

1. World Heritage Property Data**1.1 - Name of World Heritage Property**

Mogao Caves

1.2 - World Heritage Property Details**State(s) Party(ies)**

• China

Type of Property

cultural

Identification Number

440

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List

1987


1.3 - Geographic Information Table

Name	Coordinates	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Total (ha)	Inscription year
Mogao Caves	40.133 / 94.817	0	0	0	1987
Total (ha)			0		

Comment

The updated data will be available on the retrospective inventory which is currently under preparation.

1.4 - Map(s)

Title	Date	Link to source
Map of Mogao Caves	29/12/1986	

Comment

The retrospective inventory will be submitted to the World Heritage Centre before 1 February 2012

1.5 - Governmental Institution Responsible for the Property**Comment**

The Administration of Cultural Heritage of Gansu province No.522 South Riverside East Road, Lanzhou City, Gansu Province, China. 736200 Tel: 86-931-8866864 Fax:86-931-8865117 E-mail:zjf@gsww.gov.cn

1.6 - Property Manager / Coordinator, Local Institution / Agency

• Fan Jinshi
Dunhuang Academy

Comment

The telephone number, Fax number and email address have been changed respectively as follows: Tel: 086-937-8869003, Fax: 086-937-8869028, E-mail: chldha@163.com

1.7 - Web Address of the Property (if existing)

1. 1001wonders.org : visit this site in panophotographies - 360 x 180 degree images
2. [DunHuang \[Tun-Huang\] Grottoes](#)
3. [The International Dunhuang Project \(British Library\)](#)

Comment

<http://www.dha.ac.cn>

1.8 - Other designations / Conventions under which the property is protected (if applicable)**Comment**

None

2. Statement of Outstanding Universal Value**2.1 - Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance****Comment**

The statement of outstanding universal value of Mogao caves has been submitted to the World Heritage Center in February 1, 2011.

2.2 - The criteria (2005 revised version) under which the property was inscribed

(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v)(vi)

2.3 - Attributes expressing the Outstanding Universal Value per criterion

Criterion i. The extant 735 caves at the Mogao Grottoes, which stretch 1,700 meters long and contain 45,000 square meters of wall paintings and 2,290 painted statues that date from the fourth to the fourteenth centuries, as well as 26 Buddhist pagodas, constitute the masterpieces of the Mogao Cave art and unique creation. Criterion ii. The caves, murals and Buddhist pagodas preserved at the Mogao Grottoes played a critical role in later architecture and art. Criterion iii. The wall paintings of the Mogao Grottoes and the documents from the Library Cave have not only recorded the history of many ancient peoples in Dunhuang, but also given vivid witness to the lost civilizations of Shazhou Uighur and the Western Xia kingdom. Criterion iv. 735 caves of different functions at the Mogao Grottoes together with the 45,000 square meters of wall paintings and 2,290 statues form an outstanding example of Chinese cave architecture. Criterion v. The wall paintings have recorded the cultural exchanges between Han and other peoples along the Silk Road. Criterion vi. The wall paintings and the documents from the Library Cave are strongly linked to religions, history and geography, language and literature, ancient science and technology, culture and art, economy, folk customs, and ethnic groups.

2.4 - If needed, please provide details of why the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value should be revised

No statement of its outstanding universal value was submitted when the Mogao Grottoes was inscribed on the World Heritage List of UNESCO in 1987. Therefore, we drafted this retrospective statement with correct and valid information.

2.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

This retrospective statement of outstanding universal value can serve as a basis for future conservation and management.

3. Factors Affecting the Property**3.14. Other factor(s)****3.14.1 - Other factor(s)**

none

3.15. Factors Summary Table

3.15.1 - Factors summary table

	Name	Impact	Origin
3.1	Buildings and Development		
3.1.5 Interpretative and visitation facilities			
3.2	Transportation Infrastructure		
3.2.1 Ground transport infrastructure			
3.3	Services Infrastructures		
3.3.4 Localised utilities			
3.3.5 Major linear utilities			
3.7	Local conditions affecting physical fabric		
3.7.1 Wind			
3.7.2 Relative humidity			
3.7.3 Temperature			
3.7.4 Radiation/light			
3.7.5 Dust			
3.7.6 Water (rain/water table)			
3.7.7 Pests			
3.7.8 Micro-organisms			
3.8	Social/cultural uses of heritage		
3.8.1 Ritual / spiritual / religious and associative uses			
3.8.6 Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation			
3.10	Climate change and severe weather events		
3.10.1 Storms			
3.10.2 Flooding			
3.10.3 Drought			
3.10.4 Desertification			
3.11	Sudden ecological or geological events		
3.11.2 Earthquake			
3.11.6 Fire (wildfires)			
3.13	Management and institutional factors		
3.13.1 Low impact research / monitoring activities			
3.13.3 Management activities			
Legend	Current	Potential	Negative
	Positive	Inside	Outside

