

Ministry of Arts and Culture, Republic of Mauritius

State of Conservation Report

Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site

Mauritius (C 1227)



Ministry of Arts and Culture & Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund
Republic of Mauritius

13 January 2014



Executive summary

The Aapravasi Ghat was inscribed on the World Heritage List in July 2006. The World Heritage Property stands for the only remaining example of the “Great Experiment” initiated by the British Colonial Government in 1834 to evaluate the viability of a ‘free’ system of recruitment of labour called *Indenture* after slavery was abolished in 1833 in the British Empire. After the success of the *Great Experiment* initiated in Mauritius, the indenture system was adopted as from 1838 by other colonial powers to recruit workforce. Indenture led to the migration of more than 2.2 million people around the world.

Following the World Heritage Committee’s decision in 2012, the present State of Conservation report proposes to provide an update on actions undertaken to maintain the World Heritage Property and its Buffer Zones to the best international standards of conservation.

Response from the State Party to the World Heritage Committee’s Decision (36COM7B.45) paragraph by paragraph

1. Decision 36 COM 7B.45 - Paragraph 3

Paragraph 3: The World Heritage Committee “Welcomes the progress made by the State Party in improving the management system for the property and urges it to secure the necessary resources for its effective operation”

The developments in the last six years have led to the review of the managerial system for the World Heritage Property and its Buffer Zone in place since 2006. The managerial system has known major development when the Planning Policy Guidance for the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone was issued in June 2011. This led to the creation of a Technical Committee to monitor and examine development applications in the buffer zone.

This new legislative framework has led to consolidate the managerial system in place. The purpose in the Management Plan 2013-2018 is to establish an efficient and interactive system. This included the need to empower committees and give them a better appreciation of the full extent of their responsibilities and scope.

The diagram below presents the managerial system currently in place:

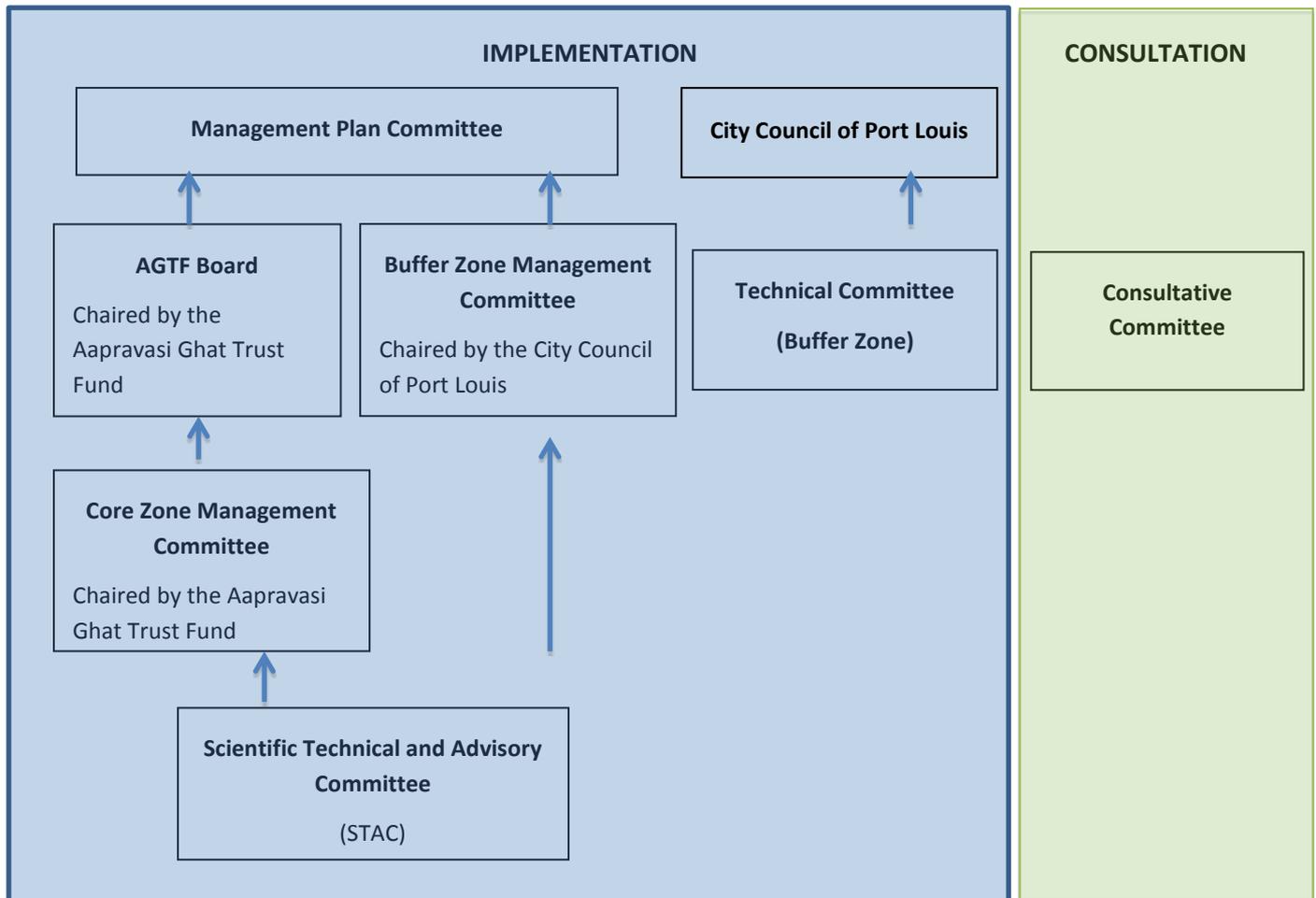


Diagram showing the management mechanism for the World Heritage Property and its Buffer Zones

2. Decision 36 COM 7B.45 - Paragraph 4a

Paragraph 4.a. "Finalize the updating of the management plan and submit it to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies for consideration and review."

The AGTF has reviewed the Management Plan for the World Heritage Property to strengthen the existing framework and guide stakeholders and all people involved in the conservation, management and promotion of the World Heritage Property.

In April 2013, the final draft of the Management Plan was submitted to the Ministry of Arts and Culture for approval of the Cabinet. The Management Plan 2013-2018 was approved by Cabinet and is submitted together with the State of Conservation Report to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory bodies for consideration and review.

3. Decision 36 COM 7B.45 - Paragraph 4b

Paragraph 4.b. "Develop a capacity building strategy to ensure that qualified conservation and management professionals are available to support the work of the Technical Committee"

On 19 August 2013, the Management Plan Committee created a working group to devise a training strategy based on the needs in capacity building for the management of the World Heritage Property Buffer Zone.

This committee has consulted stakeholders and established a strategy to create and consolidate capacity. One of the outcomes was the commitment of the University of Mauritius to include "Heritage Conservation" as a module in the courses of the future planners and access to this course for professionals in post.

4. Decision 36 COM 7B.45 - Paragraph 4c

Paragraph 4.c. "Improve collaboration mechanisms to ensure the adequate protection and management of the buffer zones and better utilise mechanisms such as the consultative meeting to strengthen participatory decision-making".

The **Technical Committee** was set up under the City Council of Port Louis by amending the Local Government Act 2011. This Committee is mandated to evaluate all applications for any type of development in the Buffer Zone.

In addition, the membership of the **Buffer Zone Management Committee** was revised to enable a more efficient management process for the buffer zone. As described in the Management Plan 2013-2018, the members now include the City Council of Port Louis, Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund and National Heritage Fund.

In order to address specific issues, the **Buffer Zone Management Committee** may convene a Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) or co-opt members to assist where necessary.

Provision has been made in the Management Plan 2013-2018 to strengthen participatory decision making with at least one yearly meeting of the **Consultative Committee**.

5. Decision 36 COM 7B.45 - Paragraph 4d

Paragraph 4d: "Increase awareness raising activities and produce summaries of existing planning tools for easier consultation by different public users."

The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund has produced a simplified version of the documents used for the management of the World Heritage Property for public use including an executive summary of the Management Plan 2013-2018 and a guide explaining the process for development applications. Same is available on the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund's website.

The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund has also completed the preparation of a Conservation Manual to guide owners in carrying out conservation and other interventions in the area.

The heritage Management Plan, a document previously presented as the management plan for the Buffer Zone and a component of the Management Plan, was reviewed and integrated in the Management Plan 2013-2018 to ease public reference and use.

6. In conformity with paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, please describe any potential major restorations, alterations and/or new construction(s) within the protected area (core zone and buffer zone and/or corridors) that might be envisaged

Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre at World Heritage Site

The Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre is currently being set up and will open in 2014. It will integrate all activities related to the promotion and to the visitor experience at the World Heritage Property.

The Reactive Monitoring Mission took cognizance of the project. The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund was appraised of the approval of UNESCO for the project.

State of Conservation report

1. INTRODUCTION

The Aapravasi Ghat was inscribed on the World Heritage List in July 2006. The World Heritage Property stands for the only remaining example of the “Great Experiment” initiated by the British Colonial Government in 1834 to evaluate the viability of a ‘free’ system of recruitment of labour called *Indenture* after slavery was abolished in 1833 in the British Empire. After the success of the *Great Experiment* initiated in Mauritius, the indenture system was adopted as from 1838 by other colonial powers to recruit workforce. Indenture led to the migration of more than 2.2 million people around the world.

In 2001, the Mauritian Government set up a dedicated institution, the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund (AGTF), to document, preserve, manage and promote the Aapravasi Ghat as a national and international site. Since the inscription of the Aapravasi Ghat on the World Heritage List, the AGTF has undertaken a number of projects to retain and promote the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Property. Among these projects, the Conservation project, initiated in 2004 and completed in May 2010, aimed at restoring the World Heritage Property.

After the completion of the Conservation Project, the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property was further protected in June 2011 when the Planning Policy Guidance for the Aapravasi Ghat Buffer Zone (PPG 6) was issued. The implementation of the PPG raised a number of issues addressed with the creation of a Technical Committee under Local Government Act to examine development applications in the buffer zone.

In March 2012, the reactive monitoring mission came to the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property to assess the progress achieved in the protection and promotion of the World Heritage Property and its buffer zone.

Following the World Heritage Committee’s decision in 2012, the present report proposes to provide an update on actions undertaken to maintain the World Heritage Property and its Buffer Zones to the best international standards of conservation.

2. Legislative and managerial framework for the protection of the World Heritage Property

Framework for the World Heritage Property

The Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property is the property of the Government of Mauritius. It is protected as a National Heritage under the National Heritage Fund Act 2003 and the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act 2001 (amended 2006¹ and 2011).

In 2001, the Mauritian Government set up a dedicated institution, the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund (AGTF), to document, manage and promote the Aapravasi Ghat as a national and international heritage site. The AGTF is a parastatal body that operates under the auspices of the Ministry of Arts and Culture. The Trust Fund was mandated to:

- Establish, administer, manage, promote and maintain the Aapravasi Ghat as a national, regional and international heritage site;
- Preserve, restore and manage the Aapravasi Ghat and the sites specified in schedule 2 of the Act;
- Set up a museum at Aapravasi Ghat and create public awareness of the history of indentured labour;
- Promote social and cultural aspects of the sites specified in schedules 1 and 2 of the Act;
- Encourage and support projects and publications related to the indentured labour;
- Establish links with appropriate national, regional and international organizations in line with the objects of the Act;
- Identify and acquire sites, buildings and structures associated with indentured labour; and
- Encourage and support interdisciplinary scientific research related to indentured labour and to the sites specified in schedules 1 and 2.

The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund is responsible for the day-to-day management of the World Heritage Property. The Board of the Trust Fund is composed of 15 members including the Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson.

A technical and research team elaborates, manages, implements and monitors the projects related to the protection, conservation and promotion of the World Heritage Property with the support of international experts on specific projects. The administrative unit provides support in the implementation process of the projects. The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund now regroups a total of 48 staff members.

¹ AGTF Act amendment in 2006: “a) to establish, administer, manage, promote and maintain the Aapravasi Ghat as a national, regional and international heritage site”.

In 2006, the Aapravasi Ghat was granted the World Heritage Status established by the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972). As such, the World Heritage Property is managed within a managerial framework requiring the respect of heritage principles addressed in the charters and other texts of the International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS).

Framework for the buffer zone

As defined by the World Heritage Convention of UNESCO, the World Heritage Property is surrounded by two Buffer Zones managed by the City Council of Port Louis under the Local Government Act 2011.

When the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2006, the Buffer Zone had no legal protection. The Buffer Zone was proclaimed a legal entity in June 2011 with the legal protection provided by:

1. The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act (amended 2006 and 2011) defining the boundaries of the Buffer Zones;
2. The Local Government Act 2003 (amended 2011) making provision for the creation of a system to monitor development in the Buffer Zones;
3. The Planning Policy Guidance 6 - *Urban heritage area: Buffer Zone of Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property* (PPG 6) provides a set of planning guidelines in the Buffer Zone to orientate development towards the improvement and revitalization of the area which holds attributes associated to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property; and
4. The Outline Planning Scheme (OPS) for Port Louis (2013)

The Outline Planning Scheme for Port Louis has included the vision for development described in the PPG 6 for the buffer zone and advocates the retention and enhancement of heritage buildings in Port Louis. The OPS encourages the reuse of heritage to regenerate the city centre of Port Louis, the Capital City of Mauritius.

Since 2011, four institutions are directly involved in the management, the protection and the promotion of the Buffer Zones namely:

1. the Mauritius Ports Authority;
2. The City Council of Port Louis;
3. The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund;
4. The National Heritage Fund.

Most of the Buffer Zones lying west of the Motorway, that is, Buffer Zone 1, the sea and the dry docks fall under the purview of the **Mauritius Ports Authority**, the body responsible for managing the Port and its surrounding area. This zone is also classified as a high security area.

The Buffer Zone 2 composed mainly of private owners and operators is managed by the **City Council of Port Louis (CCPL)**, the local authority responsible for monitoring development, maintenance and upkeep of the city of Port Louis, within which are found the Buffer Zones 1 and 2 of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property.

The City Council of Port Louis is in charge of implementing the Planning Policy Guidance for the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone. In addition, the Local Government Act 2011 was amended to set up a **Technical Committee** under the City Council of Port Louis. The Technical Committee is chaired by the City Council of Port Louis and also comprises representatives from:

- Ministry of Arts and Culture;
- Ministry of Public Infrastructure;
- Ministry of Tourism and Leisure;
- Ministry of Housing and Lands;
- Ministry of Environment;
- Mauritius Ports Authority;
- National Heritage Fund; and
- Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund.

The role of the Technical Committee² is to ensure the implementation of the Planning Policy Guidance for the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone. This task is achieved through the assessment of all applications for Building and Land Use Permits in the Buffer Zone. The section 98 of the Local Government Act 2011 defines the role of the Technical Committee as follows:

“(b) Where an application under paragraph (a) is made in respect of a building, or land, found in the Buffer Zones, it shall be forwarded by the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee to the Technical Committee.

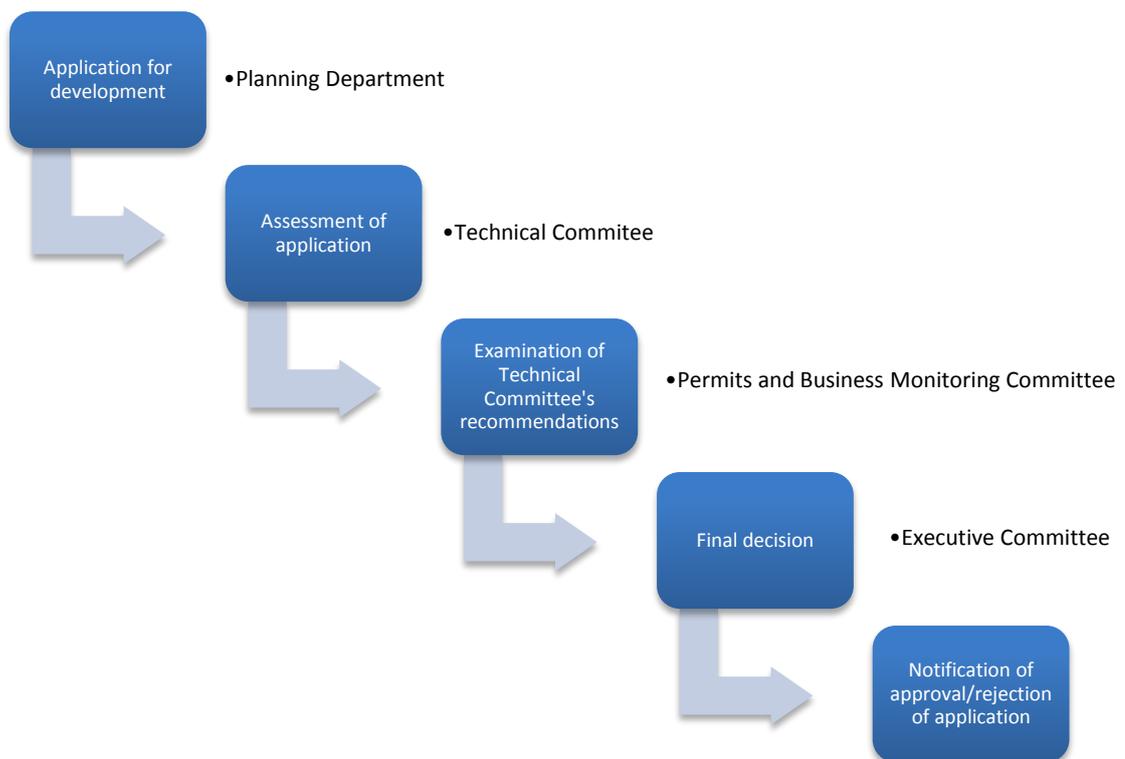
(c) The Technical Committee shall assess every application forwarded under paragraph (b) and shall submit its recommendations to the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee.

(d) In assessing an application under paragraph (c), the Technical Committee shall refer to the provisions of the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act, the Building Act, the Planning and Development Act, the Town and Country Planning Act, planning policy guidance and the guidelines issued under those Acts.”

² The Terms of Reference of the Technical Committee is available in the annex 2.

The Building and Land Use Permit was made mandatory not only for the erection of new buildings but also for any demolition and change to any building or structure in the Buffer Zone when amending the Local Government Act 2011, as was the submission of a Cultural Heritage Impact Statement (CHIS) when applying for a Building and Land Use Permit. The application for development is processed by the City Council of Port Louis.

A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) may also be requested by the Technical Committee in case the project goes beyond the guidelines of PPG6. The Technical Committee has the mandate to examine the Cultural Heritage Impact Statement, Heritage Impact Assessment and Visual Impact Assessment.



Description of the Process for development applications

In the buffer zones, the buildings and monuments listed as National Heritage are protected under the National Heritage Fund Act 2003. In addition to National Heritage, several graded buildings must be added to the comprehensive inventory of heritage in the Buffer Zones. In total, the Buffer Zones count:

- 7 National Heritage;
- 255 graded buildings catalogued³, among which:
 - o 63 were listed as Grade 1 buildings,
 - o 38 as Grade 2 buildings; and
 - o 34 as Grade 3 buildings.

The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund and the National Heritage Fund are the two bodies responsible for the documentation and the monitoring of the heritage component in the Buffer Zones. Regular monitoring reports are submitted to the CCPL.

³ The detailed list is available online on AGTF website: www.aapravasighat.org, and in the Heritage Management Plan. The list is also available at the City Council of Port Louis and the National Heritage Fund.

3. Response from the State Party to the World Heritage Committee's Decision (36COM7B.45) paragraph by paragraph

2.1. Extracts of the World Heritage Committee's Decision 36 COM 7B.45

The World Heritage Committee,

1. Having examined Document WHC-12/36.COM/7B.Add,
2. Recalling Decision **35 COM 7B.41**, adopted at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011),
3. Welcomes the progress made by the State Party in improving the management system for the property and urges it to secure the necessary resources for its effective operation;
4. Notes the results of the March 2012 reactive monitoring mission and encourages the State Party to implement its recommendations, with particular emphasis on:
 - a) Finalize the updating of the management plan and submit it to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies for consideration and review,
 - b) Develop a capacity building strategy to ensure that qualified conservation and management professionals are available to support the work of the Technical Committee,
 - c) Improve collaboration mechanisms to ensure the adequate protection and management of the buffer zones and better utilise mechanisms such as the consultative meeting to strengthen participatory decision-making,
 - d) Increase awareness raising activities and produce summaries of existing planning tools for easier consultation by different public users;
5. Requests the State Party to submit to the World Heritage Centre, by **1 February 2014**, a report on the state of conservation of the property and on the steps taken to implement the recommendations set out above, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 38th session in 2014.

2.2. Decision 36 COM 7B.45 - Paragraph 3

Paragraph 3: The World Heritage Committee "Welcomes the progress made by the State Party in improving the management system for the property and urges it to secure the necessary resources for its effective operation"

The developments in the last six years have led to the review of the managerial system for the World Heritage Property and its Buffer Zone in place since 2006. The managerial system has known major development when the Planning Policy Guidance for the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone was issued in June 2011. This led to the creation of a Technical Committee to monitor and examine development applications in the buffer zone.

The Technical Committee was created by the amendment made to the Local Government Act 2003. The Technical Committee is composed of representatives of the institutions involved in the preservation, management and promotion of the World Heritage Property as stipulated in the section 97A of the Act:

“There shall be set up, in the City Council of Port Louis, a committee to be known as the Technical Committee, which shall consist of-

- (a) the officer in charge of the Planning Department of the City Council of Port Louis or his representative, as chairperson;
- (b) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of public infrastructure;
- (c) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of land use planning;
- (d) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of environment;
- (e) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of tourism;
- (f) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of arts and culture;
- (g) a representative of the National Heritage Fund;
- (h) a representative of the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund;
- (i) a representative of the Mauritius Ports Authority;
- (j) the officer in charge of the Works Department of the City Council of Port Louis or his representative.”

This new legislative framework has led to consolidate the managerial system in place. The purpose in the Management Plan 2013-2018 was to establish an efficient and interactive system. This included the need to empower committees and give them a better appreciation of the full extent of their responsibilities and scope. To this end, it was essential to provide a clear definition of the role of the committees in charge of the WHP and specify their scope and their needs for effective management in the Management Plan 2013-2018.

The diagram below presents the managerial system currently in place:

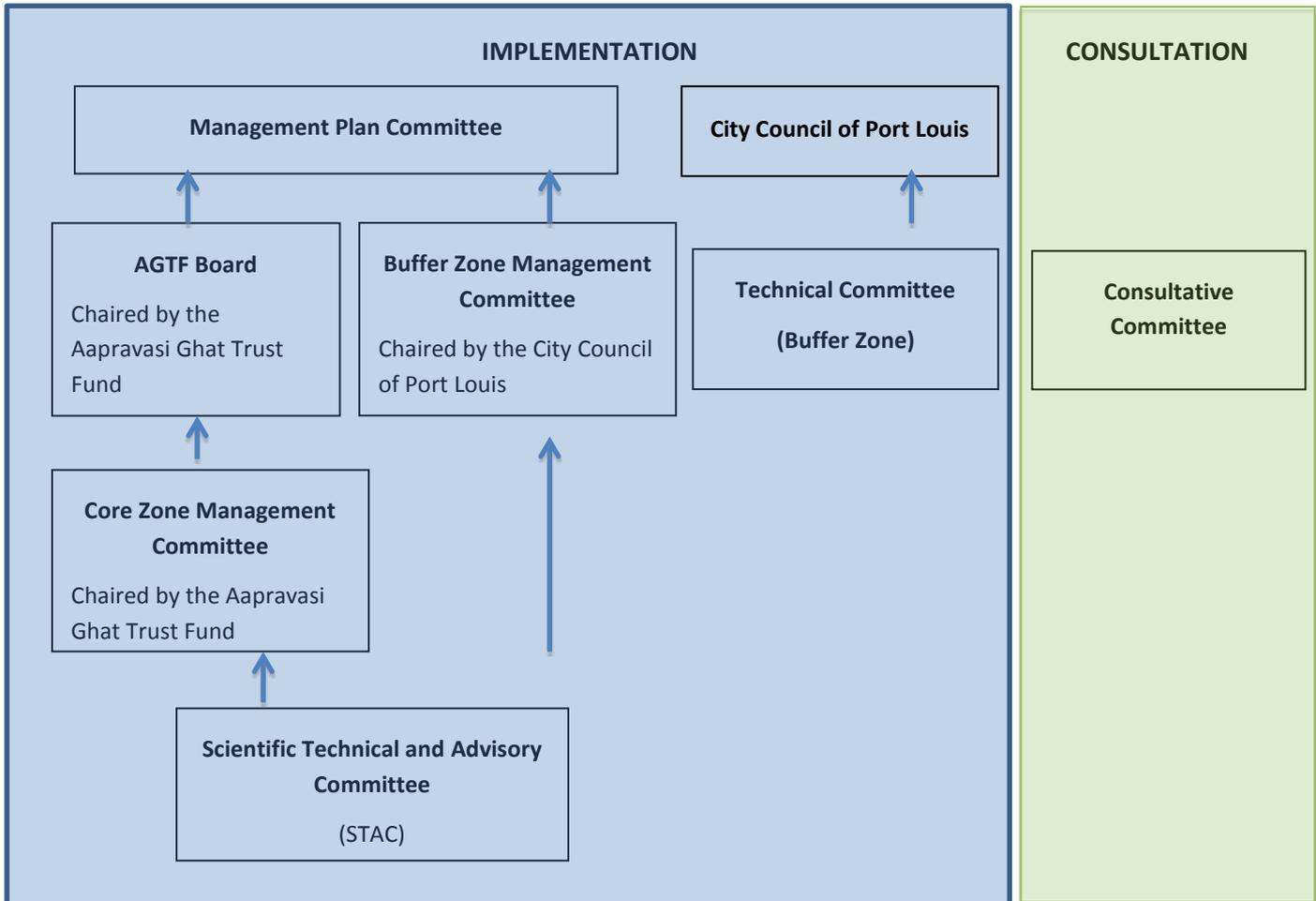


Diagram showing the management mechanism for the World Heritage Property and its Buffer Zones

The managerial system defined in the Management Plan 2013- 2018 has consolidated the system in place since 2006 and gives more importance to consultations. This Management Plan was prepared through consultations with stakeholders to better appreciate their constraints and resources and foster integrated management. This has led to:

- provide a definition and scope of the committees set up for WHP management;
- establish a Monitoring and Evaluation system to appreciate and monitor the implementation of the Management Plan;
- reduce the number of members on key committees to ease interaction and strengthen capacity;
- Improve interactions among committees and organize regular workshops.

The Management Plan 2013-2018 is now the key tool used to ensure effective and integrated management at World Heritage Property.

2.3. Decision 36 COM 7B.45 - Paragraph 4a

Paragraph 4.a. "Finalize the updating of the management plan and submit it to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory Bodies for consideration and review."

The first Management Plan for the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property was finalized and submitted to the World Heritage Committee in 2006. The section 10 of the Management Plan 2006 makes provision for the review of the Management Plan every five years to integrate changes and developments (Management Plan, 2006: 137). The objective is to allow adaptive and improved management of the World Heritage Property through time.

The review of the Management Plan 2006 was essential to integrate developments that occurred in the last six years and consolidate the existing management system for the World Heritage Property. One major achievement was the process of providing a legal status to the buffer zone surrounding the Aapravasi Ghat. It ultimately entailed major modifications in the managerial mechanism and brought new considerations for the management, revitalisation and promotion of the area. The changes brought by the coming into force of the PPG 6 in 2011 underlined further the need to revise the Management Plan. The review was also required to address the changes brought by the opening of Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre (BRIC) at World Heritage Property in 2014.

The AGTF has reviewed the Management Plan for the World Heritage Property to strengthen the existing framework and guide stakeholders and all people involved in the conservation, management and promotion of the World Heritage Property.

The document addresses current issues and proposes actions to meet clear objectives. These objectives were elaborated upon a vision for the World Heritage Property in the future as follows:

The Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Site will be maintained and promoted for future generations.

Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property will be a cultural landmark fostering urban heritage management and conservation in close interaction with the local community to support national unity and identity.

The overarching aim of the Management Plan 2013-2018 is:

To describe an approach to the management of Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site that will retain and strengthen the balance between conserving the historic environment, enhancing the local character and amenities of the World Heritage Property and surroundings with the need to develop the area into a vibrant heritage area serving the vision in favour of the revitalization of the capital city of Mauritius.

Major changes in the management framework proposed in this document include:

- a) Redefinition of the Core Zone Management Committee to ensure a more direct approach to the management of the World Heritage Property;
- b) Redefinition of the Buffer Zone Management Committee to ensure efficient and participatory management and monitoring of the Buffer Zone of the World Heritage Property;
- c) Inclusion of the Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre in the management of the World Heritage Property in order to ensure integrated visitor and resource management;
- d) Inclusion of a number of reference documents such as the Risk Preparedness Plan and Visitor Management Plan to guide interventions required on the World Heritage Property ;
- e) Review of the vision, management issues and action plan in order to reflect the changes that have occurred over the last 6 years.

In the process of review, several meetings and working sessions were held to consult the local community and stakeholders on the proposals made in the Management Plan 2013-2018. The following table summarises the number of consultations held:

Meeting	Date	Stakeholders in attendance	Objective
STAC on Tourism Strategy	8 July 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mauritius Ports Authority - Ministry of Tourism and Leisure - National Heritage Fund - SPDC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of the purpose of the STAC for the preparation of a Tourism Strategy for AG WHS - Defining proposed actions for inclusion in the Management Plan
STAC on Tourism Strategy	23 November 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Tourism and Leisure - City Council of Port Louis - National Heritage Fund - Le Morne Heritage Trust Fund - SPDC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of tourism activities at WHS to collect views and support of stakeholders and possibly develop other activities in collaboration - Discussion on proposed organisation for long term action to be included in the Management Plan
Technical Committee of BZ	01 June 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development - Ministry of Arts and Culture - City Council of Port Louis - National Heritage Fund - Mauritius Ports Authority - Ministry of Housing and Lands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of the development plan submitted by Dr Francois Odendaal and working session to collect views for the Management Plan. - Discussion on actions to be included in the Management Plan for the implementation of the Development Plan.

Meeting	Date	Stakeholders in attendance	Objective
Workshop on Management Plan	14 June 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Arts and Culture - Le Morne Heritage Trust Fund - National Heritage Fund - State Property Development Co Ltd - Mauritius Ports Authority - Ministry of Education and Human Resource (National Commission of UNESCO) - Road Development Authority - Ministry of Finance and Economic Development - Mauritius Museum Council - Prime Minister's Office - Ministry of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping - University of Mauritius - Attorney General Office - Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development - Pamplemousses/R. du Rempart District Council - Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of the Management Plan and of the development plan to all stakeholders

Meeting	Date	Stakeholders in attendance	Objective
Workshop on managerial system of the Buffer Zone	22 June 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - City Council of Port Louis - National Heritage Fund - Mauritius Ports Authority - Ministry of Tourism and Leisure - Ministry of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To address issues related to the role of the Technical Committee as well as identify the needs for its efficient functioning - To define the terms of reference of the Technical Committee - To discuss the redefinition of the Buffer Zone Management Committee (role and members)
	25 June 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - City Council of Port Louis - National Heritage Fund - Mauritius Ports Authority - Ministry of Housing and Land - Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development - Ministry of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping 	
Workshop on Research Objectives	28 June 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - University of Mauritius - National Heritage Fund - Le Morne Heritage Trust Fund - Mauritius National Archives - Mauritius Museum Council - Mahatma Gandhi Institute 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discuss the research objectives of AGTF to evaluate potential collaboration - Discuss the creation of working groups and monitoring of research - Collect views for inclusion of proposed actions in the Management Plan

Meeting	Date	Stakeholders in attendance	Objective
Technical Committee of AGTF	18 and 24 July 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National Heritage Fund - Dr Seetah, University of Stanford, USA, and Dr Calaon, University of Ca'Foscari, Italy, Archaeologists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discuss the research plans for archaeology (with Archaeologists Dr. K. Seetah and Dr D. Calaon) and history concurrently and relevance of research for Trianon and Flat Island - Definition of research objectives and proposed actions for the Management Plan
Workshop on Tourism Strategy	27 July 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - City Council of Port Louis - National Heritage Fund - Ministry of Tourism and Leisure - Mauritius Ports Authority 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presenting the issues and objectives - Discussed the potential activities in common to define the elements that would be included in the plan of actions (concept plan for heritage trails) of the Management Plan
Consultative Committee	16 July 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Members of the local community - City Council of Port Louis - Ministry of Arts and Culture - Mauritius Ports Authority - Members of the press - Representatives of Universities - The Ministry of Finance and Economic Development - The Valuation Department - ONGs (such as SOS Patrimoine) - Ministry of Public Infrastructure - National transport Corporation - Ministry of Housing and Lands - Ministry of Local Government - University of Mauritius - Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development - Professional Council of Architects - Traffic Management and Road Safety Unit - National Parks and Conservation Services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presenting the Management Plan to the public and to Government representatives

Production and approval of the final Management Plan

The Technical Team of Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund has submitted the first draft the Management Plan 2013-2018 on 1st October 2012. The final draft was reviewed and edited by Dr François Odendaal, expert in Heritage from EcoAfrica Ltd, South Africa.

The document was approved by AGTF Board on 13 December 2012. On 14 December 2012, the Management Plan Committee chaired by the Ministry of Arts and Culture examined by the Management Plan 2013-2018 and submitted the document officially to stakeholders for views.

On 16 January 2013, a second Management Plan Committee was held at the Ministry of Arts and Culture and views from the following stakeholders were collected:

	Institutions	Views
1	Ministry of Local Government and Outer Islands	Agreeable
2	Le Morne Heritage Trust Fund	Agreeable
3	City Council of Port Louis	Agreeable
4	National Heritage Fund	Agreeable
5	Ministry of Public Infrastructure and National Development Unit	Agreeable
6	Ministry of Housing and Lands	Agreeable
7	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development	Agreeable
8	Ministry of Tourism and Leisure	Agreeable
9	Ministry of Finance and Economic Development	Agreeable
10	Ministry of Business, Enterprise and Cooperatives	Agreeable
11	Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Technology	Agreeable
12	Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority	Agreeable
13	Mauritius Ports Authority	Agreeable
14	Commission on Ile Durable	Agreeable
15	Board of Investment	Agreeable
16	State Property Development Co Ltd	Agreeable
17	National Commission of UNESCO	Agreeable
18	University of Mauritius	Agreeable
19	Mauritius Museum Council	Agreeable
20	Traffic Management and Road Safety Unit	Agreeable
21	Road Development Authority	Agreeable

In April 2013, the final draft of the Management Plan was submitted to the Ministry of Arts and Culture for approval of the Cabinet. The Management Plan 2013-2018 was approved by Cabinet and will be submitted to the World Heritage Centre and the Advisory bodies for consideration and review.

2.4. Decision 36 COM 7B.45 - Paragraph 4b

Paragraph 4.b. "Develop a capacity building strategy to ensure that qualified conservation and management professionals are available to support the work of the Technical Committee"

Several workshops were organised with the members of the Technical Committee to provide necessary support for the examination of the development applications in the buffer zone.

The following table provides the list of workshops and sessions held to this purpose:

Name of meeting	Date	Institutions participating
Training for Heritage Impact Assessment and Visual Impact Assessment	22 to 26 August 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Housing & Lands - Ministry of Environment & Sustainable Development - City Council of Port Louis - Mauritius Ports Authority - Ministry of Tourism and Leisure - Ministry of Public Infrastructure - Ministry of Arts and Culture - City Council of Curepipe - City Council of Quatre Bornes - City Council of Beau Bassin - Grand Port Savanne District Council - Pamplemousses / Rivere du Rempart District Council - Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund
Workshop on managerial system of the Buffer Zone	22 June 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - City Council of Port Louis - National Heritage Fund - Mauritius Ports Authority - Ministry of Tourism and Leisure - Ministry of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping
	25 June 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - City Council of Port Louis - National Heritage Fund - Mauritius Ports Authority - Ministry of Housing and Land - Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development - Ministry of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping
STAC on training in heritage	28 November 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - City Council of Port Louis - University of Mauritius - Ministry of Arts and Culture

During a meeting of the Management Plan Committee on 19 August 2013, a working group was delegated the task of preparing a paper outlining the needs in capacity building for the management of the World Heritage Property Buffer Zone.

The members of the working group include the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund, City Council of Port Louis, National Heritage Fund, Ministry of Tertiary Education, Science, Research and Technology and University of Mauritius.

The working group met on 28 November 2013 to prepare a strategy in line with the needs of the institutions involved. Following this meeting, the AGTF, the National Heritage Fund and the City Council of Port Louis are working in collaboration to establish a training programme for conservation. To this end, the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund is currently working in collaboration with stakeholders on a detailed programme to be submitted to the City Council of Port Louis for two half day workshops in 2014. This workshop will respond to the objective stipulated in the Management Plan 20103-2018:

Objective 2. “to consolidate the existing management system of the World Heritage Property and its setting to ensure effective and integrated management”.

The Management Plan 2013-2018 has underlined the need to set up regular meetings with key stakeholders to strengthen capacity for heritage management. Such strategy is currently being implemented to secure resources and increase capacity.

Indeed, following these meetings, the University of Mauritius has agreed to include a module on heritage conservation for the future planners. This new module will be part of the BSc (Hons) Town and Country Planning of the Faculty of Engineering.

Regarding the staff in post, the University of Mauritius informed officially that a specific programme will be set up for the City Council of Port Louis comprising of short professional courses to train planning inspectors in Heritage Conservation. Staff of the City Council will also be able to attend stand-alone modules specifically designed for them by the faculty of Engineering. These modules will focus on Heritage Conservation.

Professionals will also be given the opportunity to attend stand-alone modules forming part of the new course entitled “MA in Heritage Management” initiated in August 2013 by the faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities of the University of Mauritius. This course was specifically designed for professionals.

2.5. Decision 36 COM 7B.45 - Paragraph 4c

Paragraph 4.c. "Improve collaboration mechanisms to ensure the adequate protection and management of the buffer zones".

The **Technical Committee** was set up under the City Council of Port Louis by amending the Local Government Act 2011. This Committee is mandated to evaluate all applications for any type of development in the Buffer Zone. The technical Committee is chaired by the City Council of Port Louis to address the issues related to the buffer zone within the appropriate scope of competence. Its members are professionals from various government institutions and include an architect, two engineers, a tourism planner, an environment officer, two planners, representatives from heritage institutions and a representative from the Ministry of Arts and Culture which represents the State Party to the Convention.

To complement the activities of the Technical Committee, the **Buffer Zone Management Committee** is in charge of monitoring the heritage component and also ensure its promotion. Considering that these activities fall under the responsibility of the City Council of Port Louis, the institution was also designated as the chair of this committee. However, the membership of the Buffer Zone Management Committee was revised to enable a more efficient management process. The committee is now composed of the main stakeholders namely the City Council of Port Louis, Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund and National Heritage Fund and is in charge of the following objectives:

- a) To prepare reports on the monitoring of heritage in the Buffer Zone. Same would be forwarded by the Committee to the Ministry of Arts and Culture as representative of the State Party to UNESCO;
- b) The coordination for the heritage register in the Buffer Zones and monitor their continued documentation;
- c) The examination and recommendations for the retention and enhancement of heritage in the Buffer Zone;
- d) Proposals for incentives that may be offered to people undertaking action in favour of the enhancement and sustainable development of heritage in the area;
- e) Consider means to foster technical assistance to the local community;
- f) Identify the training needs and undertake actions for implementation;
- g) Organise events or actions to promote or retain heritage in the Buffer Zone;
- h) Consider means for the promotion of heritage in the area; and
- i) Disseminate information on heritage in the Buffer Zone.

In order to address specific issues, the Buffer Zone Management Committee may convene a Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) or co-opt members to assist where necessary. The following Scientific and Technical Advisory Committees are expected to start working soon:

- a) To identify incentives for owners and operators in the Buffer Zone;
- b) To formulate a strategy for the promotion and branding of the Buffer Zone; and
- c) To identify stakeholders and actions to be taken for the upgrading of the infrastructure in the Buffer Zone.

The role and membership of these committees were reviewed in the Management Plan 2013-2018 to foster collaboration and integrated management at World Heritage Property.

Paragraph 4c: “and better utilise mechanisms such as the consultative meeting to strengthen participatory decision-making”

Provision has been made in the Management Plan 2013-2018 to strengthen participatory decision making with at least one yearly meeting.

The Consultative Committee will be convened at least once a year in order to ensure that the local community is kept informed of the development on the World Heritage Property and in its Buffer Zone. The regular meetings will also ensure that the local population has a platform to give their views and input on the said projects.

The Consultative Community shall remain open to anyone who wishes to contribute to the conservation, management and promotion of the World Heritage Property and its surroundings.

What is more, workshops (such as STAC format) can also be organised as and when required to address specific issues and develop commonly agreed actions for the issues discussed.

2.7. Decision 36 COM 7B.45 - Paragraph 4d

Paragraph 4d: “Increase awareness raising activities and produce summaries of existing planning tools for easier consultation by different public users.”

During the preparation of the various planning and management documents, the local population and concerned institutions were extensively consulted to determine the objectives and propose actions.

During the process, awareness on the OUV of the World Heritage Property and the need to protect it through measures on the World Heritage Property and its Buffer Zone were explained. This has created a degree of awareness on the importance of the OUV and the need for the various documents.

