TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction 1-2

Decision: 43 COM 7B.71 3-4

Section A 5-9

General Response to Points made by the World Heritage Committee

ANNEX:
Annex 1: Final Draft of IMF
Annex 2: Lumbini World Peace City Master plan
Annex 3: HIA report of the 5000 persons International Meditation and Conference Hall
Annex 4: Planning of the Greater Lumbini Area
Annex 5: Draft Conceptual Plan for the archaeological sites of Kapilavastu District
Introduction

Lumbini is a peerless landmark of the Buddhist world. This is the only active religious place that has been listed in the World Heritage Site by the UNESCO in 1997. Lumbini symbolized ultimate peace and harmony. The eyes of Buddha are the emblem of love, worship; kindness and compassion are the synonym of Buddhism. Lumbini, was inscribed on the List of World Heritage at the 21st session of the World Heritage Committee in 1997 under criteria (iii) and (vi):

Criterion (iii): As the birthplace of the Lord Buddha, testified by the inscription on the Asoka pillar, the sacred area in Lumbini is one of the most holy and significant places for one of the world’s great religions.

Criterion (vi): The archaeological remains of the Buddhist viharas (monasteries) and stupas (memorial shrines) from the 6th century BC to the 15th century AD, provide important evidence about the nature of Buddhist pilgrimage centers from a very early period.

Integrity:
The integrity of Lumbini has been achieved by means of preserving the archaeological remains that give the property its outstanding universal value within the boundaries. The significant attributes and elements of the property have been preserved. The buffer zone gives the property a further layer of protection. Further excavations of potential archaeological sites and appropriate protection of the archaeological remains are a high priority for the integrity of the site. The boundaries however do not include the entire archaeological site and various areas are found in the buffer zone. The entire property is owned by the Government of Nepal and is being managed by the Lumbini Development Trust and therefore there is little threat of development or neglect. However the affects of industrial development in the region has been identified as a threat to the integrity of the property.

Authenticity:
The authenticity of the archaeological remains within the boundaries has been confirmed through a series of excavations since the discovery of the Asoka pillar in 1896. The remains of viharas, stupas and numerous layers of brick structures from the 6th century BCE to the present century at the site of the Maya Devi Temple are proof of Lumbini having been a centre of pilgrimage already from early times. The archaeological remains require active conservation and monitoring to ensure that the impact of natural degradation, influence of humidity and the impact of the visitors are kept under control.

Management:
The main archaeological site is protected as per the Ancient Monument Preservation Act 1956. The site management is carried out by the Lumbini Development Trust, an autonomous and non-profit making organization as a Government Authority. The entire site is owned by the Government of Nepal. The site falls within the centre of the Master Plan area, the planning of which was initiated together with the United Nations and carried out by Prof. Kenzo Tange between 1972 and 1978. The long-term challenges for the protection and management of the property would be to control the impact of the visitors, of natural impacts such as humidity and the industrial development in the region. A Management Plan is in the process of being developed to ensure the long-term safeguarding of the archaeological

Lumbini, Nepal: The Birthplace of Lord Buddha-World Heritage Property SoC REPORT- 2020
vestiges of the property while allowing for the property to continue being visited by pilgrims and tourists from around the world.

This report has been prepared as requested by the World Heritage Committee during their 43th Session. It has mentioned about the information of the researches and different activities done in Lumbini World Heritage Property and surroundings.

We would like to express gratitude to the World Heritage Center for the concern they have shown and their encouragement and funding of the project through the Japanese Funds-in-Trust.
World Heritage Committee
43rd session (Baku, 2019)

Decision: 43COM 7B.71
Lumbini, the Birthplace of the Lord Buddha (Nepal) (C 666 rev)

1. Having examined Document WHC/19/43. COM/7B,

2. Recalling Decision 42 COM 7B.13 adopted at its 42th session (Manama/UNESCO, 2018),

3. Notes the progress made with the finalization of the Integrated Management Framework (IMF) document, but regrets the delays encountered with its adoption by the State Party;

4. Notes with concern that development activities have been undertaken within the property and the Buffer Zone prior to the formal adoption of the IMF and without conducting the necessary impact assessments of following the archaeological Risk Map or notifying the World Heritage Centre, as required by Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, and therefore reiterates its urgent request to the State Party to adopt and implement the IMF as a matter of priority and to systematically carry out Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) for any proposed project, with a specific section focusing on the potential impact of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, in conformity with the 2011 ICOMOS Guidelines on HIAs for World Heritage Cultural Properties, prior to carrying out any further work within the property or in adjacent areas identified as having potential archaeological significance;

5. Expressing concern about the Lumbini World Peace City project and its potential impact on the property, also reiterates its request to the State Party to provide details on the proposed project, including a comprehensive HIA prepared in conformity with the aforementioned ICOMOS Guidelines, and that this assessment be provided to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies before any activity is implemented or any irreversible decision is made;

6. Also regrets that the State Party did not provide any information on the development Project proposals concerning the property, as required by Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, nor a response to previous requests from the World Heritage Centre, including:
   a) The ongoing construction of a temporary Meeting Hall in Lumbini,
   b) The proposed construction of the Shree Ram Cement Plant Ind. Pvt. Ltd located in the vicinity of Lumbini site, and
   e) The construction of a 5,000-person capacity Buddhist Meditation Hall located within the Lumbini Kenzo Tange Master Plan Area, in the vicinity of the Sacred Garden of Lumbini site; and urges the State Party to immediately halt any construction work within the property until the potential impacts of these projects are fully assessed and suitable measures to avoid deterioration of the OUV of the property are in place;

7. Encourages the State Party to continue developing a clear strategy and concrete further actions to protect the Greater Lumbini Area and its wider setting, including but not
limited to Tilaurakot and Ramagrama, and to reduce the increasing industrial activity in the vicinity of the property;

8. Requests the State Party to invite a joint World Heritage Centre/ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring mission to the property to assess its overall state of conservation, review the IMF and all ongoing studies and proposals, and assist with the development of appropriate and proactive solutions that are consistent with the safeguarding of the property’s OUV for the Lumbini World Peace City project and any other possible development projects;

9. Finally requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by 1 December 2020, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 45th session in 2021.
Section A

General Response to Points made by the World Heritage Committee
Refer 43 COM 7B.71– State of Conservation

3. Notes the progress made with the finalization of the Integrated Management Framework (IMF) document, but regrets the delays encountered with its adoption by the State Party;

The Integrated Management Framework document has been finalized under UNESCO/Japanese Funds-in-Trust Project. The Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, National Planning Commission of Nepal, the Lumbini Development Trust and the Department of Archaeology of Nepal have integrated consensus on it and forwarded to the Cabinet for final adoption by the Government of Nepal. The final draft Integrated Management Framework (its prepared in Nepali language, therefore, after adopted by Government, the original and translated in English version will be submitted).

4. Notes with concern that development activities have been undertaken within the property and the Buffer Zone prior to the formal adoption of the IMF and without conducting the necessary impact assessments of following the archaeological Risk Map or notifying the World Heritage Centre, as required by Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, and therefore reiterates its urgent request to the State Party to adopt and implement the IMF as a matter of priority and to systematically carry out Heritage Impact Assessments (HIAs) for any proposed project, with a specific section focusing on the potential impact of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the property, in conformity with the 2011 ICOMOS Guidelines on HIAs for World Heritage Cultural Properties, prior to carrying out any further work within the property or in adjacent areas identified as having potential Archaeological significance;

Development Activities within the Property

1. Security Post
A wooden security post has been built to control the security threats and manage the systematic security system within World Heritage Property considering the feeling of felt necessity of an additional security post to the southern side of Property.

Wooden Guard Post

Meditation Platform
2. **Meditation Platform**

Within the Property one wooden meditation platform has been constructed by LDT to provide meditation facilities to the pilgrims at the southern part of ancient monastery complex.

3. **Walk way within the buffer zone**

To provide better access to the pilgrims and visitors in the Lumbini World Heritage site, LDT has been built reversible walk way on the grid line by concrete blocks and stone dust material, from gate no. 5 to the boundary of the property (within the buffer zone).

4. **Fence for Tripitak Chanting Area**

Within the Property, religious activities are increasing year by year. To incorporate the aspirations of the pilgrims, having difficulties to manage within the property area due to the limited space and to protect the cultural heritage from high humidity. It was necessary to develop some specific areas to organize religious activities like mass Tripitak Chanting, novice ordination and special puja etc. at outside the property area. So that x9, y10 and y11 grids are developed as Tripitak Chanting area.
Fencing area

5. **Expressing concern** about the Lumbini World Peace City project and its potential impacts on the property, also reiterates its request to the State Party to provide details on the proposed project, including a comprehensive HIA prepared in conformity with the aforementioned ICOMOS Guidelines, and that this assessment be provided to the World Heritage Centre for review by the Advisory Bodies before any activity is implemented or any irreversible decision is made;

The Master plan of the Lumbini World Peace City was principally approved by the Government of Nepal. The Lumbini Development Trust organized an initial discussion for the possible implementation of the plan among concern stakeholders at the central and local level. The Site Managers are desperately working to safeguard the outstanding universal value of Lumbini and fully agree to carry out comprehensive HIA before implementing any significant developmental project. The reports to the Lumbini World Peace City Master plan are attached (submitted as an annex in the previous SoC Report in 2017; Annex 1).

Photos: Stakeholders Meeting

Hon. Minister Yogesh Bhattarai
Hon. Chief Minister, Shanker Pokhrel
6. Also regrets that the State Party did not provide any information on the development Project proposals concerning the property, as required by Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, nor a response to previous requests from the World Heritage Centre, including:

a) The ongoing construction of a temporary Meeting Hall in Lumbini,

Temporary meeting hall was built to organized International Buddha Jayanti celebrations and International Buddhist Conference in 2018. LDT is committed to remove once 5000 person capacity International Buddhist Meditation and Conference Hall completed.

b) The proposed construction of the Shree Ram Cement Plant Ind. Pvt. Ltd located in the vicinity of Lumbini site, and

Proposed construction work of the factory has been halted however, it's on the process to not to construct/establish in the area, which could be negative impact to the World Heritage Property.

e) The construction of a 5,000-person capacity Buddhist Meditation Hall located within the Lumbini Kenzo Tange Master Plan Area, in the vicinity of the Sacred Garden of Lumbini site; and urges the State Party to immediately halt any construction work within the property until the potential impacts of these projects are fully assessed and suitable measures to avoid deterioration of the OUV of the property are in place;

The International Buddhist Meditation and Conference Hall are under construction. Total 98% of the first phase of the construction is completed and tender process for the second phase is close to complete. HIA was carried out for the construction latterly and recommended as there would be no significant impact to the World Heritage Property and its bit far away from the property area. (annex-2).

7. Encourages the State Party to continue developing a clear strategy and concrete further actions to protect the Greater Lumbini Area and its wider setting, including but not limited to
Tilaurakot and Ramagrama, and to reduce the increasing industrial activity in the vicinity of the property;

The State Party fully agrees and has great concern to develop a strategy for the protection of the Greater Lumbini Area. Thus to understand morphology of the historical sites various researches like archaeological investigation, geophysical survey have been carried out under the UNESCO/Japanese Fund in-Trust project in the year of 2014-2021. Especially phase IV of the project is proposed, which has been designed based on discussions during the International Scientific Committee meetings with stressed the importance to cover conservation, archaeology and overall planning issues related to the three sites -Lumbini, Tilaurakot and Ramagrama, with a specific focus on the ancient Tilaurakot sites and its environs.

The Lumbini Development Trust is taking serious action to develop a clear strategy and concrete further actions for the protection of the Greater Lumbini Area. In this connection, LDT has developed planning of the Greater Lumbini Area, draft conceptual plan for the archaeological sites of Kapilavastu District (annex-3) and organized a Comparative Regional Archaeological Workshop and Field Tour of the Greater Lumbini Area sponsored by the Lumbini Development Trust, Government of Nepal in coordination with the Department of Archaeology (Government of Nepal) and UNESCO’s Chair in Archaeological Ethics and Practice in Cultural Heritage (Durham University, UK), between the 5th and 8th March 2020. Focused on the ‘archaeological evidence for the planning of Early Historic cities and their environs, and their current preservation’, the workshop’s international and national participants will join the delegates and experts of UNESCO’s Scientific Committee for Lumbini during their tour of the recent archaeological fieldwork and conservation at the archaeological site of Tilaurakot and associated 2020 Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu Heritage Festival. This will be followed by a tour of archaeological and heritage sites within the Greater Lumbini Area, including the Asoka pillars at Niglighawa, Gotihawa and Lumbini in order to fully contextualize the formal academic workshop, which will include delegates from Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Iran, Sri Lanka and UK.
Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA)
For the International Buddhist Conference and Meditation Hall
To be constructed at
Culture Zone (Plot C-2)
Lumbini Master Plan

To be submitted to
Lumbini Development Trust
Through Shrestha Consultant Pvt. Ltd.
Lalitpur, Nepal.

Submitted by
Prof. Prem Kumar Khatry, Ph D
Consultant

Gongabu, Kathmandu
January 2019
Acknowledgement

Om Namo Buddhaya!

It was with pleasant surprise that Eng. Indra Lal Shrestha from the JV – Consultants called and offered a job of HIA on the International Convention and Meditation Center, Lumbini. The entrusted task had the potential of re-visiting the holy birthplace of Gautama, the Buddha, years after I had resigned from the LDT Council. Of and on I did visit the holy place on my own or with an invitation. The new responsibility thrust on me came not just a surprise but with the gravity of its nature and responsibility. I extend my special thanks to Eng Indra Lal Shrestha for this opportunity offered me.

I have full and complete respect for the Triple Jewel - The Master, or the Buddha, his spiritual identity, the Dhamma, and the foundation of his ever moving vehicle, the Sangha. The Three do not stand on separate platform, they are intertwined and collectively, they shape a Bodhi personality on each seeker. The quality thus grown comes from practice of the highest level.

It is not only nice it is an important structure in planning for the promotion of Lumbini and an opportunity to establish the sanctity and profound spiritual significance of Lumbini as the Fountain of Peace and Pilgrimage Center for all the believers and peace lovers of the world.

I take this opportunity to thank LDT, especially the Vice Chairman Rev Metta, and Project Manager Eng Mr. Saroj Bhattarai. They gave me interviews and discussed the issues related to the Sabha hall under construction.

I extend my thanks to Shrestha Consultant and its field team Eng Raj Kishor Jha, Rohit Kumar Shrestha, Eng Madhav Panthi and Rajesh Shrestha.

Lastly, contractor Mr. Santosh Adhikari representing the three companies, and field Eng Basant Chhetri offered me information about the construction. They owe my special thanks and appreciation.

Bhavatu Sabba Mangalam!

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Prof. Prem Kumar Khatry, Ph D
Consultant
Kathmandu
January 18, 2019
Executive Summary

1. *Dhyana*, Meditation, is one such way the Buddha developed for the enhancement of the Bodhi personality in the rank of his *Sangha*. *Dhyana* was an important path, *Marga*, in the life of the *Sangha* and its members in order to concentrate on the positive energy and enhance its power in the person. To translate Buddha's Teachings in real life actions for the welfare of every human being on earth needs thorough understanding and commitment. On the side of learning by doing, the Teachings also need a clear and focused mind. Therefore, the structure is under construction.

2. The Construction of an International Conference and Meditation Center at Lumbini is going on in the Culture Zone specified by the Master Plan. Initially the Plot C2 was separated for the purpose. In 1983 UNESCO published a monograph 'Lumbini, the Birthplace of Buddha.' This is not just a physical construction; it is a high level work of merit. The energy flow from the activities inside or in the premise of the Kendra will disseminate to all direction making Lumbini the Center of Peace and Pilgrimage.

3. During the HIA the consultant visited the structure which is 100x100m in diameter and will have sitting facilities for 5000 at a time. The total height of 18-20 meters will not disturb the skyline as there will be tree lining in the immediate areas and more around the open spaces. This has been recommended. This is to be noted here that there has been an EIA hearing before the design was finalized. Stakeholders had focused on the greenery, water level and other environmental issues.

4. The designers and construction contractors have been advised to replace the yin-yang symbol on the roof – this being a new element in Nepali Buddhism. The advice has been taken seriously by the designers and builders.

5. It has also been an agenda of discussion with LDT officials that the second phase construction can be carried out only after an HIA of the space proposed for the purpose.

6. The study has emphasized that the construction has to complete in a way where the nature and the skyline shouldn’t be encroached upon. Natural cooling system will also mitigate several climate related problems in and outside the facility, the Hall. The facility is under construction at C2 plot of the Culture zone. It is therefore not disturbing the monastic zone or identified archeological sites as there are none.

7. With the Conference and Meditation Hall in place there is no need to have another cultural complex envisaged by UNESCO (1983) and the Master Plan.
Contents

Acknowledgement
Executive Summary

Part One
Introduction

1.1. Background of the project
1.1.i. Relevance of Buddha’s Teaching
1.1.ii. The Need of Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA)
1.1. iii. The genesis of the Sabha-meditation center

Part Two
Methodology

2.1. Methods followed
2.2. Literature consulted
2.3. HIA related papers
2.4. Summary of interview with the construction contractors
2.5. Interview with Design-drawing consultants
2.6. Interview with LDT officials

Part Three
Impact assessment of the construction

3.1. Environmental issues
3.2. Archaeological Impact

Part Four
Recommendations

4.1. Phase One
4.2. Phase Two

Part Five
Conclusion
References

Appendix – Documents, Photos, Drawing etc.
Part One

Introduction

1.1 Background of the project

1.1.a. Relevance of Buddha's Teachings

Buddhism in the beginning was not a particular faith fitted within a given spiritual frame of the time. The Buddha never proclaimed he was creating a new faith and a crowd of followers. What he created was an education based campaign for a happy, moral, just and knowledge based society free from worldly fetters, violence, mistrust, disorientation, frugality amidst poverty and ignorance of the self. His timeless teachings aimed to create a society from 'klesha'; the weakness that arose from the fertile bed of Suffering.

The single most penetrating and all-pervading value of Buddha's Thesis – Suffering – has many facets ordinary human being would not perceive, less practice to eliminate. Buddha's Teachings flourished in the Indian subcontinent during the lifetime of the Buddha himself. Ordaining the new comers and managing the old and new within the focus of the precept was a challenge but the Master had extraordinary capacity to keep all the followers in proper order and system run by the strength of the vinaya, the rules.

_Sangha_, the Fraternity was his noble creation in order to maintain effective and powerful strength of his Teachings and spread them throughout humanity. _Dhammapada_ explains the way Buddha's timeless teachings could function as the main guideposts for the learners.

_Sabha_ and _Sangiti_ are old terms used in Vedic and Buddhist literature. They denote a situation where scholars of all denominations meet and discuss issues pertaining to religion. The ancient context has now changed but discuss on relevant social, religious, cultural and academic issues never lose their charm and relevance.

At the Plot C-2 of the Master Plan designed by Prof KenzoTangeLumbini Development Trust, the sole custodian of the 1x3 mile Plan has planned the construction of an International Convention and Meditation Complex. The mega structure is scheduled to be complete by or before the Buddha Jayanti celebration, 2020/2077.

UNESCO has voiced its concern about the construction as the site falls in the World Cultural Heritage list.

LDT has therefore assigned the task of carrying out HIA for the first phase of the construction.
This paper is thus designed to compile the state-of-the-art of construction plan taking place at the Culture Zone of the complex.

1.1. ii. The Need of Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA)

The issue in question is the grand plan to construct a modern and technically up to the standard auditorium /meditation complex in a corner of the Culture Zone, east of the Monastic Zone. Initially, the area was designed and spared for the construction of a Cultural complex. Few plots have been allocated for the complex but the cultural center has not been initiated as yet.

For quite some time now scores of such monasteries have been at work providing host of services to the visitors, the villagers outside the 1x3 mile complex occupied by the Lumbini Master Plan. These monasteries individually and collectively represent Buddhist culture at work through the classes, seminars, meditation courses and other cultural-ritual activities.

The monastic complex is a Sangha in true sense of the Buddhist terminology. According to the Planner Prof KenzoTange, after the New Village, it is the complex where an individual can proceed forward with adequate knowledge of the Dhamma. The third of the final destination is the holy pilgrimage, the site where Buddha was born. It dissolves the individual personality and helps seek final absorption to Buddhism.

The Sangha or Monastic Zone is thus the point of transformation – from a regular householder to an ardent follower of the Faith.

The construction of a SabhaGriha or an Auditorium near the premise of the Monastic Zone is relevant and a fitting space to provide opportunity for the resident of the Zone and for believers to conglomerate at one place and discuss issues pertaining to religion, culture, arts, history, archaeology and environment leading to change and prosperity of the people regardless of their faith and other identity they might have.

Since Buddhist Councils – at least four of them – have played vital role in the development and spread of Buddhism throughout Asia and outside, from the beginning of the CE, activities to be organized in the Auditorium will take Buddhism of Nepal to new heights once the facility is completed and commissioned for its desired activities. Through the facility under construction the Lumbini Development Trust, the sole custodian of the complex under the existing laws, will expand its plans and programs pertaining to the growth of Buddhism and realization of Peace in the place of the Buddha.

1.1. iii. The genesis of the Sabha-meditation center

One major natural disaster that took place in the makeshift hall prepared for the celebration of the Buddha Jayanti festival, 2073/2016, literally gave birth to the new
facility now under construction in the Culture Zone of the Prof KenzoTange' Master Plan. The site is few hundred meters west of the ParsaChowk and 70 meters south of the current Bhairawaha-Kapilvastu highway.

Then PM Oli had himself witnessed the result of the disaster when arrangement for tens of thousands of pilgrims and seminar participants inside the tent was swept by rain and storm of the night. There was nothing in place the next morning. This caused serious concern at the highest level. This is how the PM (then and now) declared in his speech about the need and his commitment to construct the facility to house at least 5000 devotees within two years so the facility could host the program in the 2020 Buddha Jayanti.

For the time being Nepal Army put together a reversible hall where the 2075 Buddha Jayanti and other festive celebrations were held.

Following the incident, search for a potential site in the New Village complex, which would have been a better option resulted in failure. The area sighted for the purpose happened to be the Crane Sanctuary.

Finally, a plot in the Culture Zone (C2) of the Master Plan was selected and finalized. This has to be noticed that the current site is outside the Monastic Zone. Plot-wise it is in alignment with the Archeological Museum and another cultural complex built more than two decades ago – the library-cum-research institute – LIRRI, as well as the recently built the twin solar panel houses. In terms of land occupation and size, the Auditorium-cum-meditation center will be the largest in the immediate region – the cultural zone, rising 20 meters above the ground and occupying 200x170 meters in diameter. Considering the time limit for the target – 2077 Buddha Jayanti celebrations – construction work began immediately.

During the time of this consultant’s visit to the site, construction has reached the plinth level and soil filling to this level goes on at fast speed.

