

Tourism Management Plan

Outline

Managing heritage at Angkor requires managing tourism—so as to assess risks and identify issues, conserve values, enhance visitor experiences and guide development in a way which respects and provides opportunities and benefits for the tourism industry and local people.

The Angkor Tourism Management Plan (TMP) has been prepared through an extensive collaborative process involving experts from GML, the APSARA National Authority, the Ministry of Tourism and UNESCO, as well as representatives from the tourism industry and local communities. The TMP has been adopted by the APSARA National Authority, UNESCO and the ICC-Angkor.



Components

The TMP includes:

1. Policy Framework

The TMP provides a basis for managing tourism at Angkor through an assessment of values of the World Heritage Area, analysis of issues that pose a threat to those values, and development of six key policy initiatives:

- promoting positive visitor experiences
- reducing site impacts
- partnering with industry
- providing benefits for local people
- improving governance
- engaging with stakeholders.

2. Major Initiatives

The TMP identifies major initiatives for sustainable tourism, ranging from integrated temple management to a revised transport system, changes to ticketing, improved visitor orientation, re-training of tourist guides, development of local craft and better industry relationships and communication.

3. Priority Actions

Implementation of the TMP will be a gradual and iterative process. The TMP sets out clear steps for immediate and practical improvement by recommending 17 Priority Actions which need to be undertaken. Implementation plans were agreed at a workshop involving the APSARA National Authority, Ministry of Tourism, and UNESCO. The ICC-Angkor Ad Hoc experts for Sustainable Development will monitor and evaluate the TMP implementation.

Achievements

The TMP was presented to the Royal Government of Cambodia in March 2013 following endorsement at the 19th Plenary Session of the ICC-Angkor. This substantial management tool will facilitate management and coordination of the rapidly growing tourism industry at Angkor by improving visitor experiences, minimising impacts, creating partnerships with the tourism industry, providing benefits to local people and engaging with stakeholders.

