawing up a nomination proposal on the World

Heritage List.

Objective: Considering the representativeness of Africa on the World Heritage List as a major and important issue for the development of different nations of the continent, it is important to contribute in improving the quality of submissions for the registration of African sites to their worldwide recognition;

- Develop abilities to conduct the registration process for the benefit of States Parties to the World Heritage Convention;
- Create a network of professionals able to implement the registration process;
- Disseminate information about the registration process within local communities;
- Develop an action plan for the implementation of the registration process;
- Establish a mechanism to accompany the participants in the effective implementation of the registration process.

Results:

- Eight drafts of nomination files prepared
- A network of professionals able to implement the registration process,
- A monitoring action plan for the implementation of the registration process,
- A know-how in training on the process of inclusion on the World Heritage List developed.

Dates: 11 - 22 May 2009

Location: Porto-Novo, Benin

Teaching coordination: Ecole du Patrimoine Africain-EPA

Partners: WHC, World Union for Nature - IUCN, International Centre for Monuments and Sites – ICOMOS, ICCROM

Financing: African World Heritage Fund through the generous contribution of the Government of Spain

D - 7th Africa 2009 technical course on "Impact study as tool for management of cultural heritage"

Context: The choice of this theme for the 7th technical course is based on two main reasons. First, the past twenty years, environmental impact studies have become widespread. However, cultural aspects in general and immovable cultural heritage in particular are not taken into account in conducting these studies. It should be noted that impact studies are conducted to anticipate the possible consequences of development projects on the cultural and / or natural environment. They predict the impact of the relevant works or alterations on their environment. Secondly, most African countries are engaged in development programs with the objective of enabling the growth of their economies through various projects. Often, they pay little attention to the effects of these projects on the natural and cultural heritage existing on the sites of such projects during their implementation.



Target: Professionals of immovable cultural heritage

Objectives:

The aim was to educate African institutions in charge of cultural heritage on their role

in the impact study (IS) and their use as management tool of heritage sites.

More precisely, the aims was to:

- Develop understanding of IS among participants, particularly their use as a tool for management of cultural heritage,
- Familiarize the participants in the process of implementation of IS, particularly on their cultural aspects,
- Educate policy makers to use IS for the Protection of Cultural Heritage
- Write an IS outline report ,
- Collect information for preparing a publication on IS in Africa for African institutions in charge of cultural heritage.

Results:

- 17 professionals trained to conduct environmental impact studies, particularly on cultural aspects;
- 4 draft impact study reports on the project on the opening of the mouth of the river Komoé;
- 1 analytical paper on the legislation and practice of environmental impact studies of the 16 represented countries.

Dates: October 26 - November 21

Location: Grand Bassam, Cote d'Ivoire

Teaching coordination: Ecole du Patrimoine Africain (EPA)

Partners: Department of Cultural Heritage of Côte d'Ivoire, ICCROM, CRAterre-ENSAG, World Heritage Center of UNESCO, Center for Heritage Development in Africa - CHDA

Financing : Africa 2009 through Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), National Heritage Board Sweden, Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Finland, Norway and Italy, the World Heritage Fund, UNESCO, ICCROM.

E - Choreographic Workshop

Context: This workshop follows the assessment conducted by the PSCID and reveals the need to organize training for capacity building for this group of cultural actors, for better development of industry of contemporary dance in Benin.

Target: About fifteen young choreographers from Benin

Objectives:

- Provide PSICD with a technical expertise for capacity building of Beninese artists.
- Strengthen the professional capacity of 15 choreographers in their specific fields.

Results:

- The professional capacity of fifteen young choreographers strengthened.
- A national network of young choreographers created and the foundations of a genuine collaboration launched.

Dates: 02 - 14 February 2009

Location: Natitingou, Benin



Organizers: Programme de Soutiens aux Initiatives Culturels Décentralisées (PSCID) and Ecole du Patrimoine Africain-EPA.

F - Professional meetings in contemporary art

Context: These meetings involved the creation of a framework for exchange, allowing artists from Benin to compare experiences, strengthen their thoughts on their artistic approach, explore new channels for the dissemination of their works, improve the quality of their application files to regional and international events, etc...

