

Destination Management Plan

For

**Paek, Khoun and Kham Districts
Xieng Khouang Province
Lao PDR**

November 2016

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1. Introduction

This is the Destination Management Plan (DMP) for Paek, Khoun and Kham Districts within Xieng Khouang Province, Lao PDR. It contains an Action Plan aimed at improving these Districts as destinations for domestic, regional and international visitors.

The DMP actions have been discussed and agreed by the Destination Management Network (DMN). This group will oversee implementation of the DMP. The DMN represents government, private sector and community stakeholders. Preparation of the DMP was funded by the NZ – Lao Tourism Activity Support Project (2015 – 2020).

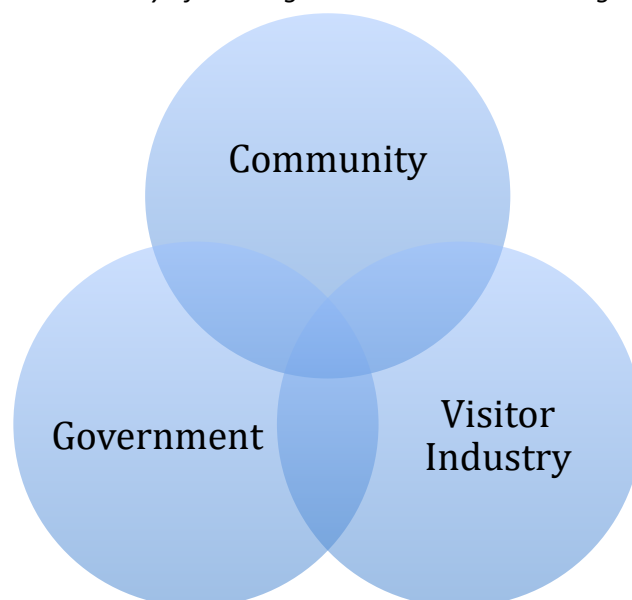
The DMP is in two parts. The first part provides background information on Destination Management, the DMN and the current state of play of tourism in Xieng Khouang. The second part presents the DMP Action Plan.

2. Destination Management

The main aim of the DMP is to encourage more collaboration between stakeholders. Destination Management involves the Community, Visitor Industry and Government working together to improve destinations. Because the tourism sector is so complex, it requires a lot of stakeholder collaboration to achieve sustainable outcomes.

Each group – Community, Government and the Visitor Industry – has their own priorities. The best way to manage a destination is to first understand the priorities of each group. Then it is easier to bring the groups together to explore areas that they can work on collectively (Figure 1). Examples include joint marketing activities (publications and online), solving infrastructure issues, complying with industry regulations or delivering hospitality training.

Figure 1: Simple three circle way of thinking about Destination Management



Management of Xieng Khouang as a visitor destination will be most effective where the three circles overlap. This is where Community, Government and the Visitor Industry have *aligned* and *combined* their expectations, plans and funding.

Figure 2: Map of tourist attractions in Paek, Khoun and Kham Districts



3. Destination Management Network for Luang Namtha

A Destination Management Network was established for Paek, Kham and Khoun Districts in Xieng Khouang in May 2016. The objectives of the DMN is to:

1. Bring together representatives from Community, Government and the Visitor Industry to provide leadership for the tourism sector in these Districts
2. Prepare and maintain a 5-year Destination Management Plan (DMP or "Action Plan")
3. Collaborate on actions that will improve the visitor experience
4. Drive greater economic impact and creation of jobs from tourism in Xieng Khouang

At the time of writing this Plan, the DMN consists of the following members:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. M. Syvilay OUDOMSUK | Vice Director of DICT, Chairman DMN |
| 2. M. Khamphat CHANTHAVONG | Head of Tourism Unit, DICT |
| 3. M. Souksavan VONGPHACHAN | Head of Tourism Development Unit, DICT |

4. M. Douangphachan SINGTHONG	Head of Tourism Industry Management, DICT
5. M Sorsisulin BUNGNATHAM	Head of Tourism Information, DICT
6. Ms. Bae MANILEUTH	Head of Training and HRD development, DICT
7. M.Phouvan DONGMALA	Administration General Office of Kham, District
8. M. Phonekeo HHOUNGAROUN	Administration General of Khoun District
9. M. Khamla VANVILAY	Administration General Paek of District
10. M. Cho Lo LAOPHOUSOUNG	Police Tourism Officer
11. M. Cheu Lo	Representative of Chanda Travel Agent
12. M. Kongkeo PHANTHABOLIVAT	Lao-France Travel Agent
13. Ms. Sivone PHETLASI	Managing Director of SOUSATH International
14. M. Santisouk CHANTHANAPAI	Representative of PHOUXANG Hotel
15. Ms. Kingkeo DALAVONG	Manager of KHEAMNA Restaurant
16. M. Bounsy BATHAVONG	Manager of NAVAN Handicrafts Shop
17. M. Khamleuane APHAYGNASANE	Technical Staff in charge of Heritage, Xieng Khouang Provincial Government
18. Ms. Bounchan BOUNNASIM	Head of Technical Staff in charge of Xieng Khouang Museum, Xieng Khouang Provincial Government
19. Ms. Khankham CHOUMMALAVONG	Vice Manager of the Project Unit
20. M. Khampheuang SOMMANIVAN	Technical Staff of Department of Public Work and Transport

The Xieng Khouang DMN will meet approximately 2 to 3 times per year (April/May, July/August, November/December) at a suitable venue. The venue may change depending on what the DMN wishes to discuss or sites it wishes to visit. The first meeting was held in Phonsavan on 4 May 2016 to generate possible actions for the DMP. The DMN met again on 15 September 2016 to agree on the actions. These are reflected in the Action Plan, presented further on in this document.

The DMN will elect a Chairman/Chairwoman to lead the group. At this stage, it is the Director of the DICT, Xieng Khouang. The DICT also provides secretariat support for the Network. This includes the following tasks:

- Organising DMN meetings and meeting agendas
- Writing up meeting notes and actions for follow up
- Liaising with other agencies, individuals or businesses on behalf of the DMN
- Updating the 5-year Action Plan with the DMN
- Monitoring and reporting on progress in implementing the Action Plan

Task Forces can be established to undertake projects in the Action Plan as required. The Task Forces are informal groups made up of DMN members who have the right skills for the Task Force. Other people from outside the Task Forces can be co-opted to help with projects. For instance, it is proposed that a pocket visitor guide be published for Xieng Khouang (refer to the Action Plan). This should involve DMN members who have marketing experience from the private sector and from DICT. Funding should come from a mix of paid private sector advertising, government and possibly donor support from the NZ Aid Program in the first year of its publication. Thereafter it should be a self-sustaining publication, not reliant on donor support.

4.2 Other Tourism Plans

The DMP for Paek, Khoum and Kham Districts sits alongside other important tourism and heritage plans for Xieng Khouang. These include:

- **Provincial Strategy for DICT, 2016 – 2020** (this guides work of the DICT on information, culture and tourism development)
- **Tourism Promotion and Planning Strategy for Xieng Khouang Province, 2016 – 2020** (signed by the Governor)
- **Integrated Tourism and Heritage Plan for Khoum District, 2016 - 2020** (this provides recommendations on the management of heritage sites in Khoum District)
- **Provincial Heritage Interpretation Strategy for Xieng Khouang Province, 2016 - 2025** (this provides detailed recommendations on the themes, stories and places for sharing information on Xieng Khouang history and culture with visitors)

The DMP should be read and applied with these other documents.

4. Tourism Sector State of Play

4.1 Overview of the Destination

The province known as Xieng Khouang is a crossroad of ethnic cultures, trading routes, migration and wars. Once dominated by the Tai Phouan ethnic group from China, it is now made up of multiple ethnic groups including Tai Dam, Hmong and Khmu.¹

In many ways Xieng Khouang ought to attract many more visitors than it does. Dominated by a central plateau (Tranninh Plateau) and surrounded by mountains and river valleys, the region is pleasantly cooler than most other destinations in Lao. Its rolling hills, steep forested mountains, hot springs and rich cultural heritage hold much potential appeal to domestic, regional and international visitors. This potential could be developed further, centred on:

- *Notable historic sites* – the Plain of Jars is recognised internationally and subject to a World Heritage Site nomination to be submitted to UNESCO in 2018
- *Ethnic diversity* – a small number of villages are accessible to visitors, showcasing traditional lifestyles, handicrafts and regional cuisine
- *Turbulent history* – spanning early Chinese invasions, wars between Vietnamese, Chinese and Siamese kingdoms and overlords through to French colonisation, World War II Japanese invasion and the ongoing tragedy associated with the 1st and 2nd Indochina Wars
- *Transport links to Vietnam, Luang Prabang and Vientiane*

There are challenges in unlocking this potential. Over a third of Xieng Khouang is littered with unexploded ordinances (UXOs) from the Secret War and Vietnam War making access to many natural and cultural attractions too dangerous until cleared. Historic and cultural sites that are accessible lack information or stories that could be shared with visitors. Many sites such as Vat Piavat, That Foun, That Chomphet and Tham Piu are in urgent need of repair and restoration. Access to the region is improving although by road it is still 5 to 6hrs along winding roads from Luang Prabang and even longer from Vientiane. There is one daily flight to/from Vientiane but no air link to Luang Prabang, the closest international gateway.

Fixing the UXO situation for Xieng Khouang people and visitors is a long-term commitment. Improving air access is possible in the short to medium term, although Lao Airlines and any other carrier will need to be convinced that there are sufficient, quality attractions and activities on the

¹ Dr Linda MacIntosh, 2016

ground. This suggests that the accessible natural, cultural and historic sites, ethnic villages and the main towns of Phonsavan, Moung Khoun and Moung Kham should be seen as the key priorities over the next 5 to 10 years.

4.2 Visitor Flows

Xieng Khouang is a secondary destination within Lao PDR with close to 52,000 domestic, regional and international visitors recorded in 2015 (Table 1).

Table 1: Total visitation to Xieng Khouang Province, 2015

Market	Domestic	International / Regional	Total
Xieng Khouang	11,644	40,016	51,660
Bolikhamxay	58,957	220,648	279,605
Champasak	379,375	231,869	611,244
Houaphanh	13,525	20,968	34,493
Luang Prabang	161,712	369,615	531,327

Source: MICT, Official Statistics 2015

It receives more visitors than Houaphanh, Sekong and Xaisomboun Provinces but a lot less destinations such as Luang Prabang and Champasak. Located close to the border with Vietnam, it receives more Vietnamese visitors (close to 31,000 in 2015) than any other market.

Xieng Khouang is located north-east of Vientiane, accessed via:

- Road – approximately 3hrs to Nam Kanh border crossing with Vietnam, 7hrs from Vientiane Capital and 5 – 6hrs from Luang Prabang
- Air – up to 1 flight per day from Vientiane on a Lao Airlines ATR72 aircraft (approximately 70 – 80 seat capacity per day)

The Plain of Jars is the most visited attraction in Xieng Khouang and captures over 70% of total visitor arrivals to the Province (Table 2). Although there are over 150 officially listed natural, cultural and historic sites in Xieng Khouang, very few of these attract visitors.² Table 2 presents some of the most popular sites.

Table 2: Visitation to selected attractions in Paek, Khoun and Kham Districts, 2015

Attraction	Total visitors 2015	International / Regional	Domestic
Plain of Jars Site 1 (PoJ)	38,000	14,000	24,000
PoJ Visitor Centre	4,541	3,000	1,541
Phou Keng / quarry site for Jar Site 1	5,093	942	4,151
Jar Site 2	5,154	4,431	723
Jar Site 3	2,756	2,461	295
Ban Tajok	1,300	300	1,000
Ban Xang Hot Springs	2,560	960	1,600
Tham Piu (estimated)	11,000 + or -	Less than 1,000	10,000+
Khoun Old Town	4,500	2,500	2,000
Vat Piavat	4,500	2,500	2,000
That Foun	4,500	2,500	2,000
That Chomphet	4,500	2,500	2,000
Paek District Visitor Information Centre (Phonsavan)	1,400	600	800

Source: MICT / DICT, 2015 data

² MICT Official Statistics, 2015

Visitors to Xieng Khouang tend to follow one of three touring circuits in addition to seeing the Plain of Jars. These include (i) Historic Khoun Circuit (taking in Khoun Town, Vat Piavat, That Foun and That Chomphet), (ii) the Southern Jar Route (taking in three jar sites and Ban Napia, a village making spoons and other ornaments from war shrapnel), and (iii) a section of the Northern Heritage Route (centred on Moung Kham, Ban Xang Hot Springs, Tham Piu and the Tai Dam village of Ban Xieng Kio), that links Luang Prabang, Houaphanh, Xieng Khouang and Sayabouly Provinces.

4.3 Visitor Markets and Expenditure

Table 3 summarises the main visitor markets, overnight stays and associated expenditure for Xieng Khouang Province. Expenditure from overnight stays is estimated to be about \$2.1 million for 2015 and nearly \$52,000 for day visitors.

Table 3: Overnight and day visitation to Xieng Khouang Province, 2015

Market	Volume as per MICT 2015 data	% staying overnight	Adjusted volume (rounded)	Spend per day \$	Average length of stay (days)	Revenue related to o/night stays
Domestic	11,644	90%	10,500	\$15	2	\$315,000
International	7,877	100%	7,877	\$58	2	\$914,000
Regional	32,139	90%	29,000	\$30	1	\$870,000
Total	51,660		47,377			\$2.1 million

Notes:

1. Vietnamese visitors make up 31,000 of all Regional arrivals. It is assumed that most stay one night
2. International daily expenditure and length of stay is based on the MICT Visitor Exit Survey 2016 undertaken in Xieng Khouang
3. Regional daily expenditure is adjusted to \$30/day to account for the dominance of Vietnamese visitors crossing at Nam Kanh (31,000 arrivals)
4. Total expenditure by **day visitors** is estimated to be **\$51,396** based on an average \$12 per person for 4,283 total day visitors (the difference between total visitors and overnight visitors)

Assumptions have been made to estimate the proportion of visitor markets, overnight stays and expenditure specifically for Paek, Khoun and Kham Districts (Table 4).

Table 4: Estimate of visitor markets and expenditure for Paek, Khoun and Kham Districts

Market	Provincial Volume	Total Districts' Volume	Spend per day \$	ALOS (days)	O/Night Revenue	Total Day Visit Revenue
Domestic	11,644	10,000	\$15	2	\$300,000	
International	7,877	7,000	\$50	2	\$700,000	
Regional	32,139	25,000	\$30	1	\$750,000	
Total	51,660	42,000			\$1.75 million	\$51,000

Assumptions:

1. Most visitors to Xieng Khouang Province would stay overnight in Phonsavan, Paek District. From the figures above, this would generate 59,000 room nights. There are 545,310 room nights available per year in the District, mostly in Phonsavan. This equates to an annual average occupancy of about 10%, while official records (MICT, 2015) show occupancy to be 56%. Further clarification is required to derive more reliable statistics for Paek, Kham and Khoun Districts. It is possible that there is a lot more use by domestic visitors in Xieng Khouang that is not showing up in official statistics.

2. Day visit revenue is based on the assumption of 4,250 day-visitors spending up to \$12 per person. This implies that all day visitors in the Province would visit either Paek, Kham or Khoun Districts.

International and regional visitor markets to Paek, Khoun and Kham Districts can be analysed further in terms of market size, needs / behaviour and future priority (Table 5).

Table 5: Market segmentation and priority for Paek, Khoun and Kham Districts

Target Market / Visitor Flow	Estimated size	Needs and Behaviour	Priority
International adventure travellers (independent)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low 5,000 to high 8,000 visitors per year - Numbers appear to be declining 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% arrive by road from Luang Prabang, Vientiane or Bolikhamxay • Spend between \$50 - \$60 per day and stay 2 nights on average • Looking for at least 1 or 2 quality activities or attractions • Focus is on Plain of Jars Site 1 but will visit other heritage sites and villages if good information is available on the ground or good guide available • Mostly well-travelled visitors 	High
NGOs, business and UXO clearance workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Between 500 and 1,000 arrivals per year (to be confirmed) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most arrive by air • Working in the Province with time to visit heritage attractions • Repeat visitors and so know the Province quite well • Looking for good information at each site • Some will use the services of a local guide if they have expert local knowledge and good language skills 	Medium to High
Small group package tours (western and ASEAN markets)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Less than 2,000 currently (yet to be confirmed) - Mainly European, Australian, US and Thai visitors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well-travelled people interested in cultural and natural heritage • Spend between \$40 - \$55 per day and stay 1 night on average • Xieng Khouang needs improved attractions or activities to hold these visitors for longer 	High
Individual Vietnamese tourists with own transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Possibly between 5,000 and 10,000 passing through Xieng Khouang, but very few stay for more than 2 days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Driving between Vietnam and Vientiane or Luang Prabang • Some of these visitors are going to Plain of Jars Site 1 • Limited interest in cultural heritage attractions • Spend \$30 to \$35 per day on average 	Low to Medium
Large group tours – Vietnamese tourists mainly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Larger volume (approx. 15,000 to 25,000) staying overnight in Phansavan on way to/from Vientiane or Thailand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many bypass Khoun and Kham Districts • Maybe interested in a night market if available • Spend less than \$30 per day 	Low

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4.4 Visitor Satisfaction

Visitor satisfaction in Xieng Khouang is reasonably low (Table 6). This was measured via the Visitor Exit Survey in May – June 2016 of international visitors. Despite low scores for attractions, accommodation, restaurants, tour operators and management of the environment, between 77% and 85% of international visitors would recommend Xieng Khouang to others (MICT Visitor Exit Survey, 2016).

Table 6: Average satisfaction – International Visitors Only

Item	Score (1=low and 5=high)
Attractions	2.1
Accommodation	2.1
Restaurants, cafes	1.8
Tour operators / agents	1.8
Environmental management / protection	2.3

MICT Visitor Exit Survey, 2016

These results suggest that Paek, Khoun and Kham Districts could improve their performance in attractions, accommodation, food services, tour activities and management of the environment. International and regional travellers to Xieng Khouang would probably spend more if there were better attractions, places to stay and higher standard activities available.

4.5 Village Engagement in Tourism

There is limited engagement by local villages in tourism in Paek, Khoun and Kham Districts. Three villages including Ban Tajok, Ban Na-o and Ban Xang were surveyed in May 2016 to find out how much they earn through tourism. These villages are associated with the current NZ – Lao Tourism Support Project. Table 7 shows the results for household income for the three villages.

Table 7: Average household income from tourism in three villages, Xieng Khouang

Village	Average annual household income	Income from tourism	Main sources of income	Main tourism income activities
Ban Tajok	6,000,000 Kip \$737	Nil	- Farming	NA
Ban Na-o	13,000,000 Kip \$1,600	2,800,000 Kip \$344	- Farming - Forest products - Labourer - Government job	Handicrafts Employed in restaurant Food outlet
Ban Xang	11,600,000 Kip \$1,430	5,200,000 Kip \$640	- Farming - Government job	Handicrafts Food outlets Hot springs

The results show that household income from tourism is very low. It can be assumed from these results that income from tourism in other villages in Xieng Khouang is also low. Table 8 reports on total tourism revenue for each village. This shows overall low levels of tourism revenue. Ban Xang has accumulated over \$5,000 in a village tourism account. This is associated with the hot springs, village lodge and handicraft retail operation. While Ban Xang engages 81 women and 10 men in its tourism operation (including handicrafts), the average spend per visitor is only \$4.

Table 8: Average village-level income from tourism

Village	Village income from tourism	Village Tourism Account	Main sources of village income	Employment in tourism activities	Total households / poor households
Ban Tajok	Nil 300 int. and 1,000 domestic visitors in last 12 months	No	Farming Rice Fruit / vegetables	None	140 / 1
Ban Na-o	No data available	No	Farming Rice Textiles	25 women involved in textiles	254 / 1
Ban Xang	82,000,000 Kip \$10,000 2,560 visitors in last 12 months (960 int. and 1,600 domestic) \$4 per visitor	Yes 47,000,000 Kip \$5,800	Farming Rice	1 Guesthouse 2 Restaurants 1 Handicraft outlet Hot springs 81 women involved with ticket sales, hot springs operation, guesthouse, handicrafts, food services 10 men involved with ticket sales, guiding, home-stay	70 / 2

4.6 Business Realities

Thirteen businesses from accommodation, restaurant/café and tour operator were interviewed in May - June 2016 to find out about the commercial realities of working in the tourism sector. Many businesses are reporting less revenue for 2015 than in 2014.

For hotels and guesthouses, approximately 40% mentioned business was up on last year, 20% said the same as last year and 40% reported less business than a year ago. Most restaurants reported less business than last year. About 40% reported the same level of revenue than in 2014. None of those interviewed reported an increase in business. The three tour operators interviewed reported a decrease in business over the previous year.

4.7 Views of Government Agencies

Interviews were carried out with local authorities during preparation of the DMP (Table 9). There is a strong desire to collaborate with MICT and DICT on the management of Paek, Khoun and Kham Districts.

Table 9: Agency feedback on tourism in Xieng Khouang

Agency	Economic Priorities	Goals for working with tourism private sector	Goals for working with tourism public sector	Challenges	Willingness to collaborate on Destination Management activities
Provincial Tourism Office	- Poverty reduction - Tourism development - Agriculture and energy sectors	More collaboration on planning and development	Share lessons on tourism and workforce development	Implementing industry regulations	Yes

Paek District Tourism Office	Agriculture, energy and tourism development	<i>Reduction of illegal businesses</i>	Draft the tourism development plan	<i>Social responsibility and limited expertise in tourism industry</i>	Yes
Natural Resources and Environment	- Economic development zone - Environmental management	<i>Waste management controls and increase environmental awareness</i>	Collaboration of environmental management	<i>Stronger rules and enforcement to protect the environment</i>	Yes
Public Works and Transport	- Export agriculture products - Tourism development	<i>More collaboration on infrastructure</i>	More collaboration on infrastructure	<i>Management of the transport system and price controls</i>	Yes
Department of Industry and Commerce	- Tourism development - One-stop investment service - Poverty reduction	<i>Increase investment by working closely with private sector</i>	Work with other agencies to make investment easier	<i>How to attract more investment</i>	
Public Security Division	- Poverty reduction - Security	<i>Support private sector investors</i>	More collaboration with DICT on industry regulations	<i>Stronger implementation of laws and regulations</i>	Yes

5. Key Issues and Opportunities

The following issues and opportunities are based on (i) feedback from members of the DMN (ii) analysis of previous tourism and cultural heritage reports and plans for Xieng Khouang, and (iii) results of the Visitor Exit Survey 2016.

Key Issues

1. Paek, Khoun and Kham Districts have much to offer domestic, regional and international visitors. However, the presence of UXO's and difficulties associated with air and road transport will constrain tourism in the short to medium term
2. Beyond the Plain of Jars, little is known by visitors about what Xieng Khouang has to offer
3. Government agencies and the local tourism industry in Xieng Khouang do not have a long history of working effectively together. Progress is being made but a lot more can be done to leverage funding and resources
4. The MICT Visitor Exit Survey 2016 shows low levels of satisfaction with facilities, attractions, food and beverage and management of the environment by international visitors
5. There is very limited information available about the tourism sector for investors to make decisions about investing in Xieng Khouang. The lack of data also effects DICT and other agencies in their ability to manage the tourism sector.

Opportunities

1. Because of the constraints caused by UXOs and access to the Province, the Destination Management Network has an opportunity to prioritise which projects should be priorities for the next 5 to 10 years. Agreeing to some “Quick Win” projects would provide clear direction and the best use of limited resources
2. A brand identity could be developed for Xieng Khouang that highlights not only the Plain of Jars but also other features, strengths and values associated with the destination. This could be integrated into new marketing material on Xieng Khouang and distributed online and in print media
3. Currently the economic impact from tourism in Xieng Khouang is low. The Destination Management Network has nothing to lose by working more closely together in order to increase visitor arrivals and the economic impact from tourism
4. More accurate and reliable data should be collected and shared between government and the private sector in order to make important investment decisions.

6. Xieng Khouang - Action Plan

The following Action Plan outlines priority projects that the DMN believes will: (i) improve the visitor experience (ii) raise the profile of the destination, (iii) increase economic impact. Timeframes include short-term (1-3 years), medium-term (3-5 years) and long-term (5-10 years). “Quick Win” projects are highlighted for each table. These are projects that the DMN has agreed to start work on first.

Attractions and Activities

	Actions	Rationale	Timing	Lead	Support	Funding
1	Develop more evening activities for Phonsavan such as artistic / cultural performances, story-telling about the past (Secret War) and a night market QUICK WIN PROJECT	<i>There are virtually no evening activities in Phonsavan compared with other destinations in Lao</i>	Start 2016	DICT	Paek District, Dept. Commerce and Industry	Mix of donor (Small Grants), private sector and government
2	Work with tour operators to design and market tours of villages that could showcase the ethnic diversity of Xieng Khouang (for instance, Ban Nasala, Ban Nanou, Ban Thoum) QUICK WIN PROJECT	<i>Approximately 6 - 8 villages are engaged with tourism although the quality of the visitor experience varies considerably. Some such as Ban Tajok have received visitors for over 15 years but do not generate any income from tourists. A possible solution is to engage fewer villages and create higher quality experiences</i>	2016 - 2018	DICT	Paek, Kham and Khoun Districts. Xieng Khouang Provincial Tourism Office	NZ Aid Program (Small Grants), private sector and local government
3	Continue to improve the historic sites in Paek, Khoun and Kham Districts in order to attract more visitors (including but not limited to Tham Piu Cave, Vat Piavat, That Foun and That Chomphet). Actions include site planning and restoration, interpretation, upgrade of existing or construction of new visitor facilities associated with these sites	<i>The historic sites in Paek, Khoun and Kham Districts play an important role in Xieng Khouang's tourism industry. They are also important heritage sites for Lao culture. Urgent conservation, restoration and interpretation work is required to prevent further deterioration and to make them more meaningful places to visit</i>	2017 - 2020	DICT	Kham and Khoun Districts, Heritage Department	Mix of donor and local government

	Actions	Rationale	Timing	Lead	Support	Funding
4	Continue to improve the visitor experience and facilities at the main Plain of Jars sites (1, 2 and 3 and Phou Kaeng). This includes development and management of facilities, on-site and online interpretation, integration of commercial operations (handicrafts, cafes, tours, retail) and engagement between visitors and researchers (such as the Australian National University, ANU, archaeology project at Plain of Jars Site 1)	<i>The Plain of Jars sites 1, 2 and 3 are the main attraction for domestic and international visitors to Xieng Khouang. Some of these sites may be incorporated within a proposed World Heritage Site in the next 3 – 5 years</i>	2016 ongoing	DICT	Heritage Department, tourism industry, ANU, UNESCO	Mix of donor and local government
5	Increase the promotion and clarify the timing of key festivals and events to attract more visitors to Xieng Khouang. This includes Pii Mai / Lao New Year (develop more activities and make press releases at least 2 months before), Hmong New Year , Khmu Ethnic Festival, Khao Kai Noy and a potential “ Plain of Jars ” Festival or Spring Festival	<i>Festivals and other cultural events have the potential to raise the profile of Xieng Khouang. Currently most events are aimed at local people. More could be done to attract visitors using exciting, colourful events</i>	2016 ongoing	DICT	DMN	Provincial and District governments
6	Improve the beautification of Phonsavan township with sculptures, gardens and other ‘street art’ to reinforce the heritage of Xieng Khouang in downtown Phonsavan and at Xieng Khouang Airport	<i>Second Indo-China war artefacts are quite common in downtown Phonsavan and to a lesser extent in Khoun and Kham Districts. There is a lack of sculptures or artwork on other aspects of Xieng Khouang’s history – Jars, kingdoms, early wars and so on. There is potential to improve the ‘look and feel’ of downtown Phonsavan through more creative art work and town beautification</i>	2018 - 2020	DICT	Artists, local businesses	Mix of donor (Small Grants), private sector and government
7	Collaborate with the private sector in Phonsavan, Vientiane and Luang Prabang to create tour products or packages that could appeal to higher spending visitors and generate longer stays in the Province	<i>Most western, higher spending visitors (small groups, couples and other adventure travellers) arrive in Xieng Khouang from Luang Prabang or Vientiane. Some are also on the Northern Heritage Route linking Luang Prabang, Xieng Khouang, Houaphanh and Sayabouly Provinces. Over time, as local attractions improve, there will be the need to partner with tour companies that are located outside of the province</i>	2017 ongoing	DICT	Paek, Kham and Khoun Districts, DMN	Mix of donor (Small Grants), private sector and government

Marketing and Information

	Actions	Rationale	Timing	Lead	Support	Funding
1	Distribute and display information about Xieng Khouang in provinces where tourism is growing or where there are linkages with Xieng Khouang (such as Luang Prabang, Luang Namtha, Sayabouly, Vientiane Capital, Vientiane, Champassak, Savannakhet, Nan in Thailand and on the Vietnamese border). Include a new brand identity for Xieng Khouang Province. QUICK WIN PROJECT	<i>Many visitors make their travel decisions before arriving in Lao. Once in Lao, some visitors will change their itineraries. Despite this there is a need to raise the profile of Xieng Khouang in other provinces and try to influence their travel decisions</i>	2016 - 2018	DICT	Private sector – hotels and tour operators	Government, private sector and NZ Aid Program
2	Produce a pocket travel guide for Xieng Khouang. Update annually using paid advertising/sponsorship and government funding. Use a simple, effective design. Languages required: English, Lao QUICK WIN PROJECT	<i>There is currently no official pocket guide for Xieng Khouang. These are very popular with independent travellers in addition to their use of online information</i>	2016 – 2018	DICT	NZ Aid Program, other donors	Combined private sector and government
3	Provide training in online and print media marketing for members of the DICT QUICK WIN PROJECT	<i>Government and private sector personnel often require refresher training in online marketing and print media marketing. Online and print media is changing rapidly and it is important that the DICT has the skills for the job. Influencing traveller decisions before they arrive in Lao is the main priority</i>	2016 - 2018	DICT	Online and print marketing expert / volunteer	NZ Aid Program, government, industry
4	Invite travel writers regularly to Xieng Khouang to produce quality articles in target publications (adventure publications such as Action Asia, Lonely Planet, airline in-flight magazines, Oh Magazine and others)	<i>Good articles in key adventure travel publications are essential for raising the profile of Xieng Khouang</i>	2016 - 2020	DICT	DMN members	DICT and industry
5	Develop a new information centre or kiosk in Meuang Khoun	<i>Meuang Khoun has the potential to attract more visitors. Many of these will be independent travellers who would use a local information centre. There is a good opportunity for Khoun District and DICT to partner on such a project</i>	2017 - 2019	DICT	Khoun District, DMN	Khoun District, DICT and NZ Aid Program

	Actions	Rationale	Timing	Lead	Support	Funding
6	Support local travel agents and hotels to contract with offshore travel wholesalers and online travel agents	<i>Most hotels in Xieng Khouang can be booked online through owner websites or through third-party sites such as Booking.com. Most offshore tour wholesalers are not selling tours in Xieng Khouang because these are not developed enough yet to sell. As the region develops, local tour companies may need expert advice and training in how to work with international travel wholesalers and Lao inbound operators</i>	2018 - 2020	DICT	Experienced inbound agents in Vientiane and Luang Prabang	Private sector, DICT and donors
7	Install directional, awareness raising and interpretation signs/displays/panels in Paek, Khoun and Kham Districts for the main attractions	<i>There are limited directional signs to local attractions and very little heritage information provided for visitors throughout the province. Xieng Khouang's visitors are looking for better and more meaningful information to help them appreciate and recommend the province to others</i>	2017 - 2020	DICT	DMN, heritage experts	Government and donors

Infrastructure and Transport

	Actions	Rationale	Timing	Lead	Support	Funding
1	Develop rest areas and viewpoints along the main tourist routes in Paek, Khoun and Kham Districts. Identify up to 6 main viewpoints in 2016. QUICK WIN PROJECT	<i>Most visitors to Xieng Khouang are independent travellers and these people are looking for scenic viewpoints and other points of interest to add interest to their journey. The first step in this activity is to identify the best stopping places</i>	2017 - 2019	DICT	Kham, Khoun and Paek Districts	Districts, Provincial Govt, DICT and donors
2	Build a trekking trail to access historic sites in Meuang Khoun QUICK WIN PROJECT	<i>Development of a heritage trail in Meuang Khoun has been talked about for many years. There is potential for a 1 to 2hr trail connecting the heritage sites and lookouts in Meuang Khoun and this would hold visitors in town for longer</i>	2017 - 2018	DICT	Khoun District	Khoun District, DICT, NZ Aid Program
3	Liaise with Lao Airlines to establish better connections between Phonsavan, Luang Prabang and Vientiane	<i>The only flights to Xieng Khouang are from Vientiane. There are no connections via Luang Prabang or destinations in the south of Lao. Options to create better linkages to Luang Prabang or other centres should be explored. Access to Xieng Khouang for most visitors is difficult. Increased air access could open up further growth for tourism</i>	2018 - 2020	DICT	MICT / DICT	MICT / DICT, hotels

Training and Skill Development

	Actions	Rationale	Timing	Lead	Support	Funding
1	Run a seminar on tourism awareness for stakeholders and local people QUICK WIN PROJECT	<i>There is limited understanding in the wider community about the value of tourism to Xieng Khouang. Buy in from the wider community will be increasingly important over the next 10 years</i>	2016 - 2017	DICT	NZ Aid Program, Xieng Khouang Province, Kham, Khoun, Paek Districts	Local government, NZ Aid Program
2	Provide annual training for selected handicraft villages and assist with improved access to markets QUICK WIN PROJECT	<i>Some villages producing handicrafts are highly skilled while most others require more skill development over the next 5 years</i>	2017 - 2020	DICT	NZ Aid Program, DMN, handicraft trainers	NZ Aid Program, other donors
3	Conduct annual training for tour guides and other frontline staff QUICK WIN PROJECT	<i>There is a lack of highly skilled tour guides with good knowledge of the cultural history of Xieng Khouang</i>	Annual	DICT	Tour operators, expert safety / first aid trainers	NZ Aid Program, government, industry
4	Undertake a Training Needs Analysis and HRD Plan for the tourism sector in Xieng Khouang	<i>The training needs of the tourism sector are not clearly understood. A training needs assessment is required in order to identify what training is required, by whom and how many participants should be involved. There is a risk of running ad-hoc training sessions when the real needs of the industry are not understood or quantified</i>	2016-2017	DICT	Private sector and District tourism officers	NZ Aid Program

Planning, Policy and Regulations

	Actions	Rationale	Timing	Lead	Support	Funding
1	<p>Establish a local tourism association to improve service standards and manage local issues more collaboratively</p> <p>QUICK WIN PROJECT</p>	<i>Most tour companies and hotels do not work closely with each other. As a result there is increasing competition on price, lowering of service standards and lack of cooperation. This will harm the destination over time. Stakeholders at the first DMN meeting in Phonsavan agreed to form a local tourism association to address these issues</i>	2016	DICT	DMN	Private sector, NZ Aid Program
2	Support the World Heritage Area nomination for the Plain of Jars	<i>World Heritage status for the Plain of Jars will provide increased profile and potential increased tourism for Xieng Khouang. It should also lead to improved management of Plain of Jars sites</i>	2016 - 2019	DMN	UNESCO, MICT	UNESCO, NZ Aid Program, MICT / DICT
3	Improve or update present tourism rules and regulations to be in accordance with the needs of tourism in Paek, Khoun and Kham Districts	<i>A review of current rules, law and regulations governing tourism development would help encourage growth in the tourism sector</i>	2018	DMN	DICT	DICT and Districts
4	Improve and share systems for gathering data on visitors to Xieng Khouang	<i>There is limited data on tourism in Xieng Khouang. Data is not shared between the main agencies or with the private sector. This needs to change in order to have better data for investment decisions</i>	2017 - 2020	DMN	DICT	NZ Aid Program



Overview of Management System for the Megalithic Jar Sites in Xiengkhuang – Plain of Jars

**Heritage Department
Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism
Lao PDR
February 2019**

Overview of Management System for the Megalithic Jar Sites in Xiengkhuang – Plain of Jars

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11. Conservation guidelines
12. Archaeo-demining protocol
13. Heritage Impact Assessment guidelines

Specialized plans (separate volume)

1. Archaeological Research Plan
2. Interpretation plan
3. Tourism management plan
4. Disaster risk management plan

1. Heritage significance of the site

Proposed Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

The Megalithic Jar Sites in Xiengkhuang province of central Laos is a serial property of 15 components. The ancient jar sites contain extensive and remarkable evidence of funerary practices, and are the outstanding evidence of the Iron Age civilization which created the sites.

Most of the funerary sites are located in elevated positions on hills or ridges, although one major site is located on the low hills of a central plain. The sites include 1,325 ancient stone jars as well as numerous associated stone discs, secondary burials and other features. The jars are the dominant and impressive feature of the sites being large in size and carved mostly from sandstone. Some of the jars are massive. In addition, the property includes exceptional sites with the largest concentration of jars, over 400 in one case, representing a very large proportion of the known evidence, as well as a range of smaller sites representing quarry sites or the geographic extent of sites.

The stone jars and disks have been carefully crafted and in some cases, especially disks, they exhibit decorative carving with animal or anthropomorphic figures, concentric circles, circular mouldings or a central knob or loop.

The funerary sites are believed to date from before the Iron Age (between about 500 BCE and 500 CE) into historic times, and are evidence of a substantial and widespread culture which existed in the region. Many details of this culture remain a mystery but the jar sites are its pre-eminent testimony.

Following this initial period, the jar sites were used by other cultures until the 18th century CE, as reflected in the complex archaeological evidence.

Criterion (iii): The sites are exceptional testimony to the cultural traditions associated with funerary practices, and to the civilization which created the sites but which disappeared sometime after 500 CE. The megalithic jar sites are impressive because of the size of jars and the technological skill to produce and move the jars from quarry sites to funerary sites, as well as because of the large number of surviving jars, disks and other features spread in groups across a large area of the current province. The sites include important archaeological evidence related to funerary practices, possibly of different eras and cultures, as well as of the material culture of the ancient civilisation which created the jars, and the locations of the funerary sites are highly suggestive of cultural meaning. The funerary sites are the outstanding surviving evidence of this civilisation. While the use of jars in funerary sites is known in other parts of Laos, northeast India and Southeast Asia, the density of sites in Xiengkhuang is remarkable.

Integrity

The Megalithic Jar Sites include the attributes necessary to express the Outstanding Universal Value. The 15 components include 1,325 ancient stone jars as well as numerous associated discs, secondary burials and other features. These include nine components of the five major sites (Sites 1, 2, 3 – Groups 1 & 3, 3 – Group 2, 3 – Group 4, 3 – Group 5, 3 – Group 7, 42 and 52) which have the largest number of attributes of all the known jar sites in the province (1,186 jars and 198 discs), as well as six smaller components (Sites 8, 12, 21, 23, 25 and 28). The property is of an adequate size to include the sites and their attributes.

There are a number of factors in the past and currently which have or may result in adverse effects. These include looting, bomb and other war damage, unexploded ordnance, vegetation growth, inappropriate tourist activities including graffiti, as well as inappropriate development in the property or buffer zones, and a lack of active management.

Authenticity

The property displays a high level of authenticity. The form, design, materials and location of the jars and discs are all original, noting the effects of age and the damage to some attributes. In most cases, the setting remains as an agricultural or forest landscape, which is believed to be consistent with or at least sympathetic to the original. The archaeological deposits are believed to be little disturbed, with very limited excavation having been undertaken, although some looting and disturbance by animals or agricultural practices has occurred.

2. Management objectives

The overall management vision for the Megalithic Jar Sites is to ensure the safeguarding of the site's significance through the protection of the jars and other heritage attributes along with the archaeological, landscape and natural setting, through close partnerships with the local authorities and communities.

The key management themes, management issues and management objectives are as follows.

Management Theme	Management Issues	Management objectives
1.Site protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Intrusion of cattle• Illegal excavation• Infrastructure and other developments• Pressure due to urban expansion and development	Protect the site from impacts which endanger the long-term safeguarding of its heritage values and attributes.
2.GIS, inventory and database	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Incomplete GIS of site• Incomplete inventory of jars and heritage features• Incomplete database of site	Improve documentation of the site and its attributes to use as a baseline for site management and monitoring by the heritage authorities and other agencies
3.Tourism and site development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understanding and interest of visitors• Inappropriate actions by visitors including recreational use• Future tourism pressures• Local communities in need of improved livelihoods	<p>Communicate the site's importance to national and international audience through improved interpretation and presentation, in line with latest research findings</p> <p>Ensure tourism develops in a sustainable manner in line with the site's carrying capacity</p> <p>Provide benefits to local communities through community-based tourism</p>
4. Awareness raising	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limited understanding leading to intentional/unintentional impact on jars• Extensions of agricultural	Improve understanding of the site's significance and management regulations as a basis for better cooperation in safeguarding the site

	areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logging and deforestation 	
5.Capacity building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited capacity in conservation of the sites • Limited capacity in enforcing Heritage Impact Assessment 	Improve capacity among management staff and local teams to undertake conservation, management and monitoring in cooperation with international and local partners Improve capacity to prevent or mitigate adverse developments through carrying out Heritage Impact Assessments
6.UXO clearance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remaining UXO 	Complete the clearance of UXO within the site, to ensure the safety of residents and visitors
7.Conservation and enhancement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural erosion processes of jars • Hillside erosion • Cattle grazing • Biogrowth 	Ensure the protection of the jars, other heritage attributes, along with the archaeological, landscape and natural setting

3. Overview of management system

The Plain of Jars property management system operates at three levels – national, provincial and district/village.

At each level and overall, there are key instruments which identify roles and responsibilities, and in some cases specific management activities. These instruments are as follows:

- **Overall plans and technical guidelines:**
 - **Action Plan for 2018-23**, defining specific future actions for the property;
 - **Conservation Guidelines**, to guide conservation activities at the property;
 - **Archaeo-demining Protocol**, to guide the removal of unexploded ordnance;
 - **Heritage Impact Assessment Guidelines**, to assess proposed actions which might impact the property;
 - **Archaeological Research Plan**, to guide future research;
 - **Interpretation Plan**, to guide interpretation based on the latest research findings;
 - **Tourism Management Plan**, to ensure sustainable tourism development and control tourism impacts on the site;
 - **Disaster Risk Management Plan**, to mitigate disaster risks;
- **Provincial level:**
 - **Provincial Decree No. 996** on the management and conservation of the property, including measures and activities for the property and buffer zones;
 - **Provincial Decree No. 995** regarding funding for the property;

- **Departmental decree No. 870**, creating and defining the role of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division, as the primary manager at the provincial level;
- **Provincial Guidelines** addressing a range of management activities which are the responsibility of the Provincial Government;
- **District/village level:**
 - **Site Guidelines** for use by villages responsible for specific sites, identifying active management measures and prohibited actions at each site; and
 - **Village Contracts** to ensure agreement to implement site guidelines.

The management system operates through a range of agencies at the various levels, especially the provincial Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division, with day to day management of most sites being the responsibility of villages in the vicinity of sites, supported by the Division. The national Department of Heritage plays a key technical role in research, conservation, heritage impact assessment and overall monitoring. Coordination is achieved through national and provincial committees. The primary management stakeholders are:

- Department of Heritage (national) – the primary technical adviser for the Plain of Jars, directly responsible for conservation and research, provides oversight of the provincial Department of ICT and conservation guidance to the provincial Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division;
- Department of ICT (provincial) – responsible for the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division, undertakes village awareness raising activities;
- Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division (provincial) – primary management role, guidance to district and village levels, responsible for monitoring and infrastructure/major works at the sites, also responsible for day to day maintenance, management and reporting regarding Site 1; and
- Villages – responsible for day to day maintenance, management and reporting for all other sites.

At the national level, there are two other stakeholders:

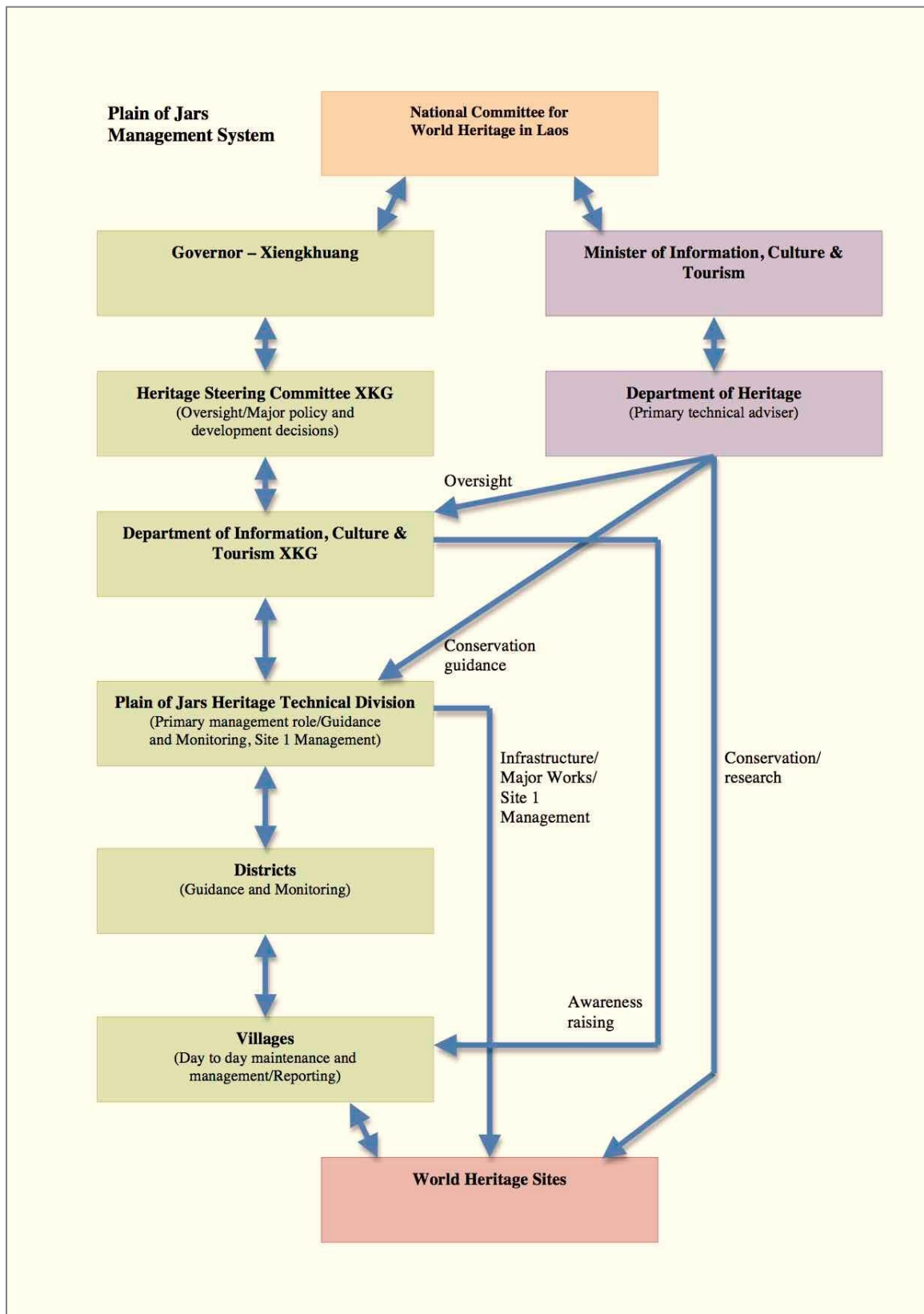
- the National Committee for World Heritage in Lao PDR – generally responsible for high level coordination and decisions regarding World Heritage in Lao PDR (appointed by a Prime Minister's decree and with a secretariat appointed by a Ministerial decree; and
- the Minister for ICT (national) – responsible for the Department of Heritage.

At the provincial level, there are several other stakeholders:

- Governor of Xiengkhuang province – overall responsibility for provincial activities related to the Plain of Jars;
- Xiengkhuang Heritage Steering Committee – provides oversight regarding the Plain of Jars, takes major policy and development decisions (created by a provincial decree); and
- district administration – responsible for guidance and monitoring of villages, in some cases replacing the village role.

The management system structure is summarised in the following figure.

Management System for the Plain of Jars



Coordination

Coordination of activities is achieved by the following mechanisms:

- the National Committee for World Heritage in Laos provides national level coordination, which includes representation by the province; and
- the Xiengkhuang Heritage Steering Committee provides provincial level coordination of provincial, district and village level activities.
- District level heritage committee provides district level coordination.

The National Committee for World Heritage is generally responsible for high level coordination and decisions regarding World Heritage in Lao PDR. It is appointed by the Decree of Prime Minister on Appointment of Lao National Committee for World Heritage January 2017. The Committee consist of representatives of national ministries and is chaired by the Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism. It is supported by a secretariat appointed by a Ministerial decree. The Committee meets at least once annually to review issues related to existing and proposed World Heritage sites in Lao PDR.

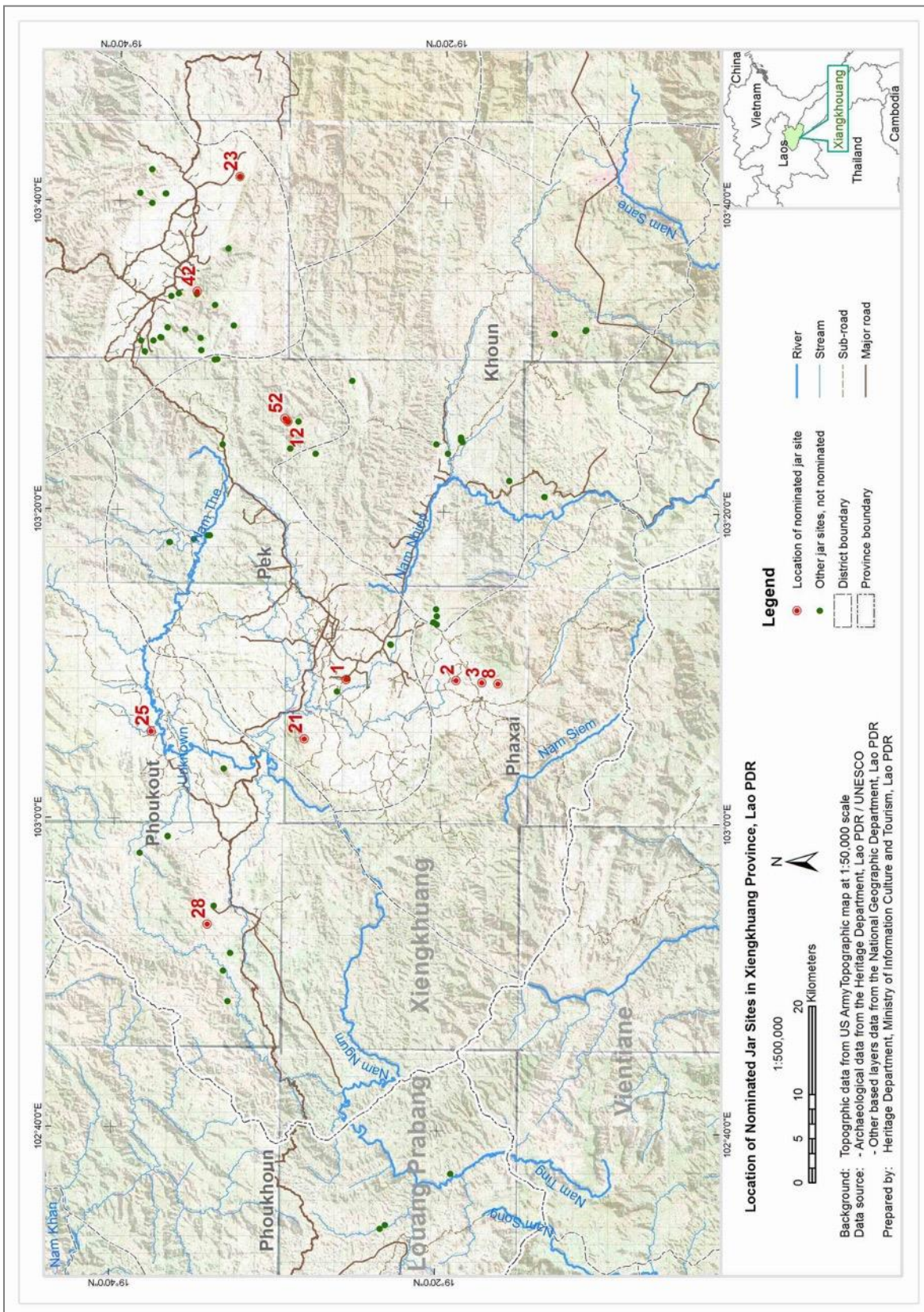
The Provincial Heritage Steering Committee was set up by Decree of the Governor of Xieng Khouang (No. 89/XK) in 2003 and the decree was updated in 2008 to conserve all Xieng Khouang heritage, including the Plain of Jars. The Committee consist of representatives of provincial departments and is chaired by the Deputy Governor in charge of Information, Culture and Tourism. The Committee is supported by a secretariat that includes district technical staff of the provincial departments and is headed by the Deputy Director Department of Information and Culture and the director of Heritage Office. The Provincial Heritage Steering Committee meets at least 3 times a year in order to receive progress updates, assessment of past activities, and introduction of workplans. The role of the Steering Committee is to monitor and oversee the management for the Plain of Jars, including providing oversight to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division. The Committee is empowered to decide on protective zoning related matters and the resolution of disputes related thereto, to authorize research and conservation activities, and to mobilize staff and financial resources, among other functions.

