

1. World Heritage Property Data

1.1 - Name of World Heritage Property

Vat Phou and Associated Ancient Settlements within the Champasak Cultural Landscape

1.2 - World Heritage Property Details

State(s) Party(ies)

- Lao People's Democratic Republic

Type of Property

cultural

Identification Number

481


Year of inscription on the World Heritage List

2001

1.3 - Geographic Information Table

Name	Coordinates	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Total (ha)	Inscription year
Vat Phou and Associated Ancient Settlements within the Champasak Cultural Landscape	14.833 / 105.8	39000	0	39000	2001
Total (ha)		39000	0	39000	

1.4 - Map(s)

Title	Date	Link to source
Vat Phou Champasak Location Map	29/06/2000	

1.5 - Governmental Institution Responsible for the Property

Comment

Ministry of Information-Culture and Tourism

1.6 - Property Manager / Coordinator, Local Institution / Agency

- Khankham KENBOUTA
Department of Vat Phou World Heritage

Comment

Department of Vat Phou Champasak World Heritage Site
Khankham KENBOUTA Address Ban Nongsa, Champasak District, P.O.Box 03, Champasak Province Lao People's Democratic Republic Telephone (856.30) 5345041 Email Khankham55@hotmail.com

1.7 - Web Address of the Property (if existing)

1. [Patrimonium-mundi.org](http://www.patrimonium-mundi.org) : visit this site in [panophotographies](#) - [immersive and interactive spherical images](#)

Comment

<http://www.world-heritage-tour.org/asia/southeast-asia/khmer-empire/lao/champasak-settlements-down-the-hill.html>
<http://www.vatphu-champasak-laos.com>

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

2. Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

2.1 - Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance

Comment

It had been submitted to UNESCO head quarter before

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

(iii)(iv)(vi)

2.3 - Attributes expressing the Outstanding Universal Value per criterion

iii. The temple complex of Vat Phou bears exceptional testimony to the cultures of southeast Asia, and in particular to the Khmer Empire which dominated the region in the 10-14th centuries. iv: The Vat Phou complex is an outstanding example of the integration of a symbolic landscape of great spiritual significance to its natural surroundings.

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

The Statement of Outstanding Universal Value adequately reflects the value of the property

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

There are not sufficient characters on comment box to describe The Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

3. Factors Affecting the Property

3.14. Other factor(s)

3.14.1 - Other factor(s)

There are no more

3.15. Factors Summary Table

3.15.1 - Factors summary table

	Name	Impact	Origin			
3.1	Buildings and Development					
3.1.5 Interpretative and visitation facilities						
3.2	Transportation Infrastructure					
3.2.1 Ground transport infrastructure						
3.2.2 Air transport infrastructure						
3.2.3 Marine transport infrastructure						
3.2.4 Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure						
3.3	Services Infrastructures					
3.3.1 Water infrastructure						
3.3.4 Localised utilities						
3.3.5 Major linear utilities						
3.4	Pollution					
3.4.5 Solid waste						
3.5	Biological resource use/modification					
3.5.1 Fishing/collecting aquatic resources						
3.5.2 Aquaculture						
3.5.3 Land conversion						
3.5.5 Crop production						
3.5.7 Subsistence wild plant collection						
3.5.9 Subsistence hunting						
3.7	Local conditions affecting physical fabric					
3.7.2 Relative humidity						
3.7.6 Water (rain/water table)						
3.7.7 Pests						
3.8	Social/cultural uses of heritage					
3.8.1 Ritual / spiritual / religious and associative uses						
3.8.2 Society's valuing of heritage						
3.8.4 Changes in traditional ways of life and knowledge system						
3.8.5 Identity, social cohesion, changes in local population and community						
3.8.6 Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation						
3.10	Climate change and severe weather events					
3.10.1 Storms						
3.10.2 Flooding						
3.11	Sudden ecological or geological events					
3.11.4 Avalanche/ landslide						
3.11.5 Erosion and siltation/ deposition						
3.11.6 Fire (wildfires)						
3.13	Management and institutional factors					
3.13.1 Low impact research / monitoring activities						
3.13.2 High impact research / monitoring activities						
3.13.3 Management activities						
Legend	Current	Potential	Negative	Positive	Inside	Outside

