

Project Partner Offer

Royal Museum for Central Africa (RMCA)					
x I offer my expertise to participate as a Partner in a Horizon Europe Project					
\square I am planning to coordinate a project and I am looking for Project Partners					
TOPICS OF INTEREST					

Interest in Horizon Europe Cluster 2 heritage-related calls such as

HORIZON-CL2-2024-HERITAGE-ECCCH-01-04

European Collaborative Cloud for Cultural Heritage – Innovative tools for high-value interactions with visitors and heritage objects

...and future heritage-related calls within the 2026 work program.

We would like to get in touch with researchers who are currently preparing an EU-project proposal and who are looking for collaborations within the heritage sector, more particularly focusing on citizen science as a research method.

PARTNER INFORMATION

Description of the Legal Entity

As a museum and research center, the Royal Museum for Central Africa (RMCA) is a forum for study and dialogue on societies and the natural environment in sub-Saharan Africa. We are a place of memory and history regarding the colonial past, but we also look towards the Africa of today and tomorrow. We are committed; we seek to generate interest and promote social engagement in the challenges of today and tomorrow. We do not walk this path alone; we build sustainable partnerships in Belgium, Europe, and especially in Africa.

☐ Higher Education	
x Research Institution	
☐ Public Administration	
□ Industry/SME	
□ NGO	
☐ Other: non-profit association	

Description of the Research Team

Over the past years, the RMCA has built up experience in designing and implementing citizen science projects in Belgium and in sub-Saharan Africa. Since 2022, the museum has its own citizen science contact point for researchers and for the broad public.

We have extensive experience in writing project proposals and in designing and implementing citizen science projects in multicultural contexts, paying attention to inclusiveness and to societal impact. Our expertise covers: designing community engagement strategies, coordinating communication and



outreach actions, building and managing interaction with communities, carrying project evaluations and assessing impact.

As a museum we take a critical look at our past, by involving our African partners and the African diaspora in our daily research. In our scientific work, we are implementing citizen science on a national and international level. We involve citizens in field research in Africa, whether it's research on natural disasters (HARISSA) or tropical diseases (ATRAP). In Belgium, we collaborate with local communities to collect stories about the diaspora's food practices (Vyakulani) or to conserve, digitize and study our biological collections (Citizen Rescuers for Collections).

Our team is composed of:

Noémie Arazi, Dr. – archaeologist, Historical archaeology, provenance studies Rémy Jadinon, Dr. – ethnomusicologist, curator musicology, Contextualization of Central African music traditions, popular repertoire of Mitsogho ngombi harps in Gabon Sarah O'Neill, Dr. – medical anthropologist, projects Diaspofood and Vyakulani Africa Luiza Mitrache, MSc – Citizen Science Coordinator, Science, technology and society (STS)

PROJECT IDEA / CONTRIBUTION TO THE CALL TOPIC						
Your potential role						
x Research	x Technology Development					
X Dissemination	☐ Training					
Already experience as a	Coordinator	☐ YES	x NO			
	Partner	x YES	\square NO			
	Expert Evaluator	☐ YES	x NO			

As a PARTNER, please indicate here what your contribution could be in response to the targeted call for proposals

Our research aims to explore innovative ways of fostering deeper interactions between museum visitors and collection objects that are typically kept behind closed doors. By integrating these collections into the visitor experience, we seek to create new narratives and scenarios that can be reflected in future temporary exhibitions.

One potential approach involves the development and deployment of a digital platform or device within the museum's permanent exhibition or transitional spaces. This platform will allow visitors to engage with collection objects or archival materials through a sensory and emotional lens, encouraging them to analyse and interpret these artifacts in unique and personal ways. By experimenting with new forms of interaction and with citizen science, we aim to bridge the gap between traditional museum curation and interactive visitor participation, ultimately enriching the museum's educational and societal impact.



CONTACT DETAILS

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