Similarly, the District level heritage committees in each of the three districts with nominated jar sites also play a coordination role among the different departments at the district level, which is important at the operational.

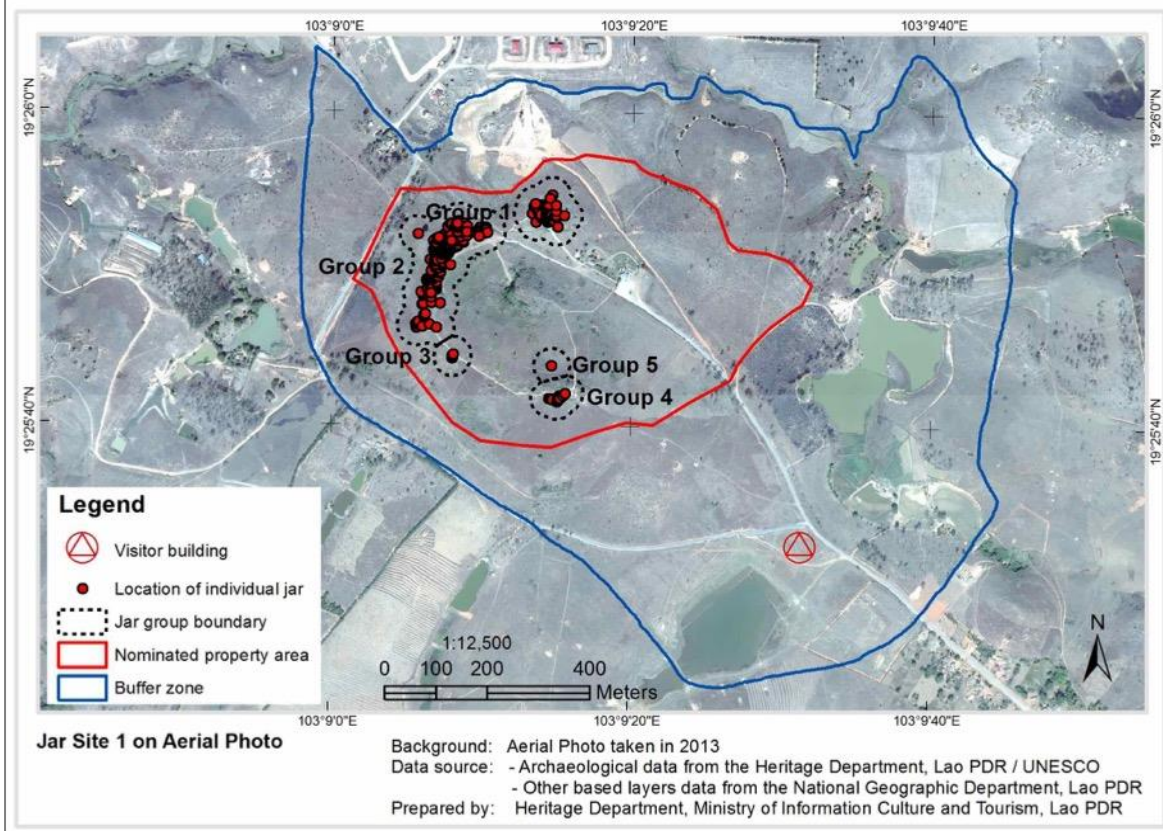
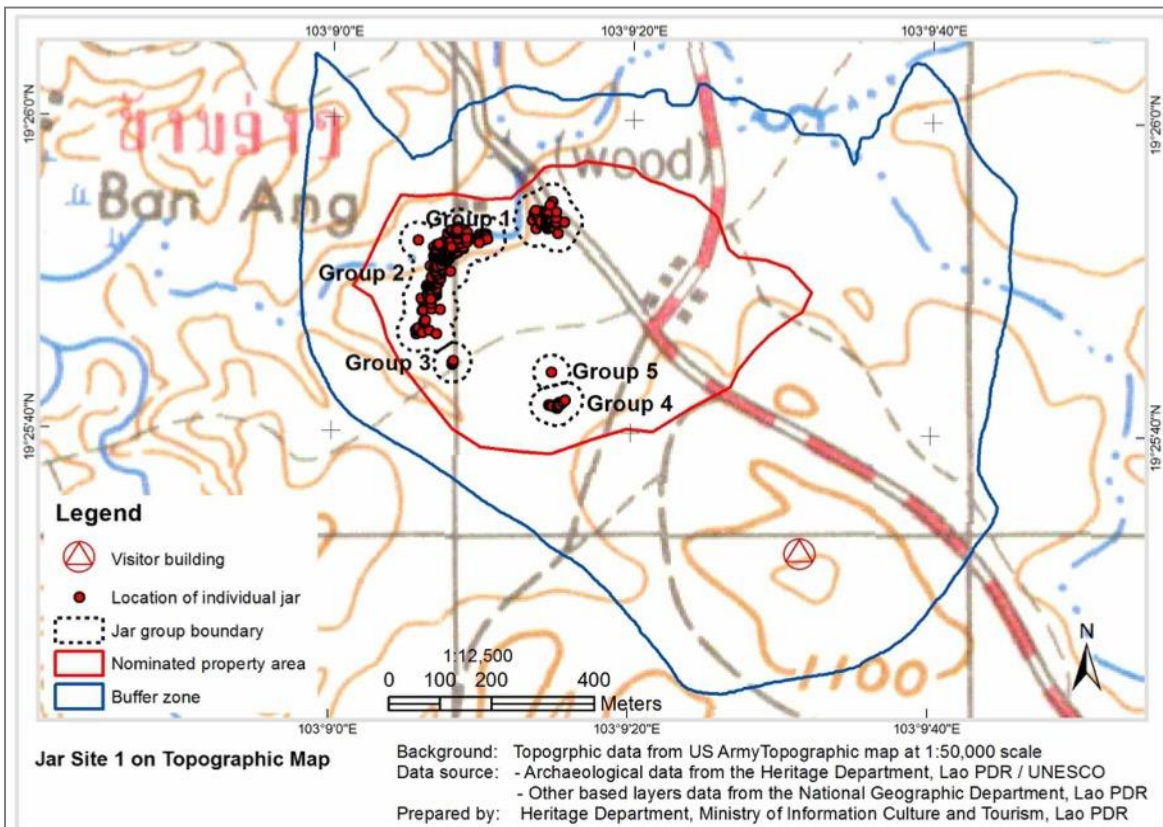
4. Legal demarcation and zoning

Geographical coordinates of component parts to the nearest second					
ID No.	Name of the Component Part	Region(s)/District(s)	Coordinates of the Central Point	Area of Nominated Component of the Property (ha)	Area of the Buffer Zone (ha)
1	Site 1	Paek District/Na O & Ban Ang Villages	N 19°25'48" E 103°9'18"	33.97	89.61
2	Site 2	Phaxay District/Ban Na Kho Village	N 19°19'12" E 103°9'15"	13.19	133.00
3-1-3	Site 3 – Groups 1 & 3	Phaxay District/Ban Xiengdi Village	N 19°17'46" E 103°9'33"	12.31	352.75
3-2	Site 3 – Group 2	Phaxay District/Ban Xiengdi Village	N 19°17'24" E 103°8'35"	0.38	
3-4	Site 3 – Group 4	Phaxay District/Ban Xiengdi Village	N 19°17'32" E 103°9'8"	0.53	
3-5	Site 3 – Group 5	Phaxay District/Ban Xiengdi Village	N 19°17'28" E 103°8'57"	1.32	
3-7	Site 3 – Group 7	Phaxay District/Ban Xiengdi Village	N 19°17'35" E 103°9'15"	5.60	
8	Site 8	Phaxay District/Ban Xiengdi Village	N 19°17'3" E 103°9'11"	8.39	
12	Site 12	Paek District/Ban Phakeo Village	N 19°28'59" E 103°25'59"	1.25	1.76
21	Site 21	Paek District/Khangnongluang Village	N 19°28'41" E 103°5'14"	32.34	146.89
23	Site 23	Kham District/Ban Namhom Village	N 19°32'43" E 103°41'42"	24.44	33.41
25	Site 25	Phoukood District/Ban Songhak Village	N 19°37'48" E 103°5'46"	8.03	6.14
28	Site 28	Phoukood District/Ban Nakhuan Village	N 19°34'16" E 102°53'14"	0.38	6.73
42	Site 42	Kham District/Phou Xang Village	N 19°35'21" E 103°34'5"	22.66	114.88
52	Site 52	Paek District/Ban Phakeo Village	N 19°29'42" E 103°25'56"	9.77	127.77
Total area (ha)				173.56	1,012.94

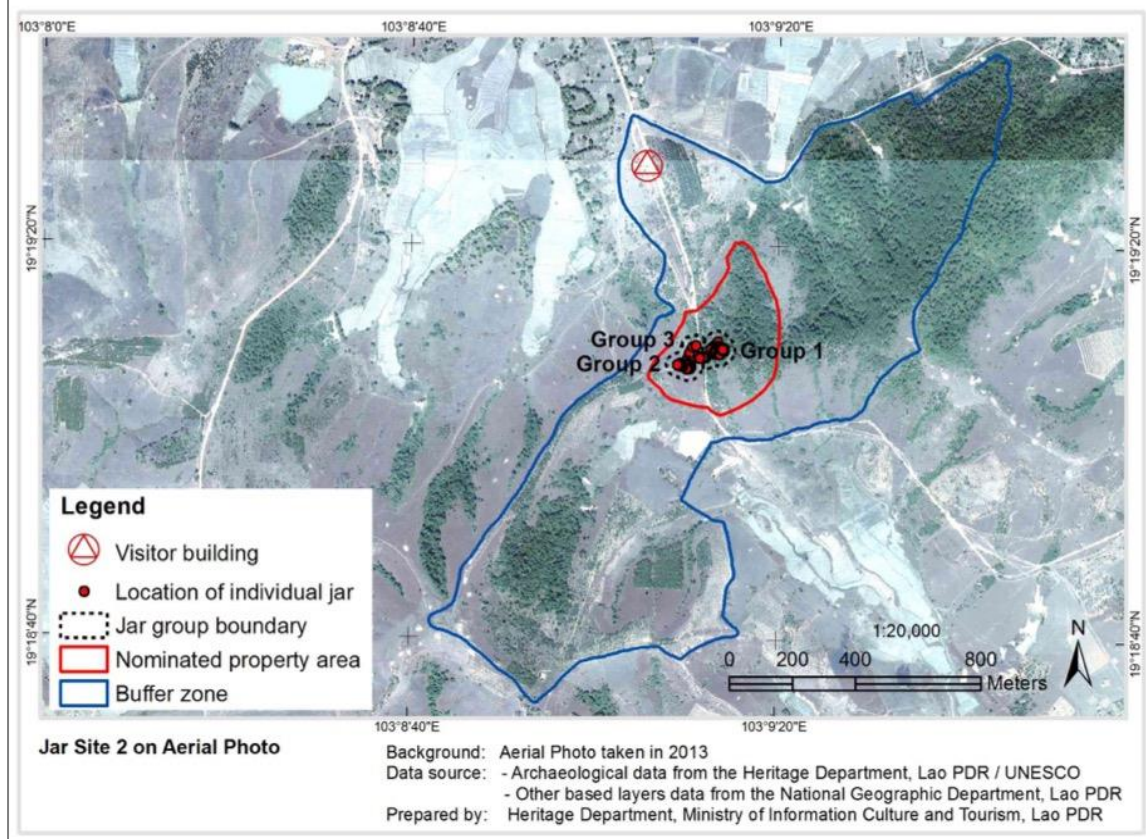
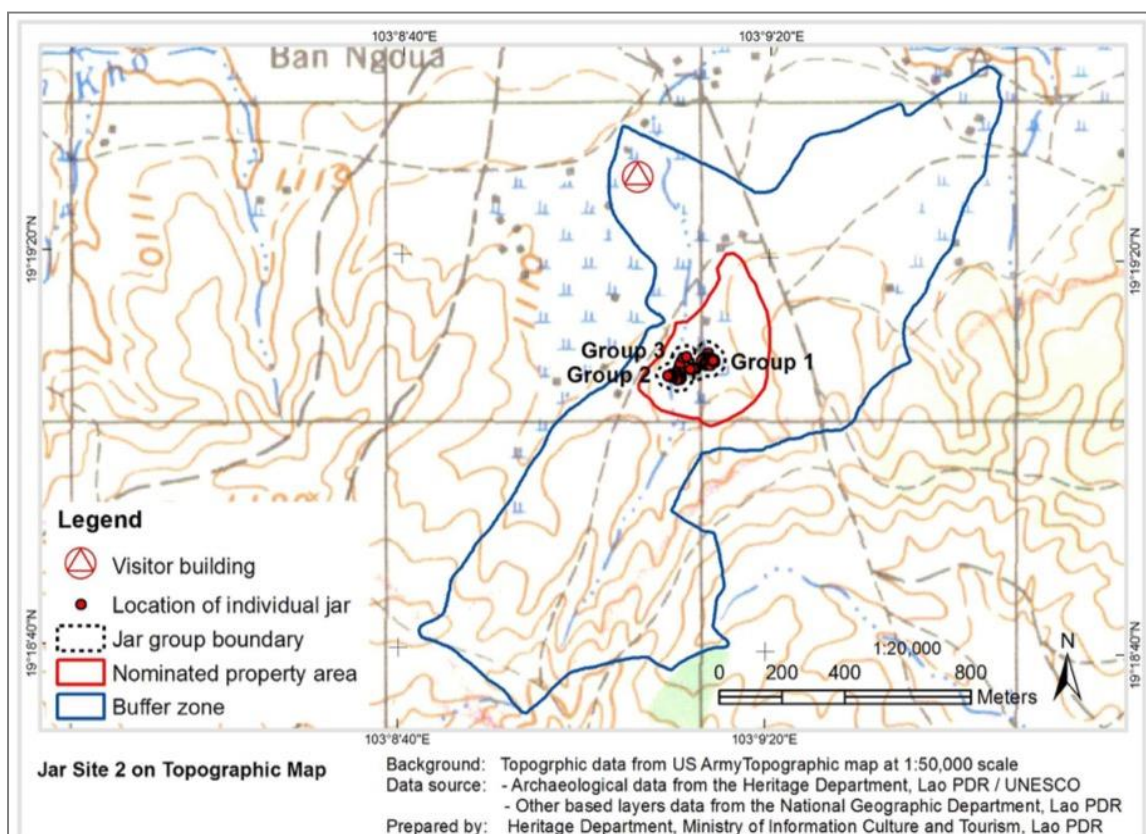
Location of nominated jar sites in Xiengkhuang Province



Site 1 demarcation

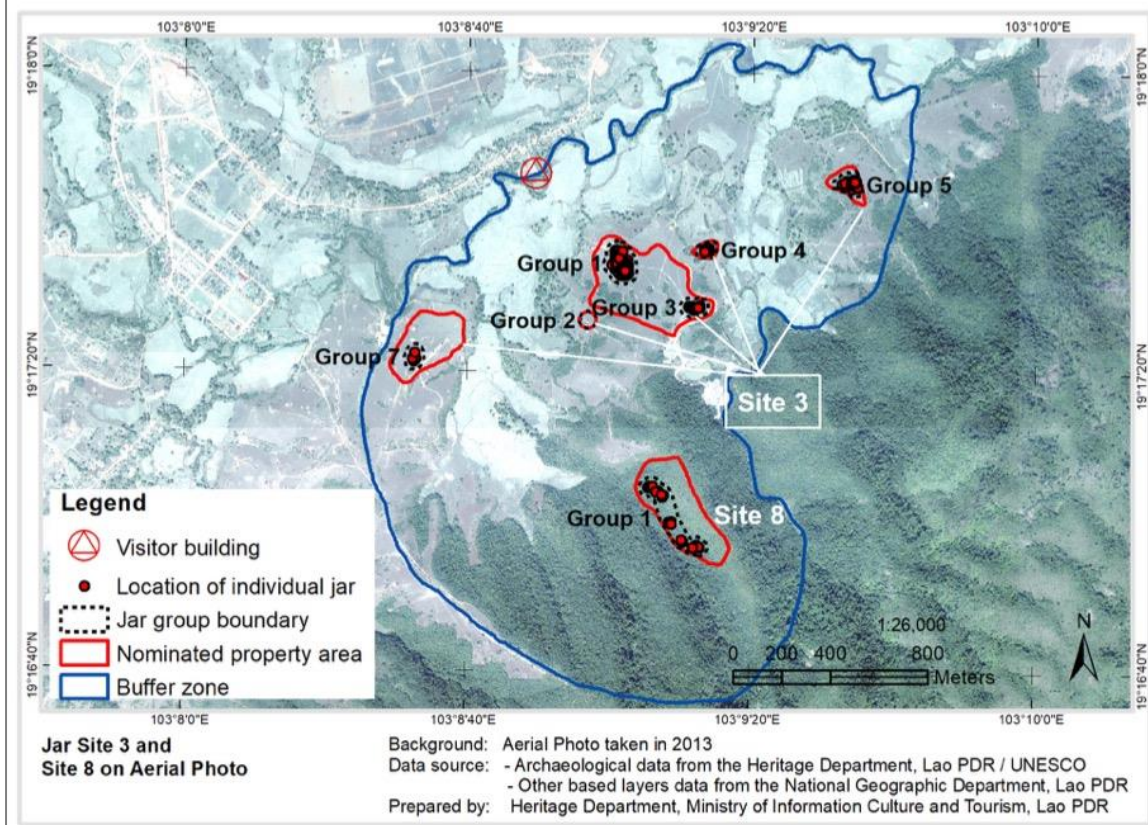
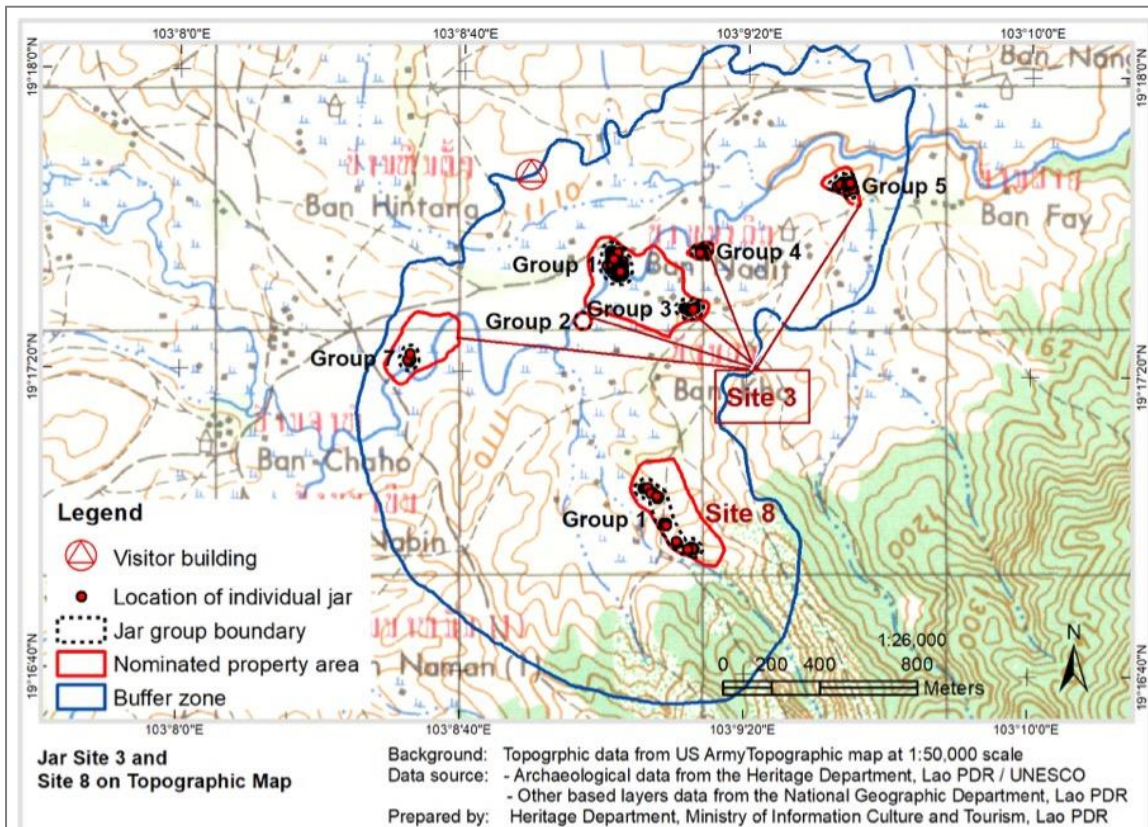


Site 2 demarcation

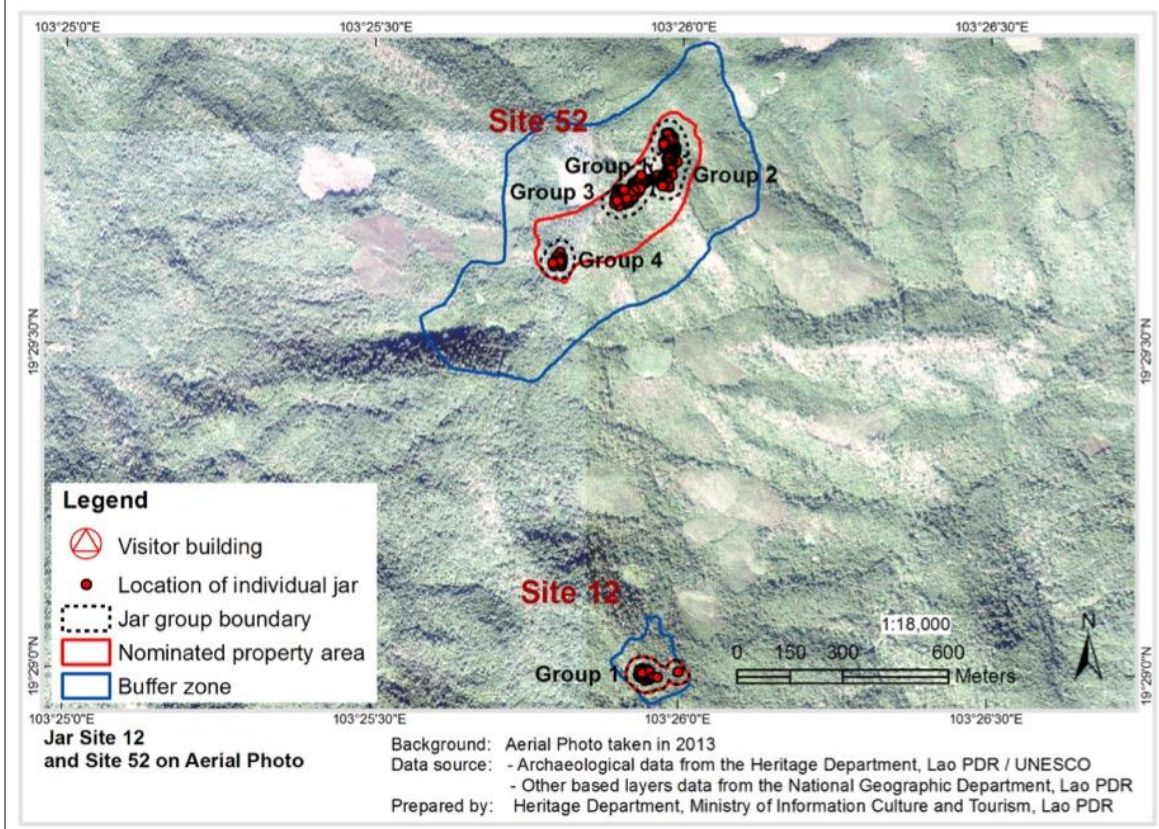
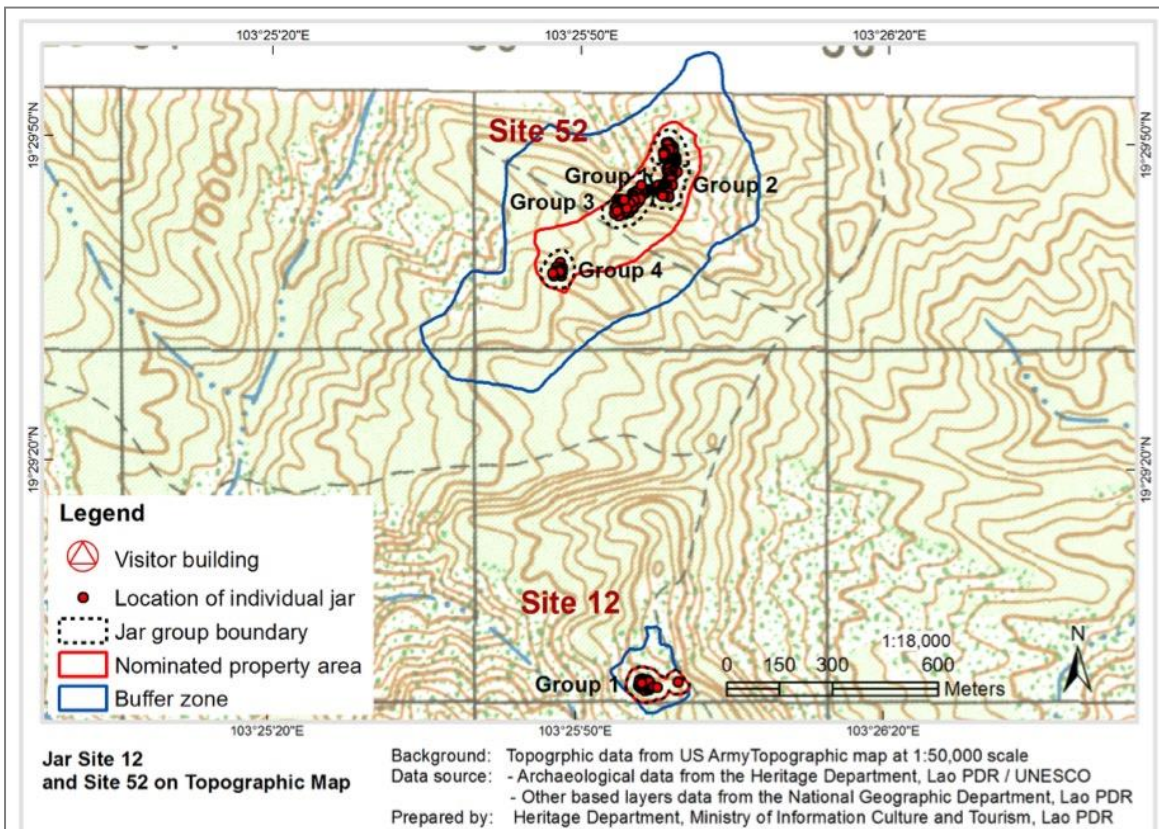


Site 3 Demarcation

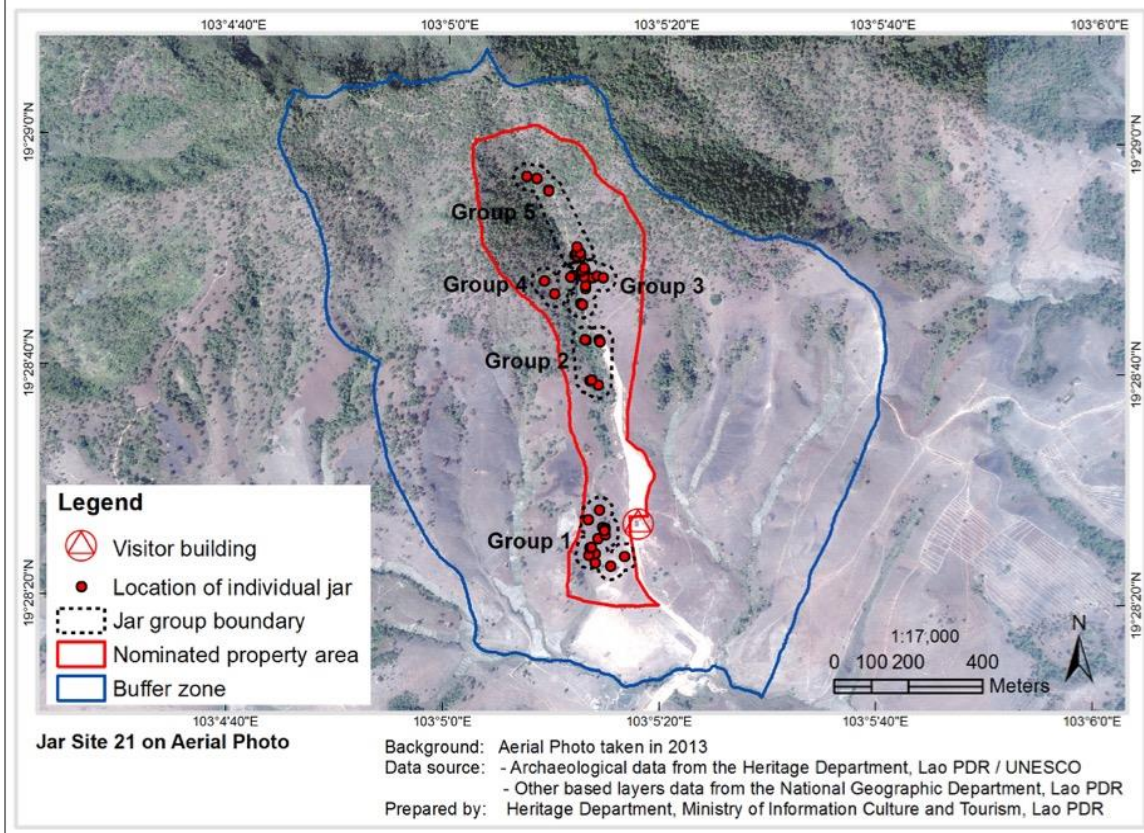
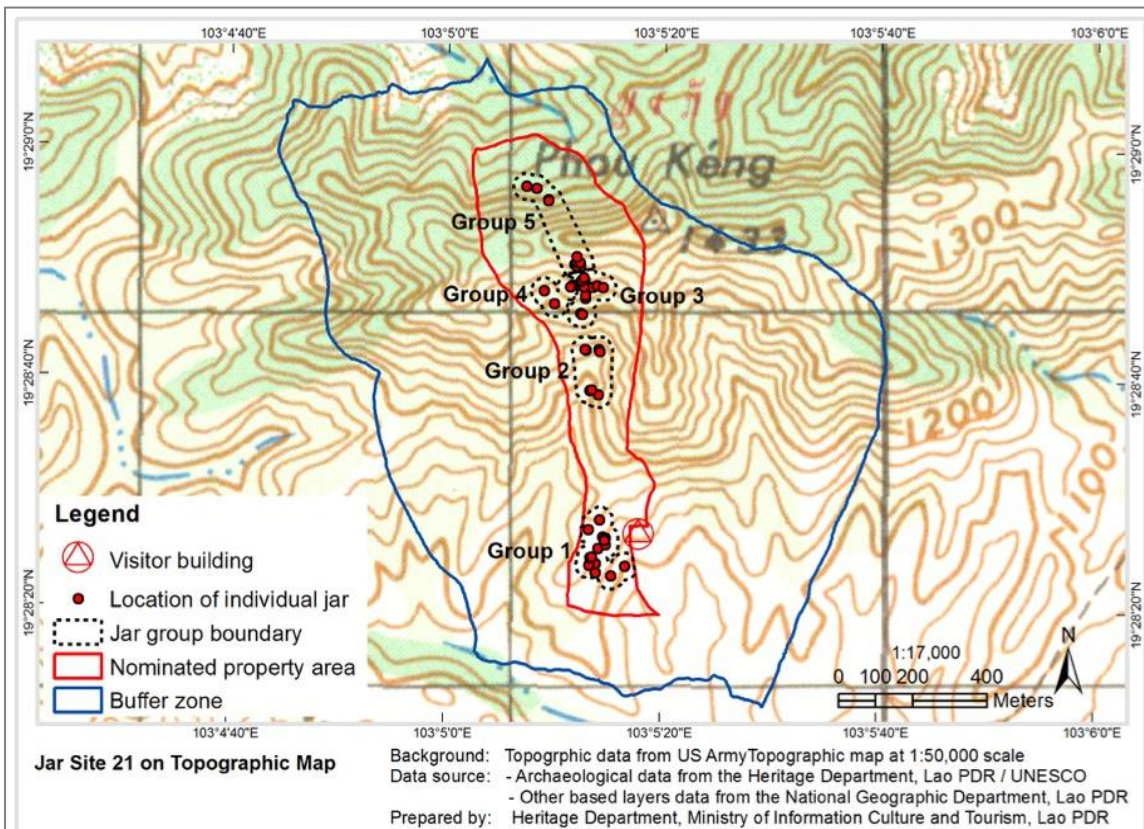
(Groups 3-1 & 3-3, Group 3-2, Group 3-4, Group 3-5, Group 3-7 and 3-8)



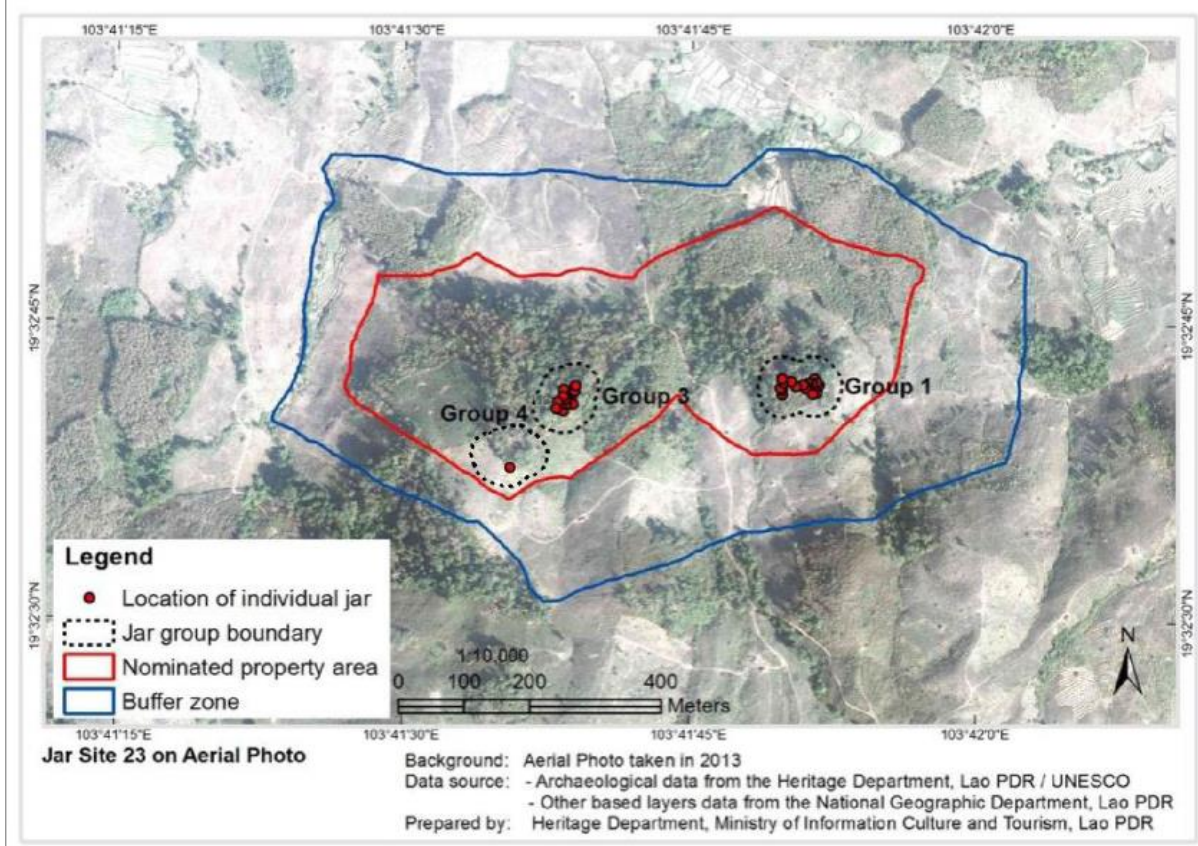
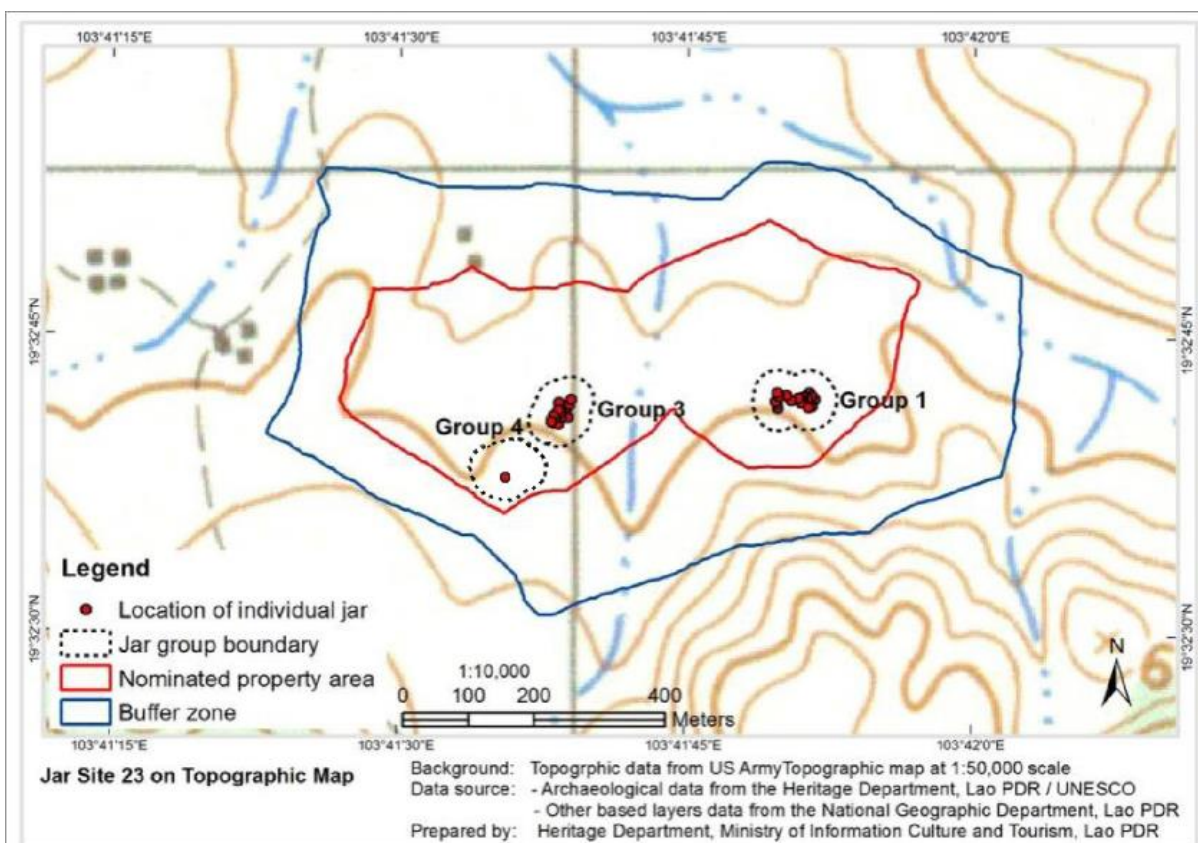
Sites 12 and 52 demarcation



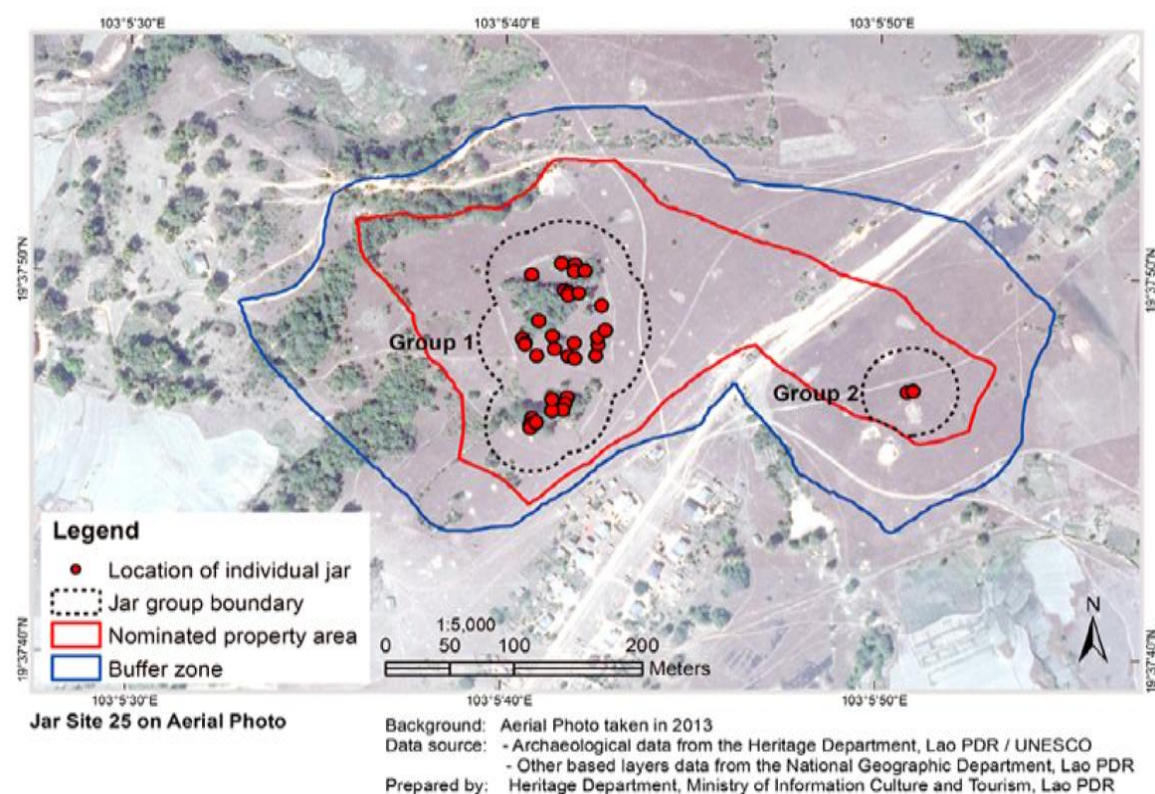
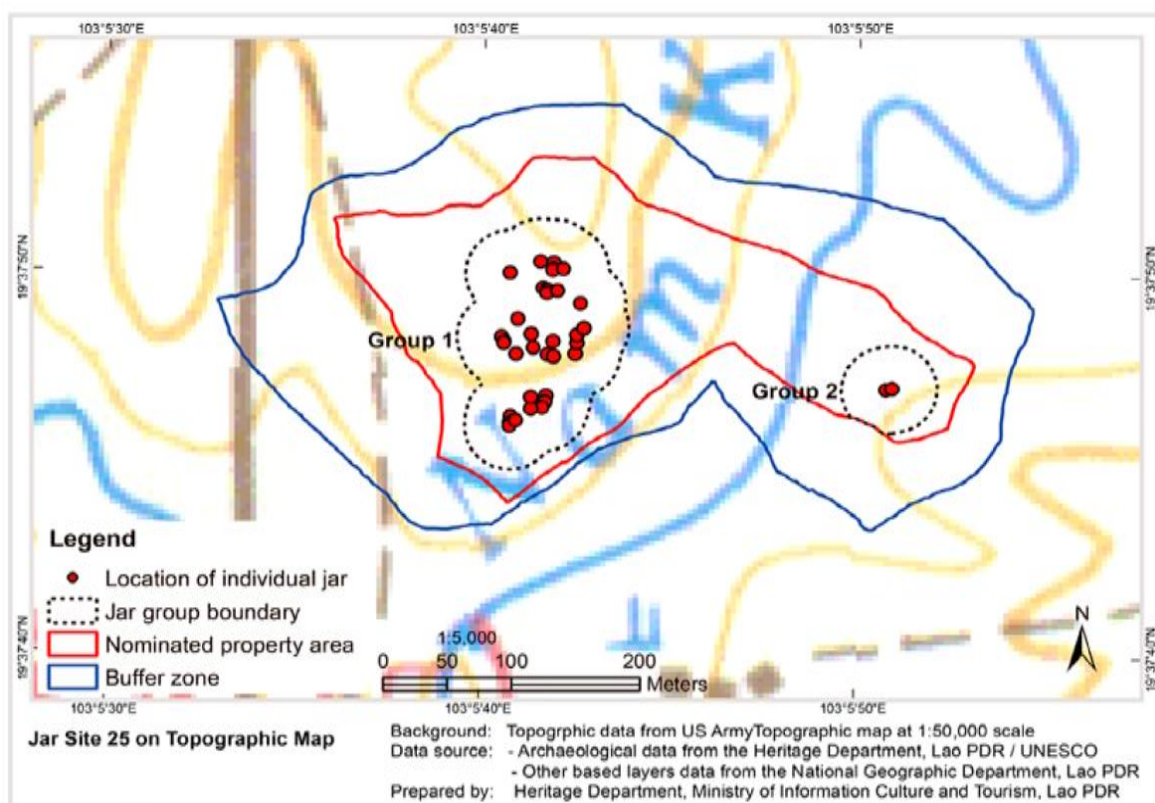
Site 21 demarcation



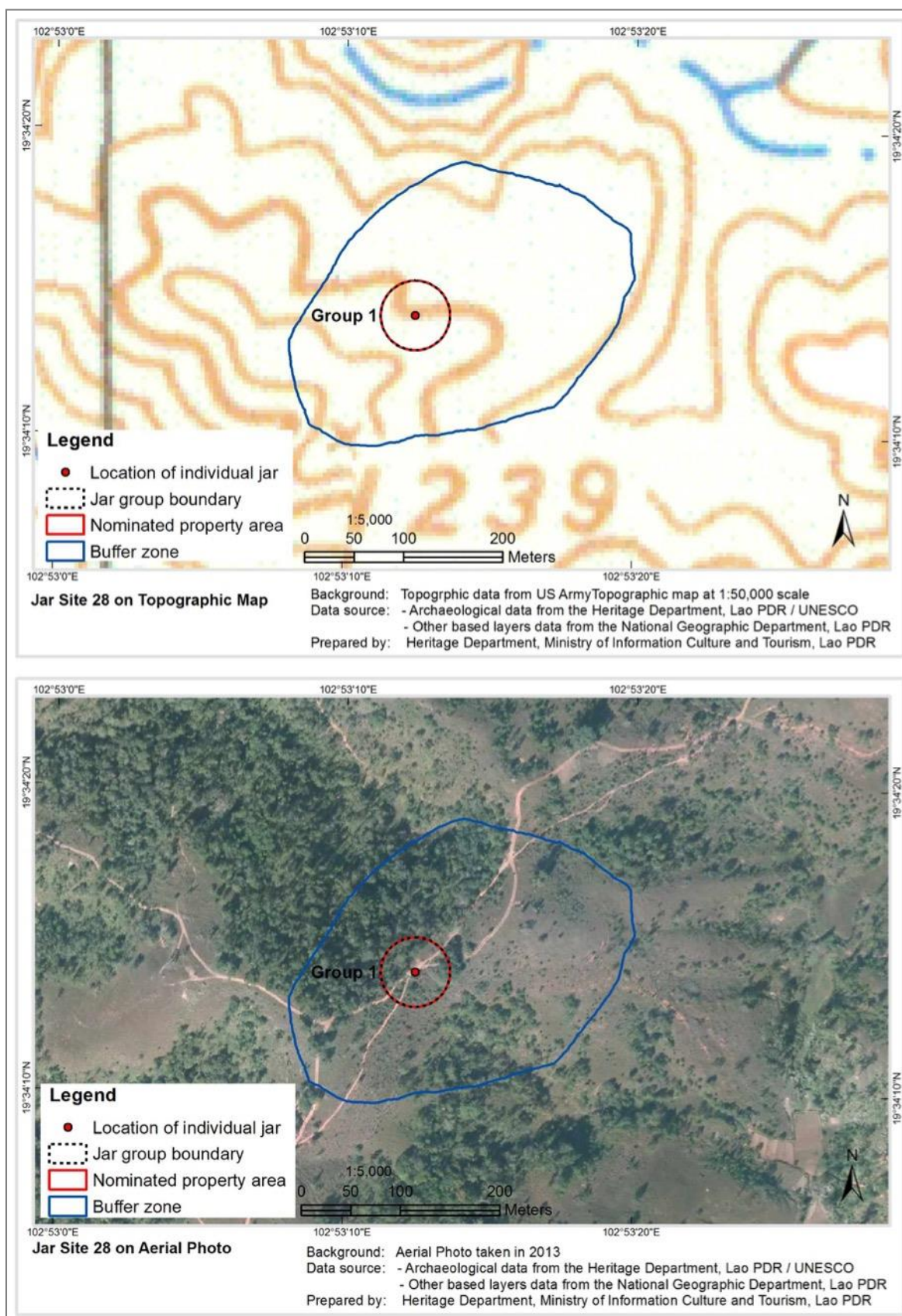
Site 23 demarcation



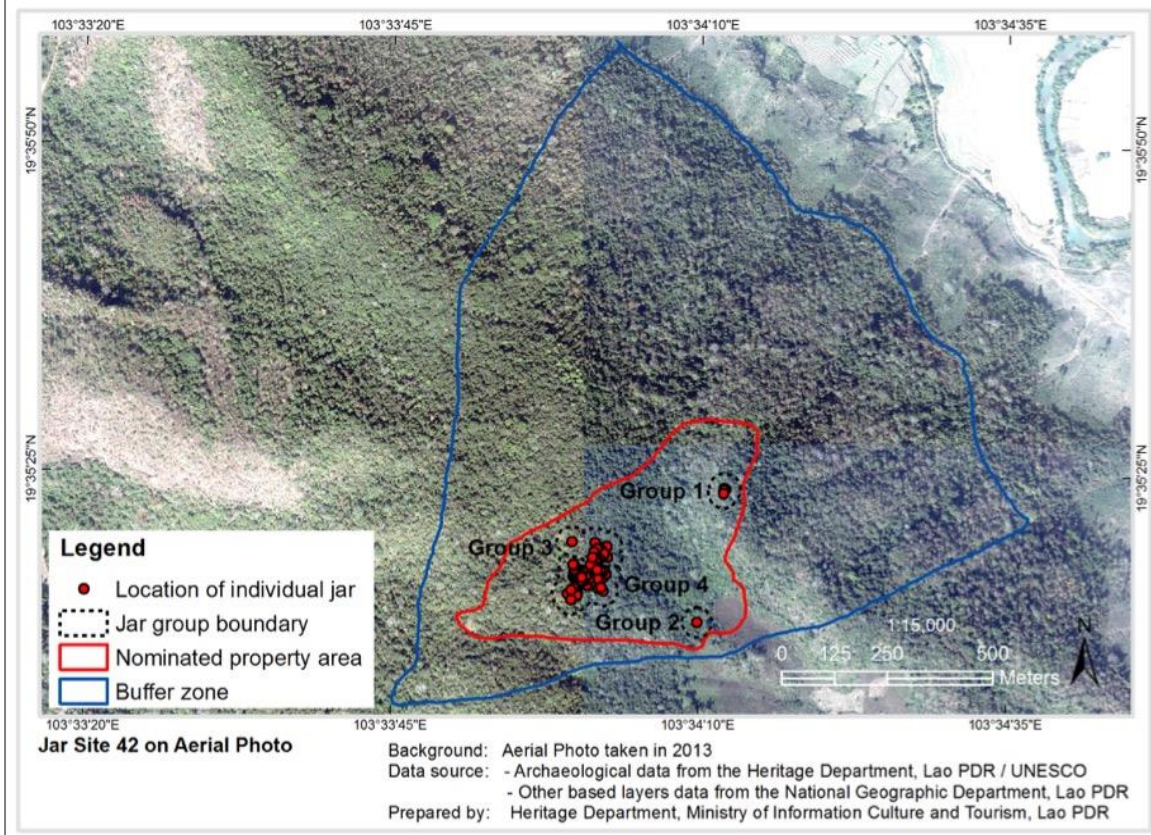
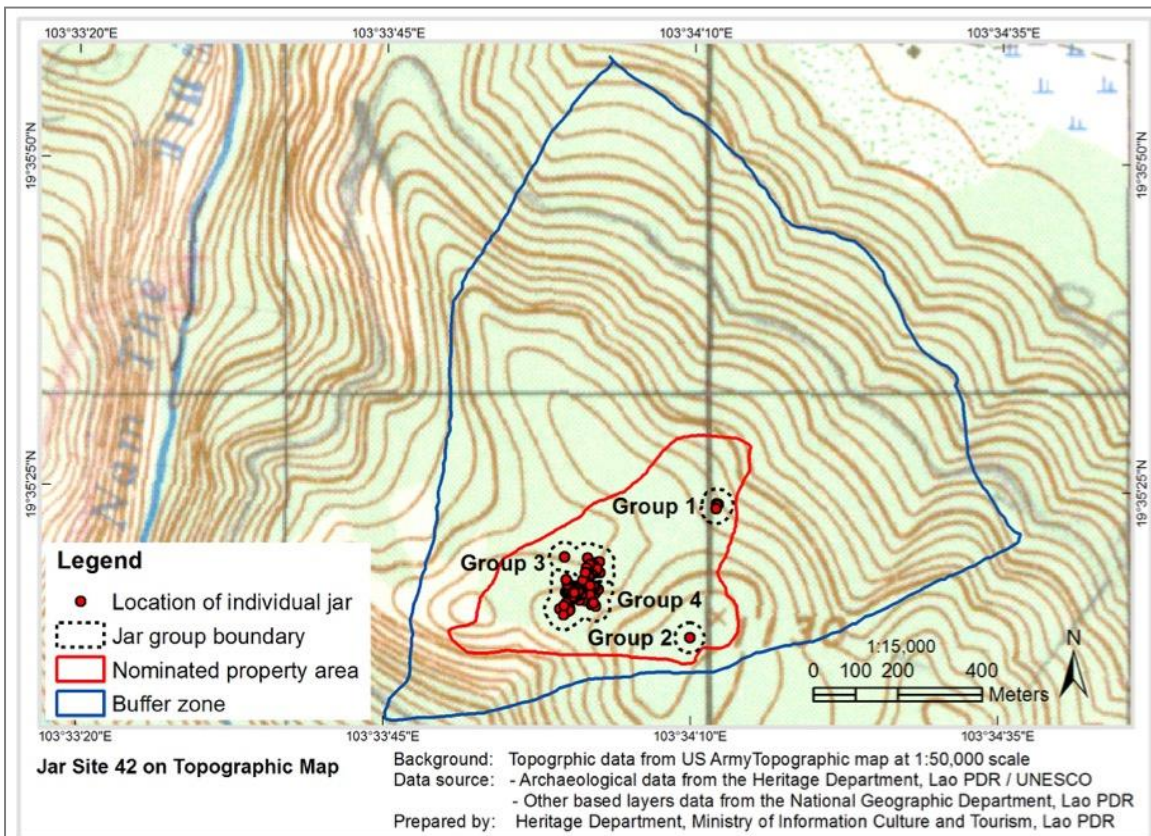
Site 25 demarcation



Site 28 demarcation



Site 42 demarcation



5. Legal and regulatory framework

The regulatory framework for the protection of the Megalithic Jar Sites in Xiengkhuang comprises the following key documents:

- Law on National Heritage 2013
- Ministerial Decree, Order on the Protection of the Plain of Jars upon Inscription as a World Heritage Site
- Provincial Governor's Decree concerning the Management and Conservation of the Plain of Jars World Heritage Sites – No. 996
- Provincial Governor's Decree, Safeguarding the Plain of Jars – Approval of the provincial budget, revenues from the ticket sales at the Plain of Jars sites – No. 995

Law on National Heritage 2013

The Law focuses on national heritage but has the following provisions for the management, preservation and conservation of World Heritage sites:

- authorisation of the Ministry of Information, Culture & Tourism is needed to carry out repair, rehabilitation and restoration of World Heritage Sites;
- administration/management shall be undertaken by special organisations such as the Committee for National Heritage, local Heritage Committees and a Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division, the establishment and activities of which shall be separately regulated; and
- the Ministry of Information, Culture & Tourism supervises and encourages the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Divisions in the implementation of laws, regulations, plans and projects concerning World Heritage sites.