Reportedly, the construction is planned to be completed in two phases – a) the main or the Auditorium and sanitary facilities, underground works for drainage and sanitary disposal, and b) service units, clean water canal around the main complex, garden, tree planting, parking, and access road, among others.
Part Two
Methodology

2.1 Methods followed

The consultant followed the following methods to collect data and forward analysis as well as recommendations:

a. Interview with key stake holders – LDT officials, design consultants, construction contractors and senior resident monks (who prefer anonymity)
b. Site visit and study of the ground as well as immediate environment
c. Study of relevant UNESCO documents
d. Study of previous HIA literature related to the region
e. Discussion with site engineers on relevant issues of the project

2.2. Literature consulted

2.2.1 UN published a monograph entitled *Lumbini, the Birthplace of Buddha*. The monograph has a foreword from the then Secretary General of UN Javier Perez de Cuellar. Cuellar wrote:

Worldwide attention is focused on Lumbini not because pilgrims and tourists come from all over the world, but because for all mankind Lumbini has special meaning as a place for meditation and spiritual renewal, a centre of cultural exchange and a symbol of peace.

The monograph contains the picture of several landmarks such as the Asokan Pillar, all the major sectors of the Master Plan by KenzoTange, and short textual introduction to the three major zones – the sacred garden, the monastic zone and the New Lumbini village. The fourth complex is the cultural zone specified in the Plan.

It is mentioned in the monograph that the concept of an auditorium was already developed at the UN. In the Intercultural Centre, it is mentioned:

The Intercultural Centre is dedicated to world peace. It is composed of three of the major buildings of the entire Lumbinidevelopment. These are the Lumbini Museum, Auditorium and the Library and Research Institution Complex.

Further, the monograph says:
The Auditorium is envisaged as a 420-seat multi-purpose hall to be used for national and international congresses.

The description here is made on the concept of the cultural complex envisaged by Tange's plan. As LDT started the construction of this auditorium in question, there is no need to have the one here mentioned. Moreover, the site chosen for this Sabha Hall falls in the same complex as mentioned in the Plan as Cultural Complex.

With some additions in the administration section, this may very well be a complex for conventions as well. With this in place there may not need to raise another big structure next to the Sabha Hall.

2.3 HIA related papers

Of few other documents consulted for the task are HIA guidance and actual assessment reports.


The purpose of the paper mentioned is described

To offer guidance on the process of commissioning HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENTS (HIAs) for World Heritage (WH) properties in order to evaluate effectively the impact of potential development on the Outstanding Universal value (OuV) of properties.

2.3.b. Robin Coningham, Kosh Prasad Acharya, Mark Manuel and Christopher Davis completed Heritage Impact Assessment HIA. The assessment was carried out on the extension of Timber Walkway in the walled city of Tilaurakot. This document gave some insights for the HI assessment of the proposed Sabha Hall at Lumbini heritage complex.

2.4. Summary of interview with the construction contractors

The construction of the Sabha Dome has been awarded to three companies: a) Anak, b) Arghakhanchi and c) Babul. Present for the interview was Mr. Santosh Adhikari. His response is given below:

- LDT reminded the company of the archaeological significance of the region and instructed the contractor to take special care of the ground while digging for potential chance finding foundation. Special care was thus taken while at work underground. However, nothing like human settlement of old objects were found in the specified area.
- This is the First phase of the construction where the dome shaped meditation center and Hall will be constructed.
• In the second phase, there will be few components and design has been finalized.

[Note: the original drawing of the Dome with a dining hall and facilities has been rejected on the ground that it will cause damage to the eastern side of the greenery and look odd with an extra building. The proposal has been accepted by the contractors.]

### 2.5 Interview with Design-drawing consultants

Four engineers were consulted for the information about the drawing and their role in the Project. Working engineering (on-site) representing the design and drawing consultant s were:

- Rohit Kumar Shrestha – Chief of the design team
- Rajesh Shrestha – Electricity
- MadhavPanthi – IT works
- Raj Kishore Jha – Civil works

The Consultant Company signed a contract with LDT in Chaitra, 2074 and work on site began immediately.

LDT had signed separate contract with the construction team mentioned above.

The engineers also corroborated the fact that they were vigilant and present all the time during the site clearance and digging for foundation of the pillars, drain and other first phase ground work.

There was nothing like early structure, archeological objects and unidentified items from the past.

### 2.6 Interview with LDT officials

Vice Chairman of LDT Rev. Metta (aliasAbinashTripathi, a local monk), and LDT Project Manager, Mr. SarojBhattarai were at hand for the interview and discussion.

The following is the summary of his views:

- According to Rev Metta, neighboring nations – China and India – have plans of their own to claim their spiritual and philosophic superiority when it comes to Buddhism. China is supposed to be working on a mega scale Buddhist center with multi-dimensional facilities. India is forwarding the concept of International Buddhist Conclave.
- It is in this context that the Sabha Hall under construction needs to play vital role to unite the Buddhists of Nepal and abroad through relevant programs.
• The Hall should be under construction can be visualized from this perspective.
• The acting Member Secretary and LDT Project Manager, Mr. Saroj Bhattarai said two archaeological officers were at hand on the site of construction to see if the site had 100% natural soil and no archaeologically important objects or site was underneath the foundation of the auditorium-meditation complex.
• The construction would not continue if such a feature was unearthed during the foundation work on the ground, he emphasized.
• Since nothing such item was found the construction commenced.
• The two archaeological officers working at LDT, Mr. Bhattarai mentioned –were not at hand for their opinion as they were observing JFT, Japan, sponsored archeological excavation of this season carried out by the University of Durham, UK, led by Prof. Robin Coningham at Tilaurakot, Kapilvastu.
• The decision to construct the Hall was taken by the former Member Secretary. Since no new Member Secretary has been appointed, acting Member Secretary and Project Manager was consulted for the background of the project and for the processes followed for site selection.

(Note: Obviously, the then Member Secretary didn’t seek consensus of LDT officials and Council for finalizing the spot or the design for the construction. This is why the early HIA was not considered. Also, there are some foreign elements in the design, for example the rooftop Yin Yang symbol. There could be typical Nepali architectural element in its place and this has been now suggested to the designers and constructors).
3.1 Environmental issues

3.1.a. A large size construction like the Sabha Dome needs careful assessment of the environmental impact on the area as a whole. While analyzing the impact of the structure in question here, a few words about environment and its impact on desired and expected activities in the premise – both in and out of the structure – are warranted.

3.1.b. Buddhism flourished through the teachings of the Buddha, his dhamma and the sangha, the fraternity. These are also known as tri-ratna or Triple Gems. Buddhism is a faith born in natural environment away from noise, pollution, external interferences and other forms of disturbances. As time passed, monasteries were also built in or around urban settlements as the sangha depended on the householders for their living.

3.1.c. However, traditionally Buddhist monasteries are built in quieter places, away from the crowd. Meditation is one strong pillar in Buddhist pantheon and practice, then and now. Therefore, quiet places are preferred for concentration. It is in this context that the meditation center is relevant in the overall spiritual atmosphere of the holy complex of Lumbini.

3.1.d. Environmental issues thus become vital in Buddhist faith. In any construction related to the faith and/or practice the surrounding environment has direct impact on what goes inside.

A serene, quiet, conducive and natural environment becomes fundamental consideration in this regard also.

3.2. Archaeological Impact

3.2.a. The early literature, including the Chinese accounts, mention about dense forest in the greater Lumbini area. With the growth of population, the forest land was converted to farms and new settlements. This is what LDT found when land occupation began in the sixties for the preparation of a Master Plan after the historic meeting of King Mahendra and UN General Secretary, U Thant.

3.2.b. In the 80s two buildings looking like twins but serving different purposes were constructed just west of the plot in question - LIRRI and the field museum for archaeological findings of the area.

3.2.c. The construction of these two buildings also proves the plots in this location's not being potential archaeological sites.
Further to the south of the current construction at Culture Zone, there is the second part of the Plan, the Monastic Zone. Here also the Department of Archeology did not find any archaeological site. So the construction on both side of the Central Canal – East, the Theravada and West, the Mahayana – monasteries were constructed without any HIA process.

The only ancient settlement with profound archaeological and historical significance came from the Sacred Complex. On the east there are sites like the Marker stone, sacred pond, Asokan Pillar, nativity image, and the stupas.

On the western mound few hundred meters from the Maya Devi temple and the Asokan Pillar, Prof Cunningham’s team found a settlement with successive layers of human occupation and activities. The findings from this particular site have pushed the date back to at least 12 to 13 century BC for the first time in the history of Nepal. It is not only a matter of glory for the people of terai but also for the country as a whole. The finding also established the fact that more research and excavation in the region as whole are warranted.
4.1. **Phase One**

4.1.a. According to the Buddhist texts, a dense *shorearobusta* forest is what Prince Gautama saw around when he first opened his eyes. Who would know it better than Prof KenzoTange? He made arrangements for deep green and lush forest all over the three zones next to archaeological sites and constructions like the monastic complex and the New Village in the far north.

Accordingly, in the entire holy complex, the new forest developed after the acquisition of the land as per the Tange Plan is facing problems.

4.1.b. The current need is to plant soil and climate friendly plants in the entire complex replacing the dying trees. It is important that LDT develops greenery around this huge auditorium to cover its physical impact on the landscape. A landscape expert and a botanist can do the job professionally. Small tall bamboo screening is urgently required along the Taulihawa road. Similarly, the southern and eastern space needs to be filled in with trees and greenery along the fence. The design has this provision around the main complex but this is not enough. Further in the rear – in all three sides – east, north and south – thick greenery, both to improve the potential damage on the skyline and beautify the ground – is essential.

4.1.c. Big vehicle should use the bus park west of the complex. Minimizing pollution – sound, dust and air – is essential for the life of the complex and the humans using the facility and organizing programs focused on the development of human consciousness at different levels. This facility has to be very quiet, conducive for meditation classes, seminars and practices. Visual and other external environmental impact can play negative role in the activities to be planned in the facility.

4.1.d. The main Dome, standing at 18ft above the plinth level is not a structure that can dominate the skyline of the area compared to several monasteries constructed in the Monastic Zone.

In fact there has been gross negligence of the rule and instruction provided these monasteries while assigning them the plots for construction.
The Sabha Hall will with 100 meter diameter may look big once one enters the premises. But the trees lines designed and proposed to be planted in and around will make it less visible, not damaging the skyline above the natural forest line.

This point needs special consideration and perhaps, involvement of a botanist for the selection of plants and growing tall greeneries on the north, east and south.

4.1.e. During the course of finalization of the design drawing, LDT facilitated a 'public hearing' as program part of EIA.

Several stakeholders participated in the hearing. The following concerns and queries came in the presentation by the experts followed by discussion:

a. It is essential to develop and maintain natural beauty in and around the proposed building complex and,

b. Most importantly, the water level of the area must be maintained

The public hearing program was organized by the Ministry of Environment in collaboration with LDT.

Field study and interview with the stakeholders mentioned above shows the public hearing gave green signal for the construction. And the work began in Chaitra, 2074.

The design on roof

- The current design shows that there will be Yin –Yang on the roof of the dome shaped Sabha Hall. In some East Asian countries and cultures, the Y-Y sign is considered the balancing force in nature where diverse elements with their energies can create imbalance. Y-Y is a union of two opposite forces in nature. One is white the other is black but in essence they are both pictured together. The symbol comes from old Chinese philosophy. Therefore, it is not native of Nepal and it has no connection with Buddhism as studied and practiced here.

- What could be an option here if the YY symbol is not acceptable in Nepali Buddhism?

- The obvious option is to have something native, with deep philosophical meaning /connotation that fits well with the structure and the expected activities to be taken inside the dome.

- One option is a miniature drawing-design of the Maya Devi temple as it looks at the site.

- Two – a huge figure of Buddha in Meditation, or Buddha born and taking steps

- Three – a drawing of Stupa with the semi-hemispheric dome, three eyes, a parasol and gajura, or pinnacle… all combined and displayed in a Nepali style stupa.
If the above symbols are difficult to manage, then Buddha Eyes with a loop in the middle of the chin can be shown. Often there is the third or Wisdom Eye displayed indicating that the Buddha’s penetrating wisdom eyes are powerful and therefore represent the knowledge Buddha had and he gave it to the people of the world.

4.2. Phase Two

The consultant recommends HIA for the second phase activities to be carried out in the planning and construction in addition to the Phase One construction – the Sabha Hall.

The moat, sanitary system, security and administrative section must be integrated to the Hall. More buildings will give the impression of an urban complex which is Not the objective of the Hall and its function.

Tree lines, greenery on the ground can enhance the quietness at the same time green native trees with longer life will absorb the undesirable, external impacts to some extent.

The engineers can look on the possibility of integrating the toilet discharges into a pit and plan gas production. This is possible with minor adjustment on the original plan.

The traditional wisdom is - Environment is Energy. Humans must not dilute the natural energy and waste it. The most important energy, however, is the one that flows with the spiritual activities in the Hall. Saving this energy and integrating it with the external natural environment is essential in order to maintain the sanctity and serenity of the entire complex.

The design for the Second Phase is therefore significant to complete the whole project in a naturally sustainable manner.

The concept of panchatattva – five energy elements contributing to the composition of the universe, the human body, and the place we stand on – Jala, akasha, prithwi, vayu and teja–and their combination can be translated into action here at this complex through the construction and management of the immediate environment of the entire complex.

Finally it is recommended that with some adjustments and changes mentioned in the HIA report, the construction of the first phase of the International Conference and Buddhist Mediation Hall can carry on.
Part Five

Conclusion

5.1. The UN is directly involved for the development of Lumbini as a holy pilgrimage and center for world peace. From U Thant and King Mahendra to the latest times, UN has played important role. That there will be a convention center at the Cultural Zone is also emphasized in the 1983 monograph as reviewed here. Former UN General Secretary Xavier Perez de Cuillar mentioned this clearly in the preface of this monograph.

5.2. What is important to note is that the proposed hall with 4000 plus capacity may not be in the agenda for future. The current construction with 5000 capacity can provide the facilities for national and international events.

There can be few additional facilities as mentioned in the UN drawing such as counters, offices, etc.

5.3. It is not just the building in a huge Dome shape using a variety of materials being raised. The work is going on at a place the world recognizes as the holy complex and a pilgrimage center as well as the Fountain of World Peace. The Buddhist Summit held here at Lumbini in 1998 declared that Lumbini is that place, the only Buddhist pilgrimage site in this part of the world.

5.4. The construction work has reached a level that cannot be reversed. The materials used are not reversible. With LIRRI, Museum and other buildings nearby, the composite look can be 'urban' with buildings and road close together. In order to avoid the construction crowd, or mitigate the negative impact, special consideration for greeneries – layers of plants and trees with green ground – is of utmost importance.

5.6. Special consideration is also required in managing the parking lot. Too many cars close to or inside the facility will have negative impact on the atmosphere inside. The parking lot located west of the complex and in use now can be considered with some modification.

5.7. Recommendation for a renewed designed to show typical Nepali theme has been mentioned in the above section.

5.8. The recommendations of the EIA public hearing are also worth consideration. LDT can work on those issues soon.

5.9. Finally, HIA of phase II construction must be completed soon in order to support the need assessment of the main construction.
References


Appendix

Documents, Photos, Drawing etc.
1.0 Objectives

The overall objective of the consulting services is to prepare Detail Architectural/Engineering Design, Structural Analysis, Cost Estimate, Tender Documents Preparation and Construction Supervision of Sabha Hall.

The specific objectives are:

- Detail Design of Sabha Hall having capacity of 5000 people.
- Prepare the Bidding Documents.
- Conduct Construction Supervision of Sabha Hall.

2.0 Scope of Consulting Services

The consultant, under the terms of Reference (TOR) and in close coordination with Technical Department of Lumbini Development Trust, shall carry out activities and deliver services. The consulting services to be carried out by the consultant have been divided into two major phases. The scope of services to be carried out by the Consultant shall broadly include but not be limited to the following:

Civil Works

Phase I. Detail Architectural/Engineering Design, Structural Analysis, Cost Estimate and Tender Documents Preparation of Sabha Hall.

Phase II. Construction Supervision of the Sabha Hall

Phase I. Detail Architectural/Engineering Design, Structural Analysis, Cost Estimate and Tender Documents Preparation of Sabha Hall.

I. Desk Study
A desk study should be carried out, collecting data, maps and information relevant for Sabha hall and reviewing for planning for further field study and investigation works for detail design.

II. Detailed Soil Investigation
The consultant should carry out the following works:

- Take the sample of soil from three places up to minimum 20m depth.
- Carry out the following tests for determining the soil properties.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SN</th>
<th>Type of Test</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Undisturbed Soil Sampling</td>
<td>at least four in each borehole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Standard Penetration Test</td>
<td>as required but interval not less than 1.5m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Grain size analysis</td>
<td>at least four in each borehole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Hydrometer analysis</td>
<td>at least four in each borehole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Moisture content</td>
<td>at least four in each borehole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Bulk and dry density</td>
<td>at least four in each borehole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Unconfined compression test</td>
<td>at least four in each borehole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Consolidation test</td>
<td>at least four in each borehole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Direct shear test</td>
<td>at least four in each borehole</td>
</tr>
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</table>

If necessary as per field condition, consultant shall conduct other types of tests. Similarly the frequency of the above tests can be increased if required.

### III. Detail Design and Cost Estimates:

The consultant shall carry out the office works. The consultant should include the following services in detail designs and analysis:

- The consultant should make the conceptual design of Sabha hall having minimum capacity of 5000 people.
- The consultant should make presentation of conceptual design.
- The consultant should make detail architectural/Engineering Design, Structural Analysis and working drawings.
- Detail quantity estimates and abstract of cost
- Bill of Quantities (BoQ)
- Rate of items are to be used from the district rate analysis collecting them from the related offices. If there are any items which are not included in the rate analysis, consultant has to prepare rate analysis for those items based on prevailing norms.
- Specifications.

### iv. Preparation of Bidding documents and assisting in the Procurement process

The consultant shall prepare Bidding Documents as per the Bidding Documents prescribed by Public Procurement Monitoring Office (PPMO) including technical specification, Drawings and Bill of Quantities for all the infrastructures mentioned section 3. The consultant will assist LDT technical team in carrying out the bidding process including the preparation of procurement plan, inviting bids, bid opening and preparing bid evaluation report in accordance with LDT procurement procedures and guidelines. After the Bidder(s) selection, the consultant shall prepare and facilitate the contract agreement to be signed between the selected bidder and LDT as per the specified agreed conditions.
Phase II. Construction Supervision of the Sabha Hall

Consultant will submit supplementary detail design and construction drawing, with time schedule for implementation, which shall be required for the execution of construction of project. Such construction drawings/documents shall take in account the Sabha hall addressed in section 3. The consultant shall discuss with the LTD and the contractor in order to finalize operational designs and drawings including time table for completion of all construction project. The consultant in coordination with LDT ensured that the construction work is under progress within the parameters and standards established, and shall report to the LDT project office regularly. The construction supervision period shall be approximately one year. The consultant shall also responsible for following:

a. Quality Monitoring
Support LTD to supervise all construction works to ensure quality works as per technical specifications, drawings and condition of contract.

- Monitoring and enforce quality assurance and quality control plan
- Monitoring and quality control methods certify that quality works confirmed to the specifications and drawings, assess the adequacy, of the contractors input in the material, labor and construction methods, furnished all revisions and detailed drawings as necessary during the continuance of the contract.
- Develop and maintain detail record of work activities accomplished by the contractors. Prepare and review of bills submitted and claimed for payment by the contractors and forward to the LDT with recommendations.

b. Construction Site Management
- Furnished detailed drawings to the contractors, check contractors designs and drawings wherever applicable.
- Assess and enforce, as per standard construction management system, the adequacy of contractors input works in terms of materials, equipments, construction machinery, workers, funds and construction approach and methodologies.
- Prepare measurements for completed works and in progress and verify interim claims and bills for payments, and
- Review and examine the process of passing of contractors bills and payments to contractors with special emphasize on minimizing the time taken in submission of bill by the contractor and payment received by the contractor against such bill.

c. Post Construction Support
- Prepare operation and maintenance procedure.
- Provide sufficient on the job training to the LTD about the such project and its operation and maintenance.
- Provide services during contract defect liability period and examine and certify as built drawing submitted by the contractor.
PLANNING THE GREATER LUMBINI AREA

FOUNTAIN OF BUDDHISM AND WORLD PEACE
Eternal Peace Flame, Central Canal, Lumbini © Gyanin Rai
PLANNING
THE GREATER
LUMBINI AREA

FOUNTAIN OF BUDDHISM
AND WORLD PEACE
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FOUNTAIN OF BUDDHISM AND WORLD PEACE

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The Lumbini Development Trust, Government of Nepal is responsible for implementing UN initiated Lumbini Master Plan and managing, protecting and excavating entire Greater Lumbini Area. Rt. Hon’ble Prime Minister of Nepal is the Patron and the Hon’ble Minister for Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation is the Chairman of the Trust.

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With contributions from UNESCO Chair, Durham University

Front cover image: Pilgrimages in Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu walking along the raised walkway © UNESCO Chair, Durham University
Back cover image: Nativity Sculpture, Lumbini © LDT

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FOREWORD</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. INTRODUCTION</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Significance of Greater Lumbini</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defining the Greater Lumbini Area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Need for Planning and Nepal’s Responsibility</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. CONTEXT</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Broader Regional Context</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linkages across the Past, Present and Future</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Potential for Sustainable Economic Development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. VISION</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shared Vision, Aim and Planning Objectives</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previous Plans in Perspective</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Towards additional World Heritage Nominations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. HERITAGE</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lumbini, the Birthplace of Lord Buddha</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sites of the Greater Lumbini Area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. PLANNING</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Heritage and Tourism</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socio-Economic Development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Planning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. ACTION</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordination</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twelve Month Planning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Outline</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Foreword

The Birth of Prince Siddhartha in the sacred grove of Lumbini marks a new era in the philosophical awakening of Asia. It heralded a profound culture of a search for meaning and mutual harmony. The ideas and inspirations from the life of the Gautama the Buddha have deeply influenced the Asian countries and have been a guiding vision of hope, mutual harmony and cultural exchange. Over the millennia, the Buddhist ideas have spread through the various diverse nations in Asia and have profoundly influenced and shaped common ideas among the diverse cultures and countries across Asia and the world today.

Gautama Buddha’s sacred Birthplace: Lumbini, his hometown Kapilavastu and the Sacred Stupa of Ramagrama, that is believed to contain the bodily relics of the Buddha are all part of the natal landscape of the Buddha. The natal landscape of the Buddha which spans from Kapilavastu to Ramagrama is spread over the three districts of western Terai of Nepal: Kapilavastu, Rupandehi and Nawalparasi. The need for planning of the area that encompasses all the ancient Buddhist sites in this area was determined several decades ago. The idea of defining a Greater Lumbini Area was further developed encompassing these three districts. This has become particularly important with the increasing urbanization and industrialization of the area, largely in a haphazard manner that has not taken into account the significance of the cultural and natural heritage of the area.