Target: About fifteen young contemporary artists from Benin

Specific objectives:

- Bring to the Programme de Soutien aux Initiatives Culturelle Décentralisées (PSCID) technical expertise for capacity building of contemporary artists from Benin.
- Strengthen capacity of 15 professional contemporary artists in their specific fields.

Results:

- The technical capacity of fifteen painters reinforced
- A national network of young choreographers created and the foundations of a genuine collaboration launched.
- Fifteen works produced during practical sessions and most of them will be finalized
- The collaboration between the actors of contemporary art (artists, gallery owners and art historians) boosted by the exchanges during the roundtables.

Dates: 02-14 February 2009

Location: Ouidah, Benin

Organizers: Programme de Soutiens aux Initiatives Culturels Décentralisées (PSCID) and Ecole du Patrimoine Africain-EPA.

G - Special Thematic Seminar on "Management of Cultural Heritage and Challenges in the fight against poverty"

Context: A study in different African countries on national economic policies shows that most decision makers in charge of development policies have a negative view of culture, and generally consider it as a barrier to development. Therefore, they often do not take cultural heritage into account in development plans. On the other hand, professionals in charge of heritage seek to demonstrate that cultural heritage can contribute effectively to the fight against poverty and improve living conditions of local communities, both as income and jobs generator, but also as an invaluable source for the improvement of their well-being and their potential for human development.

Target: Approximately 25 participants from sub-Saharan Africa and Europe.

Objective:

This seminar aims to demonstrate the importance of conservation and promotion of cultural heritage in the fight against poverty in Africa and how local communities



could use heritage in order to stimulate socio-economic development. The goal is to help to identify mechanisms and possible partnerships for judicious use of heritage as a lever for development.

Results:

The results confirm clearly that heritage has a major role to play in the process of economic development in Africa. However, the challenge is immense, and the partition of those in charge of African heritage and those who manage it is crucial. Key ideas below can be used:

- 1 - the need to involve local communities in developing projects for the conservation and promotion of heritage;
- 2 - the need to create a synergy around the heritage by involving all the principal actors at the local and national level;
- 3 - the need for African countries to have a political vision on the catalytic role that cultural heritage should play in national development strategies;
- 4 - the need to elaborate for policy makers, arguments on the role that heritage has to play in economic terms and in general, in the quest for sustainable development.

Dates: 2 - 6 March 2009

Location: Sao Tomé, Sao Tomé e Príncipe

Organizers: Africa 2009 Programme , Ecole du Patrimoine Africain-EPA, African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) and Directorate General of Culture of Sao Tome and Principe.

H - Recruitment Campaign of students for the CMPC (cultural mediation) BA

Context: The preparation of the professional BA on cultural mediation (CMPC) is launched in 2004-2005. EPA in partnership with the Université de Provence (UP) sets out the 3rd issue of EPA.

The recruitment campaign started in October 2008 continued in 2009. In October 2009, a new list of 18 students selected from more than 25 applications registered is retained.

Composed of 13 students "quota EPA "and 05 students "quota EITB", the 3rd issue will be launched in January 2010 during the first grouping of a degree course of two years.

Targets: EPA network of professionals in charge of Heritage

Objectives: Select students for the 3rd issue of EPA

Contents:

- 1 - Awareness and registration applications
- 2 - Review and selection of candidates

Date: September 2009

Location: EPA

Partners: EPA - Ecole Internationale de Théâtre du Benin (EITB) - Université de Provence (UP)

Financing: Mission de Coopération Française FSP "Museums at the service of development-Msd"

II. Studies / Surveys

A - Foreshadowing of the study for the rehabilitation of the Cathedral of Porto-Novo

Context: The bishop of the Diocese of Porto-Novo intends to restore the Cathedrale Notre Dame of the city in the perspective of the fiftieth anniversary of Independence of Benin. This building located in the colonial fabric is an eloquent testimony of the colonial past and evangelization of the country.

Objectives:

Perform the rehabilitation work of the Cathedral of Porto-Novo.

Results:

- The graphic rendition of the condition of the building and its rehabilitation established;
- A technical document of the implementation of the rehabilitation work drawn up;
- The rehabilitation work of the cathedral executed;
- A final report of works available.