The Law states that areas surrounding archaeological sites merit protection and the detailed determination of each zone will be in specific regulations. Article 45 divides protection areas into four zones:

- Zone 1 is the central area (ie. the jar group areas within the nominated property areas), where the heritage is located, which must be protected in its original circumstances and where no construction is permitted;
- Zone 2 is the area surrounding the central area (ie. around the jar groups and also within the nominated property areas), where some activities are permitted to increase the value of Zone 1, provided that no damage shall be caused to the surrounding area;
- Zone 3 is the buffer zone or protective area (equivalent to the property buffer zones) where construction is permitted to serve Zones 1 and 2 for the accommodation of tourists; and
- Zone 4 is the administrative area where construction is permitted to serve Zones 1, 2 and 3 for urban development and the accommodation of tourists.

The Lao Penal Code details sanctions for offences committed against the Law.

Provincial Governor's Decree concerning the management and conservation of the Plain of Jars World Heritage Sites – Decree 996

This is the main provincial decree regarding protection of the sites and it also deals with some aspects of management. The decree:

- identifies the location and boundaries of the sites; and
- specifies measures and activities for the property area and buffer zones.

Prohibited activities in the property include:

- dismantling, destroying or removing jars;
- any impact to the subsurface including cultivation, burial, excavation other than archaeological research;
- de-forestation, agricultural activities;
- forestry activities around the jars;
- no livestock (cows, buffalos, goats, pigs, chickens and birds) allowed within the jar sites;
- the use of the site for anything other than sightseeing or educational purposes is not allowed, including picnic, organizing parties or other events;
- construction of buildings, utilities (including electricity, telephone and water supply), or infrastructure;
- construction of electricity poles, telephone reception towers or anything considered to negatively impact the setting of the site;
- no individuals, groups and government sectors to reserve areas as their own property; and
- construction of roads.

LAW ON NATIONAL HERITAGE 2013



République Démocratique Populaire Lao
Paix Indépendance Démocratie Unité Prospérité

Président de la République

No : 062/PDR
Capitale de Vientiane, le 28 janvier 2014

DRECRET PRESIDENTIEL
de la République Démocratique Populaire Lao
portant sur
l'application de la loi du Patrimoine National
(révisée)

- Vu la section VI l'article 67 alinéa 1 de la constitution de la République Démocratique Populaire Lao ;
- Vu la décision de l'Assemblée Nationale de la République Démocratique Populaire Lao No 022 /NA du 24 décembre 2013 ;
- Vu la demande du Comité permanent de l'Assemblée Nationale No 014 /CP du 23 janvier 2014.

Le Président de la
République Démocratique Populaire Lao
décrète :

Article 1 : Approbation de l'application de la loi du Patrimoine National (révisée).

Article 2 : Le présent décret entre en vigueur à partir de la date de sa signature.

Le Président de la République Démocratique Populaire Lao

Signature et sceau :
Choummaly SAYASONE



République Démocratique Populaire Lao
Paix Indépendance Démocratie Unité Prospérité

Assemblée Nationale

No : 022/AN

RESOLUTION
de l'Assemblée Nationale de la République Démocratique Populaire Lao
portant sur
la promulgation de la loi du Patrimoine National
(révisée)

- Vu l'article 53 alinéa 2 de la constitution et l'article 3 alinéa 1 de la loi de l'Assemblée Nationale de la République Démocratique Populaire Lao relative aux attributions et compétences de l'Assemblée Nationale ;
- La sixième session ordinaire de la septième Assemblée Nationale s'est organisée pendant l'après-midi du 24 décembre 2013, prenant en considération sur la loi du Patrimoine National de façon plus large et approfondie.

Cette session résout :

Article 1 : La promulgation de la loi du Patrimoine National (révisée) de façon unanime.

Article 2 : Ce présent décret entre en vigueur à partir de la date de sa signature.

Capitale de Vientiane, le 24 décembre 2013

La Présidente
de l'Assemblée Nationale

Signature et sceau:
Pany Yathotou



République Démocratique Populaire Lao
Paix Indépendance Démocratie Unité Prospérité

Assemblée Nationale

No 44 /AN
Capitale de Vientiane, le 24 décembre 2014

LOI DU PATRIMOINE NATIONAL
(révisée)
Premier chapitre
Dispositions générales

Article 1. Objet

Cette présente loi définit les principes, les réglementations et les mesures concernant la gestion, préservation, usage, restauration, réhabilitation du patrimoine national en vue de protection de la valeur culturelle, historique et naturelle rehaussant le patriotisme, l'attachement aux bonnes traditions nationales, constituant le facteur assurant la pérennité nationale, l'intégration régionale et internationale. Cette loi s'efforce également d'orienter la conception du plan national de développement socio- économique.

Article 2. Patrimoine national

Le patrimoine national constituant le produit humain ou naturel représentant la valeur culturelle, historique et naturelle, constituant les biens précieux, la propriété de la nation lao comprenant le patrimoine du niveau local, national et peuvent être inscrits dans la liste du patrimoine régional ou mondial.

Le patrimoine national comprend le patrimoine culturel, historique et naturel matériel, immatériel, mobilier ou immobilier, vivant ou non-vivant témoigne l'identité lao, la nation lao, le peuple lao de chaque période.

Le patrimoine national existe dans le pays et à l'étranger.

Article 3. Terminologie

Les termes utilisés dans cette présente loi ont leurs significations suivantes:

1. Patrimoine national culturel et historique signifie le patrimoine matériel ou immatériel, mobilier ou immobilier de grande valeur culturelle, historique, scientifique ou technologique étant les biens de la nation, hérités de chaque période;
2. Patrimoine naturel signifie le patrimoine constituant d'une façon naturelle étant vivant ou non vivant comportant de grande valeur paysager et de biodiversité assurant de son existence naturelle et esthétique;
3. Biens de la nation signifient le patrimoine hérité de grande valeur exceptionnelle culturelle, historique, naturelle unique et identique national comportant matériel, immatériel, mobilier ou immobilier ;
4. Les traces de la nation signifie les sites, les bâtis architecturaux, sites archéologiques comportant les prestiges de grande valeur culturelle, historique et scientifique ;
5. Archéologie signifie les produits matériels construits par l'homme qui témoignent l'histoire de l'évolution de l'humanité ;
6. Source archéologique signifie les prestiges, sites archéologiques et les traces témoignant l'histoire découvertes dans l'ensemble ;
7. Maquette signifie les matériels nouvellement construits en copiant des prestiges de caractère des formes, proportions, peinture, ornements, décoration et autres particularités de caractère identique;

8. Architecture signifie les bâtis de l'art exceptionnelle culturelle et historique liés aux modes de vie de la population des ethnies, des ancêtres et des héros nationaux ;
9. Préservation du patrimoine national signifie la protection contre les vols, la destruction, l'incinération, dénaturation de la nature ou l'utilisation illégale.
10. Conservation du patrimoine national signifie la protection de la valeur, les traces, harmonisation culturelle, historique, naturelle du patrimoine national afin d'assurer son existence et sa pérennité;
11. Restauration du patrimoine nationale signifie le processus de réparation, conservation le modèle, l'ornementation artistique et détails identiques du bâtiment, bâti conforme à la période en consolidant, ajoutant les éléments manquant pour assurer la conformité;
12. Réhabilitation du patrimoine national signifie nouvelle réparation afin d'assurer l'identité et la conformité des matériels ou bâtis historiques, culturels, paysager naturel;
13. Site patrimonial signifie les prestiges, les sites archéologiques, monumentaux, naturels et architecturaux de grande valeur culturelle, historique, scientifique ou technologique, paysager hérités;
14. Prestige signifie le site rituel du peuple lié aux activités religieuses, de la tradition et des traces historiques;
15. Monument signifie le lieu témoignant la prouesse des ancêtres et la lutte audacieuse du peuple des ethnies dans la protection et le développement de la patrie pour le mémoire de la future génération;
16. Musée signifie le lieu d'archive, de conservatoire et d'exposition des produits culturels, historiques, naturels, scientifiques et sociaux pour objectif de recherche, de l'éducation, d'excursion et de tourisme à l'intérieur du pays et à l'étranger;
17. Biens précieux signifient les biens de grande valeur, exceptionnels et uniques;

Article 4. (révisé) Politique du patrimoine national

Conformément au développement socio-économique national, l'état promeut la protection et le sauvegarde du patrimoine, l'état promeut et encourage toute personne ou entité à l'intérieur du pays et étranger de contribuer et participer en vue de fournir de l'information, protéger, sauvegarder, restaurer et réhabiliter du patrimoine national afin d'assurer son existence;

L'état promeut la recherche, la publication, la diffusion de la valeur de la nation, de la masse populaire et du progrès du patrimoine national en limitant, résoudrant les barrières stagnant le progrès du peuple des ethnies lao et de la nation.

Conformément à la loi, l'état respecte et protège la propriété du patrimoine national inventorié de la personne ou de l'entité;

Article 5. (nouveau) Principe de base du patrimoine national toute activité concernant le patrimoine national doit appliquer le principe de base suivant:

1. Les études, relevés, fouilles, collectes, sauvegardes, recherches, analyses, publications, diffusions doivent assurer l'existence de la nation le renforcement du développement du pays afin de devenir riche et prospère ;
2. La gestion, la protection et la préservation du patrimoine national visent à favoriser la mise en application de l'orientation de la politique, la loi et chacune des étapes de la croissance socio-économique national;
3. La restauration du patrimoine national doit assurer l'identité nationale, populaire et du progrès en limitant la stagnation du progrès du peuple lao des ethnies et de la nation;
4. Les contentieux concernant le patrimoine national devront être réglés afin d'assure la justice, la transparence et le contrôle;
5. La participation de la population, des instances de l'état, de front de l'édification nationale, de masse populaire, du secteur économique.

Article 6. (révisé) Obligation de respecter la réglementation

Toute personne présente en RDP Lao, qu'elle soit locale ou étrangère est tenue de respecter la réglementation de protection, de préservation, de la restauration et de la réhabilitation du patrimoine national.

Toutes personnes étrangères, touristes y compris les laotiens de l'étranger sont tenus de contribuer dans la protection et la préservation du patrimoine national.

Article 7. (nouveau) Champ d'application de la loi

La présente loi est appliquée dans le domaine du patrimoine national culturel, historique et naturel de la RDP Lao de la personne et du l'entité.

Article 8. (révisé) Coopération internationale

L'état promeut la relation, la coopération extérieure du niveau régional et international concernant le patrimoine national sous forme d'échange d'expérience, d'information, des recherches scientifiques, de la formation des cadres, de la diffusion culturelle, de l'exposition, d'assistance technique dans le domaine d'investissement, de mise en application de la convention et de la ratification international dont la RDP Lao est l'état membre.

Deuxième chapitre
Classification du patrimoine national
Section 1
Patrimoine national culturel

Article 9. Classification du patrimoine national culturel

Le patrimoine national culturel est classifié en deux catégories:

1. Le patrimoine national culturel matériel;
2. Le patrimoine national culturel immatériel;

Article 10. (Révisé): patrimoine national culturel matériel

Le patrimoine national culturel matériel consiste le patrimoine tangible les biens précieux culturels comprenant les mobiliers ou les immobiliers identiques tels que: les outils de production, artisanats, biens de consommation, nourritures, les oeuvres d'art, les instruments musicaux, les stèles, les prestiges, les archéologies, les monuments etc...

Article 11. Patrimoine national culturel immatériel

Le patrimoine national culturel immatériel consiste le patrimoine intangible, les biens précieux culturels comprenant l'innovation locale, la connaissance, la philosophie populaire, la croyance, la bonne tradition, lesquels exprimant la mode de vie, savoir vire, langue, alphabet, chiffre, inscription, légende, conte, proverbe, poème, musique traditionnelle, chansons, mélodies, chansons traditionnelles, formule de médicaments traditionnelles et autres lesquels héritant d'une génération à l'autre.

Section 2**Patrimoine national historique****Article 12. Classification du patrimoine national historique**

Le patrimoine national historique est classifié en deux catégories:

1. Le patrimoine national historique matériel;
2. Le patrimoine national historique immatériel;

Article 13. Patrimoine national historique matériel

Le patrimoine national historique matériel consiste le patrimoine tangible, les biens précieux historiques comprenant les mobiliers ou les immobiliers tels que : lieu de culte, bâtiment sacré, équipement militaire, outils, nourritures, biens de consommation, archives, sites historiques tels que :

Lieu de libération, des monuments, de la lutte de la population, ancêtres héroïques et des dirigeants révolutionnaires.

Article 14. Patrimoine national historique immatériel

Le patrimoine national historique immatériel consiste le patrimoine intangible lequel liant avec l'histoire de chaque période tels que : idées, théories, idéologies exprimant la tradition nationaliste, de prouesse, de connaissance innovative, savoir-faire, stratégie, art martial et tactique, expérience de la lutte, de leadership, d'administration et du développement de la nation.

Section 3

Patrimoine national naturel

Article 15. Classification du patrimoine national naturel

Le patrimoine national naturel est classifié en deux catégories:

1. Patrimoine national naturel de valeur paysagère;
2. Patrimoine national naturel de valeur scientifique et écologique.

Article 16. Patrimoine national naturel de valeur paysagère

Le patrimoine national naturel de valeur paysagère consiste le patrimoine lequel étant esthétique exceptionnel, riche en biodiversités tels que les forêts conservées, zone de préservation de la biodiversité, caverne naturelle, cascades, chute d'eau, montagnes, falaises, habitation aquatique, faune, flore, îles, mares, canal, étang, lac, rivières, cours d'eau, ruisseau etc.

Article 17. Patrimoine national naturel scientifique et écologique

Le patrimoine national naturel de valeur écologique et scientifique consiste le patrimoine précieux naturel important, exceptionnel en géologie, biologie et géographie tels que: les mines, végétations, animaux, montagnes, falaises, forêts.

Troisième Chapitre

Patrimoine national et de palladium

Section 1

Les niveaux du patrimoine national

Article 18. (révisé) Les niveaux du patrimoine national

Le patrimoine national est subdivisé en 4 niveaux:

1. Niveau local
2. Niveau national
3. Niveau régional
4. Niveau mondial

Article 19. (révisé). Patrimoine national du niveau local

Le patrimoine national du niveau local consiste le patrimoine de valeur exceptionnelle culturelle, historique et naturelle du niveau local lequel existe et situe sur les sites locaux tels le stupa Ing Hang, Phabat Phonsan, Sikhottabong, Caverne Tham Pio, Dolmen Hin Tang, Source d'eau chaude, musique traditionnelle, chansons traditionnelles, danses traditionnelles.

Article 20. (révisé). Patrimoine national du niveau national

Le patrimoine national du niveau national consiste le patrimoine de valeur exceptionnelle culturelle, historique et naturelle du niveau national lequel existe et situe sur n'importe quel site dans le territoire de la RDP Lao étant patrimoine de la nation tels la Plaine des jarres, le stupa That Louang à Vientiane, la pagode Xiengthong, la caverne Viengsay, les chutes de Khone Papeng, Liphith, les légendes Sang Sinxay, Siosavath.

Article 21.(révisé) Patrimoine national du niveau régional

Le patrimoine national du niveau régional consiste le patrimoine de valeur exceptionnelle culturelle, historique et naturelle du niveau régional lequel existe et situe sur n'importe quel site dans le territoire de la RDP Lao adoptée par l'organisation des Nations Unies pour l'Education, des Sciences et de la culture de la région tels Les forêts de conservation nationale.

Article 22.(révisé) Patrimoine national du niveau mondial

Le patrimoine national du niveau mondial consiste le patrimoine de valeur exceptionnelle culturelle, historique et naturelle du niveau mondial lequel existe et situe sur n'importe quel site dans le territoire de la RDP Lao adoptée par l'organisation des Nations Unies pour l'Education, des Sciences et de la culture tels la ville de Luang Prabang, Vat Phou Champassack.

Section 2

Biens de palladium

Article 23. (révisé) Importance des biens de palladium

Les biens de palladium comprend le patrimoine national extraordinaire exceptionnel, unique, identique de la nation et rituel lequel étant évident que toute personne soit tenue de protéger, préserver son existence pérenne. 10

Article 24. (révisé) Classification des biens de palladium

Les biens de palladium consiste des biens matériels ou immatériels, mobiliers ou immobiliers tels que la statue du Bouddha Phrabang, la pagode Phrakéo, la pagode Sisaket, la pagode Xiangthong, douze traitions quatoze rituels et autres.

Quatrième Chapitre**La gestion, l'utilisation, la protection, la conservation, la restauration
et la réhabilitation du patrimoine national culturel
et historique****Section 1****La gestion du patrimoine national culturel et historique****Article 25. (révisé) La gestion**

Le patrimoine national culturel et historique dans l'ensemble du pays est géré par l'inventaire et les institutions et autorités compétentes du niveau central et local y compris le représentant de la RDP Lao à l'étranger.

L'état gère et protège la propriété ou titre de propriété du patrimoine national culturel et historique de la personne ou de l'entité à l'intérieur du pays ou à l'extérieur de la RDP Lao ou déporté par les étrangers étant propriétaire non conformément à la loi.

La gestion du patrimoine national adopté et inscrit sans la liste du patrimoine régional ou mondial est déterminée dans la réglementation spécifique.

Article 26. (révisé) Inventaire

Le patrimoine national culturel et historique placé sous la propriété de la personne ou entité doit être enregistré.

L'état effectue la fouille, l'inventaire du patrimoine de toute catégorie en vue d'évaluation, de classification et d'enregistrement en encourageant les propriétaires d'enregistrer leur patrimoine tels que:

1. Le patrimoine national du niveau local doit enregistré au service de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme de la province, de la capitale;
2. Le patrimoine national du niveau national doit être enregistré au ministère de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme;
3. Le patrimoine national du niveau régional et mondial doit enregistré à l'organisation international suite à la soumission du gouvernement de la RDP Lao.

4. Le patrimoine national placé sous la tutelle de l'organisation représentant de la RDP Lao à l'étranger doit être enregistré au ministère de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme et les ministères concernés;

5. Le patrimoine national étant les biens de palladium doit être enregistré au ministère de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme.

Après l'enregistrement l'état reconnaît ce patrimoine en faveur du patrimoine national y compris le droit de propriété du propriétaire.

Dans le cas où le patrimoine n'est pas enregistré le propriétaire n'a pas le droit de mobiliser les activités concernant ce patrimoine tels que : l'exposition, la maquette et autres...

Le patrimoine national de haute valeur, unique, identique de la nation soit examiné et certifié la conformité doit soumettre auprès l'organisation internationale concernée en vue de l'obtention d'enregistrement de propriété et du titre de propriété.

Article 27. (nouveau) Procédures d'inventaire

L'inventaire doit suivre les procédures suivantes:

1. Dépôt du dossier de demande d'enregistrement;
2. Autorisation d'enregistrement;
3. Archive du dossier d'enregistrement;
4. La modification, L'abrogation et le refus de l'enregistrement.

Article 28. (nouveau) Dépôt du dossier de demande d'enregistrement

Conformément, à la réglementation concernant l'inventaire, Personne ou entité désirant enregistrer doit déposer sa demande auprès l'autorité locale concernée, pour la zone isolé urbaine sa demande doit soumettre auprès l'autorité villageoise de tutelle avant de soumettre auprès le secteur de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme en vue de l'autorisation.

Article 29. (nouveau) Autorisation d'enregistrement

Après le dépôt du dossier de demande, le secteur de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme doit autoriser l'enregistrement de la durée n'étant pas dépassé quatre vingts dix jours à partir de la date de dépôt du dossier de demande.

Tout dossier de demande et d'autorisation d'enregistrement doivent être mis en oeuvre conformément aux réglementations d'enregistrement du secteur de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme.

Article 30. (nouveau) Archive du dossier de demande d'enregistrement

Le dossier d'enregistrement du patrimoine de toute catégorie doit être conformément archivé ayant le local particulier afin d'éviter la perte et la destruction.

Article 31. (nouveau) La modification, l'abrogation et le refus d'enregistrement

Toute personne considérant l'enregistrement n'étant pas conforme aux réglementations ayant le droit de déposer le dossier de demande auprès le secteur de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme de tutelle en vue de modification ou d'abrogation.

Dans le cas où ce secteur refuse l'instruction d'enregistrement la personne ayant le droit de déposer le dossier de demande auprès le tribunal pour cette modification ou cette abrogation d'enregistrement.

L'enregistrement n'étant pas conforme au droit et à l'intérêt d'autre personne, cette personne ayant le droit de refus d'enregistrement puis soumet ses propositions à l'approbation du secteur concerné.

L'enregistrement n'étant pas conforme le secteur concerné a le droit de modification ou d'abrogation dans cinquante jours à partir de la date de contrôle.

L'approbation de la modification, d'abrogation et de refus est effectuée dans trente jours à partir de la date du dépôt du dossier de demande.

Article 32. (révisé) Maquette

La maquette consiste la création du nouvel objet copiant le modèle, l'harmonisation artistique (couleur), ornementation du patrimoine d'origine.

L'autorisation d'opération de maquette du patrimoine national de toute catégorie est déterminée dans la réglementation spécifique.

Article 33. (révisé) Nouvelle création

Personne ou entité ayant l'exécution de construction, de nouvelle sculpture du niveau national tels que : monuments, ancêtres, dirigeants, héros national, sites religieux, images de bouddha doit être autorisé par le gouvernement.

Pour la nouvelle construction, sculpture du niveau local y compris la sculpture du monument de la famille des individus doit être autorisée par le secteur de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme en concertation avec les secteurs concernés.

Article 34. (révisé) Exposition

L'exposition est classifiée en trois catégories:

1. L'exposition ouverte au public
2. L'exposition contribuant à la protection et la réhabilitation
3. L'exposition ayant le but commercial

L'exposition du patrimoine national peut être conduit dans le pays ou à l'étranger.

L'exposition du patrimoine national dans le pays doit être autorisée par le gouvernement suivant la proposition du ministère de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme.

Article 35. (révisé) Vu, aperçu, découverte

Personne ou entité ayant l'opération découvrant le patrimoine national devront informer l'autorité locale et le secteur de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme concernés dans l'immédiat pour arrêter l'opération avant d'obtenir l'autorisation ou l'interdiction de l'opération.

Personne ou entité découvrant le site ou l'information du site ou estimant l'existence du patrimoine national, des biens précieux devront informer l'autorité locale et le secteur de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme dans l'immédiat et arrêter les fouilles ou le déplacement sans autorisation.

Article 36. (révisé) Analyse et recherche

Conformément à la loi et la politique concernées, l'état promeut toute personne ou entité qu'elles soient locales ou étrangères pour effectuer l'analyse et la recherche concernant le patrimoine national culturel et historique.

L'analyse et la recherche concernant le patrimoine national doivent être autorisées par le secteur de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme.

Toute personne ou entité désirant coopérer avec l'étranger pour conduire l'analyse et la recherche doivent être autorisées par le ministère de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme.

Les données et le résultat originaux de l'analyse et de la recherche devront remettre au secteur de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme en vue d'archives et de diffusion conformément aux réglementations.

Article 37. (révisé) Exportation pour l'analyse

L'exportation des éléments ou objets étant patrimoine national culturel et historique de grande valeur en vue d'analyse devra présenter une demande au ministère de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme puis la soumet à l'autorisation du gouvernement.

Article 38. (révisé) Importation, diffusion ou distribution

L'importation, la diffusion ou la distribution des produits culturels de l'étranger devront soumettre au contrôle et à l'approbation du secteur de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme.

Tous les produits culturels étrangers qu'ils soient matériels tels que l'image de bouddha ou immatériels ne correspondant pas à la culture, bonnes tradition nationale lao ne sont pas permis d'importer, de diffuser et de distribuer.

Article 39. (révisé) Succession

Conformément à la loi, le patrimoine national culturel et historique enregistré pourra être transféré le titre de propriété, propriété à autre personne, l'hérité devra informer le secteur de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme de tutelle d'enregistrement dans trente jours à partir de la date de succession.

Article 40. (révisé) Commerce

Toute personne ou entité désirant acheter ou vendre les objets constituant le patrimoine national culturel et historique devra soumettre une demande au secteur de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme. Dans le cas où le patrimoine national constituant de grande valeur, exceptionnelle.

L'état aura la priorité pour son achat à un prix convenable.

L'état n'autorise les échanges commerciales du patrimoine national à l'étranger. Les échanges commerciales bilatérales devront soumettre une demande à l'approbation du gouvernement.

Article 41. (révisé) Héritage

Le patrimoine national culturel et historique enregistré pourra être transféré à la personne héritière, l'héritage devra informer le secteur de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme de tutelle d'enregistrement dans soixante jours à partir de la date de transfert. Dans le cas où plusieurs personnes étant héritières, pour informer le secteur, la lettre de leur représentant est valable.

Section 2**L'utilisation du patrimoine national, culturel et historique****Article 42. (révisé) Objectifs d'utilisation**

L'utilisation du patrimoine national culturel et historique ayant les objectifs pour :

1. constituer la base d'existence de la nation, le moteur de développement sociale étant l'orientation du développement prospère du pays.
2. éduquer la population d'être nationaliste, fierté de la tradition laborieuse, innovatrice, audacieuse, solidaire unitaire dans la protection et le développement du pays.
3. renforcer la banque de données du patrimoine national culturel et historique pour qu'elle soit riche en matière.
4. promouvoir l'industrie touristique.
5. intégrer l'utilisation du patrimoine national culturel et historique dans la région et dans le monde.
6. effectuer la recherche, l'analyse archéologique, historique, etc...

Article 43. (révisé) L'utilisation

L'utilisation du patrimoine national culturel et historique devra être conforme aux objectifs déterminés, en assurant l'efficacité, l'authenticité et la durabilité utilisant la recette provenant du patrimoine national dans le développement des activités du patrimoine national.

Section 3
La protection, la conservation, la restauration et la réhabilitation
du patrimoine national, culturel et historique

Article 44. (révisé) La protection et la conservation du patrimoine national culturel et historique matériel

Dans la protection, la conservation du patrimoine national culturel et historique matériel, toute personne ou entité oblige de:

1. évaluer l'impact négatif du patrimoine national culturel et historique en constituant les mesures appropriées, immédiat pour résoudre et limiter.
2. développer les activités socio-économiques en particulier les activités industrielles, agricoles, des infrastructures de base situés ou probablement situés dans la zone du patrimoine national culturel et historique devra être autorisée par le secteur de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme en déterminant les mesures en vue de protection du patrimoine national en assurant son existence.

Article 45. (révisé) Site patrimonial

Le site patrimonial est classifié en quatre zone :

1. zone 1 : zone centre constituant le patrimoine ayant la conservation et inconstructibilité ;
2. zone 2 : zone péri - centre autorisant les activités de la mise en valeur de la zone 1 n'étant pas détruit l'environnement de cette zone ;
3. zone 3 : zone tampon autorisant la construction pour protéger et valoriser les zones 1 et 2 en vue de développement, de tourisme et de transport ;
4. zone 4 : zone de gestion autorisant la construction pour valoriser les zones 1, 2 et 3 en vue d'extension urbaine et de tourisme.

Pour la gestion du site patrimonial, les dispositions particulières devront être établies pour appliquer la règlement de chaque zone en vigueur.

Article 46. (révisé) La protection du site patrimonial

Le site patrimonial devra soumettre à la protection contre l'envahissement, la démolition, les vols menés par les hommes ou les risques naturelles.

Dans le cas d'envahissement, de démolition, toute personne ou entité devra stagner et déterminer les mesures de résolution immédiates en collaboration avec l'autorité locale de tutelle du site patrimonial puis informera le secteur de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme.

Article 47. (révisé) La restauration et la réhabilitation

La restauration et la réhabilitation du patrimoine national culturel et historique constitue le processus de réparation, de conservation le modèle identique de ce patrimoine étant démoli et dénaturé.

Toute personne ou entité est tenue de participer dans la restauration et la réhabilitation du patrimoine national culturel et historique.

La restauration et la réhabilitation du patrimoine national devra soumettre une demande au secteur de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme de tutelle.

La restauration et la réhabilitation de chaque catégorie du patrimoine national est défini dans le règlement spécifique.

Article 48. (révisé) Conditions de la restauration et de la réhabilitation du patrimoine national

La restauration et la réhabilitation du patrimoine national culturel et historique devront correspondre aux conditions suivantes:

1. devront être entreprise spécifique ou entreprise ayant les conditions de la restauration et de réhabilitation comprenant les techniciens qualifiés dans le domaine culturel et historique étant enregistrée conformément à la loi.
2. Devront être autorisées par l'autorité de gestion de tutelle d'enregistrement. La restauration et la réhabilitation du patrimoine national, régional et mondial devront soumettre une demande au ministère de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme.
3. Devront assurer la conservation de l'existence du patrimoine national.

Article 49. (révisé) La protection et la conservation du patrimoine national immatériel

Le patrimoine national immatériel devra être enregistré en assurant la protection et la conservation.

La protection et la conservation du patrimoine national culturel et historique immatériel s'efforce également la promotion, la diffusion et l'utilisation d'une façon large tant à l'intérieur du pays qu'à l'étranger.

La recherche, la création devront assurer l'identité nationale, populaire et de progrès.

Toute personne ou organisation présente en RDP Lao qu'elle soit locale ou étrangère effectuant la recherche, l'analyse du patrimoine national culturel et historique immatériel

devront également s'efforcer le contenu réel de ce patrimoine et soumettre une demande au ministère de l'information, de la culture et du tourisme y compris la préservation le caractère identique de ce patrimoine national.

La conservation du patrimoine national culturel et historique immatériel étant déterminée dans la réglementation spécifique.

Cinquième chapitre

La gestion, l'utilisation, la protection, la conservation et la réhabilitation du patrimoine nation naturel

Section 1

La gestion du patrimoine national naturel

Article 50. (révisé) La protection du patrimoine national naturel

Le patrimoine national naturel dans le territoire du pays étant géré par l'enregistrement et la concentration entre le niveau central et local entre les secteurs concernés tels que : le secteur de 'information, de la culture et du tourisme, le secteur des ressources naturelles et de l'environnement et le secteur d'agriculture et des forêts.

L'état gère, protège le titre de propriété ou le droit d'auteur du patrimoine national naturel de toute personne ou organisation dans le territoire du pays.

La gestion du patrimoine national naturel approuvé et enregistre au titre du patrimoine régional ou mondial étant déterminé dans la réglementation spécifique.

Article 51. (révisé) L'inventaire du patrimoine nation naturel

Le patrimoine national naturel placé sous la tutelle de la personne ou l'entité devra être enregistré.

L'état effectue la recherche, l'inventaire du patrimoine naturel de différentes zones telles que: zone de paysager naturel, zone d'écologie pour évaluer la valeur, classifier le niveau et enregistrer en encourageant les occupants de soumettre un enregistrement suivant:

1. Le patrimoine national naturel du niveau local devra soumettre un enregistrement au service de la province, de la capitale;
2. Le patrimoine national naturel du niveau national devra soumettre un enregistrement au ministère de l'information, de la culture et du tourisme;

3. Le patrimoine national naturel du niveau régional et mondial devra soumettre un enregistrement à l'organisation internationale concernée suivant la proposition du gouvernement de la RDP Lao.

Après l'enregistrement l'état approuve le titre du patrimoine national naturel y compris le titre d'occupation du patrimoine.

Dans le cas où le patrimoine n'étant pas enregistré le propriétaire du patrimoine n'ayant pas le droit d'effectuer les activités en matière du patrimoine telles que : la maquette et etc...

Le patrimoine national naturel de haute valeur, unique et de l'identité nationale certifié par la recherche devra être enregistré en titre de propriété et de droit d'auteur national aux organisations internationales concernées.

Article 52. La gestion des ressources de biodiversité

Les ressources de biodiversité du patrimoine national naturel telles que: zone humide, mare, étang devront être gérées par le contrôle, l'enregistrement suivant les propositions des secteurs concernés.

Article 53. La gestion de la forêt conservée

La forêt conservée enregistrée au titre du patrimoine national naturel devra être gérée en vue de protection de la nature d'une façon riche et durable.

Article 54. La gestion du parc national

Le parc national naturel riche en matière d'écologie, d'esthétique devenant patrimoine national naturel devra être gérée en vue d'établissement du site de récréation et de tourisme intérieur et étranger.

Article 55. (révisé) La gestion de la zone paysagère naturelle

La zone paysagère naturelle de haute valeur paysagère et remarquable y compris la montagne, la forêt, la rivière, le cours d'eau, la chute d'eau et etc... devra être enregistrée au titre du patrimoine national naturel et ayant la gestion en vue de protection de l'esthétique de la nature durable.

La réglementation détaillée concernant la gestion du patrimoine national naturel étant spécifiquement déterminée.

Section 2

L'utilisation, la protection, la conservation, la réhabilitation et le développement du patrimoine national naturel

Article 56. (révisé) Objectifs d'utilisation

Le objectifs d'utilisation du patrimoine national naturel sont de:

1. constituer la base de l'existence de la nation, renforcer le développement social et l'orientation du développement du pays prospère ;
2. éduquer, sensibiliser la population concernant le nationalisme, la fierté, le discipline en terme de la protection de l'environnement durable et le développement de la patrie prospère ;
3. promouvoir l'industrie de tourisme naturel ;
4. intégrer à l'utilisation du patrimoine national naturel du niveau régional et international ;
5. effectuer la recherche, l'analyse de la nature, d'écologie etc...

Article 57. (révisé) L'utilisation

L'utilisation du patrimoine national naturel devra :

1. correspondre au plan national de développement socio-économique;
2. garantir l'efficacité, la durabilité et l'impact positif de l'environnement naturel et social;
3. assurer la conformité à la réglementation et la loi.

Article 58. (révisé) La protection et la conservation du patrimoine national naturel

Dans la protection, la conservation du patrimoine national naturel, toute personne ou entité devra:

1. évaluer l'impact négatif du patrimoine national naturel ayant les mesures de stagnation, de solution et immédiates ;
2. développer les activités socio-économiques notamment les activités industrielles, agricoles, des infrastructures inscrites dans la zone du patrimoine national naturel étant autorisées par le secteur de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme ayant les mesures de protection de ce patrimoine n'étant pas envahi ou détruit.

Article 59. (nouveau) La réhabilitation

La réhabilitation du patrimoine national naturel consiste la reconstitution de la nature détruite et dégradée à sa meilleure condition écologique.

Toute personne ou entité devra participer à la réhabilitation du patrimoine national naturel.

La réhabilitation du ce patrimoine national naturel devra soumettre une demande au ministère de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme de tutelle.

Article 60. (révisé) Les conditions de la réhabilitation du patrimoine national naturel

Les conditions de la réhabilitation du patrimoine national naturel devront être :

1. entreprise spécifique ou entreprise ayant les conditions de réhabilitation du patrimoine national naturel, fond suffisant, personnel qualifié en matière de la nature et enregistrée conformément à la loi;
2. autorisées par l'organisme de gestion de tutelle du patrimoine national naturel enregistré. Le patrimoine national naturel du niveau national, régional et international devra être autorisé par le ministère de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme;
3. actions de protection de paysager naturel et du système écologique en vue de leur existence et esthétique.

Article 61. (révisé) Le développement

Le développement du patrimoine national naturel consiste la mise en état de sa durabilité, variété et richesse, s'efforce le développement économique national, la recherche, la connaissance de la haute valeur de ce patrimoine y compris le développement de la potentiellité de ce patrimoine dans les activités de tourisme, de la protection de l'environnement naturel dans le pays entier contribuant dans la protection et le développement de la patrie.

Sixième Chapitre

Musées

Article 62. Classification des musées

Les musées sont classifiés en trois catégories:

1. Musées de l'état
2. Musées collectifs
3. Musées privés

Article 63. (révisé) Musées de l'état

Les musées de l'état comprenant:

1. Le musée national consiste le lieu de collecte, d'accumulation, d'étude, de recherche, d'analyse, de conservation, d'enregistrement d'exposition et de diffusion des objets de grande valeur, remarquables dans le territoire du pays;
2. Le musée du secteur consiste le lieu de collecte, d'exposition, de conservation, de préservation des objets de grande valeur, remarquables du secteur;
3. Le musée du niveau local consiste le lieu de collecte, d'exposition, de conservation, de préservation des objets de grande valeur, remarquables du niveau local.

Article 64. (nouveau) Musées collectives

Les Musées collectives consistent les lieux de collecte, d'exposition, de conservation, de préservation des objets de grande valeur, remarquables de l'association, de la communauté, de la collective du secteur concerné.

Article 65. (nouveau) Musées privés

Les Musées privés consistent les lieux de collecte, d'exposition, de conservation, de préservation des objets de grande valeur, de la personne, de la famille, de tribu.

Article 66. (révisé) Conditions d'établissement des musées

Les conditions d'établissement des musées comprenant de:

1. Collecte des objets de grande valeur culturelle, historique, naturelle, scientifique, technologie de quantité convenable en vue d'exposition;
2. Lieu d'exposition, stockage assuré et convenable;
3. Techniciens instruits en matière de musée ou autres concernés;
4. Fonds.

Article 67. (nouveau) L'autorisation d'établissement des musées

L'établissement des musées de chaque catégorie devra soumettre une demande suivante:

1. Les musées nationaux devront soumettre une demande au gouvernement suivant la proposition du ministère de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme;
2. Les musées du secteur et locaux devront soumettre une demande au ministère de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme suivant la proposition du secteur et l'autorité locale concernés;

3. Les musées collectifs et privés devront soumettre une demande au gouverneur de province, de la capital suivant la proposition du service de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme.

Article 68. (nouveau) La gestion des musées

Les musées de chaque catégorie devront être gérés en vue des lieux d'éducation, d'analyse, de conservation, de protection, d'enregistrement, d'exposition et de diffusion à l'intérieur du pays et à l'étranger.

La réglementation détaillée portant sur la gestion des musées de chaque catégorie étant spécifiquement détermine.

Septième Chapitre
Fond du patrimoine national

Article 69. (nouveau) Le fond du patrimoine national

Le fond du patrimoine national consiste le fond établi en vue d'assurer les activités du patrimoine national telles que: la gestion, la protection, la conservation, la restauration, la réhabilitation du patrimoine national garantissant son existence et son développement.

Article 70. (révisé) Sources de fond du patrimoine national

Les sources de fond du patrimoine national provenant de:

1. Budget de l'état;
2. Recette provenant d'utilisation de la valeur du patrimoine national telle que: frais du billet de visite, frais de tournement à motif de commerce et frais de recherche, d'analyse du patrimoine national;
3. Taxes des activités des organisations concernées liées au patrimoine national;
4. Contribution, assistance de la personne ou entité du pays et étrangère;
5. Recette provenant des activités concernant le patrimoine national.

Article 71. (révisé) La gestion et l'utilisation du fond du patrimoine national

La gestion et l'utilisation du fond du patrimoine national devront être concentrées sur instruction unique, assurées la transparence, contrôlables, correspondues aux objectifs déterminés sur article 69 de cette présente loi, conformément à la loi du budget de l'état et la réglementation de la loi concernée.

La réglementation détaillée concernant la gestion et l'utilisation de ce fond étant spécifiquement déterminé.

Huitième Chapitre Interdiction

Article 72. (nouveau) L'interdiction générale

Personne ou entité est interdite d'effectuer les activités suivantes:

1. Détruire l'image de bouddha, du site prestigieux, site archéologique, site historique, envahir, occuper le terrain inscrit dans la zone du patrimoine national, transformer la fonction d'origine du patrimoine, modifier le contenu de l'histoire;
2. Concéder le patrimoine national culturel et historique du niveau national sans autorisation;
3. Utiliser la zone du patrimoine national telle que site patrimoine, site historique en vue quelle soit un but de transformation de l'état d'origine;
4. Réécrire, copier l'ouvrage de recherche, de publication concernant le patrimoine national d'autre personne devenant et diffusant sa propriété sans autorisation de propriétaire et de l'entité concernés;
5. Détruire la forêt conservée ou exploiter les ressources naturelles sur sol, sous sol, sous l'eau, situant dans la zone du patrimoine national, envahir, occuper le terrain de la zone de protection de la biodiversité, du parc national et de la zone de paysager naturel y compris la transformation de l'état d'origine;
6. Importer, commercialiser et diffuser le produit culturel de l'étranger qu'il soit objet notamment l'image de bouddha ou non objet n'étant pas titre culturel, de bonne tradition de la nation lao;
7. Effectuer d'autres actions illégales.

Article 73. (nouveau) Interdiction du personnel responsable des activités du patrimoine national et des musées

Le personnel est interdit d'effectuer les activités du patrimoine et des musées suivantes:

1. Abuser l'administration pour l'intérêt privé provenant des activités du patrimoine national;
2. Abuser le pouvoir créant l'impact négative de l'intérêt de l'état, collectif ou l'intérêt légitime de la population;

3. Marginaliser ses compétences et des responsabilités concernant les activités du patrimoine national attribuées par l'organisation;
4. Confiance de l'état, du gouvernement concernant les activités du patrimoine national;
5. Imiter les documents concernant les activités du patrimoine national;
6. Effectuer ou participer dans les affaires concernant les activités du patrimoine national de toute sorte;
7. Détruire les données, tenir secret de revenus, abuser la commission, entendre avec l'autre personne et tenir secret des violences d'infraction liées aux activités du patrimoine national;
8. Changer, remplacer les objets, envahir la zone du patrimoine national;
9. Diffuser hors de la vérité de contenu, du champ d'activités, de commerce des objets, des produits du patrimoine national;
10. Relever les taxes, les frais de service violant la réglementation;
11. Copier, imiter les objets les produits du patrimoine national sans autorisation;
12. Autres violences d'infraction de la loi.

Article 74. (nouveau) Interdiction de la personne, personne morale et les organisations concernées.

La personne, la per personne morale et les organisations sont interdits d'effectuer les activités suivantes:

1. Mépriser, contraindre, menace, intensifier, se vanter au nom d'autre personne contre le personnel pour l'intérêt privé ou de l'équipe lié aux activités du patrimoine national;
2. Effectuer les affaires de consultant par leur propre volonté sans autorisation;
3. Décourager le personnel concerné effectuant ses compétences et ses attribution;
4. Refuser de fournir les données, de tenir secret des données et trainer la recherche portant sur le patrimoine national;
5. Autres violences d'infraction de la loi.

Neuvième chapitre

Les contentieux

Article 75. (nouveau) Règlement des contentieux

Les contentieux sont réglés sous forme de:

1. Règlement de caractère à l'amiable;
2. Règlement de caractère administratif;

3. Règlement de caractère économique jugé par le comité de contentieux;
4. Jugement tribunal;
5. Règlement de caractère international.

Article 76. (nouveau) Règlement à l'amiable

Règlement à l'amiable est appliqué dans le cas où les deux côtes peuvent négocier, tolérer et se mettre en accord concernant les activités du patrimoine national.

Article 77. (nouveau) Les contentieux administratifs

Les contentieux du patrimoine national, les deux côtés devront soumettre une demande au ministère de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme pour régler conformément au règlement et à la loi.

Article 78. (nouveau) Les contentieux économiques

Les contentieux économiques du patrimoine national les deux côtés devront soumettre aux instances de contentieux économiques pour régler conformément au règlement et à la loi.

Article 79. (nouveau) Jugement tribunal

Les contentieux du patrimoine national, les deux côtés pourront avoir recours au tribunal.

Article 80. (nouveau) Les contentieux internationaux

Les contentieux internationaux du patrimoine national devront être appliqués conformément aux conventions et aux traités, à la ratification internationaux dont la RDP Lao est l'état membre.

Dixième chapitre

La gestion et le contrôle

Section 1

La gestion du patrimoine national

Article 81. (révisé) Institutions et autorités compétentes

En concertation avec les autres secteurs et les autorités locales concernés, le ministère de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme représente le gouvernement ayant les responsabilités directes et centrales pour effectuer la gestion concentrée et unanime du patrimoine national.

Les institutions et les autorités compétentes charges de la gestion du patrimoine national sont les suivantes:

1. Le ministère de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme;
2. Les services de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme des provinces et de la préfecture;
3. Le bureau de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme du district, de la municipalité;
4. L'autorité villageoise.

Dans le cas nécessaire, le comité national pour le patrimoine mondial, le comité local pour le patrimoine mondial, le service ou bureau du patrimoine mondial de la province de tutelle du patrimoine national étant approuvé au titre du patrimoine mondial, pourront être établis.

Article 82. (révisé) Compétences et attributions du ministère de l'information de la culture et de tourisme

Pour effectuer la gestion du patrimoine national, le ministère de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme ayant les attributions et les compétences suivantes:

1. Établir les stratégies, les lois, les règlements concernant le patrimoine national puis les soumettre au gouvernement;
2. Diffuser la politique, la stratégie, la loi, le règlement pour sensibiliser la population concernant le patrimoine national;
3. Établir le plan budgétaire en vue d'utilisation dans les activités du patrimoine national;
4. Effectuer la directive de relevé, de collecte des données, d'analyse, de la fouille du patrimoine de chaque catégorie;
5. Être directement responsable du patrimoine du niveau national, régional et international;
6. Effectuer la directive, le suivi, le contrôle du service de l'information de la culture et de tourisme pour la mise en oeuvre de la loi, du planning, du projet du patrimoine national;
7. Inventorier et autoriser les activités du patrimoine national places sous sa responsabilité;
8. Former, rehausser le niveau et utiliser le personnel du secteur du patrimoine national;
9. Effectuer la direction, la coopération extérieure, régionale et international du secteur du patrimoine national;
10. Élaborer le rapport et l'évaluation de la mise en exécution des activités du patrimoine national;
11. Exercer d'autres attributions mentionnées dans cette loi.