This publication is a contribution to providing an initial definition of the Greater Lumbini Area, demarcating its physical extent as well as all the components that need to be considered in planning endeavours. The importance of the cultural heritage of this area which is the natal landscape of Gautama Buddha is evident. This has been a place of pilgrimage for over two millennia and will further develop into a place of visitors from all over the world, who are drawn to seek peace and solace in the teachings of the Buddha.

Lumbini is already inscribed on the List of World Heritage Sites while Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu and Ramagrama are on the Tentative List for World Heritage. There is still work to be done to inscribe these and possibly other sites on the World Heritage List.

The planning of the Greater Lumbini Area will take into account not only the significance of the area as the natal landscape of Gautama Buddha but also the opportunity for sustainable development of the area. This would be an opportunity to develop this largely poverty-stricken area of the country, ensuring that the local communities become involved in both development and conservation activities.

In this respect, the possibilities of developing the entire Greater Lumbini Area as a Sustainable City under the United Nations has been considered. This would link with the revival of the International Committee for the Development of Lumbini, which is being proposed, bringing together 19 interested countries. At the national level, the coordination would be done by a high-level steering committee that will work closely with the provincial and local government. This would allow the sustainable development of one of the most important and sacred regions in the World.

I would like to thank those who have helped in developing the concept for the Greater Lumbini Area, particularly Prof Robin Coningham, UNESCO Chair, Durham University, Dr. Mahendra Subba, Planner and former Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development, as well as Mr. Saroj Bhattarai and Mr. Gyanin Rai from Lumbini Development Trust. I would particularly like to thank Mr. Kai Weise, architect and president of ICOMOS Nepal for coordinating the discussion and preparing this document.

Ven. Metteyya Sakyaputta
Vice Chairman
INTRODUCTION

This section provides background information on the Greater Lumbini Area: its significance, its definition as well as the need for planning as a responsibility that Nepal has to carry.
THE SIGNIFICANCE OF GREATER LUMBINI
Lumbini, the birthplace of Lord Buddha and Fountain of Buddhism and World Peace, is one of the most important places for more than a billion Buddhists around the World. This has been acknowledged through the inscription of Lumbini on the World Heritage List. Lumbini is not only a religious site, but is a sacred site where visitors from all faiths are welcomed. Lumbini is the Fountain of World Peace.

Before the Buddha passed into mahaparinirvana in Kusinara, he told his faithful disciple Ananda: “After I am no more, O Ananda, men of belief will visit the four places, with faith, curiosity and devotion: Lumbini, where I was born, Bodhgaya, where I attained enlightenment, Sarnath, where I set motion the wheel of Dhamma and Kusinara, where I shall pass into Mahaparinirvana”. (Mahaparinirvana Sutta), With this, the Buddha defined an area of great importance for the Buddhists of the world as well as initiating the tradition of pilgrimage. The four sites today span across a large area of the Gangetic plains from Lumbini in southern Nepal to the northern Indian States of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh.

The natal landscape of Lord Buddha can be seen depicted in works of art in many Buddhist sites around the world. For example the story of the birth of Lord Buddha is related in the reliefs of Sarnath, Borobudur and the Ananda Temple in Bagan. These reliefs depict Kapilavastu from where Mayadevi departed for her maternal home in Devdaha. The images further show the scenes of the Sacred Garden in Lumbini where the birth of Lord Buddha took place under a tree next to a pond.

Lumbini is closely linked to the heritage found across the surrounding territory. At present, the Lumbini World Heritage inscription is built around the central idea that the site is the birthplace of Buddha. The area around the inscribed zone contains significant archaeological resources, as well as elsewhere within the Sacred Garden. While expert consensus exists around the importance of Ramagrama (as the only unopened relic stupa associated with the Buddha), the site’s hinterland could yield much important information about the use and chronology of the site. Tilaurokot is considered to be the site of Buddha’s father’s family, and much more remains to be learned about the origins and evolution of the site.

The Greater Lumbini Area (also known as the Natal Landscape of the Buddhas) contains some of the most important archaeological sites, mainly connected with the early life of Gautama Siddhartha, the historic Buddha. Lumbini, the birthplace of Gautama Siddhartha, as testified by the inscription on a pillar erected by Emperor Asoka in the third century BCE, has already been inscribed on the World Heritage list. Two further sites, Tilaurokot and Ramagrama have been included in the tentative sites for World Heritage inscription. Beyond these, there are hundreds of archaeological sites scattered across the region that each tell a story of the early periods in South Asian history.
The Greater Lumbini Area, which has also been referred to as the Natal Landscape of the Historic Buddha, is located in Province 5 in the western Terai area of Nepal. It covers an area stretching across the Sakya Republic of Gautama Siddhartha's father to the Koliya Kingdom of Gautam Siddhartha's mother.

The Greater Lumbini Area can be defined from Tilaurakot (Kapilavastu) in the west to Ramagrama in the east, the border to India in the south and extending roughly five kilometres to the north of the east-west highway. This area would be around 2000 square kilometres lying within the districts of Kapilavastu, Rupandehi and Nawalparasi. This should however not confine any planning that might need to be done linking to the surrounding areas.

Map prepared by UNESCO Chair Durham University based on research carried out by Tokyo University within the UNESCO Japanese Funds-in-Trust project.
The need to identify and manage an area spanning from Kapilavastu to Ramagrama encompassing the natal landscape of Lord Buddha was identified already in early phases of planning carried out in Lumbini. The initial World Heritage nomination in 1993 consisted of a proposed serial property including Lumbini, Tilaruakot and Ramagrama. The nomination was deferred due to lack of sufficient information and management, though delegates suggested that these be considered for future inscription.

Lumbini was inscribed in 1997 but confined to an area of 150 by 130 metres with the buffer zone extending only as far as the then proposed water body as per the Master Plan prepared by Kenzo Tange. With the construction of the Mayadevi structure in the Sacred Garden in 2003 concern was shown by the World Heritage Committee that this had adversely the archaeology and the outstanding universal value of the property. Suggestions were made to carry out remedial measures to the structure while establishing an Integrated Management Plan that ensures that the attributes of Lumbini that express outstanding universal value were safeguarded.

Great interest has been shown by the international community in developing Lumbini ever since U Thant visited in 1967. An elaborate plan for Lumbini was prepared with UN support. However, the plan which was adopted by the Government of Nepal in 1978 is still in the process of being implemented. With the inscription of Lumbini on the List of World Heritage in 1997 and the increase in visitor numbers to this important pilgrimage site, there again is growing interest for international support in developing Lumbini. The interest has even expanded to include other important sites within the Greater Lumbini Area. The international contributions have however not been coordinated and the outcome of this support should be much more effective.
Along with the positive developments around the pilgrimage sites, there are also various trends that are threatening the site. There are polluting industries that are impacting the environment and the cultural vestiges in the area. There are also tendencies for building gigantic structures, statues and buildings as well as planting trees in the vicinity in acknowledgement of the importance of the site, which however would have a negative impact on the sanctity of these important places. To ensure that threats to the cultural vestiges and the environment are controlled, an overall governance and management system along with a regional plan are required.

Considering the opportunities in these districts, the statistics and indicators point towards agriculture, the heritage sites and relatively good network of roads. This shows that development could focus on agriculture and heritage tourism. On the other hand the challenges that this area faces are the status of children due to low child literacy, early marriage and high child labour. This is closely linked to the level of education. The area also faces the challenge of environmental degradation.

There have been major developments providing greater understanding of the site through archaeological investigations and development of visitor infrastructure such as the paved walkways within the Sacred Garden of Lumbini and the temporary timber ones at Kapilavastu. What is still lacking is clearly a coordinated management system for the hundreds of archaeological sites throughout the Greater Lumbini Area which must include an overall regional plan as well as management plans for the individual heritage sites.
This section provides information on the broader regional context linking Nepal, India and China, in the past, present and future with potential economic gains for Nepal.
The historic Buddhist Region in the Terai of southern Nepal is defined by the ancient republic of the Sakyas and the tribal area of the Koliyas with the Sacred Gardens of Lumbini at the centre. This was where Siddhartha Gautama, the historic Buddha was born in 623 BCE. The paternal side of Siddhartha Gautama’s family came from Kapilavastu to the west and the maternal side of the family from Devdaha to the east. Prince Siddharta grew up within the protected walls of Kapilavastu. At the age of twenty-nine he renounced his worldly riches and set out into the world. For the following fifty years he wandered across the land along the Himalayan Foothills and the Gangetic Plains. Today this area spanning some 350 kilometres across the border between India and Nepal encompasses many places that are directly linked to the life of the Buddha.

The teachings of the Buddha spread across large parts of Asia even while it was forgotten in the very place of its creation. During nineteenth century, many lost Buddhist sites were rediscovered. Most of these sites have been found and there is a general consensus on their identity. There is still much to be learnt from these archaeological sites. Meanwhile the international Buddhist community has shown great interest in these early sites where the origins of the beliefs were established. These archaeological sites have obtained a significance that is outstanding and universal which has allowed for inscription on the List of World Heritage.
This ancient Buddhist region spanning Nepal and India holds great significance for the peace and international relations for hundreds of millions of people. The Buddhist Circuit that extends into India includes the four main sites of Lumbini, his birth place, in Nepal; Bodh-Gaya, the place in India where he achieved enlightenment; Sarnath, where he delivered his first sermon; and Kusinagar, where he passed into Mahaparinirvana. Furthermore there are the important sites of Sravasti, where the Buddha spent the rainy season in summer retreats; Rajgir, where the Buddha meditated and preached, delivering some important sermons; Sankasia, where the Buddha is said to have descended from Tushita Pure Land after teaching his deceased mother; and Vaishali, where the Buddha preached his last sermon. The Buddhist Circuit that links all these sites in northern India to the sites around Lumbini is an important pilgrimage route which needs management, coordination and development.

Buddhism spread over large areas of Asia. There was the wave that moved through Central Asia and on to China, Korea and Japan. Then there was Sri Lanka and the eastern wave through Bengal to Myanmar and then into Southeast Asia. This broader area of Buddhism creates the source for pilgrims who visit the early sites related to Lord Buddha. The accessibility will improve with the enlarged airport at Bhairahawa. Furthermore there are plans for developing infrastructure such as the railway from China to Lumbini. Such projects need to be seen within the large framework of planning in and around Lumbini and particularly the planning of the Greater Lumbini Area.
In the seventh century BCE there was an ancient kingdom ruled by the Sakya and to the east there was a kingdom called Devdaha, which was ruled by the Koliyas. Between Kapilavastu and Devdaha, there were matrimonial alliances. Literature mentions that King Suddhodana from the Sakya republic married Mayadevi and Prajapati from the Koliya kingdom. It is also mentioned that there was a custom for pregnant women to go to her parents’ house to give birth to her first child. When Mayadevi conceived a baby, she was travelling to Devdaha passing through Lumbini. Lumbini was described as a beautiful garden in the middle of a Sal forest next to natural springs feeding into a pool. Carrying the baby in her womb and enjoying the serenity of the place, suddenly Mayadevi had labour pain. She took a bath and gave birth to the child. As baby Gautama entered the world, he is said to have taken seven steps and each step was met by a blossoming lotus flower to stop his feet touching the ground. Sakya The entourage returned to Kapilavastu. Prince Siddhartha lived in Tilaurakot and at the age of 29, he took a great renunciation and left his palace for in search of the truth and enlightenment.

Already during the lifetime of Siddhartha Gautama, wars between the various kingdoms and republics led to destruction such as the sacking of the Sakyas by Vidudabha of the neighbouring kingdom of Kosala. Tradition records that Kapilavastu was burnt to the ground leaving not much more than charred remains. Following the death of Siddhartha Gautama, various places in this region became places of pilgrimage. Monasteries were constructed, temples built and the Buddhist Sanghas flourished. Pilgrims from as far away places as China came to visit and wrote down their observations.

Over the millennia the landscape of the region underwent various phases of change. Both political and climatic changes affected the region greatly. Buddhism was practically driven out from the area, perhaps by the growing revival of Hinduism. Climatic change, possibly leading to flooding, transformed the area into swamps and jungles infested by malaria, making it uninhabitable except for the local Tharus. Between the fifteenth and nineteenth centuries, most of these historical places were abandoned and forgotten. Many of the religious sites where certain artefacts and idols were still accessible were given new significance and incorporated into the belief system of the local community.

In the eighteenth century various Europeans took interest in rediscovering the ancient sites of India and patch together a history of the sub-continent which left little in written testimony to the ancient culture. The search for Kapilavastu and Lumbini was on. It was however not in India but in Nepal that Lumbini was identified in 1896 by way of deciphering the inscription on the edict pillar erected by Emperor Asoka. Further archaeological research has led to the identification of Kapilavastu and many more important early Buddhist sites.

The layers of historic landscapes are being covered by contemporary developments: urban expansion, industrialization and infrastructure improvement. These activities are inevitable in a developing country. However the potential of the Historic Buddhist Region for the overall benefit of the country greatly outweighs the ad hoc decisions taken for economic gains for a select number of beneficiaries. The ancient sites must be protected as a testimony to early Buddhist history while ensuring that present day needs of visitors, devotees and local communities are addressed. It is only through a balanced development that the link to the past can be maintained into the future.
Ancient archaeology below the Samai Mai Temple, Kapilavastu © Kai Weise
Lumbini is one of the most important places for over a billion Buddhist around the world. Through comprehensive and strategic planning it will be possible to provide the means for many of them the visit Lumbini. The growing number of visitors would be both a challenge on the management of the sites within the Greater Lumbini Area as well as an opportunity for major development of the region. The management and development of tourism, whether pilgrims, international or locals visitors, would be key in ensuring a sustainable future for the area.

We have numerous examples of heritage sites that have become one of the main sources of income for a country. In Cambodia, due to the civil war and the Khmer Rouge regime tourism was practically non-existent till the late 1990s. Today tourism is one of the four main sectors of the economy with tourism revenue reaching four billion USD or 12.3% of GDP in 2018. This revival is largely due to the promotion of the cultural heritage site of Angkor. The Angkor Archaeological Park, which includes the Angkor World Heritage property, generated US$116.6 million in income from entry tickets along in 2018. This was an eight percent increase compared with the year before. In 2018 the number of foreign visitors to the park rose 5.4 percent to 2.5 million, according to the statement released the state-run Angkor Enterprise Institute, which manages the ticket sales.
Keeping such statistic in mind, it would be possible to strategically plan the development of the Greater Lumbini Area. The income through tourism would need to be planned by ensuring not only quantitative growth but also by providing quality which can compete against the services provided across the border. Tourism would also need to be managed in such a manner that it provides an income for the government but also the local communities. The economic development of the Greater Lumbini Area is a critical part of the planning. This would mean that the local communities must be provided with the opportunity to trade their services and goods directly or indirectly to the tourism industry.

The possible marketing and branding of such an important site could help promote products not only for the tourism industry but also for locally produced products. The Lumbini and Kapilavastu brands would be well sought after particularly throughout the Buddhist countries. This sale of quality products from the Greater Lumbini Area would not only help the local community but also create an improved image of Nepali products in general. This would however need to be strictly controlled to ensure that quality checks are in place and the brand is not misused.

The Greater Lumbini Area attracts a lot of foreign investment. This can already be seen with the various on-going projects and pledges that have been made for the development of the area. The involvement of the United Nations in the preparation of the Lumbini Master Plan itself shows the interest of the international community to contribute to the development of the birthplace of Lord Buddha. This includes the project that is being discussed under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) of building a railway track from the northern border in Kerung to Lumbini. A lot of funding has already been provided by the Asian Development Bank for infrastructure development including the airport expansion and improvement of connectivity. There is furthermore a lot of funds flowing into the area to build monasteries and hotels. This entire wave of investment must be brought under a single sustainable development vision for the Greater Lumbini Area.
This section provides information on the shared vision, aim and planning objectives for the planning of the Greater Lumbini Area with reference to previous plans and considering further World Heritage nominations.
Vision:
The Vision for planning the Greater Lumbini Area must be based on its significance as the natal landscape of Lord Buddha. The vision for development in the Greater Lumbini Area is further derived from development indicators for the area that give an overview of potentials and challenges. The Greater Lumbini Area is flat, well connected by roads, has a vast number of cultural heritage sites and the communities in the area have a good agrarian base. This area however also has some major challenges which includes education, health and protection of the environment. The challenge of planning the Greater Lumbini Area will be to profit from developing the potentials and using these to overcome the challenges. The following points would summarize the overall vision for sustainable development of the region:

- The cultural heritage of the Greater Lumbini Area will be researched and protected;
- The branding of the Greater Lumbini Area will allow for promotion and marketing;
- Good connectivity will allow the development of sustainable cultural tourism;
- The local communities will profit from economic development in the area;
- Local agriculture will be promoted, developed and marketed strategically;
- Regional planning will ensure appropriate and sustainable development of the area.
**Aim:**
The aim of the planning of the Greater Lumbini Area is to ensure the protection of cultural heritage and environment while allowing for sustainable development and the improvement of the local economy based on tourism as well as other local industries which include agriculture and handicrafts.

**Planning Objectives:**
- To ensure the protection of cultural heritage while promoting research, interpretation and presentation in an accurate and appropriate manner;
- To manage and promote tourism for all visitors while providing them with high quality infrastructure and services and ensuring distribution of profits including to the local community;
- To improve the socio-economy of the three districts of Kapilavastu, Rupandehi and Nawalparasi through branding and marketing of local products;
- To establish land-use planning throughout the region to regulate development particularly for tourism infrastructure, monastic development, settlements and industry while protecting agricultural areas and natural forests and water bodies.
- To allow for controlled settlements to developed based on increasing populations particularly through improved livelihood;
- To develop appropriate infrastructure and services within the planning area that allows for improved economy and livelihood particularly considering tourism and agricultural development;
- To protect the environment while ensuring that pollution of all kinds are brought under control including polluting industries.
Kenzo Tange’s 1978 Master Plan for Lumbini covers an overall area of five by five miles. Within this the Project Area of one by five miles was planned out in detail based on Buddhist symbolism of geometric shapes and the path to enlightenment. The entrance is placed in the north where the worldly activities are located. The central axis leads from here passed the cultural centre and the monastic zone where people seek knowledge and live religious lives. The axis then passes the meditation centres symbolizing the spiritual purification of the mind, before reaching the sacred gardens of enlightenment. These facilities are surrounded by forested areas. To either side of the Project Area are three square miles “Restricted Area”, where only restricted development was going to be allowed. The remaining part of the five by five mile square located within rural areas were designated to remain an Agricultural Zone.

Over the past four decades the Master Plan has been the guiding document for development work being carried out in Lumbini. However the focus has only been on the Project Area and planning of the Master Plan area has not been done. This is a major threat to the planned development of the Lumbini area and the sanctity of the site. There is uncontrolled development going on outside the Project Area which has now come within the Lumbini Cultural Municipality.
Regional Planning of Greater Lumbini became highlighted through high-level involvement with possible foreign funding. The issue was further raised by a high-level mission to the United Nations and discussions with UN Secretary General Ban-ki Moon. The outcome from these discussions was that the Korean Government through KOICA got Dr Young Hoon Kwaak to work on a regional plan. Dr Kwaak however just focused on the area around Lumbini proposing a utopian design, suggesting the developments of Buddhist Sanghas with the ‘Lumbini Vishwa Shanti Nagar’ (Lumbini World Peace City). A plan which will be superimposed over Kenzo Tange’s Master Plan has been adopted by the Government of Nepal. It brings with it an entirely new concept of a World Peace City, with devotional migrants living in radial petal shaped sanghas around the Sacred Garden.

The recently established Lumbini Sanskritik Municipality provides the possibility to prepare detailed municipal plans and procedures to control development. Furthermore the first phase of the international airport at Bhairahawa will be completed and international flights would bring hundreds of thousands of visitors directly to Lumbini. The road network is being expanded particularly along the Butwal Bhairahawa axis as well as linking on through Lumbini to Taulihawa. A Special Economic Zone in Bhairahawa as well as industrial development is being promoted.

Various Master Plans for Kapilavastu and Ramagrama have also been started though these still remain to be finalized and integrated into a comprehensive Regional Plan. Furthermore in 2013 the UNESCO Office in Kathmandu proposed the “Culture for Development” concept in the Greater Lumbini Area. All these plans will need to be integrated into the planning of the Greater Lumbini Area. Overlapping plans and authorities must be reviewed and clarified to ensure that it all falls within the mutually agreed vision for the Greater Lumbini Area.
Lumbini, the Birthplace of Lord Buddha and Fountain of Buddhism and World Peace, was inscribed on the List of World Heritage in 1997. At the time the ICOMOS Recommendations stated that “the possibility of a serial nomination including Kapilavastu, where the Lord Buddha lived as Prince Siddhartha before his enlightenment, and Ramagrama, the only relic stupa not opened by Asoka, should be considered once the state of knowledge, conservation and management of both were sufficiently advanced”.

There are four aspects that need to be considered in respect to the further nomination process of Lumbini World Heritage Site.

- Redefining the existing World Heritage site boundaries and buffer zones which would include further archaeological sites and the outer Sacred Garden.
- Serial nomination which would include the two sites that were put on the Tentative List in 1996: Tilaurakot and Ramagrama, an issue that has been discussed since 1992.
- Consider placing further important Buddhist sites on the Tentative List to allow for additions to the World Heritage Site in the future.
- Work on linkages to the Buddhist sites in Northern India to allow for coordination and cooperation, though the extent and modality would need to be worked out with mutual consent.

The two sites on the Tentative List for World Heritage are Kapilavastu and Ramagrama. The historical and archaeological site of present-day Tilaurakot (27°34’30”N / 83°03’30”E) is the capital city of the ancient Kapilavastu Kingdom where Prince Siddhartha lived till he was 29 years old. Ramagrama is located in Nawalparasi district (27°29’53”N / 83°40’52”E). It is the only stupa of the original eight that still contains the original relics of Lord Buddha. The relics from the remaining seven were distributed between the eighty four thousand stupas that Emperor Asoka is said to have built.
For Ramagrama the present government policy is not to carry out archaeological investigations into the stupa mound. Further investigations and research must continue on the surrounding archaeology to better understand the site as the majority of its monuments are hidden below the modern surface. To ensure the possibility of future nomination of Ramagrama for World Heritage inscription, a management system would need to be established which protects all the attributes of the overall archaeological site and controls development within the protected area as well as in the defined buffer zone.

For ancient Kapilavastu (Tilaurakot) the on-going archaeological investigations must continue to improve the overall understanding of the site. There is an urgent need to finalize the extent of the archaeological site to declare it a protected area. The initial steps of establishing a management system can begin as required.