In order to increase awareness, the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund is planning to organize sessions with targeted groups such as the Association of Architects to raise awareness on the existing framework for heritage in the capital city.

The aim of these workshops will be to explain the new managerial and legislative framework for the management, protection and promotion of the World Heritage Property and its Buffer Zone. It is expected that the workshops will lead to better collaborative mechanisms for the better development of the area.

In addition, the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund has produced a simplified version of the documents used for the management of the World Heritage Property for public use; an executive summary of the Management Plan 2013-2018 and a guide explaining the process for development applications. Same is available on the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund's website.

The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund has also completed the preparation of a Conservation Manual to guide owners in carrying out conservation and other interventions in the area. The document also contains a typology of the authentic architectural style of the area so as to guide and help designers and architects in the respect of the architectural harmony for new development applications and also, for adaptive reuse of traditional buildings.

The heritage Management Plan, a document previously presented as the management plan for the Buffer Zone and a component of the Management Plan, was reviewed and integrated in the Management Plan 2013-2018 to ease public reference and use.

The Management Plan 2013-2018 includes the policies, strategies and action plans of the Heritage Management Plan so as to reduce the bulk of reference documents. The explanatory parts are currently being simplified to be presented as guidelines for the management of the area.

The website of the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund will be reviewed in the coming months. The new website will include a section dedicated to the Buffer Zone and will provide access to all detailed information.

It will include an interactive map of the Buffer Zone which will facilitate access to planning, historical and other types of information gathered so far. In the future, the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund will also design a GIS based database that will be accessible online. This database will enable the interested parties to make queries, see various forms of information and thus better understand the importance of this historic urban landscape.

During the years 2014-15, the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund is planning to produce a popular publication on the architecture of the area as a means of disseminating information on the historic urban landscape that the Buffer Zone falls into.

4. In conformity with paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, please describe any potential major restorations, alterations and/or new construction(s) within the protected area (core zone and buffer zone and/or corridors) that might be envisaged

Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre

The setting up of an interpretation centre was defined as an object of the fund in the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act (2001; amended version 2006 and 2011) under section 4 (c): *“To set up a museum and create public awareness of the history of indentured labour.”*

It was also identified as objective 16 of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site Management Plan in the light of the *Convention concerning the protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage Sites* of UNESCO encouraging awareness raising and the enhancement of the *“function of World Heritage in the life of the community”* (Op. Guidelines, VI.A. 211; VI.C.).

The Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre (sometimes referred to here-in as the ‘Interpretation Centre’ or BRIC) is currently being set up and will open in 2014. It will integrate all activities related to the promotion and visitor experience at the World Heritage Property. Proposal is made in the present Management Plan for the establishment of a devoted unit to manage and promote the Interpretation Centre.

The Reactive Monitoring Mission took cognizance of the project. The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund was appraised of the approval of UNESCO for the project.

In the light of the imminent opening of the Interpretation Centre, the AGTF has initiated the review of the Visitor Management Plan (2008) to integrate the changes brought to visitor management at World Heritage Site by the opening of the Centre.

Regular monitoring will be performed to assess the impact of tourism on the World Heritage Property.

5. Conclusion

Since the last State of Conservation Report in 2011, the managerial and legislative framework for the World Heritage Property has improved significantly. To this improvement, the issue of the Outline Planning Scheme (OPS) for the city of Port Louis in April 2013 can also be acknowledged. The OPS is currently on public deposit and has now legal force.

This planning document included the vision for development as described in the PPG 6 for the Aapravasi Ghat buffer zone and recognizes heritage as an important vector for the regeneration of the city. As a result, the document advocates as immediate action:

- “The protection of buildings of architectural and historic interest;
- The designation of Areas of National Heritage Significance;
- The integration of Aapravasi Ghat and Buffer Zone with city centre proposals”.

The Outline Planning Scheme shows that actions are taken to include heritage within the life of the city and of Mauritians. In recent years, it is important to note that the inscription of the Aapravasi Ghat on the World Heritage List has significantly contributed to develop an established framework for the preservation, protection and promotion of heritage in Mauritius.

Annex 1: Terms of Reference for the ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring Mission

In accordance to Decision 35 COM 7B.41 adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its 35th session (UNESCO, 2011), the reactive monitoring mission shall fulfill the following tasks:

1. Undertake a comprehensive assessment of the state of conservation of the World Heritage property and identify the factors that can potentially threaten its Outstanding Universal value, with particular attention to:
 - a. State of conservation of historic buildings in the inscribed property;
 - b. Demolition of historic buildings in the buffer zone;
 - c. Development projects foreseen within the buffer zone and the setting of the property.
2. Evaluate on-going and proposed projects and initiatives, including demolitions, rebuilding, new construction or reconstruction and extensive restoration projects within the property and its buffer zone which may impact its Outstanding Universal Value;
3. Review the status of any heritage impact assessments undertaken by the State Party, to consider the impact of the above-mentioned development works on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property;
4. Review the status of monitoring and supervision mechanisms and of all components of the property;
5. Evaluate the efficacy and adequacy of the existing management system for the property, in particular:
 - a. Enforcement of legislative and regulatory frameworks;
 - b. Finalization and approval of the Integrated Management Plan;
 - c. Enforcement of Planning Policy Guidance;
 - d. Visitor management Plan;
 - e. Key management bodies, institutional arrangements, decision-making mechanisms and coordination among stakeholders;
 - f. Availability of institutional, technical and financial resources for the sustained implementation of measures to ensure the adequate protection, conservation and management of the property
6. Prepare a mission report, in English or French, incorporating the above findings and recommendations of the Reactive Monitoring Mission for review by the World Heritage Committee at its 36th session. The report should follow the attached format and should be submitted the UNESCO World Heritage Centre and ICOMOS Headquarters in hard copy and an electronic version.

Annex 2: Terms of Reference for the Technical Committee established under the City Council of Port Louis from AGTF

1. Mandate

- 1.1. The Technical Committee chaired by the City Council of Port Louis was created under the Local Government Act 2011. The Technical Committee shall ensure that provisions made in the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act, the Building Act, the Planning and Development Act, the Town and Country Planning Act, Planning Policy Guidance and the guidelines issued under those Acts, are respected when an application for development in the Buffer Zone is assessed together with these terms of reference.
- 1.2. The Technical Committee shall ensure that the Buffer Zone of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property develops to sustain its heritage component and develops into the vision for development stated in the Planning Policy Guidance – PPG 6: Urban Heritage Area – Buffer Zone of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage property; and the Management Plan of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage property.
- 1.3. The mandate of the Technical Committee excludes all elements that may form part of the mandate of the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee.

2. Purpose

The purpose of the Technical Committee is:

- 2.1. To advise the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee on protecting and promoting cultural heritage resources that make our town unique and a sustainable place to live;
- 2.2. When assessing development applications, the Technical Committee should ensure that the legal framework established for the enhancement of the heritage value or interest in the Buffer Zone is respected;
- 2.3. To make recommendations to the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee to allow the implementation of the vision for development stated in the Planning Policy Guidance 6 and in other statutory documents related to the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

- 3.1. The Technical Committee was established by Law. Its roles and responsibilities were defined under the Local Government Act 2003, in sections 97 and 98.
- 3.2. The Technical Committee is an advisory committee established in accordance with the provisions in the Local Government Act 2011. The Technical Committee assists the Municipal Council in assessing applications for development in the Buffer Zone and produce recommendations to ensure that applications comply with the existing legal framework for development in the Buffer Zone.

- 3.3. The Technical Committee shall refer to the provisions made in the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act, the Building Act, the Planning and Development Act, the Town and Country Planning Act, planning policy guidance and the guidelines issued under those Acts, when assessing applications and make recommendations accordingly to the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee regarding the assessment of development applications.
- 3.4. The Technical Committee will not consider elements or take actions forming part of the mandate of the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee.
- 3.5. The Technical Committee is therefore consulted for:
- 3.5.1. Assessing the applications for development including demolitions within the World Heritage Property's Buffer Zone;
 - 3.5.2. Assessing applications to evaluate if the cultural heritage value and/or interest is removed and/or altered;
 - 3.5.3. Assessing applications to evaluate if the applicants comply with the legal provisions;
 - 3.5.4. Producing recommendations regarding the applications for development for the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee which issues permits; and
 - 3.5.5. Ensuring that all procedures for the assessment of applications for development are followed and respected by applicants and also, for any development project in the zone to ensure a cohesive and coherent approach to the development vision in the Buffer Zone of the World Heritage Property.
- 3.6. Ultimately, the Technical Committee shall ensure in its assessments that applications for development meet the principles and the requirements addressed in UNESCO's *Convention for the safeguarding of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage*. As per this Convention, the Buffer Zones of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property must continuously provide a suitable setting for the Aapravasi Ghat, and retain a high level of Authenticity and Integrity.
- 3.7. These principles were formulated in the Planning Policy Guidance 6 to develop the Buffer Zone into a Heritage Area and retain the authenticity and integrity through the retention of the historic urban form, scale, grain, space structure and architecture, and the urban character of the whole in terms of appropriate land uses and activation of public space and amenities. Also, the intangible component of the property is key to sustain in the heritage values for which the area is to be known.
- 3.8. It also includes the need to protect the visual quality of the cityscape and the need to protect physical and visual links between the upper and lower parts of the city, the protection of key views, of the urban form and scale, and the protection of the historic streetscapes and ensembles of buildings and places, historic buildings, urban infrastructure and street furniture, places and monuments.
- 3.9. The Technical Committee shall be invited to express its views on all development proposed as part of public space management including the development or works to be performed on roads, concerning traffic, pedestrianisation, signage, street furniture, urban design and parking management.

- 3.10. The Technical Committee shall be invited to express its views on development and infrastructure supply management.
- 3.11. The Technical Committee shall be invited to express its views on tourism projects that may be proposed for the Buffer Zone of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property.
- 3.12. The Technical Committee will examine the Cultural Heritage Impact Statement, the Heritage Impact Assessment and the Visual Impact Assessment submitted by applicants as per provisions stated in the Planning Policy Guidance 6.
- 3.13. The Technical Committee will ensure that the CHIS, HIA and VIA comply with the legal framework in place for the Buffer Zone of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property.
- 3.14. The Technical Committee may request that a Management Plan Committee, a Buffer Zone Management Committee and a Consultative Committee be held to discuss a development application or a proposal for development in the Buffer Zone of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property.
- 3.15. In case information is lacking to assess a development, the Technical Committee may request that research be undertaken to further document the cultural significance of the Buffer Zone of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property.
- 3.16. The Technical Committee shall rely on the Management Plan for the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property, the Heritage Management Plan for the Buffer Zone and the Conservation Manual to be provided guidance in the evaluation of the applications for development.
- 3.17. Members shall encourage exchange of ideas and expertise to contribute to the economic and cultural development of the city in line with its legal framework.
- 3.18. As and when required, the Technical Committee may request expert advice in heritage for further assessment of development applications to produce recommendations in line with the legal framework.
- 3.19. Applicants' request for information will be submitted officially to the City Council of Port Louis for consideration.
- 3.20. When assessing, the Technical Committee shall consider the cultural significance of the property and how it would be enhanced or / and affected by the proposed development. The Technical Committee members will also consider any objection(s) or representation(s) by the Consultative Committee.
- 3.21. Where the Technical Committee resolves to pre-approve an application which would affect the cultural significance of the property/place, and an objection to such approval has been registered, unless the stakeholder withdraws such objection, the objection shall be deemed to be an appeal against the recommendation of the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee and the latter shall submit the application and all relevant information to its appeal.

- 3.22. In the event of any alteration or development of a property / place is undertaken without the consent of the Technical Committee, the local Authority must require the owner to stop such work instantly and restore the site to its previous condition within a specified period.
- 3.23. As part of the national budget exercise taking place every financial year, the Technical Committee shall establish a Technical Committee budget request to meet its resource requirements. The annual budget proposal shall define goals and objectives of the Technical Committee.
- 3.24. The Technical Committee shall produce an annual report to the Council at the beginning of each new year outlining accomplishments in the previous twelve months.
- 3.25. The Technical Committee shall be devoting efforts to fasten decision making on development applications but not to the detriment of heritage preservation and enhancement.
- 3.26. Information discussed in the Technical Committee shall remain confidential.

4. Accountability

- 4.1. The Technical Committee was legally established under the responsibility of the **City Council of Port Louis**.
- 4.2. The Technical Committee is producing recommendations to the **Permits and Business Monitoring Committee** of the City Council of Port Louis to advise on the compliance of the development applications with the legal framework established for the Buffer Zone of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property.
- 4.3. The Technical Committee would need to report on developments including demolitions that did not comply with the legal framework in place, in its annual report and to the Buffer Zone Management Committee.
- 4.4. The legal framework elaborated for the Buffer Zone of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property is based on principles and guidelines addressed in UNESCO's **Convention for the safeguarding of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage** signed by the state of Mauritius in 1995.
- 4.5. The **Ministry of Arts and Culture** was designated as the representative of the State Party to UNESCO and as such, may request information on development including demolitions in the Buffer Zone of the World Heritage Property.
- 4.6. If conflicting views oppose the Technical Committee and the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee on an application in the Buffer Zone, the matter will be referred to the Minister of Local Government.

5. Membership

- 5.1. The membership of the Technical Committee is established by law in the section of 97A the Local Government Act 2003. The Act states that the Technical Committee is established in the City Council of Port Louis.

5.2. The members are:

- (a) the officer in charge of the Planning Department of the City Council of Port Louis or his representative, as chairperson;
- (b) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of public infrastructure;
- (c) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of land use planning;
- (d) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of environment;
- (e) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of tourism;
- (f) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of arts and culture;
- (g) a representative of the National Heritage Fund;
- (h) a representative of the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund;
- (i) a representative of the Mauritius Ports Authority;
- (j) the officer in charge of the Works Department of the City Council of Port Louis or his representative.

5.3. Members of the Technical Committee shall officially inform if they are involved in a conflict of interest and in this case, shall not take part in assessing development projects or applications.

5.3.1. Chairmanship

The Chair is responsible for ensuring the smooth and effective operation of the Committee and its role and responsibilities. The Chair is responsible for:

- 5.3.1.1. Calling the meetings;
- 5.3.1.2. Creating an agenda in consultation with the municipal staff;
- 5.3.1.3. Chairing the meetings;
- 5.3.1.4. Reviewing the minutes of the meetings with the Committee members and request for approval of the minutes;
- 5.3.1.5. Organise site visits to the relevant properties;
- 5.3.1.6. Submit the official recommendations of the Committee, approved by all Technical Committee members, to the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee and to the Executive Committee;
- 5.3.1.7. The Chairperson may delegate the preparation of report or other task to members of the Technical Committee who may volunteer. The work of the delegate will be presented to the Technical Committee for approval;
- 5.3.1.8. Inform the Committee members of any known infringement to the legal provisions for the Buffer Zone of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property;

5.3.1.9. Acting as the official committee spokesman and media contact;

5.3.1.10. In the absence of the Chair, these responsibilities will be undertaken by the representative of the City Council of Port Louis.

5.3.2. *The role of members*

5.3.2.1. The members shall attend all scheduled meetings. Members are required to notify the Chair or the designated municipal staff if they are unable to attend a meeting.

5.3.2.2. The member who cannot attend the meeting may delegate a representative of his institution or send his views officially to the Chair of the Technical Committee.

5.3.2.3. The members shall read and take cognizance of all information supplied to them for consideration.

5.3.2.4. The members shall produce recommendations on the proposed development applications in the Buffer Zone of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property.

5.3.2.5. The members shall attend visits to properties where proposal for development is made.

5.3.2.6. The members shall contribute to the preparation of reports and recommendations on behalf of the Technical Committee.

5.3.2.7. The members shall attend training or any capacity building operation contributing to the consolidation of their knowledge serving the purpose of the Technical Committee.

5.3.2.8. The members shall have knowledge of the legal framework established for the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone namely the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act, the Building Act, the Planning and Development Act, the Town and Country Planning Act, planning policy guidance and the guidelines issued under those Acts; and shall closely examine them before producing recommendations.

5.3.2.9. The Chair or a spokesperson appointed by the Committee may speak on behalf of the Committee to Council, the media, or the public. Other members shall not act or speak on behalf of the Committee without the prior approval of the Committee.

5.3.2.10. The Committee or its members shall not issue petitions, resolutions or position papers on behalf of the Committee unless specifically authorized by Council resolution.

5.3.2.11. The Committee members shall not act outside of the mandate and advisory capacity of the Committee.

6. Meetings and timeframe

- 6.1. The Technical Committee was established by law in June 2011.
- 6.2. The Chairperson of the Technical Committee will convene regular meetings. Meetings of the Technical Committee shall be held when an application for development is submitted by the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee to the Technical Committee and on an ad-hoc basis in such a way as to ensure a smooth running process.
- 6.3. In case no application is submitted, the Technical Committee shall meet at least four times a year to monitor and establish a statement on development in the Buffer Zone of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property. This information will also be consigned in the annual report of the Technical Committee.
- 6.4. The presence of six members in the Technical Committee shall constitute a quorum. However, the four members who did not attend the session, shall be informed of any decision taken by the quorum. They may also express their disagreement on the decision in writing for consideration by the Technical Committee.
- 6.5. In the event that a quorum is not achieved, the meeting may be postponed.
- 6.6. The meetings will have a formal agenda and invitation of committee members to the Technical Committee meeting will also include minutes from the previous meeting.



**AAPRAVASI GHAT WORLD
HERITAGE PROPERTY**

MANAGEMENT PLAN



2013 - 2018

**Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund
MAURITIUS**



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



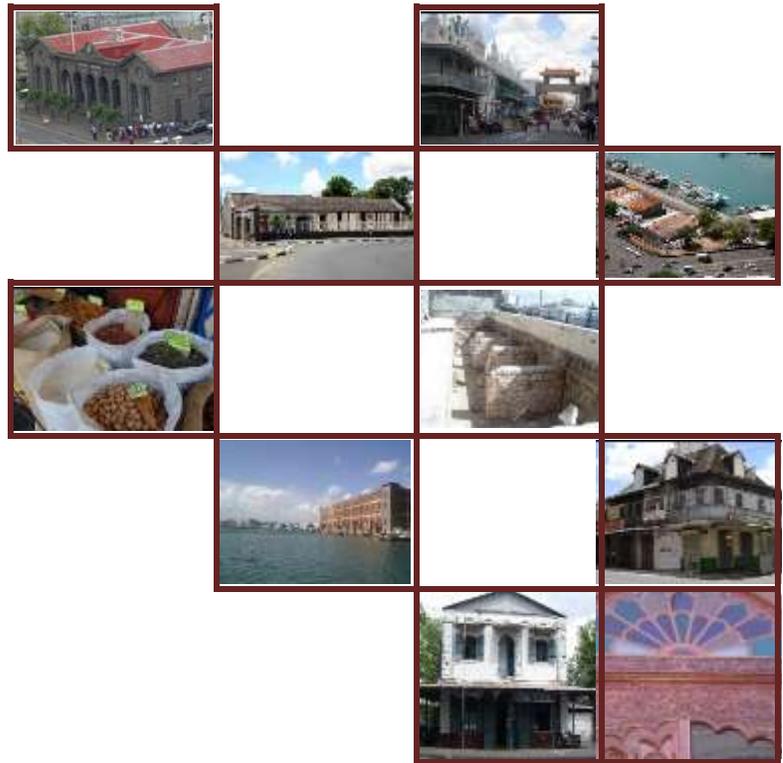
Aapravasi Ghat
inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2006



AAPRAVASI GHAT WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY

MANAGEMENT PLAN

2013- 2018



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ACRONYMS

AG	Aapravasi Ghat
AGTF	Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund
AGTFA	Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act
AGWHP	Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property
AGWHPBZ	Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone
BLUP	Building and Land Use Permit
BRIC	Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre
BZ	Buffer Zone
BZMC	Buffer Zone Management Committee
CBD	Central Business District
CC	Consultative Committee
CCPL	City Council of Port Louis
CHIS	Cultural Heritage Impact Statement
CM	Conservation Manual
CZ	Core Zone
CZMC	Core Zone Management Committee
DP	Development Plan
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
GIS	Geographic and Information System
HIA	Heritage Impact Assessment
HIC	High Commission of India
HMG	Heritage Management Guidelines
HUL	Urban Historic Landscape
ICH	Intangible Cultural Heritage

ICOM	International Council of Museums
ICOMOS	International Council of Monuments and Sites
IILRP	International Indentured Labour Route Project
ILGDI	Indentured Labour Global Database Initiative
ISC	International Scientific Committee
LED	Local Economic Development Plan
LGA	Local Government Act
LMHTF	Le Morne Heritage Trust Fund
MAC	Ministry of Arts and Culture
MBEC	Ministry of Business, Enterprise and Cooperatives
MEHR	Ministry of Education and Human Resources
MESD	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MGI	Mahatma Gandhi Institute
MHL	Ministry of Housing and Lands
MLGOI	Ministry of Local Government and Outer Islands
MMC	Mauritius Museums Council
MOFED	Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
MP	Management Plan
MPA	Mauritius Ports Authority
MPC	Management Plan Committee
MPI	Ministry of Public Infrastructure
MTESRT	Ministry of Tertiary Education, Science, Research and Technology
MTL	Ministry of Tourism and Leisure
MTPA	Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority
MUR	Mauritian Rupee
NDS	National Development Strategy

NHF	National Heritage Fund
NHFA	National Heritage Fund Act
NH	National Heritage
OPS	Outline Planning Scheme
OUV	Outstanding Universal Value
PMO	Prime Minister’s Office
PPG	Planning Policy Guidance
PPG 6	Planning Policy Guidance 6: Urban Heritage Area – Buffer Zone of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage property (2011)
PSIP	Public Sector Investment Programme
RPP	Risk Preparedness Plan
SPDC	State Property Development Corporation
STAC	Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee
TC	Technical Committee of the City Council of Port Louis
UoM	University of Mauritius
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
VIA	Visual Impact Assessment
VMP	Visitor Management Plan
WCNH	World Cultural and Natural Heritage
WHC	World Heritage Centre (UNESCO)
WHP	World Heritage Property
WHS	World Heritage Site
WHSSC	World Heritage Site Steering Committee

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Apravasi Ghat, as the first site chosen by the British Government in 1834 for the 'great experiment' in the use of indentured, rather than slave labour, is strongly associated with memories of almost half a million indentured labourers moving from India to Mauritius to work on sugar cane plantations or to be transhipped to other parts of the World.

Decision 30 COM 8B.33

Executive Summary

1. Introduction

The concept of World Heritage was developed by UNESCO to define cultural and natural heritage that is irreplaceable, unique and authentic, not only for the nation to which it belongs, but also for humanity as a whole. It is considered that the loss of this heritage through deterioration or disappearance would generate an impoverishment of heritage for all people of the world. As such, the significance of such World Heritage is defined as being of Outstanding Universal Value¹ (OUV).

Outstanding Universal Value determines World Heritage Status and is defined by the *Convention concerning the protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage* (1972) of UNESCO and by the *Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention* (2008).

Because the Apravasi Ghat is of Outstanding Universal Value, it was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2006. The Apravasi Ghat is the symbol of the *Great Experiment* that made Mauritius the site of the first successful large-scale use of *indentured labour*. The *Great Experiment* was initiated by the British colonial government which sought to establish a system of “free” labour after the abolition of slavery in the British Empire in 1834.

Following UNESCO’s World Heritage Convention, a Buffer Zone² (BZ) was delimited around Apravasi Ghat (AG) World Heritage Property (WHP) to allow the full expression of its outstanding significance. UNESCO explains that the Buffer Zone is important as it represents the context in which the World Heritage Property has evolved through time. As such, it supports the outstanding cultural significance at the national and international level. This is the reason why appropriate measures are enforced in the Buffer Zone to protect, preserve, enhance and promote the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the World Heritage Property. The ultimate objective is to create a suitable environment supporting the retention of the heritage in the BZ and to ensure its sustainable development.

¹ A definition is provided in the glossary.

² The concept of Buffer Zone is explained in the annex 8.

The changes brought by the establishment of legal boundaries for the Buffer Zone led to the review of the Management Plan adopted in 2006. The Management Plan is required by the UNESCO World Heritage Convention³ to ensure the preservation and sustainability of the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Property. The Management Plan describes the World Heritage Property, its Outstanding Universal Value and related significances, and analyses the issues affecting the conservation and management of the World Heritage Property.

The review of the Management Plan 2006 was essential to integrate developments that occurred in the last six years and consolidate the existing management system for the World Heritage Property. The Management Plan has an essential role: it is a key document that guides all the stakeholders involved in the conservation, management and promotion of the World Heritage Property. It is directed by a Vision for the World Heritage Property and addresses key principles and objectives that will guide the implementation of this Vision.

2. Preparing the Management Plan

The present Management Plan is a revision of the one submitted to the World Heritage Centre of UNESCO in 2006.

The Management Plan 2013-2018 takes into consideration the principles and requirements stated in 1998 by ICCROM, ICOMOS and UNESCO as *Management Guidelines for World Cultural Heritage Sites*. The Plan also takes into account the international guidelines provided by the ICOMOS charters.

The Management Plan was prepared by the technical team of the Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund, a parastatal body under the aegis of the Ministry of Arts and Culture, entrusted to administer, manage and promote the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property, in consultation and collaboration with stakeholders.

The Management Plan was prepared in regular and comprehensive consultation with stakeholders to address key issues in anticipation and to better identify the needs to allow for the effective management of the World Heritage Property.

³ Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, UNESCO, WHC.08/01, January 2008, state that “Each nominated property should have an appropriate management plan or other documented management system which should specify how the outstanding universal value of a property should be preserved, preferably through participatory means” (Operational Guidelines, Ch.II.F /108, p.27).

"A "management plan" may come in different legal and operational forms but is always a coherent instrument that takes into consideration the specific characteristics not only of a site but also of the area around it. The plan, bringing together all the players and instruments involved in a site and the surrounding area should serve as a development coordination tool; (...) in the long term it is meant to be a sustainable development tool integrated into the environment."

(UNESCO about WHP in Syria cited in the Presentation of Christophe Graz on Management of Heritage Sites and Artefacts, Euromed Heritage, Petra, Jordan, 17-19 May 2010)

3. The purpose of the Management Plan

The overarching aim of the Management Plan is:

To describe an approach to the management of Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property that will retain and strengthen the balance between conserving the historic environment, enhancing the local character and amenities of the World Heritage Property and surroundings, with the need to develop the area into a vibrant heritage area serving the vision for the revitalization of the capital city of Mauritius.

All stakeholders can use the Management Plan as a reference to manage the World Heritage Property and to preserve and enhance its Outstanding Universal Value defined in the Nomination Dossier that was submitted to UNESCO for its inscription on the World Heritage List.

4. Why is the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property significant?

Retrospective Outstanding Universal Value of the Aapravasi Ghat

Located on the bay of Trou Fanfaron, in the capital of Port-Louis, the Aapravasi Ghat is the remains of an immigration depot, the site from where modern indentured labour diaspora emerged. The Depot was built in 1849 to receive indentured labourers from India, Eastern Africa, Madagascar, China and Southeast Asia to work on the island's sugar cane estates as part of the 'Great Experiment'. This experiment was initiated by the British Government, after the abolition of slavery in the British Empire in 1834, to demonstrate the superiority of the 'free' over slave labour in its plantation colonies. The success of the 'Great Experiment' in Mauritius led to its adoption by other colonial powers from the 1840s, resulting in a world-wide migration of more than two million indentured labourers, of which Mauritius received almost half a million.

The buildings of Apravasi Ghat are among the earliest explicit manifestations of what would become a global economic system. The Apravasi Ghat site stands as a major historic testimony of indenture in the 19th century and is the sole surviving example of this unique modern Diaspora. It represents not only the development of the modern system of contractual labour, but also the memories, traditions and values that these men, women and children carried with them when they left their countries of origin to work in foreign lands and subsequently bequeathed to their millions of descendants for whom the site holds great symbolic meaning.

5. Vision for the future

The Vision is firmly grounded in the Outstanding Universal Value of the site and was elaborated during a series of workshop. The Vision is a guiding light of what the WHP aspires to be. It is pursued through the implementation of the Management Plan.

In the Vision for Apravasi Ghat, the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Property will be protected and its authenticity and integrity maintained, while the site will be utilised in a sustainable manner to benefit the nation both spiritually and materially. This will require, *inter alia*, revitalization measures to enhance the unique character of the surroundings of the World Heritage Site located in the heart of the Capital City of Mauritius.

The Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Property will be maintained and promoted for future generations.

Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property will be a cultural landmark fostering urban heritage management and conservation in close interaction with the local community to support national unity and identity.

The Management Plan is the main tool for the management and enhancement of the World Heritage Property. From the Vision logically flows a set of Strategic Objectives each of which has a set of actions linked to it. These actions collectively address all key issues that are linked to the management and sustainable use of the World Heritage Property.

6. Summary of strategic objectives and actions

Managing the World Heritage Property

Objective 1: Endorse the Management Plan as the overarching document to manage, administer and promote the World Heritage Property in an integrated manner

- 1.1. Adopt the Management Plan as a statutory document
- 1.2. Consolidate the role of the Management Plan Committee
- 1.3. Consolidate the role of the Core Zone Management Committee
- 1.4. Consolidate a team to manage the Interpretation Centre
- 1.5. Establish an effective financial management system at AGTF
- 1.6. Establish yearly planning with targets

Managing heritage in the Buffer Zone

Objective 2: Consolidate the existing management system of the World Heritage Property and its setting to ensure effective and integrated management

- 2.1. Consolidate the role of the Buffer Zone Management Committee
- 2.2. Create a conservation unit or equivalent mechanism at the City Council of Port Louis
- 2.3. Develop and consolidate capacity in heritage management and conservation
- 2.4. Encourage participative conservation, management and promotion

Conserving the World Heritage Property

Objective 3: Establish conservation policy, monitoring and guidance, and risk preparedness for the World Heritage Property and its surroundings, and the Interpretation Centre and its collections

- 3.1. Prepare a long term Conservation Policy for the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property and its surroundings
- 3.2. Set up indicators at the World Heritage Property to improve the conservation of the historic features
- 3.3. Monitor and mitigate the impact of visitors at the World Heritage Property
- 3.4. Prepare a Conservation Policy and plan for AGTF collection
- 3.5. Prepare a Risk Preparedness Plan for BRIC
- 3.6. Train the staff in risk preparedness and conservation

Conserving and enhancing the Outstanding Universal Value in the Buffer Zone

Objective 4: Consolidate the framework for the conservation of the heritage component in the Buffer Zone

- 4.1. Creation of a GIS database allowing heritage monitoring in a most efficient manner
- 4.2. Recognition of the grading system for heritage in the Buffer Zones

Objective 5: Establish a suitable environment for the conservation and enhancement of the Buffer Zones that encourages sustainable development and the transformation of the area into a vibrant regenerated heritage district

- 5.1. Address the 10 points of the Development Plan
- 5.2. Prepare and implement a Local Economic Development (LED) Plan
- 5.3. Provide assistance to property owners and users of the Buffer Zone
- 5.4. Be guided by the UNESCO Recommendation for Historic Urban Landscape (2011) in the approach to management of the Buffer Zone

Interpreting the World Heritage Property

Objective 6: Provide and deliver an appropriate interpretation policy

- 6.1. Prepare and implement an Interpretation Plan
- 6.2. Ensure a visitor experience of quality
- 6.3. Review and Implement BRIC phase 2 project proposal

Objective 7: Enhance visitor experience and maintain visitor satisfaction

- 7.1. Review and update pedagogical and academic documentation on a regular basis
- 7.2. Evaluate and develop activities for the audience
- 7.3. Consolidate and promote the heritage trail in Port Louis
- 7.4. Prepare and implement concept papers for heritage trails

Managing visitors

Objective 8: Establish a visitor management strategy that will enhance visitor experience and minimize the impact of tourism on WHP

- 8.1. Review the Visitor Management Plan (2008) for the next five years
- 8.2. Set up and use appropriate visitor monitoring and recording system
- 8.3. Foster collaboration with neighbouring institutions and agencies

Promoting the World Heritage Property and its surroundings

Objective 9: Ensure the implementation of a sustainable strategy for the promotion of the World Heritage Property

- 9.1. Prepare a Tourism Strategy
- 9.2. Prepare a Marketing Plan

Objective 10: Set up and sustain an integrated promotion of the World Heritage Property and its surroundings

- 10.1. Promote the vision for development in the zones
- 10.2. Develop and consolidate a programme of activities
- 10.3. Consolidate partnership

Conducting research on the scope and extent of indenture

Objective 11: Continue and encourage multidisciplinary research on the scope and extent of indenture by establishing local, regional and international networks

- 11.1. Prepare an integrated global Research Plan
- 11.2. Prepare a Research Policy for ethics and access
- 11.3. Develop research proposals for Intangible Cultural Heritage and archaeology
- 11.4. Prepare a research proposal for integrated research at Trianon heritage site
- 11.5. Consolidate research capacity
- 11.6. Develop and consolidate networks to foster research on indenture
- 11.7. Consolidate and develop regional and international research networks
- 11.8. Prepare a consolidated research proposal for the indenture labour route project

Objective 12: Foster and support collaborative implementation of projects for integrated research

- 12.1. Create working groups to implement research projects
- 12.2. Prepare a consolidated research proposal and strategy for projects

Objective 13: Improve the management of information and consolidate the documentation centre

- 13.1. Enlist professional services to assess and report on the setting up of a data information management system for the documentation centre
- 13.2. Consolidate capacity in the documentation centre

7. Implementing the Plan

The Management Plan is a document submitted for approval to the Cabinet of Ministers chaired by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius. After it is approved, the Management Plan is an official document providing guidance and recommendations for the management and the promotion of the Outstanding Universal Value of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property.

The Management Plan is a partnership document that provides guidance to all stakeholders involved in the conservation, management and promotion of the World Heritage Property. The City Council of Port Louis (CCPL), the Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund (AGTF), the National Heritage Fund (NHF) and the Ministry of Arts and Culture (MAC) are the institutions involved in the implementation of the Management Plan on a daily basis.

This core group collaborates with the following governmental partners:

- The Ministry of Local Government and Outer Islands
- The Ministry of Tourism and Leisure
- The Mauritius Ports Authority
- The State Property Development Corporation
- The Ministry of Business, Enterprise and Cooperatives
- The Ministry of Education and Human Resources
- The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
- The Ministry of Housing and Lands
- The Mauritius Museums Council
- The Ministry of Tertiary Education, Science, Research and Technology
- The Mauritius Tourism Promotion Authority

The conservation, management and promotion of Apravasi Ghat also requires the full support of the local community and the public at large. It is the reason why the Management Plan also includes mechanisms that involve the public.

It is essential to adopt and implement a Management Plan that promotes holistic and integrated management so that it ensures its sustainable implementation.

8. Legal and Institutional framework

The Management Plan meets the requirements of the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage of UNESCO and also the legislative framework existing in Mauritius, which includes:

1. The Planning Policy Guidance – PPG 6: Urban Heritage Area – Buffer Zone of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage property (2011);
2. The Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act (2001 amended 2006 and 2011);
3. The National Heritage Fund Act 2003; and
4. The Local Government Act 2011.

The local legislation does not make provision specifically for World Heritage Sites but the principles of the *Convention concerning the protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage* were followed to cater for the specific aspects of heritage management and protection. This led to the amendment of the *Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act* in 2011 to include the delimitation of the buffer zone, which now has a legal status. The amendment of the *Local Government Act 2003* makes provision for the creation of a Technical Committee to examine applications for development in the buffer zone.

The legal framework related to the World Heritage Property was amended to address the need to preserve and promote the OUV of the WHP. It led to the inclusion of heritage principles and guidance in major planning documents in order to ensure the retention and enhancement of heritage within the capital city of Port Louis. The specific Planning Policy Guidance (PPG 6) was issued in 2011 to provide a framework for the buffer zone of Apravasi Ghat and establish a vision that promotes the revitalization of the area as a heritage district. Concurrently, this vision was also included in the Outline Planning Scheme for Port Louis.

The Management Plan also includes “Planning guidelines for the Buffer Zone”⁴ and “Guidelines to prepare a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and Visual Impact Assessment (VIA)”⁵ as guiding tools associated with the PPG 6 and the Outline Planning Scheme for Port Louis. The Management Plan for the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property is a reference document for these planning documents and should be used concurrently.

⁴ Annex 3.

⁵ Annex 4.

9. Who is responsible for the implementation of the Management Plan?

The implementation of the Management Plan (MP) is vested in a partnership where each component needs to bring its part for the effective implementation of the plan. The AGTF Board provides guidance and ultimately oversees the management of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Site. They monitor the preparation and approve the Management Plan before it is endorsed by the Cabinet of Ministers.

The responsibility for the practical implementation of the plan rests with the Director who is supported by the Technical and Research Unit of the Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund (AGTF).

The retention, enhancement and promotion of the heritage in the Buffer Zone are the responsibility of the City Council of Port Louis (CCPL) who implements the Management Plan and the Planning Policy Guideline 6 in the area. The CCPL is assisted by the AGTF and the National Heritage Fund (NHF).

The Ministry of Arts and Culture (MAC) is the representative of the State Party to UNESCO. As such, the MAC monitors the implementation of the MP and reports to UNESCO's World Heritage Centre.

10. Monitoring and evaluation

The implementation of the Management Plan will be monitored and evaluated to better address issues or shortcomings that may arise in the course of implementation. Systematic Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) therefore allows for adaptive management as circumstances and details of issues change through time.

To ensure the effective implementation of the MP, there are committees established to support implementation of particular parts of the plan. Each committee must prepare a working plan for the area under their jurisdiction that clearly states:

- Main actions to be undertaken
- Specific steps to be taken
- Deliverables
- Indicators
- Timelines
- Indication of tasks and the person responsible
- Potential obstacles and bottlenecks and possible ways of overcoming them

Work plans should be prepared, approved and adopted by the committees in order to ensure the smooth implementation of the Management Plan. The work plans of the various committees will be taken up into an overall M&E system that serves as a systematic monitoring tool for the Management Plan Committee.

The Management Plan Committee, by using the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system, will not only *monitor* the step by step implementation and roll-out of the Management Plan itself but will also *evaluate* the actual impact of the plan on the World Heritage Property and its target beneficiaries. Thus both the level of implementation of the Management Plan and its efficacy are systematically monitored. The MAC, the CCPL, the AGTF and the NHF would be in a position to evaluate the Management Plan and adopt an approach of adaptive management allowing the review of proposed actions to better achieve the goals stated in the management plan.

Introduction

The Aapravasi Ghat was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2006 after being nominated by the Government of Mauritius for inscription on the World Heritage List. The inscription of the Aapravasi Ghat recognises the Outstanding Universal Value of the former immigration depot as a symbol of the *Great Experiment* initiated in 1834 by the British colonial Government to evaluate the viability of *indenture* as a system to recruit “free” labour after the abolition of slavery in the British Empire.

A Buffer Zone⁶ (BZ) was delimited for Aapravasi Ghat (AG) World Heritage Property (WHP) to allow the full expression of the outstanding significance of the World Heritage Property as per UNESCO *Convention concerning the protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage*. In its Convention, UNESCO explains that the Buffer Zone is important as it represents the context in which the World Heritage Property has evolved through time. As such, it is a fundamental element supporting its cultural significance at a national and international level.

This is the reason why appropriate measures are enforced in the Buffer Zone to protect, preserve, enhance and promote the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the World Heritage Property. The ultimate objective is to foster urban harmony and cohesion while creating an enabling environment for the conservation and enhancement of heritage and sustainable development.

The Management Plan is a key document providing orientation and actions to guide institutions, public and private agencies and the local community in a collective pursuit of the Vision for the World Heritage Property.

The present Management Plan is a comprehensive revision of the Management Plan 2006 that was prepared at the time of the inscription of the World Heritage Property. The present document sets out principles, issues and objectives, and an Action Plan that takes into consideration the developments that have occurred over the last six years.

The objective of the Management Plan (2013-2018) is to foster the conservation, holistic and integrated management and the promotion of the World Heritage Property, as well as to encourage its full integration into the life of the capital city as an opportunity for urban regeneration.

The Management Plan rests on ICOMOS and UNESCO’s vision and resolutions encouraging the sustainable development of World Heritage Properties. In this plan, the focus is on the consolidation of the managerial framework and measures encouraging the establishment of an enabling environment for sustainable development at the World Heritage Property and in its surroundings.

⁶ The concept of Buffer Zone is explained in the glossary.

PART 1: THE MANAGEMENT PLAN AND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE AAPRAVASI GHAT WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY

1. FUNCTION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY MANAGEMENT PLAN

1.1. What is a Management Plan?

The Management Plan is a document required to ensure the preservation and sustainability of the Outstanding Universal Value⁷ of the World Heritage Property as per the *Convention concerning the protection of the World Natural and Cultural Heritage* of UNESCO. The objective is to ensure that an appropriate managerial system and adequate legal protection are in place to ensure the preservation of the World Heritage Property in the future⁸.

Above all, the Management Plan describes the World Heritage Property (WHP), its Outstanding Universal Value and related significance and analyses the issues affecting the conservation and management of the World Heritage Property. The document proposes answers to remedy threats that could affect the World Heritage Property and sets out measures for its sustainable development.