3.16. Assessment of current negative factors

3.16.1 - Assessment of current negative factors

	Spatial scale	Temporal scale	Impact	Management response	Trend
3.7	Local conditions affecting physical fabric				
3.7.1 Wind	extensive	frequent	significant	medium capacity	decreasing
3.7.2 Relative humidity	localised	intermittent or sporadic	significant	medium capacity	decreasing
3.7.3 Temperature	localised	frequent	minor	medium capacity	static
3.7.4 Radiation/light	extensive	intermittent or sporadic	minor	medium capacity	static
3.7.5 Dust	restricted	intermittent or sporadic	minor	low capacity	static
3.7.7 Pests	restricted	intermittent or sporadic	insignificant	high capacity	decreasing
3.7.8 Micro-organisms	localised	intermittent or sporadic	minor	low capacity	static
3.8	Social/cultural uses of heritage				
3.8.6 Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation	extensive	intermittent or sporadic	significant	medium capacity	decreasing

		Spatial scale	Temporal scale	Impact	Management response	Trend
3.10	Climate change and severe weather events					
3.10.1	Storms	extensive	intermittent or sporadic	significant	medium capacity	decreasing
3.10.2	Flooding	restricted	one off or rare	minor	medium capacity	increasing

3.17. Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to factors affecting the property

3.17.1 - Comments

At present, negative factors that influence the heritage are mainly natural ones, and human factor mainly of tourism also plays a minor role.

4. Protection, Management and Monitoring of the Property

4.1. Boundaries and Buffer Zones

4.1.1 - Buffer zone status

There is a buffer zone

4.1.2 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are **adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.1.3 - Are the buffer zone(s) of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The buffer zones of the World Heritage property are **adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.1.4 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property known?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are known by both the management authority and local residents / communities / landowners.

4.1.5 - Are the buffer zones of the World Heritage property known?

The buffer zones of the World Heritage property are **known** by both the management authority and local residents / communities / landowners.

4.1.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to boundaries and buffer zones of the World Heritage property

The boundaries and buffer zone of the Mogao Grottoes have been well known as confirmed in the Regulations for the Conservation of the Mogao Grottoes in Dunhuang, Gansu Province and the Master Plan for the Conservation of the Mogao Grottoes at Dunhuang; the established area is sufficient to maintain its outstanding universal value.

4.2. Protective Measures

4.2.1 - Protective designation (legal, regulatory, contractual, planning, institutional and / or traditional)

The Constitution, The Criminal Law and The Law of the People's Republic of China on the Protection of Cultural Relics. Article 22 of Chapter 1, the General Principles of The Constitution provides that "the state protects places of scenic and historical

interest, valuable cultural monuments and relics and other important items of China's historical and cultural heritage."

Article 174 of The Criminal Law stipulates that "deliberate damage of precious cultural relics, scenic sports or historical sites under state protection shall result in a prison sentence of not more than seven years or criminal detention."

Article 31 of The Law of the People's Republic of China on the Protection of Cultural Relics stipulates that "deliberate damage of precious cultural relics, scenic sports or historical sites under state protection should result in investigation to establish criminal responsibility in accordance with law."

Comment

The Mogao Caves were listed as a State Level Priority Protected Cultural Heritage Site by the State Council of the People's Republic of China in 1961, and have been put under the protection of relevant laws ever since.

4.2.2 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the World Heritage property provides **an adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection

4.2.3 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the World Heritage property provides **an adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection

4.2.4 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the area surrounding the World Heritage property and the buffer zone provides **an adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection of the property, contributing to the maintenance of its Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity

4.2.5 - Can the legislative framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) be enforced?

There is **excellent** capacity / resources to enforce legislation and / or regulation in the World Heritage property

4.2.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to protective measures

The Mogao Grottoes has been put under the protection of local and national laws and regulations, domestic and international charters and conventions. The already established legal framework is also sufficient to maintain its outstanding universal value.