Article 83. (révisé) Compétences et attributions des services de l'information de la culture et de tourisme des provinces et de la préfecture pour effectuer la gestion du patrimoine national, les services de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme des provinces et de la préfecture ayant les attributions et les compétences suivantes:

1. Développer la politique, la loi, le plan, le projet du ministère en son propre règlement, plan, projet puis mettre en exécution;
2. Diffuser la politique, la loi, le règlement du secteur du patrimoine national;
3. Étudier, établir le plan budgétaire en vue d'utilisation dans les activités du patrimoine national;
4. Relever, collecter les données du patrimoine national;
5. Inventorier et autoriser les activités du patrimoine national;
6. Effectuer la directive, le suivi du bureau de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme des districts, des municipalités en vue de la mise en exécution des activités du patrimoine national;
7. Gérer et mettre en exécution des activités du patrimoine national en concertation avec les services concernés;
8. Effectuer la relation et la coopération extérieure, régionale, et international du secteur du patrimoine national par attribution;
9. Élaborer le rapport et l'évaluation de la mise en exécution des activités du patrimoine national puis les soumettre à son supérieur;
10. Exercer d'autres attributions mentionnées dans cette loi.

Article 84. (révisé) Compétences et attributions des bureau de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme des districts et des municipalités.

Pour effectuer la gestion du patrimoine national, les bureaux de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme des districts et des municipalités ayant les attributions et les compétences suivantes:

1. Mettre en application de la loi, du plan, de projet du patrimoine national;
2. Diffuser la politique, la loi, le règlement du patrimoine national;
3. Étudier, établir le plan budgétaire en vue d'utilisation dans les activités du patrimoine national;
4. Relever, collecter les données, inventorier le patrimoine national;

5. Donner l'avis en vue d'autorisation des activités du patrimoine national;
6. Concuster avec les bureaux concernés en vue de gestion et de mise en exécution des activités du patrimoine national;
7. Élaborer le rapport, l'évaluation de la mise en exécution des activités du patrimoine national;
8. Exercer d'autres attributions mentionnées dans cette loi.

Article 85. (révisé) Compétences et attributions de l'autorité villageoise pour effectuer la gestion du patrimoine national, l'autorité villageoise ayant les attributions et les compétences suivantes:

1. Gérer, protéger, conserver, réhabiliter, utiliser, mettre en exécution des activités du patrimoine national dans le cadre de sa responsabilité;
2. Relever, inventorier le patrimoine national place sous sa responsabilité puis le soumettre au supérieur;
3. Élaborer le rapport de la mise en exécution des activités du patrimoine national puis le soumettre à son supérieur.

Article 86. (révisé) Compétences et attributions des secteurs concernés

Pour effectuer la gestion du patrimoine national les secteurs concernés tels que: les secteurs des travaux publics et des transports, des ressources naturelles et de l'environnement, griculture et des forêts, d'énergie et des mines, de sécurité social et de la défense, de l'intérieur, d'organisme de bouddhisme, du front de l'édification nationale, des masses populaires exercent leurs attributions en concertation avec le secteur de l'information, de la culture et de tourisme mentionnée dans cette loi.

Section 2

Le contrôle du patrimoine national

Article 87. (révisé) Institutions et autorités de contrôle

Les institutions et les autorités de contrôle comprennent:

1. institutions et autorités compétentes de contrôle interne sont celles mentionnées dans l'article 81 de cette présente loi ;
2. institutions et autorités compétentes de contrôle externe consistent l'assemblée nationale, l'organisation d'état de contrôle, l'organisation d'état d'inspection et contre la corruption, l'organisation d'état d'audit, le front de l'édification nationale, les masses populaires, la population et le masse média.

Compétences et attributions des institutions et autorités de contrôle:

1. contrôler la mise en application du budget, du planning, du projet, de règlement concernant le patrimoine national y compris les traités, les conventions que la RDP Lao étant pays membre;
2. contrôler en vue de résoudre la proposition de la personne, personne morale ou entité concernant le patrimoine national ;
3. proposer la destination de contrôle en vue de résoudre, améliorer, modifier la conformité de son exercice ;
4. exercer d'autres attributions mentionnées dans cette loi.

Article 88. Type de contrôle

Cette loi identifie trois types de contrôle :

1. le contrôle régulier avec avis préalable
2. le contrôle irrégulier avec avis préalable
3. le contrôle d'urgence sans préavis

Onzième chapitre Récompenses et sanctions

Article 89.(révisé) Récompenses

Toute personne, personne morale ou entité ayant accompli de bonnes actions dans la mise en application de cette loi telle que la gestion, la protection, la conservation, la restauration et le développement du patrimoine national sera félicitée ou récompensée .

Article 90.(révisé) Sanctions

Toute personne, personne morale ou entité ayant violé cette loi sera sanctionnée. Selon la gravité du délit, elle sera éduquée ou devra verser une indemnité ou encore sera punie.

Douzième chapitre Dispositions finales

Article 91 Application

Le gouvernement de la République Démocratique Populaire Lao est chargé d'appliquer cette loi.

Article 92 Validité

La présente loi entre en vigueur 15 jours après sa promulgation par décret du Président de la République Démocratique Populaire Lao.

La présente loi remplace la loi du patrimoine national no 08/AN, en date du 9 novembre 2005.

Toutes dispositions et textes législatifs contredisant cette loi sont abrogés

La Présidente de l'Assemblée Nationale

Signature et sceau:
Pany Yathotou

MINISTERIAL DECREE, ORDER ON THE PROTECTION OF THE PLAIN OF JARS UPON INSCRIPTION AS A WORLD HERITAGE SITE

Official Translation

Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism

Order on the Protection of the Plain of Jars upon Inscription as a World Heritage Site

- Referring to the National Heritage Law (revised) No. 022/ສພຊ dated 24 December 2013;
- Referring to the Order to establish the National Committee for World Heritage No. 17/ນຍດ dated 05 January 2017;
- Referring to the decision of the Minister, the chairperson of the National Committee for World Heritage, on nominating a Secretariat of the National Committee for World Heritage, No. 169/ຖວທ dated 06 March 2017.

Article 1 - Objective

This Order sets out the principles, regulations and mechanism of the National Committee for World Heritage, which has authorities and responsibilities in protecting and conserving the Plain of Jars World Heritage site after nomination and inscription of the property as a World Heritage Site. The Committee operates in accordance to the 2016 Operational Guidelines of the World Heritage Convention, which Lao PDR has ratified on 20 March 1987, and in accordance with the National Heritage Law of Lao PDR.

Article 2: Scope, Authority and Responsibilities of the National Committee for World Heritage in Protecting and Conserving the Plain of Jars, Xieng Khuang Province

To ensure the effective protection and conservation of the Plain of Jars after inscription as a World Heritage site in line with the policy of Party and the Government of Lao PDR and in line with other duties, the scope, authority and responsibilities of the National Committee for World Heritage in protecting the Plain of Jars are defined as follows:

1. Responsible for management system of the Plain of Jars under the direction of Minister of Information, Culture and Tourism of Lao PDR, who serves as the chairperson of the National Committee for World Heritage, and with the Director-General of Heritage Department as the head of the Secretariat;
2. Coordinates with UNESCO and World Heritage Committee to nominate the Plain of Jars to the World Heritage List, and after the inscription, to ensure the holistic protection of the Outstanding Universal

Value of the property, in accordance to international standards accepted by the General Conference of UNESCO;

3. Decides, guides and coordinates with UNESCO and other international agencies on the conservation and protection of the Plain of Jars heritage site;
4. Coordinates and facilitates collaborative projects within the boundaries of the Plain of Jars;
5. Guides and coordinates with all concerned stakeholders involved in protecting and conserving the Plain of Jars;
6. Guides the publicity and awareness-raising for the Plain of Jars;
7. Protects the World Heritage protected area of the Plain of Jars;
8. Proposes policy documents and directs the plan to implement projects within relevant legal frameworks, in order to ensure the effective protection of Plain of Jars;
9. Advises, monitors, controls and monitors the ongoing conservation and protection activities at the Plain of Jars by the Plain of Jars Technical Division, as well as provincial and village committees;
10. Decides on proposals proposed by Plain of Jars Technical Division or provincial and local committees, on issues about the expansion of protected zones (Zone 2);
11. Approves or refuses all national and local development projects which may affect the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value of the Plain of Jars;
12. Approves or refuses all proposed archaeological works within the World Heritage protected areas of Plain of Jars;
13. Approves or refuses all proposed workplans to conserve and protect the Plain of Jars, Xieng Khuang , by the Plain of Jars Technical Division, provincial and local heritage committees;
14. Approves or decides on plans to develop national and international training projects;
15. Approves or considers fundraising schemes in and outside the country;
16. Stops and considers solution for conflicts resulting from any action that creates impact to the World Heritage protected zones of Plain of Jars or its buffer zones;
17. Recognizes and awards individuals or activities that achieved outstanding results in protecting, conserving and developing the Plain of Jars World Heritage site, as deemed appropriate;
18. Approves or considers pursuing civil or criminal action (in the form of warnings, punishment or fines) any individual or activity that breaches rules and regulation concerning the management of the Plain of Jars World Heritage site;
19. Reviews the implementation of the works, policies and effectiveness of the management system of the Plain of Jars, Xieng Khuang , in order to improve and update the system to the changing conditions of the area every 5 years;
20. Accepts reports from Plain of Jars Technical Division and provincial heritage committee;
21. Summarizes and reports on project implementation, policies and effectiveness of management system of the Plain of Jars to the Government.

Article 3: This Order is considered to have statutory effect once signed. Any decree and regulations that are not in line with this Order are overruled.

Minister

Chairperson of the National Committee for World Heritage

PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR'S DECREE CONCERNING THE MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION OF THE PLAIN OF JARS WORLD HERITAGE SITES – No. 996

Official Translation

Xiengkhuang Provincial

No: 996

Date 17/11/2017

Section I

Objectives, locations and boundaries

Article 1: Objectives

This decree is setting out locations, areas and boundaries of the 11 jars sites, including methods and measures to manage and preserve the jars sites in order to preserve the value of their heritage sustainably, in accordance with the goals and uniformity of the province.

Article 2: Locations and boundaries

1. Site 1 Ban Na O, Paek district

1.1 Property area

The property area covers 59.36 hectares, by determining the fence around the plain of Jars as Conservation area.

1.2 Buffer zone

The buffer zone area covers 60.63 hectares

- Northern Part determines the fence of zone 1 to military fence 976 along the streams and rice field of Mr Sousard (in the corner northern fence)
- Southern part determines from the fence of information center to Xam pond, along the new crossroads to the fence of conservation area
- Eastern part determines from conservation area to Mr Phimpha Xayyatep's land and Mr Xormour which are situated close to the entrance, along the new crossroad to Haihin Mixayaram temple and to the land of Mr Khampien Sinuanthong and Mr Sousard which close to the northern fence
- Western part determines from conservation fence to the new crossroad (triangle land area) then along the road upto Xam pond

2. Site 2 Ban Na Kho, Phaxay district

2.1 Property area

The Property area of Ban Na Ko covers 15.13 hectares

- Northern Part is situated close to E kong streams
- Southern part is situated close to Mr Khamphay's land

- Eastern part is included in the protected area of Village where located French old stupa for 20 meters distance.
- Western part is situated close to Pa Pao streams, along the new crossroad

2.2 Buffer zone

The buffer zone area covers 133.16 hectares

- Northern Part determines from conservation area to old cultural land (ticket office)
- Southern part starts from conservation area to pathway to 3 villages on top of Hua Xang mountain
- Eastern part starts from conservation area to new crossroad around protected area of Ban No Ko
- Western part starts from conservation area around 30 meters in distance

3. Site 3 Ban Xiengdee, Site 8 Huanghong, Phaxay district

3.1 The property area included site 3 and site 8 with surface of 27.96 hectares

3.1.1 Property area of Site 3

- Northern Part is situated close to Mr Somsanith which is still a reserved land
- Southern part is situated close to Quarry site Huay louang and village's protected area
- Eastern part is situated close to Irrigation canal Nong ping
- Western part is situated close to Mr Thitdone's land

3.1.2 Property area of Site 8

- Northern Part is situated close to Dong Kuang noy mountain
- Southern part is situated close to ridge of mountains Huay louang
- Eastern part is situated close to Mr Kor' market
- Western part is situated close to irrigation canal Huay louang

3.2 The buffer zone area included site 3 and site 8 with surface of 405.27 hectares

3.2.1 Buffer zone of Site 3

- Northern Part is situated close to Sane River
- Southern part is situated close to ridge of mountain of Seuk (village protected area)
- Eastern part is situated close to Nong Ping streams through Ta long streams and along the Na tor to Sane river
- Western part determines Louang streams to Na noy streams to Sane river

3.2.2 Buffer zone of Site 8

- Northern Part is situated close to ridge of mountains of Huay Men
- Southern part is situated close to ridge of mountains of Huay louang
- Eastern part is situated close to Nong ping streams across the Ta long streams and along the Na tor to Sane river
- Western part is situated close to Pa Kuang streams across to Pa seuk streams to Huay kone to Sane river

4. Site 12, Ban Phakeo, Pak district

4.1 Property area

The Property area determines the quarry area (group 1) as demonstrated in GPS of the map

4.2 Buffer zone

- Northern Part determines from quarry site of 300 meters in distance
- Southern part determines from quarry site of 300 meters in distance
- Eastern part determines from quarry site to streams of 300 meters in distance
- Western part determines from quarry site to the ridge of Louang mountain of 300 meters in distance

5. Site 25, Ban Xonghak, Phoukood district

5.1 Property area

The property area covers 6.3 hectares

- Northern Part is situated close to pathway to Ban neua and to the old village Song hak
- Southern part is situated close to backyard of Mr Phaylath and up to the irrigation canal to Hua ta man
- Eastern part starts from Sob meng mountain and along the small trees to the irrigation canal to Hua ta man
- Western part starts from Hua ta man straight to Toum canal and up to Toum to the pathway to Neua village

5.2 Buffer zone

The buffer zone area covers 7.18 hectares

- Northern Part starts from Toum canal up to old road and turn back to small Peak tree straight to electric bars and across the road to the Tourism house
- Southern part starts from water pipes down to Mr Phay's fence
- Eastern part starts from big Jack fruit tree to the pathway which situated in northern part of Mr Sykoun's fish pond and along the road to bamboo forest and across to Hua nok kiew fish pond then upto water pipes
- Western part starts from cowshed of Mr Phay to Khantoung foothills then across Hua ta forest to old road, cross to Hong toum forest and to the old neua Village

6. Site 23, Ban Namhom, Kham district

6.1 Property area covers 18.99 hectares

6.1.1 Jars site group.1

- Northern Part is situated close to wild forest of Mr Pakao
- Southern part is situated close to Mr Bounmy's land to Mr Som along the Hia streams which far from the protected area of Jars for 30 meters in distance
- Eastern part starts from Mr Bounmy's land along to the foothills of Jars mountain and to Mr Pakao's land
- Western part starts from Hia streams along to Mr Pakao's land

6.1.2 Jar site group. 2 (quarry site)

- Northern Part starts from Ketlin tree to Mr Khammeung's land across Mr Somchai wild forest.

- Southern part start from Mr Vien's land to Mr PorPern's land, far from protected area for 20 meters
- Eastern part starts from Mr Khambay's land, far from protected area for 40 meters which is situated close to small streams and go along to Pa An
- Western part starts from wild forest to Mr Somechay and go along to small streams, and situated close to Mr Sa ngien

6.2 Buffer zone

The buffer zone area covers 34.74 hectares

- Determines from the conservation area of 150 meters from all directions

7. Site 21, Phoukeng quarry sites

7.1 The property area covers 34.71 hectares

- Northern Part is situated close to Keng Mountain
- Southern part is situated close to Mr Lod Buasavanh's fence
- Eastern part is situated close to the way to Keng Mountain (Information center) and up to the northern direction to Keng foothills to Mr Niawayang's rice field
- Western part is situated close to river basin of Mr Thong yeu

7.2 Buffer zone

The buffer zone area covers 143.09 hectares

- Northern Part included the keng Mountain
- Southern part included Phounglath river and rice field of Mr Lod Buasavanh
- Eastern part is situated close to ridge of mountain at Ban Na koun and along the Phounglath streams in southern direction (around bridge area)
- Western part starts from Phounglath streams along the ridge of mountain 105 and forwarding to small ridge near old airport yard and cross to the Keng mountain in norther direction

8. Site 28, Ban Nakuan, Phoukood district

8.1 Property area covers 0.28 hectares

- determines from Jars site on top of the Hai Lao Cheung mountain, and 50 meters in distance in all directions

8.2 Buffer zone

The buffer zone area covers 7.88 hectares

- Northern Part starts from the foothills of Hai Lao Cheung mountain near the Kao Chao streams
- Southern part starts from foothills of Hai Lao Cheung mountain near the Na san yord streams
- Eastern part starts from foothills of Hai Lao Cheung mountain back to the conservation area
- Western part starts from pathways on top of Hai Lao Cheung mountain back to the conservation area

9. Site 42, Ban Phouxang, Kham district

9.1 Property area

The property area covers 27.09 hectares

- determines from Jars to all directions for 50 meters

9.2 Buffer zone

The buffer zone area covers 126.02 hectares

- Northern Part is situated close to using forest for Xang village
- Southern part borders to Moun village, Tard village and Xang village back to conservation area
- Eastern part determine the borders between Moun village, Tard village and Xang village back to conservation area
- Western part determines the borders between Mor village an Xang village back to conservation area

10. Site 52, Ban Phakeo, Pak district

10.1 Property area

The property area covers 11.82 hectares

- determines the area around the Jars group 1, 2, 3, 4 which show on the GPS

10.2 Buffer zone

The buffer zone area covers 46.18 hectares

- Northern Part distances from jar group for 300 meters
- Southern part distances from group 4 for 500 meters
- Eastern part distances from jar group for 300 meters
- Western part distances from jar group for 300 meters

Section II

Operation and protection measurements

Article 4: Measurements within the protected zones

- clearing vegetation and cutting trees around the jars
- making sure that trees are not falling on the jars
- cleaning the area, collecting trashes, putting up signage
- archeological research has to seek for permission from the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism and Department of Information, Culture and Tourism and PoJ World Heritage Office
- improve and construct infrastructure including small and major constructions which are fencing, tracks and trails, site interpretations signage will have to seek for permission from the Provincial World Heritage Steering Committee

Article 5: Measurements for landscape

- Agricultural development is permitted, growing grass for livestock are permitted, trees that are bearing fruits are permitted in order to support villagers economically and to support local tourism
- Constructions of souvenir shops are permitted in order to provide tourists facilities in order to increase income of those people living in the communities including handicrafts exhibitions, performing arts/local culture/livelihoods exhibitions, traditional ceremony exhibition which are approved by the Provincial Heritage Steering Committee.
- To allow the expansion of the households of those people living in Zone 2. Households are allowed in this Zone but only within the assigned areas. Building plans have to be checked and approved from the urban planner, and the Provincial Heritage Steering Committee agreed upon. The type of the house has to be traditional house design with height not exceeding 10 metres from the tip of the roof

Section III

Prohibition

Article 6: Prohibition within the protected areas

- Dismantle, destroy or remove the jars
- Any impact to subsurface including cultivation, burial, excavation other than archaeological research is forbidden
- De-forestation, agricultural activities
- No forestation around the jars
- No livestock (cows, buffalos, goats, pigs, and chickens and birds) within the jar sites
- The use of the site for anything other than sightseeing or educational purposes is not allowed, including picnic, organizing parties or other events is strictly forbidden
- Construction of building, utilities (including electricity, telephone and water supply), or infrastructure
- Construction of electricity poles, telephone reception tower or anything considered to negatively impact the setting of the site will not be allowed
- No individuals, groups and government sectors to reserve the areas as their own property
- No construction of roads

Article 7: Prohibition within the buffer zones

- It is forbidden to construct guesthouses and hotels
- The construction of new residential houses outside the Village Expansion zone is not allowed
- Construction of electricity poles, telephone reception tower or anything considered to negatively impact the setting of the site will not be allowed
- No construction of any factories within the buffer zones
- No digging, unearthing, or taking any soils in the mountains within the protected areas
- No construction of building higher than 10 metres, from the roof
- No construction other than traditional style house building allowed
- Villagers are allowed to live within the buffer zones; nonetheless the development of households have to follow the rules and regulations of PoJ World Heritage rules, and rules and regulations from land-use. Land entitlement cannot be given. In case the government

would like to develop those land, the land has to be returned to the government without any compensation.

Section IV

Honouring people with good work, punishing measurements to those who misconduct

Article 8: Honouring people with good work

Anybody who has done a good work in protection, preservation, conservation, restoration and developing cultural heritage will be honoured as appropriate. Individual who discovers and researches which will improve the existing information will not only be honoured but will also be given other benefits following the laws.

Article 9: Measurements of misconduct

Anybody who misconducts or beaches the Decree will be charged penalty, fined, or even punished at the highest court, based on case by case basis.

Section IX

Last Decree

Article 10: Implementation

To assign Provincial Authorities, the relevant departments, district authorities and village authorities and other relevant agencies will take action raise awareness about the implementation of the Decrees.

Article 11: Statuary

This Decree is after the signature.

Signature

Governor

Dr. Khampao

PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR'S DECREE, SAFEGUARDING THE PLAIN OF JARS APPROVAL OF THE PROVINCIAL BUDGET, REVENUES FROM THE TICKET SALES AT THE PLAIN OF JARS SITES – No. 995

Official Translation

No: 995

Date: 17 November 2017

Provincial Governor's Decree

Safeguarding the Plain of Jars – Approval of the provincial budget, revenues from the ticket sales at the Plain of Jars sites

- Refer to roles and responsibilities of the Provincial Governor section IV, Article 20 on laws of local administration of Lao PDR
- Refer to the minutes of the Plain of Jars Heritage Committee Xieng Khuang 24 March 2017 and 3-6 April 2017 in Vientiane
- Refer to the proposal letter by Department of Information, Culture and Tourism Xieng Khuang Xieng Khuang no. 839/MolCT 17 October 2017

The Governor agrees with the following;

Article 1: To share the revenues from the sales of tickets at Site 1;

- 40% of the total revenues of each month to the Plain of Jars World Heritage Site office for the development and conservation work Or 150,000,000 LK (one-hundred fifty million kips) per year to support all the site conservation activities
- 60% of the total revenues will go to the Government central budget
- From 2020 onwards, after the Plain of Jars has been inscribed as the World Heritage Site, the rules and regulations will be applied.
- For the revenues from the sales of tickets at 11 sites: 60% of which will go to the Government central budget, 40% will be divided as follows;
 - 20% of the 40% to support the heritage activities
 - 25% of the 40% to support the villages authorities
 - 15% of the 40% to the provincial academic research team

40% of the 40% to the Plain of Jars World Heritage Management Site Office for its monitoring and evaluation of the World Heritage sites

Article 2: For Paek district, Phoukood district, Phaxay district, Kham district, Finance Department, Tax Department, Department of Information, Cultural and Tourism to follow the set rules accordingly

Article 3: This Decree is enacted with the signature and to overrule the Decree 313.

CC: Governor's Office

Signed by Dr. Khampao

Finance Department at Xieng Khuang

Xieng Khuang Governor

Tax Department at Xieng Khuang

Paek district

Phoukood district

Phaxay district

Kham district

Department of Information, Culture and Tourism

6. Protection and management requirements

At the operational level, the protection and management of the site are guided by two documents: “Provincial Guidelines” and “Site Guidelines”.

The Provincial Guidelines address a range of management activities which are the responsibility of the Provincial Government.

The Site Guidelines have been developed for each and every site. They are meant to be used by villages responsible for specific sites, identifying active management measures and prohibited actions at each site. Their implementation is ensured through the village contracts.

PROVINCIAL GUIDELINES

Plain of Jars World Heritage Property

Protection and Management Requirements – Provincial Level

1. Components

The property is a serial property of 15 components comprising Sites 1, 2, 3 (Groups 1-5 and 7), 8, 12, 21, 23, 25, 28, 42 and 52.

2. Property and Buffer Zone Boundaries

2.1 Site 1 Ban Na O, Paek district

2.1.1 Property area

The property area covers 59.36 hectares, by determining the fence around the plain of Jars as Conservation area.

2.1.2 Buffer zone

The buffer zone area covers 60.63 hectares

- Northern Part determines the fence of zone 1 to military fence 976 along the streams and rice field of Mr Sousard (in the corner northern fence)
- Southern part determines from the fence of information center to Xam pond, along the new crossroads to the fence of conservation area
- Eastern part determines from conservation area to Mr Phimpha Xayyatep's land and Mr Xormour which are situated close to the entrance, along the new crossroad to Haihin Mixayaram temple and to the land of Mr Khampien Sinuanthong and Mr Sousard which close to the northern fence
- Western part determines from conservation fence to the new crossroad (triangle land area) then along the road upto Xam pond

2.2 Site 2 Ban Na Kho, Phaxay district

2.2.1 Property area

The Property area of Ban Na Ko covers 15.13 hectares

- Northern Part is situated close to E kong streams
- Southern part is situated close to Mr Khamphay's land
- Eastern part is included in the protected area of Village where located French old stupa for 20 meters distance.
- Western part is situated close to Pa Pao streams, along the new crossroad

2.2.2 Buffer zone

The buffer zone area covers 133.16 hectares

- Northern Part determines from conservation area to old cultural land (ticket office)
- Southern part starts from conservation area to pathway to 3 villages on top of Hua Xang mountain

- Eastern part starts from conservation area to new crossroad around protected area of Ban No Ko
- Western part starts from conservation area around 30 meters in distance

2.3 Site 3 Ban Xiengdee, Site 8 Huanghong, Phaxay district

2.3.1 The property area included site 3 and site 8 with surface of 27.96 hectares

- A. Property area of Site 3
 - Northern Part is situated close to Mr Somsanith which is still a reserved land
 - Southern part is situated close to Quarry site Huay louang and village's protected area
 - Eastern part is situated close to Irrigation canal Nong ping
 - Western part is situated close to Mr Thitdone's land
- B. Property area of Site 8
 - Northern Part is situated close to Dong Kuang noy mountain
 - Southern part is situated close to ridge of mountains Huay louang
 - Eastern part is situated close to Mr Kor' market
 - Western part is situated close to irrigation canal Huay louang

2.3.2 The buffer zone area included site 3 and site 8 with surface of 405.27 hectares

- A. Buffer zone of Site 3
 - Northern Part is situated close to Sane River
 - Southern part is situated close to ridge of mountain of Seuk (village protected area)
 - Eastern part is situated close to Nong Ping streams through Ta long streams and along the Na tor to Sane river
 - Western part determines Louang streams to Na noy streams to Sane river
- B. Buffer zone of Site 8
 - Northern Part is situated close to ridge of mountains of Huay Men
 - Southern part is situated close to ridge of mountains of Huay louang
 - Eastern part is situated close to Nong ping streams across the Ta long streams and along the Na tor to Sane river
 - Western part is situated close to Pa Kuang streams across to Pa seuk streams to Huay kone to Sane river

2.4 Site 12, Ban Phakeo, Pak district

2.4.1 Property area

The Property area determines the quarry area (group 1) as demonstrated in GPS of the map

2.4.2 Buffer zone

- Northern Part determines from quarry site of 300 meters in distance
- Southern part determines from quarry site of 300 meters in distance
- Eastern part determines from quarry site to streams of 300 meters in distance
- Western part determines from quarry site to the ridge of Louang mountain of 300 meters in distance

2.5 Site 25, Ban Xonghak, Phoukood district

2.5.1 Property area

The property area covers 6.3 hectares

- Northern Part is situated close to pathway to Ban neua and to the old village Song hak
- Southern part is situated close to backyard of Mr Phaylath and up to the irrigation canal to Hua ta man
- Eastern part starts from Sob meng mountain and along the small trees to the irrigation canal to Hua ta man
- Western part starts from Hua ta man straight to Toum canal and up to Toum to the pathway to Neua village

2.5.2 Buffer zone

The buffer zone area covers 7.18 hectares

- Northern Part starts from Toum canal up to old road and turn back to small Peak tree straight to electric bars and across the road to the Tourism house
- Southern part starts from water pipes down to Mr Phay's fence
- Eastern part starts from big Jack fruit tree to the pathway which situated in northern part of Mr Sykoun's fish pond and along the road to bamboo forest and across to Hua nok kiew fish pond then up to water pipes
- Western part starts from cowshed of Mr Phay to Khantoung foothills then across Hua ta forest to old road, cross to Hong toum forest and to the old neua Village

2.6 Site 23, Ban Namhom, Kham district

2.6.1 Property area covers 18.99 hectares

A. Jars site group.1

- Northern Part is situated close to wild forest of Mr Pakao
- Southern part is situated close to Mr Bounmy's land to Mr Som along the Hia streams which far from the protected area of Jars for 30 meters in distance
- Eastern part starts from Mr Bounmy's land along to the foothills of Jars mountain and to Mr Pakao's land
- Western part starts from Hia streams along to Mr Pakao's land

B. Jar site group. 2 (quarry site)

- Northern Part starts from Ketlin tree to Mr Khammeung's land across Mr Somchai wild forest.
- Southern part start from Mr Vien's land to Mr PorPern's land, far from protected area for 20 meters
- Eastern part starts from Mr Khambay's land, far from protected area for 40 meters which is situated close to small streams and go along to Pa An
- Western part starts from wild forest to Mr Somechay and go along to small streams, and situated close to Mr Sa ngien

2.6.2 Buffer zone

The buffer zone area covers 34.74 hectares

- Determines from the conservation area of 150 meters from all directions

2.7 Site 21, Phoukeng quarry sites

2.7.1 The property area covers 34.71 hectares

- Northern Part is situated close to Keng Mountain
- Southern part is situated close to Mr Lod Buasavanh's fence

- Eastern part is situated close to the way to Keng Mountain (Information center) and up to the northern direction to Keng foothills to Mr Niawayang's rice field
- Western part is situated close to river basin of Mr Thong yeu

2.7.2 Buffer zone

The buffer zone area covers 143.09 hectares

- Northern Part included the keng Mountain
- Southern part included Phounglath river and rice field of Mr Lod Buasavanh
- Eastern part is situated close to ridge of mountain at Ban Na koun and along the Phounglath streams in southern direction (around bridge area)
- Western part starts from Phounglath streams along the ridge of mountain 105 and forwarding to small ridge near old airport yard and cross to the Keng mountain in norther direction

2.8 Site 28, Ban Nakuan, Phoukood district

2.8.1 Property area covers 0.28 hectares

- determines from Jars site on top of the Hai Lao Cheung mountain, and 50 meters in distance in all directions

2.8.2 Buffer zone

The buffer zone area covers 7.88 hectares

- Northern Part starts from the foothills of Hai Lao Cheung mountain near the Kao Chao streams
- Southern part starts from foothills of Hai Lao Cheung mountain near the Na san yord streams
- Eastern part starts from foothills of Hai Lao Cheung mountain back to the conservation area
- Western part starts from pathways on top of Hai Lao Cheung mountain back to the conservation area

2.9 Site 42, Ban Phouxang, Kham district

2.9.1 Property area

The property area covers 27.09 hectares

- determines from Jars to all directions for 50 meters

2.9.2 Buffer zone

The buffer zone area covers 126.02 hectares

- Northern Part is situated close to using forest for Xang village
- Southern part borders to Moun village, Tard village and Xang village back to conservation area
- Eastern part determine the borders between Moun village, Tard village and Xang village back to conservation area
- Western part determines the borders between Mor village an Xang village back to conservation area

2.10 Site 52, Ban Phakeo, Pak district

2.10.1 Property area

The property area covers 11.82 hectares

- determines the area around the Jars group 1, 2, 3, 4 which show on the GPS

2.10.2 Buffer zone

The buffer zone area covers 46.18 hectares

- Northern Part distances from jar group for 300 meters
- Southern part distances from group 4 for 500 meters
- Eastern part distances from jar group for 300 meters
- Western part distances from jar group for 300 meters

Location and boundary maps are attached.

3. Summary of Heritage Values

The sites are exceptional testimony to the cultural traditions associated with funerary practices, and to the civilization which created the sites but which disappeared sometime after 500 CE. The megalithic jar sites are impressive because of the size of jars and the technological skill to produce and move the jars from quarry sites to funerary sites, as well as because of the large number of surviving jars, disks and other features spread in groups across a large area of the current province. The sites include important archaeological evidence related to funerary practices, possibly of different eras and cultures, as well as of the material culture of the ancient civilisation which created the jars, and the locations of the funerary sites are highly suggestive of cultural meaning. The funerary sites are the outstanding surviving evidence of this civilisation. While the use of jars in funerary sites is known in other parts of Laos, northeast India and Southeast Asia, the density of sites in Xiengkhuang is remarkable.

4. Protection

The property is protected under the *Law on National Heritage 2013* and Provincial Decree 996.

5. Management Requirements

5.1 Management Responsibilities

The four primary management stakeholders are:

- Department of Heritage (national) – the primary technical adviser for the Plain of Jars, directly responsible for conservation and research, provides oversight of the provincial Department of ICT and conservation guidance to the provincial Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division;
- Department of ICT (provincial) – responsible for the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division, undertakes village awareness raising activities;
- Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division (provincial) – primary management role, guidance to district and village levels, responsible for monitoring and infrastructure/major works at the sites, and also responsible for day to day maintenance, management and reporting at Site 1; and
- Village Heritage Teams – day to day maintenance and management role, and reporting, for Sites 2, 3, 8, 12, 21, 23, 25, 28, 42 and 52.

These provincial-level guidelines address Provincial Government responsibilities across the whole heritage property but not specific responsibilities regarding Site 1 for which there are separate guidelines.

5.2 Land Use

All land uses must be consistent with the conservation of the heritage value of the property. No land use is permitted which adversely impacts on the heritage property.

Property (Zone 1) – permitted uses are conservation, research, education, interpretation and visitation only.

Buffer Zone (Zone 2) – permitted uses are agriculture and livestock grazing, including small-scale temporary sheds and animal shelters, non-commercial forest conservation, and tourism facilities.

5.3 Management by the Provincial Government

UXO

- UXO found within the World Heritage property or buffer zone will be cleared as soon as possible in accordance with the archaeo-demining protocol.

Damage to Jars, Disks or other archaeological evidence

- If any jars, disks or other archaeological evidence are damaged, for example by graffiti or falling tree branches, do not attempt to repair the damage but report to the Department of Heritage as soon as possible.

Controlling activities within the World Heritage property and buffer zone

- The Provincial Government will respect the site-specific guidelines.
- The Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division may approve small buildings or structures in the buffer zone, subject to the other provisions in these guidelines.
- The provincial Department of ICT should develop a plan regarding the possible provision of tourist facilities at all sites (eg. at least minimal signage), in consultation with the Department of Heritage, Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division and villages.
- Any proposed infrastructure or construction in either the heritage property or buffer zones will be subject to expert heritage impact assessment undertaken by the Department of Heritage, although in principle such infrastructure should be located in or outside the buffer zones and not within the heritage property. Where there is a potential adverse impact on the heritage value, the proposed work will not be approved or undertaken. The proposed works will be re-designed to avoid any impacts, or the proposal abandoned.

Maintaining existing or constructing new fencing and paths

- The Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division should ensure that existing fences and paths are maintained by the responsible villages or the Division in the case of Site 1. Where such maintenance is beyond the capacity of the villages, the Division will undertake such work.
- Existing fences may be replaced, but in general, fencing should follow the boundary of the property, or be located within the buffer zone.
- Proposed new fencing or paths will be treated as infrastructure, as discussed above. In general, new fencing should follow the boundary of the property, or be located within the buffer zone.
- Fencing should be the minimum necessary to secure the property from grazing animals.
- The Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division should organise fencing or boundary markers for the sites, if these are not already fenced or marked. This should be undertaken in consultation with the village

responsible for the site.

- Existing and new paths should be the minimum necessary to provide visitor access. Paths should be constructed of consolidated gravel.

Guidance to districts and villages

- The Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division will provide ongoing guidance to districts and villages regarding all aspects of the protection and management of the heritage property as needed. Where the guidance needed is beyond the capacity of the Division, the assistance of the Department of Heritage will be sought.

Village awareness

- The Provincial Department of ICT will develop and implement an ongoing village awareness program regarding the heritage value, protection, management and interpretation of the heritage property.

The Provincial Government will provide regular ongoing payments to villages to support their responsibilities.

5.4 Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

The Provincial Department of ICT will monitor the activities of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division at least every 6 months, including with regard to the management of Site 1. This will include an inspection visit to Site 1. The Department of ICT will provide a report to the Department of Heritage at least every 6 months.

The Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division will monitor the activities of villages at least every month, including the following items to be monitored by the villages:

- Any UXO found.
- Any damage to the jars, disks or stones.
- Any signs of excavation or digging in the heritage property.
- Any problems with tour guides or tourists.
- The number of Lao and foreign visitors, every month.
- Any activities which are not permitted in the heritage property and buffer zone.
- Any other problems.

This will include an inspection visit to all sites.

The Division will provide a report to the Department of ICT at least every month.

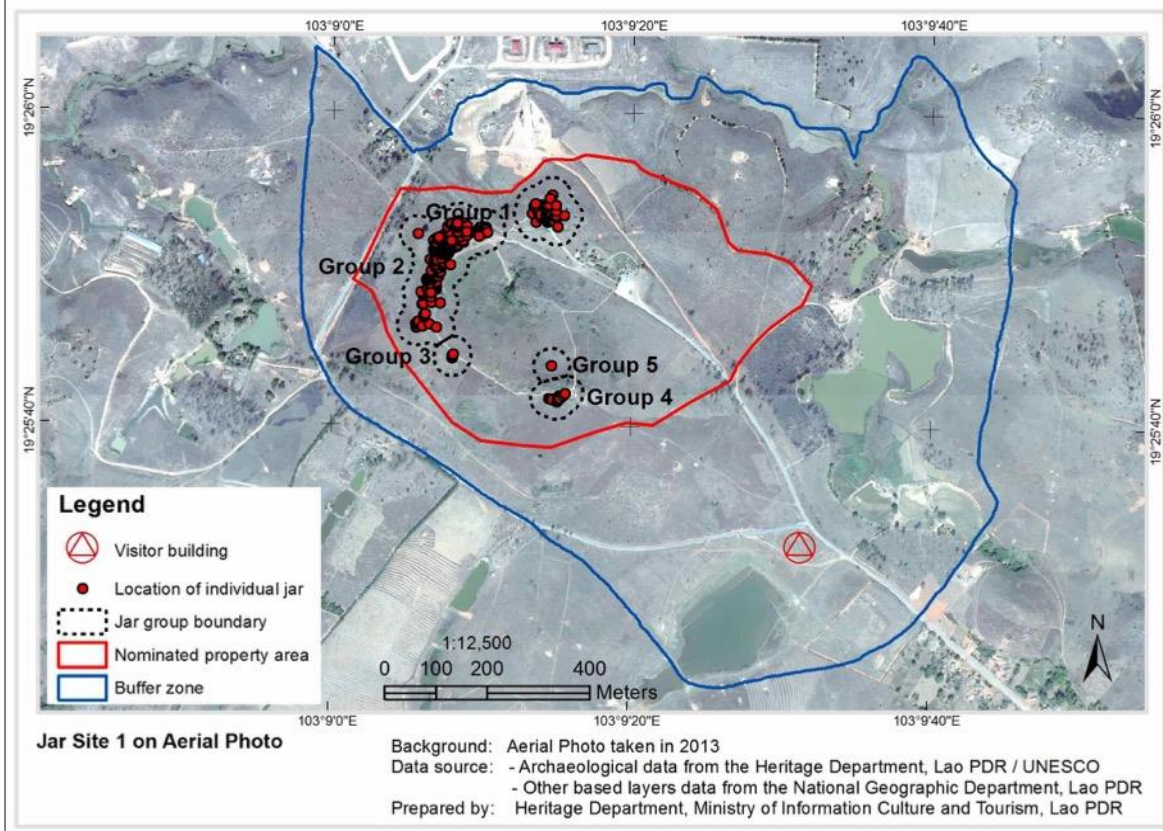
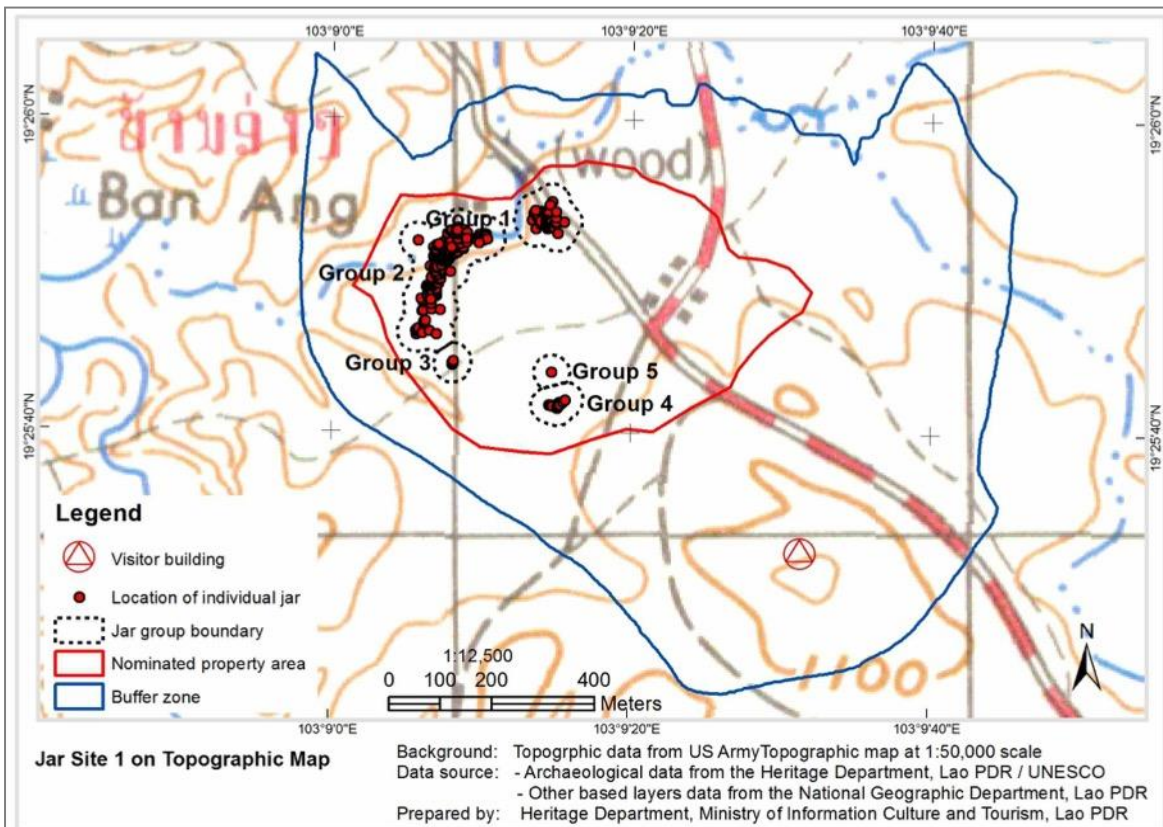
6. Related Management Documents

Site protection and management guidelines exist for:

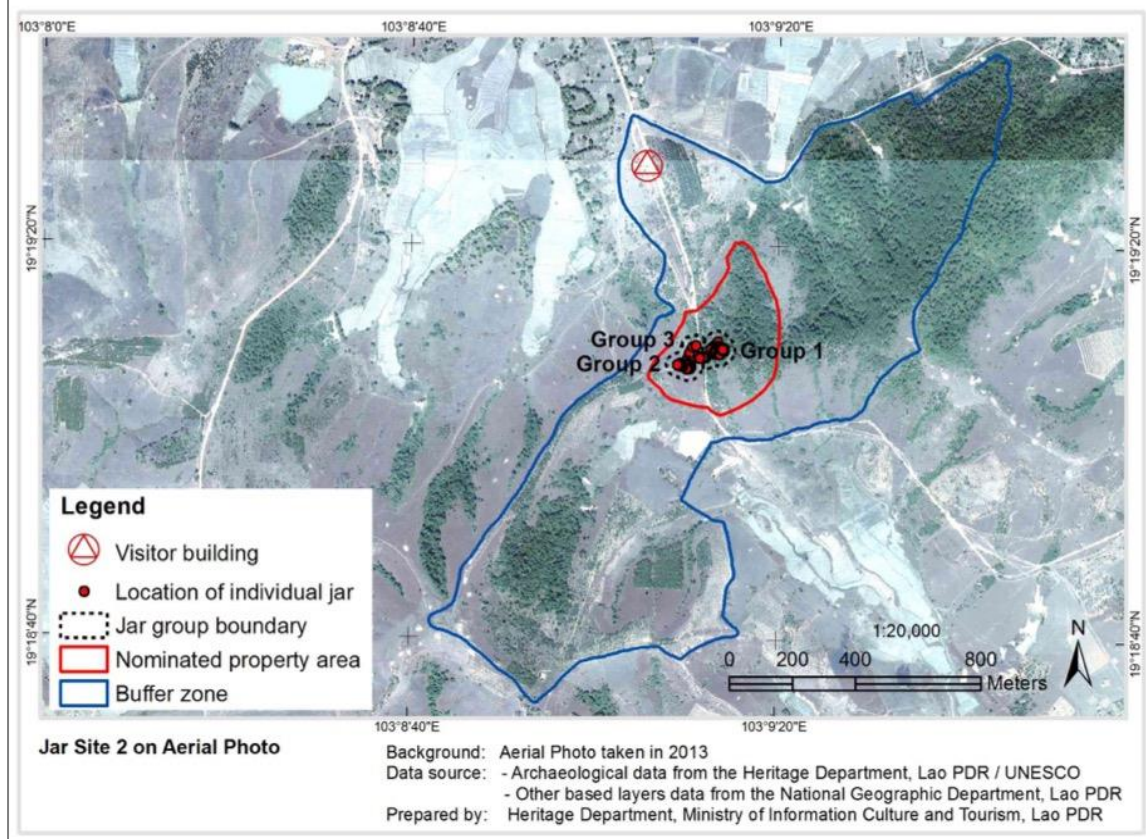
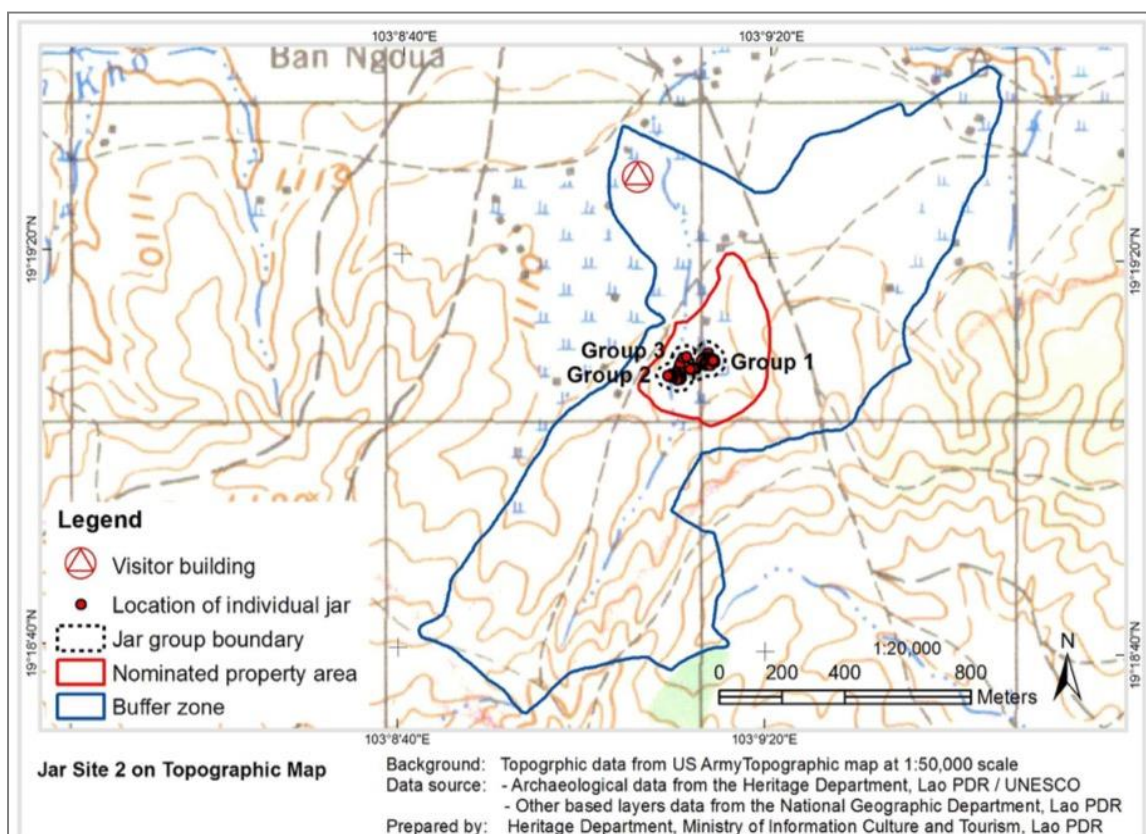
- Site 1;
- Site 2;
- Sites 3 and 8;
- Sites 12 and 52;
- Site 21;
- Site 23;
- Site 25;

- Site 28; and
- Site 42.