3.16. Assessment of current negative factors

3.16.1 - Assessment of current negative factors

	Spatial scale	Temporal scale	Impact	Management response	Trend	
3.2 Transportation Infrastructure						
3.2.1	Ground transport infrastructure	restricted	on-going	significant	high capacity	decreasing
3.3 Services Infrastructures						
3.3.4	Localised utilities	restricted	one off or rare	minor	medium capacity	decreasing
3.4 Pollution						
3.4.5	Solid waste	restricted	intermittent or sporadic	minor	medium capacity	static
3.5 Biological resource use/modification						
3.5.3	Land conversion	restricted	one off or rare	insignificant	medium capacity	static
3.5.9	Subsistence hunting	restricted	one off or rare	insignificant	medium capacity	decreasing
3.7 Local conditions affecting physical fabric						
3.7.2	Relative humidity	localised	intermittent or sporadic	minor	medium capacity	static
3.7.7	Pests	restricted	one off or rare	minor	medium capacity	static
3.10 Climate change and severe weather events						
3.10.1	Storms	restricted	one off or rare	minor	medium capacity	decreasing
3.10.2	Flooding	localised	intermittent or sporadic	minor	medium capacity	static
3.11 Sudden ecological or geological events						
3.11.5	Erosion and siltation/ deposition	localised	intermittent or sporadic	minor	medium capacity	increasing
3.11.6	Fire (wildfires)	restricted	one off or rare	minor	medium capacity	static

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

3.17.1 - Comments

Most activities related to factors affecting the property are more positive than negative

4. Protection, Management and Monitoring of the Property

4.1. Boundaries and Buffer Zones

4.1.1 - Buffer zone status

There is **no buffer zone**, and it is not needed

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

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

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

The property had **no buffer zone** at the time of its inscription on the World Heritage List

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

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are known by the management authority but **are not known by local residents / communities / landowners**.

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

The property had **no buffer zone** at the time of its inscription on the World Heritage List

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

The Property has no buffer zone at the time of its inscription on the World Heritage List, and it is not needed, the boundaries of the World Heritage property are adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.2. Protective Measures

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

The Government, through the provincial and district authorities, is the principal landowner of the entire property.

The Vat Phou area is protected by the Provincial Decree on the Regulations for the Preservation of the Historical Site of Vat Phou and the Areas related to Vat Phou No 38/88 (October 1988). This defined a large Protection Zone, not just the main monuments; within it are three Preservation Areas, essentially the three main temple complexes. A

national legal framework for heritage preservation was adopted by a Presidential Decree of June 1997.

Other plans have a direct bearing on the status and management of the site: eg the National Master Plan for Tourism for Champasak Province 1995 and the Provincial Development Plan for Transportation, Post and Construction 1996–2000.

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

An adequate legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the World Heritage property exists but there are **some deficiencies in implementation**

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

The property had **no buffer zone** at the time of inscription on the World Heritage List

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

An **adequate** legal framework exists for the area surrounding the World Heritage property and the buffer zone, but **there are some deficiencies in its implementation** which undermine the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the property

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

There is **acceptable** capacity / resources to enforce legislation and / or regulation in the World Heritage property but some deficiencies remain


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

The legal framework is adequate for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and Authenticity of the property

4.3. Management System / Management Plan

4.3.1 - Management System

4.3.2 - Management Documents

Title	Status	Available	Date	Link to source
Champasak Heritage Management Plan	N/A	Available	29/06/2000	

4.3.3 - How well do the various levels of administration (i.e. national / federal; regional /

provincial / state; local / municipal etc.) coordinate in the management of the World Heritage Property ?