4.3. Management System / Management Plan

4.3.1 - Management System

Dunhuang Research Academy, a special agency representing the state to exercise the protection and management of Mogao Grottoes, affiliates several functional bodies related to the protection of the relics, such as the Protection Institution, the Security Division and Cave Management Division, etc.

There is an Overall Plan for Protecting and Managing Mogao Grottoes, which has been implemented since 2001.

Comment

The Master Plan for the Conservation of the Mogao Grottoes at Dunhuang (2006-2025), the Eleventh Five-Year Plan of the Dunhuang Academy (2006-2010) and some strategic plans have been worked out. In addition, annual work plan is being made with executable and detailed heritage management system.

4.3.2 - Management Documents

Comment

Current valid documents include the Conservation of the Mogao Grottoes in Dunhuang, Gansu Province (2002) and those for visitor and cave management; the document to be approved is the Master Plan for the Conservation of the Mogao Grottoes at Dunhuang (2006-2025).

4.3.3 - How well do the various levels of administration (i.e. national / federal; regional / provincial / state; local / municipal etc.) coordinate in the management of the World Heritage Property ?

There is **excellent coordination** between all bodies / levels involved in the management of the property

4.3.4 - Is the management system / plan adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value ?

The management system / plan is **fully adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.3.5 - Is the management system being implemented?

The management system is being **fully** implemented and monitored

4.3.6 - Is there an annual work / action plan and is it being implemented?

An annual work / action plan exists and **most or all activities** are being implemented and monitored

4.3.7 - Please rate the cooperation / relationship with World Heritage property managers / coordinators / staff of the following

Local communities / residents	Non-existent
Local / Municipal authorities	Good
Indigenous peoples	Not applicable
Landowners	Good
Visitors	Good
Researchers	Good
Tourism industry	Good
Industry	Good

4.3.8 - If present, do local communities resident in or near the World Heritage property and / or buffer

zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

No local communities are resident in or living near the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone

4.3.9 - If present, do indigenous peoples resident in or regularly using the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

No indigenous peoples are resident in or regularly using the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone

4.3.10 - Is there cooperation with industry (i.e. forestry, mining, agriculture, etc.) regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone?

There is **regular contact** with industry regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone and **substantial co-operation** on management

4.3.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

No comment.

4.3.12 - Please report any significant changes in the legal status and / or contractual / traditional protective measures and management arrangements for the World Heritage property since inscription or the last Periodic report

None.

4.4. Financial and Human Resources

4.4.1 - Costs related to conservation, based on the average of last five years (relative percentage of the funding sources)

Multilateral funding (GEF, World Bank, etc)	0%
International donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	1.47%
Governmental (National / Federal)	0%
Governmental (Regional / Provincial / State)	21.87%
Governmental (Local / Municipal)	0%
In country donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	0.54%
Individual visitor charges (e.g. entry, parking, camping fees, etc.)	68.79%
Commercial operator payments (e.g. filming permit, concessions, etc.)	0.34%
Other grants	6.99%

4.4.2 - International Assistance received from the World Heritage Fund (USD)

Title	Year	Amount	Link to source
C, Mogao, équipement	1993	20000.00	
C, Mogao, cours préservation	1994	20000.00	
Total		40000	

4.4.3 - Is the current budget sufficient to manage the World Heritage property effectively?

The available budget is **acceptable** but could be further improved to fully meet the management needs

4.4.4 - Are the existing sources of funding secure and likely to remain so?

The existing sources of funding are **secure** in the medium-term and planning is underway to secure funding in the long-term

4.4.5 - Does the World Heritage property provide economic benefits to local communities (e.g. income, employment)?

There is a **major flow** of economic benefits to local communities from activities in and around the World Heritage property

4.4.6 - Are available resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure sufficient to meet management needs?

There are **adequate** equipment and facilities

4.4.7 - Are resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure adequately maintained?

Equipment and facilities are **well maintained**

4.4.8 - Comments, conclusion, and / or recommendations related to finance and infrastructure

At present, the budget for heritage management is reasonable, and more funding support is needed.

4.4.9 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Full-time	89%
Part-time	11%

4.4.10 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Permanent	52%
Seasonal	48%

4.4.11 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Paid	89%
Volunteer	11%

4.4.12 - Are available human resources adequate to manage the World Heritage property?