The Management Plan identifies issues and proposes strategic objectives that seek to achieve the Vision for the World Heritage Property in the long term. From the Vision⁹, overall objectives are generated for the development of the World Heritage Property in line with the expectations of the local community and public and private agencies. The Management Plan therefore is a document presenting the Vision for the future of the WHP along with key principles and objectives that will guide the implementation of this Vision. The Management Plan is reviewed every five years to integrate changes brought in the contemporary context and offer a proactive and adaptive document speaking to current issues. The Management Plan is therefore needed to ensure that the World Heritage Property is integrated in the lives of the people of Mauritius as a living heritage that receives the support of all.

⁷ Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) “means cultural and/or natural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity. As such, the permanent protection of this heritage is of the highest importance to the international community as a whole.”

⁸ The *Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention* (2008) defines the following modules as essential components of Management Plan:

- legislative, regulatory and contractual measures for protection,
- boundaries for effective protection,
- Buffer Zone,
- management systems,
- sustainable use.

⁹ Vision with a capital ‘V’ refers to the official Vision for the World Heritage Property (WHP) that is the Apravasi Ghat.

The Management Plan is therefore a key document addressing issues and objectives to respond favourably to the need to preserve, promote and enhance the World Heritage Property. The Plan provides a plan of action that guides the institutions, the local community or any private or public agencies involved with the World Heritage Property and its Buffer Zone. The aim is to ensure integrated management at World Heritage Property to optimize and sustain its preservation and enhancement.

“A “management plan” may come in different legal and operational forms but is always a coherent instrument that takes into consideration the specific characteristics not only of a site but also of the area around it. The plan, bringing together all the players and instruments involved in a site and the surrounding area should serve as a development coordination tool; [...] in the long term it is meant to be a sustainable development tool integrated into the environment.”

(UNESCO about WHP in Syria cited in the Presentation of Christophe Graz on Management of Heritage Sites and Artefacts, Euromed Heritage, Petra, Jordan, 17-19 May 2010)

1.2. The status of the Plan

In 1995, Mauritius signed the *Convention concerning the protection of the World Natural and Cultural Heritage* of UNESCO (1972) which states the need for a management plan. As a World Heritage Property listed in 2006, the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property has an official Management Plan, in line with the requirements stated in the 1972 Convention, to meet the need to preserve and enhance the World Heritage Properties in a sustainable manner.

The Management Plan represents the commitment taken by the State Party to UNESCO. The document presents actions that abide by the 1972 Convention principles ensuring the sustainability of the World Heritage Property. As such, the Management Plan is a national and international reference stating how the State Party is proposing to implement the UNESCO's convention within its territory. Since it is a national commitment, the Management Plan is presented and approved by the Cabinet of Ministers and used as a national reference by anyone involved in the preservation, management and enhancement of the World Heritage Property.

After approval by the Cabinet of Ministers, the Management Plan is sent to the World Heritage Centre of UNESCO who refers to the Management Plan as a reference document to monitor the state of conservation of World Heritage Properties.

1.3. The purpose of the Plan

The purpose of the Management Plan is to sustain and conserve the Outstanding Universal Value of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property (WHP) and to promote the value and sustainable use of the WHP through all tiers of society. The overarching aim of the Management Plan is:

To describe an approach to the management of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property that will retain and strengthen the balance between conserving the historic environment, enhancing the local character and amenities of the World Heritage Property and surroundings with the need to develop the area into a vibrant heritage area serving the Vision in favour of the revitalization of the capital city of Mauritius.

1.4. Implementing the Vision for the future

The Management Plan was elaborated to address key issues with the view to achieve the Vision for the future for the World Heritage Property. The Vision aims at sustaining the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Property whilst maintaining its authenticity in its original context of evolution that requires revitalization measures to enhance the unique character of the surroundings of the World Heritage Property located in the heart of the Capital City of Mauritius.

The Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Property will be maintained and promoted for future generations.

Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property will be a cultural landmark fostering urban heritage management and conservation in close interaction with the local community to support national unity and identity.

The preparation of the Management Plan is guided by key objectives:

- The need to ensure the effective management of the World Heritage Property by involving stakeholders, conducting consultations and through fostering close partnerships amongst all concerned parties;
- The Management Plan aims at providing an overarching framework for all plans, policies, projects and decision making for the World Heritage Property;
- The need to undertake actions and make decisions that allow the retention of the OUV as per best international standards;

- The need to develop and implement policies and a framework to better manage the WHP and retain the heritage component in its Buffer Zone so as to provide guidance for the implementation of other related documents; and
- The Management Plan aims at protecting and enhancing the architectural, archaeological, and other landscape attributes and natural assets of the WHP and its surroundings in line with international standards and in the respect of the local community's concerns.

The key aims of the Management Plan are:

- To put in place and sustain a mechanism to preserve the World Heritage Property;
- To address the issues related to the opening and operations of the Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre (BRIC) at World Heritage Property;
- To establish the managerial system for the monitoring of the heritage component in the Buffer Zone;
- To support the establishment of a framework in the Buffer Zone that will encourage the development of the area into a vibrant heritage district based on ICOMOS Paris Declaration (heritage as a driver of development, 2011) and the new recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape adopted on 10 November 2011 at the 36th session of UNESCO's General Conference;
- To state the vision for tourism and develop and implement the Tourism Strategy at World Heritage Property and in its Buffer Zone in favour of sustainable tourism and a positive visitor experience;
- To develop a programme of projects to implement the key aims while preserving the World Heritage Property;
- To establish general principles and guidelines related to the management and the promotion of the World Heritage Property; and
- To provide policies and strategies of research documenting the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Property.

1.5. The structure of the Plan

As per the Operational Guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention (2008)¹⁰, the Management Plan addresses issues and objectives on the following main modules:

- *legislative, regulatory and contractual measures for protection;*
- *boundaries for effective protection;*
- *Buffer Zone;*
- *management systems; and*
- *sustainable use.*

The Plan provides:

1.5.1. A description of the **World Heritage Property and its Buffer Zone** and their cultural significance;

This section provides an overview of the reasons why the Apravasi Ghat is listed on the World Heritage List of UNESCO and describes the WHP and its boundaries.

1.5.2. A description of the **current policy context**;

This part refers to the framework in place for the management and the preservation of heritage in Mauritius, and the existing legal dispositions for the World Heritage Property.

1.5.3. A description of the **current management context**;

This section presents the managerial system in place for the World Heritage Property and its Buffer Zone.

1.5.4. A presentation of **topics and issues** related to:

- Planning and policy;
- Conservation;
- Visitor, tourism and education issues;
- Promotion; and
- Research.

This section identifies the issues that affect the World Heritage Property and for which, actions are proposed in the Management Plan.

¹⁰ Ringbeck, Birgitta, *Management Plans for World Heritage Sites: a practical guide*, German Commission for UNESCO, Bonn, Germany (2008:6).

1.5.5. A presentation of the **management and monitoring** for the World Heritage Property;

This section describes the improvements made to the managerial and monitoring systems proposed for the World Heritage Property.

1.5.6. The Action Plan to **implement the Management Plan**;

This part summarizes the actions proposed in response to the issues affecting the World Heritage Property and in order to pursue the Vision.

1.5.7. **Appendices** and glossary.

This section contains all the references and information related to the content of this Management Plan.

1.6. The process of developing the Management Plan

The Management Plan was developed in close interaction with stakeholders and the local community was consulted through consultative committees. The approach was to integrate the concerns and suggestions of all and absorb comments to produce an adaptive Management Plan for the World Heritage Property and its Buffer Zone.

This process allowed for the inclusion of valuable comments and suggestions and to make sure that the concerns of all are included in the Management Plan (hereafter sometimes referred to as the Plan). The objective was to produce a Management Plan that receives the support of all to optimise its sustainable implementation.

This process was inspired by the need to ensure ownership of the Plan by all. Therefore, it was imperative that all contribute or/and take part in its compilation.

2. DESCRIPTION AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY

2.1. Location and boundary of the Apravasi Ghat part of the WHP



Figure 1: A map of the Republic of Mauritius locating Port Louis, the capital city

The AGWHP is situated in Port Louis, adjacent to the Port. The World Heritage Property is also designated as the Core Zone as opposed to the Buffer Zone surrounding the World Heritage Property.

The Buffer Zone of the Apravasi Ghat including the port, customs, harbour front, transport and commercial activities, is situated around the Core Zone, to the East and alongside Trou Fanfaron, the whole being in the heart of the historical centre of the Colonial Era port city of Port Louis.

The BZ has two components:

- **Buffer Zone 1:** the area which surrounds the Core Zone (the compound of the Apravasi Ghat) to the West
- **Buffer Zone 2:** the area East of Port Louis Pamplemousses dual Carriage way (Motorway).

The Buffer Zone 1 and the western part of Buffer Zone 2 are located within the port area as defined in the Ports Act 1998.

The boundaries of the Buffer Zone are:

- to the West and North west of the AGWHP, the Trou Fanfaron harbour area and dry docks;
- to the North, the façades on the northern side of Dr. Sun Yat Sen Street;
- to the East, the façades on the eastern side of Royal Street; and
- to the South, the northern side of Duke of Edinburgh Street.

The buildings and urban places of the Buffer Zone provide a suitable context and setting for the conservation of the Core Zone and its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV).

Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property – Management Plan 2013 - 2018

POINT	NATIONAL GRID COORDINATES		WGS 84 COORDINATES	
	EASTING	NORTHING	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
A	997364.07	1004385.62	20° 9' 30.63"	57° 30' 13.11"
B	997357.87	1004387.67	20° 9' 30.57"	57° 30' 12.90"
C	997347.85	1004389.15	20° 9' 30.52"	57° 30' 12.55"
D	997347.96	1004389.82	20° 9' 30.50"	57° 30' 12.55"
E	997319.38	1004393.96	20° 9' 30.36"	57° 30' 11.57"
F	997317.57	1004388.20	20° 9' 30.55"	57° 30' 11.51"
G	997310.55	1004360.06	20° 9' 31.47"	57° 30' 11.27"
H	997283.00	1004367.37	20° 9' 31.23"	57° 30' 10.32"
I	997279.75	1004354.60	20° 9' 31.64"	57° 30' 10.21"
J	997303.30	1004348.46	20° 9' 31.84"	57° 30' 11.02"
K	997306.99	1004347.47	20° 9' 31.88"	57° 30' 11.14"
L	997314.50	1004347.22	20° 9' 31.88"	57° 30' 11.40"
M	997321.79	1004350.42	20° 9' 31.78"	57° 30' 11.65"
N	997482.64	1004491.15	20° 09' 27.20"	57° 30' 17.19"
O	997437.61	1004532.90	20° 09' 25.85"	57° 30' 15.64"
P	997322.18	1004415.53	20° 09' 29.66"	57° 30' 11.67"
Q	997146.78	1004470.47	20° 09' 27.87"	57° 30' 05.63"
R	997138.10	1004466.22	20° 09' 28.01"	57° 30' 05.33"
S	997131.49	1004457.98	20° 09' 28.28"	57° 30' 05.10"
T	997129.22	1004439.81	20° 09' 28.87"	57° 30' 05.02"
U	997131.50	1004439.57	20° 09' 28.88"	57° 30' 05.10"
V	997128.21	1004426.64	20° 09' 29.30"	57° 30' 04.99"
W	997134.81	1004422.70	20° 09' 29.43"	57° 30' 05.21"
X	997051.93	1004277.73	20° 09' 34.14"	57° 30' 02.36"
Y	997067.69	1004265.84	20° 09' 34.53"	57° 30' 02.90"
Z	997175.05	1004188.24	20° 09' 37.05"	57° 30' 06.60"
ZA	997676.19	1004360.38	20° 09' 31.46"	57° 30' 23.86"
ZB	997587.83	1004449.41	20° 09' 28.56"	57° 30' 20.81"
ZC	997594.12	1004525.12	20° 09' 26.10"	57° 30' 21.03"
ZD	997521.07	1004580.85	20° 09' 24.29"	57° 30' 18.52"
ZE	997530.80	1004660.21	20° 09' 21.71"	57° 30' 18.85"
ZF	997472.86	1004709.20	20° 09' 20.11"	57° 30' 16.86"
ZG	997292.63	1004707.76	20° 09' 20.16"	57° 30' 10.65"
ZH	997254.94	1004686.94	20° 09' 20.84"	57° 30' 09.35"
ZI	997204.63	1004676.99	20° 09' 21.16"	57° 30' 07.62"
ZJ	997121.32	1004626.02	20° 09' 22.82"	57° 30' 04.75"
ZK	997125.64	1004528.93	20° 09' 25.97"	57° 30' 04.90"
ZL	997110.52	1004442.63	20° 09' 28.78"	57° 30' 04.38"
ZM	996990.17	1004254.69	20° 09' 34.89"	57° 30' 00.23"
ZN	997030.95	1004209.05	20° 09' 36.38"	57° 30' 01.64"
ZO	997291.19	1003959.76	20° 09' 44.48"	57° 30' 10.60"

2.2. Description of the World Heritage Property

2.2.1. Brief description

The Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property is located in the capital city called Port Louis, in Port Louis district, Republic of Mauritius. The Former Immigration Depot is composed of a cluster of 3 stone structures dating to the mid-1860s located on the bay of Trou Fanfaron. It covers an area of site is 1,640 sq. meters (excluding the Buffer Zone with an area of 28.9 hectares¹¹) and is surrounded by a stone wall on two sides, and two other sides by a motorway and a tarred road.

THE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY

The Apravasi Ghat is a former immigration depot that was composed of the following buildings when the Depot was in operation:

- The Immigration Office;
- The Depot Keeper's house;
- Sheds for immigrants;
- Kitchens;
- A hospital;
- Offices for supervisors (or *Sirdars*);
- Stores; and
- Bathing and lavatory area.

¹¹ Buffer Zone 1 is 2.9 hectares; and Buffer Zone 2 is 26 hectares.

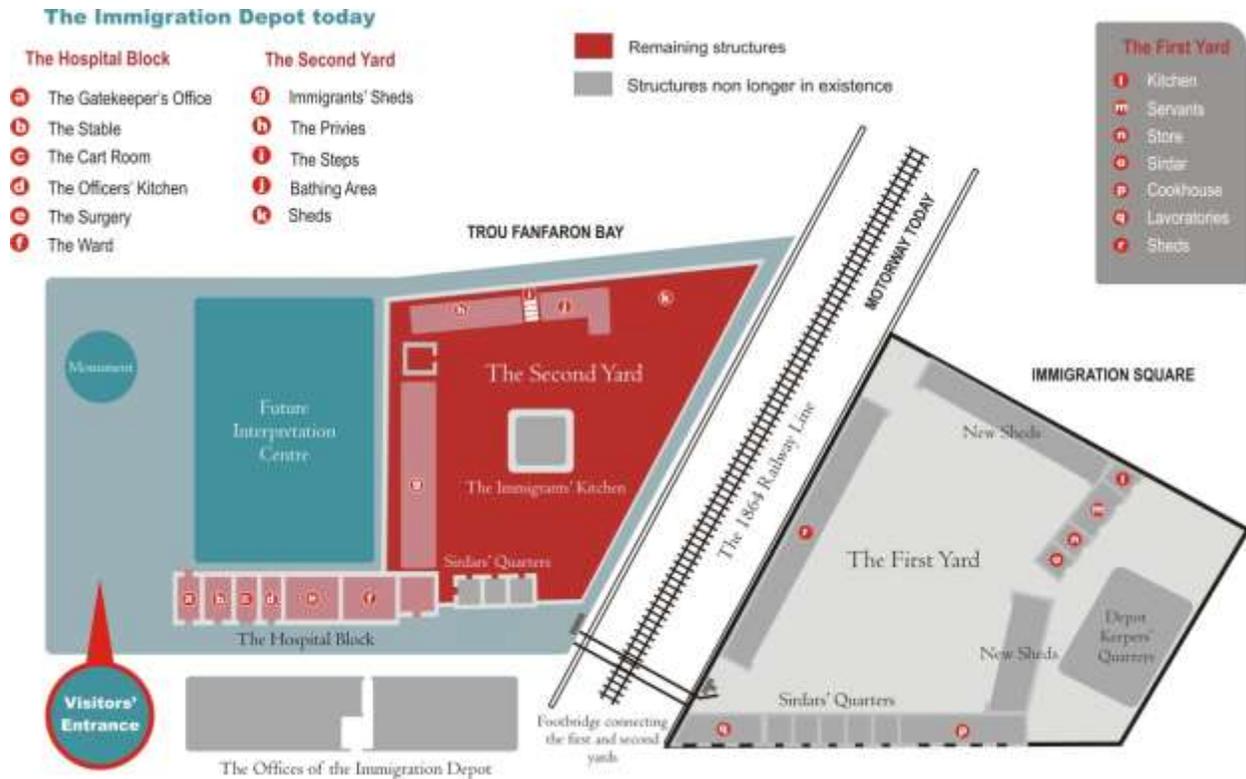


Figure 3: Map showing the Immigration Depot in 1864

The structures that existed originally on the site of the Apravasi Ghat were the Protector of Immigrants' office, sheds for immigrants, kitchens, lavatories and other facilities. The layout that we see today is the culmination of a construction sequence that began in 1849. Although less than half of the Immigration Depot remains as it was in 1865, the Depot's key components are still there. These components reveal much about the history of the indenture immigration system.

Today, the site's existing components are:

1. Entrance gateway;
2. Hospital block comprising of:
 - a. Gate Keeper's Room;
 - b. Stable;
 - c. Cart House;
 - d. Kitchen;
 - e. Surgery and Ward Room; and
 - f. Staff privies.

3. Immigrants' Sheds;
4. Immigrants' Kitchen;
5. Sirdars' Quarters;
6. Immigrant Privies;
7. Bathing Area;
8. Steps; and
9. Outer wall at wharf level.

The Site evolved in five phases:

- The period between **1849 and 1858** marks the construction of Depot;
- **1858-1859** correspond to the second phase consisting in the completion of the first depot extension;

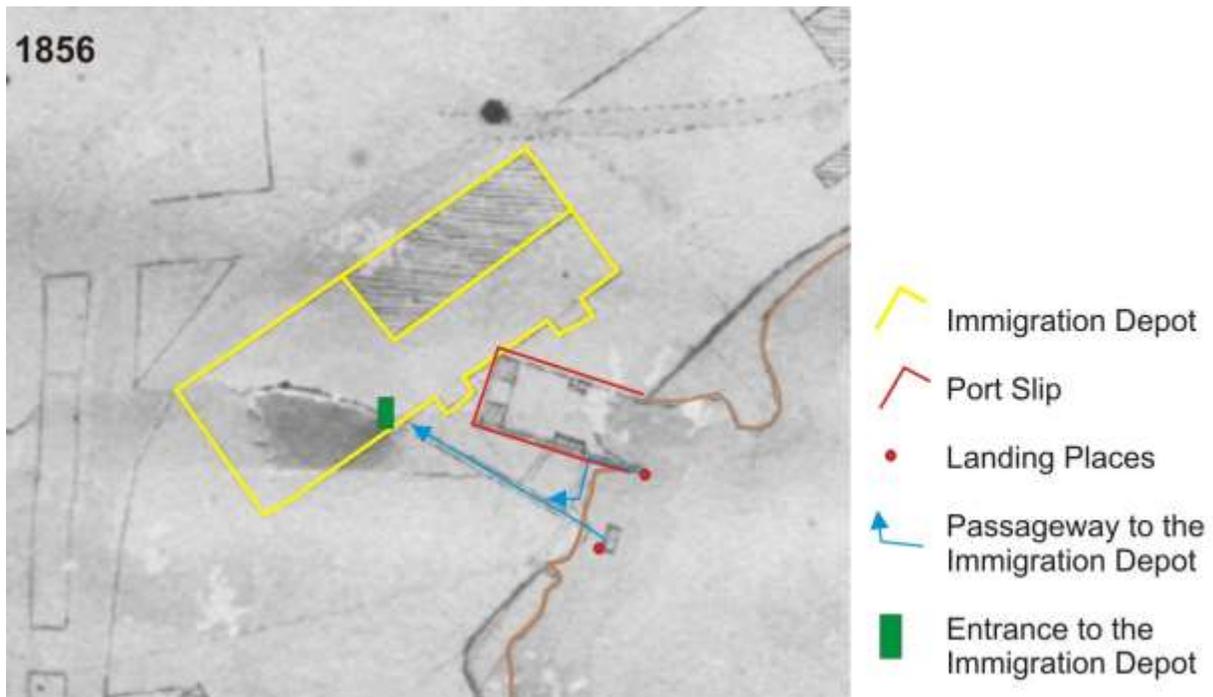


Figure 4: Immigration Depot in 1856

- **1860-1866** are the years during which the largest extension of the Depot takes place;

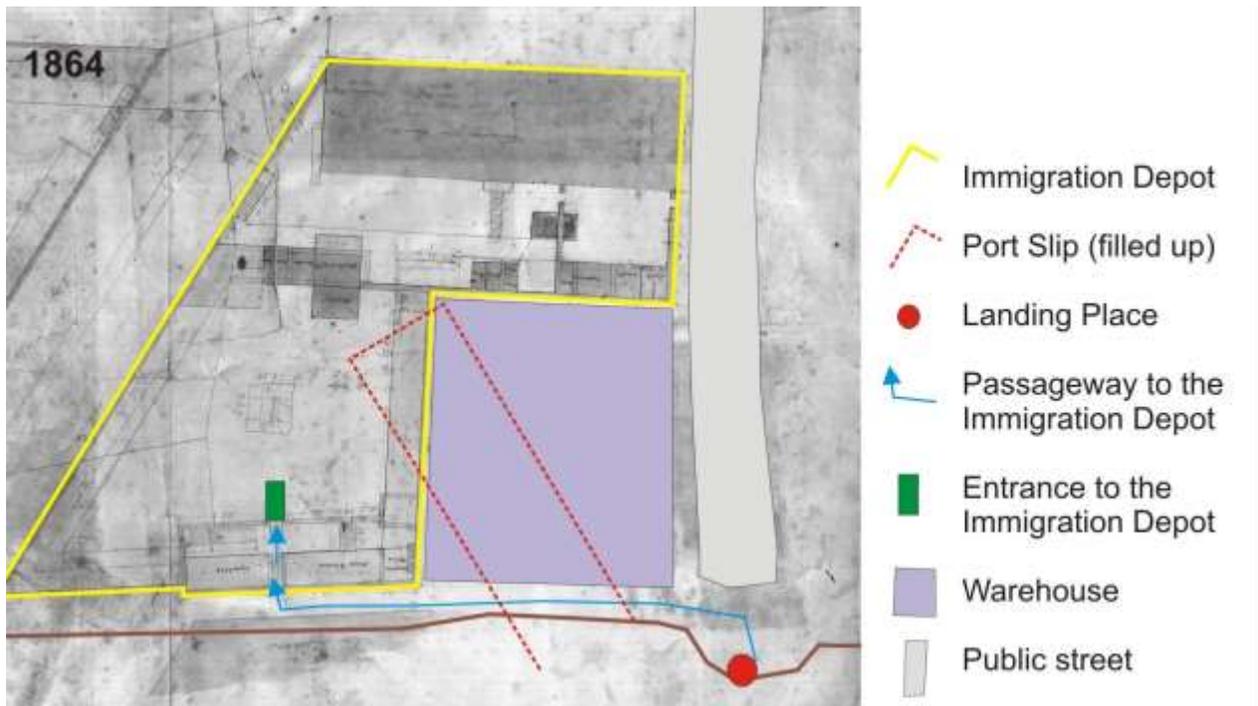


Figure 5: Immigration Depot in 1864

- **1867-1988** mark the gradual disappearance of key architectural elements of the Depot with, finally, the construction of the motorway in 1988 that led to the destruction of 1/3 of the former Depot;
- **1989-2010** correspond to the conservation and preservation phase.

2.2.2. The character of the WHP and its regional context

The Apravasi Ghat (or Core Zone) is flanked by some of the oldest buildings on the island and some of the oldest communities established in the Trou Fanfaron hinterland. Among these surviving structures are the Military Hospital built in 1740, the Post Office in 1868, the Central Market dating to 1848 and several old warehouses associated with the sugar industry. All represent the French and British colonial legacy of the island.

The Core Zone of every World Heritage Property has a statutory Buffer Zone. The Buffer Zone is declared as a legal entity in the Schedule of the Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act 2001, amended in 2006 and 2011. Not only is the Buffer Zone around Apravasi Ghat the statutory buffer or curtilage for the Core Zone containing the Immigration Depot; it is also an important historic urban landscape where the origins and memories of the evolution of the oldest portion of the city are recorded, alongside its port of Trou Fanfaron. As such the remaining tangible and intangible heritage that is contained in the Buffer Zone must be protected and managed in its own right, as well as to provide a context for the Core Zone. The Statement of Significance provided for the Buffer Zone guides the type of development controls and guidelines attached to it.

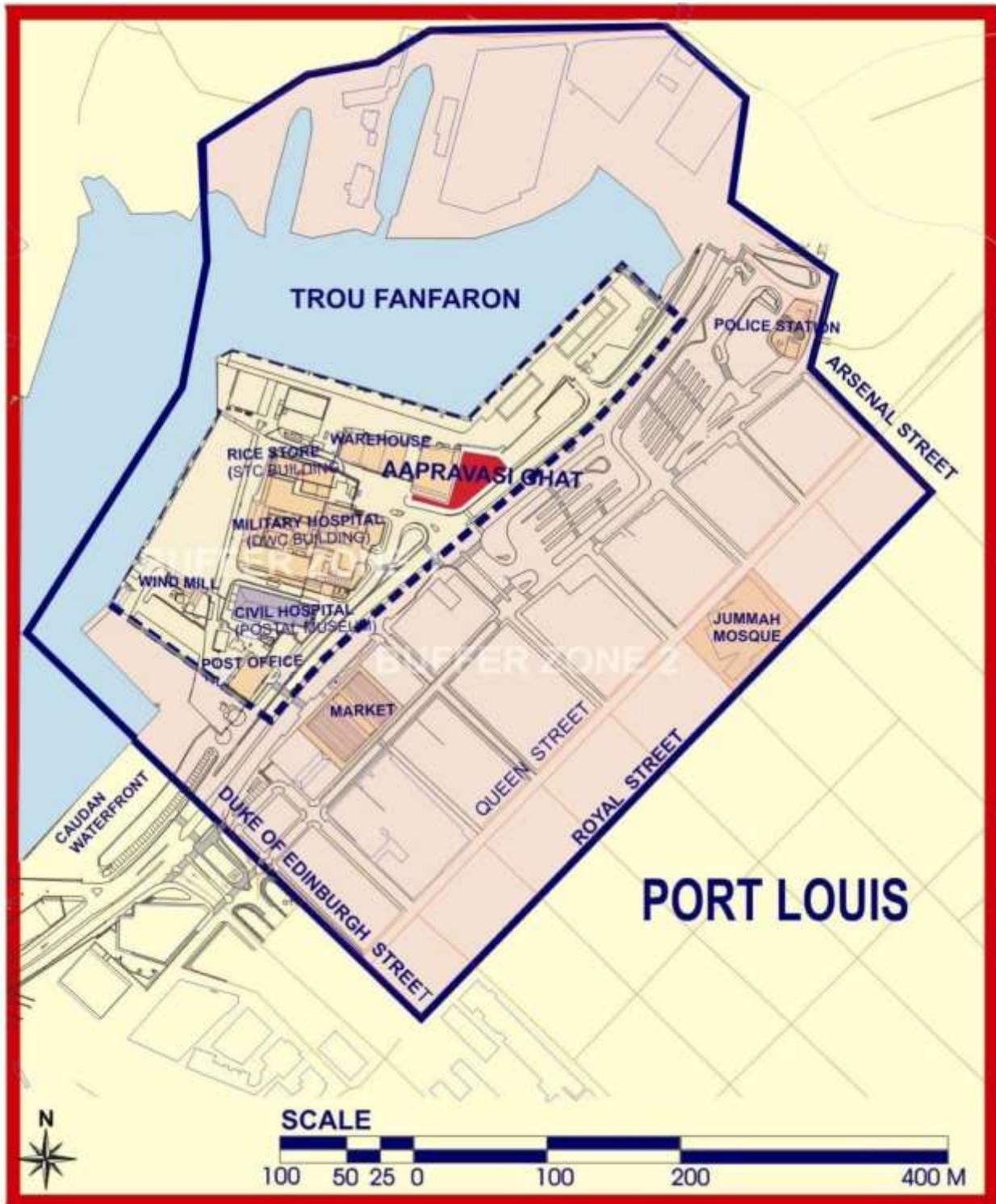


Figure 6: Map indicating the location of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property and its Buffer Zones

2.3. Significance of the World Heritage Property

2.3.1. Retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

The following retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value was approved by the World Heritage Committee and the International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS):

“Located on the bay of Trou Fanfaron, in the capital of Port-Louis, the Aapravasi Ghat is the remains of an immigration depot, the site from where modern indentured labour Diaspora emerged. The Depot was built in 1849 to receive indentured labourers from India, Eastern Africa, Madagascar, China and Southeast Asia to work on the island’s sugar estates as part of the ‘Great Experiment’. This experiment was initiated by the British Government, after the abolition of slavery in the British Empire in 1834, to demonstrate the superiority of ‘free’ over slave labour in its plantation colonies. The success of the ‘Great Experiment’ in Mauritius led to its adoption by other colonial powers from the 1840s, resulting in a world-wide migration of more than two million indentured labourers, of which Mauritius received almost half a million.

The buildings of Aapravasi Ghat are among the earliest explicit manifestations of what would become a global economic system. The Aapravasi Ghat site stands as a major historic testimony of indenture in the 19th century and is the sole surviving example of this unique modern Diaspora. It represents not only the development of the modern system of contractual labour, but also the memories, traditions and values that these men, women and children carried with them when they left their countries of origin to work in foreign lands and subsequently bequeathed to their millions of descendants for whom the site holds great symbolic meaning.”

2.3.2. Criteria

The Aapravasi Ghat was inscribed under criterion (VI):

“Aapravasi Ghat, as the first site chosen by the British Government in 1834 for the ‘great experiment’ in the use of indentured, rather than slave labour, is strongly associated with memories of almost half a million indentured labourers moving from India to Mauritius to work on sugar cane plantations or to be transhipped to other parts of the World.”

2.3.3. Integrity

The setting of the property was altered by the construction of a road that cuts across it. At present, less than half of the Immigration Depot area as it existed in 1865, survives. However, original structural key components still stand. These include the remains of the sheds for the housing of the immigrants, kitchens, lavatories, a building used as a hospital block and highly symbolical flight of 14 steps upon which all immigrants had to lay foot before entering the immigration depot. However, the property is vulnerable to development in the Buffer Zone, some of which is unregulated. However, proper enforcement of the Planning Policy Guidelines (PPG) will curb such unregulated property.

2.3.4. Authenticity

The property represents the place where indentured immigrants first arrived in Mauritius. Archival and architectural drawings of the complex at the time of its alteration in 1864-1865 give evidence of its purpose as an immigration depot. The surviving buildings reveal significant aspects of the history of the indentured labour system and the functioning of the immigration depot.

While there was little detailed documentation of conservation work undertaken prior to 2003, the more recent work, including the removal of the undesirable additions of the 1990s, has been based on archaeological investigation and detailed archival documentation, including the complete set of drawings of the Immigration Depot at the time of the complex's remodelling in 1864-1865.

Prior to the launching of the recent conservation work and restoration work two technical reports for conservation were prepared respectively in December 2003 and May 2004 by members of ICOMOS-India. Complete photo documentation as well as architectural documentation of the site was undertaken before initiating the conservation works, and during the conservation process, all compiled as part of the periodic conservation reports of the property.

2.4. Other cultural heritage and historic environment values

The Buffer Zone is located in the Bay of Trou Fanfaron which can be described as a key historical landmark. This is where immigrants landed in their new country: slaves, indentured labourers and the ancestors of the many other groups that forged present day Mauritian society. As the country's prime harbour it is easy to understand why the City of Port Louis has developed with Trou Fanfaron as the physical core from where the city expanded through the centuries. The heart of Trou Fanfaron is Apravasi Ghat and one that together with the harbour defines the essence of Port Louis.



Figure 7: Map indicating the heritage buildings in the surroundings of the World Heritage Property

The Buffer Zone of the AGWHP covers an area of cultural significance for the history of the Immigration Depot as nearly 70% of the Depot was located in this area before its destruction in the 20th century. Today, the visual and historical links are preserved between the Core Zone (CZ) and the BZs of the AG as evidence of common historical evolution. As from late 1840s, the increasing immigration to Mauritius and expansion of port activities resulted in the development of commercial activities in the area, providing materials and goods for the daily running of the Immigration Depot. As such, the surroundings of the CZ have been a centre of trade, commerce and other cultural expressions for more than two centuries, making it a place of strong interaction between people of various cultural backgrounds.

These traditions and practices have survived up to now: merchant property owners have continued to operate in the BZs from the indenture period to date. The continuity in land use is also coupled with the continuity in the nature of commercial activities in the BZs, stressing the existence of long commercial and ownership tradition evocative of the port activities and of the indenture period, together with cultural activities or intangible heritage that accompany this land use.

The intangible heritage is associated with several monuments listed as National Heritage, relating to the French (1715-1810) and British (1810-1968) periods, the remaining significant historic architectural examples of administrative and port buildings, shops, residences and religious places, as well as significant historic urban streetscapes, nodes and places. As such, the BZs present significant examples of the evolution of Mauritian colonial architecture and urbanism which stand as the legacy of the colonial past and as places of shared history erected by slaves, convicts and indentured labourers during the colonial periods.

3. PROTECTING AND MANAGING THE WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY AND ITS SETTING

3.1. Management bodies in the Management Plan 2006

The Management Plan 2006 established a managerial system for the World Heritage Property.

The **World Heritage Site Steering Committee (WHSSC)** chaired by the Prime Minister is the committee that heads the overall management system.

The **Management Plan Committee (MPC)** chaired by the Ministry of Arts and Culture is the committee overarching the preparation, the monitoring and the implementation of the Management Plan.

The MPC receives the recommendations of the **Core Zone Management Committee (CZMC)** and the **Buffer Zone Management Committee (BZMC)** for consideration. The CZMC is responsible for all activities within the CZ and is mandated to ensure effective management of the WHP.

The BZMC was established to implement the Management Plan in the Buffer Zone. Proposal is made in the part 2 of the present document to consolidate the role and leadership of the BZMC in line with the managerial framework established for the Buffer Zone in 2011.

Provision is made through the **Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC)** to constitute groups of experts to provide advice and assistance on specific issues. The various STACs produce recommendations to advise the CZMC, the BZMC, the MPC and the WHSSC.

The community is consulted through the **Consultative Committee (CC)**. The objective is to inform and consult the community on the conservation, management and promotion of the World Heritage Property and its Buffer Zone.

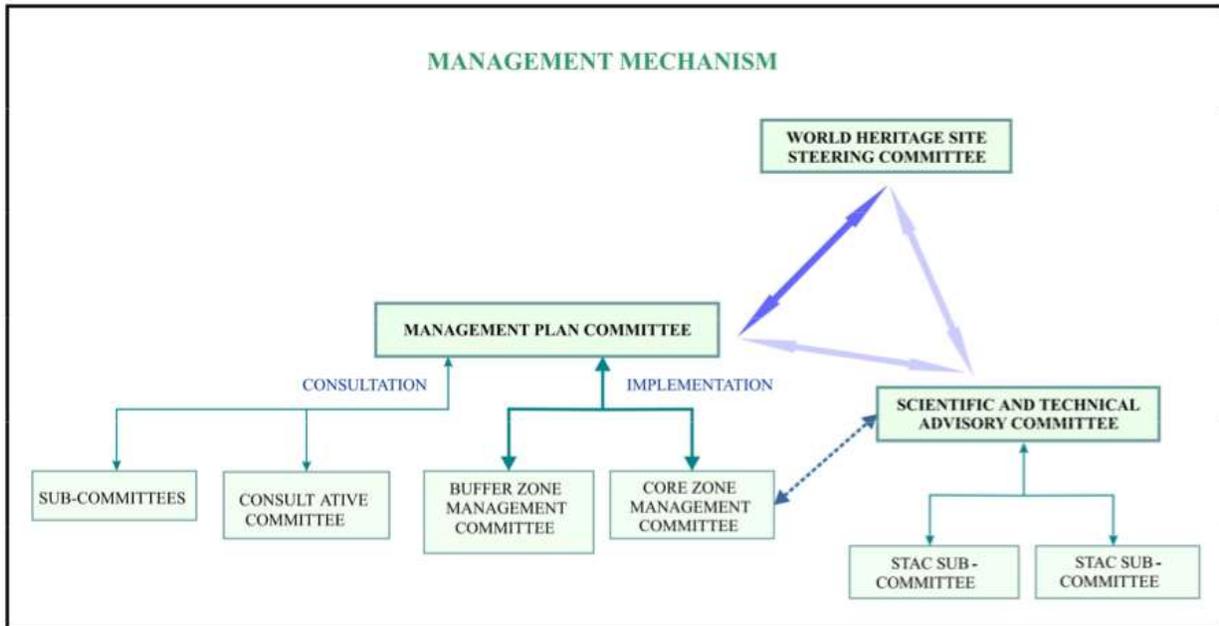


Figure 8: Managerial mechanism established by the Management Plan 2006

3.2. Management and protection of the WHP

The Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property is the property of the Government of Mauritius. It is protected as a National Heritage¹² under the National Heritage Fund Act 2003 and the Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act 2001 (amended 2006¹³ and 2011). In 2006, the Apravasi Ghat was granted the World Heritage Status established by the *Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage* (1972). As such, the World Heritage Property is managed within a managerial framework requiring the respect of heritage principles addressed in the charters and other texts of the International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS).

In 2001, the Mauritian Government set up a dedicated institution, the Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund (AGTF), to document, manage and promote the Apravasi Ghat as a national and international heritage site. The AGTF is a parastatal body that operates under the auspices of the Ministry of Arts and Culture. The Trust Fund was mandated to:

- Establish, administer, manage, promote and maintain the Apravasi Ghat as a national, regional and international heritage site;
- Preserve, restore and manage the Apravasi Ghat and the sites specified in schedule 2 of the Act;

¹² A definition is available in the glossary.

¹³ AGTF Act amendment in 2006: “a) to establish, administer, manage, promote and maintain the Apravasi Ghat as a national, regional and international heritage site”.

- Set up a museum at Apravasi Ghat and create public awareness of the history of indentured labour;
- Promote social and cultural aspects of the sites specified in schedules 1 and 2 of the Act;
- Encourage and support projects and publications related to the indentured labour;
- Establish links with appropriate national, regional and international organizations in line with the objects of the Act;
- Identify and acquire sites, buildings and structures associated with indentured labour; and
- Encourage and support interdisciplinary scientific research related to indentured labour and to the sites specified in schedules 1 and 2.

The Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund is responsible for the day-to-day management of the World Heritage Property. The Board of the Trust Fund is composed of 15 members as follows including the Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson:

- One representative of the Prime Minister's Office;
- One representative of the Ministry of Finance;
- One representative of the Ministry of Arts and Culture;
- One representative of the Ministry of Education;
- One representative of the Ministry of Tourism and Leisure;
- One representative of the High Commission of India;
- One representative of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute;
- One representative of the National Heritage Fund;
- 5 Members from the local community.

A technical and research team elaborates, manages, implements and monitors the projects related to the protection, conservation and promotion of the World Heritage Property with the support of international experts on specific projects. The administrative unit provides support in the implementation process of the projects. The Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund now regroups a total of 48 staff members.