Site 1 demarcation

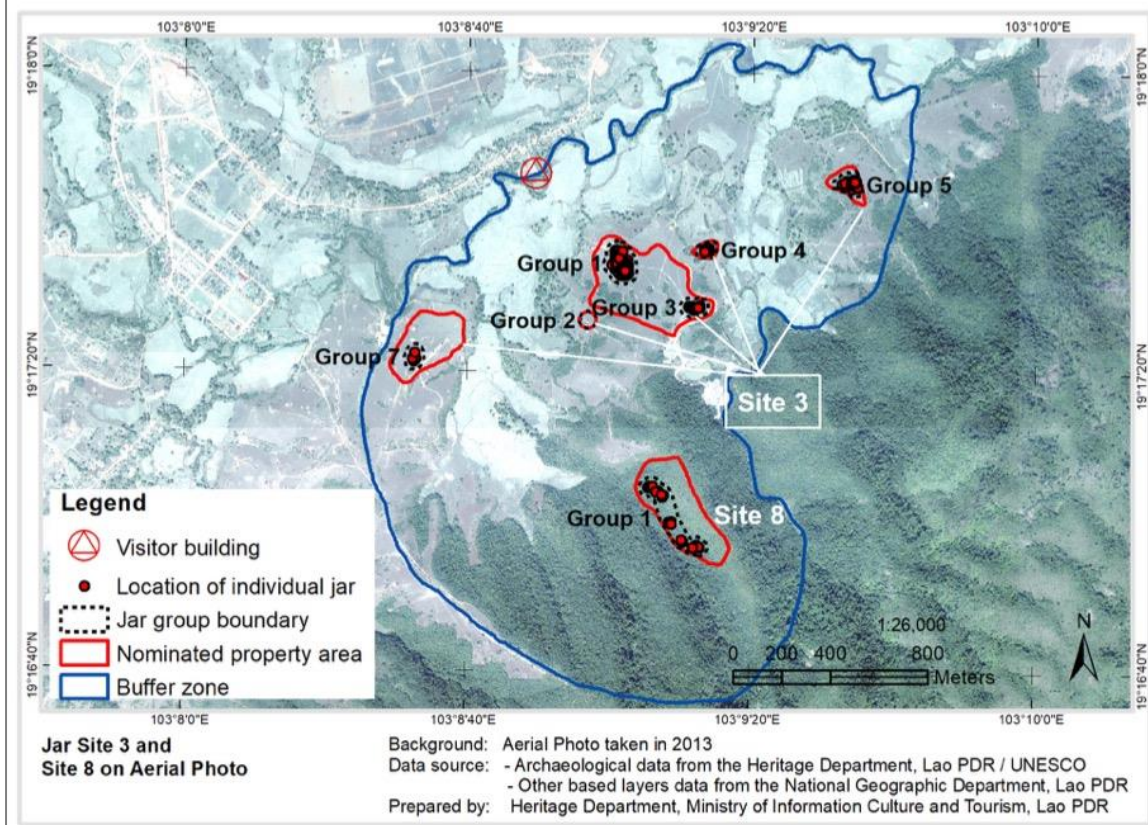
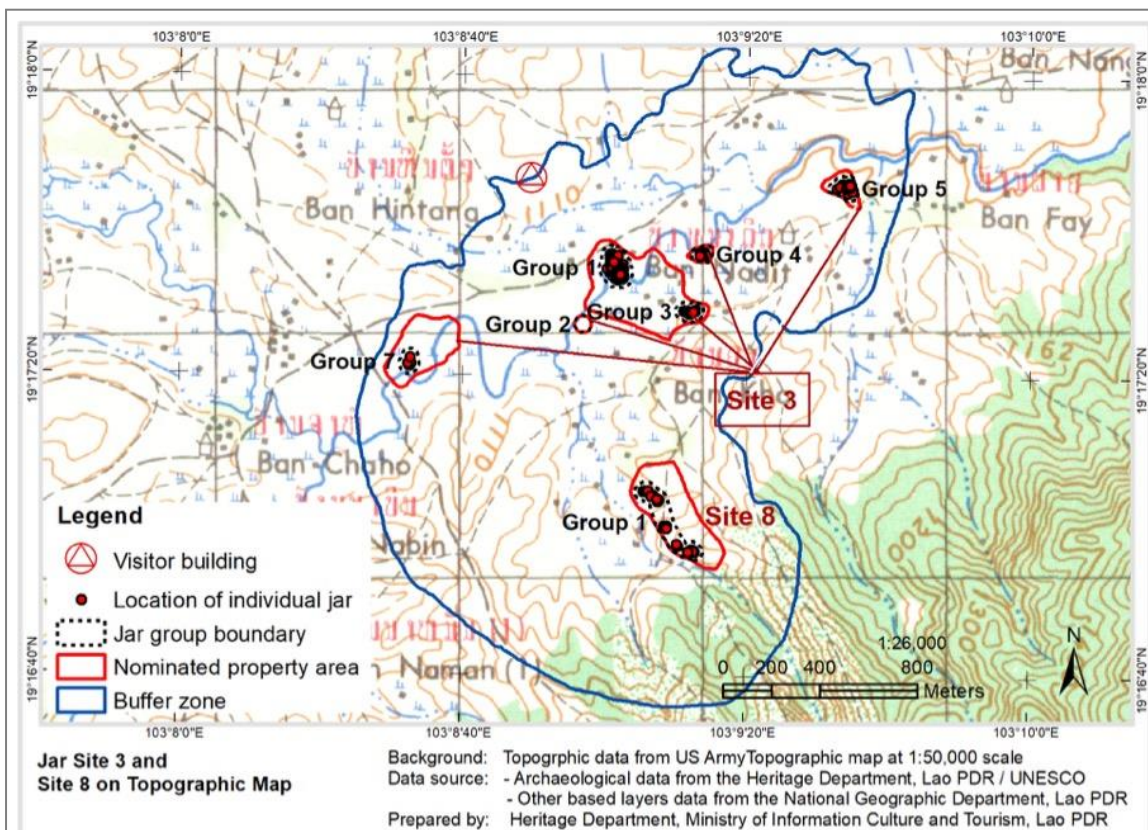


Site 2 demarcation

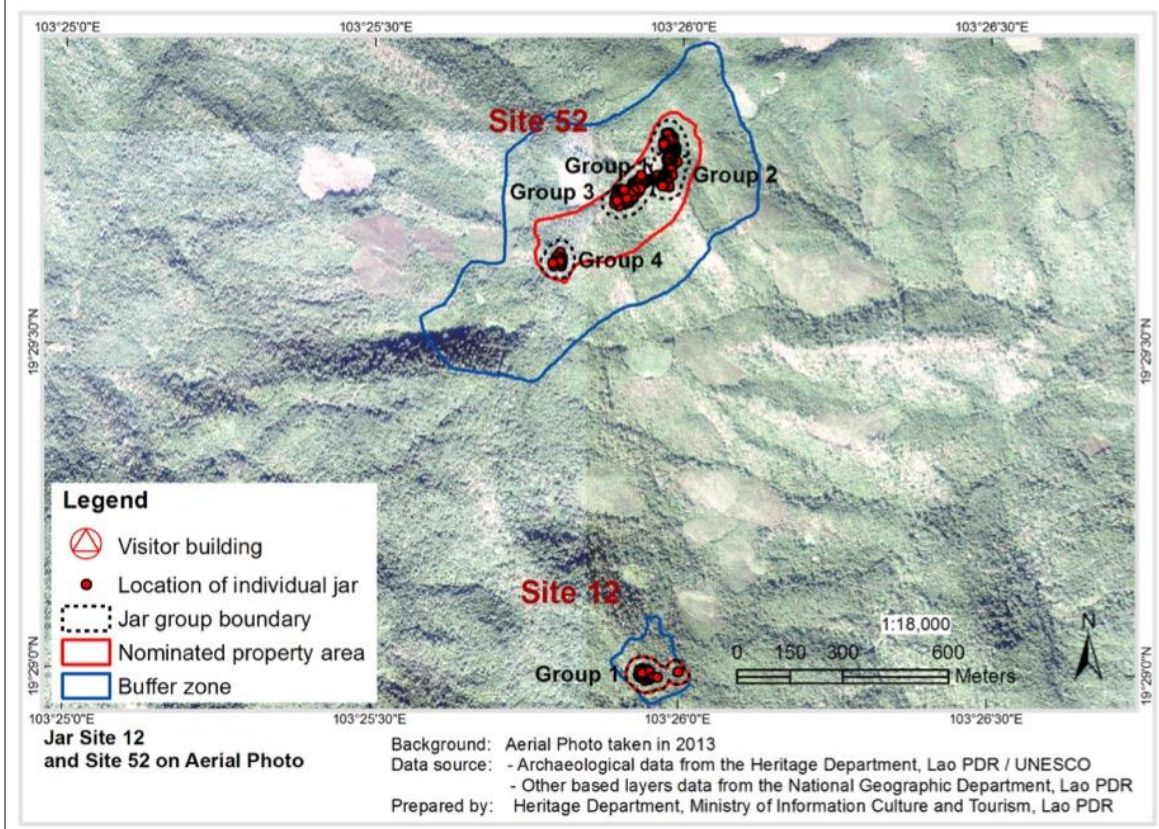
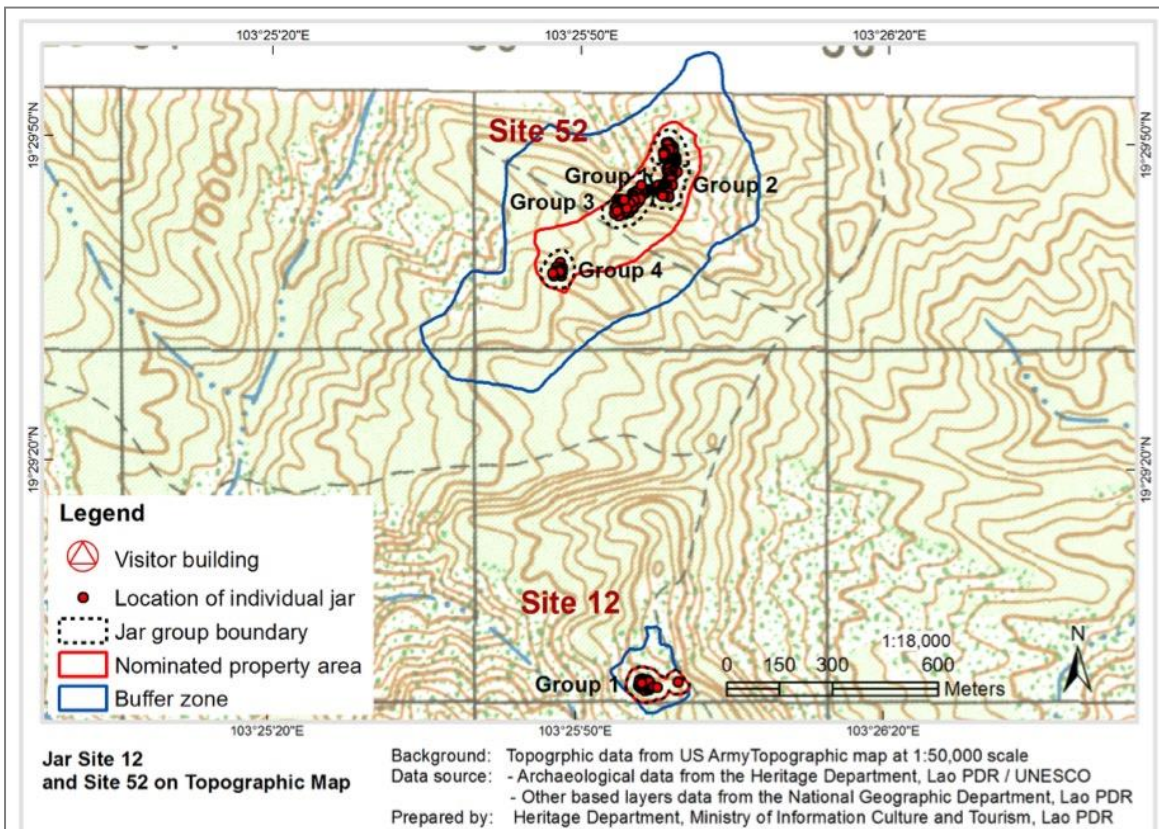


Site 3 Demarcation

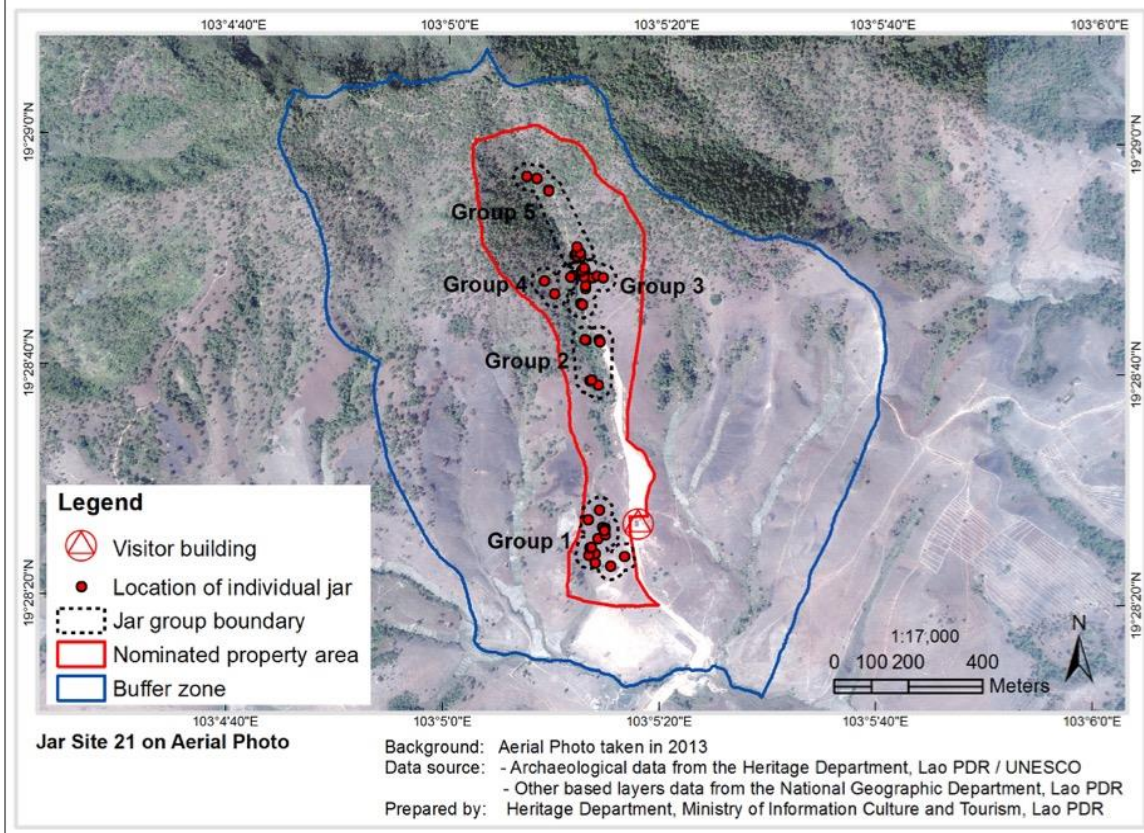
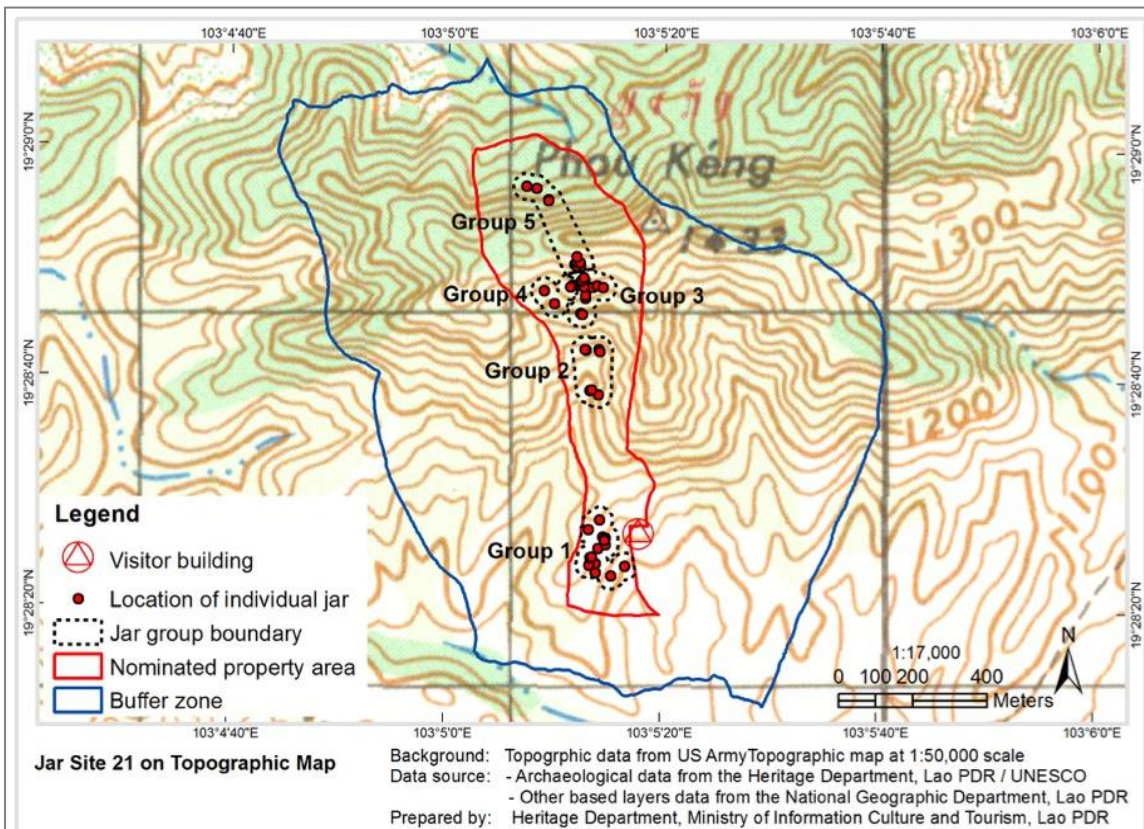
(Groups 3-1 & 3-3, Group 3-2, Group 3-4, Group 3-5, Group 3-7 and 3-8)



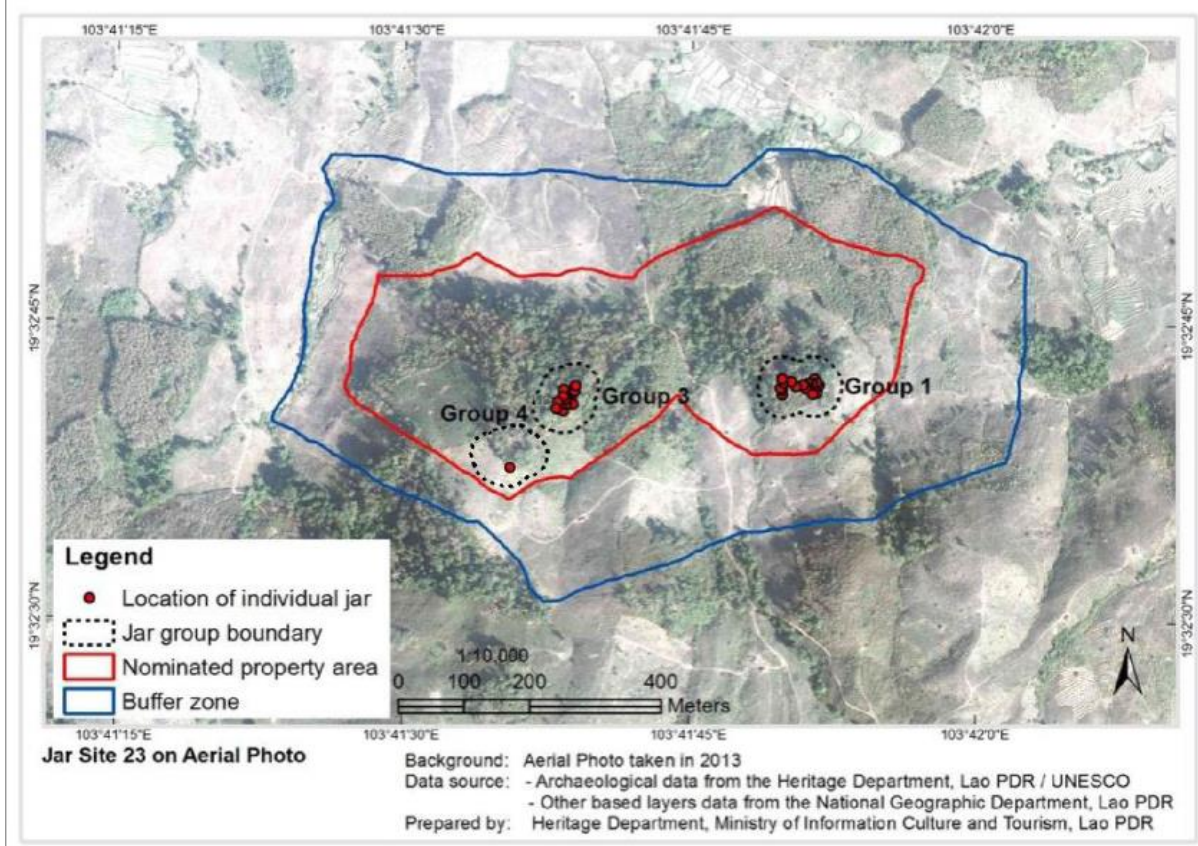
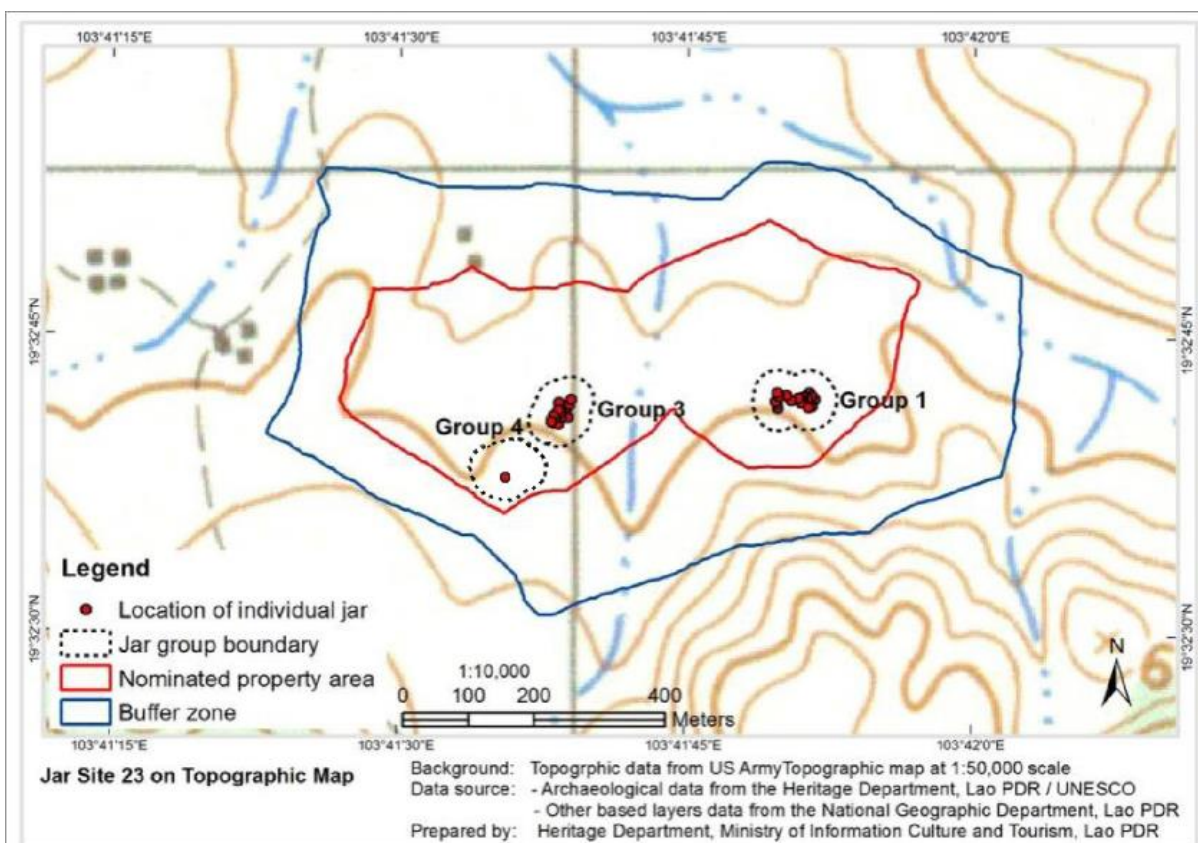
Sites 12 and 52 demarcation



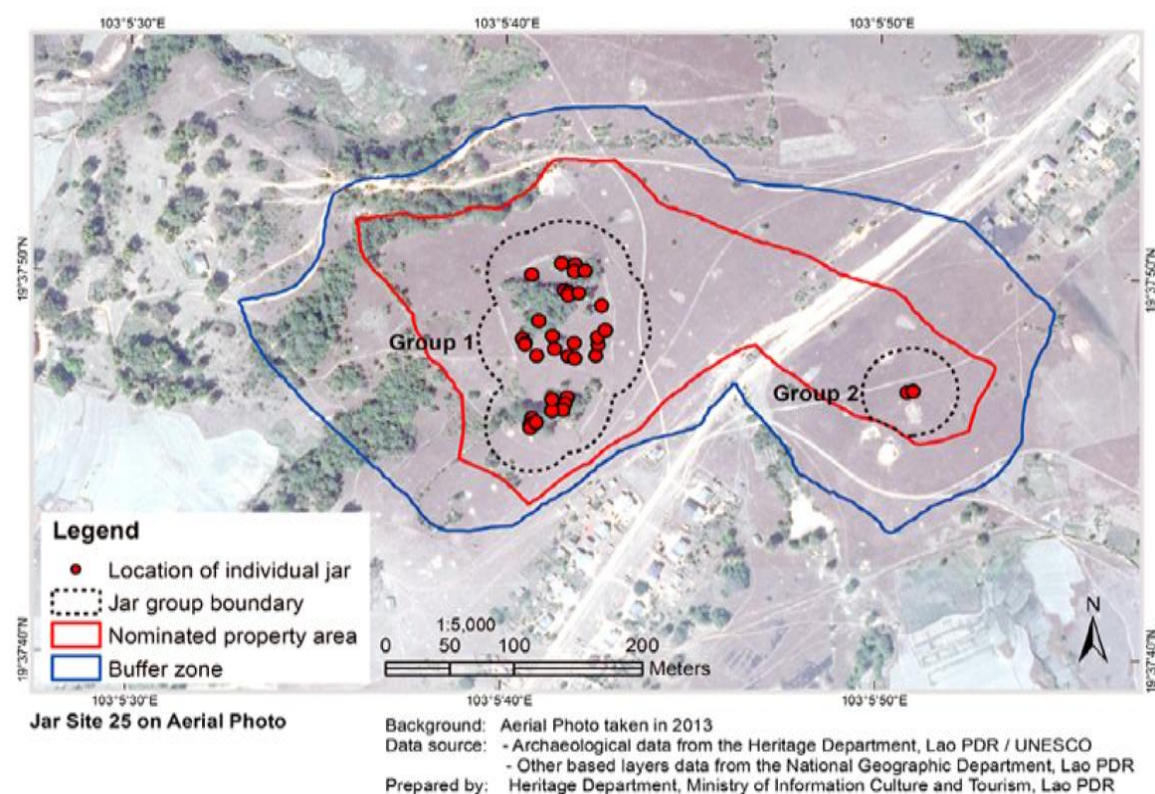
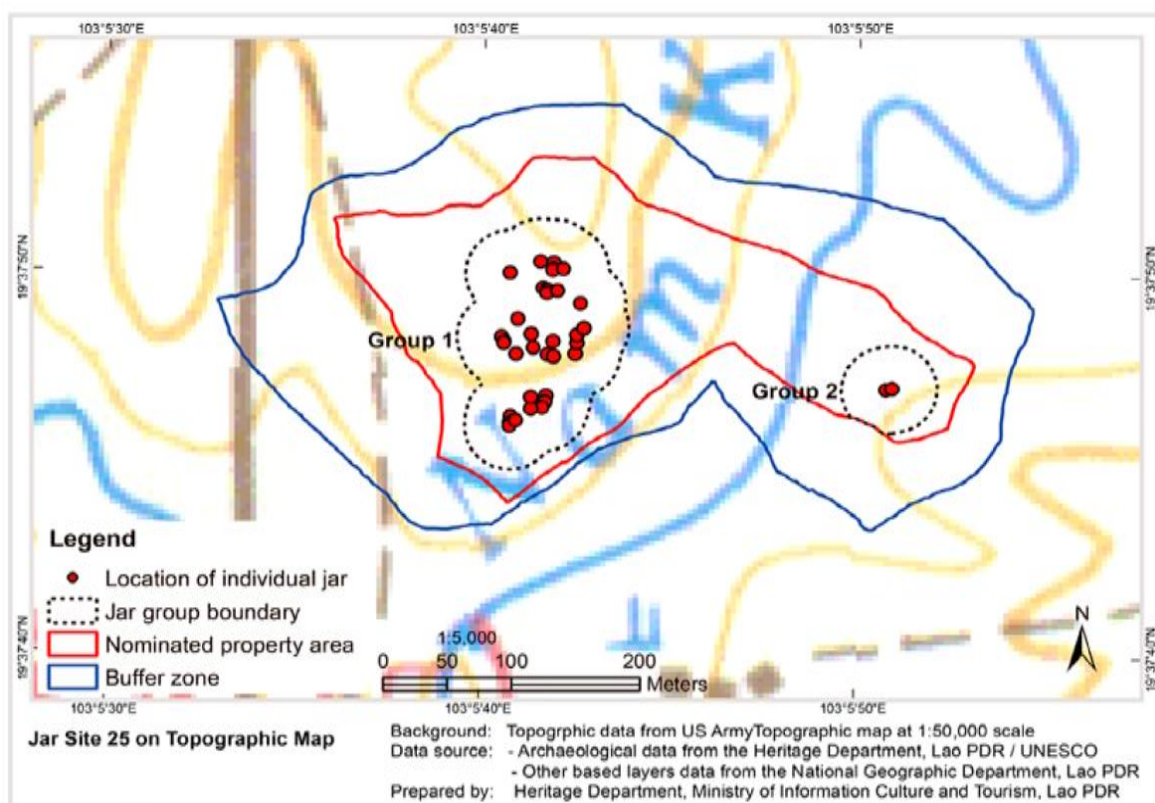
Site 21 demarcation



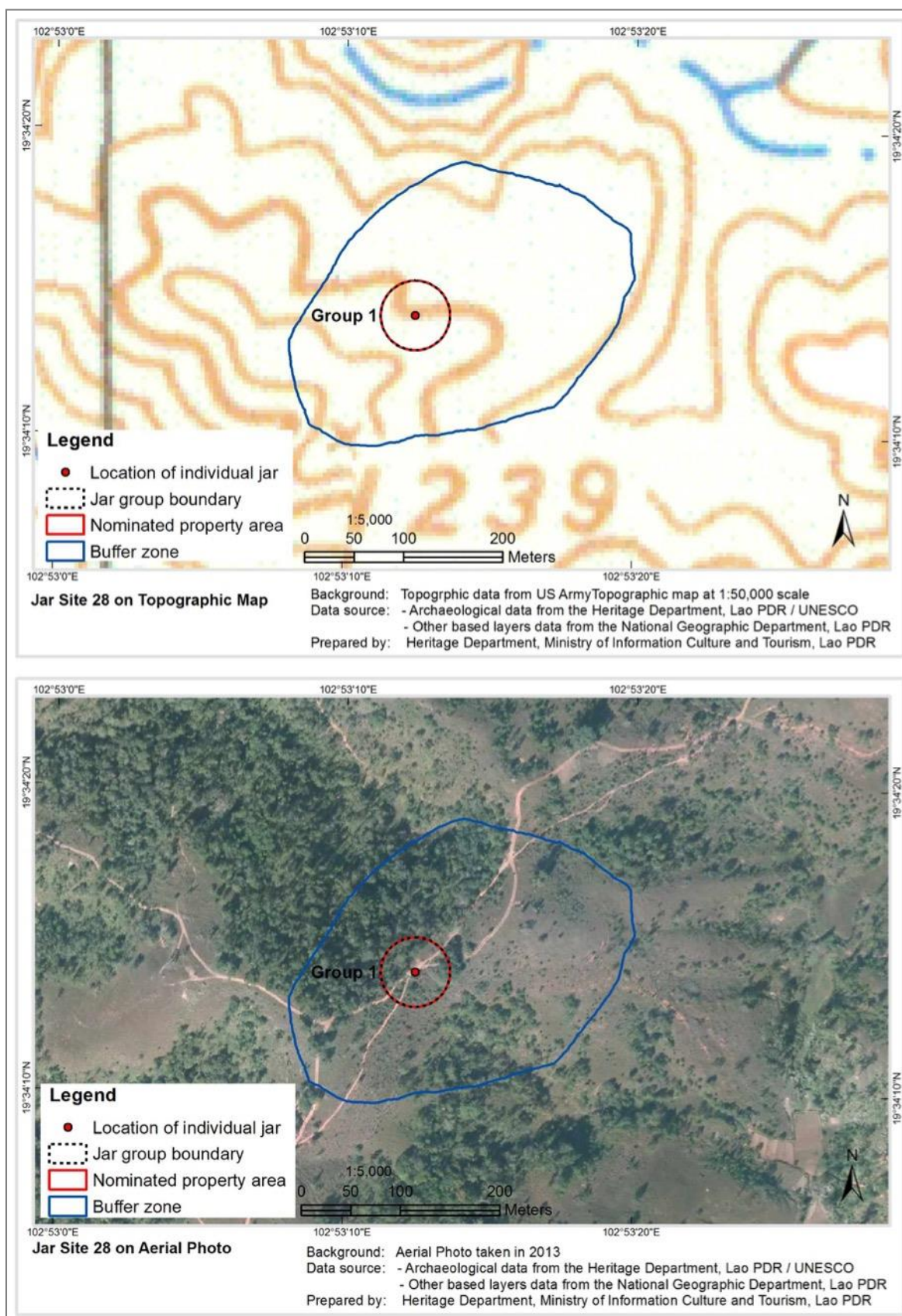
Site 23 demarcation



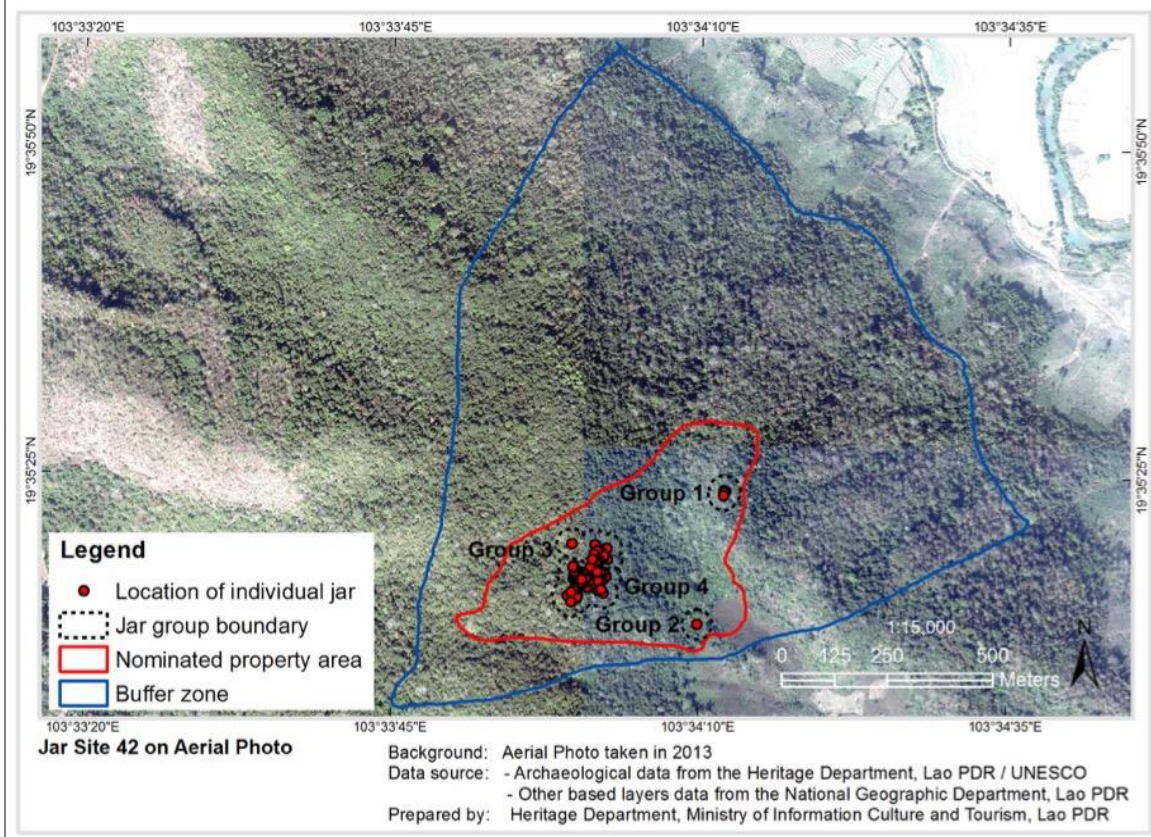
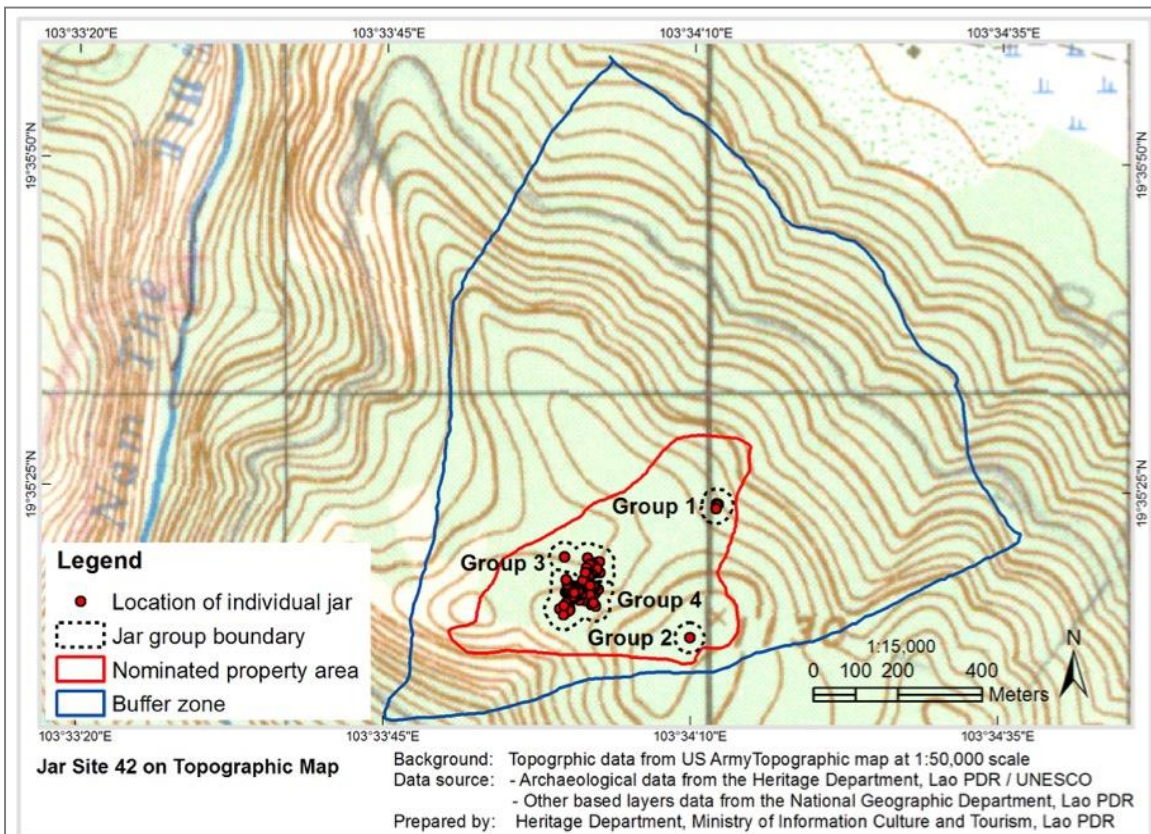
Site 25 demarcation



Site 28 demarcation



Site 42 demarcation



SITE GUIDELINES

Plain of Jars World Heritage Property

Protection and Management Requirements for Site 1

1. Location and Nearest Village

Na O/Ban Ang.

2. Property and Buffer Zone Boundaries

2.1 Property area

The property area covers 59.36 hectares, by determining the fence around the plain of Jars as Conservation area.

2.2 Buffer zone

The buffer zone area covers 60.63 hectares

- Northern Part determines the fence of zone 1 to military fence 976 along the streams and rice field of Mr Sousard (in the corner northern fence)
- Southern part determines from the fence of information center to Xam pond, along the new crossroads to the fence of conservation area
- Eastern part determines from conservation area to Mr Phimpha Xayyatep's land and Mr Xormour which are situated close to the entrance, along the new crossroad to Haihin Mixayaram temple and to the land of Mr Khampien Sinuanthong and Mr Sousard which close to the northern fence
- Western part determines from conservation fence to the new crossroad (triangle land area) then along the road upto Xam pond

A map of these boundaries is attached.

3. Summary of Heritage Value and Brief Description

Heritage Value

The sites are exceptional testimony to the cultural traditions associated with funerary practices, and to the civilization which created the sites but which disappeared sometime after 500 CE. The megalithic jar sites are impressive because of the size of jars and the technological skill to produce and move the jars from quarry sites to funeral sites, as well as because of the large number of surviving jars, disks and other features spread in groups across a large area of the current province. The sites include important archaeological evidence related to funerary practices, possibly of different eras and cultures, as well as of the material culture of the ancient civilisation which created the jars, and the locations of the funeral sites are highly suggestive of cultural meaning. The funeral sites are the outstanding surviving evidence of this civilisation. While the use of jars in funeral sites is known in other parts of Laos, northeast India and Southeast Asia, the density of sites in Xiengkhuang is remarkable.

Site 1 (comprising 5 groups with 334 jars) – is a major jar site.

Brief Description

This is a major jar site located 8 kilometres from the provincial capital Phonsavan. It is the most central jar site and the only one located on the actual plain. Site 1 remains the most investigated site to date and archaeological evidence ranging from the Neolithic to the 19th century has been discovered in burials, cultural layers and incidental finds.

The site currently includes 334 sandstone and conglomerate stone jars, 30 discs and 303 mainly quartzite stone markers. The jar resources are found in 5 groups all located within short walking distance of each other within an area of about 34 hectares. The site includes decorated disks and the only decorated stone jar in the province – this jar has a human bas-relief carved on the exterior representing a human standing and raising his arms. The area where the stone of the jars was sourced is located at a distance of over 8.5 kilometres, which is the furthest recorded distance between a jar site and its quarry.

4. Protection

The property is protected under the *Law on National Heritage 2013* and Provincial Decree 996.

5. Management Requirements

5.1 Management Responsibilities

The four primary management stakeholders are:

- Department of Heritage (national) – the primary technical adviser for the Plain of Jars, directly responsible for conservation and research, provides oversight of the provincial Department of ICT and conservation guidance to the provincial Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division;
- Department of ICT (provincial) – responsible for the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division, undertakes village awareness raising activities;
- Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division (provincial) – primary management role, guidance to district and village levels, responsible for monitoring and infrastructure/major works at the sites, and also responsible for day to day maintenance, management and reporting at Site 1; and
- Village Heritage Teams – day to day maintenance and management role, and reporting, for Sites 2, 3, 8, 12, 21, 23, 25, 28, 42 and 52.

The Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division is responsible for Site 1.

5.2 Land Use

All land uses must be consistent with the conservation of the Heritage Value of the property. No land use is permitted which adversely impacts on the property.

Property (Zone 1) – permitted uses are conservation, research, education, interpretation and visitation only.

Buffer Zone (Zone 2) – permitted uses are agriculture and livestock grazing, including small-scale temporary sheds and animal shelters, non-commercial forest conservation, and tourism facilities.

5.3 *Role of the Director, Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division*

The Director will:

- train the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division staff to increase the understanding of the Heritage Value of the Plain of Jars World Heritage site;
- ensure the safety of tourists;
- assign members of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division to be responsible for management tasks; and
- monitor and report as defined below.

5.4 *Management by the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division*

Implementation of laws, regulations and plans issued by relevant authorities

- The Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division will comply with all laws, regulations and plans issued by relevant authorities.

Finding UXO

- UXO found within the World Heritage property or buffer zone will be cleared as soon as possible in accordance with the archaeo-demining protocol.

Damage to Jars, Disks or other Archaeological Evidence

- If any jars, disks or other archaeological evidence are damaged, for example by graffiti or falling tree branches, do not attempt to repair the damage but report to the Department of Heritage as soon as possible.

Control of activities within the heritage property and buffer zone

- People are allowed to visit the heritage property.
- People should not touch, climb, step on, carve, damage or graffiti the jars, disks or other archaeological evidence.
- Jars, disks, stones and other archaeological evidence in the heritage property are not to be moved.
- No buildings, structures, utilities or infrastructure are allowed in the heritage property.
- No electricity poles or telephone reception towers are allowed in the buffer zone.
- Small buildings or structures in a traditional style may be allowed in the buffer zone with the permission of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division. Buildings will be one storey and the maximum height of buildings is 7 metres. However, houses, guest houses, hotels and factories are not allowed.
- No road or other construction is allowed in the heritage property and buffer zone without the permission of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division.
- Farming activities are not allowed in the heritage property including planting trees, crops or vegetables, or grazing animals.
- Slash and burn cultivation is not allowed in the heritage property and buffer zone.
- Burning or fires in the heritage property are not allowed.
- Tourists are not allowed to bring weapons, knives or luggage into the heritage property.
- Excavation, digging or earthworks in the heritage property is only allowed with permission from the Department of Heritage.
- Mining or quarrying are not allowed in the heritage property or buffer zone.

- People are not allowed to stay overnight in the heritage property or buffer zone, and aggressive or lewd behaviour is not allowed.
- Picnics, parties or other events are not allowed in the heritage property.
- Cultural antiques cannot be sold in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Wildlife cannot be sold or cooked in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Hunting is not allowed in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Collection of forest products is allowed in the buffer zone but not in the heritage property.
- Religious activities which involve physical contact with jars, disks, stones and other archaeological evidence are not allowed in the heritage property. New burials of humans are not allowed in the heritage property.
- Individuals, groups and government agencies cannot reserve any part of the heritage property or buffer zone as their own land.
- In the case of the few houses which exist in the buffer zone, these will be relocated in the future outside the buffer zone, and people are not allowed to extend these existing houses.

Maintaining fencing and paths

- Inspect any fences and paths in the property and buffer zone weekly, and repair quickly if needed.

Controlling vegetation growth

- Keep the grass cut low in the property, every week if needed. Be careful not to damage or move jars, disks or stones.
- Remove trees or plants threatening to damage jars or disks – cut off at ground level, poison roots, but do not remove roots for trees or large plants because this may damage archaeological remains. Check vegetation growth every month.

Maintaining cleanliness of the site and ensuring facilities are always kept clean and in good working order

- Inspect site daily/weekly/monthly (depending on number of visitors) and remove any rubbish or otherwise keep the site clean.
- Check inside jars for any rubbish and carefully remove it.

5.5 Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

The Director, Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division is responsible for monitoring and reporting.

Monitor the work of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division.

Monitor tour guides, domestic and international tourists to ensure that rules and regulations are followed.

Monitor activities within the heritage property and buffer zone.

Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division staff will report to the Director as soon as possible

- Any UXO found.
- Any damage to the jars, disks or stones.
- Any signs of excavation or digging in the property.
- Any problems with tour guides or tourists.
- The number of Lao and foreign visitors, every month.

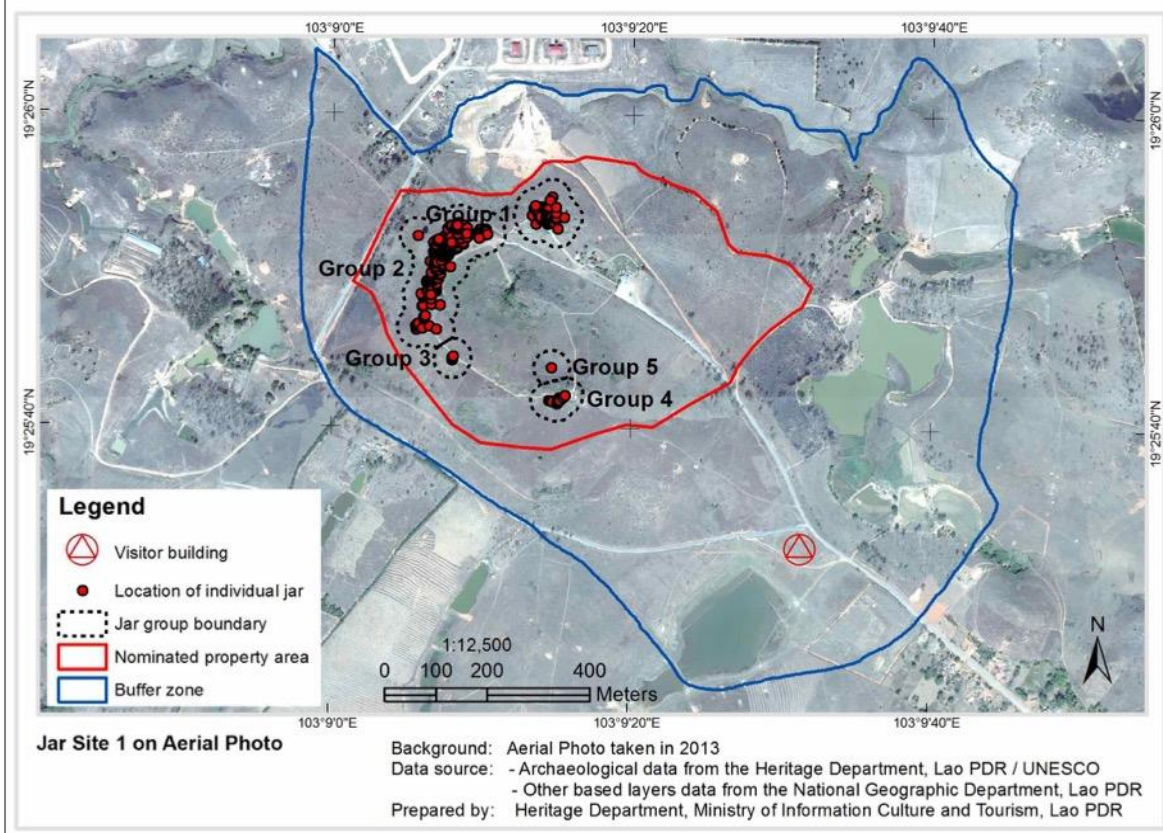
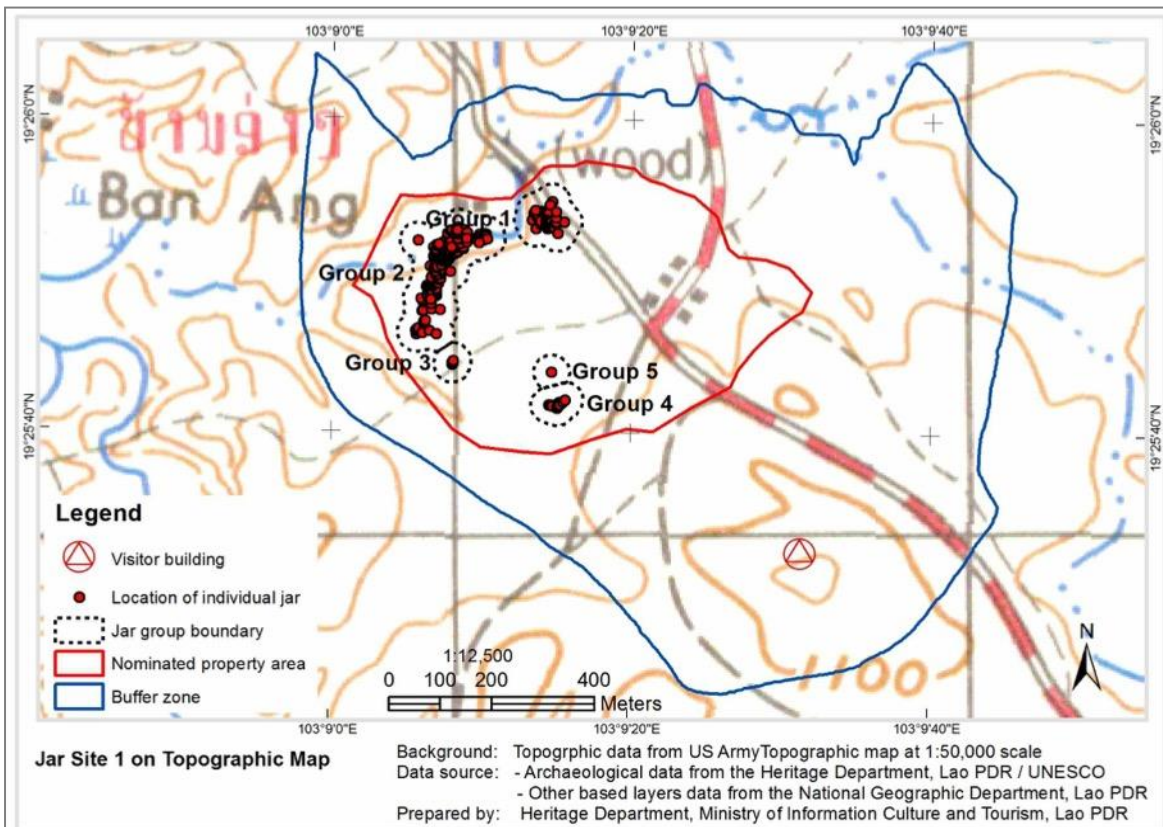
- Any activities which are not permitted in the heritage property and buffer zone.
- Any other problems.

Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division staff will report to the Director at least every month or in the case of urgent matters, as soon as possible.

6. Related Management Documents

Protection and management guidelines exist at the provincial level for the property.

Site 1 demarcation



Plain of Jars World Heritage Property

Protection and Management Requirements for Site 2 – Ban Na Kho

1. Location and Nearest Village

Ban Na Kho.