Should the nominations of Tilaurakot and/or Ramagrama be considered as extensions of Lumbini, then the required state of conservation of Lumbini would first need to be improved. A management system that focuses on Lumbini as a World Heritage property must be to define and adopt by the State Party. The pressures of development in and around Lumbini must be brought under control and realistic planning measures put in place for a larger area to ensure appropriate development keeping in mind the local communities as well as the needs of the rising number of visitors and their impact.
Subsurface remains of eastern Stupa and monastic complex, Kapilavastu
© UNESCO Chair, Durham University
This section provides information on the heritage of the Greater Lumbini Area, focusing on Lumbini the Birthplace of Lord Buddha as well as the Shakya sites around Kapilavastu and the Koliya Sites around Ramagrama.
In 1896, Dr Anton Führer and General Khadga Shumsher Rana identified a small temple housing an image, venerated as Rupa Devi, on a raised mound within a thicket of trees close to their camp at Rumindei in the Nepali Terai. Re-identified as a sixth century AD sculpture of Queen Mayadevi giving birth to the Buddha, the translation of the Early Brahmi inscription on a nearby sandstone pillar, reading ‘Beloved of the gods, King Piyadasi (Asoka) when 20 years consecrated came to worship saying here the Buddha Sakyamuni (Sage of the Sakyas) was born’, confirmed that they had re-discovered Lumbini.

In 1899, P.C. Mukherji, of the Archaeological Survey of India, undertook limited excavations and mapped the site, but major interventions began in the 1930s under the direction of Kaiser Shumsher J.B. Rana. Excavation was restricted to clearing and exposing the brick structures around Asoka’s pillar, which subsequently became central to the Kenzo Tange Masterplan and the monumental core inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1997. At this time, the Government of Nepal and the Japanese Buddhist Federation undertook excavations to remove a tree causing damage to the temple. This revealed a six metre sequence of successive structures, from the temple that Kaiser Shumsher J.B. Rana remodelled during his work at the site, through to a brick temple that was attributed to the third century BC Mauryan Emperor Asoka.

This brick structure was rectangular and contained 15 internal sub-divisions - originally interpreted as ‘chambers’ filled to provide a raised platform. Due to this belief, most of the ‘chambers’ were emptied to expose brickwork, which also revealed a conglomerate block, interpreted as the ‘Marker Stone’. In 2002, a shelter to protect this brickwork was constructed, but actually created a damaging micro climate, with increasing pilgrim numbers accelerating the detrimental effects to heritage of the humidity within. In reaction, the Japanese-Funds-in-Trust for UNESCO Project ‘Strengthening the Conservation and Management of Lumbini: the Birthplace of Lord Buddha’ launched in 2010, and included the evaluation of the presence of early archaeological sequences at Lumbini, to protect these from future development and inform subsequent conservation and planning.
Excavations within the Mayadevi Temple identified that the ‘fills’ were actually earlier cultural horizons that the Asoka temple foundations cut through. Towards the centre of the temple, successive brick pavements, defined by a kerb of large bricks on edge adjacent to a soil void, were encountered running underneath the Asoka foundations. Below the brick kerb was a line of postholes following the exact same alignment. Representing the earliest known architectural phase within the Temple, this alignment would have formed a wooden railing alongside a processional path that defined a central space. Geoarchaeological analysis of archaeological deposits within the central space point towards the presence of a tree and radiocarbon samples from the fills of the posthole alignments suggest the presence of a tree shrine with wooden railing at the Mayadevi temple in the sixth century BC. Pushing identified ritual activity at Lumbini far back before Asoka, this scientifically dated evidence confirms the presence of the first systematically excavated tree shrine in the world. It also supports long chronologies for the Mahaparinirvana of the Lord Buddha and indicates a gradual development of Buddhist ritual architecture, rather than a sudden appearance during the reign of Asoka.

The Mayadevi temple was not an isolated monument, and geophysical survey has identified further subsurface heritage across Lumbini’s sacred Garden, and further excavations have uncovered earlier phases of monastic structures also constructed from non-durable materials and recorded the archaeological sequence of an adjacent village, most likely ancient lumminigame, recorded in Asoka’s pillar inscription. With the earliest occupation scientifically dated to around 1300 BC, the village’s sequence confirms the presence of long-established human settlement in the region prior to Lumbini’s development as a major pilgrimage destination. The presence of a mass-produced Kushan period well at Lumbini also illustrates the amenities developed for residents and pilgrims and how the site was linked to its wider landscape.
SITES OF THE GREATER LUMBINI AREA

Whilst the Greater Lumbini Area (GLA) was the heartland of Buddhism, its current communities are mainly Hindu, Muslim, Madhesi and Tharu, and the region has many vibrant intangible traditions that should be protected and promoted alongside its tangible sites that attract visitors from across Nepal and internationally. The majority of the tangible archaeological remains that are uncovered in the GLA include settlements, religious sites and evidence of past pilgrimage and trade infrastructure. Further support from the Japanese Funds-in-Trust for UNESCO is enabling the definition and characterisation of this heritage through interdisciplinary archaeological research.

Settlements

Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu is widely identified as the capital of the Shakya kingdom, and where the Lord Buddha spent his first 29 years. Investigations have uncovered a comprehensive urban layout with moats and a rampart defining a gridiron pattern of structures and roadways, as well as a central monumental palatial complex within. Outside the rampart, a monastery, with brick-edged water tanks, and an industrial zone to the south of the city have been characterised, highlighting that areas beyond the monumental cores of known sites also need protection. Providing the most comprehensive plan of an Early Historic city in South Asia, the urban layout corresponds to idealised textual precepts for city planning and reflects the descriptions of the Chinese pilgrim monks Faxian and Xuanzang. Smaller settlements in the GLA have also been characterised, with geophysical survey at Sisaniya identifying a similar gridiron layout as well as a brick-edged water tank close to a Buddhist stupa.

Excavations of remains of palatial structure and gate, Kapilavastu © UNESCO Chair, Durham University
Religious Sites

Sites associated with Buddhism are found throughout the GLA. Geophysical survey conducted at Ramagrama, has revealed the presence of a huge monastic complex adjacent to the large stupa. At Gotihawa, excavations conducted in the 1990s by a joint Nepali-Italian team, revealed a monastery adjacent to the stupa, and as at Lumbini, identified that there was settlement at this site prior to the development of Buddhism. Gotihawa also incorporates one of the three Asoka pillars within the GLA, and the other in addition to Lumbini is at Niglihawa, which demonstrates the importance of this landscape beyond the lifetime of the Lord Buddha as it is inscribed with a commemoration of the rebuilding of the nirvana stupa of the Kanakamuni Buddha. Close to Niglihawa, the layout of the site of Aurorakot suggests that it was constructed as a provincial capital during the rule of the Kushanas.

Whilst Kudan was first identified as a potential Buddhist monastery with stupas, excavations by Debala Mitra in 1962 uncovered two large cruciform temples decorated with hand-carved bricks. Dating from the Gupta period, similar temples with decoratively carved bricks have been found at Sagrahawa, and Chatradei, with similar brickwork found in the later phases of the Mayadevi temple at Lumbini, and also recently uncovered in a monumental construction close to the Samai Mai temple at Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu. This suggests a major phase of monumental investment across the GLA and raises questions about the development of religious practice and the transition of society from the florescence of Buddhism to its decline across the region. These questions remain unresolved until additional research is undertaken at many of these sites, including Sagrahawa and Chatradei; research which would also facilitate their enhanced protection, preservation and presentation.
Trade and Pilgrimage Infrastructure

Whatever the religion of past inhabitants and visitors, settlements and religious sites were not isolated in the landscape but were linked by route ways with way-stations. Dohani and Karma are small square-shaped forts with clay ramparts and rounded bastions, which may have been used by pilgrims, officials and traders as their locations form a direct line between Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu and Lumbini. In addition to these stopping points, other facilities were constructed, and the recent discovery of a Kushan period ‘kit’ well at Motipur, almost identical in design to the well excavated at Lumbini, suggests some element of mass-production and civic provision for infrastructure across the GLA.

This brief overview of major sites not only illustrates the varied sites of religious and archaeological importance within the GLA, but also the need for enhanced protection of the known monuments and their environs, as well as areas that have yet to be developed but have significant archaeological potential.

Selected archaeological sites in the Greater Lumbini Area

World Heritage:

Lumbini, the Birthplace of Lord Buddha is a World Heritage property inscribed in 1997. Lumbini lies within the Sacred Garden with archaeological remains including the Asoka pillar with inscriptions, the marker stone within the Mayadevi temple, the Nativity Statue, the Puskarini or holy pond as well as remains of various temple and monastic structures in brick. Nearby lies the archaeological site of Lumbinigrama, the ancient village.

Tentative List for World Heritage:

Kapilavastu is on the Tentative List of World Heritage as “Tilaurakot, the archaeological remains of ancient Shakya Kingdom”. Here archaeological investigations have revealed an ancient fortified settlement surrounded by extensive developments including monastic and early industrial facilities.

Ramagrama is on the Tentative List of World Heritage as “Ramagrama, the relic stupa of Lord Buddha”. Here we find a mound that is considered to be the only remaining original relic stupa of Lord Buddha. Of the original eight it is said that seven were opened up by Emperor Asoka and the relics were distributed in stupas built throughout his empire.

Sites with Asoka Pillars (in addition to Lumbini):

Gothihawa is the site of an Asoka pillar of which only the base remains. This is considered to be the birthplace of Krakuchanda Buddha.

Niglihawa is the site of an Asoka pillar without its base but with an inscription that states that this was the birthplace of Kanakamuni Buddha.

Beyond these cultural heritage properties which have been listed or have Asoka pillars there are several hundred more archaeological sites of varying size. These still need to be further researched and provided with protection within the overall planning for the Greater Lumbini Area.
Remains of monastic structure in Kudan © UNESCO Chair, Durham University

Excavations on eastern monastic complex, Kapilavastu © UNESCO Chair, Durham University
This section provides information on the sector planning which would include cultural heritage conservation, tourism management, socio-economic development as well as regional planning encompassing land-use, settlement, infrastructure and environment.
CULTURAL HERITAGE AND TOURISM

As visitor numbers increase, the rich and finite heritage of the GLA is threatened by accelerated development through new infrastructure and visitor amenities. Development brings further challenges from the expansion of settlement and agriculture, as well as associated industrial development, all pose severe risks to heritage. To mitigate these risks, archaeological evaluation and assessment is required to record known and newly discovered sites in the GLA in order to identify areas that require protection and monitoring in the face of developmental threats.

Before any development, assessment should first be made of any existing information regarding the presence of cultural heritage in the GLA, as knowing where archaeological materials have been found previously indicates potential areas of archaeological significance. However, many archaeological remains are no longer visible on the surface, and a broad range of techniques can be used to identify, map and characterise cultural heritage to enhance its protection in the face of development.

Durham’s UNESCO Chair has demonstrated the success of their cascade model. Initially, Unmanned Aerial Vehicle survey provides imagery and topographical mapping of sites and landscapes, providing information on current settlement, land-use and a base-map, which can be linked to further archaeological datasets. Field survey then can be used. A non-intrusive method that involves the collection and recording material found on the ground surface, and by recording finds by location, it is possible to identify concentrations of artefacts, and by extension areas of potential subsurface heritage. For promising sites, geophysical survey can use a range of non-intrusive techniques to identify buried archaeological material and structures. As the GLA is rich in alluvial silts, natural clay, and a strong tradition of brick architecture, magnetometer survey is the most suited as it measures the magnetic properties of the underlying soil, including brick, which gains a highly positive magnetic property after firing. Field and magnetometer surveys can map the extent of subsurface heritage, but not its depth, character or date. A quick and relatively non-intrusive method that can then identify the spread and depth of cultural material is the recording of transect lines of hand drilled auger cores, measuring 0.10 metres in diameter. Combined, these techniques can provide a clear indication of the location of heritage, and further archaeological excavations, to provide scientific dating evidence linked to structural and artefactual sequences, should be undertaken if the site is deemed highly significant from initial assessments.

Durham’s UNESCO Chair has illustrated that this data can then be used to create Archaeological Risk Maps, which identify areas of subsurface and standing heritage that requires protection. Demarcating High and Low Risk areas through a traffic light system of red through to green,
Durham’s UNESCO Chair has shown that this data can then be used to create Archaeological Risk Maps, which identify areas of subsurface and standing heritage that requires protection. Demarcating High and Low Risk areas through a traffic light system of red through to green, Archaeological Risk Maps come with recommendations for site managers and planners, who may not have a heritage background, on how to guide the subsequent development within a site. These maps can be reinforced with Heritage Impact Assessments (HIA), which evaluate ways to mitigate threats to cultural heritage that can be included within planned and approved developments. The Maps should act as the basis for the development of individual site master plans and not the other way round. It is critical that the relevant government agencies, the Department of Archaeology and the Lumbini Development Trust, are part of the development and consultation process so that national legislation is followed to protect threatened archaeological sites. In addition to the use of Archaeological Risk Maps and HIAs, local residents should be consulted and engaged. This not only raises public awareness of the value and threats to heritage but also enables the mapping and protection of community assets, ensuring inclusive and positive socioeconomic impacts for local residents from developments within the GLA. The outlined framework of site assessment, followed by Archaeological Risk Maps and HIAs, which includes government and community consultation, should facilitate sustainable development that promotes and protects the heritage sites of the GLA for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations of local communities and visitors.
The statistics that are obtained from the district profiles and development indicators of the three districts of Kapilavastu, Rupandehi and Nawalparasi provide us with a general understanding of their opportunities and challenges. More detailed studies would need to be undertaken to understand the intricacies of the outcome of this general overview of the levels of developments within these districts. However a certain trend emerges in respect to the opportunities and challenges of the three districts that could be taken as the basis for the overall planning of the larger area.

Considering the opportunities in these districts, the statistics and indicators point towards agriculture, the heritage sites and relatively good network of roads. This shows that development could focus on agriculture and heritage tourism. On the other hand the challenges that this area faces are the status of the children due to low child literacy, early marriage and high child labour. This is closely linked to the level of education. The area also faces the challenge of environmental degradation.

The district profile of Kapilavastu clearly states the challenges and the opportunities. “The main challenges for the development of the district are migration, population growth, unemployment, decrease in the agricultural production, lack of basic health facilities, high mortality rate of child and mother, custom of untouchability, the difference between rich and poor, the least use of resources, preference to the new projects rather than completing the incomplete ones, lack of social awareness, marriage at underage, dowry, poor leadership”.

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Buddhist Circuit Map that connects the entire Greater Lumbini Area © LDT
The district profile of Kapilavastu also shows various opportunities and potentials for the development of the district. Economic Development would focus on: animal husbandry, agriculture based industry, wood and handicraft industry, non-timber forest products and herb industry, fishery and kitchen gardening, potential for the production of food grains, bee-keeping, archaeological and religious spots. The social development would focus on increase in assistance of the donor agencies working in the social sector, religious and social tolerance, increase in the information network, rise in the quality of services provided by hospitals, health centres and health camps, potential of cultural and religious tourism, potential to increase the quality of educational sector. This would have to go hand in hand with infrastructure development, which means to improve the sectors of electricity, road and communication. This would also mean the management of population and environment, which would mean to conserve and preserve the lakes, forests and fauna.

Lumbini and many of the other Buddhist sites are located in rural areas with a population living in hardship. The development of Lumbini must be seen in conjunction with poverty alleviation in the area. One major potential source of income for the region would be through developing tourism. In respect to this issue various projects have been implemented and plans prepared. Tourism – in the form of pilgrimage – was the central theme in the preparation of the Master Plan by Kenzo Tange. However the issue of both Tourism and sustainable economic development must be viewed within the wider scope of regional planning. A Buddhist Circuit around the Greater Lumbini Area is being planned which would link to the sites in North India. With the new airport in Bhairahawa, Lumbini will become the gateway to the sites related to the life of Lord Buddha.
Regional Planning of Greater Lumbini Areas will be essential to ensure sustainable development that focuses on the protection of cultural heritage while promoting appropriate socio-economic improvements for the communities. The regional planning will be defining land-use, settlement, infrastructure and environment. The planning will address the main issues that have been raised of uncontrolled urbanization along highways, haphazard establishment of large polluting industries and the unplanned development of tourism infrastructure and facilities that are impacting the natural setting and the cultural heritage sites. Furthermore the planning will take into account the need for improving the livelihood of the communities which is still largely dependent on an agro-based economy.

Land-use and settlement

The entire Greater Lumbini Area needs to be provided with tools to guide development. One of the most efficient tool is land-use maps which clearly defines what functions can be introduced into any specific area. Land-use mapping well provide clearly defined areas where the natural settings and cultural heritage sites are safeguarded, where only agricultural activities can take place and more detailed zoning for various categories of settlement and development. Particularly important will be to guide development particularly along highways and main circulation corridors. Land-use mapping will also need to define areas where industrial development can take place as well as tourism facilities constructed.
Infrastructure

For the sustainable development of Greater Lumbini Area improvised infrastructure is required. Transportation will be instrumental in ensuring the success of the Buddhist Circuit, which will require improved highways and some form of mass transportation system. The airport in Bhairahawa will be the gateway to the Buddhist Circuit linking to other sites in Nepal as well as across the border in India. With development of tourism there will be increased demand for electricity, water as well as disposal of sewage and waste. This means that appropriate infrastructure and service systems will need to be planned that doesn’t have too great an impact on the natural settings and the cultural heritage sites.

Environment

The regional planning will take into account the protection of the environment that is a key requirement for the sustainable development of the area. This is essential to improve the lives of the local community as well as to ensure the safety and well being of the visitors the Greater Lumbini Area. The planning will take into account how to control pollutants impacting the quality of air, water and land. Agriculture will need to become ecologically friendly which then can be branded and marketed. Waste that is produced will need to be disposed which includes composting that links to local agriculture. Solid waste will need to be separated and as far as possible recycled. Waterways will be protected and kept clean linked to disaster risk management.
This section provides information on the required coordination for implementing the planning of the Greater Lumbini Area along with a proposed twelve month planning phase with outline.
For the governance of the Greater Lumbini Area it will be necessary to get the acceptance of the Central Government which will provide oversight and monitoring while empowering the regional government. Lumbini Development Trust which is responsible for the management of Buddhist cultural heritage sites would play a key role in mediating, particularly when it comes to collaboration with international involvement in the area. A central secretariat for the Greater Lumbini Area will need to be established with sufficient resources and expertise. The Greater Lumbini Area lies within Province 5 and coordination must be established under the provincial government. The nagarpalikas and gaunpalikas particularly around the main heritage sites must agree to collaborate under a mutually agreed vision. All development planning must be coordinated under a single system.

When the Master Plan of Lumbini was conceptualized in the 1970s and the 1 by 3 mile area was expropriated from the local community, local governance was rudimentary and power lay with the Anchaladish or Zonal Chief. This changed with the understanding for the need of local governance whereby governance was prioritized at district level. Particularly with the adoption of the Local Self-Governance Act in 1999 the district level government along with municipalities and village development committees (VDCs) were given clearly defined authority. This has again changed with the Constitution of 2015 which introduced the provincial governments. With this newest reorganization, in principle, the provincial governments have far reaching authority in governance which is implemented through the newly established nagarpalikas and gaunpalikas.
In 1985 the Lumbini Development Trust was established in place of the Lumbini Development Committee. Lumbini was put on the List of World Heritage in 1997. UNDP has more recently funded projects such as the development review mission in 1999 and the Tourism for Rural Poverty Alleviation Programme project. On 16 September 2005 a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the member States of the International Committee for the Development of Lumbini was held in New York, with the agenda to revive the International Committee. The Declaration of the Second World Buddhist Summit which took place in Lumbini in 2004 proposed to “take immediate appropriate actions for the implementation of the Resolutions of the UN and other regional organizations which remain unimplemented, and the revitalization of the UN International Committee for the Development of Lumbini and the UN International Advisory Committee,” and to “continue to enlist the fullest cooperation of all national and international bodies for the development of Lumbini and other holy sites”.

For the preparation and the implementation of planning of the Greater Lumbini Area, a high level national steering committee is to be established. This will allow coordination between all authorities, agencies and stakeholders working within the area. Furthermore an Executive Committee is to be established with LDT running the secretariat with involvement from Regional and Local government authorities.
SECTION 6: ACTION

TWELVE MONTH PLANNING

The Greater Lumbini Area Governance Framework

Considering the importance of the Greater Lumbini Area and the threat of rapid uncontrolled development, it is essential that a comprehensive planning is carried out. This planning will need to be coordinated through an integrated system of governance of the region. The governance framework will provide the institutional and legal basis for managing this huge region while ensuring the required resources for efficient implementation.

The Greater Lumbini Area Integrated Plan of Action

For the planning to function within the proposed governance framework, the system will need to clearly determine all issues that the Greater Lumbini Area is facing. These issues or problems once defined will need to be addressed or resolved through specific targeted actions. The main objective of the governance system is to anticipate and assess to efficiently “solve problems”. The Integrated Plan of Actions is a compilation of such actions which the governance system will need to take into account through routine activities, time bound projects or through emergency actions.

Conservation of Heritage Attributes of The Greater Lumbini Area

An inventory of heritage attributes of The Greater Lumbini Area is being prepared. All the entries in the inventory need to be protected and therefore the necessary procedures and guidelines need to be established. These heritage attributes would be particularly the archaeology of the early Buddhist period, however would also include other natural and cultural elements as well as the environment, agricultural and traditional settlements.

Management of Tourism in The Greater Lumbini Area

Tourism will become a major source of income for the Greater Lumbini Area and will also in the near future impact the development of the sites. This means that tourism management ensure that the heritage site profits from the tourism sector while mitigating the negative impacts. The unique cultural heritage attributes of the Greater Lumbini Area along with the landscape will be a major attraction. These would need to be well maintained and presented to the visitors in an appropriate manner. With growing tourist numbers, the impact on the site will grow and appropriate infrastructure, services along with accommodation and other facilities will need to be planned.
The Greater Lumbini Area Regional Planning

The regional planning will deal with the coordinated conservation of cultural and natural sites throughout the Greater Lumbini Area. The main approach will be to prepare land-use plans to guide development with particular attention to settlement development. Furthermore the regional planning needs to consider the appropriate development of infrastructure and services for tourism and the local economic development. The regional planning will also need to look into environment issues.

Managing Hydrology in The Greater Lumbini Area

The management of water has been an integral part of the planning of The Greater Lumbini Area. Considering the importance of water management for agriculture as well as to control flooding and protecting ground water requires a specific plan to manage hydrology. Particular complex are the threats originating from outside the regions such as the Himalayan foothills as well as activities that are carried out beyond the border to the south.

Management of Disaster Risk in The Greater Lumbini Area

Every year we have floods in the Greater Lumbini Area. There are furthermore threats of earthquake as well as heavy storms. Further natural and human-induced hazards have had disastrous effects on the heritage site. The vulnerabilities that have increased due to lack of awareness and planning must be brought under control. Disaster mitigation requires a complex management system to be put in place. A comprehensive plan would take into account mitigation measures, preparedness, response along with “first aid” activities and the means for mid- and long-term rehabilitation.