There is coordination between the range of administrative bodies / levels involved in the management of the property **but it could be improved**

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

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

4.3.5 - Is the management system being implemented?

The management system is **only partially** being implemented

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

An annual work / action plan exists and **many activities** are being implemented

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

Local communities / residents	Fair
Local / Municipal authorities	Fair
Indigenous peoples	Not applicable
Landowners	Fair
Visitors	Fair
Researchers	Fair
Tourism industry	Poor
Industry	Not applicable

4.3.8 - If present, do local communities resident in or near the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

Local communities have **some input** into discussions relating to management but no direct role in management

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

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

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

There is contact but only **some cooperation** with industry regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone

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

The management system / plan are adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

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


There is no changing

4.4. Financial and Human Resources

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

Multilateral funding (GEF, World Bank, etc)	0%
International donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	80%
Governmental (National / Federal)	6%
Governmental (Regional / Provincial / State)	1%
Governmental (Local / Municipal)	0%
In country donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	0%
Individual visitor charges (e.g. entry, parking, camping fees, etc.)	13%
Commercial operator payments (e.g. filming permit, concessions, etc.)	0%
Other grants	0%

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

Title	Year	Amount	Link to source
Preparation of the nomination dossier for Vat Phou Archaeological Site	1999	13000.00	
Total		13000	

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

The available budget is **inadequate** for basic management needs and presents a serious constraint to the capacity to manage

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

Existing sources of funding are **not secure**

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

Potential economic benefits are recognised and plans to realise these are being developed

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

There are **some** equipment and facilities but overall these are **inadequate**

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

There is **basic** maintenance of equipment and facilities

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

The World Heritage property needs more budget and equipment and infrastructure for management and conservation activities

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

Full-time	100%
Part-time	0%

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

Permanent	71%
Seasonal	29%

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

Paid	100%
Volunteer	0%

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

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

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

Research and monitoring	Poor
Promotion	Poor
Community outreach	Poor
Interpretation	Poor
Education	Fair
Visitor management	Fair
Conservation	Fair
Administration	Fair
Risk preparedness	Fair
Tourism	Fair
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Fair

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

Research and monitoring	Medium
Promotion	Low
Community outreach	Low
Interpretation	Low
Education	Low
Visitor management	Medium
Conservation	Medium
Administration	Medium
Risk preparedness	Medium
Tourism	Medium

Enforcement (custodians, police)	Medium
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4.4.15 - Do the management and conservation programmes at the World Heritage property help develop local expertise?

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

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

The World Heritage property needs more human resource, expertise and training for management and conservation activities

4.5. Scientific Studies and Research Projects

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

Knowledge about the values of the World Heritage property is **sufficient** for most key areas **but there are gaps**

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

There is a **small amount** of research, but it is not planned

4.5.3 - Are results from research programmes disseminated?

Research results are **shared with local participants and some national agencies**

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

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

4.6. Education, Information and Awareness Building

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

In **many locations and easily visible** to visitors

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

Local communities / residents	Poor
Local / Municipal authorities within or adjacent to the property	Average

Local Indigenous peoples	Not applicable
Local landowners	Poor
Visitors	Average
Tourism industry	Non-existent
Local businesses and industries	Non-existent

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

There is a **limited and ad hoc** education and awareness programme

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

World Heritage status has **partially influenced** education, information and awareness building activities

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

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

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

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

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

The World Heritage property needs more improvement on education, information and awareness building to present and interpret its Outstanding Universal Value

4.7. Visitor Management

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

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

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

Entry tickets and registries
Visitor surveys

4.7.3 - Visitor management documents

Comment

Site Visiting Regulation

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

There is **some management** of the visitor use of the World Heritage property

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

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

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

The fee is collected, and makes **some contribution** to the management of the World Heritage property

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

The visitor use of the World Heritage property need to be improved

4.8. Monitoring

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

There is considerable monitoring but it is **not directed towards management needs** and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

