Management of world heritage sites, the Kenyan Experience

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Kenya’s world heritage sites at continental scale
There are six World heritage sites:

- Lamu Old Town
- Fort Jesus
- Kenya's Lake Systems
- Lake Turkana National Parks
- Mount Kenya National Park
- Mijikenda Kaya Forests
Lamu Old Town
Lamu Cultural Activities
Management Challenges; Large scale infrastructure Development

- Kenya’s heritage is facing stiff challenges due to major infrastructural project

- Most prominent project - Lamu Port South Sudan Ethiopia Development Corridor Project (LAPSSET).

- LAPPSET has 8 major components namely: construction of a modern port, Standard Gauge Railway, highways, international airports, resort cities, an oil refinery, a crude oil pipeline and services related infrastructure.

- Transport corridor expected to open up 70% of Kenya linking the country with Ethiopia and South Sudan.
Proposed Development
Fort Jesus World Heritage site
Fort Jesus WHS
The Lake Turkana National Parks
Challenges in Cultural heritage Management; Livestock incursion
Oil and gas Exploration in the vicinity of WHS
Scared Mijikenda Forest
The State Party of Kenya is in the process of formulating a World Heritage Management Policy that will specifically address potential and inscribed World Heritage properties.

The LAPSSET Authority also established a cordon line beyond which development will not happen towards the mangroves in the mainland adjacent to Lamu.

Tullow also gave a commitment for No go to WHS.

National policy of SESIA for Oil and Gas.
Community Engagement
The Challenges are continental if not Global…

- Many other heritage sites in Africa continue to face similar challenges but in varying scales owing to a renewed global interest in the Continent’s natural resources.

- The major interest has been in the extractive industries such as mining and oil prospecting.

- The question is how the diverse interests can be accommodated for economic development without compromising the cultural and natural heritage values.

- In the case of Lamu, the project planners assumed that by keeping off the core, Lamu Old Town would be left intact.

- This is a clear indication that many planners in Africa have a poor understanding of heritage. This may call for a new approach by the heritage stakeholders in preparing a program for capacity building in such government sectors.

- Social integrity that the local communities enjoys must be allowed to continue in outstanding heritage areas.
Asante sana!

THANK YOU!

謝謝!