Community and Management in The Greater Lumbini Area

The local communities need to become partners in the effort to safeguard heritage. Many of the issues that the Greater Lumbini Area is facing is linked to uncontrolled development and community activities carried out consciously or due to lack of awareness. The community living near the heritage sites must be able to profit from this location which means they must be given certain privileges, support and subsidies. The local communities must over time become champions of safeguarding the heritage of The Greater Lumbini Area.
The following draft Outline has been prepared for Consultants to provide a Comprehensive Plan for the Greater Lumbini Area. The time period for planning shall be 12 months (during Nepali fiscal year 2076-77). Work shall be carried out in four phases of 3 months each. A detailed progress report shall be submitted a week before the end of each phase leading up to a meeting with all relevant authorities and stakeholders where the progress report is presented and discussed. The detailed workplan shall be negotiated and finalized with the consultant within the first two weeks of the planning period. Payments shall also be made on a quarterly basis on review and acceptance of the progress reports and final report.

Outline for the Greater Lumbini Area

Governance Framework

The consultant shall develop a governance framework that ensures coordination of activities carried out throughout the Greater Lumbini Area. This governance framework will need to clearly define the area and provide a vision for the long-term development of the area. Furthermore, the governance framework will need to address institutional as well as legal requirements for implementing the planning in the regional as well as human, financial and technical resources. The governance framework shall also ensure close collaboration between all the sector plans.

Integrated Plan of Action

The consultant shall identify issues from all different sectors that the Greater Lumbini Area is facing. These issues shall be analyzed and actions defined to address and resolve the issues. For each action, the relevant institutional, legal and resources frameworks shall be determined. The compilation of all these actions shall produce the Integrated Plan of Action.

Outline for Conservation of Heritage Attributes of The Greater Lumbini Area

The consultant shall carry out an assessment of all categories of heritage attributes included in inventory and develop means of monitoring, safeguarding and conserving them. In respect to sub-surface archaeology, strategic planning for further research and preparation of archaeological risk maps shall be carried out. Furthermore, the consultant shall identify cultural heritage attributes beyond the inventory, including critical landscape.

Outline for Management of Tourism in The Greater Lumbini Area

The consultant shall prepare documentation and assessment of tourism activities in the Greater Lumbini Area along with existing tourism accommodations and services. The consultant shall study tourism potentials for the Greater Lumbini Area that are appropriate to the heritage site, including targeted tourist profiles. Along with promotion, the consultant shall provide strategies for involvement of local communities (including awareness and training) in providing services and products for tourists to ensure that they profit directly from this sector;
Outline for Greater Lumbini Area
Regional Planning
The regional planning of the Greater Lumbini Area shall be carried out keeping the protection of cultural heritage as the core principle. The consultant shall carry out land-use planning with particular focus on settlement area and controlling inappropriate functions. The consultant shall also assess existing infrastructure and services and provide mid and long-term development proposals. The consultant shall also assess threats to environment and provide strategies for protection and improvement.

Outline for Management of Disaster Risk in The Greater Lumbini Area
The consultant shall identify hazards and collect information on past disasters. The consultant shall carry out relevant vulnerability assessments of heritage sites as the settlements and agricultural landscapes. Furthermore measures for disaster mitigation, preparedness, as well as training in disaster response and “first aid” shall be provided. This includes an overall disaster management systems and processes as well as rehabilitation frameworks.

Outline for Managing Hydrology in The Greater Lumbini Area
The consultant shall prepare an overall documentation of hydrology system and understanding of all its functions and threats. The consultant shall carry out a detailed assessment of the existing hydrology providing threats to the system particularly in respect to flooding and ground water resources. The consultant shall furthermore prepare the overall management of the hydrology system and all its components throughout the Greater Lumbini Area, however also considering up and downstream.

Outline for Community and Management in The Greater Lumbini Area
The consultant shall study community lifestyles, habitat and dwellings and assess requirements and improvements required by the local communities. The consultant shall also assess livelihood of communities, appropriateness to site and means of promoting appropriate activities which could be linked to traditional crafts, agriculture or activities that help with the conservation of the heritage of the Greater Lumbini Area.

Outline for Environmental Conservation
The consultant shall carry out scientific survey and prepare overall documentation of biodiversity of GLA area recommending solutions to protect and preserve the important ecology and nature in GLA Area. The consultant shall carry out study to identify key biodiversity issues and prepare a long-term plan for nature conservation in Greater Lumbini Area.
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES OF KAPILBASTU DISTRICT

DRAFT CONCEPTUAL PLANS

Submitted to
Lumbini Development Trust
7 July 2020

Prepared by:

Weise Consulting Architects and Engineers Pvt. Ltd.
Kathmandu, Nepal

Table of Content:

Preamble 1

1. Site identification, boundaries and existing conditions 2
   1.1 Tilaurakot/Kapilavastu 3
   1.2 Gothihawa 13
   1.3 Kudan 18
   1.4 Niglahawa 25
   1.5 Aurorakot 30
   1.6 Sagarhawa 36
   1.7 Sisaniya 43

2. Associated sites 49
   2.1 Chatradei / Chetradei 50
   2.2 Dohani 56
   2.3 Karma (Rupendehi District) 62
   2.4 Motipur (Rupendehi District) 69

3. General Management Guidelines 75
   3.1 Management Principles 76
   3.2 Management Frameworks and Sectorial Strategies 82
   3.3 Link to World Heritage Nomination of Tilaurakot/Kapilavastu 91
   3.4 Link to Greater Lumbini Sector Plans 92

4. Conclusion and way forward 93
Preamble

The archaeological sites in the Greater Lumbini Area need to be planned, protected and developed for visitors in an appropriate manner. This report is an initial compilation of necessary information to begin this process of planning for seven archaeological sites in Kapilbastu District: Tilaurakot/Kapilavastu, Gothihawa, Kudan, Niglihawa, Aurorakot, Sagarhawa and Sisaniya. Additionally, four more associated sites have been presented which are Chatradei / Chettradei, Dohani and Karma in Kapilbastu District and Motipur in Rupendehi District.

For each of these eleven archaeological sites, information based on studies carried out by the Durham University’s UNESCO Chair, have been compiled. The information provided are location, description of the sites and sources for further study. Listing of tangible, intangible and community assets have been provided. Where possible, mapping of attributes, risk maps, geophysical survey and fieldwalking maps are provided. Existing boundaries and tourism facilities are mapped. Initial steps in the planning process is provided as proposals for boundaries, buffer zones, required land purchase and tourism facilities have been provided. This will be further reviewed during the next phase of planning. Assessment of significance and priority as well as threats and challenges have been carried out using ‘traffic lights’ to provide an understanding of ranking and priorities.

The third section of the report focuses on the management system that need to be established. This is based on a format developed for World Heritage properties, but will be adapted to the specific context of the archaeological sites of the Greater Lumbini Area, particularly the 11 that have been chosen here. Detailing will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

Acknowledgement

This report would not have been possible without the involvement and the interest shown by the Vice Chairman of LDT Venerable Metteyya. He has been supported by acting Member Secretary Gyanin Rai and Project Chief Saroj Bhattarai. Support and guidance have been provided by the advisory committee members: Professor Yukio Nishimura (Kokugakuin University), Professor Robin Coningham (Durham University), Kosh Prasad Acharya (Senior Archaeologist), Dr Takafulm Kurose (Kyushu University), Basanta Bidari and Professor Gitu Giri, (Lumbini Buddhist University), and Ram Kunwar (Department of Archaeology).

The compilation of this report would not have been possible without the cooperation of the UNESCO Chair of Durham University, Professor Robin Coningham, the invaluable advice from senior archaeologist Kosh Prasad Acharya and the assistance of Dr Mark Manuel and Dr Chris Davis.
1. Site identification, boundaries and existing conditions

Seven archaeological sites have been studied through the UNESCO Japanese Funds-in-Trust project, together with the Department of Archaeology and Lumbini Development Trust. Initial sites surveys were carried out by a team from Tokyo University. More detailed surveys and investigations were then carried out by a team from Durham University’s UNESCO Chair. This report provides the basic outcome of these surveys and investigations.

For each of the seven archaeological sites, the existing condition of the site, the boundaries, protective measures and visitor facilities have been documented. This is the basis for defining the physical extent of the sites, their boundaries and buffer zones. This will be the basis for providing boundary demarcations, as well as proposing areas to be purchased by the government. The archaeological sites will need to be managed properly to ensure adequate protection and appropriate activities. Condition assessments, as well as existing visitor facilities have been documented, as a basis for further planning.

This section has provided a compilation of the basic information required to carry out detailed planning. The information provided here will need to be reviewed in the next phase of planning.

Map of the identified archaeological sites in the Greater Lumbini Area including the eleven sites that have been assessed in this report. (Map: UNESCO Chair, Durham University)
1.1 Tilaurakot / Kapilavastu

1.1.1 Location

1.1.2 Short description of site

1.1.2.1 General description of the site, including history and archaeology (in short)

In 1899, P.C. Mukherji surveyed the rediscovered site of Tilaurakot and mapped the city’s fortification walls and moats, as well as stupas and monuments surrounding it. The site was not investigated again until 1962 through joint excavations by the Nepali Department of Archaeology and the Archaeological Survey of India, under the direction of Debala Mitra. Excavating over the northern rampart, excavations confirmed that the brick fortification was built directly on top of an earlier clay rampart, but also that there was evidence of earlier settlement prior to the construction of the city boundary. Controversially, Mitra stated that Tilaurakot could not be older than the second century BCE.

Further work was therefore carried out by the Nepal Department of Archaeology between 1967 and 1972 under the direction of Nepali archaeologists B.K. Rijal and T.N. Mishra. They exposed monuments close to the surface, and conserved the eastern and western gateways and the northern Twin Stupas. The structures now referred to as the Central Structural Complex were exposed by the Nepal Department of Archaeology alongside Rissho University (Japan) between 1967 and 1977. In 1999, the first scientific dates were extracted during UNESCO sponsored excavations co-directed by Kosh Prasad Acharya and Robin Coningham. A radiocarbon date pushed occupation back to the early first millennium BCE, demonstrating that Debala Mitra was incorrect in her assertion that Tilaurakot could not be Kapilavastu.

Since 2012 and onwards, Tilaurakot has been subject of a sustained campaign of multi-disciplinary archaeological study conducted by the LDT, Department of Archaeology (Government of Nepal) and Durham University’s UNESCO Chair on Archaeological Ethics and Practice in Cultural Heritage. This has been undertaken as part of UNESCO-JFIT projects within the Natal Landscape of the Buddha between 2014-2017 and 2019 onwards. This work has been further supported by the LDT, Department of Archaeology (Government of Nepal), Durham University, the National Geographic Society, the Hokke Shu, Dr Kasai, AHRC-GCRF, Newton Fund, the Oriental Cultural Heritage Sites Protection Alliance, Panditarama Lumbini International Vipassana Meditation Centre and UNESCO Nepal.
1.1.2.2 Sources identified for more in-depth study

(Coningham et al. 2012), (Coningham et al. 2013), (Coningham et al. 2014), (Coningham et al. 2015a), (Coningham et al. 2015b), (Coningham et al. 2016a), (Coningham et al. 2016b), (Coningham et al. 2017), (Coningham et al. 2018a), (Coningham et al. 2018b), (Coningham et al. 2018c), (Coningham et al. 2019), (Coningham et al. forthcoming), (Davis et al. 2013), (Fuhrer 1897), (Mishra 1977), (Mishra 1978), (Mitra 1972), (Mukherji 1901), (Nakamura et al. 2000), (Rijal 1979), (Weise 2014)

1.1.3 Significant attributes

1.1.3.1 Tangible Attributes

- Exceptionally well-preserved urban cardinal grid plan established in the Sixth Century BCE on existing settlement (c. Eighth Century BCE).
- Anticipates later planning treatises, like the Arthasastra.
- Exceptionally well preserved Central Walled Complex, established in third century BCE.
- Precocious Early Historic civic infrastructure, such as public tank, established in third century BCE (tank anticipates Hiti system in Kathmandu Valley).
- Exceptionally well preserved Early Historic sequence of defensive architecture established in sixth century BCE and adapted and updated over time.
- Exceptionally well-preserved moat system.
- Exceptionally well-preserved rampart, wall and tower system.
- Exceptionally well preserved Early Historic entrance tower ensemble to Central Walled Complex.
- Exceptionally well preserved Early Historic residential environs at Northern Suburb and Sivagarh.
- Exceptionally well-preserved Eastern Stupa and monastic establishment, and Northern Stupas.
- Precocious civic planning with location of polluting and hazardous industrial activities outside the city walls in 400 BCE.
- Distinctive style of vernacular domestic architecture.
- Distinctive style of Buddhist stupas.
- Distinctive style of walled tanks.
- Distinctive style of Hindu temples (?)
- Distinctive style of palatial compound.
- Link to Banganga River for water sources and transportation
1.1.3.2 Intangible Attributes

More detail is provided on maps, but intangible assets include:

- P.C. Mukherji supported identification of the sites as Kapilavastu as the site closely matched the description of the Chinese pilgrims Faxian and Xuanzang
- Locations of cremations of different communities along the ghats at Ramghat
- Burials in river bank rather than cremation at certain times of year
- Tombs of Baba
- Dharmasala
- Siva Temple and Hanuman Statue
- Samai Mai temple within Tilaurakot site
- Molo posts
- Temples
- Local stories of spirits
- 1 Dharmasala
1.1.3.3 **Community Assets**

More detail is provided on maps, but community assets include:

- Samai Mai temple within Tilaurakot site
- Kapilavastu Museum
- Public toilets at Kapilavastu Museum
- Public toilets at western gate
- Handicraft shop at western gate
- Shops at western gate
- Shops near Northern Suburbs
- Car/bike/bus park at western gate
- Car/bike/bus park at eastern gate
- Hand water pumps
- Thai monastery
- Ghats at Ramghat
- Temple at Ramghat
- Mosque
- Tomb to Miya Baba (Muslim Baba) and his son where Miya Baba’s hut once was constructed
- Police post
1.1.4 Map of attributes with landscape features

1.1.4.1 Map/plan showing location of attributes and landscape features
1.1.4.2 Archaeological Risk Map (if conducted)
1.1.4.3 Geophysical Survey and Fieldwalking Maps
1.1.5 Map of proposed boundary, buffer zones and facilities

1.1.5.1 Existing boundaries (indicating current boundary demarcation)

The existing boundary is comprised of several different components. The main core of the site is defined by a brick wall (c. one metre high) topped with a metal grille fence (c. one metre high). This is generally in a good state of maintenance, but there are several gaps present. Access is through to gateways at the east and west. Further out, the boundary is defined by either tall concrete posts (for Shivagarh and the area north of Eastern stupa) or low concrete posts (for Eastern Stupa and Southern Industrial Zone). The Northern Suburbs, Twin Stupas and Eastern Monastery have no formal delineation at present. Whilst the newly erected tall concrete posts are generally in a good state of maintenance, several are already broken. The low concrete posts around the eastern Stupa and Southern Industrial Zone are badly damaged and have proved largely ineffectual in preventing encroachment.

1.1.5.2 Existing management and tourism facilities

The site hosts the local Lumbini Development Trust Office, currently constructed on top of the moat, two small security huts located inside the Eastern and Western Gates respectively. Outside the Western Gate are two small tea shops, a gift shop selling handicrafts, a toilet block, a water pump and a small unregulated car park. Many of these facilities are also on top of the moat. An *ad hoc* motorcycle park has sprung up outside the Eastern Gate, on top of an area defined as monumental by Mukherji. Inside the site is a vibrant and heavily utilised Samai Mai Temple structure and another water pump. To the west of the site is a large museum complex which houses two museums, a local police post, a large toilet block and various buildings and outhouses for museum and archaeological storage and residential purposes. There are buildings recently constructed within this complex for food and drink but are currently not in use. There is no official parking facility for the museum. At this junction there are numerous food and drink facilities. Mukherji marked a number of monuments in the vicinity of the modern village of Sivagarh.
1.1.5.3 Proposed boundary

The following map provides an outline defining the archaeological site in various shades of red, covering the areas where significant archaeology has been identified. This proposal will require further discussions to finalize and adopt a definite boundary. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

1.1.5.4 Proposed buffer boundary

The following map provides a proposal for buffer zones provided in various shades of green. This proposal will require further discussions to finalize and adopt a definite boundary. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

Note: the archaeological site of Chetradehi could be included as part of Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu site, within a broader buffer zone. Details on Chetradehi have been provided under Section 1.8 of this report.

1.1.5.5 Demarcation of proposed area to be purchased

Based on the finalized archaeological site boundary and buffer zone and the identification of present ownership, a detailed plan for required purchase of the land by the Government of Nepal will be demarcated. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

1.1.5.6 Proposed management and tourism facilities

Based on the finalized archaeological site boundary and buffer zones, appropriate tourism management planning will be carried out. This will entail defining and detailing out tourism facilities which are appropriate to the site, and particularly within the site, are non-intrusive and reversible. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.
1.1.6 Considerations for protection and management

1.1.6.1 Traffic Lights (linked to significance and priority)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SIGNIFICANCE</th>
<th>RANKING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUDDHIST SIGNIFICANCE</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNDERSTANDING OF SITE</td>
<td>MEDIUM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNDERSTANDING OF LANDSCAPE</td>
<td>MEDIUM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRIORITY</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.1.6.2 Current protection and management arrangements

The current protection of the property is based on the management arrangements of Lumbini Development Trust (Lumbini Development Trust Act 1986), and the Department of Archaeology (Ancient Monument Preservation Act 1956). There are no specific protection and management plans prepared. The preparation and establishment of a management system will be carried out in the next planning phase.

1.1.6.3 Traffic Lights (linked to threats and challenges)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THREAT</th>
<th>THREAT LEVEL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SITE PROTECTION</td>
<td>LOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SITE MANAGEMENT</td>
<td>MEDIUM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENCROACHMENT</td>
<td>MEDIUM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAMAGE - AGRICULTURE / GRAZING</td>
<td>MEDIUM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAMAGE - VEHICLES / PEOPLE</td>
<td>LOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAMAGE - RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES</td>
<td>MEDIUM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OVERALL RISK RATING</td>
<td>LOW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.1.6.4 Proposed protection and management arrangements (including ownership)

Some considerations, these need to be discussed in the next phase of planning.

- Remove and reroute blacktop roads
- Remove structures from on top of moat (e.g. LDT Office)
- New car parking
- Bypass road?
- Disabled access
- Walkways
- Rehouse tea sheds
- Camouflage toilets
- Entrance from Western Gate
- Arrangements for the Saimai Mai Temple

Note: All this needs to be coordinated with possible World Heritage nomination of the archaeological site.
1.2 Gotihawa

1.2.1 Location

1.2.2 Short description of site

1.2.2.1 General description of the site, including history and archaeology (in short)

Gotihawa is the home of a partial Asokan pillar, presented within a modern brick-lined enclosure, and the remains of. The stupa was excavated by Colonel Waddell in the 1890s, and 100 years later investigations by Giovanni Verardi confirmed a third century BCE origin of the stupa, which was later expanded during the Kushan period showing continued patronage of the site. Geophysical survey in 2020 suggested the presence of walls on the east and south sides of the stupa, perhaps marking a damaged precinct wall. The pillar is not inscribed but sits on its original saddle stone. Pre-Buddhist remains, including pit features dating to the 7-8th centuries BCE, unearthed during these investigations, illustrates that the Terai has a long settlement history before the emergence of Buddhism. 1.2.2.2 Sources identified for more in-depth study

1.2.2.2 Sources identified for more in-depth study

(Mukherji 1901: 31), (Mitra 1972: 228), (Falk 2006), (Verardi 2007), (Mori 2016: 71), (Coningham et al. forthcoming)

1.2.3 Significant attributes

1.2.3.1 Tangible Attributes

- 3rd Century BCE Stupa (Mauryan) (unconserved)
- 3rd Century BCE Asokan Pillar and saddle stone (Mauryan)
- Brick wall associated with the stupa (now backfilled and not visible on the surface)
- 7th-8th centuries BCE settlement
1.2.3.2 Intangible Attributes

1. Identified as the nirvana stupa of the Krakkuchanda Buddha

1.2.3.3 Community Assets

2. Unknown at present
3. Drying dung cakes on the stupa mound

1.2.4 Map of attributes with landscape features

1.2.4.1 Map/plan showing location of attributes and landscape features

1.2.4.2 Archaeological Risk Map

No archaeological risk map has been prepared

1.2.4.3 Geophysical Survey and Fieldwalking Maps

Geophysical survey is still being processed
No fieldwalking has been conducted
1.2.5 Map of proposed boundary, buffer zones and facilities

1.2.5.1 *Existing boundaries (indicating current boundary demarcation)*

The boundary is currently delineated by a barbed wire fence, which is in a poor state of maintenance. Access to the site is through a small gate in the northeast corner of the site.

1.2.5.2 *Existing management and tourism facilities*

There is a security hut at the entrance to the site and a signboard.
1.2.5.3 Proposed boundary

The following map provides an outline defining the archaeological site in red. More geophysics is needed here as well as cutting test pits across the newly acquired area where the village houses were removed. This proposal will require further discussions to finalize and adopt a definite boundary. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

1.2.5.4 Proposed buffer boundary

We propose a buffer stretching northwards to the irrigation canal, eastwards to the edge of the village tank, southwards along the irrigation canal and for 150 metres to the west. This proposal will require further discussions to be finalized and adopted which will be done in the next phase of planning.

1.2.5.5 Demarcation of proposed area to be purchased

Based on the finalized archaeological site boundary and buffer zone and the identification of present ownership, a detailed plan for required purchase of the land by the Government of Nepal will be demarcated. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

1.2.5.6 Proposed management and tourism facilities

Based on the finalized archaeological site boundary and buffer zones, appropriate tourism management planning will be carried out. This will entail defining and detailing out tourism facilities which are appropriate to the site, and particularly within the site, are non-intrusive and reversible. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.
1.2.6 Considerations for protection and management

1.2.6.1 Traffic Lights (linked to significance and priority)

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1.2.6.2 Current protection and management arrangements

The current protection of the property is based on the management arrangements of Lumbini Development Trust (Lumbini Development Trust Act 1986), and the Department of Archaeology (Ancient Monument Preservation Act 1956). There are no specific protection and management plans prepared. The preparation and establishment of a management system will be carried out in the next planning phase.

1.2.6.3 Traffic Lights (linked to threats and challenges)

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1.2.6.4 Proposed protection and management arrangements (including ownership)

Some considerations, these need to be discussed in the next phase of planning.

- Car park
- Reroute road
- Toilets
- Statue?
- Plan required for what will happen to area of village that is recently cleared
- Disabled access
- Walkways

Note: conservation needed for stupa....
1.3 Kudan / Kodan

1.3.1 Location

1.3.2 Short description of site

1.3.2.1 General description of the site, including history and archaeology (in short)

Observed by Mukherji in 1899, Kudan was not excavated until 1962, when Debala Mitra cut several trenches through the large, overgrown mounds at the site. This revealed two large temples with cruciform morphology, decorated with intricate hand-carved bricks. The brick well may have been constructed within a brick-lined tank. Thought to be Gupta or post-Gupta in date, geophysical survey in 2015, excavations in 2016, and fieldwalking as part of the UNESCO-JFIT project, were undertaken to identify earlier sequences and the foundations of both monuments. Investigations did not identify any pre-Gupta occupation, and the monuments of Kudan, alongside those at Chatradei and the recently identified temple underlaying the current Samai Mai temple at Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu, represent a major investment in monumental construction in the latter half of the first millennium CE. Who built the temple, and for what purpose, remains unclear. Mitra reported a radiocarbon date of 985±75 CE from the ruins of Temple 1.