Figure 9: Diagram showing the scope and composition of the Research and Technical Unit per sub-department

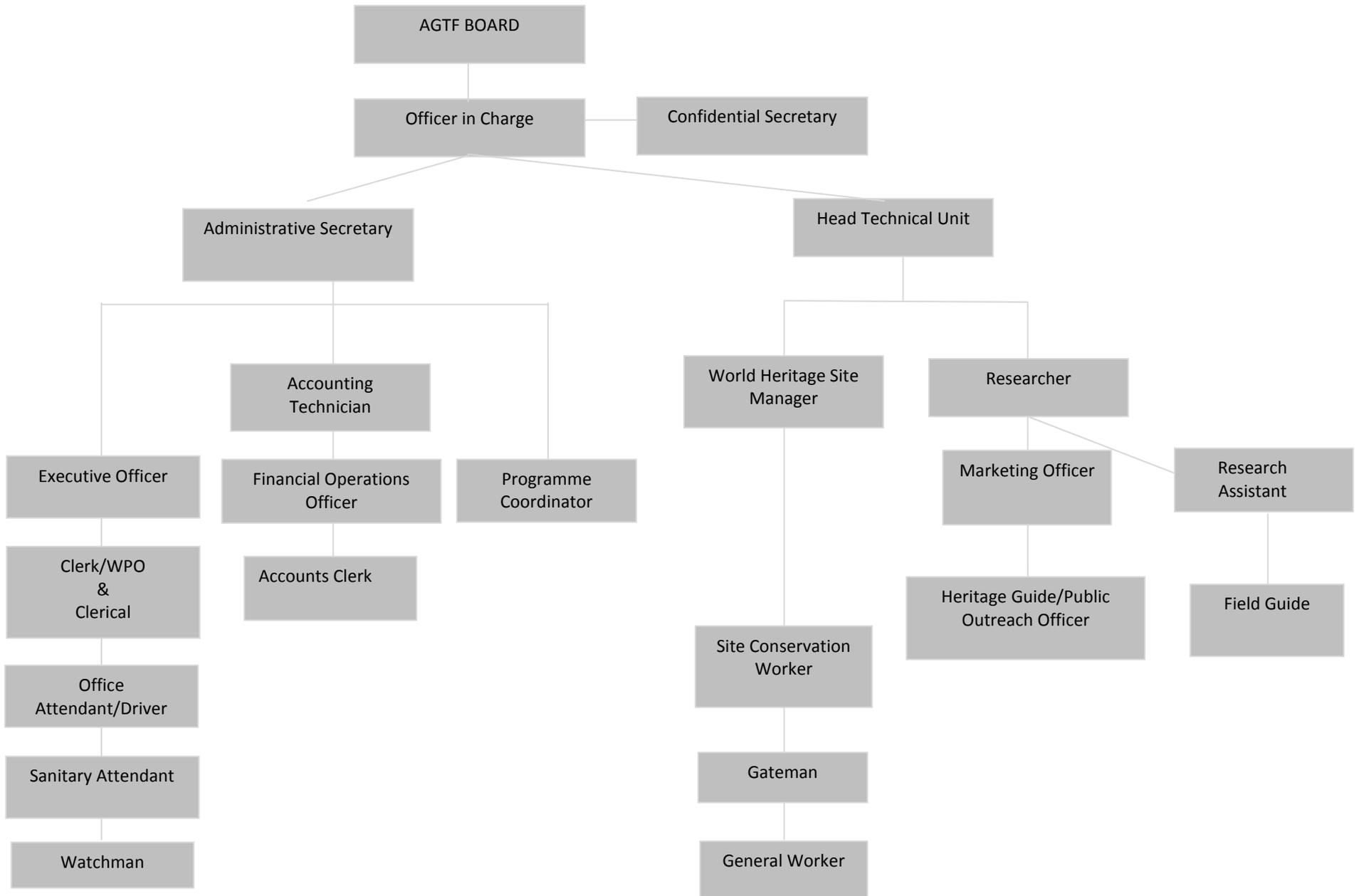


Figure 10: Organisation chart of the AGTF

3.3. Conservation of the World Heritage Property

3.3.1. Conservation and maintenance policy

A Conservation Plan was submitted to the World Heritage Centre in 2006, which has largely been implemented and is now superseded by the current Management Plan. The document states the conservation strategy and policy adopted for the conservation of the World Heritage Property. The conservation, safeguard and maintenance of the World Heritage Property will follow the principles and guidelines addressed in the charters and other documents of the International Council of Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS).

Regarding the maintenance of the World Heritage Property, the Conservation Plan states that the maintenance policy should abide by the following principles:

“It is indispensable to have an effective detailed structure wide system for planning, approving and undertaking maintenance and repair work. One team, in consultation with ICOMOS consultants, is responsible for – and ensures that – all work is undertaken to an agreed standard of the Burra Charter and ICOMOS Charter for conservation, that is commensurate with the importance of the building.

The Aapravasi Ghat immigration depot is recognized as being of international significance because of its uniqueness. Hence, a complete change in the approach to safeguarding the Aapravasi Ghat is essential. The historic fabric must be retained and any work undertaken on any element of the building must identify and be sympathetic with the nature, materials and workmanship of the original construction of the building.”
(Conservation Plan, 2006: 71)

3.3.2. The conservation and maintenance of the Core Zone

The Conservation Project of the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund was initiated in 2004 and ended in 2010 with the view to restore the integrity of the site and conserve the features for future generations. The Conservation Project process followed the stages stated below:

- (i) Conservation and consolidation of the archaeological features;
- (ii) Removal of all modern and incompatible materials which were used during the renovation carried out in the late 1990's;
- (iii) Use of original and genuine materials;
- (iv) Revival and use of traditional construction techniques based on archival records; and
- (v) Restoring and conserving the significant features of the property.

Detailed information on the Conservation Project is available in the Conservation reports¹⁴.

Since the completion of the Conservation Project, a maintenance plan is implemented and monitored by a World Heritage Site Manager, 7 Site Conservation Workers and 5 General Workers. Their role is to document, implement and monitor operations conducted for the preservation and conservation of the World Heritage Property. The operations at World Heritage Property respond to the standards defined by ICOMOS charters and are monitored by external consultants to benefit from the expertise of a Conservation Architect and Conservation Engineer. The consultants work in close collaboration with the World Heritage Site Manager. The planning, implementation and monitoring are the responsibility of the World Heritage Site Manager who reports to the Director through the Head Technical Unit.

Technical issues are discussed during the AGTF Core Zone Management Committee (or Technical Committee) which addresses its recommendations to the Board for consideration. The Board of the AGTF is the designated body for decision-making based upon the reports of the Director and the Head Technical Unit.

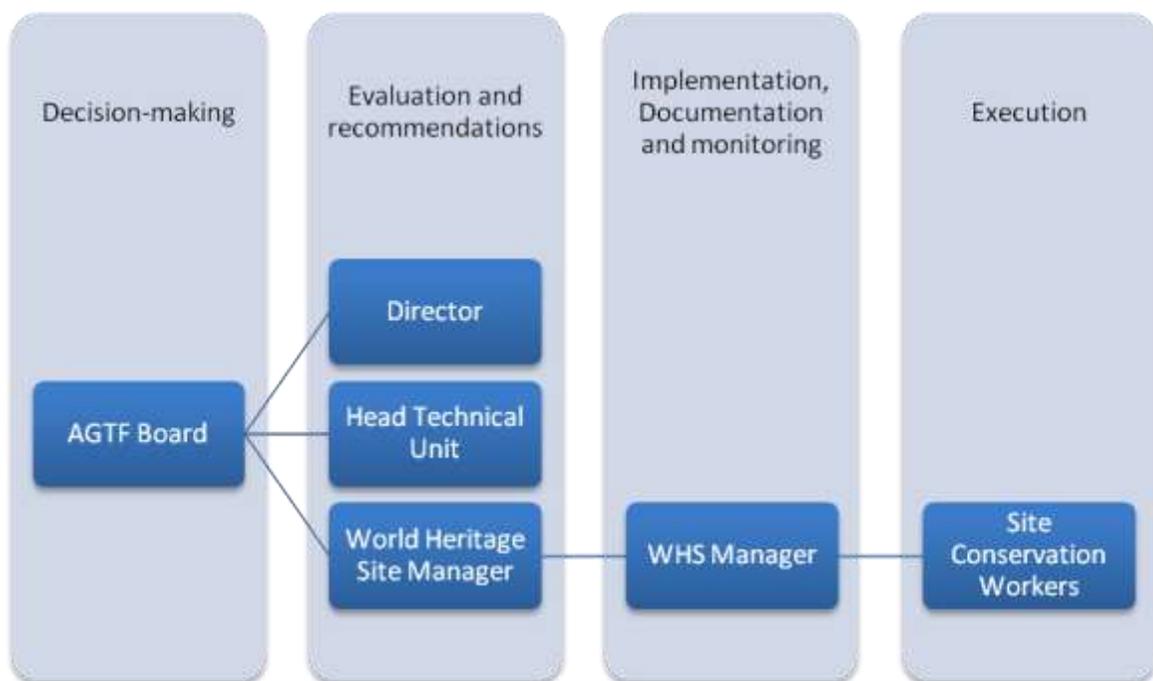


Figure 11: Diagram showing the managerial system in place at AGTF for the conservation of the Core Zone

¹⁴ The Conservation Reports can be consulted at the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund, 1 Quay Street, Port Louis.

3.3.3. Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre

The setting up of an interpretation centre was defined as an object of the fund in the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act (2001; amended version 2006 and 2011) under section 4 (c): *“To set up a museum and create public awareness of the history of indentured labour.”*

It was also identified as objective 16 of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Site Management Plan in the light of the *Convention concerning the protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage Sites* of UNESCO encouraging awareness raising and the enhancement of the *“function of World Heritage in the life of the community”* (*Op. Guidelines*, VI.A. 211; VI.C.).

The Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre (sometimes referred to here-in as the ‘Interpretation Centre’ or BRIC) is currently being set up and will open in 2014. It will integrate all activities related to the promotion and visitor experience at the World Heritage Property. Proposal is made in the present Management Plan for the establishment of a devoted unit to manage and promote the Interpretation Centre.

3.4. Management and protection of the Buffer Zone

As defined by the World Heritage Convention of UNESCO, the World Heritage Property is surrounded by two Buffer Zones¹⁵ managed by the City Council of Port Louis under the Local Government Act 2011.

3.4.1. Legal framework

When the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 2006, the Buffer Zone had no legal protection. The Buffer Zone was proclaimed a legal entity in June 2011 with the legal protection provided by:

1. The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act (amended 2006 and 2011) defining the boundaries of the Buffer Zones;
2. The Local Government Act 2003 (amended 2011) making provision for the creation of a system to monitor development in the Buffer Zones; and
3. The Planning Policy Guidance 6 - *Urban heritage area: Buffer Zone of Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property* (PPG 6) provides a set of planning guidelines in the Buffer Zone to

¹⁵ To ease general understanding, we refer to the “Buffer Zone” as a singular entity. However, the term “Buffer Zone” refers to the two Buffer Zones of the Aapravasi Ghat WHP.

orientate development towards the improvement and revitalization of the area which holds attributes associated to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property.

3.4.2. Managerial framework

Since 2011, four institutions are directly involved in the management, the protection and the promotion of the Buffer Zones namely¹⁶:

1. the Mauritius Ports Authority;
2. The City Council of Port Louis;
3. The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund;
4. The National Heritage Fund.

Managing the Port

Most of the Buffer Zones lying west of the Motorway, that is, Buffer Zone 1, the sea and the dry docks fall under the purview of the **Mauritius Ports Authority**, the body responsible for managing the Port and its surrounding area. This zone is also classified as a high security area.

Managing the City

The Buffer Zone 2 composed mainly of private owners and operators is managed by the **City Council of Port Louis**, the local authority responsible for monitoring development, maintenance and upkeep of the city of Port Louis, within which are found the Buffer Zones 1 and 2 of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property.

The City Council of Port Louis is in charge of implementing the Planning Policy Guidance for the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone. In addition, the Local Government Act 2011 was amended to set up a **Technical Committee** under the City Council of Port Louis. The Technical Committee is chaired by the City Council of Port Louis and also comprises representatives from:

- Ministry of Arts and Culture;
- Ministry of Public Infrastructure;
- Ministry of Tourism and Leisure;
- Ministry of Housing and Lands;
- Ministry of Environment;
- Mauritius Ports Authority;
- National Heritage Fund; and
- Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund.

¹⁶ Contact details are available in the contact list at Annex 1.

The role of the Technical Committee¹⁷ is to ensure the implementation of the Planning Policy Guidance for the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone. This task is achieved through the assessment of all applications for Building and Land Use Permits in the Buffer Zone.

The Building and Land Use Permit was also made mandatory not only for the erection of new buildings but also for any demolition and change to any building or structure in the Buffer Zone when amending the Local Government Act 2011, as was the submission of a Cultural Heritage Impact Statement (CHIS) when applying for a Building and Land Use Permit. The application for development is processed by the City Council of Port Louis.

A Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and Visual Impact Assessment (VIA) may also be requested by the Technical Committee in case the project goes beyond the guidelines of PPG6. The Technical Committee has the mandate to examine the Cultural Heritage Impact Statement, Heritage Impact Assessment and Visual Impact Assessment.

The Management Plan includes “Planning guidelines for the Buffer Zone”¹⁸ and “Guidelines to prepare a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) and Visual Impact Assessment (VIA)”¹⁹ as guiding tools associated with the PPG 6 and the Outline Planning Scheme for Port Louis. The Management Plan for the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property is a reference document for these planning documents and should be used concurrently.

¹⁷ The Terms of Reference of the Technical Committee is available in the annex 5.

¹⁸ Please refer to Annex 3.

¹⁹ Please refer to Annex 4. Further information is available on the website of the AGTF: www.aapravasighat.org

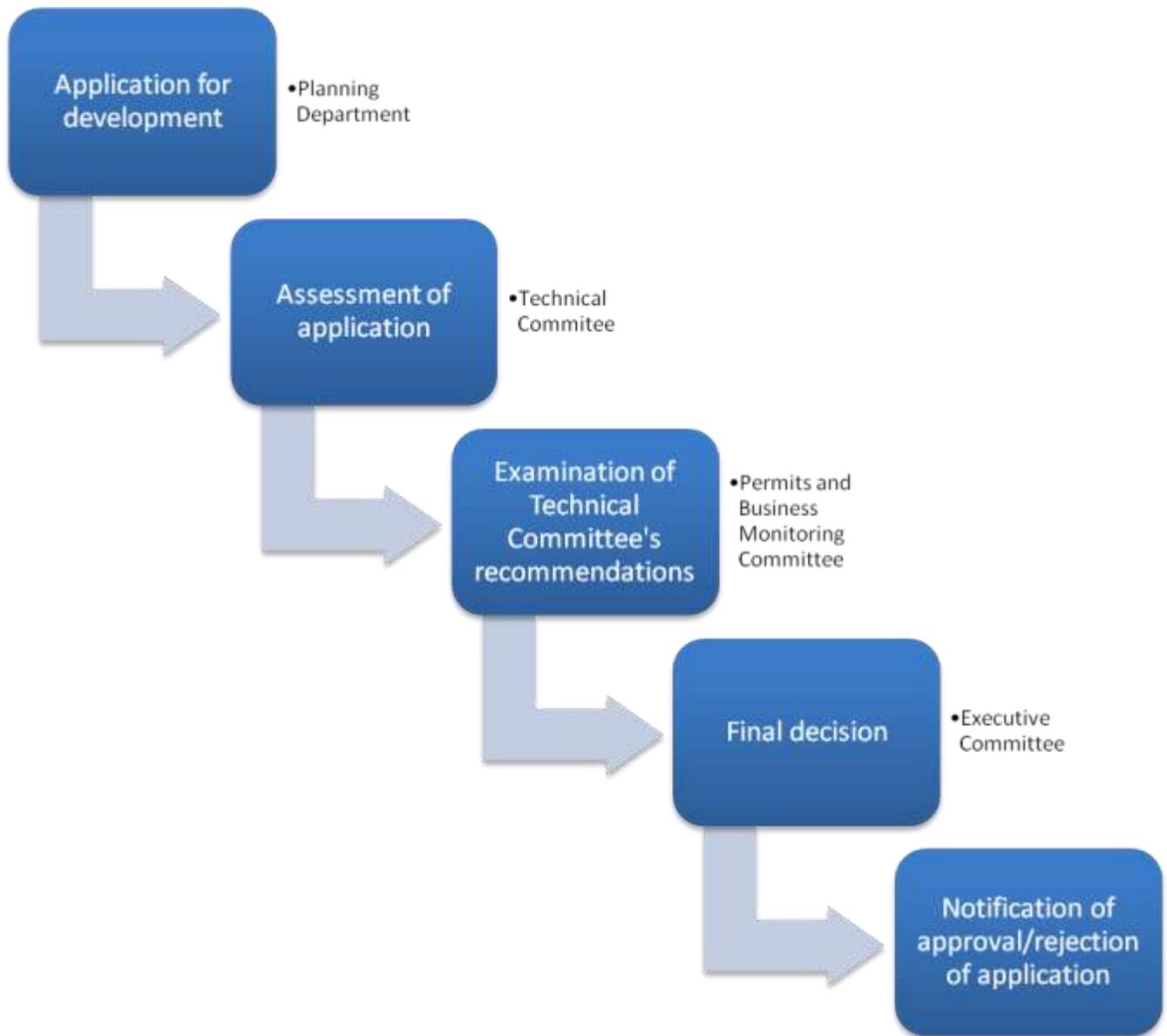


Figure 12: Diagram showing the process for applications for development in the Buffer Zone at the City Council of Port Louis.

Managing heritage

The buildings and monuments listed as National Heritage are protected under the National Heritage Fund Act 2003. In addition to National Heritage, several graded buildings must be added to the comprehensive inventory of heritage in the Buffer Zones. In total, the Buffer Zones count:

- 7 National Heritage;

- 255 graded buildings catalogued²⁰, among which:
 - o 63 were listed as Grade 1 buildings,
 - o 38 as Grade 2 buildings; and
 - o 34 as Grade 3 buildings.

The Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund and the National Heritage Fund are the two bodies responsible for the documentation and the monitoring of the heritage component in the Buffer Zones.

²⁰ The detailed list is available online on AGTF website: www.aapravasighat.org, and in the Heritage Management Plan. The list is also available at the City Council of Port Louis and the National Heritage Fund.

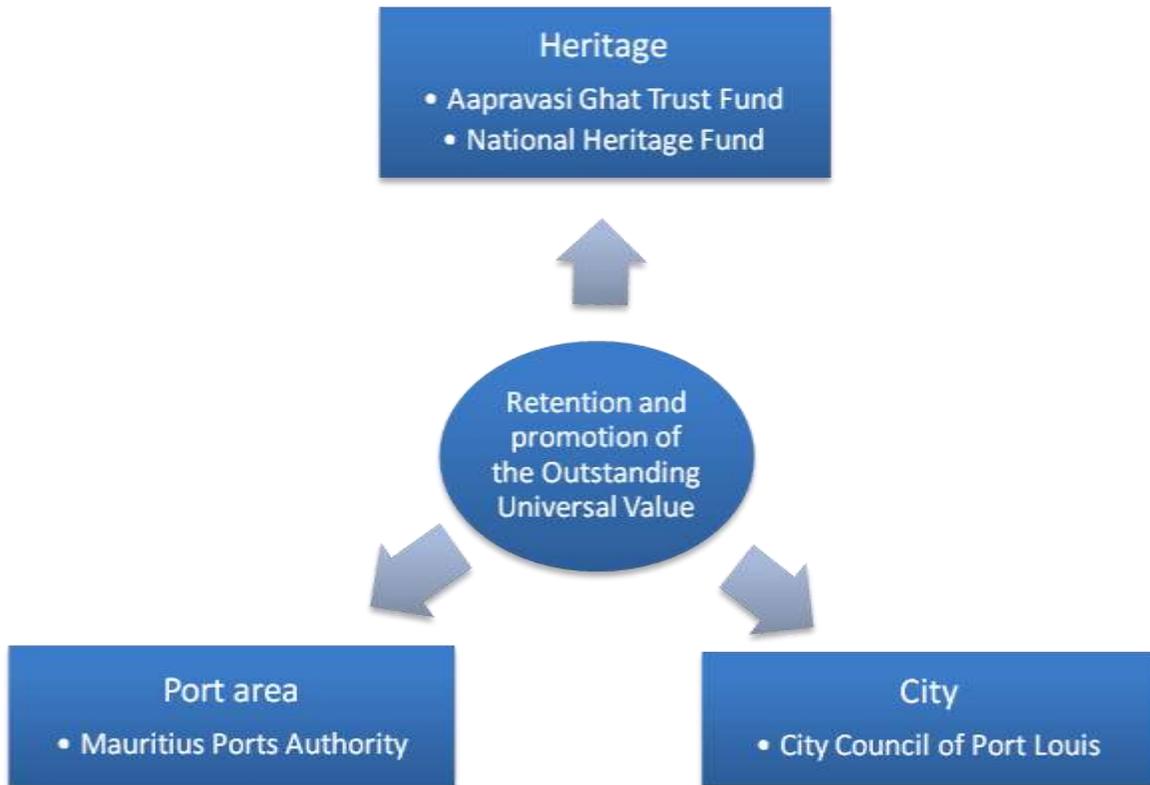


Figure 13: Diagram showing the area of responsibility of each institution in the maintenance and protection of the OUV of the World Heritage Property

3.4.3. The Aapravasi Ghat WHP consultative groups

As part of the preparation process of the Planning Policy Guideline and the Development Plan for the Buffer Zones, a Consultative Committee met to discuss the issues related to the World Heritage Property and its Buffer Zones. The Consultative Committee comprises of members from the local community and governmental institutions. A total of 96 members are part of the Consultative Committee and take part in the process of consultations for issues related to the preservation, management and promotion of the World Heritage Property and its surroundings. It represents 3.2% of the total number of people working and living in the Buffer Zone.

4. GUIDING DOCUMENTS

The Management Plan is the overarching document presenting the overall strategy for the conservation, management and the promotion of the World Heritage Property and its surroundings.

The framework for the World Heritage Property proposed in the Management Plan aims at improving and sustaining the management and protection of the setting of the World Heritage Property including part of the Port Area, the Central Business District of the Capital and the most historic urban landscape. To address further specific issues that may affect the World Heritage Property, the Management Plan is complemented by supporting documents addressing:

- visitor management;
- risk management;
- management mechanisms for the Buffer Zone;
- urban planning for the conservation of heritage and its revitalisation in the Buffer Zone;
- actions for the implementation of the vision for development; and
- measures for conservation management and enhancement.

The Visitor Management Plan (VMP)

The Visitor Management Plan aims at establishing a strategy for visitor management at the World Heritage Property and states measures to be implemented to manage visitors and to mitigate visitor impact at World Heritage Property.

The Risk Preparedness Plan (RPP)

The Risk Preparedness Plan is a document stating the risks that may affect the World Heritage Property and addresses the measures to prevent and mitigate the risks identified at the World Heritage Property.

The Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre (BRIC) Project

The proposal establishes the strategy and principles for the setting up of the Interpretation Centre, its functioning and management, as well as its promotion and public programme.

The Heritage Management Guidelines (HMG)

The HMG provides further details regarding the management mechanisms and conservation principles for the Buffer Zones.

The Development Plan (DP)

The document describes an approach to development in the Buffer Zone of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property. Its purpose is to propose to all relevant stakeholders a way forward to realise the development potential of the Buffer Zone within the confines of a World Heritage Property.

The Conservation Manual (CM)

The Conservation Manual was developed to provide guidelines for anyone planning development or undertaking building works in the Buffer Zone of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property. The objective is to support the architectural harmony in the area, enhance its authentic character and cultural coherence.

Both the Conservation Manual and the Heritage Management Guidelines are used together with the Planning Policy Guideline 6 – Urban Heritage Area – Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone – issued in June 2011 by the Ministry of Housing and Lands.



Figure 14: Diagram showing the documents related to the conservation, management and promotion of the World Heritage Property and its surroundings

5. FUNDING SOURCES FOR THE AGWHP

The primary objective of the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund is to preserve, manage and promote the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property. As such, the parastatal body is a non-profit-making organisation and is funded by Governments grants.

As a public body, the AGTF abides by the rules and regulations governing the allocation and use of public funds. The allocation of funds to AGTF is defined at the level of the Ministry of Arts and Culture which receives the global grant for heritage, arts and culture from the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development. The recurrent and capital grants are allocated on the basis of the submission of the financial requirements for the functioning of the institution and a proposal for investment in projects.

Within the AGTF, funds are allocated for two budgets: the recurrent and the capital budgets. The recurrent budget encapsulates funds allocated to the recurrent items including wages, maintenance and other elements that are required on a recurrent basis. The capital budget refers to the sums invested in projects including defined financial and human resources for a limited duration.

The capital grant is allocated on the basis of an administrative process consisting in the submission of a budget proposal defining the human, material and financial resources required to conduct projects contributing to the conservation, maintaining and promotion of the World Heritage Property. The budget proposal is submitted for approval and inclusion in the overall budget for heritage, arts and culture. Funds allocated are monitored by the AGTF under the aegis of the Ministry of Arts and Culture.

For projects requiring an investment higher than MUR 25,000,000, the project proposal is submitted by the Ministry of Arts and Culture to the Project Plan Committee of the Ministry of Public Infrastructure for evaluation. If the project is approved, it is submitted for inclusion in the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) regrouping the investment projects of the Government of Mauritius.

In the last six years, the AGTF benefited from government financial support as follows:

Financial year	Recurrent grant (MUR)	Capital Grant (MUR)	Total (MUR)
2005-2006	4,500,000	8,000,000	12,500,000
2006-2007	4,275,000	5,500,000	9,775,000
2007 - 2008	7,070,000	5,000,000	12,070,000
2008-2009	9,200,000	5,500,000	14,700,000
Jul 09-December 2009	15,300,000	NIL	15,300,000
2010	12,000,000	8,000,000	20,000,000
2011	12,000,000	11,500,000	23,500,000
2012	12,000,000	6,000,000	18,000,000

Table 1: Table showing the funds allocated to AGTF by the Government of Mauritius

In the short term, the AGTF will benefit from the revenues generated by the Interpretation Centre to support government expenses. The Trust Fund's strategy is to generate funds through entrance fees and fees raised from activities for adults and children. The detailed strategy is available in the project proposal for the setting up of the Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre.

PART 2: KEY MANAGEMENT ISSUES

The objective of the Management Plan is to ensure that the information related to heritage issues are shared and understood by all bodies involved in the management of the World Heritage Property (WHP). It provides a road map for the management of the WHP through a set of Strategic Objectives and actions that can be further expanded into a format that shows steps, deliverables, indicators, timelines and parties responsible for the different components of the plan. Monitoring and evaluation, as formalised in a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system, will form an integral part of management actions and should be an ongoing process. The ultimate goal of the Management Plan is to achieve the Vision described in part 1 for the World Heritage Property.

The Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Property will be maintained and promoted for future generations.

Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property will be a cultural landmark fostering urban heritage management and conservation in close interaction with the local community to support national unity and identity.

This section identifies issues requiring specific actions to succeed in implementing the Vision. To address these issues, objectives are proposed to guide each one involved with the World Heritage Property in the immediate, short and long term. In the part 3 of the Plan, these objectives are summarised in an Action Plan to help with their implementation.

1. MANAGING THE WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY AND ITS SETTING

The notion of World Heritage is relatively new in Mauritius. The Aapravasi Ghat was the first site inscribed on UNESCO's World Heritage List. Its inscription has led to develop an appropriate managerial framework through institutional and legal provision. The focus of this section is the consolidation and the improvement of the existing managerial system depicted in part 1.

The role of the Management Plan is to establish holistic and integrated management of the World Heritage Property. This is why the focus is on the involvement of all parties and the consolidation of the existing managerial mechanism and capabilities.

1.1. Objectives 2013-2018

To this end, the following objectives were identified:

Managing the World Heritage Property

Objective 1: Endorse the Management Plan as the overarching document to manage, administer and promote the World Heritage Property in an integrated manner

- 1.1. Adopt the Management Plan as a statutory document
- 1.2. Consolidate the role of the Management Plan Committee
- 1.3. Consolidate the role of the Core Zone Management Committee
- 1.4. Consolidate a team to manage the Interpretation Centre
- 1.5. Establish an effective financial management system at AGTF
- 1.6. Establish yearly planning with targets

Managing heritage in the Buffer Zone

Objective 2: Consolidate the existing management system of the World Heritage Property and its setting to ensure effective and integrated management

- 2.1. Consolidate the role of the Buffer Zone Management Committee
- 2.2. Create a conservation unit or equivalent mechanism at the City Council of Port Louis
- 2.3. Develop and consolidate capacity in heritage management and conservation
- 2.4. Encourage participative conservation, management and promotion

1.2. Management of the WHP and its BZ

The managerial system in place for the World Heritage Property was established in 2006. This system – depicted in part 1 - is maintained in the present Management Plan. It includes a Consultative Committee to ensure broad-based involvement in the management of the WHP.

This section addresses objectives and actions to further consolidate the managerial system in place. The developments in the last six years have shown that committees do not always appreciate the full extent of their responsibilities and scope. This has partially affected the implementation of the MP. It is therefore essential to define in detail the role of the committees in charge of the WHP and the BZ and identify their needs for effective management.

The diagram below presents the managerial system in place. It was reviewed to encourage increased interaction between committees.

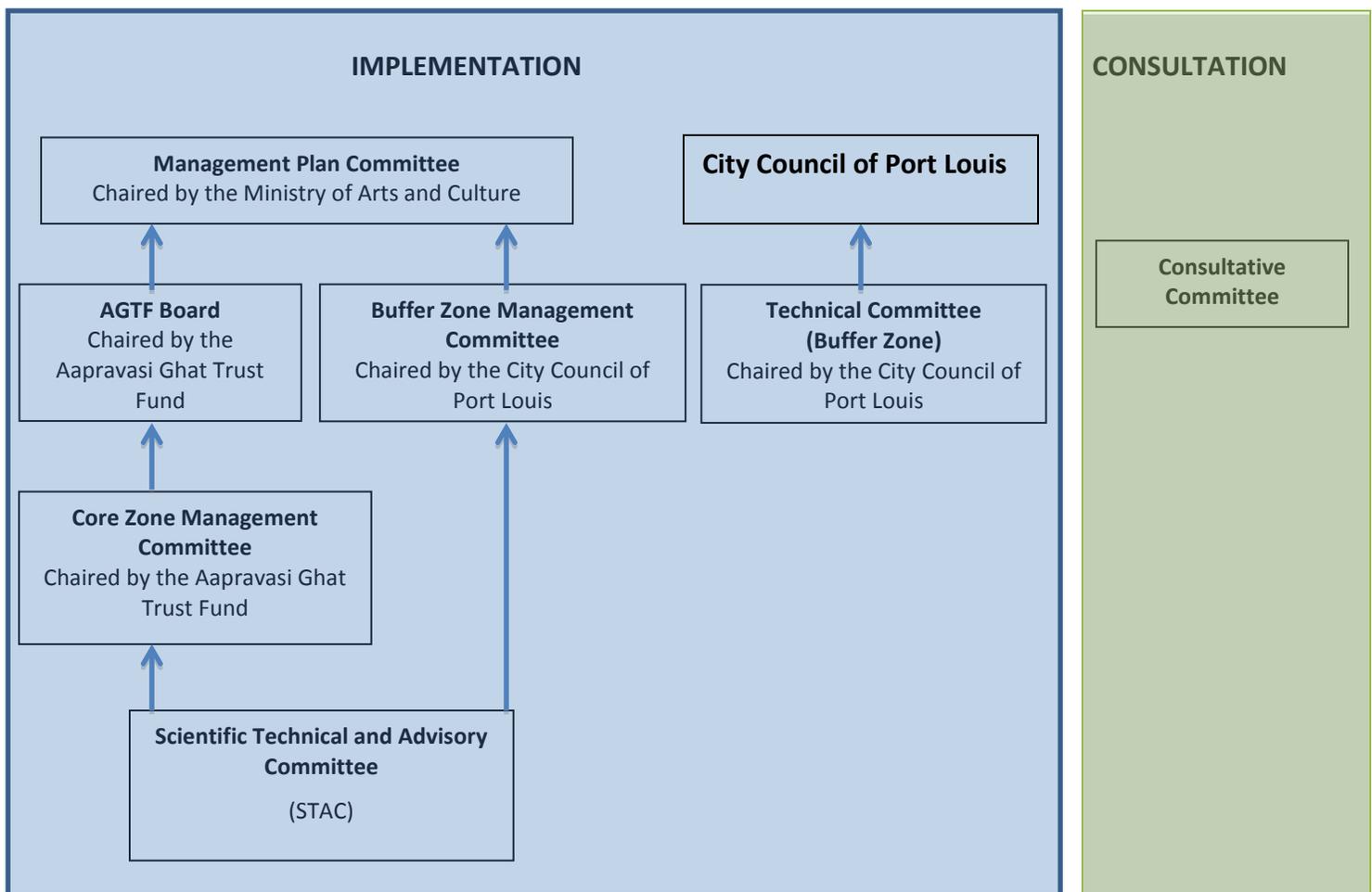


Figure 15: Diagram showing the management mechanism for the World Heritage Property and its Buffer Zones

1.2.1. CONSOLIDATE THE ROLE OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN COMMITTEE (MPC)

Provision was made in the Management Plan 2006 for the creation of a **Management Plan Committee**. The Management Plan Committee is chaired by the Ministry of Arts and Culture, also representative of the State Party to UNESCO's World Heritage Centre. Ultimately, the Ministry of Arts and Culture refers matters to the Cabinet of Ministers if they require the official endorsement of the government of Mauritius.

As chair of the MPC, the parent Ministry is responsible for:

- reporting to government;
- reporting to the World Heritage Centre;
- the allocation and monitoring of funds; and
- monitoring and coordinating the implementation of the Management Plan.

The prime role of the Management Plan Committee - as defined by the Management Plan 2006 - is to 'monitor the implementation of the Management Plan'. The MPC is also in charge of its review in accordance with the World Heritage framework. Both implementation and review of the MP imply that the decisions taken by UNESCO's World Heritage Committee on Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property be considered and addressed.

Every year, the UNESCO may make recommendations to the State Party regarding the World Heritage Property. It is therefore required to measure the impact that the decisions of UNESCO may have on the role of stakeholders and propose actions addressing these recommendations. The decisions of the WHC would need to be discussed at the level of the Management Plan Committee. The MPC would therefore need to meet at least twice a year and especially when the recommendations of UNESCO's World Heritage Committee are issued.

It is equally important to better define the role of the Management Plan Committee, this to encourage further consultations within a defined framework. The mandate of the MPC should be defined further to encourage integrated management.

The role of the MPC is to:

- Monitor, review and reformulate (if necessary) critical management policies for the AG WHS Management Plan and its implementation;
- Take decisions regarding the implementation of the Management Plan and the management of the World Heritage Property based on the recommendations of the World Heritage Committee and other international and local sub-committees;
- Monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Management Plan;
- Monitor the state of conservation of the World Heritage Property and discuss any threats that may affect the World Heritage Property;

- Consolidate or elaborate further policies and guidance to ensure the retention of the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Property;
- Monitor the implementation of the Management Plan and of the World Heritage Committee's decisions;
- Discuss management issues and promote integrated management;
- Direct the review the Management Plan and update the plan regularly in accordance with the international principles and guidelines of UNESCO and ICOMOS;
- Provide a forum for debating the key issues and management priorities addressed in the plan; and
- Guide government bodies in their respective projects in the Buffer Zone.

The MPC has a crucial role: it monitors, evaluates and reports on the implementation of the Management Plan. The MPC should establish a yearly plan of meetings that could also include the nature of the issues to be discussed. In addition, the MPC should encourage the committees to develop tools helping the monitoring of their actions and results.

1.2.2. ESTABLISH YEARLY PLANNING WITH TARGETS

The Monitoring and Evaluation system requires that committees establish a plan with defined targets for every financial year. Such a plan is a tool that guides the actions of the committees. At the same time, it helps appreciating the nature of difficulties that may be encountered in the implementation of the Management Plan.

As such, it assists the MPC in monitoring and evaluating the implementation performance of the Management Plan.

1.3. Managing the World Heritage Property

The Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund was entrusted to conserve, manage and promote the World Heritage Property. The institution works under the aegis of the Ministry of Arts and Culture. The administrative and technical units act upon the decisions taken by the Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund Board.

The Board meets once a month to consider the recommendations of the committees for the management, administration and promotion of the World Heritage Property. The Board takes the decisions while the committees advise the Board.

For the management of the Apravasi Ghat, the Core Zone Management Committee was established in 2006 to take the responsibility of 'all the activities within the Core Zone'. This committee chaired by the AGTF meets once a month.

1.3.1. CONSOLIDATE THE CORE ZONE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The opening of the Interpretation Centre will change the way the World Heritage Property was managed so far. There is a need to consolidate the existing mechanism for the management and monitoring of the World Heritage Property when the number of visitors increases significantly.

The **Core Zone Management Committee** is already in place and has the capacity to attend to these issues. The Director, the Head Technical Unit, the World Heritage Site Manager, the Heritage Interpretation Manager and the Marketing Officer (or equivalent) seat on the committee: they have the responsibility to manage the World Heritage Property on a daily basis.

The role of the Core Zone Management Committee is to:

- implement the yearly objectives set by the Board for the preservation, management and promotion of the World Heritage Property and its interpretation centre;
- make recommendations to improve the daily monitoring and management of the World Heritage Property and the Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre; and
- report on the daily management and monitoring of the World Heritage Property and its interpretation centre.

The Core Zone Management Committee establishes a plan of work and yearly objectives for every financial year that are approved by the Board.

Their undertakings may be supported by Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee (STAC) for specific technical issues. Any person may be co-opted to assist the CZMC in its daily undertakings.

1.3.2. CONSOLIDATE A TEAM TO MANAGE THE INTERPRETATION CENTRE

The Interpretation Centre will need to be managed in line with the established framework and objectives: this structure requires a consolidated team dedicated to its daily running.

The AGTF has created the new post of “Heritage Interpretation Manager” in 2013. His role is to manage the Interpretation Centre on a daily basis under the guidance of the Core Zone Management Committee and AGTF Board. The upcoming opening of the BRIC underscores the need to fill in the post.

When the revision of the organisation chart of AGTF takes plan, it is proposed to restyle the post of “Heritage Guide / Public Outreach Officer” into the post of “Heritage Mediators”. The notion of “mediation” better reflects the role of the Heritage Guide / Public Outreach Officer: they act as an interface with the public.

In addition to this, it is essential to sustain capacity and retain trained staff. Restyling the posts is an action that formalises the duties that the Heritage Guides / Public Outreach Officers already exercise, and valorise their position with a view to retain capacity.

The Heritage Mediator would conduct guided visits and educational activities. They will implement actions for the promotion of BRIC and the WHP. As such, they will be responsible for the development, implementation and promotion of the public programme under the supervision of the Heritage Interpretation Manager.

The reinforcement of the managerial team for BRIC is a core action to guarantee the quality of visitor experience together with the cultural and economic dynamism of the Interpretation Centre.

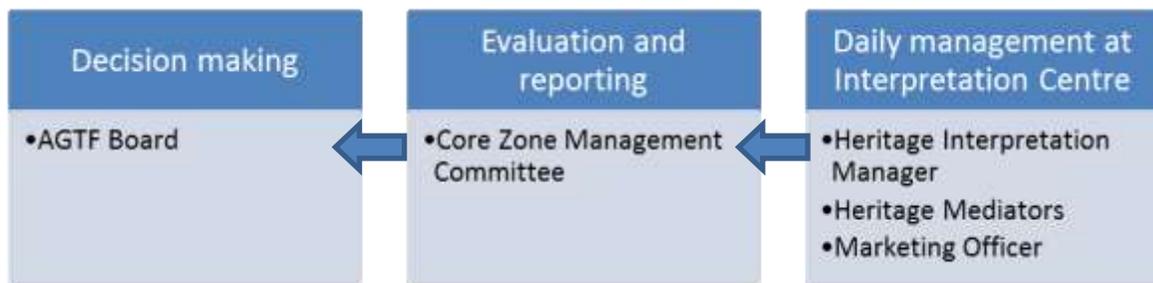


Figure 16: Diagram indicating the management process at BRIC

1.3.3. ESTABLISH AN EFFECTIVE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The payment of entrance fees to the interpretation centre will generate funds for the AGTF. At present, the financial unit at the level of the administration is in charge of managing funds allocated to the institution. Currently, the Trust Fund generates very little funds raised by the sale of publications and donations. The opening of the Interpretation Centre presses the need for the improvement of the financial management system. The objective is to better manage the funds that will be generated by BRIC and monitor the investment of these funds.

A STAC involving key representatives would be in the best position to advise on how to manage funds generated and make recommendations to the Board for approval and implementation.

It is also important to think of achieving the goals set out in the business plan. A yearly plan with targets is essential to monitor the implementation of the business plan’s objectives. The plan will help monitoring and assessing the actions taken for their implementation. It will be a tool providing clear actions for the staff over the year and help effective management of BRIC.

It is proposed that the Core Zone Management Committee monitors the yearly action plan for BRIC.

1.4. Managing heritage in the Buffer Zone

The Interpretation Centre is located in the immediate surroundings of the World Heritage Property. As such, it serves the revitalization of the Buffer Zone for which a new framework was developed in 2011. This framework was established to encourage the retention and the enhancement of heritage in the area.

In this undertaking, three institutions are involved: the City Council of Port Louis (CCPL), the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund (AGTF) and the National Heritage Fund (NHF). The AGTF and NHF are monitoring the heritage component in the Buffer Zone while the CCPL has the legal responsibility to implement the Planning Policy Guidance 6 for the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone.

The coming into force of a new framework for the Buffer Zone has led to review the system in place. This section sets out key objectives to retain the heritage value while allowing the development of the Buffer Zone into a vibrant heritage district.

1.4.1. CONSOLIDATE THE ROLE FOR THE BUFFER ZONE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Provision was made in the Management Plan 2006 for the creation of a Buffer Zone Management Committee. The objective of the Buffer Zone Management Committee – chaired by the City Council of Port Louis - is to “implement the Management Plan in the Buffer Zones 1 & 2”. However, the committee has never met on a regular basis to discuss issues pertaining to the Buffer Zone.

In the Management Plan 2006, the BZMC was composed of 9 members including:

- The City Council of Port Louis
- Ministry of Arts and Culture
- Ministry of Public Infrastructure, Land Transport & Shipping
- Ministry of Environment & Sustainable Development
- Ministry of Public Utilities
- Ministry of Housing and Lands
- Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund
- National Heritage Fund
- Mauritius Ports Authority

The absence of a legal framework for the Buffer Zone made it difficult to develop strategies and proposals that could be implemented within an established structure. As from 2011, increased interaction between the AGTF, the NHF and the CCPL led to the development of a framework for the Buffer Zone. Developments in the structure and mandate of these key institutions had to occur before they could be in a position to manage the Buffer Zone.