2. Property and Buffer Zone Boundaries

2.1 Property area

The Property area of Ban Na Ko covers 15.13 hectares

- Northern Part is situated close to E kong streams
- Southern part is situated close to Mr Khamphay's land
- Eastern part is included in the protected area of Village where located French old stupa for 20 meters distance.
- Western part is situated close to Pa Pao streams, along the new crossroad

2.2 Buffer zone

The buffer zone area covers 133.16 hectares

- Northern Part determines from conservation area to old cultural land (ticket office)
- Southern part starts from conservation area to pathway to 3 villages on top of Hua Xang mountain
- Eastern part starts from conservation area to new crossroad around protected area of Ban No Ko
- Western part starts from conservation area around 30 meters in distance

A map of these boundaries is attached.

3. Summary of Heritage Value and Brief Description

Heritage Value

The sites are exceptional testimony to the cultural traditions associated with funerary practices, and to the civilization which created the sites but which disappeared sometime after 500 CE. The megalithic jar sites are impressive because of the size of jars and the technological skill to produce and move the jars from quarry sites to funeral sites, as well as because of the large number of surviving jars, disks and other features spread in groups across a large area of the current province. The sites include important archaeological evidence related to funerary practices, possibly of different eras and cultures, as well as of the material culture of the ancient civilisation which created the jars, and the locations of the funeral sites are highly suggestive of cultural meaning. The funeral sites are the outstanding surviving evidence of this civilisation. While the use of jars in funeral sites is known in other parts of Laos, northeast India and Southeast Asia, the density of sites in Xiengkhuang is remarkable.

Site 2 (comprising 3 groups with 93 jars) – is a major jar site.

Brief Description

This is a major jar site and one of the most visited along with Sites 1 and 3. It is located on a hill ridge near the edge of the plain in Phaxay District, approximately 20 kilometres from Phonsavan. The site is divided

into 3 groups and is dissected by a road. The jars at Site 2 are mostly made of sandstone with one limestone example – in total 93 jars and 14 discs were recorded. The site includes decorated stone disks.

4. Protection

The property is protected under the *Law on National Heritage 2013* and Provincial Decree 996.

5. Management Requirements

5.1 Management Responsibilities

The four primary management stakeholders are:

- Department of Heritage (national) – the primary technical adviser for the Plain of Jars, directly responsible for conservation and research, provides oversight of the provincial Department of ICT and conservation guidance to the provincial Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division;
- Department of ICT (provincial) – responsible for the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division, undertakes village awareness raising activities;
- Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division (provincial) – primary management role, guidance to district and village levels, responsible for monitoring and infrastructure/major works at the sites, and also responsible for day to day maintenance, management and reporting at Site 1; and
- Village Heritage Teams – day to day maintenance and management role, and reporting, for Sites 2, 3, 8, 12, 21, 23, 25, 28, 42 and 52.

The village responsible for Site 2 is Ban Na Kho. The Village Chief is the primary village contact person regarding management of the site. The District Governor will appoint a Village Heritage Team which is responsible for site management in accordance with these guidelines.

The Provincial Government will provide a regular ongoing payment to the village to support its responsibilities.

5.2 Land Use

All land uses must be consistent with the conservation of the Heritage Value of the property. No land use is permitted which adversely impacts on the property.

Property (Zone 1) – permitted uses are conservation, research, education, interpretation and visitation only.

Buffer Zone (Zone 2) – permitted uses are agriculture and livestock grazing, including small-scale temporary sheds and animal shelters, non-commercial forest conservation, and tourism facilities.

5.3 Role of the Village Chief

The Village Chief will:

- train the communities and villagers to increase the understanding of the Heritage Value of the Plain of Jars World Heritage site;
- ensure the safety of tourists;
- assign members of the Village Heritage Team to be responsible for management tasks; and

- monitor and report as defined below.

5.4 Management by the Village Heritage Team

Implementation of laws, regulations and plans issued by relevant authorities

- The Village Chief and Village Heritage Team will comply with all laws, regulations and plans issued by relevant authorities.

Finding UXO

- Any UXO discovered in the property or buffer zone will be reported to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible.

Damage to Jars, Disks or other Archaeological Evidence

- If any jars, disks or other archaeological evidence are damaged, for example by graffiti or falling tree branches, do not attempt to repair the damage but report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible.

Control of activities within the heritage property and buffer zone

- People are allowed to visit the heritage property.
- People should not touch, climb, step on, carve, damage or graffiti the jars, disks or other archaeological evidence.
- Jars, disks, stones and other archaeological evidence in the heritage property are not to be moved.
- No buildings, structures, utilities or infrastructure are allowed in the heritage property.
- No electricity poles or telephone reception towers are allowed in the buffer zone.
- Small buildings or structures in a traditional style may be allowed in the buffer zone with the permission of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division. Buildings will be one storey and the maximum height of buildings is 7 metres. However, houses, guest houses, hotels and factories are not allowed.
- No road or other construction is allowed in the heritage property and buffer zone without the permission of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division.
- Farming activities are not allowed in the heritage property including planting trees, crops or vegetables, or grazing animals.
- Slash and burn cultivation is not allowed in the heritage property and buffer zone.
- Burning or fires in the heritage property are not allowed.
- Tourists are not allowed to bring weapons, knives or luggage into the heritage property.
- Excavation, digging or earthworks in the heritage property is only allowed with permission from the Department of Heritage.
- Mining or quarrying are not allowed in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- People are not allowed to stay overnight in the heritage property or buffer zone, and aggressive or lewd behaviour is not allowed.
- Picnics, parties or other events are not allowed in the heritage property.
- Cultural antiques cannot be sold in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Wildlife cannot be sold or cooked in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Hunting is not allowed in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Collection of forest products is allowed in the buffer zone but not in the heritage property.
- Religious activities which involve physical contact with jars, disks, stones and other archaeological evidence are not allowed in the heritage property. New burials of humans are not allowed in the heritage property.

- Individuals, groups and government agencies cannot reserve any part of the heritage property or buffer zone as their own land.

Maintaining fencing and paths

- Inspect any fences and paths in the property and buffer zone weekly, and repair quickly if needed.

Controlling vegetation growth

- Keep the grass cut low in the property, every week if needed. Be careful not to damage or move jars, disks or stones.
- Remove trees or plants threatening to damage jars or disks – cut off at ground level, poison roots, but do not remove roots for trees or large plants because this may damage archaeological remains. Check vegetation growth every month.

Maintaining cleanliness of the site and ensuring facilities are always kept clean and in good working order

- Inspect site daily/weekly/monthly (depending on number of visitors) and remove any rubbish or otherwise keep the site clean.
- Check inside jars for any rubbish and carefully remove it.

5.5 Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

The Village Chief is responsible for monitoring and reporting.

Monitor the Village Heritage Team.

Monitor tour guides, domestic and international tourists to ensure that rules and regulations are followed.

Monitor activities within the heritage property and buffer zone.

Report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible

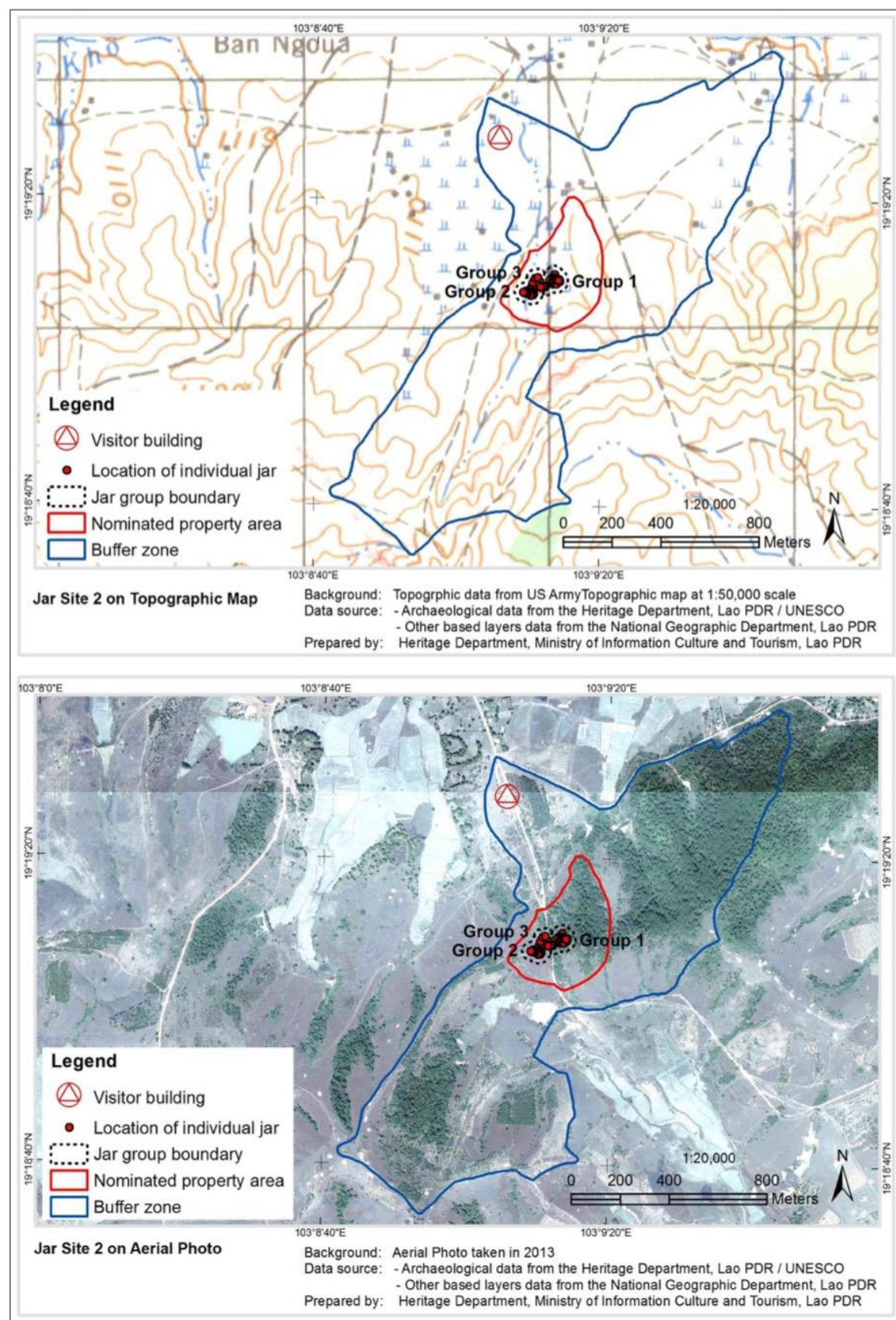
- Any UXO found.
- Any damage to the jars, disks or stones.
- Any signs of excavation or digging in the property.
- Any problems with tour guides or tourists.
- The number of Lao and foreign visitors, every month.
- Any activities which are not permitted in the heritage property and buffer zone.
- Any other problems.

The village will provide a report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division at least every month or in the case of urgent matters, as soon as possible.

6. Related Management Documents

Protection and management guidelines exist at the provincial level for the property.

Site 2 demarcation



Plain of Jars World Heritage Property

Protection and Management Requirements for Sites 3 and 8 – Ban Xiengdi

1. Location and Nearest Village

Ban Xiengdi.

2. Property and Buffer Zone Boundaries

2.1 Property area

The Property area of Ban Na Ko covers 15.13 hectares

- Northern Part is situated close to E kong streams
- Southern part is situated close to Mr Khamphay's land
- Eastern part is included in the protected area of Village where located French old stupa for 20 meters distance.
- Western part is situated close to Pa Pao streams, along the new crossroad

2.2 Buffer zone

The buffer zone area covers 133.16 hectares

- Northern Part determines from conservation area to old cultural land (ticket office)
- Southern part starts from conservation area to pathway to 3 villages on top of Hua Xang mountain
- Eastern part starts from conservation area to new crossroad around protected area of Ban No Ko
- Western part starts from conservation area around 30 meters in distance

A map of these boundaries is attached.

3. Summary of Heritage Value and Brief Description

Heritage Value

The sites are exceptional testimony to the cultural traditions associated with funerary practices, and to the civilization which created the sites but which disappeared sometime after 500 CE. The megalithic jar sites are impressive because of the size of jars and the technological skill to produce and move the jars from quarry sites to funeral sites, as well as because of the large number of surviving jars, disks and other features spread in groups across a large area of the current province. The sites include important archaeological evidence related to funerary practices, possibly of different eras and cultures, as well as of the material culture of the ancient civilisation which created the jars, and the locations of the funeral sites are highly suggestive of cultural meaning. The funeral sites are the outstanding surviving evidence of this civilisation. While the use of jars in funeral sites is known in other parts of Laos, northeast India and Southeast Asia, the density of sites in Xiengkhuang is remarkable.

Site 3 (comprising 6 groups with 242 jars) – is a major jar site. Site 8 (comprising 1 group with 12 jars) – is a quarry associated with two of the major jar sites, Sites 2 and 3.

Brief Description

This is a major jar site located a few kilometres to the southwest of Site 2 and consists of 5 components with 6 groups. The jar site groups are located on lower hill slope spurs and overlook the expansive plain. The sandstone quarry of the jar resources has been located further up the hill slope (Site 8).

Group 1 is located to the south of the present village and includes 159 jars, all sandstone, 33 discs and 20 stones. Group 1 is a moderately-sized area on gently sloping or flat ground and includes a dense grouping of jars. Group 3 is a short distance to the southeast of Group 1. It is a small group of 27 jars. Group 2 is a very small component with a very small number of features – 2 jars and 2 disks. Group 4 is a small component with a limited number of features – 16 jars and 1 disk. Group 5 is a small component with a limited number of features – 34 jars, 1 disk and 1 stone. Group 7 is a very small component with a very limited number of features – 4 jars and 1 disk.

Site 8 is to the south of the Site 3 jar groups, located on the hill slopes of the mountains. There are several quarry areas and various groups of unfinished, broken and complete sandstone jars, the complete jars presumably ready for transport to the site. Preliminary identification of the rock suggests that this mountain is the source of the Site 2 and Site 3 jars.

4. Protection

The property is protected under the *Law on National Heritage 2013* and Provincial Decree 996.

5. Management Requirements

5.1 Management Responsibilities

The four primary management stakeholders are:

- Department of Heritage (national) – the primary technical adviser for the Plain of Jars, directly responsible for conservation and research, provides oversight of the provincial Department of ICT and conservation guidance to the provincial Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division;
- Department of ICT (provincial) – responsible for the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division, undertakes village awareness raising activities;
- Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division (provincial) – primary management role, guidance to district and village levels, responsible for monitoring and infrastructure/major works at the sites, and also responsible for day to day maintenance, management and reporting at Site 1; and
- Village Heritage Teams – day to day maintenance and management role, and reporting, for Sites 2, 3, 8, 12, 21, 23, 25, 28, 42 and 52.

The village responsible for Sites 3 and 8 is Ban Xiengdi. The Village Chief is the primary village contact person regarding management of the site. The District Governor will appoint a Village Heritage Team which is responsible for site management in accordance with these guidelines.

The Provincial Government will provide a regular ongoing payment to the village to support its responsibilities.

5.2 Land Use

All land uses must be consistent with the conservation of the Heritage Value of the property. No land use is permitted which adversely impacts on the property.

Property (Zone 1) – permitted uses are conservation, research, education, interpretation and visitation only.

Buffer Zone (Zone 2) – permitted uses are agriculture and livestock grazing, including small-scale temporary sheds and animal shelters, non-commercial forest conservation, and tourism facilities.

5.3 Role of the Village Chief

The Village Chief will:

- train the communities and villagers to increase the understanding of the Heritage Value of the Plain of Jars World Heritage site;
- ensure the safety of tourists;
- assign members of the Village Heritage Team to be responsible for management tasks; and
- monitor and report as defined below.

5.4 Management by the Village Heritage Team

Implementation of laws, regulations and plans issued by relevant authorities

- The Village Chief and Village Heritage Team will comply with all laws, regulations and plans issued by relevant authorities.

Finding UXO

- Any UXO discovered in the property or buffer zone will be reported to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible.

Damage to Jars, Disks or other Archaeological Evidence

- If any jars, disks or other archaeological evidence are damaged, for example by graffiti or falling tree branches, do not attempt to repair the damage but report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible.

Control of activities within the heritage property and buffer zone

- People are allowed to visit the heritage property.
- People should not touch, climb, step on, carve, damage or graffiti the jars, disks or other archaeological evidence.
- Jars, disks, stones and other archaeological evidence in the heritage property are not to be moved.
- No buildings, structures, utilities or infrastructure are allowed in the heritage property.
- No electricity poles or telephone reception towers are allowed in the buffer zone.
- Small buildings or structures in a traditional style may be allowed in the buffer zone with the permission of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division. Buildings will be one storey and the maximum height of buildings is 7 metres. However, houses, guest houses, hotels and factories are not allowed.
- No road or other construction is allowed in the heritage property and buffer zone without the permission of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division.

- Farming activities are not allowed in the heritage property including planting trees, crops or vegetables, or grazing animals.
- Slash and burn cultivation is not allowed in the heritage property and buffer zone.
- Burning or fires in the heritage property are not allowed.
- Tourists are not allowed to bring weapons, knives or luggage into the heritage property.
- Excavation, digging or earthworks in the heritage property is only allowed with permission from the Department of Heritage.
- Mining or quarrying are not allowed in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- People are not allowed to stay overnight in the heritage property or buffer zone, and aggressive or lewd behaviour is not allowed.
- Picnics, parties or other events are not allowed in the heritage property.
- Cultural antiques cannot be sold in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Wildlife cannot be sold or cooked in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Hunting is not allowed in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Collection of forest products is allowed in the buffer zone but not in the heritage property.
- Religious activities which involve physical contact with jars, disks, stones and other archaeological evidence are not allowed in the heritage property. New burials of humans are not allowed in the heritage property.
- Individuals, groups and government agencies cannot reserve any part of the heritage property or buffer zone as their own land.

Maintaining fencing and paths

- Inspect any fences and paths in the property and buffer zone weekly, and repair quickly if needed.

Controlling vegetation growth

- Keep the grass cut low in the property, every week if needed. Be careful not to damage or move jars, disks or stones.
- Remove trees or plants threatening to damage jars or disks – cut off at ground level, poison roots, but do not remove roots for trees or large plants because this may damage archaeological remains. Check vegetation growth every month.

Maintaining cleanliness of the site and ensuring facilities are always kept clean and in good working order

- Inspect site daily/weekly/monthly (depending on number of visitors) and remove any rubbish or otherwise keep the site clean.
- Check inside jars for any rubbish and carefully remove it.

5.5 Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

The Village Chief is responsible for monitoring and reporting.

Monitor the Village Heritage Team.

Monitor tour guides, domestic and international tourists to ensure that rules and regulations are followed.

Monitor activities within the heritage property and buffer zone.

Report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible

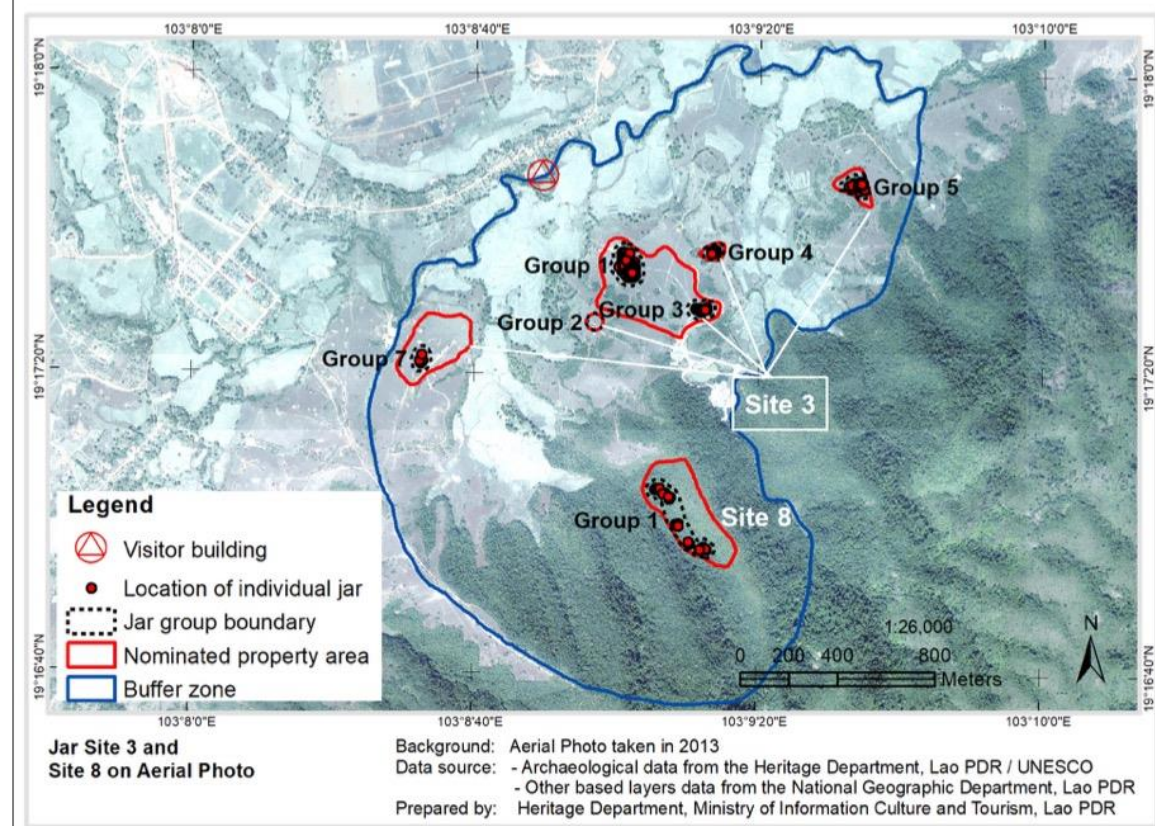
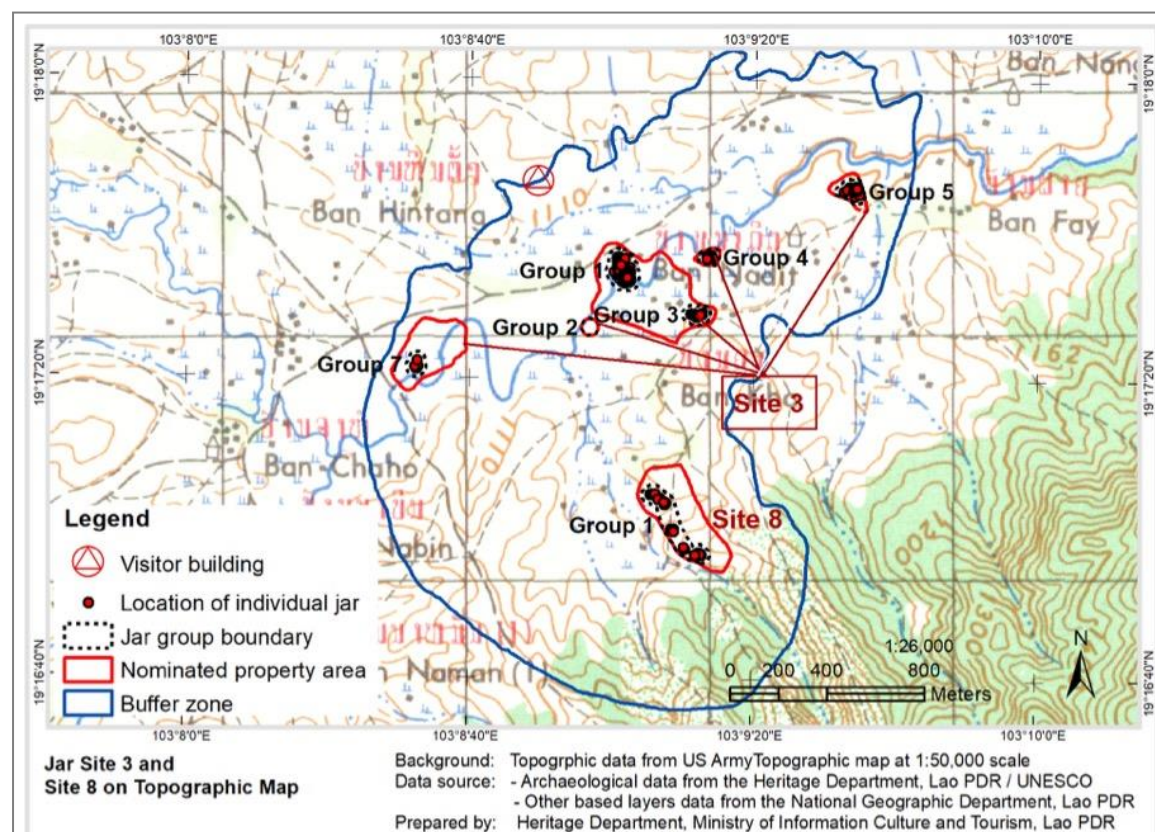
- Any UXO found.

- Any damage to the jars, disks or stones.
- Any signs of excavation or digging in the property.
- Any problems with tour guides or tourists.
- The number of Lao and foreign visitors, every month.
- Any activities which are not permitted in the heritage property and buffer zone.
- Any other problems.

The village will provide a report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division at least every month or in the case of urgent matters, as soon as possible.

6. Related Management Documents

Protection and management guidelines exist at the provincial level for the property.



Plain of Jars World Heritage Property

Protection and Management Requirements for Sites 12 and 52 – Ban Phakeo

1. Location and Nearest Village

Ban Phakeo.

2. Property and Buffer Zone Boundaries

2.1 The property area included site 3 and site 8 with surface of 27.96 hectares

A. Property area of Site 3

- Northern Part is situated close to Mr Somsanith which is still a reserved land
- Southern part is situated close to Quarry site Huay louang and village's protected area
- Eastern part is situated close to Irrigation canal Nong ping
- Western part is situated close to Mr Thitdone's land

B. Property area of Site 8

- Northern Part is situated close to Dong Kuang noy mountain
- Southern part is situated close to ridge of mountains Huay louang
- Eastern part is situated close to Mr Kor' market
- Western part is situated close to irrigation canal Huay louang

2.2 The buffer zone area included site 3 and site 8 with surface of 405.27 hectares

A. Buffer zone of Site 3

- Northern Part is situated close to Sane River
- Southern part is situated close to ridge of mountain of Seuk (village protected area)
- Eastern part is situated close to Nong Ping streams through Ta long streams and along the Na tor to Sane river
- Western part determines Louang streams to Na noy streams to Sane river

B. Buffer zone of Site 8

- Northern Part is situated close to ridge of mountains of Huay Men
- Southern part is situated close to ridge of mountains of Huay louang
- Eastern part is situated close to Nong ping streams across the Ta long streams and along the Na tor to Sane river
- Western part is situated close to Pa Kuang streams across to Pa seuk streams to Huay kone to Sane river

A map of these boundaries is attached.

3. Summary of Heritage Value and Brief Description

Heritage Value

The sites are exceptional testimony to the cultural traditions associated with funerary practices, and to the civilization which created the sites but which disappeared sometime after 500 CE. The megalithic jar sites are impressive because of the size of jars and the technological skill to produce and move the jars from quarry sites to funeral sites, as well as because of the large number of surviving jars, disks and other features spread in groups across a large area of the current province. The sites include important archaeological evidence related to funerary practices, possibly of different eras and cultures, as well as of the material culture of the ancient civilisation which created the jars, and the locations of the funeral sites are highly suggestive of cultural meaning. The funeral sites are the outstanding surviving evidence of this civilisation. While the use of jars in funeral sites is known in other parts of Laos, northeast India and Southeast Asia, the density of sites in Xiengkhuang is remarkable.

Site 52 (comprising 4 groups with 404 jars) – is a major jar site. Site 12 (comprising 1 group with 32 jars) – is a manufacturing site.

Brief Description

Site 12 lies in a forest on the tip of a mountain ridge overlooking the wide mountain range to the southwest, on the ridge of the main Ban Pakeo site (Site 52) towards the west. Among the 32 recorded red sandstone jars are both finished and unfinished products, and 6 discs were also recorded. The site includes decorated stone disks.

Site 52 is a major jar site and contains four groups with 404 jars located on a forested mountain ridge. The fine sandstone jars have been carefully carved and the site has a number of stone disks and lids. The site includes decorated stone disks. A lot of the jars have been smashed and the groups are littered with sandstone fragments. Here too some contemporary Hmong graves are located among the jars.

4. Protection

The property is protected under the *Law on National Heritage 2013* and Provincial Decree 996.

5. Management Requirements

5.1 Management Responsibilities

The four primary management stakeholders are:

- Department of Heritage (national) – the primary technical adviser for the Plain of Jars, directly responsible for conservation and research, provides oversight of the provincial Department of ICT and conservation guidance to the provincial Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division;
- Department of ICT (provincial) – responsible for the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division, undertakes village awareness raising activities;
- Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division (provincial) – primary management role, guidance to district and village levels, responsible for monitoring and infrastructure/major works at the sites, and also

- responsible for day to day maintenance, management and reporting at Site 1; and
- Village Heritage Teams – day to day maintenance and management role, and reporting, for Sites 2, 3, 8, 12, 21, 23, 25, 28, 42 and 52.

The village responsible for Sites 3 and 8 is Ban Phakeo. The Village Chief is the primary village contact person regarding management of the site. The District Governor will appoint a Village Heritage Team which is responsible for site management in accordance with these guidelines.

The Provincial Government will provide a regular ongoing payment to the village to support its responsibilities.

5.2 Land Use

All land uses must be consistent with the conservation of the Heritage Value of the property. No land use is permitted which adversely impacts on the property.

Property (Zone 1) – permitted uses are conservation, research, education, interpretation and visitation only.

Buffer Zone (Zone 2) – permitted uses are agriculture and livestock grazing, including small-scale temporary sheds and animal shelters, non-commercial forest conservation, and tourism facilities.

5.3 Role of the Village Chief

The Village Chief will:

- train the communities and villagers to increase the understanding of the Heritage Value of the Plain of Jars World Heritage site;
- ensure the safety of tourists;
- assign members of the Village Heritage Team to be responsible for management tasks; and
- monitor and report as defined below.

5.4 Management by the Village Heritage Team

Implementation of laws, regulations and plans issued by relevant authorities

- The Village Chief and Village Heritage Team will comply with all laws, regulations and plans issued by relevant authorities.

Finding UXO

- Any UXO discovered in the property or buffer zone will be reported to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible.

Damage to Jars, Disks or other Archaeological Evidence

- If any jars, disks or other archaeological evidence are damaged, for example by graffiti or falling tree branches, do not attempt to repair the damage but report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible.

Control of activities within the heritage property and buffer zone

- People are allowed to visit the heritage property.
- People should not touch, climb, step on, carve, damage or graffiti the jars, disks or other archaeological evidence.
- Jars, disks, stones and other archaeological evidence in the heritage property are not to be moved.
- No buildings, structures, utilities or infrastructure are allowed in the heritage property.
- No electricity poles or telephone reception towers are allowed in the buffer zone.
- Small buildings or structures in a traditional style may be allowed in the buffer zone with the permission of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division. Buildings will be one storey and the maximum height of buildings is 7 metres. However, houses, guest houses, hotels and factories are not allowed.
- No road or other construction is allowed in the heritage property and buffer zone without the permission of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division.
- Farming activities are not allowed in the heritage property including planting trees, crops or vegetables, or grazing animals.
- Slash and burn cultivation is not allowed in the heritage property and buffer zone.
- Burning or fires in the heritage property are not allowed.
- Tourists are not allowed to bring weapons, knives or luggage into the heritage property.
- Excavation, digging or earthworks in the heritage property is only allowed with permission from the Department of Heritage.
- Mining or quarrying are not allowed in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- People are not allowed to stay overnight in the heritage property or buffer zone, and aggressive or lewd behaviour is not allowed.
- Picnics, parties or other events are not allowed in the heritage property.
- Cultural antiques cannot be sold in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Wildlife cannot be sold or cooked in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Hunting is not allowed in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Collection of forest products is allowed in the buffer zone but not in the heritage property.
- Religious activities which involve physical contact with jars, disks, stones and other archaeological evidence are not allowed in the heritage property. New burials of humans are not allowed in the heritage property.
- Individuals, groups and government agencies cannot reserve any part of the heritage property or buffer zone as their own land.

Maintaining fencing and paths

- Inspect any fences and paths in the property and buffer zone weekly, and repair quickly if needed.

Controlling vegetation growth

- Keep the grass cut low in the property, every week if needed. Be careful not to damage or move jars, disks or stones.
- Remove trees or plants threatening to damage jars or disks – cut off at ground level, poison roots, but do not remove roots for trees or large plants because this may damage archaeological remains. Check vegetation growth every month.

Maintaining cleanliness of the site and ensuring facilities are always kept clean and in good working order

- Inspect site daily/weekly/monthly (depending on number of visitors) and remove any rubbish or otherwise keep the site clean.
- Check inside jars for any rubbish and carefully remove it.

5.5 *Monitoring and Reporting Requirements*

The Village Chief is responsible for monitoring and reporting.

Monitor the Village Heritage Team.

Monitor tour guides, domestic and international tourists to ensure that rules and regulations are followed.

Monitor activities within the heritage property and buffer zone.

Report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible

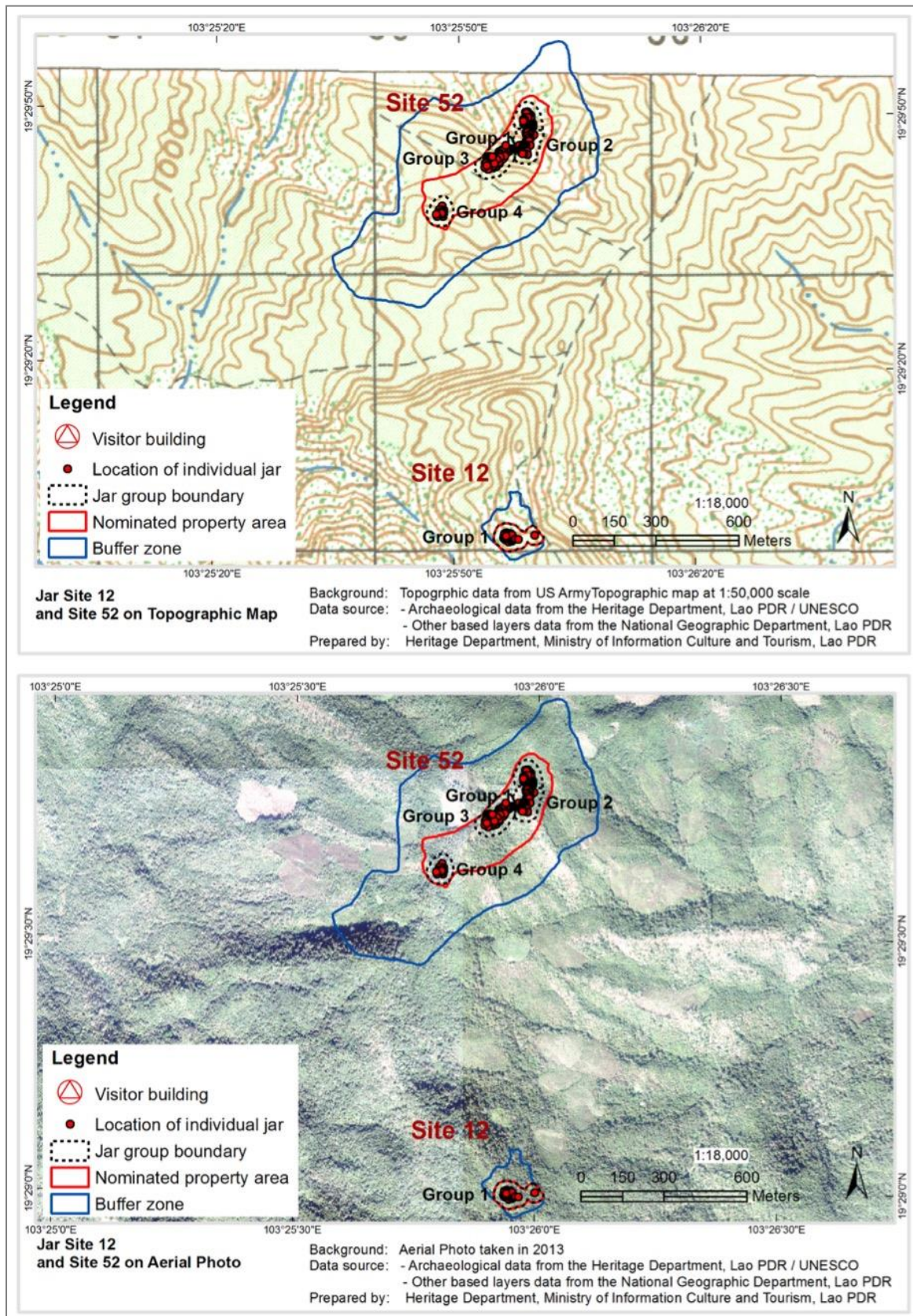
- Any UXO found.
- Any damage to the jars, disks or stones.
- Any signs of excavation or digging in the property.
- Any problems with tour guides or tourists.
- The number of Lao and foreign visitors, every month.
- Any activities which are not permitted in the heritage property and buffer zone.
- Any other problems.

The village will provide a report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division at least every month or in the case of urgent matters, as soon as possible.

6. *Related Management Documents*

Protection and management guidelines exist at the provincial level for the property.

Sites 12 and 52 demarcation



Plain of Jars World Heritage Property

Protection and Management Requirements for Site 21 – Khangnongluang

1. Location and Nearest Village

Khangnongluang.

2. Property and Buffer Zone Boundaries

2.1 Property area

The Property area determines the quarry area (group 1) as demonstrated in GPS of the map

2.2 Buffer zone

- Northern Part determines from quarry site of 300 meters in distance
- Southern part determines from quarry site of 300 meters in distance
- Eastern part determines from quarry site to streams of 300 meters in distance
- Western part determines from quarry site to the ridge of Louang mountain of 300 meters in distance

A map of these boundaries is attached.

3. Summary of Heritage Value and Brief Description

Heritage Value

The sites are exceptional testimony to the cultural traditions associated with funerary practices, and to the civilization which created the sites but which disappeared sometime after 500 CE. The megalithic jar sites are impressive because of the size of jars and the technological skill to produce and move the jars from quarry sites to funeral sites, as well as because of the large number of surviving jars, disks and other features spread in groups across a large area of the current province. The sites include important archaeological evidence related to funerary practices, possibly of different eras and cultures, as well as of the material culture of the ancient civilisation which created the jars, and the locations of the funeral sites are highly suggestive of cultural meaning. The funeral sites are the outstanding surviving evidence of this civilisation. While the use of jars in funeral sites is known in other parts of Laos, northeast India and Southeast Asia, the density of sites in Xiengkhuang is remarkable.

Site 21 (comprising 5 groups with 34 jars) – is a quarry associated with a major jar site, Site 1.

Brief Description

Site 21 is the largest recorded quarry site, the quarry area being approximately 20 hectares, and it has been scientifically proven as the source of jars for Site 1. The site is sometimes referred to as Phoukeng. The quarrying process can be followed through various stages at this site. Unfortunately, the area was heavily bombed during the war. UXO clearance has been completed for the property. The unfinished or rock source for the jars can be found on the steep hills of the mountain. Jars are also located on the lower, gentler

slopes leading to the main quarry area. It is possible that these jars were being transported to Site 1 but were abandoned for unknown reasons.

4. Protection

The property is protected under the *Law on National Heritage 2013* and Provincial Decree 996.

5. Management Requirements

5.1 Management Responsibilities

The four primary management stakeholders are:

- Department of Heritage (national) – the primary technical adviser for the Plain of Jars, directly responsible for conservation and research, provides oversight of the provincial Department of ICT and conservation guidance to the provincial Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division;
- Department of ICT (provincial) – responsible for the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division, undertakes village awareness raising activities;
- Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division (provincial) – primary management role, guidance to district and village levels, responsible for monitoring and infrastructure/major works at the sites, and also responsible for day to day maintenance, management and reporting at Site 1; and
- Village Heritage Teams – day to day maintenance and management role, and reporting, for Sites 2, 3, 8, 12, 21, 23, 25, 28, 42 and 52.

The village responsible for Site 21 is Khangnongluang. The Village Chief is the primary village contact person regarding management of the site. The District Governor will appoint a Village Heritage Team which is responsible for site management in accordance with these guidelines.

The Provincial Government will provide a regular ongoing payment to the village to support its responsibilities.

5.2 Land Use

All land uses must be consistent with the conservation of the Heritage Value of the property. No land use is permitted which adversely impacts on the property.

Property (Zone 1) – permitted uses are conservation, research, education, interpretation and visitation only.

Buffer Zone (Zone 2) – permitted uses are agriculture and livestock grazing, including small-scale temporary sheds and animal shelters, non-commercial forest conservation, and tourism facilities.

5.3 Role of the Village Chief

The Village Chief will:

- train the communities and villagers to increase the understanding of the Heritage Value of the Plain of

- Jars World Heritage site;
- ensure the safety of tourists;
- assign members of the Village Heritage Team to be responsible for management tasks; and
- monitor and report as defined below.

5.4 *Management by the Village Heritage Team*

Implementation of laws, regulations and plans issued by relevant authorities

- The Village Chief and Village Heritage Team will comply with all laws, regulations and plans issued by relevant authorities.

Finding UXO

- Any UXO discovered in the property or buffer zone will be reported to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible.

Damage to Jars, Disks or other Archaeological Evidence

- If any jars, disks or other archaeological evidence are damaged, for example by graffiti or falling tree branches, do not attempt to repair the damage but report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible.

Control of activities within the heritage property and buffer zone

- People are allowed to visit the heritage property.
- People should not touch, climb, step on, carve, damage or graffiti the jars, disks or other archaeological evidence.
- Jars, disks, stones and other archaeological evidence in the heritage property are not to be moved.
- No buildings, structures, utilities or infrastructure are allowed in the heritage property.
- No electricity poles or telephone reception towers are allowed in the buffer zone.
- Small buildings or structures in a traditional style may be allowed in the buffer zone with the permission of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division. Buildings will be one storey and the maximum height of buildings is 7 metres. However, houses, guest houses, hotels and factories are not allowed.
- No road or other construction is allowed in the heritage property and buffer zone without the permission of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division.
- Farming activities are not allowed in the heritage property including planting trees, crops or vegetables, or grazing animals.
- Slash and burn cultivation is not allowed in the heritage property and buffer zone.
- Burning or fires in the heritage property are not allowed.
- Tourists are not allowed to bring weapons, knives or luggage into the heritage property.
- Excavation, digging or earthworks in the heritage property is only allowed with permission from the Department of Heritage.
- Mining or quarrying are not allowed in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- People are not allowed to stay overnight in the heritage property or buffer zone, and aggressive or lewd behaviour is not allowed.
- Picnics, parties or other events are not allowed in the heritage property.
- Cultural antiques cannot be sold in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Wildlife cannot be sold or cooked in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Hunting is not allowed in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Collection of forest products is allowed in the buffer zone but not in the heritage property.

- Religious activities which involve physical contact with jars, disks, stones and other archaeological evidence are not allowed in the heritage property. New burials of humans are not allowed in the heritage property.
- Individuals, groups and government agencies cannot reserve any part of the heritage property or buffer zone as their own land.

Maintaining fencing and paths

- Inspect any fences and paths in the property and buffer zone weekly, and repair quickly if needed.

Controlling vegetation growth

- Keep the grass cut low in the property, every week if needed. Be careful not to damage or move jars, disks or stones.
- Remove trees or plants threatening to damage jars or disks – cut off at ground level, poison roots, but do not remove roots for trees or large plants because this may damage archaeological remains. Check vegetation growth every month.

Maintaining cleanliness of the site and ensuring facilities are always kept clean and in good working order

- Inspect site daily/weekly/monthly (depending on number of visitors) and remove any rubbish or otherwise keep the site clean.
- Check inside jars for any rubbish and carefully remove it.

5.5 Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

The Village Chief is responsible for monitoring and reporting.

Monitor the Village Heritage Team.

Monitor tour guides, domestic and international tourists to ensure that rules and regulations are followed.

Monitor activities within the heritage property and buffer zone.

Report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible

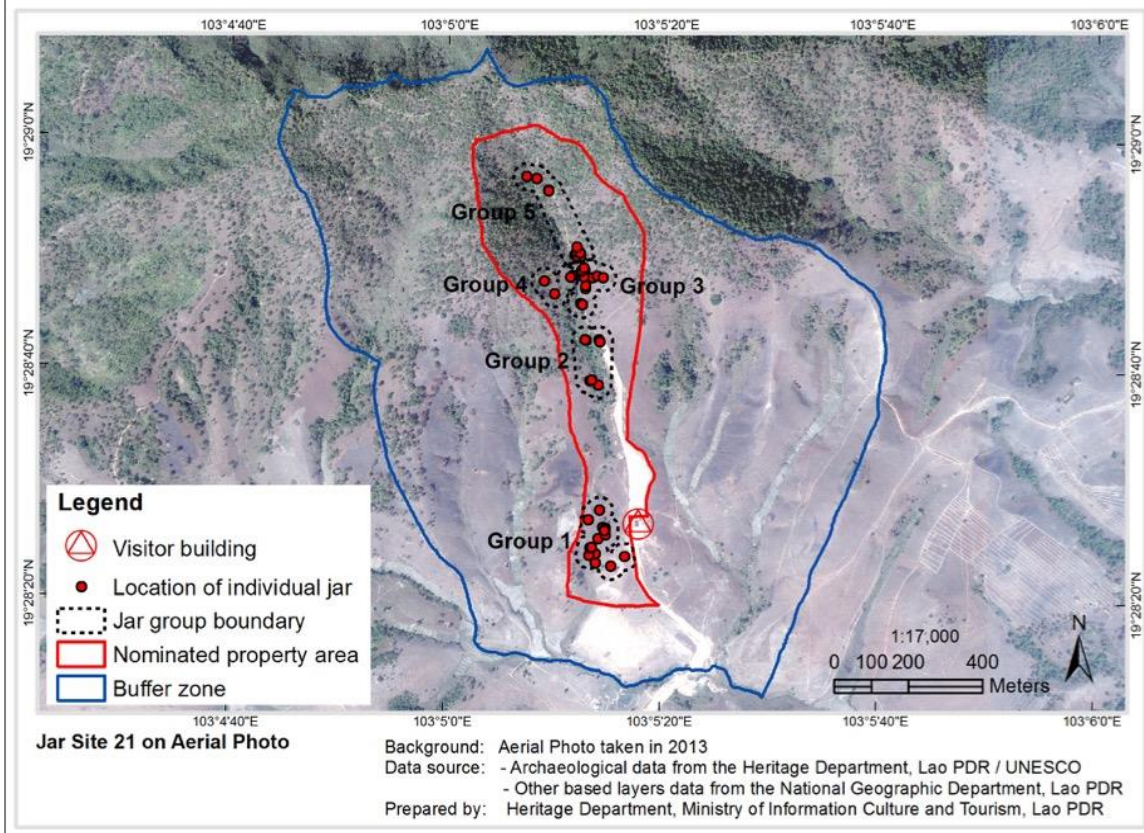
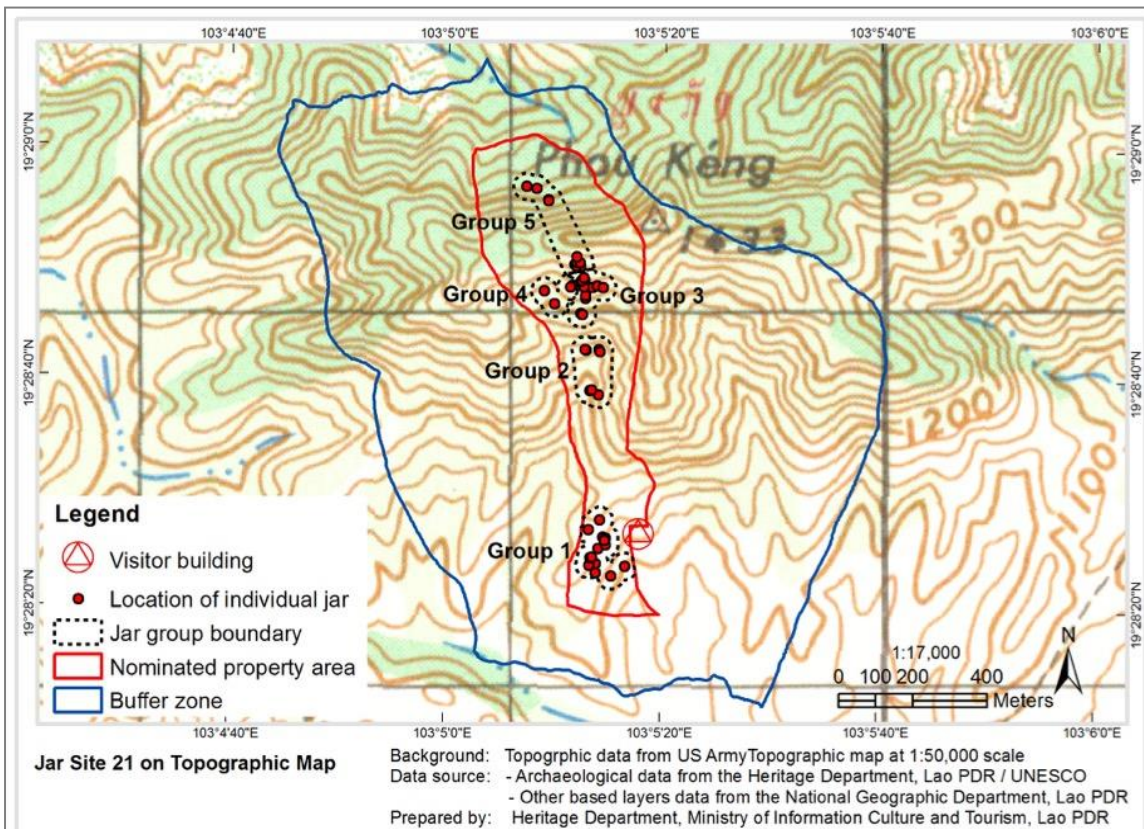
- Any UXO found.
- Any damage to the jars, disks or stones.
- Any signs of excavation or digging in the property.
- Any problems with tour guides or tourists.
- The number of Lao and foreign visitors, every month.
- Any activities which are not permitted in the heritage property and buffer zone.
- Any other problems.

The village will provide a report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division at least every month or in the case of urgent matters, as soon as possible.

6. Related Management Documents

Protection and management guidelines exist at the provincial level for the property.

Site 21 demarcation



Plain of Jars World Heritage Property

Protection and Management Requirements for Site 23 – Ban Namhom

1. Location and Nearest Village

Ban Namhom.

2. Property and Buffer Zone Boundaries

2.1 Property area covers 18.99 hectares

A. Jars site group.1

- Northern Part is situated close to wild forest of Mr Pakao
- Southern part is situated close to Mr Bounmy's land to Mr Som along the Hia streams which far from the protected area of Jars for 30 meters in distance
- Eastern part starts from Mr Bounmy's land along to the foothills of Jars mountain and to Mr Pakao's land
- Western part starts from Hia streams along to Mr Pakao's land

B. Jar site group. 2 (quarry site)

- Northern Part starts from Ketlin tree to Mr Khammeung's land across Mr Somchai wild forest.
- Southern part start from Mr Vien's land to Mr PorPern's land, far from protected area for 20 meters
- Eastern part starts from Mr Khambay's land, far from protected area for 40 meters which is situated close to small streams and go along to Pa An
- Western part starts from wild forest to Mr Somechay and go along to small streams, and situated close to Mr Sa ngien

A map of these boundaries is attached.

3. Summary of Heritage Value and Brief Description

Heritage Value

The sites are exceptional testimony to the cultural traditions associated with funerary practices, and to the civilization which created the sites but which disappeared sometime after 500 CE. The megalithic jar sites are impressive because of the size of jars and the technological skill to produce and move the jars from quarry sites to funeral sites, as well as because of the large number of surviving jars, disks and other features spread in groups across a large area of the current province. The sites include important archaeological evidence related to funerary practices, possibly of different eras and cultures, as well as of the material culture of the ancient civilisation which created the jars, and the locations of the funeral sites are highly suggestive of cultural meaning. The funeral sites are the outstanding surviving evidence of this civilisation. While the use of jars in funeral sites is known in other parts of Laos, northeast India and Southeast Asia, the density of sites in Xiengkhuang is remarkable.

