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However, this rich and diverse heritage faces several challenges, including the impacts of climate change, pressures of urbanization, uncontrolled development, and unsustainable tourism practices. It thereby becomes more difficult for local communities to enjoy and benefit from their World Heritage while the lack of awareness and appreciation of the heritage and cultural values of these sites by visitors persists.

Description:

The "World Heritage Futures Lab: Southern and Eastern Africa edition" seeks to ensure an increased appreciation and understanding of the rich World Heritage in the region. It will develop and disseminate new narratives about World Heritage in Southern and Eastern Africa through the creation of innovative and engaging digital products. Local communities will be able to actively play their role in promoting the flourishing of cultural and socio-economic development and ultimately ensuring that these World Heritage sites sustain their Outstanding Universal Value. The digital content produced will enable local communities living in and around these selected sites, as well as visitors, to form a deeper awareness of the role and importance of World Heritage through the generation of attractive and engaging new narratives.

Digital technologies and artificial intelligence are changing the way we enjoy and experience our shared heritage.

Whether it is accessing information about the important contribution of African World Heritage to sustainable development and lasting peace, transmitting the practices and knowledge linked to the conservation of these unique sites, or using data to help us monitor their conservation, it is evident that the digital revolution is re-defining the way we protect, enjoy and transmit our World Heritage to future generations.

The "World Heritage Futures Lab: Southern and Eastern Africa edition" provides an opportunity to harness digital technologies to open spaces for original voices and underrepresented narratives in the goal of deepening public knowledge and appreciation of the value of World Heritage in Southern and Eastern Africa. This initiative has been conceived as part of "The Next 50", a year-long interdisciplinary reflection on the future of World Heritage and aims to address one of the theme's main priorities: digital transformation.

Objectives:

- Facilitate the development and dissemination of dynamic digital content and products for a deeper understanding and appreciation of the contribution of World Heritage in Southern and Eastern Africa to sustainable development and lasting peace.
- Enhance the capacities of African creative technologists
 and local communities living in or around selected
 Southern and Eastern African World Heritage sites to
 interpret World Heritage values and contribute to the
 development of new attractive and engaging narratives
 about World Heritage sites in the two regions.
- Enhance African creative technologists' capacities on experiential and immersive digital technologies.
- Foster the development and dissemination of innovative and engaging digital content and products on Southern and Eastern African World Heritage sites.



Programme

DAY 1: Wedneday 25 January 2023

Venue: High Tech Transfer Plaza Select (HTTPS) Building, Namibia University of Science and Technology



REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS



OPENING CEREMONY

Moderator: **Dr Colin Stanley**, Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research, Innovation and Partnerships, Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST)

Namibia and African Union Anthem

- Welcome by **Dr Erold Naomab**, Vice Chancellor, NUST
- Introductory remarks by Mr Francisco Gómez Durán, Head of the Culture Unit, UNESCO ROSA
- Remarks by Ms Ingrid Kopp, Co-Director, Electric South
- Remarks by Mr Djaffar Moussa-Elkadhum, UNESCO Representative to Namibia

Keynote remarks by Mr Gerard N. Vries, Deputy Executive Director for Lifelong Learning

Department, the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture, Republic of Namibia

11:00

HIGH-LEVEL ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSION

"African World Heritage interpretation and digital technologies: challenges and opportunities" Moderator: Ms Judith Ogana, Programme Specialist, UNESCO ROEA

Panellists

- Prof. Heike Winschiers-Theophilus, Professor in Faculty of Computing & Informatics, NUST
- Mr Namwoong Kim, Programme Specialist, Information Management Division, International Centre for the Interpretation and Presentation of World Heritage Sites under the auspices of UNESCO (WHIPIC)
- Ms Agnes Shiningayamwe, Regional Heritage Officer, National Heritage Council of Namibia
- Dr Lovemore Mazibuko, Acting Deputy Director of Culture, Museums of Malawi
- Dr Susan Osireditse Keitumetse, Chairperson, UNESCO Chairs Program, University of Botswana
 -Okavango Research Institute
- ICCROM Representative



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11.00 TEA BREA	K
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11.30 INTRODUCTION TO WORKSHOP AND HOUSEKEEPING

Ms Antoinette Engel, Electric South

- 12.00 DEEP DIVE 1: PRINCIPLES OF THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION
 A representative from African World Heritage Fund
- **13.00** LUNCH
- 14.00 INTRODUCTIONS AND ICE-BREAKERS FOR THE GROUP

 Ms Antoinette Engel, Electric South
- 15.00 IDEA DEVELOPMENT SESSION 1: WHAT'S THE STORY/EXPERIENCE?

 Ms Antoinette Engel, Electric South
- 15.45 TEA BREAK (WORK THROUGH TEA)
- 16.00 CREATIVE TECH TALK 1: INTRODUCTION TO PHOTOGRAMMETRY AND LIDAR

 Mr Jason Stapleton, XR Creative Technologist and VR World Builder-Independent Expert
- TECH DEMO (PHOTOGRAMMETRY) AND Q&A

 Mr Jason Stapleton, XR Creative Technologist and VR World Builder-Independent Expert



DAY 2: Thursday 26 January 2023

Venue: High Tech Transfer Plaza Select (HTTPS) Building, Namibia University of Science and Technology

09.00 DEEP DIVE 2: INTERPRETING WORLD HERITAGE VALUES

Dr Nayeon Lee, Senior Programme Specialist, Planning and Management Division, WHIPIC:

Introduction of WHIPIC

Ms Sojeong Kang, Programme Specialist, Research Development Division, WHIPIC:

Interpretation of World Heritage Values

Ms Haeree Shim, Head of Division, Education and Networking Division, WHIPIC: Capacity

Building on World Heritage Interpretation

10.00 IDEA DEVELOPMENT SESSION 2: AUDIENCE AND PLATFORM

Ms Ingrid Kopp, Electric South

12.00 CREATIVE TECH TALK 2: AUGMENTED REALITY: INTRODUCTION AND BEST PRACTICES

Mr Ulrico Grech-Cumbo, Founder and CEO, Habitat XR

13.00 LUNCH

14.00 CREATIVE TECH MENTOR TALK: ELANDS BAY PHOTOGRAMMETRY PRESENTATION

Mr Stephen Wessels, Independent Expert

15.00 VR SKETCH DEMONSTRATION: ELANDS BAY SITE SCANS

Mr Stephen Wessels, Independent Expert

16.00 TEA BREAK (WORK THROUGH TEA)

17.00 Q&A



DAY 3: Friday 27 January 2023

Venue: High Tech Transfer Plaza Select (HTTPS) Building, Namibia University of Science and Technology

09.00 CREATIVE TECH TALK 3: BUNCE ISLAND - THROUGH THE MIRROR BY JIWE STUDIOS

Mr Max Musau, Founder and CEO, Jiwe Studios

10.00 IDEA DEVELOPMENT SESSION 3: STORY WORLD AND MOOD BOARDS

Ms Antoinette Engel, Electric South

12.00 PITCH PREPARATION

Ms Ingrid Kopp, Electric South

13.00 LUNCH

14.00 PITCH PRESENTATIONS AND FEEDBACK

Ms Antoinette Engel, Electric South

15.30 TEA BREAK

17.00 EVENT WRAP AND NETWORKING DINNER

Ms Ingrid Kopp, Electric South