The framework is now in place. The CCPL, the NHF and the AGTF are responsible for the management of the Buffer Zone. As such, it is essential to reduce the number of members on the BZMC to tackle effectively issues that mainly concern these key institutions. It gives the opportunity to the BZMC to focus on key issues that are instrumental for the consolidation of the managerial system in the Buffer Zone. The following issues should be considered as priorities:

- The reports on the monitoring of heritage in the Buffer Zone. Same would be forwarded by the Committee to the Ministry of Arts and Culture as representative of the State Party to UNESCO;
- The coordination for the heritage register in the Buffer Zones and monitor their continued documentation;
- The examination and recommendations for the retention and enhancement of heritage in the Buffer Zone;
- Proposals for incentives that may be offered to people undertaking action in favour of the enhancement and sustainable development of heritage in the area;
- Consider means to foster technical assistance to the local community;
- Identify the training needs and undertake actions for implementation;
- Organise events or actions to promote or retain heritage in the Buffer Zone;
- Consider means for the promotion of heritage in the area; and
- Disseminate information on heritage in the Buffer Zone.

To address specific issues, the Buffer Zone Management Committee may convene a Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) or co-opt members to assist where necessary.

Management will improve with constant interaction between these three key institutions and with the help of external assistance if required. It also raises the need to reinforce capacity: the Reactive Monitoring Mission of UNESCO/ICOMOS in 2012 has pointed out the need for capacity in heritage conservation and management at the City Council of Port Louis and at the National Heritage Fund. Closer interaction between institutions is a means to achieve this.

1.4.2. CREATE A CONSERVATION UNIT OR EQUIVALENT MECHANISM AT THE CITY COUNCIL OF PORT LOUIS

If professional exchange takes place through the BZMC, further measures need to be established to reinforce the mechanism for heritage conservation and management at the City Council of Port Louis. It is particularly needed at the CCPL: the institution is in charge of the implementation of the Management Plan and the Planning Policy Guidance in the Buffer Zone.

The Reactive Monitoring Mission of UNESCO/ ICOMOS suggested *“the creation of a Conservation Unit within the Municipal Council to assist the Technical Committee in evaluating permit requests and other monitoring and controlling activities”*²¹.

Experience has shown that there is a need for setting up a conservation unit or its equivalent at the CCPL. The objective is to encourage the retention, enhancement and rehabilitation of heritage in the zone.

To this end, the conservation unit or an equivalent mechanism would be entrusted to:

- Guide development towards the rehabilitation of heritage as per ICOMOS charters;
- Provide technical assistance to (potential) applicants for development permits;
- Set up or assist in setting up projects in favour of heritage enhancement and rehabilitation as per established international guidelines of conservation; and
- Foster the implementation of the vision for development set out in the Planning Policy Guidance for the Urban Heritage Area – Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone.

The Buffer Zone Management Committee could monitor the creation process of the Conservation Unit.

The creation of a conservation unit - or of an equivalent mechanism - would consolidate the existing framework for the management and monitoring of heritage in the Buffer Zone and be a supportive technical unit for operators and owners.

In the long run, the conservation unit or equivalent mechanism could take over the monitoring and documentation of heritage register in close collaboration with the National Heritage Fund and the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund.

²¹ Report of ICOMOS Reactive Monitoring Mission to Mauritius, March 2012;
<http://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/36COM/documents/>.
World Heritage Committee Decisions, 36 COM 7B.45, 2012.

1.4.3. DEVELOP AND CONSOLIDATE CAPACITY IN HERITAGE MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION

The setting up of a conservation unit devoted to heritage in the Buffer Zone stresses the need for expertise and capacity building in heritage conservation and management in Mauritius. Capacity needs to be created and consolidated in other institutions in charge of heritage and the implementation of the Planning Policy Guidance in the Buffer Zone. The report of the reactive monitoring mission to Mauritius in March 2012 recommends empowering staff with competence in heritage at the City Council of Port Louis and at the National Heritage Fund:

“This (conservation) unit would also reply to the need for technicians specialised in conservation. The National Heritage Fund also needed to strengthen capacity in regard to conservation and maintenance. These capacity needs would be optimally addressed through the development of a comprehensive capacity building strategy on conservation and management.”

Expertise in these fields is rare when it seems a key element to succeed in the implementation of sustainable development in the area. The objective is therefore to encourage capacity building in the management of heritage in urban areas and to strengthen the capacity of the core entities in charge of implementing key documents.

A strategy for capacity building in heritage conservation and management needs to be developed to address this issue. This objective should be supervised and monitored by the Buffer Zone Management Committee.

1.4.4. ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATIVE CONSERVATION, MANAGEMENT AND PROMOTION

While the conservation unit could conduct activities within the institutional scope, there is also a need to encourage the community to take actions in favour of heritage enhancement. In the last six years, several consultative committees have taken place to address issues related to the Buffer Zone. Such forums have demonstrated that the community is keen to take part in actions for the revitalisation of the area. To this end, regular consultations on development opportunities in the zone should take place.

Consultations are instrumental to encourage actions in favour of heritage rehabilitation and enhancement. It is also a means to disseminate information and adapt proposed measures to meet the concerns of the community, thus, optimizing the successful implementation of the vision for the Buffer Zone. In this respect, the local community is one of the key actors that contribute to the sustainable conservation, rehabilitation and promotion of heritage.

Following the demand of the consultative committee members, the Consultative Committee will meet at least once a year. A planning of meetings will also be set up for each financial year. The anniversary of the inscription of the Aapravasi Ghat on the World Heritage List in July seems the most relevant date to hold a Consultative Committee. It would be the opportunity to inform the community of the latest developments and the progress achieved on various projects.

The role of the Consultative Committee would be to:

- keep the community informed of the developments and progress of work taking place at World Heritage Property;
- involve the community in the undertakings at World Heritage Property;
- discuss specific issues related to the World Heritage Property and its surroundings;
- consider and integrate the recommendations and proposals of the local community in the management, development and promotion of the World Heritage Property; and
- produce planning and an Action Plan for common initiatives.

Workshops can also be organised as and when required to address specific issues and develop commonly agreed actions for the issues discussed. The workshops can be considered to be a sub-committee.

The Consultative Community should be open to anyone who wishes to contribute to the conservation, management and promotion of the World Heritage Property and its surroundings.

2. CONSERVING THE OUTSTANDING UNIVERSAL VALUE OF THE WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY AND ITS SURROUNDINGS

The main objective of the Management Plan is to ensure the retention and enhancement of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the World Heritage Property. The OUV represents the values that led to the international recognition of the World Heritage Property. The need to sustain them substantiates the establishment an overarching framework for their optimal conservation, as well as their enhancement.

Since 2011, a specific framework was elaborated for the conservation and enhancement of the Buffer Zone. Planning tools are implemented to develop Port Louis into a dynamic historic centre. This Management Plan recalls the Planning Guidelines for the Buffer Zone²² elaborated in the Management Plan 2006.

This section is addressing the following objectives to meet this goal:

Conserving the World Heritage Property

Objective 3: Establish conservation policy, monitoring and guidance, and risk preparedness for the World Heritage Property and its surroundings, and the Interpretation Centre and its collections

- 3.1. Prepare a long term Conservation Policy for the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property and its surroundings
- 3.2. Set up indicators at the World Heritage Property to improve the conservation of the historic features
- 3.3. Monitor and mitigate the impact of visitors at the World Heritage Property
- 3.4. Prepare a Conservation Policy and plan for AGTF collection
- 3.5. Prepare a Risk Preparedness Plan for BRIC
- 3.6. Train the staff in risk preparedness and conservation

²² The Planning Guidelines for the Buffer Zone are available at Annex 3.

Conserving and enhancing the Outstanding Universal Value in the Buffer Zone

Objective 4: Consolidate the framework for the conservation of the heritage component in the Buffer Zone

- 4.1. Creation of a GIS database allowing heritage monitoring in a most efficient manner
- 4.2. Recognition of the grading system for heritage in the Buffer Zones

Objective 5: Establish a suitable environment for the conservation and enhancement of the Buffer Zones that encourages sustainable development and the transformation of the area into a vibrant regenerated heritage district

- 5.1. Address the 10 points of the Development Plan
- 5.2. Prepare and implement a Local Economic Development (LED) Plan
- 5.3. Provide assistance to property owners and users of the Buffer Zone
- 5.4. Be guided by the UNESCO Recommendation for Historic Urban Landscape, 2011 in the approach to management of the Buffer Zone

2.1. Conserving the World Heritage Property

The conservation of the World Heritage Property is the responsibility of the AGTF. From 2004 to 2010, all efforts were concentrating on the conservation project to retain and enhance the authenticity and integrity of the World Heritage Property. As at date, the World Heritage Property is maintained as per the maintenance plan in place.

However, further actions need to be taken for the sustainable conservation of the World Heritage Property. Provision also needs to be made to cater for the impact that the opening of the Interpretation Centre may have on the WHP. This impresses on the need for an overall strategy with defined objectives that will serve the retention and enhancement of the OUV for future generations.

2.1.1. Prepare long-term Conservation Policy

The restoration of the World Heritage Property was completed in 2010. The Maintenance Plan is now in place. These accomplishments are the result of the actions initiated in 2004 when a Conservation Policy and technical reports were established to meet the needs for restoration. However, these documents need to be updated to meet current concerns. In particular, there is a need to establish a long-term Conservation Policy for the World Heritage Property and its Buffer Zone based on commonly agreed conservation principles.

The objective is to provide an understanding of why conserving together with a framework for the effective conservation of heritage. The Conservation Policy would not only be a guiding document for the AGTF but also for the conservation unit at the City Council of Port Louis. The Conservation Policy would seek to establish a common strategy for the conservation of heritage.

2.1.2. Set up conservation indicators

The conservation of the World Heritage Property raises the need for indicators to monitor its state of conservation. The World Heritage Property may be affected in the long run by the following factors:

- Pollution;
- High humidity and temperature;
- Cyclones and other climatic variations;
- Vegetation and micro-organisms; and
- Human impact.

The maintenance plan sets out operations aiming at monitoring and mitigating the impact of these factors on the historic features. However, further indicators need to be put in place to consolidate the monitoring and conservation parameters.

A list of proposed indicators is proposed in annex 6 to improve the monitoring of the World Heritage Property conservation.

2.1.3. Monitor and mitigate the impact of visitors at World Heritage Property

2.1.3.1. LANDSCAPE THE WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY

There is a need to landscape the World Heritage Property to ensure its long-term conservation and mitigate the impact of an increasing number of visitors. As part of the Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre (BRIC), the project proposal includes the landscaping of the World Heritage Property based on the Conservation Plan of 2006:

“After the conservation of all the excavated features, the site will be totally landscaped. All the original drains are being uncovered and restored as they will be reused for proper drainage of water from the site. Proper slopes directed towards these drains will be created.

A trail starting from the main steps (16 steps starting from wharf up to Sector P) to the gate is being proposed. The pathway of 1.5 m wide will be made of dressed basalt stones and lime mortar placed on a layer of sand and gravels. The area left on both sides of the pathway and around the features will be covered with coral gravels or pebbles most probably schist or quartzite. The latter being clearly distinguishable from the features.

Panels with brief explanation on each part of the site will be fixed near the features. As it is an open site lightning is not a big problem, for it is bestowed by natural light. However, fog lights will be placed in the outside fence around the site.”

(Conservation Plan, 2006: 72)

The design proposal for landscaping was elaborated upon the principles of international standards for conservation.

2.1.3.2. SET UP INDICATORS TO APPRECIATE AND MONITOR THE IMPACT OF VISITATION

There is a need to set up indicators to better appreciate the impact of visitation at World Heritage Property. In the last six years, the number of visitors has increased at WHP from 10,000 in 2006 to 25,000 in 2011 although promotion was minimized. This number will increase further with the opening of the interpretation centre.

This is why indicators need to be put in place to measure the visitor impact at WHP.

2.1.4. Prepare a conservation plan for AGTF collection

The BRIC team will be in charge of monitoring the conservation of artefacts and objects displayed in the Interpretation Centre as well as those kept in the storage area.

The collection of almost 30,000 archaeological artefacts is kept in the storage area. In addition to this, the collection also includes:

- ❖ 2 Bronze sculptures of Mr. Devanand Bungshee (sculptor) purchased in 2002
- ❖ 1 Bronze sculpture by Mr. Kalooah (sculptor and photographer) purchased in 2006
- ❖ 3 Paintings by Mrs. Nalini Treebhoobun (painter and head of the Fine Arts Department at the Mahatma Gandhi Institute) purchased in 2004
- ❖ 44 Photographs by Mr. Atman Ramchalaon (photographer). Donation of the artist in 2003

Part of the artefacts will be exhibited in the Interpretation Centre while the remaining part will be kept in a new location. The Conservation Policy was established in 2006 and need to be reviewed to meet the conservation requirements in BRIC and in the storage area.

2.1.5. Prepare a Risk Preparedness Plan (RPP) for BRIC

Appropriate measures also need to take into consideration risk prevention, mitigation and recovery at BRIC. The RPP developed for the World Heritage Property should also take into consideration risk prevention measures for BRIC.

The preparation of a RPP for the WHP and BRIC would empower the staff and others involved to implement a commonly agreed strategy for risk prevention. Measures set out in such document should be known to the staff with a view to optimise its implementation and efficiency.

2.1.6. Train AGTF staff in risk preparedness and conservation

Training should be provided not only in risk prevention but also in conservation. The staff would need to be trained to monitor the conservation indicators for the artefacts and the historic features at World Heritage Property.

2.2. Conserving and enhancing the Outstanding Universal Value in the Buffer Zone

In the Buffer Zone, the heritage component needs to be sustained: it is a crucial component that substantiates the OUV. For this reason, a framework was established to encourage the retention of heritage and its enhancement in the area. The main tool is the Planning Policy Guidance that works towards urban revitalization to retain and develop the authentic character of Port Louis city centre.

With the development of planning tools, the instruments in place work towards the integration of heritage within the daily lives of Mauritians. This approach allows a proactive protection and management of heritage. This section on “Conserving and enhancing the Outstanding Universal Value in Buffer Zone” set out objectives that not only consider the framework recently put in place but also follow the principles established by UNESCO’s concept of Urban Historic Landscape (HUL).

In doing so, the Management Plan intends to develop a coherent approach that leads to make the Buffer Zone a heritage district. As mentioned in the Mission Report of the Reactive Monitoring Mission:

‘Port Louis is not only a historic city but also a good example where the approach set in the Historic Urban Landscape (HUL) recommendation could be applied.’
(Reactive Monitoring Mission Report, 2012: 21)

There is increasing understanding globally that the protection of Outstanding Universal Value in places like the Buffer Zone goes well beyond its relevance to the Core Zone only. The UNESCO *Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscape* that was accepted at the General Conference in November 2011 is a guiding document that aids the understanding of cities as cultural landscapes, and in doing so helps to achieve integrated management of historic cities. After all, the Buffer Zone is not an island but its heritage values continue in the areas around it that are also rich in terms of tradition and historical architecture.

The aim of the UNESCO recommendation is to develop a set of guiding principles for member states to enable them to achieve integrated management frameworks for the development of cities with rich historic content, “support and facilitate decision-making processes within a framework of sustainable development” (UNESCO, 2011: Clause 24b) and to develop cities in such a way that they will regain or retain their identity, diversity, and a legacy of the past. The World Heritage Property, by virtue of ‘lying at the heart of the city’, can stimulate regeneration and development of the inner city in a way that will help the City of Port Louis to retain its character and derive benefit from being a historical capital city.

The HUL approach, as seen in Clauses 11-22 from the UNESCO *Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscape* (2011) ensures that urban development and management processes in the Buffer Zone will:

- Integrate the goals of urban heritage conservation with those of social and economic development;
- Have a comprehensive approach for the identification, assessment, conservation and management of historic urban landscapes within an overall sustainability framework;
- Allow for the recognition of cultural significance and diversity;
- Help protect the essence and values attributed to the historic area and building of the Buffer Zone;
- Help protect the sense of place by managing the intensification of urban growth and density;
- Help ensure that the new functions will contribute to the well-being of the inhabitants and owners of the historic area and that the opportunities arising from the development are appropriately implemented;
- Ensure that the new development will use as far as possible materials and architectural design that is in line with the heritage values of the Buffer Zone;
- Provide for the monitoring and management of change;

- Improve the quality of life and of urban space;
- Support sustainability and continuity in planning and design;
- Strive to preserve the quality of the human environment and enhance the productive use of urban spaces and social and functional diversity;
- Learn from the traditions of local users, including shop owners and hawkers and promote respect for their values; and
- Achieve a balanced continuity between urban continuity and contemporary architecture, and ensure that contemporary interventions respect and are harmonious with heritage in a historic setting.

It is important to know that these guidelines are already being applied to other 'heritage cities' in the region. The *Zanzibar Recommendations on the Application of the Concept of the Historic Urban Landscape in the African Context* (2009), adopted at the 34th Session of the WHC in Brazil in 2010, showed an understanding for the need for a paradigm within which development of historic towns and cities could be conceptualized and executed in an integrated manner, and inclusive of the significant attributes and values. In Mauritius, this is already happening through the Heritage Management Guidelines (HMG), which has reacted to the HUL Recommendation. What is needed now is the development of context specific management and conservation tools to support the HUL Approach, and the continuing support of a management structure that allows for integrated development and planning. UNESCO and ICOMOS can be approached for assistance in working out the precise guidelines and to provide technical assistance to implement them.

2.2.1. Consolidate the monitoring system for the heritage component in the Buffer Zone

When the heritage's Buffer Zone needs to be sustained, this implies that tools are in place to appreciate that heritage. This is why a comprehensive inventory including a grading system, ranging heritage in order of importance, was prepared during the elaboration process of the Planning Policy Guidance for the Buffer Zone. It is now essential that the institutions involved formerly adopt this grading system. The formal adoption would lead to establish a heritage register that the CCPL, the NHF and the AGTF would use for heritage management and monitoring in the zone. With time, more heritage buildings that are in need of protection could be added to this list.

Further tools are required to assist the CCPL, the NHF and the AGTF in managing and monitoring heritage in the zone. The key issue is to empower the three institutions with the possibility to manage heritage in an integrated manner when each institution has a different mandate in the zone. There is a need to develop a tool that will integrate all information generated by each institution. This can be achieved with the development of a Geographic Information System (GIS) database, as tool generally used for heritage conservation and management in urban areas.

The GIS will empower the National Heritage Fund, the City Council of Port Louis and the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund to manage and monitor together the heritage in the zone. It will contribute to improve the performance of these institutions. They will also be in a position to address effectively the demands of the community when they will have access to clear updated information through GIS. It is a tool that will make integrated management possible, help development monitoring and ultimately, assist the institutions in enhancing the OUV.

The BZMC should be monitoring the creation of a GIS database.

2.2.2. Provide an appropriate framework encouraging sustainable development

2.2.2.1. TOWARDS AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

To encourage development in the Buffer Zone, the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund in collaboration with key stakeholders prepared a Development Plan. This Plan was prepared to address the general perception that the new planning instrument would stop development. It was particularly important when the concept of historic city brought forward by the PPG was not fully understood. On this point, the Reactive Monitoring Mission noted that:

‘Observations made during the mission show that many stakeholders do not consider the buffer zone 2 as a part of the “historic city”. For them, and as the morphology of the town shows, the buffer zone 2 is a continuity of the CBD of Port Louis. This understanding has its consequences. It encourages certain processes of development which adversely affects the setting of the buffer zone as a historic setting of the capital.’
(Reactive Monitoring Mission Report, 2012: 14)

Therefore, rather than focus on restrictions in the Buffer Zone, the Development Plan is forward looking in terms of the potential of the Buffer Zone. It dwells on how heritage can be a driver for development that unlocks further opportunities in the Buffer Zone as well as the wider context in which it exists.

The Development Plan, though a working document that can continuously be improved and reviewed, puts forth ten points that should be addressed. Their objective is to empower development initiatives in the area.

To tackle these points, there is a need to create working groups under the umbrella of Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee composed of relevant representatives. Each STAC would produce recommendations on the way forward. Ultimately, the recommendations should be included in frameworks and policies that would encourage development opportunities through heritage enhancement.

This is even more important when the Development Plan is not the only document supporting this vision for the area. It needs to be used concurrently with the Planning Policy Guidance and the Outline Planning Scheme (OPS) for Port Louis: all set out planning measures for urban revitalization through heritage. This set of planning documents places heritage as a vector to sustain development in the urban centre. This new framework is a key opportunity for the Buffer Zone that requires the full support of all.

“The inscription of the Aapravasi Ghat on the World Heritage List is an opportunity to sustain the historic area of Port Louis. However, some developers or administrators who are in favour of a process of “modernity” conceived in opposition to heritage conservation do not support this idea. Observations made during the mission shows that the buffer zone 2 is at a crossroads. The success of new ideas concerning the connection between heritage and development depends on the conviction and efforts of the local authorities.” (Report of the Reactive Monitoring Mission to Mauritius, 2012:17)

2.2.2.2. PREPARE AND IMPLEMENT A LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (LED) PLAN

Along the same line, it is proposed to prepare a Local Economic Development (LED) plan for the area. The LED plan has the objective to identify and empower development opportunities in the Buffer Zone. This is a key tool when the area is located in the city centre where development opportunities are high. The Local Economic Development plan should be prepared with appropriate partners in the private sectors, government ministries and donors in order to create an enabling environment for anyone who wishes to undertake development in the area.

In the current context, the preparation of such plan is instrumental. As pointed by the Reactive Monitoring Mission, there is a need to further demonstrate the economic potential of the area:

‘Many stakeholders of Port Louis are not aware, sometimes even dubious, of the potential economic benefits of a heritage site. Some developers of Port Louis even perceive heritage as an obstacle to local economic development. To enhance the management and conservation of the buffer zone 2 and to change the perceptions of the inhabitants of the historic area regarding the relation between the historic value of their town and development, it is required that the economic potentials of heritage be demonstrated and understood by all stakeholders.’
(Report of the Reactive Monitoring Mission, 2012:22)

The BZMC will monitor the preparation and implementation of the LED plan.

2.2.3. Provide assistance to property owners and users of the Buffer Zone

The development strategy for the Buffer Zone is new in Mauritius. Experience has shown that there is a natural reluctance to a change in the way development is perceived. This explains why the report of the Reactive Monitoring Mission stresses that the current perception may impair on the success of achieving this vision:

‘For different reasons, the inhabitants of Mauritius do not consider Port Louis a historic city. Such a discrepancy between local perceptions and the necessities of an adequate heritage protection complicates the management and conservation work in the buffer zone 2.’ (Report of the Reactive Monitoring Mission, 2012:21)

This impresses on the need for increased interaction and exchange with the community. The local authorities should be in a position to attend to community’s expectations. This led the Reactive Monitoring Mission to recommend that technical assistance be provided:

‘It is crucial that, when the inhabitants of the buffer zone 2 need technical advice, they find competent technicians in front of them. The lack of proper information and technical competencies from the official authorities will drive inhabitants to looking for other alternatives, which may be destructive.’
(Report of the Reactive Monitoring Mission, 2012: 21)

The community confirmed that technical assistance would be much appreciated. The community also requested that the various documents issued for the Aapravasi Ghat WHP management and conservation be simplified to ease access to technical information.

Consultations also underlined the need for financial assistance to support heritage conservation and rehabilitation. It is even more important when heritage in the zone is in need of rehabilitation and enhancement.

‘Some inhabitants of Port Louis blame the local authorities for refusing to consider financial incentive as a tool for encouraging conservation and enhancing the management of the buffer zone. [...] Considering the actual situation of the buffer zone 2 and the reluctance of the inhabitants to embrace the idea of conservation of their historic buildings, the government should consider the option.’
(Report of the Reactive Monitoring Mission, 2012: 22)

It is therefore proposed to consider the creation of a working group (STAC) at the level of the Buffer Zone Management Committee to work on proposals for assistance to the community and stakeholders. The working group may co-opt members with specific expertise. Its mandate would be to produce recommendations for assistance to the community with a view to empower inhabitants and operators to develop the area. The UNESCO *Recommendation on Historic Urban Landscape* and the guidelines that can be generated from it should be considered as positive tools that can assist the development of the Buffer Zone as an attractive and vibrant heritage-aligned area that will benefit property owners rather than restrict the economic potential of the area.

3. INTERPRETING THE WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY AND MANAGING VISITORS

Successful interpretation and effective visitor management will enhance visitor experience at the World Heritage Property.

Visitor management deals with the practical aspect of the visitor experience: it provides tools for visitor flow and orientation.

Interpretation deals with the content communicated to visitors. As such, interpretation provides information that lead visitors to understand why Aapravasi Ghat is a World Heritage Site and why the heritage that occurs there is so important.

Interpretation refers to the full range of potential activities intended to heighten public awareness and enhance understanding of cultural heritage site. These can include print and electronic publications, public lectures, on-site and directly related off-site installations, educational programmes, community activities, and ongoing research, training, and evaluation of the interpretation process itself.

(The ICOMOS Charter for the Interpretation and Presentation of Cultural Heritage Sites, 2008:2)

Successful interpretation leads to a better understanding of heritage within the community, and fosters its integration within the lives of the people. The story of Aapravasi Ghat speaks to all Mauritians and in fact helps to define national identity; the intangible heritage embodied in the site however reaches far beyond the physical boundaries of the site itself, to all of Mauritius and the world beyond. How well this story is told, and the meanings that it conveys to a diversity of people are measures of the success of site interpretation.

The issue of interpretation and visitor management concern the AGTF, the NHF and the CCPL. The AGTF is the body responsible for the visitor experience at World Heritage Site. In the Buffer Zone, the City Council of Port Louis in collaboration with the National Heritage Fund directly leads projects that foster heritage interpretation and visitor management.

The role of the three institutions is to establish a successful visitor experience that will help visitors to fully appreciate the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Property. Their aim is to succeed in interpreting the World Heritage Property and its surroundings, and managing visitors; to achieve success requires that a common strategy and principles be established. The institutions involved need to head in the same direction to enhance the visitor experience at World Heritage Property and in the Buffer Zone.

In this section, the following objectives and actions were identified:

Interpreting the World Heritage Property

Objective 6: Provide and deliver an appropriate interpretation policy

6.1. Prepare and implement an Interpretation Plan

6.2. Ensure a visitor experience of quality

6.3. Review and Implement BRIC phase 2 project proposal

Objective 7: Enhance visitor experience and maintain visitor satisfaction

7.1. Review and update pedagogical and academic documentation on a regular basis

7.2. Evaluate and develop activities for the audience

7.3. Consolidate and promote the heritage trail in Port Louis

7.4. Prepare and implement concept papers for heritage trails

Managing visitors

Objective 8: Establish a visitor management strategy that will enhance visitor experience and minimize the impact of tourism on WHP

8.1. Review the Visitor Management Plan (2008) for the next five years

8.2. Set up and use appropriate visitor monitoring and recording system

8.3. Foster collaboration with neighbouring institutions and agencies

3.1. Interpreting the World Heritage Property

The World Heritage Property is composed of fragmentary historic features and a standing building restored in 2010. After the restoration of the Aapravasi Ghat, evidence showed that visitors encountered difficulties to understand the former use of the remaining features and their interrelationships. With fragmentary remains, visitors could not fully appreciate the former organisation of the immigration depot nor figure out how it functioned. It became necessary to focus on how to provide appropriate information to visitors so that they could appreciate the cultural significance of the Aapravasi Ghat.

The Management Plan 2006 proposed the creation of an Interpretation Centre to provide information on the history of the World Heritage Property and on indenture in Mauritius.

“To provide clear orientation, interpretation and signage for all visitors to the Aapravasi Ghat and its environs so they can maximise their understanding and appreciation of the site, its environs and on- going research and conservation.”

(Management Plan, 2006: 122)

The opening of the Interpretation Centre will offer a number of interpretative tools fostering visitor understanding of the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Property.

The goal is to convey messages to visitors by way of comparative techniques, heritage education and through orchestrating productive interaction between the visitor and the World Heritage Property. Therefore interpretation tools must convey an in-depth understanding while evoking emotions and the interests of visitors. In short, interpretation must make history ‘come alive’ so it can be experienced firsthand and be assimilated easily by a range of visitors.

The interpretative tools at the World Heritage Property must respect the authenticity of the Aapravasi Ghat and address clear messages to visitors, and in doing so foster understanding that provides the visitor with satisfaction. Good interpretation is an essential component of achieving visitor satisfaction while smooth visitor management is another.

The Interpretation Plan shall abide by the following principles for interpretation:

- *Fostering Understanding:* Interpretation should foster the understanding of the indenture experience at the Depot and in Mauritius and its consequences for Mauritian society. Interpretation should act as a link to the past for visitors;
- *Minimal intervention:* The fabric, footprint, landscape and vistas are all part of the layered history of Aapravasi Ghat. To this end, the interpretative strategies of the WHP need to conserve and enhance these features rather than impact negatively on them;

- *Use of multiple voices and multi-layering:* This refers to actively seeking multiple narratives, so as to present visitors and audiences with variations of narratives that provide an inclusive story. Where applicable narratives are contextualised within the Mauritian and international context;
- *Ensuring universal access:* The variety and forms of interpretation tools should promote access to the legacy of Aapravasi Ghat accommodating the cultural, physical, linguistic and social realities of visitors. It is a site for all Mauritians and the world;
- *Respecting and striving for authenticity:* The authenticity of experiences and narratives should continuously be scrutinised and amendments and interventions made where appropriate;
- *Stakeholder participation and transparency in museological decisions:*
 - o To strive for identification and active participation of appropriate stakeholders in the development of the interpretation and the Interpretation Plan;
 - o To ensure there is transparency in the articulation of Museum decisions and processes with respect to interpretation; and
 - o To provide for feedback and comment opportunities for the public with respect to interpretation tools.
- *Inclusivity:* The Aapravasi Ghat is a national asset. It is therefore mandated to speak to an audience of all peoples who live in Mauritius. The narratives should reflect this inclusivity and particular efforts should be made to ensure that an on-going audience development programme is generated through market research. The WHP and its narrative should therefore reflect the universality of the legacy of the Aapravasi Ghat to the world. Visitors and audiences should all experience inspiration and understanding of this legacy;
- *Ensuring compliance to a Code of Ethics:*
 - o Staff must be trained in the International Council of Museums (ICOM) Code of Ethics for Museums, 2004;
 - o To plan for and monitor application of the Code of Ethics through policies and procedures and practice. The sets minimum standards of professional practice and performance for museums and their staff;
- *Nurture notion of the living heritage institution:* To ‘make history come alive’, and to integrate this perspective into its programming and communications strategy. To have all visitors (tourists, school groups, campers, conference goers, etc) understand that they are a part of the heritage-making process of the WHP and that their own stories, understanding of the collective narratives and their own footprints are valued. All visitors should feel that they have been affected by and are affected by their journey to Aapravasi Ghat and that its legacy speaks to their own condition;

- *Striving for professional excellence:* That all aspects of work related to the WHP are recognised by staff and service providers, as critical to the total positive experience for visitors. Training and development needs which are identified need to be followed up and provision made. Each year the benchmark for excellence needs to be raised;
- *Actualising the Statement of Significance:* Heritage interpretation should ensure that the Statement of Significance is embodied in representation of Aapravasi Ghat through themes that can be identified in the process of making the Interpretation Plan;
- *Relevance:* That the interpretation of the legacy of Aapravasi Ghat should be related to the social, economic, historical and cultural contexts in which it is found, and to the state of the world today, in particular to places where labour continues to be exploitative.

3.1.1. Interpretation of historic features at WHP

The interpretation of the World Heritage Property's features is part of BRIC plan that includes a landscaping project. Following the international standards for conservation and interpretation, the landscaping focused on measures that:

- are non-intrusive physically and visually, and enhance physical and intellectual access to the historic and archaeological features;
- direct visitors with a pathway at floor level leading to the main points of interest;
- support the interpretation of historic features by informative panels; and
- include reversible and sustainable materials that can be differentiated from historic features.

At the World Heritage Site, basic information will be provided for visitor interpretation related to the remaining historic features, but in a way that will lead to an understanding of how the Aapravasi Ghat functioned.

The Interpretation Centre is the gateway to the rest of the World Heritage Property. This is where the journey starts. The interpretation centre gives an overview of the history, the functioning and the role of the former Immigration Depot before the visit on site. The objective is to provide information beforehand that will lead to a more insightful interpretation of the WHP as a whole, and with that a full appreciation of its Outstanding Universal Value.

3.1.2. Interpretation at Interpretation Centre

The interpretative tools in the Interpretation Centre reconstruct the physical appearance of the Immigration Depot and convey the experience of indentured labourers in Mauritius. Interpretation techniques are used to convey meaning and to fill in a gap between the 'object' and the visitor. Interpretation is used to create visitor understanding and avoid frustration.

Interpreting the past requires that information take shape through scenographic displays. Interpretation will be enhanced through carefully designed sign posts, texts, maps, graphs, photographs, archival documents, models, slide shows, reproductions, technological and audio-visual resources, exhibitions, virtual reality items, guided visits, and the delivery of educational activities and workshops for adults, children and disabled people.

The interpretation will follow several principles in the visitor centre:

- clear messages in the different sections with defined themes;
- suggestive modes to produce meaning; and
- virtual and physical reconstitutions.

The interpretation techniques will present the past in a wider context that also have a bearing on the present, for better appreciation. Thus visitors are enabled to better understand the cultural significance of the World Heritage Property and its Outstanding Universal Value.

The principle of contextualisation is also retained to support the interpretation of artefacts pertaining to the site and the Immigration Depot's remaining features. To this purpose, several elements will support the contextualisation during the visit:

- Supporting texts and large format visuals;
- Reconstitutions through multimedia devices and 3D models;
- Reconstitutions through the creation of a 2D model of the Immigration Depot in 1866; and
- Reconstitutions of furniture and presentations of antique objects.

This approach stresses the need for regular maintenance of the displays on a regular basis. In absence of multimedia, visitors would have access to partial interpretation. In case of regular maintenance, multimedia is a key tool for effective interpretation and may be updated upon the development of knowledge on indentured labour. Such details will be covered comprehensively in the Interpretation Plan.

3.1.3. Develop an appropriate Interpretation Plan

3.1.3.1. PREPARE AND IMPLEMENT AN INTERPRETATION PLAN

The principles of interpretation rely on the need to provide adapted discourse to all kind of audience and in particular, for the young audience. Provision was made in the Interpretation Centre for a storyline specifically devised for children.

Interpretation also dealt with the need to transcribe scientific data for the public at large when most data on the former Immigration Depot were gathered through scientific research in history, archaeology and anthropology.

There is also an issue of languages when considering the Mauritian multi-cultural context. The Mauritian population speak several languages, English and French being understood by all. Considering this, it was chosen to present the content in both languages to also meet the expectations of foreign visitors mainly coming from Europe, the African continent and the Indian Ocean region.

Coupled with the need to interpret the WHP in the most efficient manner, these related issues further support the development of the proposed Interpretation Plan. The objective would be to establish a clear policy and interpretation strategy, parameters for its evaluation and the improvement of interpretation following input from ongoing visitor surveys and other feedback mechanisms.

The Interpretation Plan should be elaborated to establish principles for interpretation. Its implementation would be guided by the Heritage Interpretation Manager. The Interpretation Plan will be enforced to ensure the evaluation of displays and their upgrading together with updated content in BRIC. The Interpretation Plan would seek to further enhance visitor experience at BRIC and WHP.

3.1.3.2. ENSURE A VISITOR EXPERIENCE OF QUALITY

Indicator for visitor satisfaction and profile

There is a need to conduct regular visitor surveys considering diverse audience profile. Such information promotes adaptive interpretation and resort to appropriate techniques and discourse for all visitors. Ultimately, the objective is to sustain visitor satisfaction.

Audience surveys are essential to gather information on visitor profile which will determine clear audience targets and help anticipating visitor expectations. Based on their profile, adapted contents, activities and service can be elaborated.

The surveys will also provide with information on visitor satisfaction. They are an indicator for the improvement of service. Audience surveys should be carried out regularly to allow regular review of activities and support marketing strategies.

Supporting staff

Heritage Guides / Public Outreach Officers are an essential resource: they orientate and inform visitors. Supporting staff is key to manage visitors and also to assist them in their interpretation of Heritage.

To help visitor orientation, they should wear badges and uniforms. The staff should also be trained to ensure the quality of visitor experience and have clear knowledge in heritage management and interpretation, and visitor hospitality.

3.1.3.3. REVIEW AND IMPLEMENT BRIC PHASE 2 PROJECT PROPOSAL

The quality of the visitor experience also depends on activities available at WHP. To improve visitor experience further, a second phase of the Interpretation Centre Project was developed. The second phase projects to set up a permanent exhibition presenting indenture as an international phenomenon. It will include temporary exhibition space, a documentation centre, storage area for collections, offices for the AGTF, visitor facilities and cafeteria. The objective is to diversify offers at World Heritage Property while offering the opportunity to double the space available for visitor management and experience.

A feasibility study was included in the project proposal for the setting up of the Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre. The Project Plan Committee of the Ministry of Public Infrastructure approved the same. The project was included in the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP). Further steps including timeframe and the allocation of funds need to be taken to proceed with BRIC phase 2.

3.2. Education and dissemination

To document the site, the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund has undertaken significant research on the history of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property and on the indenture period. Our interpretation of the site is based on multi-disciplinary research. The results of research are shared through interpretation, publications and education programme. The education and dissemination programme is key to further communicate and promote the OUV of the Aapravasi Ghat WHP.

3.2.1. Enhance visitor experience and maintain visitor satisfaction

3.2.1.1. REVIEW AND UPDATE PEDAGOGICAL AND ACADEMIC DOCUMENTATION ON A REGULAR BASIS

Since 2003, the AGTF issued a number of publications presenting the research results. In addition to this, the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund (AGTF) set up a public programme offering activities to visitors at World Heritage Property since 2007. This public programme was elaborated further to offer educational activities for children and various activities for the audience at large such as guided visits, heritage trails or film projection. Since 2009, a school kit on the World Heritage Property is available for schools and Teachers.

However, there is a need to update the pedagogical material to integrate new developments at the World Heritage Property and its Interpretation Centre.

There is also a need to provide a publication on the cultural significance of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property since no such publication is available for the audience.

3.2.1.2. EVALUATE AND DEVELOP ACTIVITIES FOR THE AUDIENCE

Visitor interpretation would also rely on the public programme offering activities for adults and children. The public at large will be offered guided visits and heritage trails to better understand the context of evolution of the World Heritage Property.

A specific programme is in place for young audience. The objective is to foster interpretation of the young public through educational activities. These activities solicit the participation of children who learn while performing. The public programme is part of the activities offered at the Interpretation Centre. The public programme will need to be reviewed on a regular basis to update information and attract visitors. The review is a key component for dynamism at World Heritage Site and for attracting new and regular visitors.

To achieve this, there is a need to constantly evaluate the activities through audience surveys. The surveys would allow improvement and evolution. There is also a need to develop activities on a regular basis to propose an evolving public programme with regular new activities for the audience.

3.3. Foster heritage interpretation in the Buffer Zone

3.3.1. Consolidate and promote the heritage trail in Port Louis

The Objective 19 of the Management Plan 2006 set out the need for heritage walks and trails to the Aapravasi Ghat Site and its Buffer Zone. The trails were created and evaluated. They soon will be proposed in BRIC public programme. The Fund lays much emphasis on these activities in order to create better awareness amongst the local population.

The setting up of heritage walks and guided visits on site appeared an effective vector to inform the local community and visitors of the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Property and raise awareness on the specificity of its Buffer Zone.

In 2011, the Ministry of Tourism and Leisure engaged in a collaborative project for the implementation of heritage trails in Port Louis. The AGTF contributed to consolidate the establishment of the heritage trail in its immediate surroundings: the objective was to integrate it into a larger trail in the capital city. The trail in Port Louis city will soon become operational.

The setting up of heritage trails is in line with the Government policy and forms part of the policy for Tourism Action Area Plans in the National Development Strategy (NDS) and the Tourism Development Plan (2002) of the Ministry of Tourism and Leisure. The NDS includes a programme for Port Louis central area recommending the development of heritage products and of a “*discovery route*” and “*heritage based destination areas*” consisting in tours and programmes for heritage.²³

²³ *National Development Strategy*, Ministry of Housing and Lands, 2003; Chapter 8; 8.5.

3.3.2. Prepare and implement concept papers for heritage trails

In order to foster visitor interpretation, it is proposed to prepare concept papers to set up heritage trails. During the review of the Management Plan, the workshop on the development of tourism at WHS highlighted the need to develop new trails on the following themes:

- Indentured sites related to the World Heritage Property; and
- From slavery to indenture: Le Morne Cultural Landscape and Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Properties.

In this undertaking, the institutions involved agreed to consolidate collaboration and to create a working group to make the project a reality. The objective would be to share financial, human and logistical resources and ensure the integrated implementation of the heritage trails.

3.4. Managing visitors

Managing visitors at World Heritage Property has become a core issue considering that the completion of the conservation project now allows visits of the World Heritage Property. In addition, the Interpretation Centre will shortly open. A new conception of visitor management needs to be considered at World Heritage Property with the objective to attract more visitors to the World Heritage Property.

Since the inscription of the World Heritage Property, the number of visitors has constantly increased despite minimal promotion. The number of visitors has multiplied by 15 times since 2005 to reach a total of 25,000 per year.