Site 23 (comprising 3 groups with 27 jars) – is a good example of a smaller jar site with quarry, representing the eastern spread of jar sites in the province.

Brief Description

Site 23 is located near the hot springs in Muang Kham. It consists of four groups (27 jars), of which three are jar sites and one is a quarry site. The groups are located close to each other on two spurs overlooking the expansive Muang Kham valley. The jars have been carved out of granite, with one example of sandstone.

4. Protection

The property is protected under the *Law on National Heritage 2013* and Provincial Decree 996.

5. Management Requirements

5.1 Management Responsibilities

The four primary management stakeholders are:

- Department of Heritage (national) – the primary technical adviser for the Plain of Jars, directly responsible for conservation and research, provides oversight of the provincial Department of ICT and conservation guidance to the provincial Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division;
- Department of ICT (provincial) – responsible for the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division, undertakes village awareness raising activities;
- Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division (provincial) – primary management role, guidance to district and village levels, responsible for monitoring and infrastructure/major works at the sites, and also responsible for day to day maintenance, management and reporting at Site 1; and
- Village Heritage Teams – day to day maintenance and management role, and reporting, for Sites 2, 3, 8, 12, 21, 23, 25, 28, 42 and 52.

The village responsible for Site 23 is Ban Namhom. The Village Chief is the primary village contact person regarding management of the site. The District Governor will appoint a Village Heritage Team which is responsible for site management in accordance with these guidelines.

The Provincial Government will provide a regular ongoing payment to the village to support its responsibilities.

5.2 Land Use

All land uses must be consistent with the conservation of the Heritage Value of the property. No land use is permitted which adversely impacts on the property.

Property (Zone 1) – permitted uses are conservation, research, education, interpretation and visitation only.

Buffer Zone (Zone 2) – permitted uses are agriculture and livestock grazing, including small-scale temporary sheds and animal shelters, non-commercial forest conservation, and tourism facilities.

5.3 Role of the Village Chief

The Village Chief will:

- train the communities and villagers to increase the understanding of the Heritage Value of the Plain of

- Jars World Heritage site;
- ensure the safety of tourists;
- assign members of the Village Heritage Team to be responsible for management tasks; and
- monitor and report as defined below.

5.4 Management by the Village Heritage Team

Implementation of laws, regulations and plans issued by relevant authorities

- The Village Chief and Village Heritage Team will comply with all laws, regulations and plans issued by relevant authorities.

Finding UXO

- Any UXO discovered in the property or buffer zone will be reported to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible.

Damage to Jars, Disks or other Archaeological Evidence

- If any jars, disks or other archaeological evidence are damaged, for example by graffiti or falling tree branches, do not attempt to repair the damage but report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible.

Control of activities within the heritage property and buffer zone

- People are allowed to visit the heritage property.
- People should not touch, climb, step on, carve, damage or graffiti the jars, disks or other archaeological evidence.
- Jars, disks, stones and other archaeological evidence in the heritage property are not to be moved.
- No buildings, structures, utilities or infrastructure are allowed in the heritage property.
- No electricity poles or telephone reception towers are allowed in the buffer zone.
- Small buildings or structures in a traditional style may be allowed in the buffer zone with the permission of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division. Buildings will be one storey and the maximum height of buildings is 7 metres. However, houses, guest houses, hotels and factories are not allowed.
- No road or other construction is allowed in the heritage property and buffer zone without the permission of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division.
- Farming activities are not allowed in the heritage property including planting trees, crops or vegetables, or grazing animals.
- Slash and burn cultivation is not allowed in the heritage property and buffer zone.
- Burning or fires in the heritage property are not allowed.
- Tourists are not allowed to bring weapons, knives or luggage into the heritage property.
- Excavation, digging or earthworks in the heritage property is only allowed with permission from the Department of Heritage.
- Mining or quarrying are not allowed in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- People are not allowed to stay overnight in the heritage property or buffer zone, and aggressive or lewd behaviour is not allowed.
- Picnics, parties or other events are not allowed in the heritage property.
- Cultural antiques cannot be sold in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Wildlife cannot be sold or cooked in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Hunting is not allowed in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Collection of forest products is allowed in the buffer zone but not in the heritage property.

- Religious activities which involve physical contact with jars, disks, stones and other archaeological evidence are not allowed in the heritage property. New burials of humans are not allowed in the heritage property.
- Individuals, groups and government agencies cannot reserve any part of the heritage property or buffer zone as their own land.

Maintaining fencing and paths

- Inspect any fences and paths in the property and buffer zone weekly, and repair quickly if needed.

Controlling vegetation growth

- Keep the grass cut low in the property, every week if needed. Be careful not to damage or move jars, disks or stones.
- Remove trees or plants threatening to damage jars or disks – cut off at ground level, poison roots, but do not remove roots for trees or large plants because this may damage archaeological remains. Check vegetation growth every month.

Maintaining cleanliness of the site and ensuring facilities are always kept clean and in good working order

- Inspect site daily/weekly/monthly (depending on number of visitors) and remove any rubbish or otherwise keep the site clean.
- Check inside jars for any rubbish and carefully remove it.

5.5 Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

The Village Chief is responsible for monitoring and reporting.

Monitor the Village Heritage Team.

Monitor tour guides, domestic and international tourists to ensure that rules and regulations are followed.

Monitor activities within the heritage property and buffer zone.

Report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible

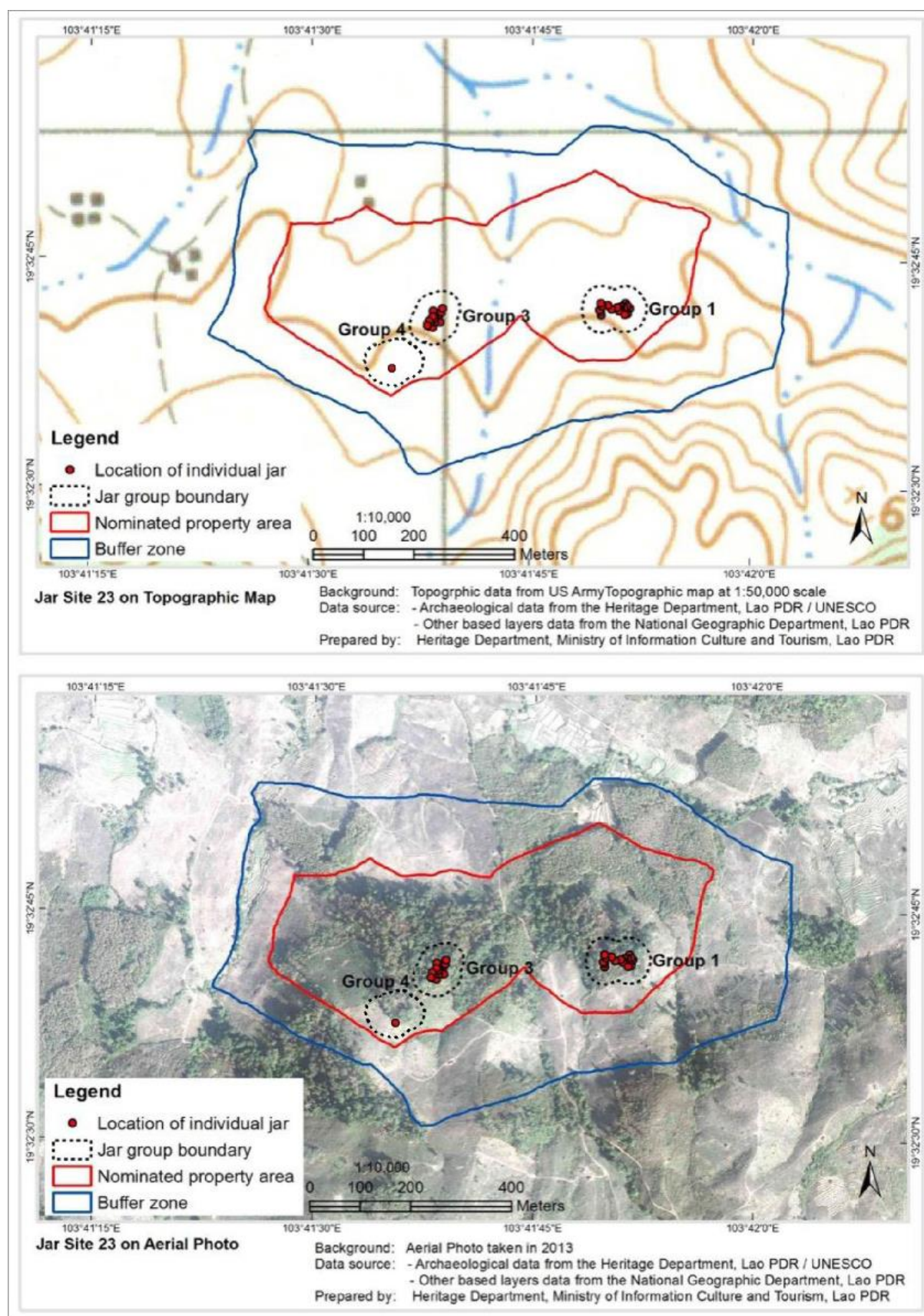
- Any UXO found.
- Any damage to the jars, disks or stones.
- Any signs of excavation or digging in the property.
- Any problems with tour guides or tourists.
- The number of Lao and foreign visitors, every month.
- Any activities which are not permitted in the heritage property and buffer zone.
- Any other problems.

The village will provide a report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division at least every month or in the case of urgent matters, as soon as possible.

6. Related Management Documents

Protection and management guidelines exist at the provincial level for the property.

Site 23 demarcation



Plain of Jars World Heritage Property

Protection and Management Requirements for Site 25 – Ban Songhak

1. Location and Nearest Village

Ban Songhak.

2. Property and Buffer Zone Boundaries

5.3 Property area

The property area covers 6.3 hectares

- Northern Part is situated close to pathway to Ban neua and to the old village Song hak
- Southern part is situated close to backyard of Mr Phaylath and up to the irrigation canal to Hua ta man
- Eastern part starts from Sob meng mountain and along the small trees to the irrigation canal to Hua ta man
- Western part starts from Hua ta man straight to Toum canal and up to Toum to the pathway to Neua village

5.4 Buffer zone

The buffer zone area covers 7.18 hectares

- Northern Part starts from Toum canal up to old road and turn back to small Peak tree straight to electric bars and across the road to the Tourism house
- Southern part starts from water pipes down to Mr Phay's fence
- Eastern part starts from big Jack fruit tree to the pathway which situated in northern part of Mr Sykoun's fish pond and along the road to bamboo forest and across to Hua nok kiew fish pond then upto water pipes
- Western part starts from cowshed of Mr Phay to Khantoung foothills then across Hua ta forest to old road, cross to Hong toum forest and to the old neua Village

A map of these boundaries is attached.

3. Summary of Heritage Value and Brief Description

Heritage Value

The sites are exceptional testimony to the cultural traditions associated with funerary practices, and to the civilization which created the sites but which disappeared sometime after 500 CE. The megalithic jar sites are impressive because of the size of jars and the technological skill to produce and move the jars from quarry sites to funeral sites, as well as because of the large number of surviving jars, disks and other features spread in groups across a large area of the current province. The sites include important archaeological evidence related to funerary practices, possibly of different eras and cultures, as well as of the material culture of the ancient civilisation which created the jars, and the locations of the funeral sites are highly suggestive of cultural meaning. The funeral sites are the outstanding surviving evidence of this civilisation. While the use of jars in funeral sites is known in other parts of Laos, northeast India and Southeast Asia, the density of sites in Xiengkhuang is remarkable.

Site 25 (comprising 2 groups with 35 jars) – is a good example of a smaller jar site with reasonable access, representing the northern spread of jar sites in the province.

Brief Description

Site 25 is located on undulating hills in close proximity to the current village. The jar site comprises 33 sandstone jars in two groups (Groups I and II). The main jar group (Group I) is surrounded by trees.

4. Protection

The property is protected under the *Law on National Heritage 2013* and Provincial Decree 996.

5. Management Requirements

5.1 Management Responsibilities

The four primary management stakeholders are:

- Department of Heritage (national) – the primary technical adviser for the Plain of Jars, directly responsible for conservation and research, provides oversight of the provincial Department of ICT and conservation guidance to the provincial Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division;
- Department of ICT (provincial) – responsible for the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division, undertakes village awareness raising activities;
- Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division (provincial) – primary management role, guidance to district and village levels, responsible for monitoring and infrastructure/major works at the sites, and also responsible for day to day maintenance, management and reporting at Site 1; and
- Village Heritage Teams – day to day maintenance and management role, and reporting, for Sites 2, 3, 8, 12, 21, 23, 25, 28, 42 and 52.

The village responsible for Site 25 is Ban Songhak. The Village Chief is the primary village contact person regarding management of the site. The District Governor will appoint a Village Heritage Team which is responsible for site management in accordance with these guidelines.

The Provincial Government will provide a regular ongoing payment to the village to support its responsibilities.

5.2 Land Use

All land uses must be consistent with the conservation of the Heritage Value of the property. No land use is permitted which adversely impacts on the property.

Property (Zone 1) – permitted uses are conservation, research, education, interpretation and visitation only.

Buffer Zone (Zone 2) – permitted uses are agriculture and livestock grazing, including small-scale temporary sheds and animal shelters, non-commercial forest conservation, and tourism facilities.

5.3 Role of the Village Chief

The Village Chief will:

- train the communities and villagers to increase the understanding of the Heritage Value of the Plain of Jars World Heritage site;
- ensure the safety of tourists;
- assign members of the Village Heritage Team to be responsible for management tasks; and
- monitor and report as defined below.

5.4 *Management by the Village Heritage Team*

Implementation of laws, regulations and plans issued by relevant authorities

- The Village Chief and Village Heritage Team will comply with all laws, regulations and plans issued by relevant authorities.

Finding UXO

- Any UXO discovered in the property or buffer zone will be reported to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible.

Damage to Jars, Disks or other Archaeological Evidence

- If any jars, disks or other archaeological evidence are damaged, for example by graffiti or falling tree branches, do not attempt to repair the damage but report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible.

Control of activities within the heritage property and buffer zone

- People are allowed to visit the heritage property.
- People should not touch, climb, step on, carve, damage or graffiti the jars, disks or other archaeological evidence.
- Jars, disks, stones and other archaeological evidence in the heritage property are not to be moved.
- No buildings, structures, utilities or infrastructure are allowed in the heritage property.
- No electricity poles or telephone reception towers are allowed in the buffer zone.
- Small buildings or structures in a traditional style may be allowed in the buffer zone with the permission of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division. Buildings will be one storey and the maximum height of buildings is 7 metres. However, houses, guest houses, hotels and factories are not allowed.
- No road or other construction is allowed in the heritage property and buffer zone without the permission of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division.
- Farming activities are not allowed in the heritage property including planting trees, crops or vegetables, or grazing animals.
- Slash and burn cultivation is not allowed in the heritage property and buffer zone.
- Burning or fires in the heritage property are not allowed.
- Tourists are not allowed to bring weapons, knives or luggage into the heritage property.
- Excavation, digging or earthworks in the heritage property is only allowed with permission from the Department of Heritage.
- Mining or quarrying are not allowed in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- People are not allowed to stay overnight in the heritage property or buffer zone, and aggressive or lewd behaviour is not allowed.

- Picnics, parties or other events are not allowed in the heritage property.
- Cultural antiques cannot be sold in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Wildlife cannot be sold or cooked in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Hunting is not allowed in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Collection of forest products is allowed in the buffer zone but not in the heritage property.
- Religious activities which involve physical contact with jars, disks, stones and other archaeological evidence are not allowed in the heritage property. New burials of humans are not allowed in the heritage property.
- Individuals, groups and government agencies cannot reserve any part of the heritage property or buffer zone as their own land.

Maintaining fencing and paths

- Inspect any fences and paths in the property and buffer zone weekly, and repair quickly if needed.

Controlling vegetation growth

- Keep the grass cut low in the property, every week if needed. Be careful not to damage or move jars, disks or stones.
- Remove trees or plants threatening to damage jars or disks – cut off at ground level, poison roots, but do not remove roots for trees or large plants because this may damage archaeological remains. Check vegetation growth every month.

Maintaining cleanliness of the site and ensuring facilities are always kept clean and in good working order

- Inspect site daily/weekly/monthly (depending on number of visitors) and remove any rubbish or otherwise keep the site clean.
- Check inside jars for any rubbish and carefully remove it.

5.5 Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

The Village Chief is responsible for monitoring and reporting.

Monitor the Village Heritage Team.

Monitor tour guides, domestic and international tourists to ensure that rules and regulations are followed.

Monitor activities within the heritage property and buffer zone.

Report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible

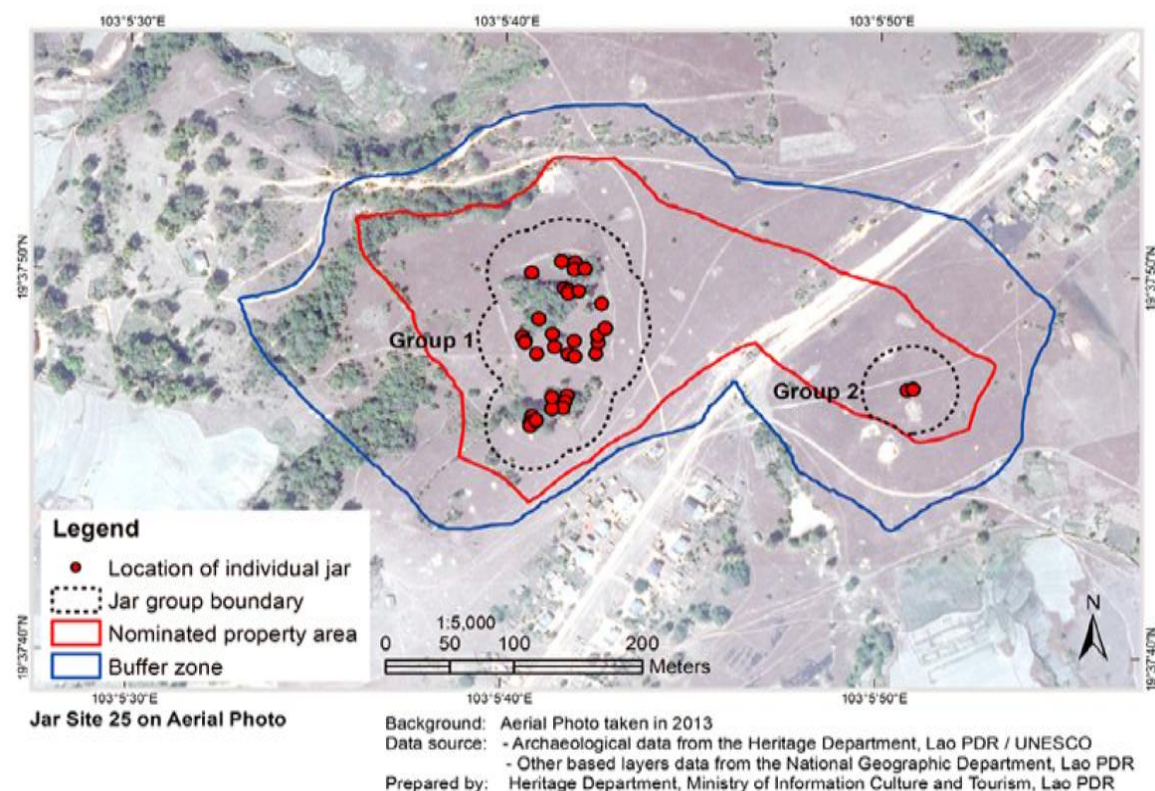
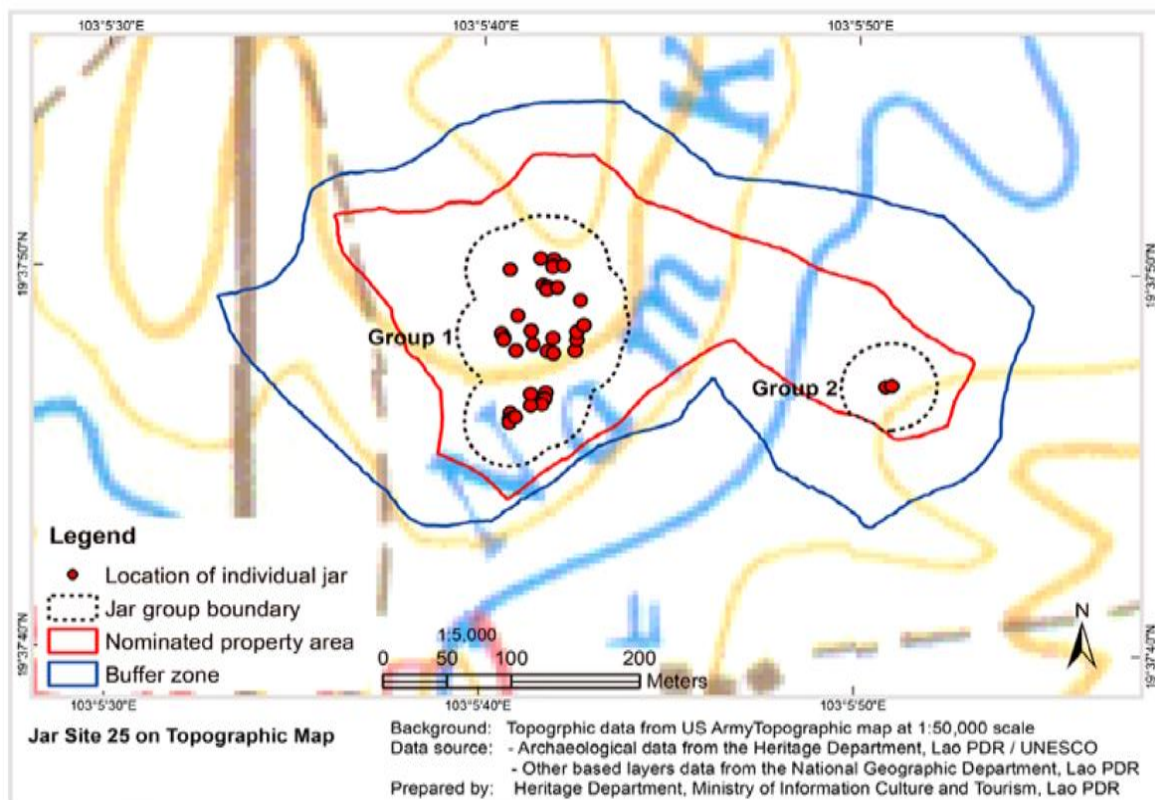
- Any UXO found.
- Any damage to the jars, disks or stones.
- Any signs of excavation or digging in the property.
- Any problems with tour guides or tourists.
- The number of Lao and foreign visitors, every month.
- Any activities which are not permitted in the heritage property and buffer zone.
- Any other problems.

The village will provide a report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division at least every month or in the case of urgent matters, as soon as possible.

6. Related Management Documents

Protection and management guidelines exist at the provincial level for the property.

Site 25 demarcation



Plain of Jars World Heritage Property

Protection and Management Requirements for Site 28 – Ban Nakhuan

1. Location and Nearest Village

Ban Nakhuan.

2. Property and Buffer Zone Boundaries

2.1 Property area covers 0.28 hectares

- determines from Jars site on top of the Hai Lao Cheung mountain, and 50 meters in distance in all directions

2.1 Buffer zone

The buffer zone area covers 7.88 hectares

- Northern Part starts from the foothills of Hai Lao Cheung mountain near the Kao Chao streams
- Southern part starts from foothills of Hai Lao Cheung mountain near the Na san yord streams
- Eastern part starts from foothills of Hai Lao Cheung mountain back to the conservation area
- Western part starts from pathways on top of Hai Lao Cheung mountain back to the conservation area

A map of these boundaries is attached.

3. Summary of Heritage Value and Brief Description

Heritage Value

The sites are exceptional testimony to the cultural traditions associated with funerary practices, and to the civilization which created the sites but which disappeared sometime after 500 CE. The megalithic jar sites are impressive because of the size of jars and the technological skill to produce and move the jars from quarry sites to funeral sites, as well as because of the large number of surviving jars, disks and other features spread in groups across a large area of the current province. The sites include important archaeological evidence related to funerary practices, possibly of different eras and cultures, as well as of the material culture of the ancient civilisation which created the jars, and the locations of the funeral sites are highly suggestive of cultural meaning. The funeral sites are the outstanding surviving evidence of this civilisation. While the use of jars in funeral sites is known in other parts of Laos, northeast India and Southeast Asia, the density of sites in Xiengkhuang is remarkable.

Site 28 (comprising 1 group with 1 jar) – a good example of a smaller jar site with reasonable access, and it represents the western spread of jar sites in the province.

Brief Description

Site 28 has a single jar, which is located at a mountain ridge saddle near the village of Ban Nakhuan. The site has spectacular views of the mountains to the northwest. The massive sandstone jar remains in very good condition. Colani excavated around the jar and the depression the digging left is still visible (Colani 1935, Vol. I, pp. 245). She found the jar empty but around the jar a polished adze, pottery fragments, glass beads, fragments of bronze and iron bracelets, and charcoal were excavated.

4. Protection

The property is protected under the *Law on National Heritage 2013* and Provincial Decree 996.

5. Management Requirements

5.1 Management Responsibilities

The four primary management stakeholders are:

- Department of Heritage (national) – the primary technical adviser for the Plain of Jars, directly responsible for conservation and research, provides oversight of the provincial Department of ICT and conservation guidance to the provincial Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division;
- Department of ICT (provincial) – responsible for the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division, undertakes village awareness raising activities;
- Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division (provincial) – primary management role, guidance to district and village levels, responsible for monitoring and infrastructure/major works at the sites, and also responsible for day to day maintenance, management and reporting at Site 1; and
- Village Heritage Teams – day to day maintenance and management role, and reporting, for Sites 2, 3, 8, 12, 21, 23, 25, 28, 42 and 52.

The village responsible for Site 28 is Ban Nakhuan. The Village Chief is the primary village contact person regarding management of the site. The District Governor will appoint a Village Heritage Team which is responsible for site management in accordance with these guidelines.

The Provincial Government will provide a regular ongoing payment to the village to support its responsibilities.

5.2 Land Use

All land uses must be consistent with the conservation of the Heritage Value of the property. No land use is permitted which adversely impacts on the property.

Property (Zone 1) – permitted uses are conservation, research, education, interpretation and visitation only.

Buffer Zone (Zone 2) – permitted uses are agriculture and livestock grazing, including small-scale temporary sheds and animal shelters, non-commercial forest conservation, and tourism facilities.

5.3 Role of the Village Chief

The Village Chief will:

- train the communities and villagers to increase the understanding of the Heritage Value of the Plain of Jars World Heritage site;
- ensure the safety of tourists;
- assign members of the Village Heritage Team to be responsible for management tasks; and
- monitor and report as defined below.

5.4 Management by the Village Heritage Team

Implementation of laws, regulations and plans issued by relevant authorities

- The Village Chief and Village Heritage Team will comply with all laws, regulations and plans issued by relevant authorities.

Finding UXO

- Any UXO discovered in the property or buffer zone will be reported to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible.

Damage to Jars, Disks or other Archaeological Evidence

- If any jars, disks or other archaeological evidence are damaged, for example by graffiti or falling tree branches, do not attempt to repair the damage but report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible.

Control of activities within the heritage property and buffer zone

- People are allowed to visit the heritage property.
- People should not touch, climb, step on, carve, damage or graffiti the jars, disks or other archaeological evidence.
- Jars, disks, stones and other archaeological evidence in the heritage property are not to be moved.
- No buildings, structures, utilities or infrastructure are allowed in the heritage property.
- No electricity poles or telephone reception towers are allowed in the buffer zone.
- No road or other construction is allowed in the heritage property and buffer zone without the permission of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division.
- Farming activities are not allowed in the heritage property including planting trees, crops or vegetables, or grazing animals.
- Slash and burn cultivation is not allowed in the heritage property and buffer zone.
- Burning or fires in the heritage property are not allowed.
- Tourists are not allowed to bring weapons, knives or luggage into the heritage property.
- Excavation, digging or earthworks in the heritage property is only allowed with permission from the Department of Heritage.
- Mining or quarrying are not allowed in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- People are not allowed to stay overnight in the heritage property or buffer zone, and aggressive or lewd behaviour is not allowed.
- Picnics, parties or other events are not allowed in the heritage property.
- Cultural antiques cannot be sold in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Wildlife cannot be sold or cooked in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Hunting is not allowed in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Collection of forest products is allowed in the buffer zone but not in the heritage property.
- Religious activities which involve physical contact with jars, disks, stones and other archaeological evidence are not allowed in the heritage property. New burials of humans are not allowed in the heritage property.
- Individuals, groups and government agencies cannot reserve any part of the heritage property or buffer zone as their own land.

Maintaining fencing and paths

- Inspect any fences and paths in the property and buffer zone weekly, and repair quickly if needed.

Controlling vegetation growth

- Keep the grass cut low in the property, every week if needed. Be careful not to damage or move jars, disks or stones.
- Remove trees or plants threatening to damage jars or disks – cut off at ground level, poison roots, but do not remove roots for trees or large plants because this may damage archaeological remains. Check vegetation growth every month.

Maintaining cleanliness of the site and ensuring facilities are always kept clean and in good working order

- Inspect site daily/weekly/monthly (depending on number of visitors) and remove any rubbish or otherwise keep the site clean.
- Check inside jars for any rubbish and carefully remove it.

5.5 *Monitoring and Reporting Requirements*

The Village Chief is responsible for monitoring and reporting.

Monitor the Village Heritage Team.

Monitor tour guides, domestic and international tourists to ensure that rules and regulations are followed.

Monitor activities within the heritage property and buffer zone.

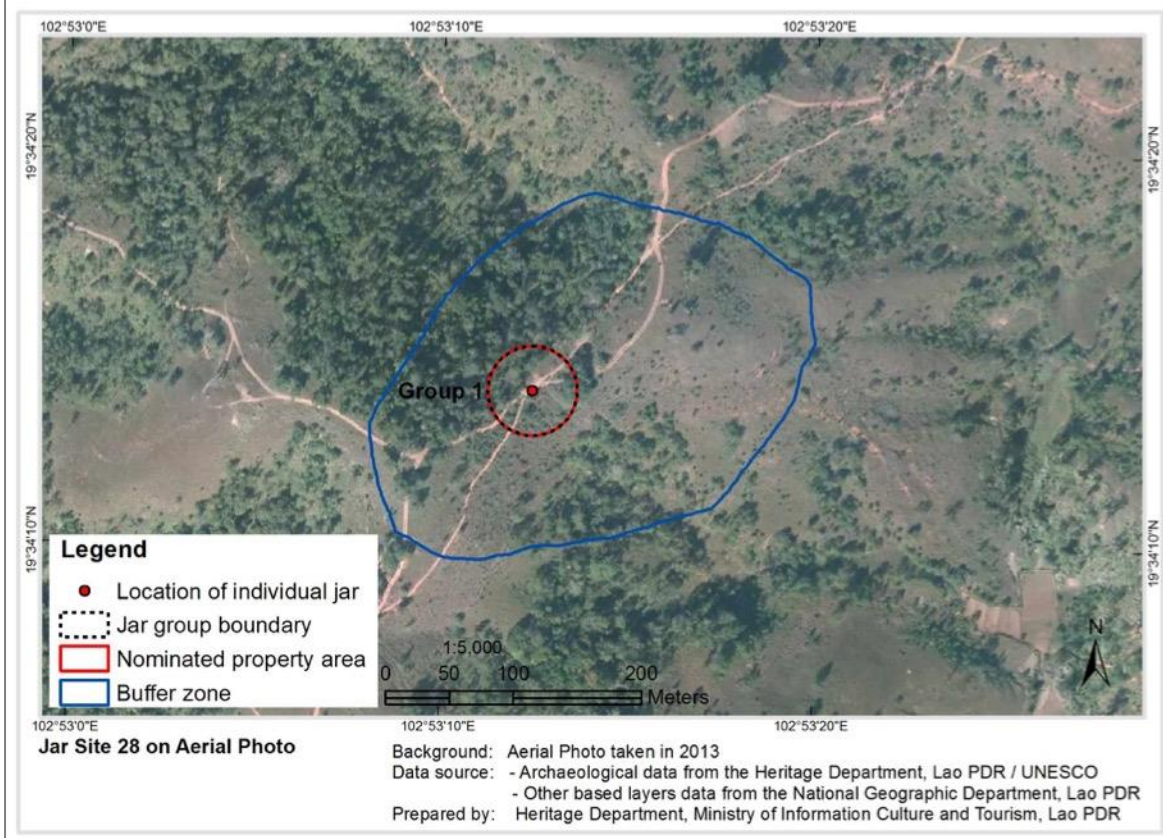
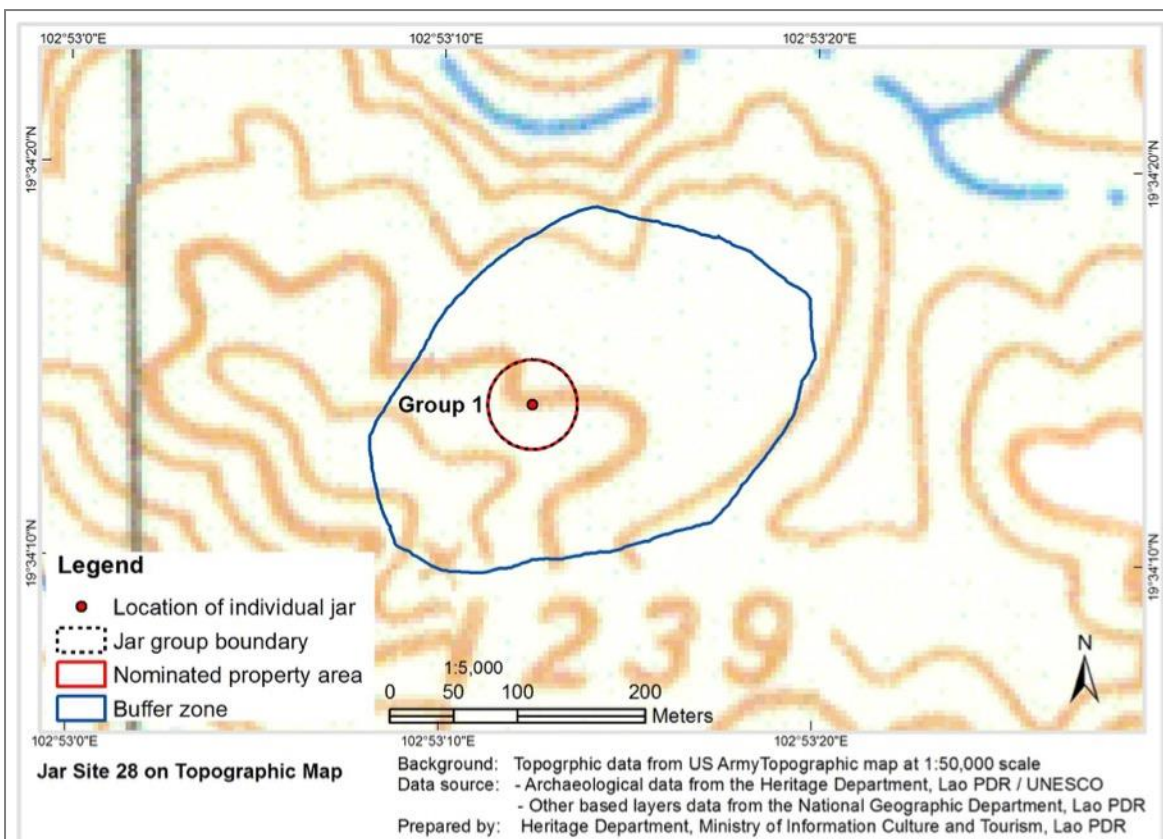
Report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible

- Any UXO found.
- Any damage to the jars, disks or stones.
- Any signs of excavation or digging in the property.
- Any problems with tour guides or tourists.
- The number of Lao and foreign visitors, every month.
- Any activities which are not permitted in the heritage property and buffer zone.
- Any other problems.

The village will provide a report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division at least every month or in the case of urgent matters, as soon as possible.

6. Related Management Documents

Protection and management guidelines exist at the provincial level for the property.



Plain of Jars World Heritage Property

Protection and Management Requirements for Site 42 – Phou Xang

1. Location and Nearest Village

Phou Xang.

2. Property and Buffer Zone Boundaries

2.1 Property area

The property area covers 27.09 hectares

- determines from Jars to all directions for 50 meters

2.2 Buffer zone

The buffer zone area covers 126.02 hectares

- Northern Part is situated close to using forest for Xang village
- Southern part borders to Moun village, Tard village and Xang village back to conservation area
- Eastern part determine the borders between Moun village, Tard village and Xang village back to conservation area
- Western part determines the borders between Mor village an Xang village back to conservation area

A map of these boundaries is attached.

3. Summary of Heritage Value and Brief Description

Heritage Value

The sites are exceptional testimony to the cultural traditions associated with funerary practices, and to the civilization which created the sites but which disappeared sometime after 500 CE. The megalithic jar sites are impressive because of the size of jars and the technological skill to produce and move the jars from quarry sites to funeral sites, as well as because of the large number of surviving jars, disks and other features spread in groups across a large area of the current province. The sites include important archaeological evidence related to funerary practices, possibly of different eras and cultures, as well as of the material culture of the ancient civilisation which created the jars, and the locations of the funeral sites are highly suggestive of cultural meaning. The funeral sites are the outstanding surviving evidence of this civilisation. While the use of jars in funeral sites is known in other parts of Laos, northeast India and Southeast Asia, the density of sites in Xiengkhuang is remarkable.

Site 42 (comprising 4 groups with 113 jars) – is a major jar site.

Brief Description

Site 42 is a major jar and quarry site located along a mountain ridge in Kham district. The site consists of 4 groups and no less than 113 jars. The jars and discs have been carved out of fine red sandstone, although there is one limestone jar. One of the disks has a knob with a hole (now broken), possibly to enable the

lifting of the disk by placing a stick through the hole. The site includes decorated stone disks. The rock source of the quarry is exposed at the site.

4. Protection

The property is protected under the *Law on National Heritage 2013* and Provincial Decree 996.

5. Management Requirements

5.1 Management Responsibilities

The four primary management stakeholders are:

- Department of Heritage (national) – the primary technical adviser for the Plain of Jars, directly responsible for conservation and research, provides oversight of the provincial Department of ICT and conservation guidance to the provincial Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division;
- Department of ICT (provincial) – responsible for the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division, undertakes village awareness raising activities;
- Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division (provincial) – primary management role, guidance to district and village levels, responsible for monitoring and infrastructure/major works at the sites, and also responsible for day to day maintenance, management and reporting at Site 1; and
- Village Heritage Teams – day to day maintenance and management role, and reporting, for Sites 2, 3, 8, 12, 21, 23, 25, 28, 42 and 52.

The village responsible for Site 42 is Phou Xang. The Village Chief is the primary village contact person regarding management of the site. The District Governor will appoint a Village Heritage Team which is responsible for site management in accordance with these guidelines.

The Provincial Government will provide a regular ongoing payment to the village to support its responsibilities.

5.2 Land Use

All land uses must be consistent with the conservation of the Heritage Value of the property. No land use is permitted which adversely impacts on the property.

Property (Zone 1) – permitted uses are conservation, research, education, interpretation and visitation only.

Buffer Zone (Zone 2) – permitted uses are agriculture and livestock grazing, including small-scale temporary sheds and animal shelters, non-commercial forest conservation, and tourism facilities.

5.3 Role of the Village Chief

The Village Chief will:

- train the communities and villagers to increase the understanding of the Heritage Value of the Plain of Jars World Heritage site;
- ensure the safety of tourists;
- assign members of the Village Heritage Team to be responsible for management tasks; and
- monitor and report as defined below.

5.4 Management by the Village Heritage Team

Implementation of laws, regulations and plans issued by relevant authorities

- The Village Chief and Village Heritage Team will comply with all laws, regulations and plans issued by relevant authorities.

Finding UXO

- Any UXO discovered in the property or buffer zone will be reported to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible.

Damage to Jars, Disks or other Archaeological Evidence

- If any jars, disks or other archaeological evidence are damaged, for example by graffiti or falling tree branches, do not attempt to repair the damage but report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible.

Control of activities within the heritage property and buffer zone

- People are allowed to visit the heritage property.
- People should not touch, climb, step on, carve, damage or graffiti the jars, disks or other archaeological evidence.
- Jars, disks, stones and other archaeological evidence in the heritage property are not to be moved.
- No buildings, structures, utilities or infrastructure are allowed in the heritage property.
- No electricity poles or telephone reception towers are allowed in the buffer zone.
- Small buildings or structures in a traditional style may be allowed in the buffer zone with the permission of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division. Buildings will be one storey and the maximum height of buildings is 7 metres. However, houses, guest houses, hotels and factories are not allowed.
- No road or other construction is allowed in the heritage property and buffer zone without the permission of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division.
- Farming activities are not allowed in the heritage property including planting trees, crops or vegetables, or grazing animals.
- Slash and burn cultivation is not allowed in the heritage property and buffer zone.
- Burning or fires in the heritage property are not allowed.
- Tourists are not allowed to bring weapons, knives or luggage into the heritage property.
- Excavation, digging or earthworks in the heritage property is only allowed with permission from the Department of Heritage.
- Mining or quarrying are not allowed in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- People are not allowed to stay overnight in the heritage property or buffer zone, and aggressive or lewd behaviour is not allowed.
- Picnics, parties or other events are not allowed in the heritage property.
- Cultural antiques cannot be sold in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Wildlife cannot be sold or cooked in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Hunting is not allowed in the heritage property or buffer zone.
- Collection of forest products is allowed in the buffer zone but not in the heritage property.
- Religious activities which involve physical contact with jars, disks, stones and other archaeological evidence are not allowed in the heritage property. New burials of humans are not allowed in the heritage property.
- Individuals, groups and government agencies cannot reserve any part of the heritage property or

buffer zone as their own land.

Maintaining fencing and paths

- Inspect any fences and paths in the property and buffer zone weekly, and repair quickly if needed.

Controlling vegetation growth

- Keep the grass cut low in the property, every week if needed. Be careful not to damage or move jars, disks or stones.
- Remove trees or plants threatening to damage jars or disks – cut off at ground level, poison roots, but do not remove roots for trees or large plants because this may damage archaeological remains. Check vegetation growth every month.

Maintaining cleanliness of the site and ensuring facilities are always kept clean and in good working order

- Inspect site daily/weekly/monthly (depending on number of visitors) and remove any rubbish or otherwise keep the site clean.
- Check inside jars for any rubbish and carefully remove it.

5.5 Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

The Village Chief is responsible for monitoring and reporting.

Monitor the Village Heritage Team.

Monitor tour guides, domestic and international tourists to ensure that rules and regulations are followed.

Monitor activities within the heritage property and buffer zone.

Report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division as soon as possible

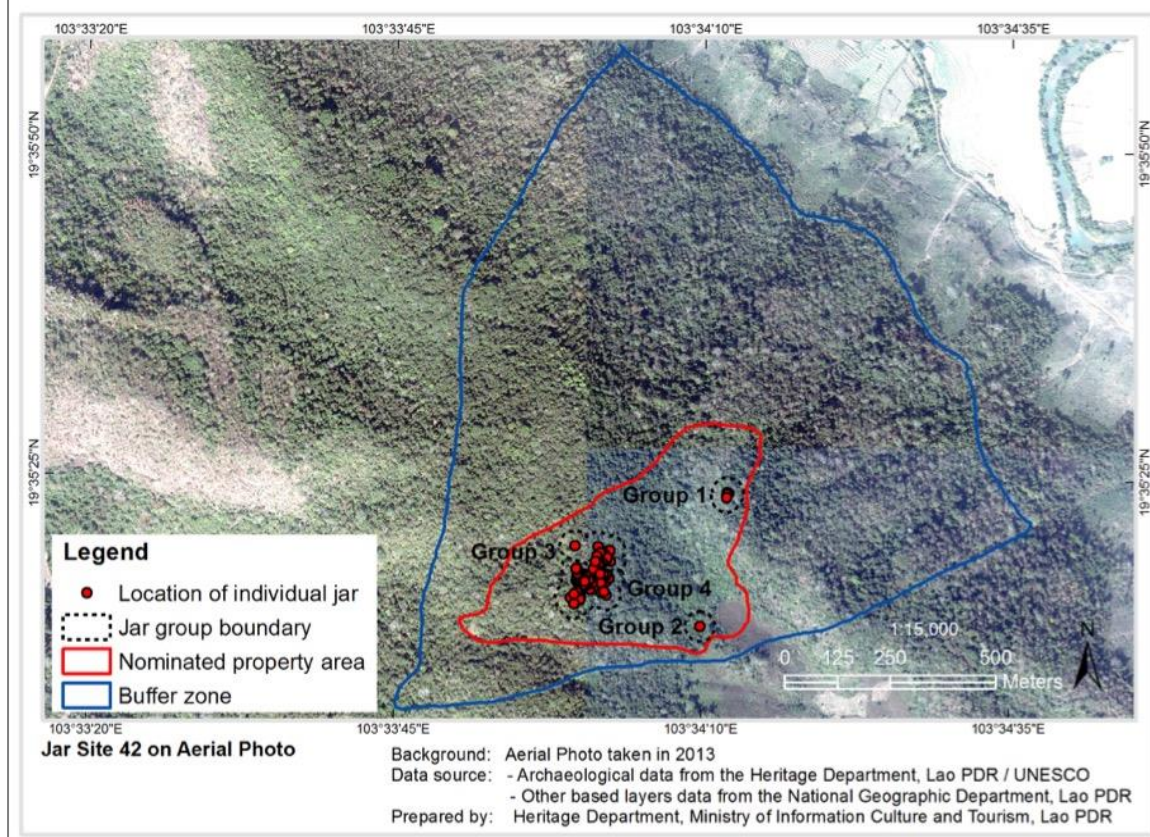
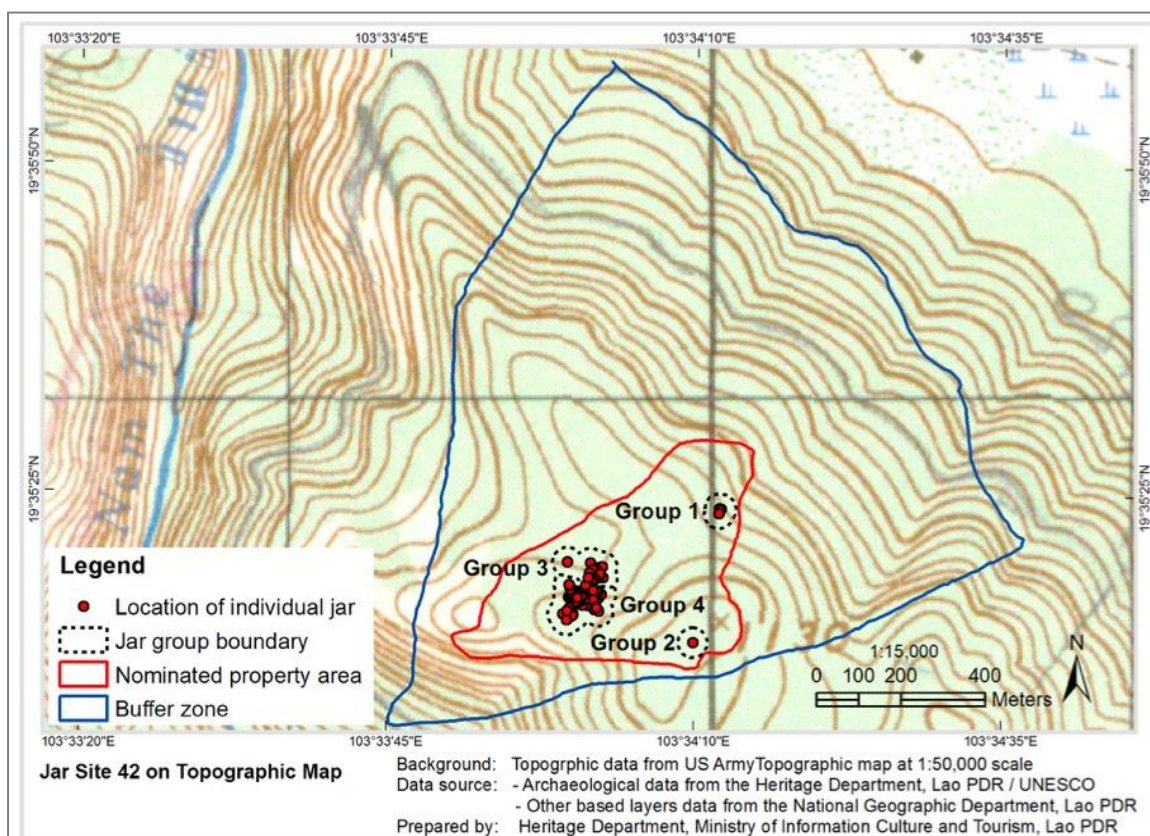
- Any UXO found.
- Any damage to the jars, disks or stones.
- Any signs of excavation or digging in the property.
- Any problems with tour guides or tourists.
- The number of Lao and foreign visitors, every month.
- Any activities which are not permitted in the heritage property and buffer zone.
- Any other problems.

The village will provide a report to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division at least every month or in the case of urgent matters, as soon as possible.

6. Related Management Documents

Protection and management guidelines exist at the provincial level for the property.

Site 42 demarcation



7. Site management authorities

The site management authorities in charge of implementing protection activities include the following:

- Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism/Heritage Department
- Xiengkhuang Provincial Department of Information, Culture and Tourism
- Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division (see more below)
- District Office of Information, Culture and Tourism
- Village Heritage Teams (see more below)

Department of Heritage (national)

The Heritage Department serves as the primary technical adviser for the Plain of Jars. It is directly responsible for conservation and research. It provides oversight of the provincial Department of ICT and conservation guidance to the provincial Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division.

Xiengkhuang Provincial Department of Information, Culture and Tourism

Responsible for providing oversight to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division. It also undertakes village awareness raising activities.

Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division

The *Law on National Heritage 2013*, Article 81 specifies that a separate office should be established to administer a World Heritage property. The Division has been established by the “Department of ICT Decree, Establishment and Operations of Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division – No. 870”. The Division is in charge of implementing conservation, management and projects, and the promotion of the values of the Plain of Jars. The Division undertakes training at district and village levels. The Division will be guided by Heritage Department at the national level and DICT Xiengkhaung. It will be supported by District Departments of Information, Culture and Tourism and the village teams at the local level.