1.3.2.2 Sources identified for more in-depth study

(Mukherji 1901: 32), (Mitra 1972), (Verardi 2007: 32), (Coningham et al. 2015), (Coningham et al. 2016), (Coningham et al. 2017), (Mori 2016: 72)

1.3.3 Significant attributes

1.3.3.1 Tangible Attributes

- Two large rectilinear temples that likely date to the 6/7th century CE
- A large brick-lined well
- A large pond
- 18th century octagonal temple
- Shiva linga on top of Temple 1

1.3.3.2 Intangible Attributes
The name of the site is linked to Lori-Kodan, a giant who leapt from mound to mound
The site is identified as potentially Nigrodharama
The pond had previously been postulated as the location of Hastigrata

1.3.3.3 Community Assets

- Thai monastery
- Water pump
- LDT office/residence

1.3.4 Map of attributes with landscape features

1.3.4.1 Map/plan showing location of attributes and landscape features
1.3.4.2 Archaeological Risk Map

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1.3.4.3 Geophysical Survey and Fieldwalking Maps
1.3.5 Map of proposed boundary, buffer zones and facilities

1.3.5.1 Existing boundaries (indicating current boundary demarcation)

The boundary of the site is currently defined by a low brick wall topped with a metal fence. It is in a good state of maintenance. Entrance and exit are through a single gate on the eastern wall.

1.3.5.2 Existing management and tourism facilities

There is a car parking area that has recently been constructed in the village to the south of the site but does not correlate with the current entrance/exit point. Most visitors park on the road by the main entrance, partly blocking the road. There is a small security hut at the entrance, a house for security personnel and a toilet block. A Thai Temple has recently been constructed just north of the site.
1.3.5.3 Proposed boundary

The following map provides an outline defining the archaeological site in red. This proposal will require further discussions to finalize and adopt a definite boundary. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

1.3.5.4 Proposed buffer boundary

We propose a conservation and protection buffer extending around the site to ensure no unauthorised construction or intrusive activity. Of importance is the land to the immediate north and west of the site, where fieldwalking identified a high density of cultural material. This proposal will require further discussions to be finalized and adopted which will be done in the next phase of planning.

1.3.5.5 Demarcation of proposed area to be purchased

Based on the finalized archaeological site boundary and buffer zone and the identification of present ownership, a detailed plan for required purchase of the land by the Government of Nepal will be demarcated. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

1.3.5.6 Proposed management and tourism facilities

Based on the finalized archaeological site boundary and buffer zones, appropriate tourism management planning will be carried out. This will entail defining and detailing out tourism facilities which are appropriate to the site, and particularly within the site, are non-intrusive and reversible. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.
1.3.6 Considerations for protection and management

1.3.6.1 Traffic Lights (linked to significance and priority)

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1.3.6.2 Current protection and management arrangements

The current protection of the property is based on the management arrangements of Lumbini Development Trust (Lumbini Development Trust Act 1986), and the Department of Archaeology (Ancient Monument Preservation Act 1956). There are no specific protection and management plans prepared. There is a guard house and residential custodian. The preparation and establishment of a management system will be carried out in the next planning phase.

1.3.6.3 Traffic Lights (linked to threats and challenges)

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1.3.6.4 Proposed protection and management arrangements (including ownership)

Some considerations, these need to be discussed in the next phase of planning.

- Raised timber walkways
- Disabled access

Note: certain issues on conservation and protection need to be carried out particularly in respect to the carved brickwork and removal of moss/biological growth. It will be necessary to discuss what to do with the existing metal stairs.
1.4 Niglihawa

1.4.1 Location

1.4.2 Short description of site

1.4.2.1 General description of the site, including history and archaeology

Niglihawa is the site of a fallen and broken Asokan pillar whose Early Brahmi inscription commemorates the rebuilding of the nirvana stupa of Kanakamuni Buddha, one of the 27 Buddhas preceding Gautama Buddha. The inscription, as translated by Vincent Smith, reads:

“His Majesty, King Priyadarshi in the 14th year of his reign enlarged for the second time the stupa of Buddha Kanakamuni and in the 20th year of his reign, having come in person, did reverence and set up a stone pillar”

The pillar also records later pilgrimages to the area, with the presence of a 13th century inscription of Ripu Malla, a ruler of a kingdom in the north of Nepal, alongside representations of peacocks of, which a date of creation is unknown. The pillar was found on the banks of the Niglisagar Pond in 1895, just to the east of where it is now located, and its original location is unknown. A section of brick walling was exposed during the widening of the main road to the west but appears to be in isolation.

1.4.2.2 Sources

(Fuhrer 1897: 22, 33), (Mukherji 1901: 30), (Mitra 1972: 249), (Falk 2006), (Verardi 2007: 31), (Mori 2016: 29), (Coningham et al. 2018)

1.4.3 Significant attributes

1.4.3.1 Tangible Attributes:

- An Asokan Pillar (3rd Century BCE) with a later Ripu Malla (13th Century CE) inscription in two separate parts.
- A large pond or sagar of unknown date.
- Isolated stretch of brick walling
1.4.3.2 Intangible Attributes:
- Small shrine to north of Niglisagar.
- The Asokan pillar is venerated and the inscriptions require monitoring/protection due to this.
- Dr Fuhrer asserted that the Nirvana stupa of the Kanakamuni Buddha was located one mile to the south but has never been discovered.
- Statue of Kanakamuni Buddha
- The fallen pillar was locally known as ‘Bhimsen’s Pipe’

1.4.3.3 Community Assets
- Water pump to north of security hut.

1.4.4 Map of attributes with landscape features

1.4.4.1 Map showing location of attributes and landscape features

1.4.4.2 Archaeological Risk Map
No archaeological risk map has been prepared
1.4.4.3 Geophysical Survey and Fieldwalking Maps

No fieldwalking has been conducted

1.4.5 Map of proposed boundary, buffer zones and facilities

1.4.5.1 Existing boundaries (indicating current boundary demarcation)

The boundary is currently demarcated by a barbed wire fence stretched between small concrete posts (c.1 metre height), in a poor condition and is damaged in several locations.

1.4.5.2 Existing management and tourism facilities

There is a small security building to the north of the pillar structure and a small car park to the west (in front) of the structure. Shelter around the pillar - There is a restaurant on the main road by the junction.
1.4.5.3 Proposed boundary

The following map provides an outline defining the archaeological site in red. This proposal will require further discussions to finalize and adopt a definite boundary. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

1.4.5.4 Proposed buffer boundary

A small buffer area is proposed for the site stretching from the main road in the west to the small track to the east of the site. It is bounded by the irrigation canal to the north and follows field boundaries to the south. An argument could be made to extend the buffer zone further eastwards to create a corridor with Araurarok. This proposal will require further discussions to be finalized and adopted which will be done in the next phase of planning.

1.4.5.5 Demarcation of proposed area to be purchased

Based on the finalized archaeological site boundary and buffer zone and the identification of present ownership, a detailed plan for required purchase of the land by the Government of Nepal will be demarcated. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

1.4.5.6 Proposed management and tourism facilities

Based on the finalized archaeological site boundary and buffer zones, appropriate tourism management planning will be carried out. This will entail defining and detailing out tourism facilities which are appropriate to the site, and particularly within the site, are non-intrusive and reversible. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.
1.4.6 Considerations for protection and management

1.4.6.1 Traffic Lights (linked to significance and priority)

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1.4.6.2 Current protection and management arrangements

The current protection of the property is based on the management arrangements of Lumbini Development Trust (Lumbini Development Trust Act 1986), and the Department of Archaeology (Ancient Monument Preservation Act 1956). There are no specific protection and management plans prepared. There is a guard house and residential custodian. The preparation and establishment of a management system will be carried out in the next planning phase.

1.4.6.3 Traffic Lights (linked to threats and challenges)

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1.4.6.4 Proposed protection and management arrangements (including ownership)

Some considerations, these need to be discussed in the next phase of planning.

- Raised timber walkways
- Disabled access

Note: there are issues concerning the protection of the Asokan pillar, both in respect to the newly built shelter, as well as the impact of offering from pilgrims on the pillar and the inscription.
1.5 Araurakot / Aurorakot

1.5.1 Location

1.5.2 Short description of site

1.5.2.1 General description of the site, including history and archaeology (in short)

Araurakot is a rectangular fortified enclosure with clay ramparts that enclose an area of 270x270 metres. The southern and eastern stretches of the fortification are encased in brick and are strengthened by stirrup bastions, circular corner towers and a moat. Almost empty of structures, except in the southeast corner where geophysical survey as part of the UNESCO-JFIT project identified structural remains, Araurakot's layout suggests that it may have been designed to house mobile cavalry armies, a distinctive feature of the Kushan Empire (1st-3rd Century CE). Its design and features are very similar to those of Sirsukh in the Taxila Valley of Pakistan. The site may form part of the fortified network to protect pilgrimage routes to Niglihawa and other sites in the area. Certainly, there are similarities with the sites of Karma and Dohani between Lumbini and Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu. Fieldwalking around the site, also as part of recent UNESCO-JFIT fieldwork has identified concentrations of cultural remains in the vicinity of the site, particularly to the north.

1.5.2.2 Sources identified for more in-depth study


1.5.3 Significant attributes

1.5.3.1 Tangible Attributes

- Rectilinear fortified enclosure with two brick fortification walls and two clay ramparts
- Stirrup bastions on south and east fortification walls
- Temple on geophys in interior linking to recovery of a carved brick
- Large complex in SE corner
- Single channel moat to south
- Double moat to east

1.5.3.2 Intangible Attributes

- There is a further archaeological site to the north – Raksa Baba
- Has been suggested as the natal town of Kanakamuni Buddha
- There is a story of a leper princess who was healed by washing here
1.5.3.3 **Community Assets**

- Cricket pitch on raised southeast portion of site
- Buffalo grazing

1.5.4 **Map of attributes with landscape features**

1.5.4.1 Map/plan showing location of attributes and landscape features
1.5.4.3 Geophysical Survey and Fieldwalking Maps
1.5.5 Map of proposed boundary, buffer zones and facilities

1.5.5.1 Existing boundaries (indicating current boundary demarcation)

There are no physical boundary markers at the site, but it is loosely defined by the road/tracks to the north and west and the moats to the east and south. An information board has been erected at the northwest corner of the site.

1.5.5.2 Existing management and tourism facilities

There are presently no management or tourism facilities at the site. Security is loosely provided by the security hut/personnel at Niglihawa
1.5.5.3 Proposed boundary

The following map provides an outline defining the archaeological site in red. This proposal will require further discussions to finalize and adopt a definite boundary. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

1.5.5.4 Proposed buffer boundary

We suggest that the buffer extends to around 200 metres from the site, but would extend northwards to encompass Raksa Baba and westwards to create a protected corridor to Niglihawa. This proposal will require further discussions to be finalized and adopted which will be done in the next phase of planning.

1.5.5.5 Demarcation of proposed area to be purchased

Based on the finalized archaeological site boundary and buffer zone and the identification of present ownership, a detailed plan for required purchase of the land by the Government of Nepal will be demarcated. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

1.5.5.6 Proposed management and tourism facilities

We would recommend that:

- an area is identified for car and bus parking
- management and security facilities are constructed (this would perhaps be a shared Niglihawa/Auraurakot facility).
- The road on the west is moved as it is almost on top of the western moat of the site
1.5.6 Considerations for protection and management

1.5.6.1 Traffic Lights (linked to significance and priority)

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1.5.6.2 Current protection and management arrangements

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1.5.6.3 Traffic Lights (linked to threats and challenges)

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1.5.6.4 Proposed protection and management arrangements (including ownership)

Some considerations, these need to be discussed in the next phase of planning.

- Raised timber walkways
- Disabled access
- Security should be focused on ensuring the site is not damaged by grazing, cricket and other activities.
- Bypass road yes
- Alternative cricket pitch?

Note: the site is at major risk from current activities, including cricket, buffalo grazing and as a short cut for tractors, motorbikes and other vehicles. There is a need for a more secure boundary, but one which does not detach the site from the surrounding landscape (i.e. not a brick wall).
1.6 Sagrahawa

1.6.1 Location

1.6.2 Short description of site

1.6.2.1 General description of the site, including history and archaeology (in short)

First excavated by Dr Fuhrer, who identified what he believed to be a series of small stupas. His findings were reassessed by P.C. Mukherji, who described a large monumental structure, which is similar in style to the Gupta period temples at Kudan and Chatradei. Unfortunately, all that remains of this monument is a large mound adjacent to a large water tank. Recent geophysical survey as part of the UNESCO-JFIT project has identified further subsurface remnants of Sagrahawa's past monuments, and fieldwalking has indicated a spread of cultural material on the surface around the site, particularly concentrated to the southwest.

1.6.2.2 Sources identified for more in-depth study


1.6.3 Significant attributes

1.6.3.1 Tangible Attributes

- Large rectilinear temple, now largely ruined and overgrown
- Large artificially created pond measuring 340 metres east-west and 90 metres north-south
- A complex of other temples and structures, largely destroyed and overgrown
- Two now destroyed temples in the fields to the southwest of the site

1.6.3.2 Intangible Attributes

- Location of the massacre and burial of the Sakya clan

1.6.3.3 Community Assets

- Samai Mai Shrine
- Small tea shop
- Grazing land
- Fishing contract
1.6.4 Map of attributes with landscape features

1.6.4.1 Map/plan showing location of attributes and landscape features

1.6.4.2 Archaeological Risk Map (if conducted)

No archaeological risk map has been prepared
1.6.4.3 Geophysical Survey and Fieldwalking Maps
1.6.5 Map of proposed boundary, buffer zones and facilities

1.6.5.1 Existing boundaries (indicating current boundary demarcation)

The boundary to the south and parts of the eastern and western boundary are defined by large concrete posts with barbed wire strung between. It is largely in a poor state of maintenance. The boundary for the north of the site is more ephemeral and has no physical demarcation.

1.6.5.2 Existing management and tourism facilities

There is a small tea shop just inside the southern boundary to the site. There is no on-site management. Access to the site is largely ad hoc, through any number of openings in the boundary.
1.6.5.3 Proposed boundary

The following map provides an outline defining the archaeological site in red. This proposal will require further discussions to finalize and adopt a definite boundary. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning. We suggest that the boundary of the site is expanded to include the area of two ruined temples to the southwest and to incorporate a threshing area on the southern boundary.

1.6.5.5 Proposed buffer boundary

We suggest a buffer extending to the river channels to the east and west (or a minimum of 100 metres) and southwards along the irrigation channel across the river. This proposal will require further discussions to be finalized and adopted which will be done in the next phase of planning.
1.6.5.6 Demarcation of proposed area to be purchased

Based on the finalized archaeological site boundary and buffer zone and the identification of present ownership, a detailed plan for required purchase of the land by the Government of Nepal will be demarcated. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

There are two main areas for land purchase:
- The area used for threshing on the southern boundary of the site just to the east of the Samai Mai Shrine (0.4ha)
- The area of fields to the southwest of the current site which contains the two ruined temples identified by Mukherji and confirmed through fieldwalking (3.2ha).

1.6.5.6 Proposed management and tourism facilities

Based on the finalized archaeological site boundary and buffer zones, appropriate tourism management planning will be carried out. This will entail defining and detailing out tourism facilities which are appropriate to the site, and particularly within the site, are non-intrusive and reversible. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.
1.6.6 Considerations for protection and management

1.6.6.1 Traffic Lights (linked to significance and priority)

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1.6.6.2 Current protection and management arrangements

The current protection of the property is based on the management arrangements of Lumbini Development Trust (Lumbini Development Trust Act 1986), and the Department of Archaeology (Ancient Monument Preservation Act 1956). There are no specific protection and management plans prepared. The preparation and establishment of a management system will be carried out in the next planning phase.

1.6.6.3 Traffic Lights (linked to threats and challenges)

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1.6.6.4 Proposed protection and management arrangements (including ownership)

Some considerations, these need to be discussed in the next phase of planning.

- Raised timber walkways
- Disabled access
1.7 Sisaniya

1.7.1 Location

1.7.2 Short description of site

1.7.2.1 General description of the site, including history and archaeology (in short)

Sisaniya consists of a large mound measuring 260x200 metres in size, with a small circular mound to the north believed to be a stupa. P.C. Mukherji identified the site as a town with brick structures, mounds and wells. Dated by Debala Mitra to the 1st century CE, Giovanni Verardi suggested that the artefacts found on the surface demonstrated occupation through to the 9th century CE. Recent geophysical survey as part of the UNESCO-JFIT project has confirmed the presence of a small city buried below the surface with a wide north-south running street flanked by east-west lanes lined with brick structures. Close to the large mound there is a stupa, a large now buried water tank is present. Fieldwalking as part of this project has also identified large volumes of brick and ceramics on the surface, indicating the rich concentrations of cultural heritage buried below.

1.7.2.2 Sources identified for more in-depth study


1.7.3 Significant attributes

1.7.3.1 Tangible Attributes

- Medium sized cardinally oriented town dating to 2nd century CE onwards (Kushan period)
- Stupa to northeast of town (date unknown)
- Water tank to northwest of stupa (date unknown)
- Various areas of industrial activity surrounding town
- A possible moat surrounding the town
1.7.3.2 *Intangible Attributes*

- Site is used as a seasonal campsite for transborder nomadic groups
- Samai Mai Shrine

1.7.3.3 *Community Assets*

- School
- Cricket pitch
- Platform used for religious purposes
- Small temple
- Cultivation

1.7.4 *Map of attributes with landscape features*

1.7.4.1 *Map/plan showing location of attributes and landscape features*

![Map of attributes with landscape features](image)

1.7.4.2 *Archaeological Risk Map*

No archaeological risk map has been prepared
1.1.4.3 Geophysical Survey and Fieldwalking Maps
1.7.5 Map of proposed boundary, buffer zones and facilities

1.7.5.1 Existing boundaries (indicating current boundary demarcation)

The boundary is currently demarcated by large concrete posts, some areas of which have barbed wire strung between them but the site extends beyond

1.7.5.2 Existing management and tourism facilities

There are currently no management or tourist facilities

1.7.5.3 Proposed boundary

We suggest a significant increase in the site boundary to include the areas of industrial activity, include the known extent of the town and bring together the town and stupa.
1.7.5.5 Proposed buffer boundary

We propose a buffer that extends to the irrigation channel to the east, and to the settlements to the west and south. This proposal will require further discussions.

1.7.5.6 Demarcation of proposed area to be purchased

Based on the finalized archaeological site boundary and buffer zone and the identification of present ownership, a detailed plan for required purchase of the land by the Government of Nepal will be demarcated. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.
1.7.5.4 Proposed management and tourism facilities

Based on the finalized archaeological site boundary and buffer zones, appropriate tourism management planning will be carried out. This will entail defining and detailing out tourism facilities which are appropriate to the site, and particularly within the site, are non-intrusive and reversible. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

1.7.6 Considerations for protection and management

1.7.6.1 Traffic Lights (linked to significance and priority)

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1.7.6.2 Current protection and management arrangements

The current protection of the property is based on the management arrangements of Lumbini Development Trust (Lumbini Development Trust Act 1986), and the Department of Archaeology (Ancient Monument Preservation Act 1956). There are no specific protection and management plans prepared. The preparation and establishment of a management system will be carried out in the next planning phase.

1.7.6.3 Traffic Lights (linked to threats and challenges)

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1.7.6.4 Proposed protection and management arrangements (including ownership)

Some considerations, these need to be discussed in the next phase of planning.

- Bypass road
- Disabled access
- Walkways
2. Associated archaeological sites

There are four associated archaeological sites that have also been studied through the UNESCO Japanese Funds-in-Trust project, together with the Department of Archaeology and Lumbini Development Trust. Initial sites surveys were carried out by a team from Tokyo University. More detailed surveys and investigations were then carried out by a team from Durham University’s UNESCO Chair. This report provides the basic outcome of these surveys and investigations.

For each of the four associated archaeological sites, the existing condition of the site, the boundaries, protective measures and visitor facilities have been documented. This is the basis for defining the physical extent of the sites, their boundaries and buffer zones. This will be the basis for providing boundary demarcations, as well as proposing areas to be purchased by the government. The archaeological sites will need to be managed properly to ensure adequate protection and appropriate activities. Condition assessments, as well as existing visitor facilities have been documented, as a basis for further planning.

This section has provided a compilation of the basic information required to carry out detailed planning. The information provided here will need to be reviewed in the next phase of planning.

Map of the identified archaeological sites in the Greater Lumbini Area including the eleven sites that have been assessed in this report. (Map: UNESCO Chair, Durham University)
2.1 Chatradei / Chetradei

2.1.1 Location

2.1.2 Short description of site

2.1.2.1 General description of the site, including history and archaeology (in short)

Chatradei is located 1.6 kilometres northwest of Tilaurakot, on the other side of the Banganga River. Initial excavations by P.C. Mukherji in 1899 uncovered a cruciform building decorated with carved bricks. He initially suggested that they were contemporary to Tilaurakot, but Debala Mitra recognised the similarities between Chatradei and Kudan, and stated that they were no earlier than seventh Century AD. Geophysics in 2016 identified additional structures under cultivated fields to the south-east of the larger mound. A further smaller mound is present to the south. Very little is visible of the structure exposed by Mukherji as the mounds are covered in vegetation but thicker material has been cleared recently. Cultivated until recently, now most of the area is grassed.

2.1.2.2 Sources identified for more in-depth study


2.1.8.3 Significant attributes

2.1.3.1 Tangible Attributes

- Two temple complex, now largely ruined and overgrown
- Several undefined subsurface structures, walled compounds and wall lines

2.1.3.2 Intangible Attributes

- Samai Mai Shrine
- Mukherji referred to a shrine to the goddess Chitra

2.1.3.3 Community Assets

- Samai Mai temple
- Threshing areas within open spaces
- Cricket pitch
2.1.4 Map of attributes with landscape features

2.1.4.1 Map/plan showing location of attributes and landscape features

2.1.4.2 Archaeological Risk Map
2.1.4.3 Geophysical Survey and Fieldwalking Maps
2.1.5 Map of proposed boundary, buffer zones and facilities

2.1.5.1 Existing boundaries (indicating current boundary demarcation)

The current boundary is defined by large concrete posts placed intermittently around the site boundary. Until recently the interior of the site was under cultivation, but this has now been halted.