Dates: 2009 - 2010

Location: Porto-Novo, Benin

Conduct studies and works: Ecole du Patrimoine Africain (EPA) - Owner Officer

Financing: EPA, Clergy of Porto-Novo

B - Public Spaces of Porto-Novo: Inventory, mapping, vade mecum, urban management and cooperation "South-South" between Porto-Novo (Benin) and Lubumbashi (DRC).

Context: The public space is an issue very critical in the context of modernization of the city, where is combined urban, heritage dimensions but also and especially the social and anthropological dimensions. Public spaces, through the activities they host or generate, are spaces of sociability and social integration. Their transformations are symptoms of a rapid social change in African countries. This means that any development of public spaces should be done in a dynamic of social, cultural and economic development, therefore, sustainable and shared development.

It is in order to help Porto-Novo to better understand, manage and disseminate its identity of a major urban heritage in the West Africa that this project will take place from December 2009 to April 2011.

Contents:

- Realization of an inventory of public spaces of Porto Novo.
- Writing, Publishing and Distribution of a vade mecum for the proper management of



public spaces of African cities in the respect of their cultural and socio-economic specificity.

- Training seminars for management of public spaces.
- Pilot school-building site for the creation of a public space
- Final Seminar of the project evaluation

Results: The results below concern mainly the first phase of the project: Conducting an inventory of public spaces of Porto Novo.

- 60 public spaces were inventoried in the nucleus of the old city of Porto-Novo bounded on the north by the ring road and on the south by the lagoon.
- Those public spaces are classified in the typology of five major inputs: 1. Place (Place vodoun, Place générique, Square), 2. Abords d'éléments patrimoniaux, 3. Rue, 4. Carrefour, 5. Parc/jardin

Partners: Institut supérieur d'Architecture de la Communauté française – La Cambre (Bruxelles), Ecole du Patrimoine Africain – EPA, Mairies de Porto-Novo, de Ouidah, Abomey, Kétou, Savè, Djougou, Nikki, Université de Lubumbashi, Mairie de Lubumbashi, Musée national de Lubumbashi

Financing: Coopération belge francophone Wallonie-Bruxelles International

C - Study on the technical staff, systems of documentation and inventories in African Museums

Context: In anticipation of the 2nd Pan-African Cultural Congress on "Inventories, promotion and protection of African cultural properties", the African Union, after consultation with UNESCO and ICCROM, has sponsored this preliminary study to EPA to make an inventory of technical staff in the field of documentation of museum collections, inventories of heritage protection on the continent. The results of this study were discussed at the conference held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 9 to 11 November 2009.

Target: 18 African national museums

Results:

- An inventory of technical staff and inventories in the African national museums.
- A report with recommendations presented at the 2nd Pan-African Cultural Congress

Financing: African Union.

D - EPA Mission in the Museum of Abomey damaged

Date: January 24, 2009

Subject: Fire in the Museum of Abomey

Objectives:

- 1 - Assess damage
- 2 - Identify and implement actions to protect and safeguard

Results:

- 1 - Production of the emergency plan
 - 2 – Implementation of the emergency plan
- Clear the affected places
 - Reopening of sheets of 6 buildings affected

- Continuation of the media coverage and awareness

Financing: EPA

III. Publishing and reports

A - Publications:

- Conception of *La Documentation des Collections de Musées : Pourquoi ? Comment? Guide Pratique*, UNESCO, ICCROM, also in digital publishing

B - ICT:

- Maintenance of the EPA web site.
- Maintenance of the Abomey Museum web site.
- Maintenance of the Africa 2009 Programme web site.
- Conception and development of the web site of the "A for Africa" exhibition
- Internet Research and conception of *La Documentation des Collections de Musées : Pourquoi ? Comment ? Guide Pratique*, both in paper publication

C - Reports:

1. Inventory of cultural and natural heritage of Sao Tome and Principe
2. Drawing up of the Tentative Lists
3. Preparation of nomination proposals on the World heritage List
4. Preliminary survey on Technical staff, documentation systems and Inventories in African museums.

IV. Work in hand

In the framework of the programme "Museums in the service of development-Msd".

A - Renovation of the floor of a building in the Centre des Activités Educatives du Bénin (CAEB)

Context: CAEB, located into the colonial fabric of the old city of Porto-Novo has on its sitting a colonial-style building, one of whose characteristics is to have a wood floor. Because of aging, this floor is in a state of advanced deterioration.