A range of human resources exist, but these are **below optimum** to manage the World Heritage Property.

4.4.13 - Considering the management needs of the World Heritage property, please rate the availability of professionals in the following disciplines

Research and monitoring	Fair
Promotion	Poor
Community outreach	Not applicable
Interpretation	Good

Education	Fair
Visitor management	Good
Conservation	Fair
Administration	Fair
Risk preparedness	Fair
Tourism	Poor
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Fair

4.4.14 - Please rate the availability of training opportunities for the management of the World Heritage property in the following disciplines

Research and monitoring	Low
Promotion	Medium
Community outreach	Not applicable
Interpretation	Low
Education	Low
Visitor management	Medium
Conservation	Medium
Administration	Medium
Risk preparedness	Medium
Tourism	Medium
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Low

4.4.15 - Do the management and conservation programmes at the World Heritage property help develop local expertise?

A capacity development plan or programme is **in place and fully implemented**; all technical skills are being transferred to those managing the property locally, who are assuming leadership in management

4.4.16 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

The Mogao Grottoes has better human resources and professional skills to fulfill basic management.

4.5. Scientific Studies and Research Projects

4.5.1 - Is there adequate knowledge (scientific or traditional) about the values of the World Heritage property to support planning, management and decision-making to ensure that Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Knowledge about the values of the World Heritage property is **sufficient**

4.5.2 - Is there a planned programme of research at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is a **comprehensive, integrated programme of research**, which is relevant to management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.5.3 - Are results from research programmes disseminated?

Research results are **shared widely** with the local, national and international audiences

4.5.4 - Please provide details (i.e. authors, title, and web link) of papers published about the World Heritage property since the last Periodic Report

(I) Works: 1. Dunhuang Academy, Complete Collection of Dunhuang Grottoes (26 volumes), the Commercial Press (HK) Ltd, 1999-2005. 2. Zhao Shengliang, Researches on the Landscape in Dunhuang Wall Paintings, Beijing Zhonghua Book Company, 2005. 3. Li Zuixiong, Conservation of the Wall Paintings and Painted Sculptures in the Cave Temples along the Silk Road, Science Publishing House, 2005. 4. He Shizhe, Researches on Dunhuang Images: the Sixteen Kingdoms and Northern Dynasties, Gansu Education Publishing House, 2006. 5. Sun Rujian, Grottoes Architecture of Dunhuang and Its Conservation, Gansu People's Publishing House, 2007. 6. A Comprehensive Dictionary of Dunhuang Studies, Shanghai Lexicographical Publishing House, 1997. 7. A Collection of Papers on Dunhuang Buddhism and Zen, Hong Kong Heavenly Horse Books Co. Ltd, 2006. 8. Yin Guangming, Dunhuang Art Paintings and Bogus Sutras, Gansu Ethnic Publishing House, 2006. 9. Duan Wenjie and Fan Jinshi, Complete Collection of Dunhuang Wall Paintings in China, Tianjin People's Art Publishing House, 2006. 10. Dunhuang Academy, Art Works Created by the Dunhuang Academy, Shanghai Classic Publishing House, 2006. II. Papers 1. Li Hongshou, A Brief Account on Water Sources and Watering Gardens around the Mogao Grottoes, Dunhuang Research, 2005.4 2. Liu Gang and Zhang Jun, Exploring 3D Digital Technology for the Mogao Grottoes in Dunhuang, Dunhuang Research, 2005.4 3. Chen Gangquan, Su Bomin, Simulative Salt Efflorescence Tests on Wall Painting Plasters of the Mogao Cave 85, Dunhuang Research, 2005.4 4. Xu Shuqing, Investigation Report on the Current Condition of the Mogao Cave 98, Dunhuang Research, 2005.4 5. Li Zuixiong, Conservation of Ancient Sites along the Silk Road, Dunhuang Research, 2005.4 6. Cai Weitang, Revised Table of Various Cave Numbers of the Mogao Grottoes in Dunhuang, Dunhuang Research, 2005.5 7. Wang Wanfu, Ma Zhanfeng, Researches on the Techniques of Grouting and Consolidating Detachment Wall Paintings, Science of Conservation and Archaeology, 2006.2 8. Zhao Shengliang, New Opinions on Apsaras, Dunhuang Research, 2007.3 9. Li Hongen, Huang Shiqing, Designing Principles for Metadata of Digital Libraries on Dunhuang Studies, Dunhuang Research, 2007.3 10. Fan Jinshi, Application of the Principles for the Conservation of Cultural Heritage Sites in China in the Mogao Grottoes Projects, Dunhuang Research, 2007.5 11. Ma Zhanfeng, Screening Materials for Repairing Wall Painting Plasters of the Mogao Grottoes in Dunhuang, Dunhuang Research, 2007.5 12. Zhang Xiantang, A Third Investigation on the Bao-en Jixiang Cave of: New Opinions on P.2991, Dunhuang Research 2008.5 13. Wu Jian and Yu Tianxiu, Construction of a Database for Dunhuang Art Images, Dunhuang Research, 2008.6 14. Fan Jinshi, Value-Based Management and Monitoring System for World Cultural Heritage Sites, Dunhuang Research, 2008.5 15. Liu Yuquan, New Studies on Partial Contents of Water-Moon Avalokitesvara in the Yulin Cave 29, Dunhuang Research, 2009.2 16. Li Hongshou, Wang Wanfu, Influences of the Water System on the Microclimate of the Mogao Grottoes, Dunhuang Research, 2009.3 17. Dong Xiaorong, A Study on the Half-Sleeved Clothes of Mongolian Donor Figures in Dunhuang Wall Paintings, Dunhuang Research, 2010.3 18. Zhang Yanqing, Incentives for Sutra Transcription in Dunhuang during the Tibetan Occupation, Dunhuang Research, 2010.3 19. Illustration of Amitayurdhana Sutra in the Mogao Cave 431 and the Spread of Shan Dao's Teachings in Dunhuang, Dunhuang Research, 2010.4 20. Ma Xu, Wang Wanfu, Researches on the Dynamic Changes of the Microbiology in Air of the Mogao Cave 16, Dunhuang Research, 2010.4