2.1.5.2 Existing management and tourism facilities

None at present
2.1.5.3 Proposed boundary

The following map provides an outline defining the archaeological site in red. At present no changes to the site boundary are proposed. This proposal will require further discussions to finalize and adopt a definite boundary. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

2.1.5.4 Proposed buffer boundary

The following map provides a proposal for buffer zones provided in various shades of green. This proposal will require further discussions to finalize and adopt a definite boundary. The archaeological site of Chetradehi could be linked to the Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu site, within a broader buffer zone. Details on Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu have been provided under Section 1.1 of this report. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

2.1.5.5 Demarcation of proposed area to be purchased

Based on the finalized archaeological site boundary and buffer zone and the identification of present ownership, a detailed plan for required purchase of the land by the Government of Nepal will be demarcated. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

2.1.5.6 Proposed management and tourism facilities

Based on the finalized archaeological site boundary and buffer zones, appropriate tourism management planning will be carried out. This will entail defining and detailing out tourism facilities which are appropriate to the site, and particularly within the site, are non-intrusive and reversible. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.
2.1.6 Considerations for protection and management

2.1.6.1 Traffic Lights (linked to significance and priority)

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2.1.6.2 Current protection and management arrangements

The current protection of the property is based on the management arrangements of the Department of Archaeology (Ancient Monument Preservation Act 1956). There are no specific protection and management plans prepared. The preparation and establishment of a management system will be carried out in the next planning phase.

2.1.6.3 Traffic Lights (linked to threats and challenges)

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2.1.6.4 Proposed protection and management arrangements (including ownership)

Some considerations, these need to be discussed in the next phase of planning.

- Disabled access
- Walkways
2.2 Dohani

2.2.1 Location

2.2.2 Short description of site

2.2.2.1 General description of the site, including history and archaeology (in short)

First recorded by Debala Mitra as “a low unpromising mound by the side of the Taulihawa-Lumbini Road”, recent UNESCO-JFIT and Department of Archaeology (Government of Nepal) investigations at Dohani have uncovered the remains of a small fortified enclosure. Fieldwalking identified a spread of cultural material around the site, and geophysical survey identified a small fortified enclosure, which related to the archaeological mound. The fortified enclosure was square with a rounded stirrup bastion on each corner. Measuring 50 x 50 metres across, excavation confirmed that its ramparts were constructed from clay. Excavations and auger coring have also indicated that the site was occupied prior to the construction of the fortified enclosure, indicative of a long history of settlement. Similar in morphology and design to Karma, these sites may reflect a planned and centralised development of fortified enclosures to shelter pilgrims, traders or other groups using communication networks and routeways across the landscape.

2.2.2.2 Sources identified for more in-depth study


2.2.3 Significant attributes

2.2.3.1 Tangible Attributes

- Archaeological mound, including the fortified enclosure

2.2.3.2 Intangible Attributes

- Local story that the site is protected and that those who steal from the site become ill.
- Local story of a large snake which disappeared
2.2.3.3 Community Assets

- Threshing areas
- Grazing areas
- Samai Mai concrete-built shrine on archaeological mound
- Open defecation zone

2.2.4 Map of attributes with landscape features

2.2.4.1 Map/plan showing location of attributes and landscape features

2.2.4.2 Archaeological Risk Map

No archaeological risk map has been prepared
2.2.4.3 Geophysical Survey and Fieldwalking Maps
2.2.5 Map of proposed boundary, buffer zones and facilities

2.2.5.1 Existing boundaries (indicating current boundary demarcation)

The boundary has recently been replaced with a high white-washed brick wall topped with metal spikes. Access is provided through a large vehicular gate in the northeast corner. It should be noted that the extensive boundary wall has done little to prevent people from entering the site, and has instead encouraged illicit activities such as gambling to occur out of sight from the main village.

2.2.5.2 Existing management and tourism facilities

There are some small tea shops on the main road that cater for locals, but can also cater for visitors.
2.2.5.3 Proposed boundary

The following map provides an outline defining the archaeological site in red. We do not propose any changes to the current boundary. This proposal will require further discussions to finalize and adopt a definite boundary. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

2.2.5.4 Proposed buffer boundary

We suggest a buffer extending between the two slightly larger settlements to the northwest and southeast and along the main road. This proposal will require further discussions to be finalized and adopted which will be done in the next phase of planning.

2.2.5.5 Demarcation of proposed area to be purchased

Based on the finalized archaeological site boundary and buffer zone and the identification of present ownership, a detailed plan for required purchase of the land by the Government of Nepal will be demarcated. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

2.2.5.6 Proposed management and tourism facilities

Based on the finalized archaeological site boundary and buffer zones, appropriate tourism management planning will be carried out. This will entail defining and detailing out tourism facilities which are appropriate to the site, and particularly within the site, are non-intrusive and reversible. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.
2.2.6 Considerations for protection and management

2.2.6.1 Traffic Lights (linked to significance and priority)

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2.2.6.2 Current protection and management arrangements

The current protection of the property is based on the management arrangements of the Department of Archaeology (Ancient Monument Preservation Act 1956). There are no specific protection and management plans prepared. The preparation and establishment of a management system will be carried out in the next planning phase.

2.2.6.3 Traffic Lights (linked to threats and challenges)

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2.2.6.4 Proposed protection and management arrangements (including ownership)

Some considerations, these need to be discussed in the next phase of planning.

- Walkways
- Disabled access
- Toilets
- carpark
2.3 Karma

2.3.1 Location

2.3.2 Short description of site

2.3.2.1 General description of the site, including history and archaeology (in short)

Karma is a mounded site found on the Taulihawa-Lumbini road. Visited by Verardi and later by Mori, the site was identified as a square fortified enclosure with rounded bastions. UNESCO-JFIT investigations at the site have identified this morphology through UAV imagery and total station mapping of the site, with a monument that measures 50 x 50 metres across, with rounded stirrup bastions on each corner. Further investigations, including geophysical survey and auger coring, indicate that the only archaeological features at the site are the clay ramparts and associated ditch – thus the site was not occupied prior to the creation of the monument. Almost identical in size and morphology to Dohani, the site is likely to be part of centralised infrastructure developed for sheltering pilgrims, merchants, and government officials on routeways through the landscape.

2.3.2.2 Sources identified for more in-depth study

(Verardi 2007: 32), (Mori 2015: 81), (Coningham et al. 2018a), (Coningham et al. 2019)

2.3.3 Significant attributes

2.3.3.1 Tangible Attributes

- Archaeological mound, including the fortified enclosure
- Small moat surrounding the fortified enclosure

2.3.3.2 Intangible Attributes

- Unknown at present

2.3.3.3 Community Assets

- Cluster of clay elephants dedicated to Samai Mai on the northeast bastion
2.3.4 Map of attributes with landscape features

2.3.4.1 Map/plan showing location of attributes and landscape features

2.3.4.2 Archaeological Risk Map

No archaeological risk map has been produced
2.3.4.2 Geophysical Survey and Fieldwalking Maps
2.3.5 Map of proposed boundary, buffer zones and facilities

2.3.5.1 Existing boundaries (indicating current boundary demarcation)

There is a recently erected barbed wire fence surrounding the site, with no access point defined.

2.3.5.2 Existing management and tourism facilities

There are no current management or tourism facilities. A water treatment plant is under construction just to the north of the site.
2.3.5.3 Proposed boundary

The following map provides an outline defining the archaeological site in red. We propose an expansion of the site boundary beyond the immediate fort/moat to the irrigation canal to the west, up to the water treatment plant to the north and a slight extension to the south and east. This would allow for vehicle access to the west of the water plant as it is likely that the current vehicle tract running form the village to the west will be improved in the future. This proposal will require further discussions to finalize and adopt a definite boundary. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

2.3.5.5 Proposed buffer boundary

We propose a buffer extending 100 metres north of the current vehicle track, as far west as the village and 100 metres to the south and east. This proposal will require further discussions to be finalized and adopted which will be done in the next phase of planning.
2.3.5.6 Demarcation of proposed area to be purchased

Based on the finalized archaeological site boundary and buffer zone and the identification of present ownership, a detailed plan for required purchase of the land by the Government of Nepal will be demarcated. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

2.3.5.4 Proposed management and tourism facilities

Based on the finalized archaeological site boundary and buffer zones, appropriate tourism management planning will be carried out. This will entail defining and detailing out tourism facilities which are appropriate to the site, and particularly within the site, are non-intrusive and reversible. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.
2.3.6 Considerations for protection and management

2.3.6.1 Traffic Lights (linked to significance and priority)

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2.3.6.2 Current protection and management arrangements

The current protection of the property is based on the management arrangements of the Department of Archaeology (Ancient Monument Preservation Act 1956). There are no specific protection and management plans prepared. The preparation and establishment of a management system will be carried out in the next planning phase.

2.3.6.3 Traffic Lights (linked to threats and challenges)

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2.3.6.4 Proposed protection and management arrangements (including ownership)

Some considerations, these need to be discussed in the next phase of planning.

- Disabled access
- Walkways
2.4 Motipur

2.4.1 Location

Rupendehi District

2.4.2 Short description of site

2.4.2.1 General description of the site, including history and archaeology (in short)

Motipur was first reported in 2017, when a brick well was discovered submerged within a pond that was being constructed for a fish farm. The well was constructed from specially-manufactured and marked bricks, similar to those identified at the Lumbini nursery well. This suggests that it was a ‘kit-well’ and were produced centrally. The kit-wells were then installed at designated locations throughout the wider landscape, potentially as infrastructure for pilgrims moving across the landscape. Recent auger coring and fieldwalking at the site as part of the UNESCO-JFIT project has indicated that the well might be the only durable feature situated at Motipur, a similar feature of the isolated but identical well at Lumbini’s nursery.

2.4.2.2 Sources identified for more in-depth study

(Coningham et al. 2013b), (Mori 2017: 16), (Coningham et al. forthcoming)

2.4.3 Significant attributes

2.4.3.1 Tangible Attributes

- Kit well, constructed from bricks with stamped markings

2.4.3.2 Intangible Attributes

- Unknown at present

2.4.3.3 Community Assets

- Unknown at present
2.4.4 Map of attributes with landscape features

2.4.4.1 Map/plan showing location of attributes and landscape features

2.4.4.2 Archaeological Risk Map
No archaeological risk map has been prepared

2.4.4.3 Geophysical Survey and Fieldwalking Maps
No geophysical survey has been conducted
2.4.5 Map of proposed boundary, buffer zones and facilities

2.4.5.1 Existing boundaries (indicating current boundary demarcation)
There are currently no government owned elements of the site

2.4.5.2 Existing management and tourism facilities
There are some tea shops and restaurants on the main road that serve workers at the cement factories and travellers
2.4.5.3 Proposed boundary

The following map provides an outline defining the archaeological site in red. We propose a boundary extending for one field to the north and south of the pond. This proposal will require further discussions to finalize and adopt a definite boundary. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

2.4.5.4 Proposed buffer boundary

We suggest a buffer extending to the river to the east and south, the village road to the west and the main road to the north. This proposal will require further discussions to be finalized and adopted which will be done in the next phase of planning.
2.4.5.5 Demarcation of proposed area to be purchased

Based on the finalized archaeological site boundary and buffer zone and the identification of present ownership, a detailed plan for required purchase of the land by the Government of Nepal will be demarcated. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

2.4.5.6 Proposed management and tourism facilities

Based on the finalized archaeological site boundary and buffer zones, appropriate tourism management planning will be carried out. This will entail defining and detailing out tourism facilities which are appropriate to the site, and particularly within the site, are non-intrusive and reversible. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.
2.4.6 Considerations for protection and management

2.4.6.1 Traffic Lights (linked to significance and priority)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SIGNIFICANCE</th>
<th>RANKING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>BUDDHIST SIGNIFICANCE</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNDERSTANDING OF SITE</td>
<td>LOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNDERSTANDING OF LANDSCAPE</td>
<td>LOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRIORITY</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.4.6.2 Current protection and management arrangements

The current protection of the property is based on the management arrangements of the Department of Archaeology (Ancient Monument Preservation Act 1956). There are no specific protection and management plans prepared. The preparation and establishment of a management system will be carried out in the next planning phase.

2.4.6.3 Traffic Lights (linked to threats and challenges)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THREAT</th>
<th>THREAT LEVEL</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SITE PROTECTION</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>SITE MANAGEMENT</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENCROACHMENT</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
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<tr>
<td>DAMAGE - AGRICULTURE / GRAZING</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAMAGE - VEHICLES / PEOPLE</td>
<td>MEDIUM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAMAGE - RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES</td>
<td>MEDIUM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OVERALL RISK RATING</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
</tr>
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2.4.6.4 Proposed protection and management arrangements (including ownership)

Some considerations, these need to be discussed in the next phase of planning.

- Disabled access
- Walkways
3. General Management Guidelines

The “General Management Guidelines” is comparable to a “World Heritage Management System” with the requirement of protecting the attributes that express the most significant values of the heritage property. The General Management Guidelines for the Kapilbastu Archaeological Sites has been established consisting of adopted management frameworks, established processes and actions along with various sector plans. The process of developing the General Management Guidelines for the Kapilbastu Archaeological Sites was carried out with consultation with government authorities, local representatives and community and it has been possible to come to an overall understanding of how the Kapilbastu Archaeological Sites need to be managed to ensure that heritage is safeguarded while enabling the local communities to improve their livelihood. Close relationship has also been developed with related sectors such as local administration, tourism, agriculture, disaster risk management and environment protection. The management of the Kapilbastu Archaeological Sites will however depend on overall government policies and local governance. This requires regular review and amendments to the General Management Guidelines to adapt to changing circumstances, however the overarching objective must be retained: “to protect the attributes expressing significant value of the archaeological heritage properties as well as the locally recognised heritage values, while taking into account sustainable development including the standard of living, safety and economic viability of the community living in and around the archaeological heritage properties.”

The General Management Guidelines are defined by the Management Frameworks and related actions. Additionally, the management takes into account sector plans or strategies. These include Conservation Strategy, Regional Planning, Community Engagement Strategy, Disaster Risk Management Strategy and Tourism Management Strategy. The General Management Guidelines will provide the required outline for each of these strategies which include definitions, assessments and means of managing the particular sector. Cross-sectoral coordination is required. The sectoral strategies will need to link to the relevant planning at regional level that have been prepared through the relevant government agencies, and coordinate with other ongoing planning, particularly that of the Greater Lumbini Area. This requires close collaboration with the government at district and provincial level, as well as the concerned authorities at central level.

The General Management Guidelines consist of four main sections. The first section provides the overall management framework: principles and objectives, along with the institutional, legal and resources frameworks. This is followed by the second section on the guidelines particularly focusing on the individual sector strategies: Conservation, Regional Planning, Community Engagement, Disaster Risk Management and tourism Management. The third section provides clarification on how the General Management Guidelines is compatible with World Heritage nomination. The fourth and final section provides clarification on how the General Management Guidelines is compatible with the Planning of the Greater Lumbini Area.
3.1 Management Framework

3.1.1 The Vision for the Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District

The vision statements create a broad understanding of what is expected from the long-term conservation and development of the Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District.

i. The subsurface archaeology, cultural heritage and environmental features of the Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District are safeguarded so that it retains its historical and spiritual significance.

ii. The significance of the Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District is presented in a detailed and correct manner based on extensive research of its subsurface archaeology, as well as cultural and natural features.

iii. The local communities will contribute in safeguarding the Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District, ensuring their livelihood, while following the principles of sustainable development including heritage conservation.

3.1.2 Overarching Management Principles

A Management system can be understood as an operational instrument to utilize available resources to protect defined heritage value, while responding to circumstances in the given context. The principles that are to be observed in achieving the management goals are:

Significance-driven
The concern for the conservation of the significance of the site is at the core of decision-making and must be balanced against the interests of other sectors;

Promotes local empowerment
Devolution of powers to the local site managers must be accomplished to whatever degree possible;

Socially and economically sustainable
The Management Guidelines will be prepared on an understanding of sustainability, both in respect to social as well as economic operations of the site;

Local communities to profit
Local communities will profit from developments that take place and all management and planning decisions will take into account the needs of the locals;

Bottom-up approach
The Management Guidelines will take into account the realities at the site level when developing conservation strategies, particularly in respect to living cultural heritage;

Process oriented
The management will focus on the processes and linkages between the components of the site and the various actors to allow for realistic long-term implementation;

Planning beyond heritage boundaries
The planning of archaeological sites will go beyond the boundaries and buffer zones and shall addressing issues by defusing pressures into the surrounding regions;
3.1.3 Conservation Approach

This section provides an overview of mutual agreed approach to conserving the major attributes of the heritage property. This is the basis for working on detailed legal instruments and procedures.

General Conservation Approach

The general approach to conservation is to ensure that all significant attributes are safeguarded through regular monitoring, maintenance and control of activities that might impact the attributes. While ensuring that the attributes are safeguarded, activities linked to the local intangible heritage shall be promoted. A balance shall be achieved to ensure sustainable development taking into account the livelihood of the local community, their cultural identity as well as their spiritual sentiments. This will be the basis for the establishment of the General Management Guidelines.

Approach to conservation of physical attributes

The Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District consist of outstanding physical attributes, closely linked to the landscape, mainly the subsurface archaeological remains. Many of these elements have been listed in the inventory as contributing to the significance of the cultural heritage property and will therefore need to be protected. Many of these elements are related to beliefs, rituals and other forms of intangible heritage. The general approach to conserving the physical attributes is to safeguard original fabric, while allowing conservation and interpretation. Any interventions, using traditional or modern materials, will be removable and documented to allow for monitoring and replacement. Non-intrusive surveys will be carried out and risk maps prepared to ensure that construction work does not damage subsurface archaeology. The general approach to conserving subsurface archaeology is to identify and to safeguard and only where protection is ensured will excavation and presentation be carried out.

Approach to conservation of physiographical attributes

The landscape in the Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District is comprised of natural features and human interventions over numerous centuries creating a landscape. These unique and exceptional physiographical attributes of the Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District contribute to the heritage site’s significance and must therefore be maintained. The basic approach to maintenance and safeguarding of the physiographical attributes is to retain the original landscape including the topographical features and hydrological system. Substantially changing the topography is not permitted.

Approach to Development Controls and Physical Planning

The Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District are located within a vast area with towns and villages, agricultural activities, as well as with major infrastructure such as highways, industries and irrigation channels. Regional planning with development controls will ensure that the heritage sites are protected from direct and indirect impacts. These measures will be coordinated with the concepts for the planning of the Greater Lumbini Area.
3.1.4 Conservation and Sustainable Development

Sustainable Development must be pursued in the Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District. This means that conservation of cultural and natural heritage must go hand-in-hand with social and economic development, taking into account the needs of future generations.

Defining Sustainable Development

The Brundtland Commission defined Sustainable Development as, “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own need”.

Sustainable Development is considered to be based on the following three policy areas or “pillars”; economic development, social development and environmental protection. There have however been further elaborations done to this definition, namely in respect to the inclusion of culture (or cultural diversity) as an integral part of our environment or even as the fourth pillar of Sustainable Development. By inclusion of culture – especially in respect to heritage conservation – the definition of Sustainable Development embraces a whole new dimension; that of our past. The conservation of “heritage” - be it cultural or natural - reflects the key principle of Sustainable Development; it is the conservation of that which we inherit from the past, which is of value and is worth preserving for future generations. “Value” as utilised here, is the qualitative aspect of “need”, the term referred to in defining Sustainable Development. Sustainable Development is the key to the long-term preservation of the Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District.

The General Management Guidelines shall take into account:

- **Economic Sustainability**  Economic Sustainability is achieved when all people have access to an improved standard of living without impairing future economic development.

- **Social Sustainability**  Social Sustainability is achieved when transformations of social structures improve capacity of societies to achieve their aspirations while retaining their positive features.

- **Environmental Sustainability**  Environmental Sustainability is achieved when the consumption of nature’s resources does not exceed their replenishment.

- **Cultural Sustainability**  Cultural Sustainability is achieved when heritage is conserved without inhibiting society’s basic needs.

The conservation of the Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District, which is defined by physical and physiographical cultural attributes, depends on ensuring overall sustainable development. This is linked to the livelihoods of the local communities, their intangible cultural heritage, protection of the environment, as well as ensuring appropriate tourism, infrastructure development and agriculture.
Relevance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The management of the Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District is closely linked to the local governance of the heritage site boundary, as well as the surrounding region. This large area requires detailed planning for sustainable development and the required resources must be linked to government plans and polices. This will also need to consider the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those goals and targets that refer to cultural heritage and cultural activities.

The preamble to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development begins with the statement that “This Agenda is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity. It also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. We recognize that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. All countries and all stakeholders, acting in collaborative partnership, will implement this plan.”

Para 36 of the declaration states; “We pledge to foster intercultural understanding, tolerance, mutual respect and an ethic of global citizenship and shared responsibility. We acknowledge the natural and cultural diversity of the world and recognize that all cultures and civilizations can contribute to, and are crucial enablers of, sustainable development.” Many of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets are relevant for the Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District. Within these are several targets that are specifically linked to culture and cultural heritage.

Goal 4  Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all;

4.7 By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development.

Goal 8  Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all;

8.9 By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products.

Goal 11  Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable;

11.4 Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage.

Goal 12  Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns;

12.b Develop and implement tools to monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products.

These goals and targets will also link up with the objective identified for the management of the Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District. This will allow for resources for achieving the SDGs to be used for the management of the Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District.
3.1.5 Key Management Objectives

Overarching Themes

The overarching themes are based on a comprehensive assessment of issues in and around the Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District. The management system must be established with the objective of addressing all identified issues. This document provides the framework which defines how the issues are to be addressed which will be the basis for developing the required actions to address these issues.

The following list of overarching themes covers all identified issues:

Establishing Coordinated Management
- This theme is related to the overall management of the site, institutional, legal and resources frameworks as well as additional management tools including Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and Data Management.

Planning of Actions
- This theme is related to action planning, particularly in respect to the need for routine actions, time-bound projects and emergency response, along with the required institutional, legal and resources.

Protection of Landscape
- This theme is related to issues concerning the protection of the physiographical attributes of the site, particularly the topography, the hydrology system, as well as land-use, land cover and agricultural landscapes.

Protection of Sub-surface Archaeology and Built Heritage
- This theme is related to conservation of built heritage such as fortification and monuments, ornamentation and sub-surface archaeology as well as site interpretation and museum management.

Regional Planning Issues
- This theme is related to settlement planning, land-use management, infrastructure development and transportation management within heritage site and beyond.

Community Engagement
- This theme is related to community empowerment and local governance, as well as livelihood. This theme includes festivals and performances, crafts and traditional activities, belief systems as well as the intangible aspects that define community life.

Disaster Risk Management
- This theme is related to preparedness for earthquakes, flooding, heavy rainfall and other natural hazards.

Tourism Management
- This theme is related to tourism activities, infrastructure and accommodations as well as the contribution that tourism will provide for the conservation of the heritage property and the local community.
Key Management Objectives

The overarching objective of the General Management Guidelines for the Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District is to protect the attributes expressing the significant value of the cultural heritage properties, while taking into account sustainable development including the standard of living, safety and economic viability of the community living within the cultural heritage property.