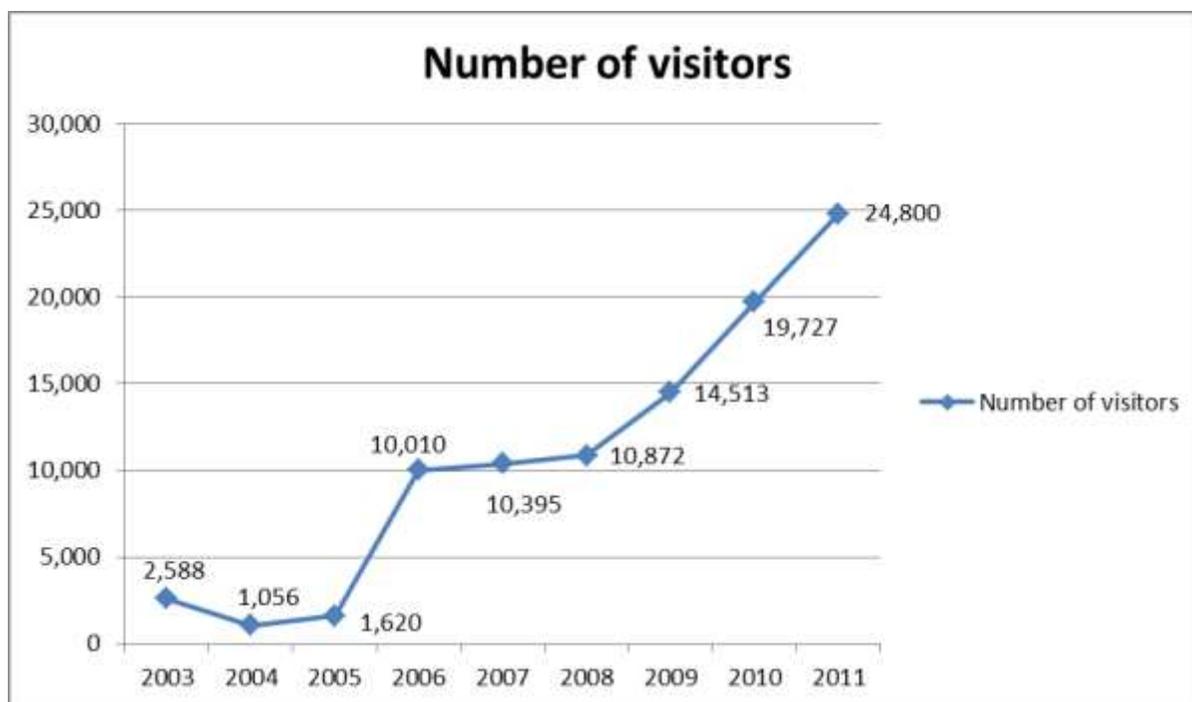


Figure 17: Graph indicating the number of visitors at WHP per year

An average number of 275 visitors a day representing around 6 000 visitors a month is expected on site for the first year and around 80,000 visitors per year in the years to come²⁴. Nearly twenty-five thousand people visited the AGWHP in 2011. It seems realistic to estimate an average number of 80,000 visitors a year in the years to come considering the growing awareness of the local population and the potential tourist audience.

The estimation of visitor number is as follows for the next seven years:

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7
Number of visitors	50,000	55,000	60,000	65,000	70,000	75,000	80,000

Table 2: Estimated number of visitors per year at BRIC

²⁴ This estimation is based on audience surveys conducted by the AGTF at the Mauritius Institute and at the Blue Penny Museum and on visitors' number records in cultural institutions in Port Louis. Besides, the statistics of the Tourist industry helped to define the socio economic context of tourism in Port Louis and in cultural sites or tourist places.

3.4.1. Review the Visitor Management Plan (2008)

With an area of 1640 sq metres, the core area has an optimum carrying capacity of 80 people at a time. The Interpretation Centre will increase the carrying capacity by 100 people to reach a total number of 180 people at a time.

To ensure smooth visitor management, the team will need to rest its actions on a guiding document stating clear strategies and measures for visitor management. It will therefore be required to undertake the review of the Visitor Management Plan (2008) as there is a need to integrate new developments at World Heritage Property and propose adapted measures to mitigate visitor impact.

The VMP would also need to include the establishment of indicators to monitor the impact of tourism on the World Heritage Property.

3.4.2. Set up and use appropriate visitor monitoring and recording system

A visitor recording system is in place to record data in an excel sheet including the number of visitors, contact details, provenance and administrative data on visitors. These data provide information on visitor profile and help anticipating visitor needs.

At present, visitors come mainly as part of a tour in Port Louis organised by local institutions or schools. The visitor recording system is suitable to record data of limited audience. However, with the increasing number of visitors at World Heritage Property, there is a need to improve the visitor monitoring and recording system.

The objective is to use data for monitoring visitor impact on the World Heritage Property and for marketing and promotional purposes.

3.4.3. Foster collaboration with neighbouring institutions and agencies

On several occasion, the AGTF called upon the support of neighbouring institutions to disperse the number of visitors in two or three areas at a time. This measure aims at reducing the number of visitors at World Heritage Property with the establishment of system based on visitor rotation.

This measure has allowed the management of a large number of visitors that would otherwise not be accommodated at World Heritage Property at one time. It has also proven to be beneficial for institutions.

In this respect, there is a need to work in close collaboration with neighbouring institutions and to include them in the process of revisioning visitor management measures at World Heritage Property.

4. PROMOTING THE WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY AND ITS SURROUNDINGS

Since the inscription of the Aapravasi Ghat on the World Heritage List in 2006, the Trust Fund opted for little promotion since the conservation project was still underway and visitor infrastructure was not available at WHP. As at date, the majority of visitors are students (63%), tourists (30%) and associations (7%).

The completion of the Conservation Project and the opening of the Interpretation Centre lead the AGTF to review its promotional strategy considering the potential at hand. The Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property is located near the Caudan Waterfront and in the city centre of the capital city. This location could potentially attract many visitors as 50% of the total number of tourists²⁵ that visit the Caudan Waterfront²⁶.

According to Analysis Research Consultants and Taylor Nelson/ SOFRES, the Caudan receives more visitors than Port Louis market (56%), Pamplemousses Gardens (55%), and île aux Cerfs (42%).²⁷ In comparison, the Mauritius Institute in Port Louis receives an average number of 5,200 visitors a month. This figure gives an idea of the potential audience to the WHP on a monthly basis.

Up to present, the AGTF has not enforced a promotional strategy considering the need to minimize the number of visitors at WHP while the conservation works were taking place. There is now a need to develop a strategy to attract more tourists and the segment of the Mauritian population aged between 20 and 65 years old to the WHP. There is a need to elaborate and implement marketing and tourism strategies to achieve this objective.

This is in line with the need to support the tourism industry which is the 3rd pillar of the national economy. It is essential to offer cultural activities to develop tourism in a sustainable manner. Cultural tourism has become a priority in the government policy. This area has a strong potential for future development and for employment of the local population.

²⁵ According to the surveys conducted by the Ministry of Tourism and Leisure, Mauritius receives around 965,000 tourists per year and has an objective of 2 million visitors a year in a near future.

²⁶ According to the data provided by Le Caudan Development Ltd, the company managing Le Caudan Waterfront, 400,000 foreign tourists visit the waterfront per year.

²⁷ The percentages are expressed on the total number of tourists. The source for these figures: "Overview" in *Ministry of Tourism and Leisure's web site*, 14/02/2005. <http://www.gov.mu/portal/site/tourist>

2006 Digest of International Travel and Tourism Statistics 2005; Economic and social indicators, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, Port Louis, Mauritius. According to the Survey of Outgoing Tourists in 2004, a tourist spends on average MRU 32,157 (around 765 €) during his/her stay. Overall, the gross earnings from the tourism industry were MRU 23,448 billion in 2004 and MRU 25,704 billion in 2005.

To this end, the following actions were identified in this section:

Promotion the World Heritage Property and its surroundings

Objective 9: Ensure the implementation of a sustainable strategy for the promotion of the World Heritage Property

9.1. Prepare a Tourism Strategy

9.2. Prepare a Marketing Plan

Objective 10: Set up and sustain an integrated promotion of the World Heritage Property and its surroundings

10.1. Promote the vision for development in the zones

10.2. Develop and consolidate a programme of activities

10.3. Consolidate partnership

4.1. Prepare a Tourism Strategy

Conservation works were taking place from 2004 until 2010. Consequently, the constant restoration works were not compatible with the management of important number of visitors. What is more, visitor infrastructures were not appropriate to meet the needs of visitors. With the opening of the Interpretation Centre, there is now a need for a Tourism Strategy to establish principles and the orientation for overall promotion of the World Heritage Property. This document will consider local, regional and international targets.

The objective is to ensure that tourism at World Heritage Property will be managed in a sustainable manner and to curtail negative impact on the authenticity and integrity of the World Heritage Property.

The Core Zone Management Committee ensures the timely implementation and the monitoring of the Visitor Management Plan and the Tourism Strategy in collaboration with stakeholders.

Principles guiding the tourism strategy:

- the objective is to privilege and constantly enhance the quality of visitor experience;
- the promotion of the World Heritage Property should prevail over that of the Interpretation Centre: the objective is to promote the World Heritage Property and its Outstanding Universal Value;
- the public programme should focus on well-defined activities that focus on the quality of visitor experience;
- collaborative approach should be favoured to allow a larger development of promotional activities; and
- participative approach should be privileged to allow the involvement of the local community in a way that meets the principles established at WHP.

Up to present, the marketing and promotional strategy of the World Heritage Property was part of the Visitor Management Plan and orientations were also provided in the Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre project proposal. There is a need to elaborate dedicated documents on the basis of existing references to ensure the development of the World Heritage Property and its Interpretation Centre.

There is also a need to consolidate the Tourism Strategy via a Marketing Plan providing data information and predictions for economic and promotional targets.

4.2. Prepare a Marketing Plan

There is a need to attract visitors to the WHP and its Interpretation Centre. In this respect, the Visitor Management Plan stresses the importance of a Marketing Plan to deepen existing estimation of visitor numbers, determine potential visitor profile and the target audience. The objective is to determine marketing orientations leading to the consolidation of a pricing policy, marketing strategy to attract visitors to the World Heritage Property and develop further the promotional policy.

The Marketing Plan will be a guiding tool to establish a plan of action and yearly targets for the Interpretation Centre. The Marketing Plan will be implemented by the staff of the Interpretation Centre and monitored by the Core Zone Management Committee.

4.3. Approve and implement the pricing policy

There is a need to raise funds for the functioning and maintenance of the World Heritage Property and its Interpretation Centre. The need to establish a fee for entrance and educational activities at World Heritage Property and Interpretation Centre was recommended by AGTF Board considering that the revenue would support the government expenses. The proposed fees were determined as part of the proposal for the setting up of an Interpretation Centre.

Process for Government approval would need to be undertaken and a system for the clear management of funds would also need to be established.

4.4. Promoting heritage in the Buffer Zone

4.4.1. Promote the vision for development in the zone

Before the inscription of the site on the World Heritage List, the Aapravasi Ghat was hardly known: from 41% in 2005, the percentage of people who know Aapravasi Ghat has increased to 95% in 2011²⁸. However, the World Heritage Property is not fully integrated in the social dynamism of the city centre as a result of a physical separation created by the motorway constructed in 1980s. Planning policies for the area aim at curtailing this demarcation and recreate the historic circulation between the World Heritage Property and its surroundings.

The vision stated in the PPG promotes heritage as a driver for development. However, this is a new concept in Mauritius where no similar reference exists locally. There is a need to promote the vision for the heritage area and raise awareness on the opportunities for sustainable development in the area.

4.4.2. Develop and consolidate a programme of activities

The promotion of heritage in the Buffer Zones and the appreciation of its potential development could be fostered by the setting up of a programme of activities in collaboration with private and public agencies and the local communities.

One of these actions could be the setting up of a yearly event consisting in opening the heritage buildings and sites to the public at night and invite the local community to participate with a view to encourage the revitalisation of the area.

The World Heritage Status also supports the setting up of activities forming part of regional and international events such as the International Day for Monuments and Sites on a national scale.

²⁸ Surveys carried out by AGTF in 2005 and 2011.

4.5. Consolidate partnerships

Active collaboration with all the departments would help offering a high quality service and effective marketing and promotion.

There is a need to establish close partnership with other stakeholders and governmental bodies. The collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism and Leisure is already in place for the promotion of various activities and will be continued to ensure effective promotion of the Centre.

There is therefore a need to set up regular meetings with key actors in the form of Scientific, Technical and Advisory Committee (STAC), to promote integrated implementation of the marketing and tourism strategies.

5. CONDUCTING RESEARCH ON THE SCOPE AND EXTENT OF INDENTURE

Conducting research is a prerequisite at World Heritage Property to further document and sustain the Outstanding Universal Value of the Aapravasi Ghat as per the *Convention for the protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage Sites*.

Since 2003, the AGTF has undertaken research as per its mandate defined in AGTF Act (2001 amended 2006, 2011):

- *To encourage and support projects and publications related to the indentured labour;*
- *To encourage and support interdisciplinary scientific research related to indentured labour and to the sites specified in the schedule.*

Research has been an on-going process with the primary objective to document the experience of immigrants at the Depot. Most research results were presented in the Nomination Dossier submitted to UNESCO in 2005. At the time of inscription of the Site in 2006, the World Heritage Committee recommended to:

- *“Undertake research on indentured labour to consider the extent, scope and impact of the indentured labour Diaspora around the world”. ” (WHC- 06/30 COM/19, p.145).*

This includes the development of research in various scientific disciplines including history, anthropology and archaeology. The objective is to develop our knowledge of the indentured experience through interdisciplinary research.

To continue research on the scope and extent of indenture, the following objectives were identified:

Conducting research on the scope and extent of indenture

Objective 11: Continue and encourage multidisciplinary research on the scope and extent of indenture by establishing local, regional and international networks

- 11.1. Prepare an integrated global Research Plan
- 11.2. Prepare a Research Policy for ethics and access
- 11.3. Develop research proposals for Intangible Cultural Heritage and archaeology
- 11.4. Prepare a research proposal for integrated research at Trianon heritage site
- 11.5. Consolidate research capacity
- 11.6. Develop and consolidate networks to foster research on indenture
- 11.7. Consolidate and develop regional and international research networks
- 11.8. Prepare a consolidated research proposal for the indenture labour route project

Objective 12: Foster and support collaborative implementation of projects for integrated research

- 12.1. Create working groups to implement research projects
- 12.2. Prepare a consolidated research proposal and strategy for projects

Objective 13: Improve the management of information and consolidate the documentation centre

- 13.1. Enlist professional services to assess and report on the setting up of a data information management system for the documentation centre
- 13.2. Consolidate capacity in the documentation centre

5.1. Scope and limitations

5.1.1. The research scope

The AGTF's research scope responds to its mandate focusing on research on indentured labour.

The prime objective is to document and appreciate the significance of the Aapravasi Ghat former Immigration depot now World Heritage Property, within the local, regional and international system of indenture. This is considered to be the base for understanding the scope and extent of the indenture system in Mauritius, and appreciate the experience of immigrants on a global scale.

Research undertaken on other indentured heritage sites aim at offering a deeper insight in the indenture system and sustain the cultural significance of the World Heritage Property as a symbol of the international system of indenture in the 19th century.

Historical research

Capacity in historical studies is available at AGTF which has led research projects on the history of indenture. Since 2003, historical research has focused on the creation, functioning and role of the Aapravasi Ghat Immigration Depot, and on the indenture experience in Mauritius.

The research results were disseminated in several publications.

Intangible Cultural heritage

The World Heritage Property was inscribed under criterion (vi) stressing the importance of intangible cultural heritage. The definition of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) is in line with the *Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage* of UNESCO that Mauritius signed in 2003.

The research methodology on intangible cultural heritage will abide by the principles addressed in the *Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage* of UNESCO and its operational directives.

Research on the ICH will be guided by the following limitations:

- The ICH studied is related to the indenture experience in Mauritius and elsewhere; and
- The research on ICH will focus on the interaction existing between the World Heritage Property and its physical and spiritual environment.

Archaeological research

Archaeological research pertaining to the documentation and identification of features of the Immigration Depot from 2003 to 2009 was led by a holistic approach aiming at restoring the authenticity and integrity of the site and also, documenting further its functioning at the time of indenture. The research allowed the identification of key authentic features forming the former Immigration Depot and their conservation.

On completion of archaeological campaigns at WHP, most information relevant to the immigration depot and its functioning was gathered. Today, Professionals who assessed the archaeological potential at World Heritage Property feel that further archaeological research would not be justified considering that accessible parts were already documented through archaeological methodology.

Regarding other indentured sites, the strategy is to document the life of the immigrants after their stay at the depot as a continuous process. The documentation of the life of the immigrants on sugar estates brings further significance to the role and function of the Immigration Depot as the initial process of indentured labour in the country and elsewhere.

The interaction between the immigration depot and the sugar estates is therefore the current subject of investigation to substantiate further the cultural significance of the World Heritage Property.

5.1.2. The research themes

Considering these principles, research themes were identified:

- Commercial interactions
- Immigration in Mauritius
- Labour
- Life in the port
- Health
- Incarceration
- Tangible heritage
- Intangible heritage

5.2. Guiding principles and objectives

Since 2003, a research unit was established at AGTF to conduct research documenting the history and significance of the World Heritage Property. The research programme was devised upon the need to document further the history of the Aapravasi Ghat Immigration Depot and its role within the indenture system in Mauritius and in the world.

The research undertaken so far responded to the following principles and objectives:

1. Conduct research to document and further appreciate the extent and scope of indenture;
2. Relate the Mauritian indentured experience within the perspective of indenture in the world;
3. Encourage multi-disciplinary approach to better appreciate Mauritian experience;
4. Continue documenting the World Heritage Property as the symbol of indenture in the 19th and the early 20th century;
5. Document the modalities and dynamics that led the British colonial power to choose Mauritius as a test case for the implementation of the indentured system; and
6. The impact of the indentured system set up in Mauritius on Mauritian society and on indenture in the Indian Ocean region and in the world.

5.3. Research issues and objectives

The AGTF has accomplished continuous research on indenture since the setting up of a research and technical unit in 2003. When the World Heritage Property was inscribed in 2006, the UNESCO recommended that further research be undertaken to document and appreciate *“the extent, scope and impact of Indentured Labour Diaspora around the world”*²⁹.

5.3.1. Develop an integrated Research Plan

So far, research rested on recommendations produced in research committees that gave an orientation to research undertakings; and on several key documents. The research experience at AGTF led to the identification of several research topics instrumental in the further documentation and interpretation of the World Heritage Property’s cultural significance:

²⁹ WHC- 06/30 COM/19, p.145 : decision 30 COM 8B.33.

1. The history of Aapravasi Ghat Immigration Depot:
 - a. Further documentation and interpretation of the historic features as per the recommendations of the Conservation Plan (2006);
 - b. Documentation of modalities and dynamics that led to its implantation in Trou Fanfaron, Port Louis. This includes an overview of Trou Fanfaron history as from 1800s;
 - c. Documentation of life at the depot;
 - d. The relation and the impact of the Immigration Depot on the surrounding area; and
 - e. Comparative approach with La Reunion and Le Lazaret Heritage Site.

2. Indentured immigrants' experiences:
 - a. Itineraries of indentured labourers to explore the extent and scope of indenture in Mauritius through personal experiences / case studies;
 - b. Documenting the relations between Reunion/Mauritius/India as part of the indenture system;
 - c. Documenting regional interactions resulting from indenture;
 - d. Experiences of Immigrants coming from countries other than India;
 - e. Experiences of Liberated Africans;
 - f. Document the experiences of free immigrants to undertake a comparative approach especially to relate their experiences to their evolution in society and those of indentured immigrants; and
 - g. The modalities and modes of recruitment of the early indenture system.

3. The history of other indentured sites in Mauritius to further appreciate the cultural significance of the World Heritage Property:
 - a. Document Trianon Sugar Estate from a multi-disciplinary perspective:
 - i. Archaeological approach to appreciate living conditions and habits, and daily functioning of sugar estates;
 - ii. Document Trianon heritage site from the perspective of oral history to explore the values conferred to the heritage of indenture; and
 - iii. Document Trianon heritage site from the perspective of history.
 - b. Document further Clemencia temple to appreciate the social and religious life on estates;

- c. Further documentation of the former quarantine station at Flat Island and further explore its interaction with the Immigration Depot in Port Louis; and
 - d. Detailed inventory of indentured sites in Mauritius to better preserve and appreciate the heritage sites and their relation with the Aapravasi Ghat Immigration Depot and the indenture system in Mauritius.
4. The legacy of indenture:
- a. Document the intangible cultural heritage inherited from indenture;
 - b. Document the legacy of indenture in Mauritian society from an anthropological perspective to appreciate the values conferred to heritage by the local community and document this heritage from a contemporary point of view; and
 - c. Oral history in the Buffer Zone to better appreciate the impact of indenture on the surroundings of the WHP and the representations of heritage developed by the Local community.

Based on the defined orientations, the research undertakings would need to be headed by an overall Research Plan providing general orientation and expected output. The objective would be to:

1. define overall objectives for the global research at AGTF;
2. provide clear strategy for decision-makers and staff;
3. define the precise financial and human resources required;
4. devise yearly Action Plan for research;
5. optimize research resources; and
6. establish a clear ground to foster collaboration.

The Research Plan would need to take into consideration the following documents:

1. The conservation plan (2006);
2. Research proposal for specific research projects; and
3. The resolutions of the International Conference on Indenture that took place in December 2011.

The Research Plan could present a short, medium and long-term vision and be supplemented by detailed project proposal defining the objectives, mechanisms and output of specific projects such as the International Indenture Labour Route Project.

The Research Plan would need to be monitored through the implementation of an Action Plan. It would also need to be reviewed on a regular basis to integrate the developments and meet the requirements and research concerns in a proactive manner.

5.3.2. Prepare a research policy for ethics and access

The need for an overall integrated Research Plan also underlines a need for a research policy. Several projects such as research on archaeology and elements of Intangible Cultural Heritage raise the need for a clear research policy.

Principles are in place and should be consigned in a policy paper that communicates the position of the AGTF in this respect.

The research policy would also consider the access to the research data by a third party and propose guidelines that the person accessing to the data would abide by.

5.3.3. Develop research proposals for specific projects

Intangible Cultural Heritage

Another important aspect is the development of research on Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) considering that the World Heritage Property was inscribed under criterion (vi). The research on elements of Intangible Cultural Heritage started with a project of inventory initiated in 2010 partly funded by UNESCO. The project aimed at identifying ICH elements and constituted the phase one completed in March 2011. To date, 60 elements were identified as part of the inventory of elements related to the indenture experience.

Considering the research data compiled since 2005 on oral history among descendants of indentured labourers and on Intangible Cultural Heritage, further analysis of these data would bring further insights in understanding the indenture experience and identify the surviving Intangible Cultural Heritage related to indenture. However, orientations of research need to be explored and stated in a Research Plan to guide the Oral History and Oral Traditions Unit in its undertakings.

The ultimate goal is to document and retain the Intangible Cultural Heritage and also, propose elements of ICH on the representative list of UNESCO as signatory state of the *Convention on the Safeguard of Intangible Cultural Heritage*.

Archaeology

Archaeological projects were conducted at World Heritage Property from 2002 to 2005 and at Trianon heritage site, former sugar estate, from 2009 until today.

The objective of research in Trianon is to document the daily life of the indentured labourers that left the Immigration Depot (or Aapravasi Ghat) to work on the estates. The project undertaken at Trianon further substantiates the cultural significance of the World Heritage Property. The data collected on indenture constitute the first major archaeological projects on indenture in Mauritius and in the region.

To further document the indenture phenomenon, the AGTF recommends that archaeological research continues in order to appreciate the insights into the interpretation of material culture and consider the archaeological data within an integrated manner. The objective would be to envisage the indenture experience from the perspectives of history, archaeology and anthropology at Trianon heritage site.

A specific research proposal would be required to better define the overall objectives and their implementation.

5.3.4. Identify the needs for training and training opportunities, and implement

The research and technical unit has gained significant knowledge in the indenture experience. However, there is a need to consolidate capacity in anthropology and other disciplines related to heritage to implement the Research Plan in an effective and efficient manner.

The institution particularly needs to consolidate its capacity in anthropology to better appreciate and approach the research on Intangible Cultural Heritage related to indenture.

Considering that disciplines such as Anthropology or Archaeology require post-graduate consolidated studies, it is proposed to build capacity through the enlistment of professionals. The strategy for capacity building would then privilege on-the-job-training to empower AGTF staff.

In the long term, it is proposed to create a specific unit for research managed by a Head of Research to foster research on indenture and also, produce guidance in research strategy, objectives and policies.

5.3.5. Develop and consolidate networks to foster research on indenture

5.3.5.1. CONSOLIDATE LOCAL RESEARCH NETWORK

Other institutions have resources in anthropology and other fields related to heritage. The establishment of an overall collaboration among institutions would be beneficial to share available resources in an integrated manner and achieve the goals set out in the Research Plan.

The collaboration could be established through formal agreements such as Memorandum of Understanding with institutions conducting research such as the University of Mauritius, the Mahatma Gandhi Institute and the Nelson Mandela Centre for African Culture.

The establishment of a formal collaboration would lead to the creation of research groups composed of key resource person to conduct specific projects. The research group would work to:

1. elaborate clear research project proposal;
2. implement and monitor the research proposal;
3. report on the progress of work to relevant decision-makers; and
4. assess the result of research and make recommendations for the consolidation of research and dissemination of research results.

5.3.5.2. CONSOLIDATE REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH NETWORKS

Formalize and foster research network

The phenomenon of indenture was not limited to Mauritius. Indenture was also used mainly in the Indian Ocean Region and the Caribbean, and other places in the world. The AGTF has initiated a number of actions aiming at fostering and consolidating links with other research networks on regional and international scale.

It is proposed to sustain the initiatives already undertaken namely:

1. The convention with Musée de Villèle in Réunion Island in charge of Le Lazaret de la Grande Chaloupe, a site where indentured labourers stayed in Quarantine in Reunion Island; and
2. Formalise, foster and consolidate the establishment of the International Scientific Committee for the creation of elaboration of an international database of indenture migration that forms part of the Indenture Labour Route Project.

The establishment and operation of the International Scientific Committee

An International Scientific Conference entitled ‘New Perspectives on Indentured Labour, 1825-1925’ was held at the University of Mauritius from 5 to 8 December 2011. The conference was organized by the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund in collaboration of the Ministry of Arts and Culture and the University of Mauritius.

A resolution was adopted which called on the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund and the Ministry of Arts and Culture to set up an international network of scholars and institutions to support the implementation of the International Indentured Labour Route Project (IILRP) with a view to develop the Indentured Labour Global Database Initiative (ILGDI).

The ILGDI will be supported and monitored by an International Scientific Committee- which will be based at the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund. It also called for the establishment of a permanent secretariat for this network in Mauritius at the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund: the aim is to ensure the successful implementation and expansion of the IILRP.

The role and objectives of the International Scientific Committee consigned in the Terms of Reference would need to be addressed and seek the approval of the relevant authorities at the local level to formalize its creation.

The preparation of consolidated research proposal

There is a need to prepare a detailed project proposal that will be commonly agreed, to guide the actions of the International Scientific Committee. There is a need for a comprehensive plan for the Indenture Labour Route Project would also consign the research strategy and objectives, scope of work for each, resources requirements, mechanism and modalities required for the implementation of the project proposal. It would also be needed to allow the monitoring of the progress of work.

The comprehensive plan would be a reference document that seems instrumental to guide the undertakings of the International Scientific Committee and sustain its functioning and existence.

5.3.6. Improve the management of information and consolidate the documentation centre

As part of the research process, there is a need to set up a proper system to organize and manage information. The objective is to expand the existing documentation centre and set up an appropriate information system to manage information. The objective is also to allow friendly access to anyone conducting research on indenture.

The expertise in data information management would be required to establish the needs and the requirements for the establishment of a data information system meeting the needs of the AGTF.

This technical report would be the base to undertake necessary process to implement the creation of such information system.

In the future with the increase of research data, the AGTF may need to recruit a Documentation Officer to manage the data entry and access, and manage the documentation centre.

PART III: IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN

The following Action Plan presents the thirteen objectives that are the cornerstones of the Management Plan 2013-2018. Each objective is linked to an expected outcome. The set of actions needed to pursue each objective, are listed. In order to measure whether a particular action has been executed satisfactorily, there is an indicator by which the result of the action can be monitored and measured.

Taking into account that the management of the World Heritage Property involved an array of parties, the Action Plan also links the specific actions to the primary parties responsible for their execution. This ensures that responsibilities are clear. This is not to say that other parties cannot assist in particular actions but indicates the responsible parties that will help to remove bottlenecks that may arise when multiple parties are responsible for management.

Stakeholders are also listed for particular objectives as implementation will rely on their goodwill, as well as any assistance that they may be able to give. This collective approach reflects the wide interest that numerous parties have in the welfare of the WHP. Finally, there are timelines tied to particular actions so that the roll-out of the plan is linked to a timeline. This is important as certain actions depend on other actions to be taken first, or sometimes at the same time.

The format of the Action Plan makes it easy to monitor and pinpoint areas where additional effort or assistance may be needed. It is essential that a monitoring and evaluation system be put in place that correlates with the Action Plan and its format. In this way implementation of the Action Plan can be monitored - and can periodically be reviewed - by the Management Plan Committee chaired by the Ministry of Arts and Culture.

Provision is made in the present plan for its review in five years.

ACTION PLAN

1. Managing the World Heritage Property and its setting

1	Endorse the Management Plan as the overarching document to manage, administer and promote the World Heritage Property in an integrated manner						
Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe	
1.1. Adopt the Management Plan as a statutory document	1.1.1.	Present Management Plan to all parties concerned and request their final views	Management Plan used as a statutory document	Monitoring on the implementation of the MP by the MPC	MAC	ALL	March 2013
	1.1.2.	Integration of views and approval of the Plan by all parties					
	1.1.3.	Present proposal to Cabinet of Ministers and request approval					
	1.1.4.	Submission to the World Heritage Centre					
	1.1.5.	Formal adoption and implementation.					
1.2. Consolidate the role of the Management Plan Committee	1.1.6.	Inform officially stakeholders of the role and purpose of the MPC	Integrated and sustainable management of the WHP and its surroundings	1.2.1. Number of meetings per year 1.2.2. Regular reporting on the percentage of progress of work	MAC	NHF AGTF CCPL	April 2013 - December 2018
	1.1.7.	Prepare a yearly calendar of meetings according to priorities					
	1.1.8.	Hold yearly MPC on reception of WHC's decisions					
1.3. Consolidate the role of the Core Zone Management Committee	1.1.9.	Establish a yearly plan of work with set objectives and clear targets	WHP and BRIC managed and monitored as per yearly schedule	1.3.1. Number of meetings per year 1.3.2. Regular reporting on the percentage of progress of work	AGTF	NHF MAC MPA	July 2013 - December 2018
	1.1.10.	Monitor the actions through the CZM Committee					

Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
1.4.Consolidate the team to manage the Interpretation Centre	1.4.1.Fill the post of Interpretation Centre Manager 1.4.2.Create and fill the post of “Mediator” 1.4.3.Train staff	BRIC managed as per set targets	1.4.1.Posts created 1.4.2.Posts filled 1.4.3.Programme for training established and report on its implementation	AGTF	MAC NHF	April 2013 – December 2014
1.5.Establish an effective financial management system at AGTF	1.5.1.Set up a STAC with representatives of MOFED and MAC 1.5.2.STAC to make recommendations for the setting up of a financial management system 1.5.3.Approval and implementation 1.5.4.Regular evaluation of system for improvement	Financial revenues managed as per best standards	1.5.1.STAC is set up with members 1.5.2.Minutes of STAC meetings with recommendations 1.5.3.Written approval 1.5.4.Evaluation reports with recommendations for improvement	AGTF	MOFED MAC	April 2013 - December 2013
1.6.Establish yearly planning with targets	1.6.1.Establish economic targets based on business plan for BRIC 1 1.6.2.Set up marketing and promotion objectives and targets as per yearly plan 1.6.3.Report on results to the AGTF Board through the CZMC	Better management of resources and optimal revenue generation	1.6.1.Clear economic targets in place 1.6.2.Marketing and promotion objectives in place 1.6.3.Report written and submitted to AGTF Board 1.6.4.Reporting to Board by CZMC	AGTF	MAC	October 2013 - December 2018

2. Managing heritage in the Buffer Zone

2 Consolidate the existing management system of the World Heritage Property and its setting to ensure effective and integrated management						
Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
2.1. Consolidate the role of the Buffer Zone Management Committee	2.1.1.Set up yearly calendar of meetings 2.1.2.Identify priority issues and discuss them 2.1.3.Set up an Action Plan for the committee 2.1.4.Regularly issue a report on meetings	Sustainable and integrated management of heritage in the Buffer Zone	2.1.2/3. Action Plan prepared and monitored systematically and indicating percentage of work done 2.1.4.Minutes of meetings with recommendations	CCPL NHF AGTF	MAC MLGOI	April 2013 – December 2013
	2.1.5.Create STAC to focus on specific issues		2.1.5.Relevant STAC created with members 2.1.6.Minutes of STAC with recommendations submitted to BZMC			
2.2. Create a conservation unit or equivalent mechanism at the City Council of Port Louis	2.2.1.Set up working sessions at the level of the BZMC to identify the requirements and needs to set up the unit 2.2.2.Prepare a project proposal stating implications for the creation of the unit 2.2.3.Consultations on the project proposal held to collect views 2.2.4.Presentation of the proposal to the Council of CCPL and to the MPC for approval 2.2.5. Implementation of proposal	Conservation unit or equivalent created at CCPL	2.2.1.Working group created 2.2.2.Working group reporting on requirements 2.2.2.Project proposal prepared with implications stated 2.2.3.Stakeholders consulted 2.2.4.Council of the CCPL and the MPC approve the proposal 2.2.5.The proposal is implemented	CCPL	MAC MLGOI AGTF NHF	April 2013 - December 2016

Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
2.3. Develop and consolidate capacity in heritage management and conservation	2.3.1. Hold working sessions at the level of the BZMC to identify the needs and requirements 2.3.2. Prepare a project proposal including a strategy for capacity building in heritage conservation and management 2.3.3. Consultation on the project proposal 2.3.4. Final project proposal submitted for approval 2.3.5. Implementation	Capacity in heritage strengthened at CCPL and NHF	2.3.1. Needs and requirements identified and stated in a report 2.3.2. Draft project proposal prepared 2.3.3. Stakeholders consulted 2.3.4. Final project proposal approved 2.3.5. Final project proposal implemented	CCPL NHF	MAC AGTF	January 2014 – December 2018
2.4. Encourage participative conservation, management and promotion	2.4.1. Prepare a yearly calendar of meetings for the CC 2.4.2. Identify means to foster interaction with the local community and Implement	Productive and supportive interaction with the local community to foster sustainability	2.4.1. Yearly CC in place 2.4.2. Reports on CC available for consultation and comments by the Local Community	AGTF	MAC CCPL NHF	April 2013 – July 2014

3. Conserving the World Heritage Property

3 Establish conservation policy, monitoring and guidance, and risk preparedness for the World Heritage Property and its surroundings, and the interpretation Centre and its collections						
Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
3.1.Prepare a long term Conservation Policy for the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property and its surroundings	3.1.1.Assessment by the WHP Manager and NHF 3.1.2.Creation of a STAC on WHP and BZ conservation to monitor preparation of Conservation Policy 3.1.3.Preparation of the Conservation Policy 3.1.4.Submission to the WHP Committee and NHF for review 3.1.5.Submission to AGTF and NHF Boards for approval	Appropriate Conservation Policy in place at WHP	3.1.1.Recommendations of the WHS Manager and NHF submitted to CZMC 3.1.2.STAC created with relevant members 3.1.3.TOR for the preparation of the Conservation Policy prepared and procurement exercise completed 3.1.3.Services of an expert enlisted 3.1.4.Experts submits first draft of the Conservation Policy for consultation 3.1.5. Conservation Policy approved by NHF and AGTF 3.1.6. Implemented	AGTF NHF	NHF	July 2013 - Dec. 2014
3.2.Set up indicators at World Heritage Property to improve the conservation of the historic features	3.2.1.Creation of a STAC on WHP conservation to set up indicators for sustainable conservation 3.2.2.Assessment by WHP Manager on required indicators 3.2.3.Approval by AGTF Board 3.2.4.Monitor the implementation of indicators by CZMC	Appropriate indicators for conservation in place at WHP	3.2.1.STAC created with members 3.2.2.WHP Manager submits recommendations to CZMC which produces final recommendations 3.2.3.Recommendations approved by AGTF Board 3.2.4.Procurement exercise completed; Indicators implemented	AGTF	NHF	July 2013 - Dec. 2016

Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframes
3.3. Monitor and mitigate the impact of visitors at the World Heritage Property	3.3.1. CZMC to set up measures to monitor the impact of visitors 3.3.2. Regular assessment by WHP Manager 3.3.3. Training of staff 3.3.4. Regular reporting to the CZMC	Mitigation of the impact of visitors on WHP and anticipate risks	3.3.1. CZMC identified threats and set up conservation indicators 3.3.2. Reports of WHP Manager submitted regularly to CZMC with recommendations 3.3.3. Training needs identified; training programme set up; programme implemented 3.3.4. WHP Manager reports and recommends improvements regularly	AGTF	NHF	Nov. 2013 – Dec. 2018
	Landscape the WHP 3.3.5. Assessment by WHP Manager 3.3.6. CZMC on conservation to evaluate the recommendations of WHP Manager and establish project proposal for further landscaping 3.3.7. Review by NHF 3.3.8. Approval by AGTF and NHF Board 3.3.9. Implementation	WHP landscaped as per ICOMOS conservation guidelines	3.3.5. WHP Manager made recommendations to the CZMC 3.3.6. Project proposal completed and approved by CZMC and AGTF Board 3.3.7. Project proposal reviewed by NHF 3.3.8. Approvals for implementation obtained 3.3.9. Needs transcribed into procurement documents; procurement exercise completed; project implemented	AGTF	NHF	Feb. 2013 – Dec. 2018
	Set up indicators to appreciate and monitor the impact of visitors 3.3.1. CZMC to define indicators 3.3.2. Proposal, approval and implementation	Precise Information on the impact of visitors and appreciation of risks	3.3.1. Proposal submitted to CZMC by WHP Manager 3.3.2. Requirements identified and approved 3.3.2. Procurement exercise completed; proposal implemented	AGTF	NHF	Nov. 2013 – Apr. 2014

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Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
3.4. Prepare a Conservation Policy and Plan for AGTF collection	<p>3.4.1.CZMC to make proposal for the preparation of the Conservation Policy and monitor its preparation</p> <p>3.4.2.Approval of proposal by AGTF Board</p> <p>3.4.3.Consultation, assessment and review of draft Conservation Policy</p> <p>3.4.4.Approval by AGTF, MMC and NHF Boards and implementation</p>	Long term conservation of artefacts ensured	<p>3.4.1.scope and requirements for the preparation of the Conservation Policy defined by CZMC members</p> <p>3.4.2.Proposal approved; enlistment of the services of a professional completed</p> <p>3.4.3.Submission of draft Conservation Policy and plan for artefacts</p> <p>3.4.4.Draft reviewed and approved by the MMC and NHF</p> <p>3.4.4.Plan enforced</p>	AGTF	NHF MMC	Jan. 2014 – Dec. 2016
3.5. Prepare a Risk Preparedness Plan for BRIC	<p>3.5.1.Set up a STAC on risk preparedness</p> <p>3.5.2.Assessment of needs and requirements for the preparation of the RPP</p> <p>3.5.3.Prepare a plan of work; approval and implementation of work plan</p> <p>3.5.4.Submission of draft RPP for review</p> <p>3.5.5.Approval by MPC, AGTF and NHF Boards</p> <p>3.5.6.Implementation</p>	RPP in place at WHP	<p>3.5.1.STAC with members created; regular report by STAC to CZMC</p> <p>3.5.2.Requirements defined</p> <p>3.5.3./4.Draft RPP prepared and submitted</p> <p>3.5.5.RPP approved</p> <p>3.5.6.RPP implemented</p>	AGTF	NHF	Jan. 2014 – Dec.2016
3.6. Train the staff in risk preparedness and conservation	<p>3.6.1.Training needed to be assessed by STAC on risk preparedness</p> <p>3.6.2.Prepare programme for training and identify staff to receive training</p> <p>3.6.3.Submit proposal to AGTF Board for approval</p> <p>3.6.4.Implementation</p>	Staff trained and aware of measures for RPP	<p>3.6.1.Training needs defined</p> <p>3.6.2.Training programme established</p> <p>3.6.3. Proposal for training approved</p> <p>3.6.4. Proposal implemented</p>	AGTF	NHF	Dec. 2013 – Dec. 2016