4.5.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to scientific studies and research projects

A number of research projects have been launched and many papers published about the world heritage. We have also spread the knowledge about the conservation of world heritages by holding various activities and academic lectures. However, there are some fields still waiting for further conservation, research and promotion.

4.6. Education, Information and Awareness Building

4.6.1 - At how many locations is the World Heritage emblem displayed at the property?

In **one location and easily visible** to visitors

4.6.2 - Please rate the awareness and understanding of the existence and justification for inscription of the World Heritage property amongst the following groups

Local communities / residents	Excellent
Local / Municipal authorities within or adjacent to the property	Excellent
Local Indigenous peoples	Not applicable
Local landowners	Excellent
Visitors	Excellent
Tourism industry	Excellent
Local businesses and industries	Excellent

4.6.3 - Is there a planned education and awareness programme linked to the values and management of the World Heritage property?

There is a **planned and effective** education and awareness programme that contributes to the protection of the World Heritage property

4.6.4 - What role, if any, has designation as a World Heritage property played with respect to education, information and awareness building activities?

World Heritage status has been an **important influence** on education, information and awareness building activities

4.6.5 - How well is the information on Outstanding Universal Value of the property presented and interpreted?

The Outstanding Universal Value of the property is adequately presented and interpreted **but improvements could be made**

4.6.6 - Please rate the adequacy for education, information and awareness building of the following visitor facilities and services at the World Heritage property

Visitor centre	Adequate
Site museum	Adequate
Information booths	Adequate
Guided tours	Excellent
Trails / routes	Excellent
Information materials	Adequate
Transportation facilities	Not needed
Other	Excellent

4.6.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to education, information and awareness building

People concerned have a better understanding of the symbolic meaning and the existence of the heritage site, and most people have also recognized the importance of visitor service facilities. The learning and understanding projects related with the value and management of world heritages have been worked out to well represent and illustrate outstanding universal value of the heritage.

4.7. Visitor Management

4.7.1 - Please provide the trend in annual visitation for the last five years

Last year	Minor Increase
Two years ago	Decreasing
Three years ago	Static
Four years ago	Minor Increase
Five years ago	Minor Increase

4.7.2 - What information sources are used to collect trend data on visitor statistics?