Furthermore, based on the assessment of issues, the required actions and activities to address these issues, the key management objectives have been formulated. The objective of the management system is to address all the identified issues. The system however will also remain flexible to adapt to changing circumstances and respond to newly arising issues. This section provides the outline of key management objectives as determined by the identified issues.

The objectives of the General Management Guidelines are:

- To enable overall management of the site, through the establishment of required, institutional, legal and resources frameworks, while ensuring that required management tools such as Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and Data Management are established.
- To enable action planning, particularly in respect to the need for routine actions, time-bound projects and emergency response, along with the required institutional, legal and resources.
- To enable the conservation and protection of sub-surface archaeology and built heritage where relevant as well as site interpretation and museum management.
- To enable the protection of the physiographical attributes of the site, particularly the topography, the hydrology system, as well as land-use, land cover and agricultural landscapes.
- To enable appropriate regional planning, particularly in respect to settlement planning, land-use management, infrastructure development and transportation management within heritage site and beyond.
- To enable community empowerment and local governance, as well as livelihood. This theme is including festivals and performances, crafts and traditional activities, belief systems as well as the intangible aspects that define community life.
- To enable preparedness for earthquakes, flooding, heavy rainfall and other natural hazards.
- To enable the management of tourism activities, infrastructure and accommodations as well as the contribution that tourism will provide for the conservation of the heritage property and the local community.
3.2 Management Frameworks and Sectorial Strategies

The General Management Guidelines for the Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District has been established consisting of adopted management frameworks, established processes and actions along with various sector plans. With regular consultation with government authorities, local representatives and community, it has been possible to come to an overall understanding of how the Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District needs to be managed to ensure that heritage in safeguarded while enabling the local communities to improve their livelihood. Close relationship has also been developed with related sectors such as local administration, tourism, irrigation, disaster risk management and environment protection.

The General Management Guidelines is defined by the Management Framework and the Plan of Actions. While the Management Framework is officially adopted by the government, the Plan of Actions is a working document requiring ongoing amendments and changes to be carried out and would be the basis for establishing annual action plans. Additionally, there are five sectoral strategies: Conservation Strategy, Regional Planning, Community Engagement Strategy, Disaster Risk Management Strategy and Tourism Management Strategy. These sectoral plans or strategies contain detailed definitions, assessments and means of managing the particular sector.
3.2.1 Management Frameworks

Institutional Framework

Lumbini Development Trust is responsible for managing the sites related to the life of the Buddhas in the entire Lumbini Development Area encompassing archaeological sites in three districts – Kapilbastu, Rupendehi and Nawalparasi. The responsibility of managing the archaeological sites of Kapilbastu District will be specifically taken by the Lumbini Development Trust. The chain of command, the communication system and the reporting procedures will be identified and documented to ensure the required coordination amongst all offices within Lumbini Development Trust.

The authority within the central government that is responsible for heritage conservation is the Department of Archaeology (DoA), under the Ministry responsible for Culture. The Archaeological Conservation Section of the Department of Archaeology deals exclusively with archaeological sites throughout the country. The DoA will coordinate with Lumbini Development Trust to manage the archaeological sites of Kapilbastu District.

Coordination will also be required within the governance system of the Greater Lumbini Area under special provisions adopted by the Government of Nepal. Development will take place based on the concept of conserving the heritage sites, particularly the numerous archaeological sites in the region.

Legal Framework

The Lumbini Development Trust Act (LDTA) 1985 is an Act made to provide for the Lumbini Development Trust (LDT). The Act has been amended in 1991, 1993 and the third amendment was made in 1996. LDT is a non-profit making institution, an autonomous and corporate body with perpetual succession. The LDTA is a specific act for the implementation of the Lumbini Development Plan which would encompass the Lumbini Development Area which includes places directly or indirectly related to the life of the Lord Buddha, stretching from Kapilvastu, through Rupendehi to Nawalparasi. The Objectives of LDT is to obtain funds, provide funds for implementation and check on the proper utilization of funds. LDT may introduce changes in the work plan if so, deemed necessary in the interest of the Plan. LDT may establish committees and subcommittees to implement their work while keeping close relationship with the Government.

The legislation for the conservation, protection and management of cultural property is based on the Ancient Monument Preservation Act (AMPA) 1956, its subsequent amendments (the latest having been the fifth amendment in 1996) and the Ancient Monument Preservation Rules 1988. The Ancient Monument Preservation Act gives the Department of Archaeology the legal provisions to declare a monument or area to be a Protected Monument Zone (PMZ). The Department of Archaeology is subsequently responsible for the protection of the site, including controlling all archaeological excavation works, the prescription of building bylaws, approving requests for building permits and for any other construction activities within the zone.

Relevant legislation for regional planning will need to be accounted for.
Resources Framework

**Human Resource**

The human resources that are presently available from Lumbini Development Trust, Department of Archaeology and Local and Provincial Government, both permanent and part-time, need to be documented. This will then be assessed on whether the human resources are sufficient or not, and whether the required expertise and skills are available. The human resources will be required for routine management, for specific projects and for emergency response. Accordingly, proposals shall be prepared on how to improve human resources to ensure adequate protection and management of the archaeological sites. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

**Financial Resources**

The financial resources from Lumbini Development Trust, Department of Archaeology and Local and Provincial Government that are presently available for these archaeological sites need to be documented. The finances will be required for routine management, for specific projects and for emergency response. According to requirements for the protection and management of the property, the financial resources will be calculated and proposal prepared. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.

**Equipment and Facilities**

The equipment and facilities presently available at each of the archaeological sites need to be document. The equipment and facilities will be assessed as per the requirement for the protection and management of the sites. The equipment and facilities will be required for routine management, for specific projects and for emergency response. This will be carried out in the next phase of planning.
3.2.2 Plan of Actions

Management processes take place based on the institutional, legal and resources frameworks that have been established for the management of the cultural heritage site. For these processes to function, a clear means of communication needs to be established which ensures that necessary information is disseminated as per the requirements of each component of the system, in order for them to carry out their respective responsibilities. This also requires each component of the system to have the capacity to carry out their respective responsibilities.

To ensure an efficient and effective management of the heritage property, it is necessary to clearly define all essential management processes. These would include but not restrict themselves to the following procedures for decision-making and implementation: for any kind of conservation work; for any kind of construction work; for any kind of archaeological work; for visitor management; for providing services, for monitoring and for maintenance. These processes will be strictly adhered to by the Site Manager and related authorities. Each step in the process would need to identify who carries out what action, what information is passed on, why it is necessary and how long it would take.

Clear processes will be put in place also to control development in the buffer zone and protective area to ensure that value of the heritage sites is safeguarded. These would include but not restrict themselves to the following procedures for decision-making and implementation: for controlling pollution; for controlling construction of large infrastructure and tall buildings; for controlling traffic and for controlling flooding. Processes shall also be established to ensure sustainable development.

For each set of actions, a detailed implementation process is required. For all activities, detailed step by step procedures are to be established and agreed upon. Standard procedures for various activities have been established, such as for building permit procedures as well as coordination amongst the authorities and stakeholders. For each of the category of actions (routine actions, time-bound interventions or emergency response) different formats would be required

Routine actions
For the implementation of routine actions each process would roughly be developed considering office or person dealing with issue, type of action or decision required information to be received and maximum time for action or decision.

Time-bound interventions
For the implementation of time-bound interventions the following phases will be followed. The following three phases must be carried out including where relevant the various points mentioned under each phase.

Emergency response
For the implementation of emergency response detailed procedures will be developed. Basic response procedures are also provided within the Disaster Risk Management Strategy. Training will be provided on these procedures.
3.1.3 Conservation Strategy

An inventory of physical heritage attributes of the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District has been prepared. All the entries in the inventory need to be protected and therefore the necessary procedures and guidelines need to be established. These heritage attributes would be historic structures, particularly those for religious and defensive purposes, but also functional elements of the ancient settlements and its surroundings. The Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District is comprised of identified as well as potential sites for subsurface archaeology along with a very unique landscape, which need to be protected. It will be necessary to mainly focus on the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District, however at the same time the closely related cultural sites, archaeological remains and natural setting between the large area need to be considered, an area identified as the Protective Planning Area.

The Conservation Strategy contains assessment of all categories of physical heritage attributes included in the inventory, including the approach to monitoring, safeguarding and conserving them. The Conservation Strategy will also identify cultural heritage attributes beyond the inventory and provide the means of monitoring, safeguarding and conserving them. This also includes the identification of potential sub-surface archaeology, preparation of archaeological risk maps as well as means of researching, safeguarding and conserving them.

The Conservation Strategy is a component of the overall Management System of the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District. The Conservation Strategy will follow the principles, approaches as well as the management frameworks. The actions defined for the Conservation Management Plan will be integrated into the overall Plan of Actions, so there is coordination with activities linked to the overall management of the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District, as well as with all the sector strategies. Furthermore, cultural heritage properties are protected by the provisions of the 1956 Ancient Monument Preservation Act.

The Conservation Strategy will ensure coordination with other sector strategies. The Regional Planning is linked to the conservation of cultural heritage attributes within the Protective Planning Area. Community engagement in the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District includes identification of living heritage, community management of specific heritage as well as community-based monitoring. Management of disaster risk in the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District deals with reduction of vulnerability of the heritage attributes to disasters, along with mitigation, response and rehabilitation planning. Tourism management address tourism impact on the cultural attributes and required conservation and protective measures, along with possible assistance from the tourism sector for the management, monitoring and protection of cultural attributes.
3.1.5 Regional Planning Issues

The regional planning will deal with the Protective Planning Area within the Greater Lumbini Area. This area contains various archaeological sites beyond the identified and listed Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District. Changes to land-use, expansion of settlements and the introduction of infrastructure and service need to be planned carefully to ensure sustainable and appropriate development of this entire region. The regional planning will also resolve many issues that have been identified within the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District which will require additional space, improved access and services.

The Regional Plan also takes into account the identification of cultural heritage sites in the Protective Planning Area with provisions for their monitoring, protection and upkeep. The plan also identifies land-use in the Protective Planning Area along with settlement areas, which is the basis for identifying expansion and new development options. The Regional Plan also maps existing infrastructure and various projects (new highways / future railway), as well as short, mid- and long-term infrastructure development proposals, which would have regional impact, but also specifically deal with issues related to the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District. The plan also deals with assessment of the environment, particularly linked to landscape and hydrology, but also forests and other important ecological areas. These would need to be protected from encroachment, pollution as well as any other threats they might be facing.

The Regional Plan is a component of the overall Management System of the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District. The Regional Plan will follow the principles, approaches as well as the management frameworks defined in the Management Framework document. The actions defined for the Regional Plan will be integrated into the overall Plan of Actions, so there is coordination with activities linked to the overall management of the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District, as well as with all the sector strategies. Furthermore, the legal provisions provided for the sites and buffer zones of the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District will also be valid for various components of the surrounding region. This will need to be clearly determined, particularly linked to the development regulations.

The Regional Plan will ensure coordination with other sector strategies. Managing conservation of heritage attributes of the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District will also include the archaeological sites found in the region as well as other individual heritage sites. The requirements of the community will be considered in the larger surrounding areas, particularly when considering infrastructure and services as well as providing new livelihood opportunities. The management of hazards will be addressed within the Protective Planning Area, particularly in respect to floods but also to preparedness and accessibility. In respect to tourism management, tourism infrastructure and services, particularly for accommodation and access, will be planned in the large context of the Protective Planning Area.
3.1.6 Community Engagement

There is a sizable community living around the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District. They will need to become partners in the effort to safeguard heritage: the archaeology, as well as the landscape and environment. Particularly important will be to work on issues related to encroachment of important areas as well as management of waste. Many of the issues that the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District is facing is linked to uncontrolled development and community activities carried out consciously or due to lack of awareness. There will be certain restrictions put on the community in respect to what kind of structures they are allowed to build as well as restrictions on certain activities identified as inappropriate for the sites. These restrictions must contribute to safeguarding heritage. However, the community living around the heritage sites must also be able to profit from this location which means they must be given certain privileges, support and subsidies. The local communities must over time become champions of safeguarding the heritage of the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District.

The Community Engagement Strategy deals with the state of community habitat and dwellings, as well as their assessment and requirements, which will also be linked to the building bylaws. The strategy will also identify community lifestyle, as well as changes and means of appropriate improvements. The Community Engagement Strategy also deals with livelihood of communities, assessment of appropriateness to site and means of promoting appropriate activities, which could be linked to traditional crafts, agriculture or activities that help with the conservation of the heritage of the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District.

The Community Engagement Strategy is a component of the overall Management System of the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District. The Community Engagement Strategy will follow the principles, approaches as well as the management frameworks. The actions defined for the Community Engagement Strategy will be integrated into the overall Plan of Actions, so there is coordination with activities linked to the overall management of the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District, as well as with all the sector strategies. Furthermore, development regulations and building bylaws are required to control works being carried out by the local communities, which would be linked to relevant legislation and the specific legal provisions for the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District.

The Community Engagement Strategy will ensure coordination with other sector strategies. Managing conservation of heritage attributes of the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District requires community involvement in monitoring, as well as maintaining the heritage attributes. Regional planning will address the needs of the community. Management of disaster risk in the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District will be coordinated with mitigation and preparedness planning with communities as well as training as first responders. Management of tourism in the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District will ensure that the local communities must profit from tourism, not only as staff in projects of external investors, but preferably directly through their own enterprises.
3.1.7 Disaster Risk Management

Every year we have floods in the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District. Earthquakes, such as the 2015 Gorkha Earthquake, can directly and indirectly affect the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District. Further natural and human-induced hazards can have disastrous effects on the heritage site. The vulnerability of the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District to floods is largely based on lack of planning, as well as inappropriate interventions. The vulnerabilities that have increased due to lack of awareness and planning must be brought under control. Similarly, vulnerabilities to other forms of hazards must be identified and assessed and where possible reduced. Disaster mitigation requires a complex management system to be put in place. A comprehensive plan would take into account mitigation measures, preparedness, response along with “first aid” activities and the means for mid- and long-term rehabilitation.

The Disaster Risk Management Strategy provides information on the identification of hazards and information on past disasters. It also includes relevant vulnerability assessments of heritage attributes as well as settlements, key buildings, infrastructure and the hydrology system and landscapes. The Disaster Risk Management Strategy proposes measures for disaster mitigation, preparedness, as well as training in disaster response and “first aid”. The strategy defines the disaster management system and processes as well as the rehabilitation frameworks.

The Disaster Risk Management Strategy is a component of the overall Management System of the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District. The Disaster Risk Management Strategy will follow the principles, approaches as well as the management frameworks. The actions defined for the Disaster Risk Management Strategy will be integrated into the overall Plan of Actions, so there is coordination with activities linked to the overall management of the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District, as well as with all the sector strategies. Furthermore, disaster risk management and emergency response must be a central part of all management frameworks and processes.

The Disaster Risk Management Strategy will coordinate with other sector plans and strategies. Managing the landscape and hydrology in the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District is linked to flood assessments and mitigation measures. Managing conservation of heritage attributes of the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District is linked to disaster mitigation, but also preparedness, response and rehabilitation planning. The Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District Regional Planning deals with vulnerabilities that are often linked to a broader natural context and planning response and rehabilitation with the larger expanse of the surrounding regions will be included in the planning. Community engagement plays a central role in disaster management in respect to mitigation and preparedness, as well as being the first responders to any disaster. Management of tourism in the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District is a component of the disaster risk management and will deal with the requirements of the tourism sector.
3.1.8 Tourism Management

Tourism will become a major source of income for the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District and will also in the near future impact the development of the site. This means that tourism management ensure that the heritage site profits from the tourism sector while mitigating the negative impacts. The unique cultural heritage attributes of the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District along with the landscape will be a major attraction. These would need to be well maintained and presented to the visitors in an appropriate manner. Local visitors should also be considered, particularly for the religious sites. To ensure that the visitors support the local economy, particularly allowing the local community to participate in providing services. The sale of produces of the community must also be considered. This requires a strategy to target a particular profile of tourists. The tourism sector must also contribute to the upkeep of the heritage and the landscape. With growing tourist numbers, the impact on the site will grow. Access to the site must be provided in an appropriate manner. Furthermore, tourism accommodates are needed, either appropriate local traditional ones within the site or larger facilities in an appropriate location outside the heritage property. The requirement for clean toilets, water, appropriate food, shopping and such will need to be considered in the overall plan.

The Tourism Management Strategy contains documentation and assessment of tourism activities in the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District, along with existing tourism accommodations and services. The tourism potentials for the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District that are appropriate to the heritage site will be studied including targeted tourist profiles. The local communities will be involvement in providing services and products for tourists (including awareness and training) to ensure that they profit directly from this sector. The planning of visitor accommodations, services and tourism related infrastructure will be appropriate for the heritage property.

The Tourism Management Strategy is a component of the overall Integrated Management System of the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District. The Tourism Management Strategy will follow the principles, approaches as well as the management frameworks defined in the Integrated Management Framework document. The actions defined for the Tourism Management Strategy will be integrated into the overall Plan of Actions, so there is coordination with activities linked to the overall management of the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District, as well as with all the strategies.

The Tourism Management Strategy will coordinate with other sector strategies. The management of conservation will ensure the upkeep of heritage attributes with appropriate signage for visitors. Regional planning will address the need for tourism infrastructure and accommodates to be provided outside the heritage site, including additional sites and activities for tourists. Community engagement will ensure community members participate and profit from tourism in the Archaeological Sites of Kapilbastu District. Management of disaster risk will also address the needs of the tourism sector.
3.3 Link to World Heritage Nomination of Tilaurakot/Kapilavastu

The General Management Guidelines for the Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District will be established in a compatible to the process of World Heritage nomination of Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu.

Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu is on the Tentative List of World Heritage as “Tilaurakot, the archaeological remains of ancient Shakya Kingdom”. Here archaeological investigations have revealed an ancient planned and fortified settlement surrounded by extensive extramural developments including monastic, residential and early industrial facilities.

In a World Heritage nomination submitted by Nepal in 1993, a serial site including Lumbini, Tilaurakot and Ramagrama was proposed. The nomination was deferred due to lack of information and management. Tilaurakot, the archaeological remains of ancient Shakya Kingdom and Ramagrama, the relic stupa of Lord Buddha were then both placed on the World Heritage Tentative List in 1996 along with Lumbini, the Birthplace of Lord Buddha. In 1997 Lumbini was inscribed on the World Heritage List with intent shown to inscribe Tilaurakot and Ramagrama in the near future. When Lumbini was inscribed the delegate of Thailand declared that apart from Lumbini, there were two other sites closely associated with Buddha that were being prepared as a serial nomination and he hoped that the World Heritage Committee would consider them for future inscription. Even after two decades the nomination of Tilaurakot and Ramagrama has not progressed.

A report prepared by WCAE Pvt Ltd was prepared and submitted to the UNESCO Kathmandu Office in April 2016: Strategy for the possible nomination of Ramagrama and Tilaurakot on the World Heritage List. The report assessed the circumstances and proposed possible strategies for the inscription of these two important heritage sites taking into account the required research and planning to determine the extent and significance of the sites, as well as the required management system to ensure their protection.

Taking into account the progress made through the UNESCO-JFIT project, particularly on archaeological research of Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu, and the possible ending of the project in 2021, as well as the growing pressure of tourism and infrastructure development through the construction of the international airport in Bhairahawa, it is essential that the required conservation management system is put in place to safeguard the attributes that could possibly convey Outstanding Universal Value. For this to succeed, the preparations for nomination of Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu must begin immediately.

For the successful submission of a World Heritage nomination for Tilaurakot-Kapilavastu, the Government of Nepal will first need to adopt the nomination strategy, while agreeing on a moratorium of development projects, unless they are an integral part of the nomination process strategy. Furthermore, a team comprising of national and international experts must be established for the preparation of the nomination dossier and the integrated management system, which will require commitment, coordination and resources.
3.4 Link to Greater Lumbini Sector Plans

The General Management Guidelines for the Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District will be established in a compatible to the proposed planning of the Greater Lumbini Area.

The Vision for planning the Greater Lumbini Area must be based on its significance as the natal landscape of Gautama Siddhartha. The vision for development in the Greater Lumbini Area is further derived from development indicators for the area that give an overview of potentials and challenges. The Greater Lumbini Area is flat, well connected by roads, has a vast number of cultural heritage sites and the communities in the area have a good agrarian base. This area however also has some major challenges which includes education, health and protection of the environment. The challenge of planning the Greater Lumbini Area will be to profit from developing the potentials and using these to overcome the challenges. The following points would summarize the overall vision for sustainable development of the region:

- The cultural heritage of the Greater Lumbini Area will be researched and protected;
- The branding of the Greater Lumbini Area will allow for promotion and marketing;
- Good connectivity will allow the development of sustainable cultural tourism;
- The local communities will profit from economic development in the area;
- Local agriculture will be promoted, developed and marketed strategically;
- Regional planning will ensure appropriate and sustainable development of the area.

The aim of the planning of the Greater Lumbini Area is to ensure the protection of cultural heritage and environment while allowing for sustainable development and the improvement of the local economy based on tourism as well as other local industries which include agriculture and handicrafts.

The planning of the Greater Lumbini Area has the following objectives, which are valid for the General Management Guidelines for the Archaeological Sites in Kapilbastu District:

- To ensure the protection of cultural heritage while promoting research, interpretation and presentation in an accurate and appropriate manner;
- To manage and promote tourism for all visitors while providing them with high quality infrastructure and services and ensuring distribution of profits including to the local community;
- To improve the socio-economy of the three districts of Kapilbastu, Rupendehi and Nawalparasi through branding and marketing of local products;
- To establish land-use planning throughout the region to regulate development particularly for tourism infrastructure, monastic development, settlements and industry while protecting agricultural areas and natural forests and water bodies.
- To allow for controlled settlements to developed based on increasing populations particularly through improved livelihood;
- To develop appropriate infrastructure and services within the planning area that allows for improved economy and livelihood particularly considering tourism and agricultural development;
- To protect the environment while ensuring that pollution of all kinds is brought under control including polluting industries.
4. Conclusion and way forward

The archaeological sites of Greater Lumbini need to be identified, documented, protected and managed. This has begun with eleven archaeological sites that have been identified and surveyed, ten in Kapilbastu District and one in Rupendehi District. This report is an initial step in compiling basic information required to begin the planning process. It provides information on the extent of the sites and the present condition in respect to management and visitor facilities. Proposals have been provided to finalise the boundaries and buffer zones, as well as develop facilities for visitors.

In the next phase of planning, the following activities are envisioned:

- the information provided here will be reviewed
- the boundaries of the archaeological site will be finalized;
- the buffer zones of the archaeological site will be outlined;
- the attributes giving significance to the property will be determined, including mapping of intangible heritage;
- the threats to the attributes, as well as other issues, will be determined;
- planning for the protection of the attributes will be carried out;
- basic management frameworks will be developed to address these issues;
- specific planning for visitor management will be carried out.

This planning will lead to the following actions:

- purchase of land;
- demarcation of boundaries;
- developing accessibility and appropriate facilities;
- establishing basis visitor facilities.