Objectives: Carry out the rehabilitation / renovation of the floor of a CAEB building based on technical options, their implementation and their cost of implementation.

Results:

- Plans for inventory and renovation done;
- A technical document of works drawn up;
- A slab floor (15+5 cm) with a coating parquet made.
- A final report of works available.

Dates: June - December 2009

Location: Porto-Novo, Benin

Conductor of studies and works: Ecole du Patrimoine Africain (EPA) - Owner Officer

Financing: Centre des Activités Educatives du Bénin (CAEB)

B- First phase of rehabilitation works of the Temple of the Cherubim and Seraphim of Vêkpa

Context: The Cherubim and Seraphim's Church is a typical denomination of southern Benin and Nigeria. The building that served as headquarters for this denomination of Porto Novo, has been identified as an element of religious heritage in the inventory of immovable heritage in the city in 2002-2003. In order to proceed with its rehabilitation, a mission of Owner officer is entrusted to EPA. Therefore, an architectural firm is recruited and led the architectural and engineering studies in 2006-2007. Since August 2009, the first phase of rehabilitation works of the Church has started.

Objectives: Rehabilitate the Cherubim and Seraphim's Church, this first phase involve the realization of the steeple, the fence and the porch.

Results:

- A technical document of implementation of the rehabilitation work drawn up;
- Different works programmed (tower, fence and porch) made;
- A final report of works available.

Dates: August 2009 - 2010

Location: Porto-Novo (quarter Vêkpa), Benin

Conductor of studies and works: Ecole du Patrimoine Africain (EPA) - Owner Officer

Financing: Cherubim and Seraphim's Church

C- Grouping on the Scientific and Cultural Project (SCP) of the Pan-African Museum of Music

Context: The partnership agreement EPA / FESPAM signed on May 7, 2004 insisted on the capacities building of the staff of the Panafrican Museum of Music in the implementation and monitoring of its scientific and cultural project (SCP).

EPA organized the workshop on drawing up the SCP of this institution to materialize this clause and strengthen that technical support.

Target: Staff of the Panafrican Museum of Music

Objectives:

- 1 - Support the Pan African Museum of music in finalizing its SCP draft;
- 2 - Encourage ownership and refinement of techniques and tools for developing PSC

Results:

- The (document) SCP of the Pan African Museum of music product;
- The automatism of SCP drawing up installed and refined

Date: 14 - 18 April 2009

Location: EPA

Financing: EPA

D - Assistance for the Museum of masks of Adjarra

Context: In the framework of the support to community and private museums, EPA, in reply to the request of Mr. Noel Agossou in 2005, the owner of a rich collection, to help him in the organization of the Museum of masks of Adjarra, decided to bring its support to that Museum.

To ensure a harmonious development of this institution in the making, EPA is determined to provide all the professionalism needed. Therefore, it has not only positioned training at the forefront of support measures adopted, but also made it the main base of the technical assistance granted.

The organization of this session on initiation in collections management focused on the fundamentals of preventive conservation and documentation of collections, embodied this option. The expected competencies correspond to the fundamental tasks of that museum and to the initial profile of higher level staff, who benefited from an initial training.

Target: Staff of the museum, mainly Noel Agossou, developer of the Museum of Masks of Adjarra

Objectives:

- Provide basic training in preventive conservation and documentation of collections for the museum staff
- Prepare the museum staff, mainly Noel Agossou for a professional management of the collections of the Museum of masks.

Contents:

- Fundamentals of preventive conservation
- Documentation of museum collections
- Organization of museum stores

Results:

- 1 - Knowledge of the basics of conservation of collections;
- 2 - Knowledge on documentation of collections;
- 3 - Collections of the Museum Masks documented: - All items marked. - Production of an accession register, and a card catalogue.

Date: March 13 - 03 May 2009

Location: Adjarra

Coordination: Museums Department of EPA

Partners: EPA – Musée des masques, - Commune d'Adjarra.

V. Other

MSD: For convenience, the activities made in the context of the Museums in the service of development-MSD are gathered here in PDF format. [Thank you to download the report.](#)

VI. Partnership activities

A- Collaborative agreements

EPA and the Department of Archives and Heritage (Museum of Senegalese Armed Forces)

B - Welcoming of interns and researchers

- **Pathum Bila-Deroussy:** Student in industrial design from Strate College Designers (France): 5 months internship at Landscapes and Heritage Department.