Entry tickets and registries
Visitor surveys
Other

4.7.3 - Visitor management documents

Comment

The documents related to visitor management mainly include: a. Website-based Reservation for Touring the Mogao Grottoes in Dunhuang; b. Visitor Investigation Manual; c. A Guidance to the Mogao Grottoes Tour; d. Notice to Open Service in the off-Season (Spring and Winter) at the Mogao Grottoes; e. Responsibilities of People in Charge of General Schedules of the Reception Department; f. Responsibilities of People in Charge of sub-Schedules of the Reception Department.

4.7.4 - Is there an appropriate visitor use management plan (e.g. specific plan) for the World Heritage property which ensures that its Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Visitor use of the World Heritage property is managed but **improvements could be made**

4.7.5 - Does the tourism industry contribute to improving visitor experiences and maintaining the values of the World Heritage property?

There is **excellent co-operation** between those responsible for the World Heritage property and the tourism industry to present the Outstanding Universal Value and increase appreciation

4.7.6 - If fees (i.e. entry charges, permits) are collected, do they contribute to the management of the World Heritage property?

The fee is collected and makes a **substantial contribution** to the management of the World Heritage property

4.7.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to visitor use of the World Heritage property

Developing tourism has improved the understanding of outstanding universal value of world heritages and got tourism revenue to help improve site management, and meanwhile increased the visitor carrying capacity. For this reason, special visitor management plan has been established.

4.8. Monitoring

4.8.1 - Is there a monitoring programme at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is a **comprehensive, integrated programme** of monitoring, which is relevant to management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.8.2 - Are key indicators for measuring the state of conservation used to monitor how the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is maintained?

Information on the values of the World Heritage property is sufficient and key indicators have been defined but **monitoring the status of indicators could be improved**

4.8.3 - Please rate the level of involvement in monitoring of the following groups

World Heritage managers / coordinators and staff	Excellent
Local / Municipal authorities	Average
Local communities	Not applicable
Researchers	Excellent
NGOs	Poor
Industry	Average
Local indigenous peoples	Not applicable

4.8.4 - Has the State Party implemented relevant recommendations arising from the World Heritage Committee?

No relevant Committee recommendations to implement

4.8.5 - Please provide comments relevant to the implementation of recommendations from the World Heritage Committee

None comment

4.8.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to monitoring

Some Monitoring Projects have been launched and initial achievements have been obtained, and further research projects will be carried out.

4.9. Identification of Priority Management Needs

4.9.1 - Please select the top 6 managements needs for the property (if more than 6 are listed below)

Please refer to question 5.2

5. Summary and Conclusions

5.1. Summary - Factors affecting the Property

5.1.1 - Summary - Factors affecting the Property

		World Heritage criteria and attributes affected	Actions	Monitoring	Timeframe	Lead agency (and others involved)	More info / comment
3.7	Local conditions affecting physical fabric						
3.7.1	Wind	Criterion i. These attributes affected are caves, Buddhist pagodas, cliff, the environment and landscape of the oasis surrounded by the Gobi desert where the heritage is located. Criterion ii, The attribute affected are Buddhist pagodas.	Preventive forests and grass panes have been made to induce the erosion of sand carrying winds. At present, further protective projects are being carried out.	Monitoring of erosion caused by sand-carrying winds.	Continuous	The Dunhuang Academy, Dunhuang Second Construction Company, Xin'an Construction Co. Ltd of Yongdeng, Forest Inventory and Planning Institute of Gansu Province.	This factor is mainly ascribed to natural features of the area where the heritage is located.
3.7.2	Relative humidity	Criterion i, Criterion ii, Criterion iii, Criterion iv, Criterion v and Criterion vi. All of these attributes affected are wall paintings and painted sculptures.	RH monitoring system of the caves was started and the RH is being controlled by regularly and alternatively opening and closing the doors of the caves and adjusting the number of visitors into the caves.	Monitoring of relative humidity	Long time	The Dunhuang Academy, Meteorology Bureau of Dunhuang	This factor is mainly ascribed to the natural features of the area where the heritage is located. Human activities also play a minor role.
3.7.3	Temperature						
3.7.8	Micro-organisms						
3.8	Social/cultural uses of heritage						
3.8.6	Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation	Criterion i, Criterion ii, Criterion iii, Criterion iv, Criterion v and Criterion vi. All of these attributes affected are wall paintings and painted sculptures.	Researches on tour reservation and visitor carrying capacity of the caves have been carried out, and Visitor Center is being under construction which will relieve the pressure on caves by providing digital representation.	Visitor Survey, Registration Book, Monitoring of Visitor's number and CO2.	Continuous	The Dunhuang Academy, the Getty Conservation Institute, China Architecture Design and Consulting Company, Lanye Architecture Supervision Company Limited of Gansu, GCEGL NO.1 Construction Engineering Company Limited.	This factor is mainly ascribed to the human activities.
3.10	Climate change and severe weather events						
3.10.1	Storms	Criterion i. These attributes affected are caves, Buddhist pagodas, cliff, the environment and landscape of the oasis surrounded by the Gobi desert where the heritage is located. Criterion ii, The attribute affected are Buddhist pagodas.	Cliff has been consolidated and seepage prevention walls have been built.	Monitoring	Occasionally	The Dunhuang Academy, The First Survey and Design Institute of the Ministry of Railway, Geological Disaster Prevention Technology Company under Gansu Railway Institute, Lanzhou University.	This factor is mainly ascribed to the natural features of the area the heritage is located.