4. Conserving and enhancing the Outstanding Universal Value in the Buffer Zone

4	Consolidate the framework for the conservation of the heritage component in the Buffer Zone					
Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
4.1. Creation of a GIS database allowing heritage monitoring in a most efficient manner	4.1.1. Preparation of a project proposal 4.1.2. Submission and review of project proposal by the BZMC 4.1.3. Submission to AGTF and NHF Boards and CCPL's Council for approval 4.1.4. Implementation	Monitoring of heritage and integrated management through appropriate tool provided by GIS	4.1.1. Project proposal prepared with requirements defined 4.1.2. Project proposal submitted to BZMC 4.1.3. Proposal approved 4.1.4. Proposal implemented	AGTF NHF	CCPL	Jan. 2014 – Dec. 2016
4.2. Recognition of the grading system for heritage in the Buffer Zones	4.2.1. Working session at the level of BZMC to identify the needs and the process required for adoption of the grading system 4.2.2. Necessary actions identified and implemented for approval by Government	Grading system established and legally harmonized	4.2.1. Graded system adopted by CCPL and NHF 4.2.2. Graded system recognized in the legislation	AGTF NHF CCPL	MLGOI MAC	Apr. 2013 – Dec. 2016

5 Establish a suitable environment for the conservation and enhancement of the Buffer Zone that encourages sustainable development and the transformation of the area into a vibrant regenerated heritage district						
Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
5.1. Address the 10 points of the development plan	5.1.1.Establish STACs to work on the following issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incentives for economic development - Urban design and upgrade - Tourism and urban development 5.1.2.STACs to define clear focus and way forward for elaboration and approval of proposals and their implementation 5.1.3.Review and approval of project proposals 5.1.4.Implementation	Framework supporting further development and sustainable development in the BZ	5.1.1.STAC established with relevant members 5.1.2.Requirements identified; plan of action approved and implemented; 5.1.2.Relevant services enlisted for preparation of proposals 5.1.3.Proposals submitted for consideration and their implications defined 5.1.3.Adoption of proposals 5.1.4.Proposals implemented	MOFED MTL MAC CCPL	MPI MLGOI MPI, NDU & LTS	Apr. 2013 – Dec. 2018
5.2.Prepare and implement a Local Economic Development (LED) Plan	5.2.1.Creation of a working group to define TOR and scope of work and monitor the preparation of the LED Plan 5.2.2.Tender process to retain consultancy 5.2.3.Prepare and implement a plan of work 5.2.4.Submission of a draft LED plan 5.2.5.Review and consultation 5.2.6.Submission of a final LED plan 5.2.7.Adoption of the LED plan 5.2.8.Implementation by relevant stakeholders	Local Economic Development Plan available to revitalise the BZ	5.2.1.Scope of work and Terms of Reference defined 5.2.2.Procurement exercise completed 5.2.3.Plan of work prepared and implemented 5.2.4.Draft LED plan submitted 5.2.5.Draft LED plan reviewed 5.2.6.Final LED plan submitted 5.2.7.LED plan adopted	CCPL	MOFED MBEC MLGOI MTL MESD	Jan. 2014 – Dec. 2016

Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
5.3. Provide assistance property owners and users of the Buffer Zone	STAC for assistance 5.3.1.Create a STAC conducted by BZMC 5.3.2.Define the assistance to be provided with the view to revitalise their area 5.3.3.Determine functioning and TOR for expertise to be provided as assistance 5.3.4.Approval and review of proposal 5.3.5.Implementation	Provide assistance to the public to encourage revitalisation of the BZ	5.3.1.STAC with members created 5.3.2.Requirements and opportunities identified 5.3.3.Professionals required identified; scope of work defined 5.3.4.Proposal considered and approved 5.3.5.Proposal implemented and monitored	CCPL	AGTF NHF	Apr. 2013 – Dec. 2015
	Provide with a simplified documentation to foster integrated management 5.3.6.Produce summaries of key managerial documents 5.3.7.Produce synthesis of reports on heritage economics for dissemination at large 5.3.8.Ease access to documents and allow large dissemination	All documents related to the management of the WHP and its BZ available to all Documents on heritage economics available for the local community and the public at large	5.3.6.Documents to be simplified identified; key information identified 5.3.6.Community at Head of Planning Dept. of CCPL polled 5.3.7.Documents simplified and formatted for public consultation 5.3.8.All documents available at CCPL, AGTF, NHF and MAC; also online	AGTF	MAC CCPL NHF	Apr. 2013 - Jul. 2014

Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
5.4. Be guided by the UNESCO Recommendation for Historic Urban Landscape, 2011 in the approach to management of the Buffer Zone	5.4.1.Create a STAC at the level of BZMC 5.4.2.Prepare a project proposal including an Action Plan 5.4.3.Review and consultation of the proposal 5.4.4.Approval and implementation	Promote the BZ as a heritage district	5.4.1.STAC created with relevant members 5.4.2.Requirements and actions defined; plan of action completed 5.4.3.Proposal presented; views collected 5.4.4.Proposal approved and implemented	CCPL	MTL MTPA AGTF NHF	Apr. 2013 – Dec. 2015

5. Interpreting the World Heritage Property

6		Provide and deliver an appropriate interpretation policy				
Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
6.1. Prepare and implement an Interpretation Plan	6.1.1.Set up a STAC on heritage interpretation 6.1.2.Assessment of interpretation at WHP and BRIC 6.1.3.Recommendations to improve and review 6.1.4.Preparation of an interpretation plan by Heritage Interpretation Manager for submission to AGTF Board 6.1.5.Implementation	Optimal heritage interpretation for high quality visitor experience at WHP and BRIC	6.1.1.STAC with members created 6.1.2.Requirements defined 6.1.3.Recommendations produced and reviewed by CZMC 6.1.4.Requirements and scope of work defined; timeframe approved; 6.1.4.First draft submitted 6.1.4.Draft reviewed; final draft submitted for consideration to CZMC; 6.1.4.Interpretation Plan approved 6.1.5.Interpretation Plan implemented	AGTF	NHF	Jan. 2014 – Dec. 2015
	Review and update interpretative tools and maintain display on a regular basis 6.1.6.Identification of resources required for the maintenance of BRIC equipment and display 6.1.7.Prepare maintenance plan 6.1.8.Submission to AGTF Board for approval 6.1.9.Training of staff 6.1.10.Implementation	Equipment maintained for optimal visitor interpretation	6.1.6.Requirements identified 6.1.7.Maintenance plan prepared 6.1.8.Maintenance plan approved 6.1.9.Staff trained on how to maintain 6.1.10.Maintenance plan enforced and monitored by CZMC	AGTF	MAC	Oct. 2013 – Jul. 2014

Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
6.2. Ensure a visitor experience of quality	Maintain quality of visitor experience 6.2.1. Produce appropriate discourse for interpretation by allowing review by peers and audience surveys for evaluation 6.2.2. Conduct regular audience surveys 6.2.3. Submission of reports on audience surveys by the Heritage Interpretation Manager to the CZMC 6.2.4. CZMC to recommend actions for maintaining and improving visitors experience 6.2.5. Submission to AGTF Board for approval 6.2.6. Implementation	Ensure high quality visit at WHP	6.2.1. Contents submitted for review and consultation 6.2.2. Audience surveys completed 6.2.3. Results of surveys submitted to CZMC 6.2.4. Recommendations and proposal for improvement submitted by CZMC 6.2.5. Proposal and recommendations approved 6.2.6. Proposal implemented	AGTF	MAC	Jan. 2014 - Dec. 2018
	Sustain qualified human resources in charge of heritage mediation at BRIC and WHP 6.2.7. Provide with regular training 6.2.8. Conduct regular staff evaluation to promote improvement and training 6.2.9. Creation of uniforms and badges to provide staff and improve visitor orientation		6.2.7. Requirements for training defined; training given 6.2.8. Staff evaluated; further training requirements included in programme 6.2.9. Uniforms and badges worn by staff			Apr. 2013 - Dec. 2018

Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
6.3. Review and Implement BRIC phase 2 project proposal	6.3.1.Set up a STAC on BRIC – phase 2 6.3.2.Review project proposal for BRIC 2 in light of assessment of BRIC 1 6.3.3.Submission to AGTF Board and MAC/MPC for approval 6.3.4.Submission to WHC for views 6.3.5.Submission to MOFED for financial approval 6.3.6.Preparation of an Action Plan and a resource plan for implementation of project proposal 6.3.7.Implementation	Opening of BRIC 2	6.3.1.STAC with members created 6.3.2.Project proposal reviewed 6.3.3.Project proposal approved by AGTF Board and to MPC 6.3.4.Project proposal reviewed by World Heritage Centre 6.3.5.Project proposal approved by MoFED 6.3.6.Implementation plan completed 6.3.7.Proposal implemented	AGTF	MAC MOFED MMC	Jul. 2014 – Dec. 2020

7 Enhance visitor experience and maintain visitor satisfaction						
Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
7.1. Review and update pedagogical and academic documentation on a regular basis	7.1.1.Heritage Interpretation Manager to set up planning for review and allocate tasks 7.1.2.CZMC for review and approval 7.1.3.Implementation by the Heritage Interpretation Manager	Dynamic and appropriate documentation available to the public	7.1.1.Tasks allocated to staff according to established timeframe 7.1.2.CZMC approved 7.2.3.Tasks implemented	AGTF	MAC	Apr. 2013 – Dec. 2018
	Produce a publication on AG WHP 7.1.4.Create a working group 7.1.5.Set up an editorial committee 7.1.6.Produce draft content 7.1.7.Review and editing 7.1.8.Call for proposals for design, layout and printing 7.1.9.Allocation of contract 7.1.10.Proof review 7.1.11.Approval by AGTF Board 7.1.12.Printing of books 7.1.13.Set up a strategy for distribution by working group 7.1.14.Approval of strategy by AGTF Board 7.1.15.Implementation	High quality publication on the history of the Apravasi Ghat available to the public	7.1.4.Working group created 7.1.5.Editorial committee set up 7.1.6.Draft content produced and submitted to editorial committee 7.1.7.Text reviewed, translated and edited 7.1.8.Procurement exercise completed 7.1.9 Contract allocated 7.1.10/11.Text, design and layout approved 7.1.12.Books delivered 7.1.13/14/15.Strategy defined with partners, approved and implemented	AGTF	MAC LMHTF	Feb.2013 – Dec. 2013

Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
7.2. Evaluate and develop activities for the audience	7.2.1. Evaluate activities proposed in the public programme through audience surveys 7.2.2. Submit results to the CZMC for recommendations 7.2.3. BRIC staff to improve activities and develop new activities upon analysis of audience surveys 7.2.4. Evaluation of new activities before inclusion in the public programme; adjustments and improvement before inclusion	Dynamic and attractive activities proposed to the audience	7.2.1. Activities evaluated through audience surveys 7.2.2. Results of surveys submitted to CZMC; recommendations made by CZMC 7.2.3. Improvement of activities and new activities developed 7.2.4. New activities evaluated	AGTF	MAC LMHTF NHF	Apr. 2013 – Dec. 2018

Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
7.3. Foster the Interpretation of heritage in the Buffer Zone	Consolidate and promote the heritage trail in Port Louis 7.3.1. Contribute to the committee of the MTL set up for heritage trail in Port Louis 7.3.2. Collaborate and assist in the establishment of the heritage trail 7.3.3. Contribute to the promotional strategy and assist in its implementation	Heritage trails of quality available in the Buffer Zone of the WHP	7.3.1. Effective contribution for the promotion of the trail 7.3.2. Heritage trail established 7.3.3. Promotional strategy defined, approved and implemented by stakeholders	MTL CCPL	AGTF NHF MTPA UoM	Jan. 2013 – Dec. 2015
	Prepare and implement concept papers for heritage trails 7.3.4. Set up a STAC including LMHTF and NHF Identify trails and produce documentation 7.3.5. Prepare project proposal including a financial estimate and an implementation plan and submit to relevant Boards for approval 7.3.6. Submission to MAC/MPC and MOFED for approval and allocation of funds 7.3.7. Implementation of project proposal	Heritage trails substantiating the OUV of the WHP available in Mauritius for all audience	7.3.4. STAC with members created 7.3.5. Requirements defined; project proposal prepared 7.3.6. Proposal approved by MPC and MoFED 7.3.7. Project implemented	AGTF NHF LMHTF	MTL MAC MTPA	Jan. 2015 – Dec. 2018

6. Managing visitors

8	Establish a visitor management strategy that will enhance visitor experience and minimize the impact of tourism on WHP					
Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
8.1. Review the Visitor Management Plan (2008) for the next five years	8.1.1.Set up a STAC on VMP 8.1.2.Production and review of draft VMP as per established plan of work 8.1.3.Consultation, evaluation and review 8.1.4.Foster collaboration with neighbouring institutions and agencies as part of VMP to establish measures for visitor management in the area as part of VMP 8.1.5.Approval by AGTF Board, NHF and MPC 8.1.6.Submission to WHC 8.1.7.Training of staff 8.1.8.Implementation monitored by CZMC	Clear measures established for visitor management at WHP and BRIC	8.1.1.STAC with members created and plan of work prepared according to requirements 8.1.2.Draft VMP submitted to CZMC 8.1.3.Consultations, evaluation and review completed 8.1.4.Collaboration established 8.1.5.VMP approved 8.1.6. VMP submitted to WHC 8.1.7.Staff trained accordingly 8.1.8.VMP implemented	AGTF	MAC NHF	Nov.2013 – Dec. 2018
8.2. Set up and use appropriate visitor monitoring and recording system	8.2.1.Identify clear requirements for visitor management software to be used at entrance 8.2.2.Define specifications and acquire software 8.2.3.Training of staff 8.2.4.Regular reports to be submitted to CZMC	Clear vision of the profile and density of the audience to ensure efficient visitor management	8.2.1.Requirements defined 8.2.2.Specifications finalised and software acquired 8.2.3. Staff trained 8.2.4.Visitation reports regularly submitted to CZMC	AGTF	MAC NHF	Jul. 2013 – Dec. 2013

Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
8.3. Foster collaboration with neighbouring institutions and agencies	8.3.1. Involve stakeholders concerned in STAC for VMP 8.3.2. Determine nature of collaboration 8.3.3. Define objectives and scope of work 8.3.4. Inclusion in relevant policies and documents	Optimal collaboration with stakeholders	8.3.1. Members of STAC involved 8.3.2. Collaboration and expected outcomes defined 8.3.3. Objectives and scope of work defined 8.3.4. Terms of collaboration included in policies and managerial documents	AGTF	CCPL NHF LMHTF	Jan. 2015 – Dec. 2018

7. Promoting the World Heritage Property and its surroundings

9 Ensure the implementation of a sustainable strategy for the promotion of the World Heritage Property						
Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
9.1. Prepare a Tourism Strategy	9.1.1.Set up a STAC on tourism 9.1.2.Identify main orientations for tourism at WHP and produce a draft Tourism Strategy 9.1.3.Consultation, evaluation and review 9.1.4.Submission to AGTF Board and MPC for approval 9.1.5.Implementation monitored by CZMC	Sustainable and holistic Tourism Strategy in place	9.1.1.STAC with members created 9.1.2.Strategy defined and draft submitted 9.1.3.Consultation, evaluation and review completed 9.1.4.Final strategy document approved 9.1.5.Strategy implemented	AGTF	MAC MTL MTPA NHF LMHTF	July 2013 – July 2014
9.2. Prepare a Marketing Plan	9.2.1.Set up a STAC on marketing 9.2.2.Identify main marketing opportunities at WHP in collaboration with key stakeholders 9.2.3.Approve and implement the pricing policy for BRIC 9.2.4.Develop proposals into a draft Marketing Plan 9.2.5.Consultation, evaluation and review 9.2.6.Submission to AGTF Board for approval 9.2.7.Implementation monitored by CZMC	Dynamic marketing in place to promote WHP	9.2.1.STAC with members created 9.2.2.Opportunities and requirements identified 9.2.3.Pricing policy approved 9.2.4.Draft Marketing Plan completed 9.2.5.Consultation, evaluation and review completed 9.2.6.Final document approved 9.2.7.Marketing Plan implemented	AGTF	MTL MTPA	July 2013 – December 2014

10	Set up and sustain an integrated promotion of the World Heritage Property and its surroundings					
Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
10.1. Promote the vision for development in the zones	10.1.1. Develop a strategy at the level of the BZMC 10.1.2. Develop a project proposal stating financial implications and a plan of action 10.1.3. Submission for approval to CCPL, NHF and AGTF Boards 10.1.4. Implementation monitored by BZMC	Vision for development in the BZ promoted widely	10.1.1. Strategy developed 10.1.2. Project proposal completed 10.1.3. Project proposal approved 10.1.4. Project proposal implemented	CCPL AGTF NHF	MLGOI MAC MTL MTPA	Oct. 2016 - Dec. 2017
10.2. Develop and Consolidate a programme of activities	10.2.1. Establish a calendar of activities at the level of BZMC stating resources required 10.2.2. Approval by relevant authorities 10.2.3. Implementation monitored by BZMC	Activities taking place for the promotion of heritage in the BZs	10.2.1./2. Calendar of activities established and approved 10.2.3. Activities implemented	CCPL AGTF NHF	MAC MTL MTPA	Mar. 2014 - Dec. 2018
10.3. Consolidate partnerships	10.4.1. Involve stakeholders in STAC for tourism and marketing 10.4.2. Define the nature of partnership and include in relevant plans for actions	Enhanced collaboration	10.4.1. Members of STAC involved 10.4.2. Terms of partnerships defined	CCPL AGTF NHF	MAC MTL MTPA	Mar. 2014 - Dec. 2018

8. Conducting research on the scope and extent of indenture

11 Continue and encourage multidisciplinary research on the scope and extent of indenture by establishing local, regional and international networks						
Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
11.1. Prepare an integrated global Research Plan	11.1.1.Set up a working group at the level of AGTF 11.1.2.Confirm research objectives and develop a draft Research Plan including resources requirements and an Action Plan 11.1.3.Consultation, evaluation and review by STAC on research 11.1.4.Submission of final draft for approval to AGTF Board 11.1.5.Implementation monitored by STAC on research	Production of academic research on relevant topics Publication and dissemination of research results	11.1.1.Working group set up 11.1.2.Draft Research Plan prepared 11.1.3.Consultation, evaluation and review completed 11.1.4.Final draft completed and approved 11.1.5.Research Plan implemented	AGTF	NHF MGI UoM LMHTF	Jan. 2013 – Dec. 2013
11.2. Prepare a Research Policy for ethics and access	11.2.1.Set up a working group at the level of AGTF 11.2.2.Devise a research policy 11.2.3.Consultation, evaluation and review by STAC on research 11.2.4.Submission of the final policy to AGTF Board for approval 11.2.5.Implementation monitored by STAC on research	Provide access to the public in accordance with an established framework allowing access monitoring and preservation of data	11.2.1.Working group set up 11.2.2.Research policy completed 11.2.3.Consultation, evaluation and review completed 11.2.4.Final policy approved 11.2.5.Policy implemented	AGTF	NHF MGI UoM LMHTF	Jan. 2014 – Dec. 2014

Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
11.3. Develop research proposals for Intangible Cultural Heritage and archaeology	11.3.1.Set up STAC on ICH and Archaeology 11.3.2.Determine research strategy and objectives 11.3.3.Develop a draft research proposal including resource requirements and financial estimation with an Action Plan 11.3.4.Consultation, evaluation and review by STAC 11.3.5.Submission of the final policy to AGTF Board for approval 11.3.6.Implementation monitored by respective STACs	Research strategy and objectives clearly defined for optimal results	11.3.1. STAC set up 11.3.2. Research strategy defined 11.3.3. Draft proposal completed 11.3.4. Consultation, evaluation and review completed 11.3.5/6. Final policy approved and implemented	AGTF	NHF MGI UoM LMHTF	Jul. 2013 – Dec. 2014
11.4. Prepare a research proposal for integrated research at Trianon heritage site	11.4.1.Set up STAC on research 11.4.2.Confirm research strategy and research objectives 11.4.3.Develop a draft research proposal including resource requirements and financial estimation with an Action Plan 11.4.4.Consultation, evaluation and review by STAC 11.4.5.Submission of the final policy to AGTF Board for approval 11.4.6.Implementation monitored by respective STACs	Research strategy and objectives clearly defined for optimal results	11.4.1. STAC set up 11.4.2. Research strategy defined 11.4.3. Draft proposal completed 11.4.4. Consultation, evaluation and review completed 11.4.5/6. Final policy approved and implemented	AGTF	NHF MGI UoM	Jul. 2013 – Dec. 2014

Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
11.5. Consolidate research capacity	Identify the needs for training and opportunities and Implement 11.5.1.Include needs in overall training proposal for staff 11.5.2.Submission for approval 11.5.3.Implementation	Consolidate and foster capacity of staff	11.5.1.Training needs defined 11.5.2.Proposal approved 11.5.3.Proposal implemented	AGTF	MAC MTEST NHF UoM MGI	Jan. 2014 – Dec. 2018
	Consolidate research capacity by the establishment of the research unit 11.5.4.Fill in the post of Head Research Unit	Improve the management of research	11.5.4.Post filled	AGTF	MAC	Jan. 2016 – Dec. 2018
11.6. Develop and consolidate networks to foster research on indenture	11.6.1.Consolidate local research network 11.6.2.Creation of STACs for research or research groups 11.6.3.Propose and finalize MoUs with key institutions 11.6.4.Prepare and implement an approved Action Plan	Improve the quality of research and foster integrated projects	11.6.1.Strategy for consolidation defined 11.6.2.STACs created 11.6.3.MoUs signed 11.6.4.Action Plan prepared, approved and implemented	AGTF	NHF NMCCAF UoM MGI	Apr. 2013 – Dec. 2018
11.7. Consolidate and develop regional and international research networks	11.7.1.Formalise, foster and consolidate the International Scientific Committee on the Indenture Labour Route Project 11.7.2.Develop and formalise further collaboration with regional partners	Research scope and results expanded and consolidated	11.7.1.International Scientific Committee on the Indenture Labour Route Project formalised; Terms of reference defined 11.7.2.Strategy for collaboration with regional partners developed and approved	AGTF	MAC	Apr. 2013 – Dec. 2018
11.8. Prepare a consolidated research proposal for the indenture labour route project	11.8.1.Set up a working group to produce a draft proposal 11.8.2.Submission of proposal for consultation, evaluation and review 11.8.3.Approval of proposal 11.8.4.Implementation	Implementation of the Indenture labour route project	11.8.1.Working group set up 11.8.2.Proposal evaluated and reviewed 11.8.3.Proposal approved 11.8.4.Proposal implemented	AGTF	MAC	Apr. 2013 – Dec. 2014

12	Foster and support collaborative implementation of projects for integrated research					
Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
12.1. Create working groups to implement research projects	12.1.1.Set up STACs for relevant research projects 12.1.2.Implementation of projects monitored by STACs	Optimal research results Capacity buildings Sharing of resources	12.1.1.STACs set up 12.1.2.Projects defined 12.1.2.Project proposals approved and implemented	AGTF	MTEST MGI UoM LMHTF NHF	Apr. 2013 – Dec.2018
12.2. Prepare a consolidated research proposal and strategy for projects	12.2.1.Determine project objectives and methodology, identify resources required 12.2.2.Produce draft proposal 12.2.3.Consultation, evaluation and review 12.2.4.Approval of research proposal 12.2.5.Implementation by STAC	Optimal research results Optimal management and monitoring of projects	12.2.1.Project objectives and methodology defined 12.2.2.Draft proposal completed 12.2.3.Consultation, evaluation and review completed 12.2.4.Research proposal approved 12.2.5.Proposal implemented	AGTF	MTEST MGI UoM LMHTF NHF	Jan. 2015 – Dec. 2018

13	Improve the management of information and consolidate the documentation centre					
Objective	Actions	Expected outcome	Indicators	Responsible body	Main Stakeholders	Timeframe
13.1. Enlist professional services to assess and report on the setting up of a data information management system for the documentation centre	13.1.1. Determine a scope of work and specifications for the required services 13.1.2. Process of enlistment of services 13.1.3. Allocation and implementation of project	Friendly access and optimal use of research data	13.1.1. Scope of work and specifications defined 13.1.2. Services enlisted 13.1.3. Contract allocated and project implemented	AGTF	UoM	January 2014 - December 2016
13.2. Consolidate capacity in the documentation centre	13.2.1. Recruitment a documentation officer	Optimal management of documentation centre and friendly access to research data	13.2.1. Duties defined 13.2.2. Recruitment process 13.2.3. Post filled	AGTF	MAC	January 2017 - December 2018

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1: CONTACT DETAILS

AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND

Officer In Charge
1 Quay Street,
Port Louis

Tel: (+230) 217 31 57/ 58/59
(+230) 241 03 86
Fax: (+230) 217 24 81
Email: aapravasi@intnet.mu
Website: www.aapravasighat.org

MAURITIUS PORTS AUTHORITY

The Director General
Mauritius Ports Authority,
H. Ramnarain Building,
Mer Rouge,
Port Louis,

Tel: (+230) 206 5400
Fax: (+230) 240 0856
Email: info@mauport.com
Website: <http://www.mauport.com>

MINISTRY OF ARTS AND CULTURE

The Permanent Secretary
7th floor,
Renganaden Seeneevassen Building,
Port Louis

Tel. No.: (+230) 212 2112
Fax No. : (+230) 211 0681
Email: moac@mail.gov.mu
Website: <http://culture.gov.mu>

CITY COUNCIL OF PORT LOUIS

The Chief Executive
City Council of Port Louis
Jules Koenig Street,
Port Louis
Chief Executive's Department

Tel: (+230) 212 08 31
Fax: (+230) 212 4258
Email: mpl.ce@intnet.mu
Website: mpl.intnet.mu

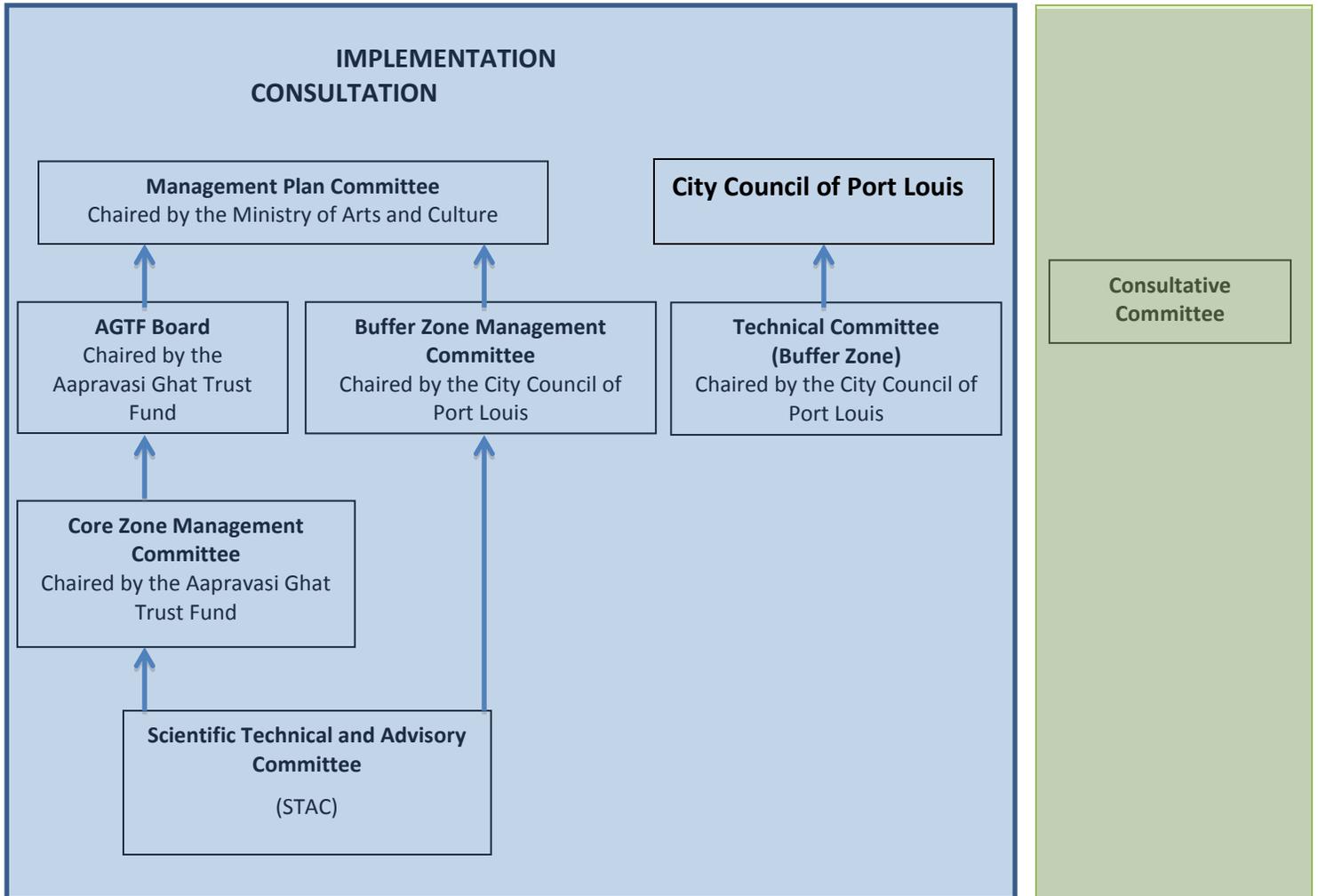
NATIONAL HERITAGE FUND

The Officer In Charge
4th Floor, Fon Sing Building,
Edith Cavell Street,
Port Louis

Tel: (+230) 210 77 58
Fax: (+230) 208 67 28
Email: heritage@intnet.mu
Website: www.nhf.mu

ANNEX 2: THE MANAGERIAL FRAMEWORK

Management mechanism for the World Heritage Property and its Buffer Zone



Management Plan Committee

Chair: Ministry of Arts and Culture

Role:

- Monitor, review and reformulate (if necessary) critical management policies for the AG WHS Management Plan and its implementation.
- Take decisions regarding the implementation of the Management Plan and the management of the World Heritage Property based on the recommendations of the World Heritage Committee and other international and local sub-committees.
- Monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Management Plan.
- Monitor the state of conservation of the World Heritage Property and discuss any threats that may affect the World Heritage Property.
- Consolidate or elaborate further policies and guidance to ensure the retention of the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Property.
- Monitor the implementation of the Management Plan and of the World Heritage Committee's decisions.
- Discuss management issues and promote integrated management.
- Direct the review the Management Plan and update the plan regularly in accordance with the international principles and guidelines of UNESCO and ICOMOS.
- Provide a forum for debating the key issues and management priorities addressed in the plan.
- Guide government bodies in their respective projects in the Buffer Zone.

Membership

- Ministry of Arts and Culture (chairmanship)
- Ministry of Tourism and Leisure
- Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
- Ministry of Housing and Lands
- Ministry of Public Infrastructure, Land Transport and Shipping (Public Infrastructure Division)
- Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
- State Law Office
- National Commission of UNESCO Mauritius
- Board of Investment
- Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund
- National Heritage Fund
- Municipal Council of Port-Louis
- Mauritius Ports Authority

AGTF Board

Chair: AGTF

Role:

- Establish, administer, manage, promote and maintain the Apravasi Ghat as a national, regional and international heritage site;
- Preserve, restore and manage the Apravasi Ghat and the sites specified in schedule 2 of the Act;
- Set up a museum at Apravasi Ghat and create public awareness of the history of indentured labour;
- Promote social and cultural aspects of the sites specified in schedules 1 and 2 of the Act;
- Encourage and support projects and publications related to the Indentured Labour;
- Establish links with appropriate national, regional and international organizations in line with the objects of the Act;
- Identify and acquire sites, buildings and structures associated with indentured labour; and
- Encourage and support interdisciplinary scientific research related to indentured labour and to the sites specified in schedules 1 and 2.

Membership:

- One representative of the Prime Minister's Office;
- One representative of the Ministry of Finance;
- One representative of the Ministry of Arts and Culture;
- One representative of the Ministry of Education;
- One representative of the Ministry of Tourism and Leisure;
- One representative of the High Commission of India;
- One representative of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute;
- One representative of the National Heritage Fund;
- 5 Members from the local community.

Buffer Zone Management Committee

Chair: City Council of Port Louis

Role:

- The reports on the monitoring of heritage in the Buffer Zone. Same would be forwarded by the Committee to the Ministry of Arts and Culture as representative of the State Party to UNESCO;
- The coordination for the heritage register in the Buffer Zone and monitor their continued documentation;
- The examination and recommendations for the retention and enhancement of heritage in the Buffer Zone;
- Proposals for incentives that may be offered to people undertaking action in favour of the enhancement and sustainable development of heritage in the area;
- Identify the training needs and undertake actions for implementation
- Consider means to foster technical assistance to the local community;
- Organise events or actions to promote or retain heritage in the Buffer Zone;
- Consider means for the promotion of heritage in the area;
- Disseminate information on heritage in the Buffer Zone.

Membership

- • City Council of Port Louis (chairmanship)
- • Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund
- • National Heritage Fund

Core Zone Management Committee

Chair: Director, AGTF

Members: Head Technical Unit, WHP Manager, Heritage Interpretation Manager, Marketing Officer

Role:

- Implement the yearly objectives set by the Board for the preservation, management and promotion of the World Heritage Property and its interpretation centre;
- Making recommendations to improve the daily monitoring and management of the World Heritage Property and the Beekrumsing Ramlallah Interpretation Centre;
- Report on the daily management and monitoring of the World Heritage Property and its interpretation centre.

Technical Committee

Created under the Permits and Businesses Monitoring Committee through amendment to Local Government Act, the Committee is concerned with applications for Building and Land Use Permits in the Buffer Zone.

Role:

- Assess applications for development projects in the Buffer Zone.
- Assess the impact assessments for development projects in the Buffer Zone.
- Make recommendations to the Permits and Businesses Monitoring Committee as to the result of the applications.
- Ensure application of PPG6 HMG, CM and DP in addition to other existing legal provisions applicable to the Buffer Zone.

Membership:

- Head Planning Department, City Council of Port Louis (Chair)
- The Head, Works Department of the Municipal Council of Port Louis
- A representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of public infrastructure or his representative
- A representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of housing and lands or his representative
- A representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of environment or his representative
- A representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of tourism or his representative
- A representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of arts and culture or his representative
- A representative of the National Heritage Fund or his representative
- A representative of the Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund or his representative
- A representative of the Mauritius Ports Authority or his representative.

Meetings:

When applications for development in Buffer Zone are received by the Municipal Council of Port Louis, the same will be forwarded by Permits and Business Monitoring Committee to the Technical Committee, which will then meet to give its recommendations.

Conservation unit or an equivalent mechanism

Managed by the City Council of Port Louis

Role:

- Guide development towards the rehabilitation of heritage as per ICOMOS charters;
- Provide technical assistance to (potential) applicants for development permits;
- Set up or assist in setting up projects in favour of heritage enhancement and rehabilitation as per established international guidelines of conservation;
- Foster the implementation of the vision for development set out in the Planning Policy Guidance for the Urban Heritage Area – Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone.

Scientific Technical and Advisory Committee (STAC)

Role:

- Provide advice on technical issues to ensure implementation of the Management Plan in the best possible manner.
- On request, the STAC will also offer advice and make recommendations on policy issues to the Management Plan Steering Committee.

Membership: established upon the issue to be tackle.

Marketing and Tourism (STAC)

Chair: AGTF

Members: CCPL, MTL, MTPA, NHF

Role:

- Monitor the implementation of the collaborative programme
- Propose joint activities and strategies for promotion
- Foster integrated management

Research groups (STAC)

Chair: AGTF

Members: defined by area of speciality

Role:

- Elaborate clear research project proposal;
- Implement and monitor the research proposal;
- Report on the progress of work to relevant decision-makers;
- Assess the result of research and make recommendations for the consolidation of research and dissemination of research results.

Consultative Committee

Chair: City Council of Port Louis

Members registered and public at large

Role:

- Keep the community informed of the developments and progress of work taking place at World Heritage Property;
- Involve the community in the undertakings at World Heritage Property;
- Discuss specific issues related to the World Heritage Property and its surroundings;
- Consider and integrate the recommendations and proposals of the local community in the management, development and promotion of the World Heritage Property; and
- Produce planning and an Action Plan for common initiatives.

ANNEX 3: PLANNING GUIDELINES FOR THE BUFFER ZONE

Protection zone	Planning Guidelines	Special Provisions
<p>Protection Zone I (Buffer Zone 1) Area between Trou Fanfaron and north of motorway)</p>	<p>Protection zone I is the area surrounding the proposed WHS and shall have guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No destruction of built and natural heritage (coral deposits). • No excavations without prior approval, even for essential services. • Avoid overhead installation of electric and telephone cables. • No standalone telecommunication towers and antennae will be allowed in this zone. • Special infrastructure development – essential services for visitors but within the existing buildings strictly following the conservation norms: like drinking water fountains, toilets, information kiosks. • Adaptive reuse of the historic buildings permitted as per conservation norms. • Signage, street paving and furniture to be given special attention • No demolition of traditional structures. • No quarrying of coral / stone for any purpose. • Pedestrianization of the whole area is preferred. <p>Regulations and guidelines for listed buildings (Grade I, II and III) are applicable.</p>	<p>Most of the buildings are national monuments and hence protected by law.</p> <p>For any developments in this area, MPC becomes additional monitoring agency apart from the City Council of Port Louis.</p> <p>The role of MPC is to keep a check on development as per the proposed land use in Master plan and norms especially around monuments.</p> <p>For any anomaly in development, Municipality and/or MPC to be informed which will take necessary action of halting demolition of construction / development and penalizing the concerned person.</p>

Protection zone	Planning Guidelines	Special Provisions
<p>Protection Zone II (Buffer Zone 2: Area south of motorway up to Royal Street and Trou Fanfaron and north up to Arsenal street)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No destruction of built heritage. Potential areas for new development to be identified such that the streetscape and built heritage of surrounding area is not disturbed. • Visual cone assessment, from and to site, should be undertaken before declaring any area suitable for development. • Development in buffer to be prioritized. Essential service upgrading followed by traffic management and then other developments • No demolition of traditional houses to replace with modern structures. • Repairs and structural strengthening of structures to be allowed. • Regulations and guidelines for listed buildings (Grade I, II and III) are applicable. • No telecommunication towers and antennae will be allowed within the visual cones. • Addition and alteration to the building should be in accordance with the streetscape which should be developed to enhance the historic character of the street. • No new development should disturb the visual continuity and historic character of the neighbouring historic building. • Reduction in vehicular traffic regulations and guidelines for listed buildings (Grade I, II and III) are applicable. 	<p>City Council to regulate this area through its Permits and Licences Committee which will have the recommendations of NHF, AGTF and other professionals.</p> <p>NHF to play a regulatory role for its protected monuments.</p>

ANNEX 4: GUIDELINES TO PREPARE A HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT (HIA) AND VISUAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (VIA) IN THE BZ OF THE AG WHP

A. BACKGROUND

Through the amendment to the AGTF Act 2001, subsequent consequential amendment to the Local Government Act 2004 and the adoption of the Planning Policy Guidance 6 (PPG6) for the Buffer Zone of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property on 10 June 2011, new provisions were made for development in the Buffer Zone of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property (AG WHP BZ).

Henceforth, a Building and Land Use Permit (BLP) should be obtained for any type of development, including:-

- Demolition of a building or any other structure
- Erection of a new building or any other structure
- Additions to an existing building or any other structure
- Changes to the façade of a building or any other structure
- Change in use of a building/plot

Furthermore, any application for a BLP should be accompanied by a Cultural Heritage Impact Statement (CHIS)³⁰. The objective of the CHIS is to encourage development in line with architectural harmony and cohesion; this to enhance the significance of the BZ or the Outstanding Universal Value of the AG WHP.

In case any proposed development departs from the provisions of the PPG 6, a Heritage Impact Assessment and Visual Impact Assessment will be required.

B. OBJECTIVE

The objective of this guide is to:

- supplement and elaborate on the contents of an HIA & VIA report; and
- explain the process for the determination of a BLP for the Buffer Zone of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property.

The objective of the impact assessment process is to:

- provide background information on the property in question, including boundaries, history and present significance
- identify stakeholders

³⁰ The CHIS has been simplified into a form forming part of the application for Building and Land Use permit for development in the buffer zone. It is available at the City Council of Port Louis.

- identify impacts of the development and magnitude of the same, namely:
- the positive and negative impacts
- on the heritage value of the property
- on the streetscape
- on the significance of the Buffer Zone
- on the OUV of the Core Zone
- whether the impact
- is direct or indirect
- has cumulative effects
- propose practical and feasible mitigation and enhancement measures which can be summarised as either
- avoidance – avoiding the impact altogether
- mitigation – reducing the negative impact through adjustments
- enhancement of the positive impacts

The objective of the CHIS is to:

- to assist the developer to provide the preliminary information to the Technical Committee to assess whether the development is in line with PPG6 and other legal requirements
- to determine whether a Heritage Impact Assessment will be required

The objective of the HIA is to:

- define the heritage value of a property and the building/structure found on it
- enable an in-depth study of all the possible impacts of the development on the significance of the building/structure in question and on the that of the Buffer Zone
- analyse all alternatives and mitigation measures for negative impacts and propose feasible and practical ones
- analyse all possibilities of enhancing the positive impacts and propose feasible ones
- propose a management plan that will enhance the heritage value for the building or structure in question while ensuring sustainable use

The objective of the VIA is to:

- identify the visual character of the plot at the current stage
- enable an in-depth study of all the possible impacts of the development on the streetscape value and the overall landscape of the urban heritage area
- analyse all alternatives and mitigation measures for negative impacts and propose feasible and practical ones
- analyse all possibilities of enhancing the positive impacts and propose feasible ones

C. THE HIA & VIA PROCESS

The process involves the following steps:

- **Screening:** it is an important process that assists in deciding whether the project requires an HIA & VIA or not. The screening is done based on the information submitted in the CHIS form and the following considerations:
 - How does the development fit in with its surroundings
 - Design & appearance
 - Scale
 - Materials
 - Access
 - Traffic generation
 - Use/Activity to be carried out
 - Nuisance, for example, noise
 - Contribution to any significant local, national or international objective
 - Previous appeal decisions
 - Compliance with PPG6

In case of non-compliance with PPG6 guidelines, an HIA & VIA will be required.