VII. International meetings

Alain Godonou: **working meeting on the project of creation of Museum for the West Africa** on the request of Unesco and Togo, under the Chairmanship of the Professor Ampah G. Johnson, Recteur Chancelier des Universités du Togo. Lomé, Togo, 29 March 2009.

Alain Godonou: **international colloquium on "Culture and creativity, vectors of development"** organized by the European Union, Belgium 2 – 3 April 2009

Gerard Tognimassou: **evaluation meeting of the Tenth Africa 2009 Regional course and preparation of the eleventh** (which is the last of the Africa 2009 programme). Mombasa, Kenya, from 14 to 18 April 2009.

Alain Godonou and Rodrigue Kessou: **conference of IAIA (International Association for Impact Assessment) on the theme "The Cultural Component of Environmental Impact Assessment."** Accra, Ghana, May 18, 2009.

Alain Godonou: **final meeting of the Urban Task Force of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs.** Paris, France, May 25, 2009.

Alain Godonou: **27th Steering Committee meeting of the Africa 2009 Programme.**

Dakar, Senegal, 28 - 30 May 2009.

Diane Toffoun: **Partners meeting of Heritage in Moving**. Dakar, Senegal, 6 - 7 June 2009.

Victory Adégbidi: **observer at the 33rd Session of the World Heritage Committee** in Seville, Spain, 22 - 30 June 2009

Alain Godonou: **the first Euroafrican campus for cultural cooperation**, held in Maputo by the OCPA, Inter Arts and their partners. He led the workshop on "Intangible and tangible Heritage" from 22 to 27 June 2009.

A "Post Africa 2009" Workshop: CHDA, Mombasa, Kenya, from 10 to 12 August 2009.

François Vianou: **75th IFLA conference on the theme "Libraries create futures: building on cultural heritage"**. Milan, Italy from 23 to 27 August 2009.

Alain Godonou: **Salzburg Global Seminar: "Connecting to the World's Collections: Making the Case for the Conservation and Preservation of Our Cultural Heritage"**. Salzburg, Austria, from 28 October to 1 November 2009.

Alain Godonou: **second Pan-African Cultural Congress organized by the African Union Commission and UNESCO on the theme: "Inventory, protection and promotion of African cultural property"** in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 09 to 11 November 2009

Ismailou Baldé and Josiane Hounvènou: **workshop on the management procedures of the European Fund for Development** organized by the Regional Fund for the promotion of cooperation and cultural exchange in West Africa. Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, 23 to 27 November 2009.

They visited us

Ms. Agnes Clancier from Embassy of France in Burkina Faso, Regional Councillor of Cooperation for the West Africa (ECOWAS-UEMOA), accompanied by Mr Alain Richard Alain Lheritier from Embassy of France in Benin, January 20

A delegation of dignitaries of religion Vodun of Benin, June 19

Mr. François Abiola, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research of Benin, December 21.



Mr. Galiou Soglo, Minister of Culture, Literacy and the Promotion of National Languages of Benin, December 23.



All our thanks to our funding, institutional and technical partners for their support in 2009:

[AIF](#)

[World Heritage Center of UNESCO](#)

[Compagnia di San Paolo](#)

[Fondation Leventis](#)

[Fondation Bettencourt-Schueller](#)

[The Getty Foundation](#)

Government of Angola

Government of Benin

Government Tunisia

[ICCROM](#)

[Ministère des Affaires étrangères, France](#)

[Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italie](#)

[Ministère de la Culture, France](#)

Piémont Region, Italy

[RFI](#)

[UNESCO](#)

[European Union](#)

African World Heritage Fund

International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)

World Heritage Centre

Institut supérieur d'Architecture de la Communauté française – La Cambre

Mairie de Lubumbashi

Musée national du Burkina Faso

Musée national de Lubumbashi

[Musée du Quai Branly](#)

[National Museums of Kenya](#)

[Africa 2009 Programme](#)

[University of Abomey-Calavi](#)

Université de Lubumbashi

[University of Provence-Aix Marseille 1](#)