5.2. Summary - Management Needs

5.2.2 - Summary - Management Needs

Answers provided have not outlined any serious management need.

5.3. Conclusions on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.3.1 - Current state of Authenticity

The authenticity of the World Heritage property has been **preserved**

5.3.2 - Current state of Integrity

The integrity of the World Heritage property is **intact**

5.3.3 - Current state of the World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value

The World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value has been **maintained**.

5.3.4 - Current state of the property's other values

Other important cultural and / or natural values and the state of conservation of the World Heritage property are **predominantly intact**

5.4. Additional comments on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.4.1 - Comments

Though the Mogao Grottoes has suffered from some natural factors, a series of conservation and management measures has been taken to well preserve the authenticity and integrity of the heritage.

6. World Heritage Status and Conclusions on Periodic Reporting Exercise

6.1 - Please rate the impacts of World Heritage status of the property in relation to the following areas

Conservation	Very positive
Research and monitoring	Very positive
Management effectiveness	Very positive
Quality of life for local communities and indigenous peoples	Not applicable
Recognition	Very positive
Education	Positive
Infrastructure development	Positive
Funding for the property	Positive
International cooperation	Very positive
Political support for conservation	Very positive
Legal / Policy framework	Very positive
Lobbying	Very positive
Institutional coordination	Very positive
Security	Very positive
Other (please specify)	Very positive

6.2 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to World Heritage status

The heritage has been well preserved in terms of conservation, research, management, cooperation, funds, and legal protection.

6.3 - Entities involved in the preparation of this Section of the Periodic Report

Governmental institution responsible for the property
Site Manager/Coordinator/World Heritage property staff
External experts
Advisory bodies

6.4 - Was the Periodic Reporting questionnaire easy to use and clearly understandable?

yes

6.5 - Please provide suggestions for improvement of the Periodic Reporting questionnaire

Technical terms that can be better understood in different countries and regions, and Referential case studies are appreciated.

6.6 - Please rate the level of support for completing the Periodic Report questionnaire from the following entities

UNESCO	Very good
State Party Representative	Very good
Advisory Body	Very good

6.7 - How accessible was the information required to complete the Periodic Report?

All required information was accessible

6.8 - The Periodic Reporting process has improved the understanding of the following

The World Heritage Convention
The concept of Outstanding Universal Value
The property's Outstanding Universal Value
The concept of Integrity and / or Authenticity
The property's Integrity and / or Authenticity
Managing the property to maintain the Outstanding Universal Value
Monitoring and reporting
Management effectiveness

6.9 - Please rate the follow-up to conclusions and recommendations from previous Periodic Reporting exercise by the following entities

UNESCO	Satisfactory
State Party	Excellent
Site Managers	Excellent
Advisory Bodies	Excellent

6.10 - Summary of actions that will require formal consideration by the World Heritage Committee

• Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance

Reason for update: The statement of outstanding universal value of Mogao caves has been submitted to the World Heritage Center in February 1, 2011.

• Geographic Information Table

Reason for update: The updated data will be available on the retrospective inventory which is currently under preparation.

• Map(s)

Reason for update: The retrospective inventory will be

submitted to the World Heritage Centre before 1
February 2012

**6.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or
recommendations related to the Assessment of the
Periodic Reporting exercise**

Regular reports look back to the influential factors and possible problems in site conservation and management. Proper conservation measures have been taken to ensure the authenticity and integrity of the heritage, and so the value of the heritage has been well preserved.