



UNESCO

Activities supported by the Heritage Emergency Fund in ZAMBIA



Training course on "First aid to cultural heritage in times of crisis" (2018)

In order to build capacities among cultural heritage experts and emergency response stakeholders alike on when best to intervene and how best to work together, UNESCO and ICCROM, in the context of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in 2017, partnered on a training on "First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis" for Africa (FAC Africa 2018). From 12 to 30 November 2018, UNESCO implemented this 3-week training course in cooperation with ICCROM, the Ministry of Culture of Mali, the National Museum of Mali (Musée National du Mali), the Alioune Blondin Beye School for Peacekeeping (Ecole de Maintien de la Paix Alioune Blondin Beye), the National Gendarmerie of Mali, the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Association for the preservation and valorization of manuscripts for the defense of Islamic culture (Association pour la sauvegarde et la valorisation des manuscrits pour la défense de la culture islamique, SAVAMA-DCI). The training, though based on an established methodology developed by ICCROM, was tailored to the African context and used the humanitarian and cultural response in Mali as a central case study. It benefitted 21 cultural experts and emergency actors from 17 UNESCO Member States (Bhutan, Cameroon, Chad, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Comoros, Italy, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Togo, Uganda and Zambia), including 17 participants from Africa and 8 women. The course included multiple practical simulations, such as the emergency structural stabilization of a building and evacuation of objects affected by flooding; the emergency evacuation of a museum collection; and the evacuation of objects from a shrine in coordination with military, police, the National Red Cross society and the ICRC following the detonation of an explosive device by an armed group. The training course "First Aid to Cultural Heritage in Times of Crisis" (FAC Africa) was made possible thanks to support from the Heritage Emergency Fund.

Training of African peacekeepers on cultural property protection in armed conflict (2017)

From 26 to 28 September 2017, UNESCO, jointly with the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Regional Peacekeeping Training Centre and with the support of the Heritage Emergency Fund, organized a workshop on the peace-keeping operational aspects of cultural property protection in armed conflict in Harare (Zimbabwe). The training was attended by military personnel from eight Member States of SADC (Angola, Botswana, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe). The training emphasized the contributions of cultural heritage protection to mission success and informed participants of the related international legal obligations that apply to, and bind, all military forces. The workshop also facilitated the exchange of best practices related to all levels of command, and concerning the various phases of military operations.