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

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

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

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

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

Implementation is underway

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

The state party is implementing the recommendation of the World Heritage Committee

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

The monitoring of the property are adequate

4.9. Identification of Priority Management Needs

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

Please refer to question 5.2

5. Summary and Conclusions

5.1. Summary - Factors affecting the Property

5.1.1 - Summary - Factors affecting the Property

	World Heritage criteria and attributes affected	Actions	Monitoring	Timeframe	Lead agency (and others involved)	More info / comment
3.2 Transportation Infrastructure						
3.2.1	Ground transport infrastructure	The Criteria of the World heritage Property has been preserved	The World Heritage Committee has some suggestion on the construction of new road crossing the property area	ongoing	monthly	National government The road line will be discuss and designed again by Lao national staff and the experts from UNESCO
3.4 Pollution						
3.4.5	Solid waste	The Criteria of the World heritage Property has been preserved	Site cleaning	Have got an action plan to decrease it	monthly	Site office, communities, municipal It could be seen in some property's area during some event
3.7 Local conditions affecting physical fabric						
3.7.2	Relative humidity	The Criteria of the World heritage Property has been preserved	It cause damages and materials decay to standing and buried structures	Carrying out research and monthly technical monitoring	monthly planing	Site office technical staff and national expert Need Further study
3.7.7	Pests					
3.10 Climate change and severe weather events						
3.10.2	Flooding	The Criteria of the World heritage Property has been preserved	It emerges in approxmately each five years at the ancient city area and cause damages to buried and standing structures	Recording flooding level	Yearly	Site office Need Further study
3.11 Sudden ecological or geological events						
3.11.5	Erosion and siltation/ deposition	The Criteria of the World heritage Property has been preserved	River bank erosion	Checking	Yearly	Site office Need Further study

5.2. Summary - Management Needs

5.2.2 - Summary - Management Needs

4.4 Financial and Human Resources						
	Actions	Timeframe	Lead agency (and others involved)	More info / comment		
4.4.3	The budget is inadequate for management needs	Activities on Landscape protection, management activities, restoration work	Yearly	Site office	Need more budget for better management	
4.4.6	Inadequate equipment and facilities	Activities on Landscape protection, management activities, restoration work	Yearly	Site office	Need more equipment and facilities for better management	
4.6 Education, Information and Awareness Building						
4.6.3	There is a limited education and awareness programme	To increase awareness on Outstanding Universal value of the Property	Yearly	Site office	Organising mor activities	
4.7 Visitor Management						
4.7.4	Some management of visitor use of the property but this could be improved	Site visiting	Yearly	Tourism industries	To improve awareness and understanding of visitor	

5.3. Conclusions on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.3.1 - Current state of Authenticity

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

5.3.2 - Current state of Integrity

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

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

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

5.3.4 - Current state of the property's other values

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

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

5.4.1 - Comments

The State of Conservation of the Property is positive

6. World Heritage Status and Conclusions on Periodic Reporting Exercise

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

Conservation	Positive
Research and monitoring	Positive
Management effectiveness	Positive
Quality of life for local communities and indigenous peoples	Positive
Recognition	Positive
Education	Positive
Infrastructure development	No impact
Funding for the property	No impact
International cooperation	Positive
Political support for conservation	Positive
Legal / Policy framework	Positive
Lobbying	No impact
Institutional coordination	Positive
Security	Positive
Other (please specify)	

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

The World Heritage property has positive status

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

Governmental institution responsible for the property
Site Manager/Coordinator/World Heritage property staff

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

no

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

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

UNESCO	Very good
State Party Representative	Very good
Advisory Body	

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

Most of the required information was accessible

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

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

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

UNESCO	Satisfactory
State Party	Satisfactory
Site Managers	Satisfactory
Advisory Bodies	

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

• Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance

Reason for update: It had been submitted to UNESCO head quarter before

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

Most of the information required to complete the Periodic Report was accessible