- **Scoping:** the aim of scoping is to ensure that the study addresses all the issues important for decision making. It involves setting terms of reference for the HIA & VIA, selecting consultant and review of existing legislation.
- **The HIA & VIA study including the following:**
 - Demonstration of how the proposed development will not have a negative impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property or on the significance of the Buffer Zone as an Urban Heritage Area.
 - Collection of baseline data and information
 - Public involvement/participation
 - Identification of impacts in terms of magnitude and significance
 - Socio- economic analysis of project effects/impact
 - Mitigating measures for each impact identified
 - Analysis of alternatives of the project
 - Development of a monitoring program and management plan for the plot in question

The above study should be documented in the form of an HIA & VIA report and submitted at the time of application.

D. GENERAL GUIDELINE ON THE PREPARATION OF AN HIA & VIA REPORT

Who should be involved in the preparation of an HIA & VIA

The proponent

Competent authorities

Other responsible agencies

HIA / VIA practitioners

Experts in relevant fields such as history, archaeology, landscape architecture, urban design, etc.

Those affected directly by the development such as tenants, users, neighbours, etc.

Wider community

Guiding principles for the HIA & VIA

The process should be:

- Purposive – meeting its aims and objectives
- Focused – concentrating on the effects that matter
- Adaptive – responding to issues and realities
- Participative – fully involving the public
- Transparent – clear and easily understood
- Rigorous – employing ‘best practicable’ methodology
- Practical – establishing mitigation measures that work
- Credible – carried out with objectivity and professionalism
- Efficient – imposing least cost burden on proponents

The proponent/consultant preparing an HIA & VIA report shall ensure that the cultural significance as well as social and environmental parameters, are addressed and their impacts are identified and taken into account in the project design. The report shall provide substantive and indicative information on the proposed measures to mitigate all adverse effects as well as the opportunities for enhancement to enable a proper assessment.

An HIA & VIA report shall be submitted in 15 hard copies and a soft copy, all signed and dated by the proponent and all principal consultants who prepared or assisted in the preparation of the HIA & VIA.

It should enclose particulars of the schedule of works undertaken by the proponent and his consultants in the preparation of the HIA & VIA, including particulars of any consultation held with the public in the area where the development is to be located.

Notwithstanding the Copyrights Act, the content of an HIA & VIA will be accessible to the members of the public from the moment it is submitted to the CCPL.

Prior to embarking on a project, a proponent shall ensure that relevant clearances have been obtained.

E. GUIDELINE ON THE CONTENT OF THE HIA & VIA REPORT

An HIA & VIA report shall be prepared in the format as proposed below:

Title page

This should contain details of:

- the full title under which the HIA & VIA has been prepared
- the team responsible for the HIA & VIA or name of the consultancy if applicable
- the proponent
- date of submission

Non-technical summary

- This should be concise.
- The language should be simple and non-technical.
- It should give an outline of both the project and location.
- It should focus primarily upon key impacts identified in the HIA and measures proposed to avoid and reduce them.

Introduction

This should provide background information on the project, the promoters, any experience in similar projects, project costs, benefits for the immediate neighbourhood, employment opportunities, associated problems etc.

Site and project description

This should describe the project and indicate the justification and rationale underlying the project, including:

Site Description

A description should be given in general terms to indicate the nature and broad character of the local environment.

- Ownership of land and proof thereof, or lease agreement clearly indicating the owner's consent is agreeable to the project.
- Plans and policies with which the project conforms.
- Site characteristics in terms of:
 - o site location
 - o landform
 - o grading of the plot/building
 - o architectural documentation of present building, boundary walls and any other structure on the plot drawn to scale and duly certified by a Certified Architect
 - o present and past land use (if known)
 - o accessibility to site
 - o flora and fauna, etc.

- Certified and comprehensive site and location plans drawn to scale and duly certified by a Sworn Land Surveyor with known landmarks as reference points.
- Surrounding environment indicating adjacent residential buildings, designated sites of interest, listed national Heritage and grades I, II III buildings/plots adjacent to and opposite the building/plot.
- Indication of other similar projects in the surroundings.
- Existing infrastructure and availability of public utilities.

Project Description

- Project initiator.
- Type of project and associated activities to be carried out.
- Need and justification of project.
- The design, size and scale of the project.
- Detailed site/layout plan drawn to scale of 1:500 indicating site boundaries (as per title deeds) and showing all structures proposed to be put up on site with setbacks from boundaries.
- Detailed plans including elevations, plot coverage and gross Floor Area.
- Description of project in terms of raw materials, processes, equipment, work force, products, type and amount of wastes/effluent produced and its disposal etc.
- Complete list of project components that depart from the guidelines of PPG6 with the following details for each component:
 - o detailed justifications;
 - o in-depth analysis of the way in which the proposed development will aid in achieving the vision for the Buffer Zone of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property as described in PPG6 and the Heritage Management Guidelines;
 - o in-depth analysis of how the departure from the guidelines of PPG6 does not negatively affect the significance of the Buffer Zone and the Outstanding Universal Value of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property;
 - o diagrams, sketches or scale drawings by the architect to demonstrate the above; and
 - o *Note: Only components listed in the HIA will be evaluated by the TC. Any other component not listed in the HIA will be deemed as a contravention to the conditions of the PBMC when delivering the BLP.*
- Training requirements of the project.
- The technical, economic and environmental features essential to the project.
- Diagrams, sketches or landscape architect's impression of the project in the receiving environment.
- Proposed schedule for implementation.
- Proposed steps to be taken in case archaeological remains are to be found during excavation.

Social impacts

This should indicate impacts on:

- the lifestyle of users including the local community in addition to the wider community through the change in behaviour and relationships;
- the cultural value linked to the property and any building and structure on it, including customs, values, religious beliefs;
- community life through amenity, quality of life, infrastructure and services; and
- health both physical and mental of users and the local community.

Monitoring and management

This should indicate:

- provisions made for on-site monitoring during site preparation, construction and operation phase; and
- management plan for the building/plot including components such as maintenance, risk preparedness, visitor management and enhancement of the cultural value of the building/plot.

Method of assessment

This should contain details of the HIA & VIA procedure:

Baseline Data

- Data collection methodology (E.g. survey, matrix or checklist).
- Source of information.
- What information was the HIA & VIA based upon? (NDS, PPGs, White Papers, Government Policies, etc.).
- Are there any uncertainties or omissions in this data? e.g. if it was collected out of season or is out of date.
- Are any further surveys to be carried out to remedy this?

Consultations

This section should indicate who has been contacted about the project including the construction phase. It should include:

- Statutory bodies and amenity groups likely to be affected by the proposals;
- The local population including immediate neighbours, operators and residents in the neighbourhood likely to be affected by the proposed development and the public in general;
- Means used for contacting them and for providing publicity about the project (leaflets, public display, questionnaires, letters, etc.); and
- A brief summary of their responses detailing the areas of concern highlighted and their contribution to the HIA.

Predicted heritage impacts

There is sometimes a tendency to see impacts as primarily physical and visual. While visual impacts are often very sensitive, a broad approach is needed as outlined in the ICOMOS Xi'an Declaration. Impacts take many forms – they may be **direct and indirect; cumulative, temporary and permanent, reversible or irreversible, visual, physical, social and cultural, even economic**. Impacts may arise as a consequence of construction or operation of the proposed development. Each needs to be considered for its relevance to the HIA & VIA.

In addition, the anticipated impacts of both the construction and operation stages of the proposed development should also be assessed, since there are often different types of impacts. For example, the installation of an underground pipeline may have definite impacts in terms of site preparation, trenching, pipe-laying, filling, levelling and rehabilitation, but once the pipeline is operational, the impacts will be almost non-existent. There may even be cases where the termination of an activity or development calls for a HIA & VIA, for example when decisions are taken to demolish a building after cessation of its present use.

Mitigation and enhancement measures

For each impact the HIA should state:

- 1) For negative impacts:
 - steps proposed to be taken to avoid / reduce and / or eliminate the negative impacts
 - the likely effectiveness and adequacy of mitigation
 - technologies and other means proposed to achieve the mitigation

- 2) For positive impacts
 - steps proposed to be taken to enhance positive impacts
 - the likely effectiveness of the enhancement
 - means proposed to enhance the positive impacts

The following impacts and mitigative measures should be included:

- in terms of physical damage to the heritage value of the building/plot in question;
- in terms of physical damage to listed National Heritage and neighbouring Grade I, II and III buildings;
- in terms of noise, odour, emissions, smoke, flies, rodents, traffic implications including a brief traffic impact analysis, etc; and
- major accident policies for the duration of the construction phase and during the use of the building (on site emergency plans, safety measures and information to the public).

Alternatives

This section should give an outline of:

- the alternatives to the project;
- the “Do Nothing” option – what will be the outcome of not undertaking the project, for instance on future land use?
- the alternative considered to be the most beneficial for the significance of the Buffer Zone even if this is not the project;
- the criteria for rejecting the alternatives; and
- the stage in the planning process when they were rejected.

Supporting documentation and references

Appendices

These should include information which would cluster the main body of the text, such as:

- plans and maps
- proof of public consultation and a summary of responses to the development including list of respondents
- press releases
- monitoring, implementation and management plans

Processing of HIA & VIA

Proponents submitting an HIA & VIA are required to submit 15 copies of the report to the CCPL. Figure 1 depicts an outline of the HIA procedure.

After a preliminary scoping, to ensure that the document is as accurate and exhaustive as possible, the HIA is open for public inspection and comments by publication in the CCPL website. A copy of the HIA report is circulated to the authorities concerned with a request to submit their views in writing within a prescribed time limit.

Concurrently, the CCPL or any member of the TC delegated by the CCPL carries out a site visit for a non-site assessment of the listed implications of the proposed development, together with the proponent and / or contact person and his consultant(s). The proponent may be requested to carry out further studies or to submit additional information by the TC. The TC may also seek the advice of professionals on any aspects of the proposed development.

The TC evaluates the application taking into consideration the views of the authorities concerned and any public comments received and makes its recommendations to the PBMC which is the final body to determine whether a BLP can be delivered with or without conditions or rejected.

Appeal

Any person who is not satisfied with the decision of the PBMC on an application for BLP may appeal within days of the decision to the Town and Country Planning Board.

Note:

Further information on the provisions of the HIA procedures can be downloaded from the website of the CCPL on mpl.intnet.mu or that of the AGTF on www.aaprasighat.org.

ANNEX 5: TOR OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE, CITY COUNCIL OF PORT LOUIS

Proposal for Terms of Reference for the Technical Committee established under the City Council of Port Louis from AGTF

Background

Creation of the Technical Committee

The Technical Committee was created by the amendment made to the Local Government Act 2003. The section 97A of the Act stipulates that:

There shall be set up, in the City Council of Port Louis, a committee to be known as the Technical Committee, which shall consist of-

- (a) the officer in charge of the Planning Department of the City Council of Port Louis or his representative, as chairperson;
- (b) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of public infrastructure;
- (c) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of land use planning;
- (d) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of environment;
- (e) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of tourism;
- (f) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of arts and culture;
- (g) a representative of the National Heritage Fund;
- (h) a representative of the Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund;
- (i) a representative of the Mauritius Ports Authority;
- (j) the officer in charge of the Works Department of the City Council of Port Louis or his representative.

The Role of the Technical Committee

In section 98 of the Local Government Act 2011, the role of the Technical Committee is to:

- (b) Where an application under paragraph (a) is made in respect of a building, or land, found in the Buffer Zones, it shall be forwarded by the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee to the Technical Committee.
- (c) The Technical Committee shall assess every application forwarded under paragraph (b) and shall submit its recommendations to the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee.
- (d) In assessing an application under paragraph (c), the Technical Committee shall refer to the provisions of the Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act, the Building Act, the Planning and Development Act, the Town and Country Planning Act, planning policy guidance and the guidelines issued under those Acts.

Proposed Terms of Reference

1. Mandate

- 1.1. The Technical Committee chaired by the City Council of Port Louis was created under the Local Government Act 2011. The Technical Committee shall ensure that provisions made in the Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act, the Building Act, the Planning and Development Act, the Town and Country Planning Act, Planning Policy Guidance and the guidelines issued under those Acts, are respected when an application for development in the Buffer Zone is assessed together with these terms of reference.
- 1.2. The Technical Committee shall ensure that the Buffer Zone of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property develops to sustain its heritage component and develops into the vision for development stated in the Planning Policy Guidance – PPG 6: Urban Heritage Area – Buffer Zone of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage property; and the Management Plan of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage property.
- 1.3. The mandate of the Technical Committee excludes all elements that may form part of the mandate of the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee.

2. Purpose

The purpose of the Technical Committee is:

- 2.1. To advise the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee on protecting and promoting cultural heritage resources that make our town unique and a sustainable place to live;
- 2.2. When assessing development applications, the Technical Committee should ensure that the legal framework established for the enhancement of the heritage value or interest in the Buffer Zone is respected;
- 2.3. To make recommendations to the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee to allow the implementation of the vision for development stated in the Planning Policy Guidance 6 and in other statutory documents related to the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

- 3.1. The Technical Committee was established by Law. Its roles and responsibilities were defined under the Local Government Act 2003, in sections 97 and 98.

- 3.2. The Technical Committee is an advisory committee established in accordance with the provisions in the Local Government Act 2011. The Technical Committee assists the Municipal Council in assessing applications for development in the Buffer Zone and produce recommendations to ensure that applications comply with the existing legal framework for development in the Buffer Zone.
- 3.3. The Technical Committee shall refer to the provisions made in the Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act, the Building Act, the Planning and Development Act, the Town and Country Planning Act, planning policy guidance and the guidelines issued under those Acts, when assessing applications and make recommendations accordingly to the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee regarding the assessment of development applications.
- 3.4. The Technical Committee will not consider elements or take actions forming part of the mandate of the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee.
- 3.5. The Technical Committee is therefore consulted for:
 - 3.5.1. Assessing the applications for development including demolitions within the World Heritage Property's Buffer Zone;
 - 3.5.2. Assessing applications to evaluate if the cultural heritage value and/or interest is removed and/or altered;
 - 3.5.3. Assessing applications to evaluate if the applicants comply with the legal provisions;
 - 3.5.4. Producing recommendations regarding the applications for development for the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee which issues permits; and
 - 3.5.5. Ensuring that all procedures for the assessment of applications for development are followed and respected by applicants and also, for any development project in the zone to ensure a cohesive and coherent approach to the development vision in the Buffer Zone of the World Heritage Property.
- 3.6. Ultimately, the Technical Committee shall ensure in its assessments that applications for development meet the principles and the requirements addressed in UNESCO's *Convention for the safeguarding of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage*. As per this Convention, the Buffer Zones of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property must continuously provide a suitable setting for the Apravasi Ghat, and retain a high level of Authenticity and Integrity.
- 3.7. These principles were formulated in the Planning Policy Guidance 6 to develop the Buffer Zone into a Heritage Area and retain the authenticity and integrity through the retention of the historic urban form, scale, grain, space structure and architecture, and the urban character of the whole in terms of appropriate land uses and activation of public space and amenities. Also, the intangible component of the property is key to sustain in the heritage values for which the area is to be known.

- 3.8. It also includes the need to protect the visual quality of the cityscape and the need to protect physical and visual links between the upper and lower parts of the city, the protection of key views, of the urban form and scale, and the protection of the historic streetscapes and ensembles of buildings and places, historic buildings, urban infrastructure and street furniture, places and monuments.
- 3.9. The Technical Committee shall be invited to express its views on all development proposed as part of public space management including the development or works to be performed on roads, concerning traffic, pedestrianisation, signage, street furniture, urban design and parking management.
- 3.10. The Technical Committee shall be invited to express its views on development and infrastructure supply management.
- 3.11. The Technical Committee shall be invited to express its views on tourism projects that may be proposed for the Buffer Zone of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property.
- 3.12. The Technical Committee will examine the Cultural Heritage Impact Statement, the Heritage Impact Assessment and the Visual Impact Assessment submitted by applicants as per provisions stated in the Planning Policy Guidance 6.
- 3.13. The Technical Committee will ensure that the CHIS, HIA and VIA comply with the legal framework in place for the Buffer Zone of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property.
- 3.14. The Technical Committee may request that a Management Plan Committee, a Buffer Zone Management Committee and a Consultative Committee be held to discuss a development application or a proposal for development in the Buffer Zone of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property.
- 3.15. In case information is lacking to assess a development, the Technical Committee may request that research be undertaken to further document the cultural significance of the Buffer Zone of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property.
- 3.16. The Technical Committee shall rely on the Management Plan for the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property, the Heritage Management Guidelines for the Buffer Zone and the Conservation Manual to be provided guidance in the evaluation of the applications for development.
- 3.17. Members shall encourage exchange of ideas and expertise to contribute to the economic and cultural development of the city in line with its legal framework.
- 3.18. As and when required, the Technical Committee may request expert advice in heritage for further assessment of development applications to produce recommendations in line with the legal framework.
- 3.19. Applicants' request for information will be submitted officially to the City Council of Port Louis for consideration.

- 3.20. When assessing, the Technical Committee shall consider the cultural significance of the property and how it would be enhanced or / and affected by the proposed development. The Technical Committee members will also consider any objection(s) or representation(s) by the Consultative Committee.
- 3.21. Where the Technical Committee resolves to pre-approve an application which would affect the cultural significance of the property/place, and an objection to such approval has been registered, unless the stakeholder withdraws such objection, the objection shall be deemed to be an appeal against the recommendation of the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee and the latter shall submit the application and all relevant information to its appeal.
- 3.22. In the event of any alteration or development of a property / place is undertaken without the consent of the Technical Committee, the local Authority must require the owner to stop such work instantly and restore the site to its previous condition within a specified period.
- 3.23. As part of the national budget exercise taking place every financial year, the Technical Committee shall establish a Technical Committee budget request to meet its resource requirements. The annual budget proposal shall define goals and objectives of the Technical Committee.
- 3.24. The Technical Committee shall produce an annual report to the Council at the beginning of each new year outlining accomplishments in the previous twelve months.
- 3.25. The Technical Committee shall be devoting efforts to fasten decision making on development applications but not to the detriment of heritage preservation and enhancement.
- 3.26. Information discussed in the Technical Committee shall remain confidential.

4. Accountability

- 4.1. The Technical Committee was legally established under the responsibility of the **City Council of Port Louis**.
- 4.2. The Technical Committee is producing recommendations to the **Permits and Business Monitoring Committee** of the City Council of Port Louis to advise on the compliance of the development applications with the legal framework established for the Buffer Zone of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property.
- 4.3. The Technical Committee would need to report on developments including demolitions that did not comply with the legal framework in place, in its annual report and to the Buffer Zone Management Committee.
- 4.4. The legal framework elaborated for the Buffer Zone of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property is based on principles and guidelines addressed in UNESCO's **Convention for the safeguarding of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage** signed by the state of Mauritius in 1995.

- 4.5. The **Ministry of Arts and Culture** was designated as the representative of the State Party to UNESCO and as such, may request information on development including demolitions in the Buffer Zone of the World Heritage Property.
- 4.6. If conflicting views oppose the Technical Committee and the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee on an application in the Buffer Zone, the matter will be referred to the Minister of Local Government.

5. Membership

- 5.1. The membership of the Technical Committee is established by law in the section of 97A the Local Government Act 2003. The Act states that the Technical Committee is established in the City Council of Port Louis.
- 5.2. The members are:
 - (a) the officer in charge of the Planning Department of the City Council of Port Louis or his representative, as chairperson;
 - (b) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of public infrastructure;
 - (c) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of land use planning;
 - (d) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of environment;
 - (e) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of tourism;
 - (f) a representative of the Ministry responsible for the subject of arts and culture;
 - (g) a representative of the National Heritage Fund;
 - (h) a representative of the Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund;
 - (i) a representative of the Mauritius Ports Authority;
 - (j) the officer in charge of the Works Department of the City Council of Port Louis or his representative.
- 5.3. Members of the Technical Committee shall officially inform if they are involved in a conflict of interest and in this case, shall not take part in assessing development projects or applications.

5.3.1. Chairmanship

The Chair is responsible for ensuring the smooth and effective operation of the Committee and its role and responsibilities. The Chair is responsible for:

- 5.3.1.1. Calling the meetings;
- 5.3.1.2. Creating an agenda in consultation with the municipal staff;
- 5.3.1.3. Chairing the meetings;

- 5.3.1.4. Reviewing the minutes of the meetings with the Committee members and request for approval of the minutes;
- 5.3.1.5. Organise site visits to the relevant properties;
- 5.3.1.6. Submit the official recommendations of the Committee, approved by all Technical Committee members, to the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee and to the Executive Committee;
- 5.3.1.7. The Chairperson may delegate the preparation of report or other task to members of the Technical Committee who may volunteer. The work of the delegate will be presented to the Technical Committee for approval;
- 5.3.1.8. Inform the Committee members of any known infringement to the legal provisions for the Buffer Zone of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property;
- 5.3.1.9. Acting as the official committee spokesman and media contact;
- 5.3.1.10. In the absence of the Chair, these responsibilities will be undertaken by the representative of the City Council of Port Louis.

5.3.2. *The role of members*

- 5.3.2.1. The members shall attend all scheduled meetings. Members are required to notify the Chair or the designated municipal staff if they are unable to attend a meeting.
- 5.3.2.2. The member who cannot attend the meeting may delegate a representative of his institution or send his views officially to the Chair of the Technical Committee.
- 5.3.2.3. The members shall read and take cognizance of all information supplied to them for consideration.
- 5.3.2.4. The members shall produce recommendations on the proposed development applications in the Buffer Zone of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property.
- 5.3.2.5. The members shall attend visits to properties where proposal for development is made.
- 5.3.2.6. The members shall contribute to the preparation of reports and recommendations on behalf of the Technical Committee.
- 5.3.2.7. The members shall attend training or any capacity building operation contributing to the consolidation of their knowledge serving the purpose of the Technical Committee.

5.3.2.8. The members shall have knowledge of the legal framework established for the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone namely the Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund Act, the Building Act, the Planning and Development Act, the Town and Country Planning Act, planning policy guidance and the guidelines issued under those Acts; and shall closely examine them before producing recommendations.

5.3.2.9. The Chair or a spokesperson appointed by the Committee may speak on behalf of the Committee to Council, the media, or the public. Other members shall not act or speak on behalf of the Committee without the prior approval of the Committee.

5.3.2.10. The Committee or its members shall not issue petitions, resolutions or position papers on behalf of the Committee unless specifically authorized by Council resolution.

5.3.2.11. The Committee members shall not act outside of the mandate and advisory capacity of the Committee.

6. Meetings and timeframe

6.1. The Technical Committee was established by law in June 2011.

6.2. The Chairperson of the Technical Committee will convene regular meetings. Meetings of the Technical Committee shall be held when an application for development is submitted by the Permits and Business Monitoring Committee to the Technical Committee and on an ad-hoc basis in such a way as to ensure a smooth running process.

6.3. In case no application is submitted, the Technical Committee shall meet at least four times a year to monitor and establish a statement on development in the Buffer Zone of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property. This information will also be consigned in the annual report of the Technical Committee.

6.4. The presence of six members in the Technical Committee shall constitute a quorum. However, the four members who did not attend the session, shall be informed of any decision taken by the quorum. They may also express their disagreement on the decision in writing for consideration by the Technical Committee.

6.5. In the event that a quorum is not achieved, the meeting may be postponed.

6.6. The meetings will have a formal agenda and invitation of committee members to the Technical Committee meeting will also include minutes from the previous meeting.

ANNEX 6: PROPOSED INDICATORS FOR THE CONSERVATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTY

Database for the monitoring of conservation works and maintenance

A database is already in use to monitor the conservation works on site. The database should be consolidated to be used as a monitoring report instrument.

Database for monitoring the use of materials

It was proposed to enter the data in the database used for the monitoring of the conservation works. The data are entered on basic excel sheets to keep track and initiate the monitoring of materials in the use of conservation and maintenance works.

Time schedule, target and planning for monitoring conservation and maintenance operations

An indicator is to undertake the conservation and maintenance operations as per detailed planning stating targets. This system is currently in use; this is also followed for the maintenance of the site.

Monitoring of air and noise pollution

The monitoring of air and noise pollution is undertaken once or twice a year with the collaboration of the Ministry of Environment. The data are analysed by our consultants who recommend preventive conservation measures accordingly.

Recording of Temperature and Relative Humidity

A recorder of temperature and relative humidity's rate is required in the Hospital Block to provide regular records of temperature and relative humidity variations. Up to present, the meteorological services were consulted to acquire measurements of temperature and relative humidity. However, data provided did not meet the accuracy required for the monitoring of these two parameters.

Monitoring of Sea level

In the context of climate change, it was proposed in the technical committee held on 4 June 2009 to monitor sea level. AGTF will communicate with the Mauritius Ports Authority to set up a sea level monitoring system.

Visitor Management monitoring

Visitation may have an impact on the site. Visitor Management Plan includes indicators such as record of visitor number, delimited timeframe and programme of actions, and regular audience surveys. These indicators help in the site preservation and monitoring of visitation impact.

ANNEX 7: AAPRAVASI GHAT TRUST FUND ARCHAEOLOGY PROGRAMME: GUIDELINES FOR VISITING ARCHAEOLOGISTS

1. All archaeology at Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund (AGTF) must form part of the Research programme at AGTF.
2. Archaeology is one component in a multidisciplinary approach towards research concerning indentured sites and Apravasi Ghat. Any final report must include this interdisciplinary aspect. Any archaeologist recruited for AGTF must adopt an interdisciplinary approach, accept other evidences and work with other archaeologists also interested with the site.
3. AGTF is open for proposals to be submitted by qualified archaeologists and other researchers if the proposals conform to the AGTF Research Programme.
4. Archival and other research must be undertaken to substantiate the need for archaeology.
5. All proposals will be vetted by the National Heritage Fund, the Apravasi Ghat Trust Fund Board and the Technical Committee.
6. All archaeologists wishing their proposals to be considered by AGTF must include in addition to the archaeological survey or excavations: analysis, conservation of excavated materials and site, consolidation of excavated area, filling of the trenches and a final report which must include any justifications for further work. To their proposal, a post excavation programme defining proposed budget, resources and outcome must be included.
7. Scale and timeframes for all archaeological works must be submitted.
8. One important criteria in assessing a proposal will be the expected outcome of the archaeology and how that will contribute to the history of Mauritius and our understanding of the indentured labour system.
9. All research should consider previous research results in the elaboration of research proposal and research objectives.
10. No site is reserved for any archaeologist. AGTF reserves the right to ask any other expert to follow and take part in any excavations or surveys if it deems there is a need to do so.
11. All archaeologists and researchers must submit a copy of any research paper, article which they have produced and where AGTF sites on which they have worked are mentioned and fully acknowledge the AGTF's contribution. All researchers must request written permission to publish data obtained from AGTF.

12. Archaeologists are to secure their own qualified man/womanpower (RAS, skilled, unskilled) and not use AGTF staff as this disrupts work of AGTF staff and completion in time of both AGTF staff's work.
13. Archaeologist must declare other sources (if any) of funding for the same site in-case AGTF is partially or fully funding the project and also in-case his/her visit to Mauritius is not exclusively for AGTF project.
14. AGTF retains the right to stop, cancel or suspend any on-going archaeological work, if required.
15. AGTF hold all rights to access, monitor, survey, investigate the archaeological site at any time during the ongoing excavation work.
16. Archaeologist shall attend monitoring committees to report on archaeological research progress.
17. No artefact or any other material shall be taken outside the country for any kind of examination, analysis or tests without prior approval of AGTF and Government of Mauritius. All artefacts & materials found at site shall be properly documented and submitted to AGTF.
18. AGTF will supervise and monitor all work as well as send trainees and volunteers to any surveys and excavations.
19. If research is funded by AGTF, researchers must provide a copy of all research material they have collected including field notes and photos etc. to the AGTF.
20. A final technical report to be submitted together with a shorter version in simple English for a general or non-archaeological reader.
21. Archaeologists working on sites under control of AGTF must respect the policies and practices at AGTF and not make public statements that are unsubstantiated or go against policies and practices of AGTF.

ANNEX 8: GLOSSARY

Adaptation

Adaptation means modifying a place to suit the existing use or a proposed use. Adaptation is acceptable only where the adaptation has minimal impact on the cultural significance of the place. It should involve minimal change to significant fabric, achieved only after considering alternatives. New work such as additions to the place may be acceptable where it does not distort or obscure the cultural significance of the place, or detract from its interpretation and appreciation.

Adaptive reuse

Modifying a historic cultural landscape, place or building for a use different than its original use.

Archaeological site

Any place no longer inhabited where there are remains of the human past activity. Such remains might range from a single hearth where early man cooked his food to entire abandoned cities of the past civilizations. It can be either an excavated site or a standing ruin. It includes underwater, rock art and paleontological sites.

(Source: ICCROM)

Archaeology

The traces of our past are everywhere but frequently they are not evident or may be hidden. If this is the case, research, surveying and excavations are needed to find the clues. This is the task of archaeology, a science that interprets the past by studying its physical remains both above and below the ground. (Source: ICCROM)

Archives

A collection of historical documents or records providing information about a place, institutions and people. Archives are a rich source of information for understanding our past. (Source: ICCROM)

Authenticity

Conservation of cultural heritage in all its forms and historical periods is rooted in the values attributed to the heritage. Our ability to understand these values depends, in part, on the degree to which information sources about these values may be understood as credible or truthful. Knowledge and understanding of these sources of information, in relation to original and subsequent characteristics of the cultural heritage, and their meaning, is a requisite basis for assessing all aspects of authenticity.

Buffer Zone

“For the purposes of effective protection of the nominated property, a Buffer Zone is an area surrounding the nominated property which has complementary legal and/or customary restrictions placed on its use and development to give an added layer of protection to the property. This should include the immediate setting of the nominated property, important views and other areas or attributes that are functionally important as a support to the property and its protection. The area constituting the Buffer Zone should be determined in each case through appropriate mechanisms.” (Source: Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention; WHC 08/01; II.F.104)

Conservation

Conservation means all the processes of looking after a place so as to retain its cultural significance. It may, according to circumstance, include the processes of: retention or reintroduction of a use; retention of associations and meanings; maintenance, preservation, restoration, reconstruction, adaptation and interpretation; and will commonly include a combination of more than one of these.

Context

The specific character, quality, physical, historical, and social characteristics of a building’s setting. Depending on the nature of the proposal, the context could be as small as a suburban street or as large as a whole town.

Conservation Manual

The Conservation Manual (CM) was developed to provide guidelines for anyone planning development or undertaking building works in the Buffer Zone of the Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property. The objective is to facilitate development undertakings and enhance the unique character of the heritage present in this area. The Conservation Manual is used together with the Planning Policy Guidance 6 – Urban Heritage Area – Apravasi Ghat World Heritage Property Buffer Zone – issued in June 2011 by the Ministry of Housing and Lands.

Cultural Heritage

The Convention concerning the protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage defines “cultural Heritage” as follows in article 1:

“Monuments: architectural works, works of monumental sculpture and painting, elements or structures of an archaeological nature, inscriptions, cave dwellings and combinations of features, which are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science;

Groups of buildings: groups of separate or connected buildings which, because of their architecture, their homogeneity or their place in the landscape, are of Outstanding Universal Value from the point of view of history, art or science;

Sites: works of man or the combined works of nature and man, and areas including archaeological sites which are of outstanding universal value from the historical, aesthetic, ethnological or anthropological point of view.”

Cultural Landscapes

Cultural landscapes are particular landscapes that reflect and express particular interaction over time between people and their surroundings.

Cultural significance

Refers to the aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations. Cultural significance is embodied in the place itself, its fabric, setting, use, associations, meanings, records, related places and related objects. Places may have a range of values for different individuals or groups.

Curative conservation

Direct action to ensure the survival of a cultural property /object when its integrity is threatened (e.g. consolidating a tottering wall, disinfesting a wooden statue, removing intrusive vegetation from ancient walls etc.).

(Source: ICCROM)

Heritage

- 1– Something inherited at birth such as personal characteristics, status and possessions.
 - 2– Anything that has been transmitted from the past or handed down by tradition.
 - 3– The evidence of the past such as historical sites, buildings and the unspoilt natural environment, considered collectively as the inheritance of present day society.
 - 4 - Something that is reserved for a particular person or group or the outcome of an action, way of life etc.
 - 5- (Law) Any property, especially land, which by law was descended or may descend to an heir.
- (Source: Collins Dictionary)

Heritage impact assessment:

A process that is used to define the cultural value of a resource, identify, predict and assess the potential positive and negative environmental impacts of a proposed project on the cultural environment, to propose appropriate alternatives to avoid impacts or propose mitigation of impacts. The HIA process is used to inform decision-making by the project proponent, relevant authorities and financing institutions. The process includes the following components: pre-application planning, scoping, screening, impact assessment (including the identification of management actions and monitoring requirements), integration and decision-making.

Historic areas

May be considered as those spaces where manifold evidences of the city's cultural production concentrate. They are to be circumscribed rather in terms of their operational value as 'critical areas' than in opposition to the city's non-historical places, since the city in its totality is a historical entity.

Historic Monument

“The Concept of an historic monument embraces not only the single architectural work but also the urban or rural setting in which is found the evidence of a particular civilization, a significant development or an historic event. This applies not only to great works of art but also to more modest works of the past which have acquired cultural significance with the passing of time.” (Source: International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites, Venice 1964, ICOMOS)

Historic Urban Landscape

A historic urban landscape involves a holistic approach and understanding of the city and its structural, overall heritage patterns, contexts, and an overall view of the urban landscape/urban environment, The notion of historic urban landscape goes beyond traditional terms of “historic centres”, ensembles” or “surroundings” and includes:

- environmental and topographic conditions
- gradual evolution
- historic patterns
- topography and soils, vegetation
- natural and ecological context
- the broader territorial and landscape context
- planned territorial development
- land-uses and patterns
- overall urban landscape
- human settlements
- townscapes, roofscapes
- spatial organization, spatial structures
- open spaces
- public spaces - functionality, scale, materials, lighting, street furniture, advertising, and vegetation
- building plots and types
- individual monuments and ensembles and their significant connections
- elements of technical infrastructure, details of construction
- significant connections (physical, functional and visual, material and associative), with the historic typologies and morphologies
- economic and socio-cultural values
- visual relationships

Historic urban landscapes

The historic urban landscape acquires its exceptional and universal significance from a gradual evolutionary, as well as planned territorial development over a relevant period of time through processes of urbanization, incorporating environmental and topographic conditions and expressing economic and socio-cultural values pertaining to societies. As such, protection and conservation of the historic urban landscape comprises the individual monuments to be found in protection registers, as well as ensembles and their significant connections, physical, functional and visual, material and associative, with the historic typologies and morphologies.

Impact assessment

Issues that cannot be resolved during scoping and that require further investigation are taken forward into the impact assessment. Depending on the amount of available information, specialists may be required to assess the nature, extent, duration, intensity or magnitude, probability and significance of the potential impacts; define the level of confidence in the assessment; and propose management actions and monitoring programmes. Specialist studies/reports form the basis of the integrated Environmental Impact Report, which is compiled by the EIA practitioner.

Intangible Cultural Heritage

Article 2 of the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage defines intangible heritage (2003) as follows:

“The “intangible cultural heritage” means the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills – as well as the instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces associated therewith – that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognize as part of their cultural heritage. This intangible cultural heritage, transmitted from generation to generation, is constantly recreated by communities and groups in response to their environment, their interaction with nature and their history, and provides them with a sense of identity and continuity, thus promoting respect for cultural diversity and human creativity. For the purposes of this Convention, consideration will be given solely to such intangible cultural heritage as is compatible with existing international human rights instruments, as well as with the requirements of mutual respect among communities, groups and individuals, and of sustainable development.”

Maintenance

Maintenance means the continuous protective care of the fabric and setting of a place, and is to be distinguished from repair, which involves restoration or reconstruction. Maintenance is fundamental to conservation and should be undertaken where fabric is of cultural significance and its maintenance is necessary to retain that cultural significance.

Monuments

All buildings and structures of conspicuous historical, archaeological, artistic, scientific, social or technical interest, including their fixtures and fittings.

National Heritage

According to the National Heritage Fund Act of 2003, "**National Heritage**" means:

- (a) A national heritage designated in Section 12 and specified in the Schedule; and
- (b) Includes a national monument designated under the repealed National Monuments (Designation) Regulations 1985 and specified in the Schedule.'

The Schedules of the National Heritage Fund Act regroup a total number of 166 National Heritages as at 2003 including monuments and tombs, civil and private buildings, and military architecture. The Act stipulates that a structure becomes a *National Heritage* when its cultural significance is of outstanding value. This may also include "architectural work, work of monumental sculpture and painting, element or structure of an archaeological nature, inscription, cave dwelling".

Outstanding Universal Value

"Outstanding universal value means cultural and/or natural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity. As such, the permanent protection of this heritage is of the highest importance to the international community as a whole."

Preservation

Preservation means maintaining the fabric of a place in its existing state and retarding deterioration. It is appropriate where the existing fabric or its condition constitutes evidence of cultural significance, or where insufficient evidence is available to allow other conservation processes to be carried out. Preservation protects fabric without obscuring the evidence of its construction and use.

Rehabilitation

Regaining the integrity and lost value of a place through adaptation, conservation and compatible use -

Rehabilitation involves the sensitive adaptation of a historic place or of an individual component for a continuing or compatible contemporary use, while protecting its heritage value. This is achieved through repairs, alterations and/or additions.

Reconstruction

Reconstruction means returning a place to a known earlier state and is distinguished from restoration by the introduction of new material into the fabric. It is appropriate only where a place is incomplete through damage or alteration, and only where there is sufficient evidence to reproduce an earlier state of the fabric. In rare cases, reconstruction may also be appropriate as part of a use or practice that retains the cultural significance of the place. Reconstruction should be identifiable on close inspection or through additional interpretation

Restoration and reconstruction should reveal culturally significant aspects of the place.

Restoration

Restoration means returning the existing fabric of a place to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing components without the introduction of new material. It is appropriate only if there is sufficient evidence of an earlier state of the fabric.

Significance

Significance reflects the assessment of total value we ascribe to cultural and natural qualities in cultural landscapes, and thus how we evaluate their overall worth to society, to a nation or to local communities. Significance may relate to one particular quality or to a collection of several particular qualities.

Sites

The combined works of man and nature, being areas which are partially built upon and sufficiently distinctive and homogeneous to be topographically definable and are of conspicuous historical, archaeological, artistic, scientific, social or technical interest.

UNESCO

United Nations Educational Scientific Cultural Organisation was founded in 1945 to rebuild schools in countries devastated by the Second World War and to produce scientific publications. Today, the UNESCO “functions as a laboratory of ideas and a standard setter to forge universal agreements on emerging ethical issues” and also encourages the dissemination and sharing of information and expertise in educational, scientific and cultural fields.

Visual impact assessment

A process of determining the value of the visual resource by assessing the visual quality of a cultural or natural resource like e.g. an existing building, structure and/or site, the landscape character, landscape quality, visual quality, relation to topography, sense of place and aesthetic value of the cultural landscape as a whole and in particular (i.e. the setting of the proposed site) - this assessment must make reference to the cultural significance, authenticity and integrity of the building, structure or landscape, its immediate setting and the wider heritage area – followed by an identification, prediction and assessment of the scale, nature and duration of potential positive and negative impact of a proposed intervention on this resource and the identification of mitigation or avoidance of the impact.

World Heritage

“What makes the concept of World Heritage exceptional is its universal application. World Heritage Properties belong to all the peoples of the world, irrespective of the territory on which they are located. How can a World Heritage Property in Egypt ‘belong’ equally to Egyptians and to the peoples of Indonesia or Argentina?”

The answer is to be found in the 1972 Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, by which countries recognize that the sites located on their national territory, and which have been inscribed on the World Heritage List, without prejudice to national sovereignty or ownership, constitute a world heritage ‘for whose protection it is the duty of the international community as a whole to cooperate’.

Without the support of other countries, some of the world’s outstanding cultural and natural sites would deteriorate or, worse, disappear, often through lack of funding to preserve them. The Convention is thus an agreement, ratified almost universally, that aims to secure the necessary financial and intellectual resources to protect World Heritage Properties.

How does a World Heritage Property differ from a national heritage site?

The key lies in the words ‘outstanding universal value’.

All countries have sites of local or national interest, which are quite justifiably a source of national pride, and the Convention encourages them to identify and protect their heritage whether or not it is placed on the World Heritage List.

Sites selected for World Heritage listing are inscribed on the basis of their merits as the best possible examples of the cultural and natural heritage. The World Heritage List reflects the wealth and diversity of the Earth’s cultural and natural heritage.” (Source: UNESCO)

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