District Office of Information, Culture and Tourism

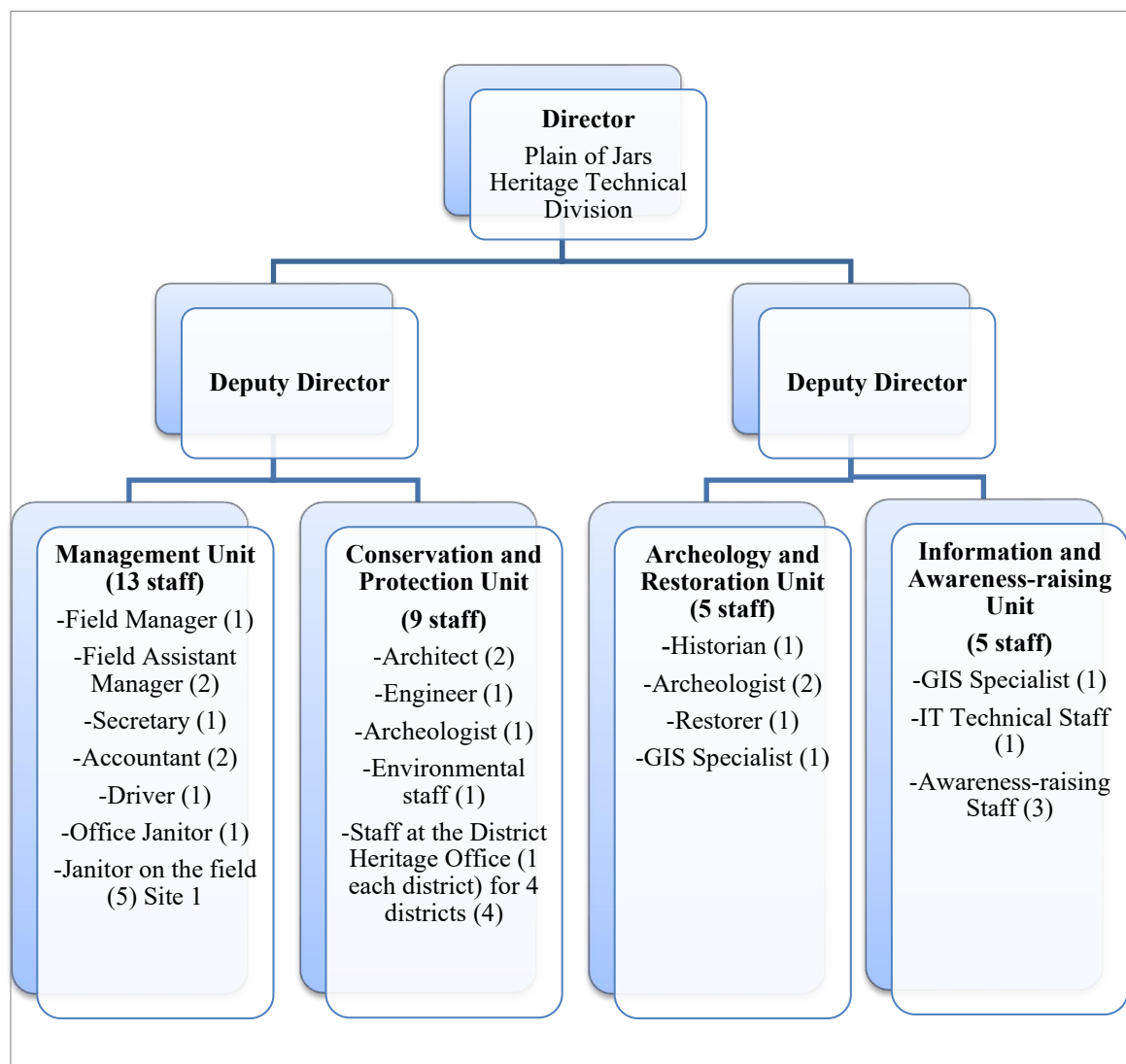
The District offices have the duty to support the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division in the implementation of monitoring, research and conservation efforts and reports urgently to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division in case of protective zoning breaches or other non-compliance of management or protective measures as set out in this document. The district offices are in direct contact with the villagers, and provide awareness raising and oversight of the Village Heritage Teams.

Village Heritage Teams

The daily management of the sites is in the hands of the village level. Each village will establish a Village Heritage Team, which will implement management duties, including monitoring compliance with the protective zoning around the jar sites, selling tickets, collecting rubbish, maintaining vegetation on site, and maintaining basic tourism infrastructure, such as paths, signage, toilets, information kiosk and ticket office. The teams will also coordinate with the tourism department and police. The teams will monitor tour guides, domestic and international tourists to ensure that tourism-related rules and regulations are adhered to.

The team will include selected villagers on a rotational basis. The team will report to and receive support from the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division through the district offices. In exchange for maintaining and protecting the site, the villagers will receive compensation from tourism revenues.

Organisation Structure of Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division



DEPARTMENT OF ICT DECREE, ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATIONS OF PLAIN OF JARS HERITAGE TECHNICAL DIVISION – No. 870

Official Translation

Xieng Khuang Province

Department of Information, Culture and Tourism

No. 870/MoICT

Date 25/10/2017

Decree

Establishment and operations of Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division

- Refer to the Minister's Decree, Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism no. 400/ MoICT dated 5 May 2012
- Refer to the Minister's Decree, Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism no. 445/MoICT dated 15 May 2013 about the establishment and operations of the Department of Information, Culture and Tourism
- Refer to the Governor's Decree no. 208 dated 02/03/2016 about the setting up of the Sub-Committee to revise the Plain of Jars World Heritage Nomination Dossier
- Refer to the study and proposal of the Human Resources Section

Director of the Department of Information, Culture and Tourism has agreed;

Section I

Objectives, Location and Responsibilities

Article 1: Objectives of the Decree

To assure the consensus in the operations of the Plain of Jars Management System, there needs to be a set-up of a Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division. The Technical Division is under the supervision of the Department of Heritage, Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism. For the human resources and financial resources, the Unit will be under the Department of Information, Culture and Tourism at Xieng Khuang Province, Provincial Authorities and Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism. This Decree defines the positioning, roles and responsibilities, rights and restrictions, organizational structure, operation procedures which are reference for legal actions, operations, and the work of the Plain of Jars Heritage

Technical Division, in order for the Office to assure the work is in line with the Party Policy and the Government Policy. This is to strengthen the protection and conservation of the Plain of Jars sites sustainably.

Article 2: Positioning and roles

Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division is an arm of the Department of Information, Culture and Tourism and is under its supervision.

Technical Division acts as a Secretariat to the Department of Information, Culture and Tourism to implement the workplan, protection and development of the world heritage sites all over the province at all levels.

Section II

Responsibilities and rights

Article 3: Responsibilities

Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division has the following responsibilities;

- 3.1 Research, make comprehension and follow the Party Policy, Government's Strategy, Ministry's Strategy, Provincial Strategy, and the detailed Strategy of the Department of Information, Culture and Tourism and also implement them in view of achieving the results.
- 3.2 Advertise, and raise awareness and implement the policies, laws, decrees, rules and regulations, orders, recommendations and notices which are related to the world heritage protections, culture, history and nature and also advise the related authorities, individuals, cooperates and Lao citizens in the province to understand and implement correctly.
- 3.3 Search for investment, make revenues, manage the finance according to the rules and procedures of the finance, as well as develop an annual budget plan including income/expenses and the purchase of equipment and appliances. This is to support the activities related to heritage conservation to meet the objectives and to follow the regulations.
- 3.4 Develop a residential plan and land-use plan within the world heritage boundaries, give comments and give archaeological advice to building inventors, the organizations which are in charge of issuing the constructions permissions, renovation permissions, restoration permissions.
- 3.5 Liaise and coordinate with individuals, cooperates and domestic organizations and international organizations with the objective to support the activities which are related to world heritage conservation, protection, restoration, building capacity of human resources, etc as per the permission of the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism and Department of Information, Culture and Tourism.
- 3.6 Give explanation, raise awareness and provide information to the people, organizations at all level including the development projects which are ongoing within the protected zones. This is to build respect from all parties and for them to follow management rules and regulations, as well as to call for actions and educate all relevant stakeholders; in addition, be active in giving inputs in local and national heritage conservation.

3.7 Implement, manage, protect, conserve, restore, repair and promote the heritage values as per the management system approved by the Government, and as per what UNESCO accepted.

3.8 Develop a sustainable tourism sector hand in hand with the conservation work, provide tourists facilities within the heritage boundaries and ensure tourists safety.

Article 4: Rights

Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division has the following rights;

4.1 Make announcement, issue a letter about the Plain of Jars Heritage site conservation following the Governor and the Department of Information, Culture and Tourism.

4.2 Give advice to the Heritage Team at the Village level and to the Provincial Heritage Steering Committee to improve the work within the protected zones and to development work within the buffer zones.

4.3 Collaborate with the relevant departments at the provincial level when there are development projects for the infrastructure to make sure the buffer zones rules and regulations are respected.

4.4 Follow-up, monitor the community participation within the boundary zones and the Plain of Jars heritage impact assessment.

4.5 Participate in the meetings with the other relevant stakeholders about the archaeological work, museum, historical sites and natural sites.

4.6 Issue rules and regulations; implement the rules and regulations which are related to the world heritage, and rules and regulations in mobilizing the heritage funds and property of the Technical Division based on the financial rules of the Ministry of Finance.

4.7 Liaise and exchange lessons, cooperate, and sign a contract with individuals, cooperates, domestic and international organizations upon the permission of the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism, and Department of Information, Culture and Tourism.

4.8 Take part in the restoration, repair, conservation and protection of the cultural heritage, historical heritage and natural heritage.

4.9 Make summary report and assessment report following the workplan and in accordance with its rights and roles to the Department of Information, Culture and Tourism.

4.10 Take any other assignments as per request by the higher authorities.

Section III

Organizational Structure

Article 5: Organizational Structure

Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division, Xieng Khuang comprises of the following;

5.1 Management unit

5.2 Conservation and protection unit

5.3 Archaeology and restoration unit

5.4 Information and awareness-raising unit

Article 6: Human Resources

Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division consists of the following staff;

6.1 Technical unit consists of

- Chief of Unit 1
- Deputy Chief 2

These positions are appointed by the Governor as proposed by the provincial committee and with the endorsement of the Director of the Department of Information, Culture and Tourism, Xiang Khuang

6.2 Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division consists of unit heads, and deputy heads which are appointed, relocated, ceased by the Director of the Department of Information, Culture and Tourism as proposed by the human resources unit.

6.3 Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division also consists of staff and academic staff as per set positions with the quota and relocation by the Governor on the basis of the proposal from the Department of the Information, Culture and Tourism.

Section IV

Roles and responsibilities of each unit

Article 7: Roles and responsibilities of each unit

7.1 Management Unit

1. Protect the rights of the government officers and contractors
2. Manage the heritage fund, and develop the budget plans
3. Search for investment within the country and internationally, propose a proposal to support the conservation and restoration work for the cultural heritage
4. Represent the Technical Division at the national meetings, international meetings and organize the local meetings
5. Coordinate with the other related departments at the provincial level, district level and village level in order to assure the benefits of the heritage work, benefits of international projects and capacity building workshops
6. Improve the rules and regulations on the conservations and protections guidelines which are being implemented by the local communities through consultation meetings and seminars
7. Maintain, collect statistic data on cultural heritage and all the office vehicles
8. Summarise and write a periodic activity report to present to the higher authority, raise awareness and implement per the directions from the higher authorities
9. Take any other assignments as per request by the higher authorities.

7.2 Conservation and protection unit

1. Make suggestions and give advice to the heritage team at the village level, and to the district committee about the revision and changes of any rules within the boundaries zones and buffer zones.
2. Make suggestions and give advice to the Provincial Steering Committee about the development projects on the infrastructure which are related with the protected zones and buffer zones; in addition, give advice to the other developers which are related to the heritage sites.
3. Follow-up and monitor all the work within the protected zones and buffer zones and make a report to present to the higher authorities.
4. Follow-up and monitor the community participation within the protected zones and buffer zones.
5. Protect, follow-up and monitor as well as assess the numbers of tourists accessing the Plain of Jars heritage sites.
6. Follow-up all the activities closely within the protected zones and buffer zones.
7. Evaluate the safety within the protected zones and buffer zones.
8. Collaborate with the Department of Agriculture and Forestry on the agricultural land-use expansion within the buffer zones.
9. Follow any advice and assignments from the Head of the Heritage Technical Unit

7.3 Archaeology and restoration unit

1. Responsible for the survey work on the fields, archaeological work, investigate and excavations
2. Make judgments on the archaeological findings, and make urgent clearance
3. Give advice to the steering committees about the archaeological surveys
4. Follow-up and monitor the international research projects
5. Follow-up, monitor and evaluate the work according to the workplan and achievements of the archaeological surveys
6. Raise awareness about the archaeology with the other related departments
7. Manage the unit, raise awareness about the heritage and maintain the information centre
8. Collaborate and cooperate with the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism to develop a survey strategy
9. Responsible for organizing activities, making survey reports, and restoration projects
10. Follow any other assignments from the Chief of the Technical Division

7.4 Information and awareness-raising unit

1. Follow-up, monitor, maintain and improve the GPS data
2. Follow-up, monitor and facilitate the documentations to the other departments
3. Follow-up, monitor, and maintain the Plain of Jars heritage library
4. Develop a brochure to advertise about the Plain of Jars to the other ministries and line agencies as see suitable
5. Advise other departments at the provincial level about the problems that are related to the protection and conservation of the cultural heritage in Xieng Khuang province
6. Give knowledge about the Plain of Jars to the general public and support the local authorities in developing a Plain of Jars management plan
7. Follow any other assignments from the Chief of the Technical Division

Section IV

Principles and procedures

Article 8: Principles

Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division operates along the central principles, democracy, and sharing of responsibilities. The principles are that the operations follow one authoritarian and encourage creativity of staff and government officers.

Article 9: Procedures

Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division operates according to the followings;

- 9.1 Operate in accordance with the workplan, project plan, and revise the plan with objectives periodically, collaborate closely with other authorities and cooperate with other Plain of Jars heritage related work in order to inclusively support the work from every parties.
- 9.2 Follow-up, monitor, assess, summarise, evaluate and exchange the lessons learn from the operations on the basis of consultation meetings, regular reporting in order to summarise all the past work and plan for the future with specific objectives, clear directions and in line with the roles and responsibilities of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division.

Section VI

Last Order

Article 10: Budget

The Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division receives the budget from the Government, Service sector, and heritage fund to mobilise in the management and operations.

Article 11: Operations

All the related authorities that are under the supervision of the Department of Information, Culture and Tourism have acknowledged and will pursue all these articles strictly.

Article 12: Statutory

The Decree carries with it the statutory upon the signature until further revision.

Chief of Department of Information, Culture and Tourism

Signature

Vongsa Duangdara

VILLAGE CONTRACT – SAMPLE

The following is a sample of a village contract for one of the components, Site 2. Contracts for other sites are similar. The contracts are linked to the site guidelines.

Official Translation

Department of Information, Culture and Tourism, Xieng Khuang

Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division

No.

Date.....December 2017

Village Contract

Between the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division and Village Authorities at Ban Na Kho

- Refer to the Heritage Law no. 044 / dated 24 December 2013
- Follow the Governor's Decree on protection and conservation of the Plain of Jars World Heritage Site, No. 996/dated 17 November 2017
- Refer to the Governor's Decree on establishment of the Plain of Jars World Heritage Site Office, No. 870/MoICT, dated 25 October 2017
- Follow the Village [Site] Guidelines on the protection and conservation of the Plain of Jars Site 2, Ban Na Kho

Based on the study, review and consultation about the Site Guidelines for the protection and conservation of the Plain of Jars Site 2, Ban Na Kho, we, which comprise of Village Authorities and the villagers in Ban Na Kho, have all agreed in consensus to put the said Guidelines into operation and to implement them with a view to achieving results.

As a result, the Village Authorities and the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division have developed the Village Contract to serve as a reference document that defines the sharing of responsibilities between the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division and the Village Authorities at Ban Na Kho. For details of the responsibilities of the Village Authorities in protection and conservation of the heritage site, refer to the Village [Site] Guidelines in the attachment.

Village Authorities

Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division

Signature

Signature

District Governor

Department of Information, Culture and Tourism

Signature

Signature

9. Provisions for resources (financial, technical, human resources)

Financial Resources

The current and future funding for the property is summarised in the following table.

Funding Source	Amount
Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division annual budget from Provincial Government until 2020	Kip 150M (US\$18,100)
Department of Heritage project funding for 2016-20 (non-salary)	Kip 1,500M (US\$181,000)

The funding of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division is a minimum guaranteed amount and could be higher depending on ticket sales, in which case the Division would receive 40% of ticket sales.

After 2020, 40% of income from ticket fees to visit the sites will be divided as follows:

- 40% for the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division;
- 25% to support villages in their management role;
- 20% to District administrations for support for the sites, including monitoring; and
- 15% for a province-wide heritage fund.

Refer to the Provincial Governor's Decree, Safeguarding the Plain of Jars – Approval of the provincial budget, revenues from the ticket sales at the Plain of Jars sites – No. 995.

Other sources of funding include international donors, development partners and other national agencies.

Technical and human resources

Expertise in conservation and management exists within the Department of Heritage at the national level, including its Archaeological Division. It also exists at the Provincial level within the Department of Information, Culture and Tourism, and the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division. The following table provides details.

National and Provincial Expertise in Conservation and Management				
Expertise	Number of Experts			
	Department of Heritage (National)	DoH Archaeological Division (National)	Xiengkhuang ICT (Provincial)	Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division (Provincial)
Archaeologist	1	7	1	1
Architect	1	1		
Surveyor	1	1		
Art Historian	3			
Cultural management	2			
Curator				1
Artist			1	
Historian	7	4		

National and Provincial Expertise in Conservation and Management				
Expertise	Number of Experts			
	Department of Heritage (National)	DoH Archaeological Division (National)	Xiengkhuang ICT (Provincial)	Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division (Provincial)
Administration	2	2		1
Accounting	2		5	
Tourism	2	1	6	
Chemical	1			
Engineering	2			
Environment management	1			
Art literature	3		3	
English Pedagogical	1		6	2
Primary Teacher			1	1

10. Action Plan for The Megalithic Jar Sites in Xiengkhuang from 2018 to 2023

I. Introduction

The Megalithic Jar Sites in Xiengkhuang Province of central Laos is a serial property of 15 components. The ancient jar sites contain extensive and remarkable evidence of funerary practices, and are the outstanding evidence of the Iron Age civilization which created the sites. They include 1,325 ancient stone jars as well as numerous associated discs, burials and other features. Most of the funeral sites are located in elevated positions on hills or ridges, although one major site is located on low hills on a central plain.

The Megalithic Jar Sites in Xiengkhuang province has high archaeological value and research projects should only be conducted with sufficient professional expertise and funding. An interdisciplinary approach to research the sites should be favoured. As Lao PDR has few archaeological professionals and financial resources, it is proposed to seek the help of an overseas institution. This institution is expected to work closely with the Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism, particularly with the Department of Heritage, to train Lao staff in relevant archaeological and related investigation techniques. The institution will provide the opportunity and financial aid for Lao staff to further their education overseas. The institution will be committed to enhancing the significance of the sites by producing not only academic but also popular information for the villagers and general public.

The Action Plan is recommended to guide the Heritage Steering Committee, Department of Information Culture and Tourism, and Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division, as well as Districts and villages in the management of the Megalithic Jar Sites in Xiengkhuang Province for the next five years.

II. Framework for creating the action plan

The implementation of the Plan is the responsibility of the Provincial Heritage Steering Committee working closely with provincial Office of Information, Culture and Tourism, Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division, Districts and villages. The Steering Committee is monitored by the National Committee for World Heritage and its secretariat, the Department of Heritage, Ministry of Informational Culture and Tourism, under the authority of the national Law on Cultural Heritage 2013.

The Action Plan needs to implement the heritage policy of the Lao Government and to take into account the recommendations of the expert advisors, both national and International, who were consulted during its preparation, particularly the Department of Heritage.

In order that the recommendations in this Action Plan can be implemented effectively over the next 5 years, cooperation between governmental agencies at all levels will be required. Many of the recommendations will not be achieved without some additional funding from the central and provincial governments.

III. **Priorities for action plan**

It will be necessary for the government and authorities of the Lao PDR, at national, provincial and district level in consultation with their expert advisors, national and international, and those providing funds, to confirm priorities and assign responsibilities for each theme.

The objective of this Action Plan is to think carefully about what it is most important and urgent to achieve from 2018 to 2023, and also what can be achieved within the constraints on staff and income

The Action Plan categorizes priorities as High (**H**) or Medium (**M**) and in relation to the following time frame:

- | | |
|----------|--|
| S | short term: should be carried out in 2018 |
| M | Medium term: should be carried out by 2020 |
| L | Long term: should be carried out by 2023. |

It is recommended therefore that the priority from 2018 to 2023 should be:

<u>THEME 1: Site protection</u>			
<u>Management objective:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect the site from impacts which endanger the long-term safeguarding of its heritage values and attributes. 			
<u>Action</u>	<u>Responsible party</u>	<u>Priority</u> <u>High/</u> <u>medium/low</u>	<u>Time frame</u> <u>Short term/</u> <u>medium</u> <u>term/long</u> <u>term</u>
1.1. Complete the demarcation of all 15 components of the World Heritage property and their buffer zones using posts to mark the boundaries	- MICT / Department of Heritage - Provincial of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	H	S
1.2. Complete the fencing of all 15 components of the World Heritage property to protect the jars against damage	- Provincial of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	H	M
1.3. Continue to implement the sustainable heritage management of 15 components of the World Heritage by linking World Heritage property management with community-based tourism	- MICT / Department of Heritage - Provincial of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	M	L

THEME 2: GIS, inventory and database			
Management objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve documentation of the site and its attributes to use as a baseline for site management and monitoring by the heritage authorities and other agencies 			
<u>Action</u>	<u>Responsible party</u>	<u>Priority</u> <u>High/</u> <u>medium/low</u>	<u>Time frame</u> <u>Short term/</u> <u>medium</u> <u>term/long</u> <u>term</u>
2.1. Site management staff will be trained by staff of Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism, especially from the Department of Heritage, to use the GIS system	- Department of Heritage , Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism	<u>H</u>	<u>S</u>
2.2. The existing GIS will be developed into a full management database containing data on all aspects of the World Heritage property and buffer zones and will be regularly updated by the staff of Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	- Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	<u>M</u>	<u>M</u>
2.3. The Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division will provide a data service to other government agencies working in the Megalithic Jar Sites subject to appropriate approval from the Provincial Heritage Steering Committee. The Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division will respond to requests for data from other bodies and individuals according to the decisions of the Provincial Heritage Steering Committee. Copyright in all data must remain with the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division and the Office should charge an appropriate fee for this service	- Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	<u>M</u>	<u>L</u>
2.4. The Megalithic Jar Sites monitoring data will be updated annually and an annual progress report on conservation of resources will	- Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	<u>H</u>	<u>M</u>

be prepared			
2.5. A continuous land erosion study will be undertaken for all sites within the World Heritage property and its buffer zones and the collected data will be entered into the database	- Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	<u>H</u>	<u>M</u>

THEME 3: Tourism and Site development

Management objectives:

- Communicate the site's importance to national and international audience through improved interpretation and presentation, in line with latest research findings
- Ensure tourism develops in a sustainable manner in line with the site's carrying capacity
- Provide benefits to local communities through community-based tourism

<u>Action</u>	<u>Responsible party</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Time frame</u>
		<u>High/ medium/low</u>	<u>Short term/ medium term/long term</u>
3.1. Site interpretation/presentation/promotion			
3.1.1. Develop signage/kiosks at visited sites (2, 3, 21, 25 and 52)	- Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	<u>M</u>	<u>L</u>
3.1.2. Develop other interpretation material (brochures) for all 15 components of the World Heritage property	- Provincial of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	<u>H</u>	<u>M</u>
3.1.3. Develop on-site interpretation for all 15 components of the World Heritage property	- Provincial of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	<u>H</u>	<u>S</u>
3.1.4. Develop tour guiding services	- MICT - Provincial of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	<u>H</u>	<u>L</u>
3.1.5. Create and develop website for the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division to serve as a tool to promote all 15 components of the World Heritage property to the public	- MICT - Provincial of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	<u>H</u>	<u>M</u>

THEME 4: Awareness raising			
Management objective:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve understanding of the site's significance and management regulations as a basis for better cooperation in safeguarding the site 			
Action	Responsible party	Priority	Time frame
		High/ medium/low	Short term/ medium term/long term
4.1. Communities living near jars sites			
4.1.1. Conduct Heritage Awareness seminars that include presentations and discussions on current and emerging threats and significance of the jar sites in order to train villagers in basic site maintenance programmes such as vegetation cutting, rubbish control and prevention of both intentional and unintentional destruction or removal of resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MICT - Provincial of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division 	H	M
4.1.2. Conduct seminars to promulgate the Village Guidelines which contain the duties and responsibilities of stakeholders, including villages located near the jar sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provincial of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division 	H	M
4.2. Conduct a workshop at the provincial level on the significance of cooperation between governmental agencies and with all stakeholders at the provincial level, including districts and villages.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MICT - Provincial of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division 	H	S

THEME 5: Capacity building			
Management objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve capacity among management staff and local teams to undertake conservation, management and monitoring in cooperation with international and local partners • Improve capacity to prevent or mitigate adverse developments through carrying out Heritage Impact Assessments 			
<u>Action</u>	<u>Responsible party</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Time frame</u>
		<u>High/ medium/low</u>	<u>Short term/ medium term/long term</u>
5.1. Conservation			
5.1.1 Ministry staff will train the staff of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division to record data collected about the jars	- MICT / Department of Heritage - Provincial Department of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	H	S
5.1.2. The staff of Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division will be trained to control erosion at the jar sites and to empower the villagers through the transfer of related knowledge. They be trained to identify jar sites with high erosion risk, collaborate with NAFRI to target the erosion problem, and provide local expertise to the villagers.	- Provincial Department of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division - NAFRI	H	S
5.1.3. The Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism will continue to train a core provincial team to deal with accidental archaeological finds and deposits. This team would then be deployed on future UXO clearance programmes which were designed in 2004 to gain archaeological information from UXO excavations in a safe manner.	- MICT / Department of Heritage - Provincial Department of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	H	S
5.1.4. The Provincial Department of ICT will continue to improve the management and maintenance mechanisms deployed by local communities through workshops and seminars	- Provincial Department of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	H	M

5.1.5. The Staff of Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division will receive intensive training in the following topics: writing proposals and realistic budgets, accounting, documentation filing, archaeological recording, finds conservation, heritage management, GIS database management, impact assessment systems, graphic design, report writing, English language conversation and writing skills. Where possible teaching will be by local experts.	- MICT / Department of Heritage - Provincial of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	H	M
5.2. Heritage Impact Assessment			
5.2.1. All proposals, designs or plans for regional development or infrastructure implementation from other agencies must be forwarded to the World Heritage Office for impact assessment prior to their approval.	- Provincial Department of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	H	M

THEME 6: UXO clearance			
<u>Management objective:</u>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete the clearance of UXO at the site, to ensure the safety of residents and visitors 			
<u>Action</u>	<u>Responsible party</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Time frame</u>
		<u>High/ medium/low</u>	<u>Short term/ medium term/long term</u>
6.1. Finish UXO clearance for priority sites: 1, 2, 3, 8, 25, 28 (by 2018)	- Provincial Department of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division - UXO, MAG	H	S
6.2. UXO clearance for other sites: 12, 23, 52, 42 (by 2020)	- Provincial Department of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division - UXO, MAG	H	M

THEME 7: Conservation and Enhancement			
Management objective:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the protection of the jars, other heritage attributes, along with the archaeological, landscape and natural setting 			
<u>Action</u>	<u>Responsible party</u>	<u>Priority</u>	<u>Time frame</u>
		<u>High/ medium/low</u>	<u>Short term/ medium term/long term</u>
7.1. Develop and implement a policy for dealing with dislodged or damaged jars	- Provincial Department of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	H	M
7.2. Develop and implement a policy for preventative conservation of the jars, including cleaning and drainage	- Provincial Department of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	H	M
7.3. Consolidate and conserve objects that have been removed from jar sites	- Provincial Department of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	M	L
7.4. Continue to implement the sustainable heritage management of all jar sites, including by linking World Heritage property management with community-based tourism	- MICT / Department of Heritage - Provincial Department of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	M	L
7.5. Staff of the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division with advice from Ministry staff will carry out surveys and monitor the boundaries of the 15 World Heritage property components and their buffer zones	- MICT / Department of Heritage - Provincial Department of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	H	M
7.6. A minimum of one qualified archaeologist from Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division should be present at each UXO clearance programme to gain archaeological information from UXO excavations in a safe manner.	- Provincial Department of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	H	M
7.7. The on-going Cultural and Biodiversity and Socio-economic	- Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	M	M

Impact Monitoring programme is to be conducted once a year.			
7.8. Site guards will be trained and posted at all sites currently visited by tourists to control potential impacts.	- Provincial Department of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	M	S
7.9. Increased security measures for tourism visited sites during the local holiday seasons such as the Hmong and Lao New Years	- Provincial Department of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division	M	S

THEME 8: Archaeological research strategy			
Action	Responsible party	Priority: High/Medium /Low	Time frame: Short term/ Medium term/ Long term
8.1. Survey and research within the inscribed property sites		H	S & M
8.2. Survey and research outside the property areas within Xiengkhuang province		H	S & M
8.3. Survey and research in neighboring provinces: Luang Prabang, Saysomboun and Vientiane.	Concerned provincial authorities	H	M & L
8.4. Extension of survey and research on non-jars Megalithic sites – Upright stone or Hin Tang in Hua Phan province: Menhir, Dolmen, Cromlech and associated elements		H	M & L
8.5. Creation of Megalithic Culture Study Centre – MCSC ສູນສຶກສາວັດທະນະທຳຍຸກຫີນໃຫຍ່	DH, NUoL, XK	M	M & L
8.6. Acquire more scientific material – artifacts & data, for display in National / Provincial Museum		H	M & L
8.7. Legal documents and frameworks environment to support archaeological research strategy	DH/DoA	H	M & L
8.8. Publication of the scientific knowledge for understanding of Megalithic Jars Practice in Laos. Dissemination, academic curriculum in educational institutions	DH/DoA/foreign research partners	M	M & L
8.8. Site monitoring and Management (prevention of treasure hunter/illegal digging)	XK/MJSMO	M	M & L
8.8. Consultation/ Coordination/ Carry out Heritage Impact		H	S & M

Assessment and proper mitigation measures in case of socio-economic development project within the potential megalithic and other sites of historic importance			
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11. CONSERVATION GUIDELINES

Conservation Guidelines for the Plain of Jars

Overall, there are known to be 2,107 megalithic stone jars (both finished and unfinished), 207 disks and 672 rocks/grave markers clustered in 59 surveyed sites located in Xieng Khuang, and a further 26 sites are known but have yet to be surveyed. It is from this overall collection of 59 sites that 15 sites have been selected for the nominated series.

Long-term management expectations include: enhanced conservation of the sites; ongoing research into the sites; avoidance or mitigation of adverse developments; harmonious tourism development; strengthened community understanding and support; and increased conservation capacity.

Several threats to the conservation of the jars have been identified and since preventive conservation is preferable to reaction to damage or disaster the mitigation of these threats and the management of the heritage must be a defining factor in the conservation plan.

Identified Threats

Management Issues

- Lack of planning
- Lack of staff capacity
- Lack of maintenance
- Looting and/or removal of jars or other attributes
- Increase in broken jars or other damage
- Increase in fallen jars
- Surface disturbance, including looting or UXO explosions
- Inappropriate archaeological research
- Lack of emergency response plans
- Graffiti or other tourism impacts
- Fire
- Vandalism
- Wild animals

Material Conservation Issues

- Natural deterioration of the stone
- Inappropriate conservation interventions
- Biological
 - Higher plants
 - Mosses
 - Algae
 - Fungi
 - Lichens
- Climate
 - Rain
 - Wind

Natural deterioration of the stone

The exposure of the natural stone to the climate and the environment can increase the deterioration of the stone. However, the types of deterioration are many and there are at least five different types of stone. This geological diversity plays a major factor in the type of decay that can occur.

Cracking, micro-cracking, sanding, exfoliation, detachment, and loss are some of these decay types and appropriate stone conservation treatments will need to be developed to address the specific types of decay on the different stone types.

Biological

The presence of all types of biology will also need to be assessed and evaluated on a case by case basis because the removal of the biology, while possible, is not always the best solution. In general, the decay caused by biological films and micro-biology is quite limited and while the stones can be treated and the biology can be removed it will always return very quickly in the type of environment that is typical at the Plain of Jars. Furthermore, the presence of some types of biology can actually protect the stone.

Higher Plants

While plants growing actually inside the jars and through cracks in the jars are obviously damaging and should be treated, it should also be noted that the tree cover and the presence of forest can actually create a more stable micro-climate which is conducive to better conservation. Therefore, the management of the higher plants should be assessed with forestry experts and a specific risk map should be prepared for each site that will enable the staff to remove the trees that are a greater threat while maintaining those which play a protective role or are inherent to the natural value of the sites.

Mosses, Algae, Fungi and Lichens

These are present, to a greater or lesser extent, on all of the stone surfaces of the jars and their removal from all the stone surfaces at the 11 sites would be an unnecessary and pointless task. These types of biology return very quickly. Furthermore, repeated treatments can be damaging and the use of biocides can have ecological issues. There are more eco-friendly treatments in use now but these really only need to be used on stone surfaces that require specific conservation and consolidation actions due to severe deterioration. The conservators at Angkor now only carry out biological treatments on stone surfaces that require specific treatments and accept that the biology will return quickly.

Conservation Strategy

Procedure

Every conservation intervention that is carried out on the jars must be preceded by research and the preparation of a conservation proposal that is developed by a multi-disciplinary team and is submitted for review and approval by the site management authorities. The work of the multi-disciplinary teams should be complimentary and no research programme or activity should impede or block the activities of any others. The research should always run parallel and should assist the smooth running of the overall programme of conservation.

The procedure that should be followed is similar to that followed in the medical profession, that is: anamnesis (providing a medical history of the “patient”), diagnosis, therapy, followed by maintenance and monitoring. This will ensure the correct identification of the causes of damage and decay, the appropriate choice of measures to alleviate these issues and monitoring of that which has been achieved through the implementation of the conservation plans.

Conservation interventions

The management of the whole site should be considered when preparing a conservation plan which means that topography, vegetation, rainwater management and many other factors should be considered by the conservation team.

In terms of inappropriate previous interventions, there have not been a great many conservation interventions in the past though there are some cases where cement has been used to fill or bond the stones, and these situations need to be evaluated within the framework of the specific conservation plan.

Inorganic consolidation treatments are to be used rather than organic consolidants since the use of resins for consolidation and protection have proved to have failed or to have created new problems in tropical conditions.

It should also be stressed that following recent research and testing the use of organic hydrophobic coatings in tropical conditions has not only proved to be ineffective but can increase biological activity and decay.

The filling and pointing of cracks is one of the best measures for improving the conservation of decayed stone since it strengthens the structure of the jars and reduces the threat of water infiltration. The nature of the filler will be determined by the type of stone that it being conserved but as noted above all binders should be inorganic binders. This means that for sandstone and granites a silicic binder is to be favoured (such as Ethyl Silicate or Colloidal Silica) while on limestones a lime based binder is to be favoured.

Coordination of numbering and inventorying.

Mapping of the sites and numbering of the jars is a clear priority and these should be kept at the documentation centre where all the documentation and publications that have been prepared to date should be collected and made available to National and International researchers.

Risk Mapping

Once the numbering and mapping has been carried out it will be much easier to move on to the next essential stage which is the preparation of a comprehensive Risk Map. There should be an overall risk plan and then a more detailed individual risk plan for each site.

While a risk map for each site is a priority, in terms of stone conservation an individual risk map for each jar will also need to be prepared. This will mean that each jar will be given a risk classification (Red, Yellow or Green) and so once this is concluded it will be easy to determine which sites need to be worked on first and which jars need to be worked on within those sites.

The best way to achieve this goal would be to carry out a special risk management course to set this process in motion. This would help site managers and local conservators to work together towards this common goal.

Strategic Conservation Plans and Interventions

Once the risk map has been prepared it will be easier to prepare strategic conservation operations that can address the conservation issues that are identified. Preliminary assessment carried out during the 2014 training workshop on conservation supported by the Global Heritage Fund has shown that there will be some conservation and consolidation necessary on some of the jars but that this will only be effective if carried out within the framework of a clear conservation management plan.

Training Activities

The training needs to be carried out for various target groups and at various levels.

The stone conservation can be done using regional expertise but again this should be done as part of a training programme. The best way to do this would be to identify the jars that are at the greatest risk and to prepare a conservation intervention that could be carried out by regional conservators in collaboration with their Lao counterparts.

Risk Mapping and Prioritisation

Target Group – Local, Provincial and National Staff.

Training Activity A – 2 weeks

Training Activity B – 1 week

Aims – the Preparation of a risk mapping team, the launch of the risk mapping activity and (Activity B) the review and fine tuning of the risk assessment carried out by the teams set up in Activity A.

Developing a Conservation Plan

Target Group – Provincial and National Staff

Training activity – 1 week

Aims – training staff to assess the conservation needs of a site, to plan and to budget the conservation operation.

Stone Conservation

Target Group – Local, Provincial and National Staff.

Activity A – 2 weeks

Activity B – 4 weeks

Activity A – Stone conservation testing of materials and methods. Development of specific treatments and strategies.

Activity B – 4 weeks. The training of Laotian staff (Local, Provincial and National) in the conservation methods and materials identified by the conservators in Activity A

Maintenance and Monitoring

Local Staff

Training activity – 1 week

Aim – preparation of a maintenance protocol and the training of local staff in the maintenance activities identified.

Terminology

There was already work on the translation of terminology during the training activity in 2014 however this needs to be taken much further and it is recommended that the ICOMOS Glossary be used as the basis for this and that if possible it be translated into Laotian. This work has been already done in various languages including Khmer and the Laotian version would provide an extremely important tool for the coordination and standardisation of documentation not just in Laos but around the world.

Prepared by Simon Warrack

12. ARCHAEO-DEMINEING PROTOCOL

Updated UXO Clearance Protocols:

Archaeological Data Retrieval in the Plain of Jars, Lao PDR

1.0 Introduction

Following the success of the UXO clearance and archaeological data retrieval programme conducted at Sites One, Two and Three, four more target sites were cleared during Phase IV of the Safeguarding the Plain of Jars Project in 2007. Mines Advisory Group (MAG) was responsible for the UXO clearance with UNESCO and Plain of Jars team provided the support for the archaeo-data retrieval programme. This protocol was developed for use in this initial stage of clearance, and should be adopted for on-going use in future UXO clearance at the Plain of Jars.

2.0 Aim and Objectives of the Programme

During excavations associated with clearance inside the boundaries of the jar sites there is a great likelihood that archaeological material will be revealed. To date very little archaeological research has taken place in the Plain of Jars and the information base is minimal. Clearance provides an opportunity to gain valuable sub-surface data which will contribute greatly to the understanding and interpretation of the sites.

The specific objectives of this programme were the following:

- To protect the jars and other stone resources during clearance
- To retrieve and inventory any archaeological artefacts or other cultural material which is unearthed during clearance
- To map the location of archaeological material
- To train relevant staff to enable capacity building at the local level
- To put systems in place for archaeological data collection during future clearance of archaeological sites

3.0 Programme Partners / Stakeholders

This programme for retrieval of archaeological data in the context of UXO clearance will involve the following partners:

- UXO clearance agency management, site supervisors, clearance technicians
- Village Assisted Clearance (VAC) staff
- Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division (PoJ)
- Ministry and Department of Information, Culture and Tourism (MICT) and (DIC)
- UNESCO archaeologist(s) / trainers and GIS consultant

4.0 Integrated archaeological data retrieval and UXO clearance activities

4.1 Surface Clearance

VAC staff will be trained by UXO clearance agency to clear vegetation and UXO technicians or VAC will carry out surface detection.

Training component should be conducted to familiarize participants with the types of archaeological material which might be observed on the surface of sites. The archaeological material will include further stone jars, discs or lids as well as small finds, such as pottery fragments, metal implements, stone artefacts, etc.

If material is found, the location will be marked by a marker (coloured stick or piece of coloured tape) and artefacts will be placed in a plastic bag.

At the end of the day a **designated person** will collect all the small finds, label the bags and place them in a temporary storage place. Stone jars, lids or discs are left *in situ*; the **PoJ team** will be responsible for the recording of such resources.

4.2 Sub-surface Clearance

Excavation and sub-surface clearance is carried out by fully trained **UXO technicians**. As part of the initial stages of the programme, a UNESCO training module will be given to familiarize staff with the types of archaeological material which may be found in the course of clearance. This will include the possibility of *in situ* archaeological assemblages or deposits being exposed.

UXO clearance is carried out within a recording grid of 10m² boxes divided into 1m wide lanes. When individual items are found which may be “archaeological” they will be placed by the **UXO technician** in a plastic bag along with a note indicating the depth of the find in cm. The plastic bag will be left and the archaeological finds location will be marked by a specific coloured stick. At the end of the day a **designated person** will collect and label all the bags and place them in a temporary storage place.

If a possible deposit or group of remains in meaningful spatial arrangement is found, clearance in that lane will temporarily cease and the site supervisor will notify the **PoJ contact person** for follow-up action.

All occurrences of archaeological material will be recorded by the PoJ team on a master map.

4.3 Methodology of recovery

There are 5 categories of follow-up action after each archaeological artefact has been noted:

1. Isolated find is picked up from surface, placed in bag and its location is marked by coloured stick or tape by **VAC or UXO technician**.
2. Isolated find is excavated, placed in a bag with a depth indication in cm written on the outside of the bag and location is marked by coloured stick by **UXO technician**.
3. Plastic bags of material collected during surface or sub-surface clearance will be collected at the end of each day by a trained **designated person**. This will be a member of the UXO team trained specifically to mark each bag with unique code and then seal and store them safely for later collection and processing by the PoJ team.
4. In the case of isolated surface or sub-surface material reported by the VAC team or UXO technicians, the **PoJ team** will record the location of finds and retrieve objects and data from the temporary storage.
5. If a possible deposit is found, the **PoJ team** will respond by coming to the site, mapping and photographing the material, excavating it and removing it to the storage facility at the PdJ project office.

4.4 On-site Recording by the designated person

The **designated person** will collect all the isolated finds bags at the end of the day. He or she will label the bags as follows:

1. SURFACE FINDS

Site #, Bag # [running number], Surface [remark]

2. SUBSURFACE FINDS

All finds from each site will thus be filled in on a running list bag form (Site number, Bag number, Lane number, Point number, depth of retrieval, Material and remarks), see Annex I. Remarks such as surface or depth of retrieval should be written on the exterior of the bag and on the bag list for easy identification and cross reference.

4.5 On and off-site Processing of Artefacts and Assemblages by the PoJ team

Processing systems are in place for 3 categories of finds:

1. The location of each surface material will be marked on the master plan and the bags labelled with a unique bag number by the village recorder will be checked and taken to the PoJ office.

A detailed inventory of all bags will be made in the site office where forms will be filled out itemizing the contents of each bag (Annex II).

2. The location of each sub surface artefact will be marked on the master plan and the bags labelled with a unique bag number by the village recorder will be checked and taken to the PoJ office.

A detailed inventory of all bags will be made in the site office where forms will be filled out itemizing the contents of each bag (Annex II).

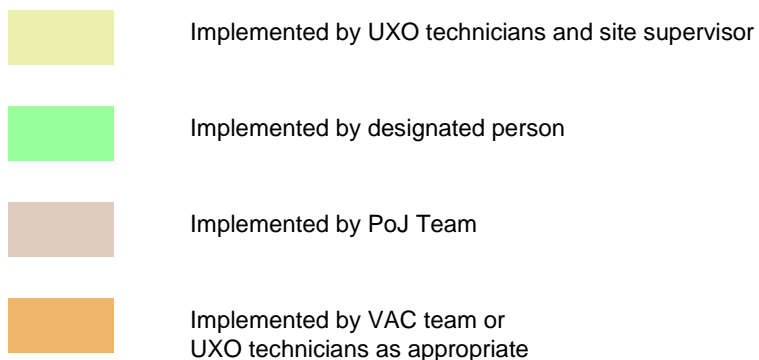
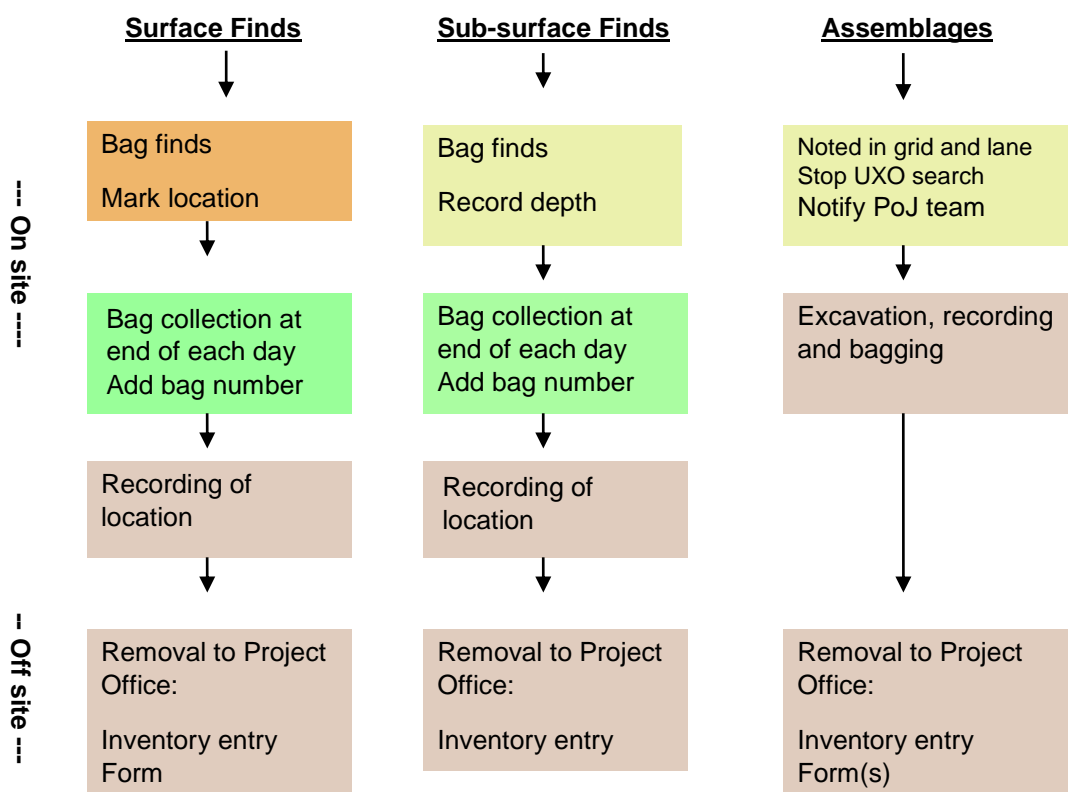
3. Excavated sub-surface assemblages of archaeological material will be taken to the project office standard after on-site recording. Each assemblage will be recorded following archaeological procedures. The finds will be labelled following the (sub-)surface finds bag list (Site #, Bag #, assemblage as remark).

A detailed inventory of all bags will be made in the site office where forms will be filled out itemizing the contents of each bag (Annex II). All bag numbers of each assemblage, maps, drawings and photographs will be cross-referenced by the PoJ team in the office.

The finds will be washed and labelled by the PoJ team in the site office. Each bag content will be photographed and the artefacts will be counted, weighed and bagged by type. This information will be recorded onto a specifically designed form (Annex II) along with other relevant information such as name of investigation, depth of retrieval, location, photo or cross reference number(s) and remarks. Samples taken for scientific analysis will be prepared and send for analysis or stored until such opportunity. After the processing of the finds the results will be entered into the GIS database, analysed and a report will be prepared presenting the results of the retrieval programme.

The finds after processing will be stored appropriately in aluminium boxes on wooden shelves. The location of each bag after storage is additional information embedded in the GIS database to provide enhanced security and easy location of each find.

Fig.1 Archaeological Finds Retrieval and Processing Flow Chart



4.5 *GIS database*

A GIS programme to include the UXO clearance archaeo-data was developed in first UXO Clearance programme. The data incorporates:

- Fixed datum points positioned by MAG for each box
- GPS readings or triangulation using fixed datum points on surface material found outside boxes
- Coordinates (derived from triangulation using fixed datum points) for each finds or assemblage location together with their respective bag reference numbers

The information will be integrated into the existing PoJ GIS maps.

Annex I

Bag list form

Annex II

Finds recording form

13. HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES

Note: These guidelines were prepared prior to revisions to the management system for the Plain of Jars. They are to be revised to reflect the final form of the management system.

Heritage Impact Assessment for Plain of Jars, Xiengkhuang, Lao PDR

Practical Steps for Implementing an HIA System based on

ICOMOS Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties 2011.

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I. INTRODUCTION

II. ENFORCING THE INTERIM HIA SYSTEM

III. TIMING AND FUNDING OF HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

IV. SCREENING, SCOPING, COMMISSIONING

Screening

Scoping

Commissioning

V. HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

HIA study:

Baseline Study

Impact Assessment

Mitigation Recommendations

HIA report

VI. MONITORING AND AUDIT

Commonly used abbreviations in the report

DH	National Department of Heritage
DICT	Provincial Department of Information, Culture and Tourism
HIA	Heritage Impact Assessment
HMP	Heritage Monitoring Plan
MMP	Mitigation and Monitoring Plan
ToR	Terms of reference
WHO	Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division

Definitions

Adverse Impact: Any detrimental effect to heritage that is the result of the development project.

Commissioning: The appointment of an HIA Expert or team to undertake the HIA study and reporting.

Cumulative Impact: Impact from a project that in itself may not be significant, but may become significant when similar or associated impacts increase over time.

Direct Impact: Impacts which cause measurable change to the fabric or materials of a resource or, in the case of intangible heritage or practices, results in measurable change to performance.

Heritage Monitoring Plan: The section of the HIA report that clearly states how, when and where mitigation measures are to be carried out as well as the responsible party for ensuring mitigation is implemented. The HMP will also contain a schedule for monitoring visits by the DICT for inspecting the project site and ensuring mitigation is being implemented correctly.

Indirect Impact: Impacts which don't directly affect a heritage resource, but alter its environment, setting or context in ways that ultimately affect the resource itself.

Project Proposal: The written document submitted by the project proponent to the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division/DICT during the application stage that will be used by the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division /DoICT to determine if an HIA is required and the scope of any required HIA.

Project Proponent: Is the person, legal entity, organisation from the public or private sector undertaking the project.

Residual Impact: The remaining impacts after mitigation has been applied.

Scoping: The process of determining the scope of the HIA which will include data collection necessary, Study Area, expertise required and presentation of the ToR for the HIA.

Screening: The initial assessment of a project by the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division/DICT to determine if an HIA will be required.

I. INTRODUCTION

The current system is based on 2011 ICOMOS *Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties* and proposed as part of World Heritage Nomination Dossier for Megalithic Jar Sites in Xiengkhuang – Plain of Jars. The purpose of the following guidelines is to provide a system for Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) for proposed World Heritage Megalithic Jar Sites in Xiengkhuang and other jar sites at the Plain of Jars protected as national heritage.

It is expected that development controls should apply to both the 15 nominated jar sites and the other jar sites covered under the National Heritage Law. The HIA system proposed below is designed to cover any type of development within the wider setting of Plain of Jars and will be used to evaluate all projects that are identified as having the potential to affect the nominated sites and wider heritage area, knowledge and interrelationship of jar sites at Plain of Jars. The proposed HIA system can easily be adapted to include all heritage sites within Xiengkhuang Province.

II. ENFORCING THE HIA SYSTEM

The legal and technical requirements for establishing a full Heritage Impact Assessment system are complex and can take years to be finalised. As the HIA system is needed for immediate implementation, it is recommended that it be adopted as a provincial decree which carries statutory implications for non-compliance.

In addition, the 2013 National Heritage Law identifies in article 44, point 2 the following:

To submit its economic activities in the area of the relevant elements, including industrial and agricultural activities and the development of ancillary infrastructure, to the prior approval of the Information department concerned, culture and tourism identifying appropriate measures to ensure the sustainability of these.

Four stages (baseline study, assessment, mitigation and monitoring) will be presented with the specific aim of meeting the HIA objectives and needs at Plain of Jars. It is envisioned that HIA should be administered and monitored by the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division (WHO) for the nominated sites, Department of Information, Culture and Tourism (DICT) for the other jar sites, and with final approval and issuance of development permits through the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism's Heritage Department (HD) for the nominated sites and wider Plain of Jars.

III. TIMING AND FUNDING OF HIA

The HIA process should always begin at the planning stage of the development. As there are possibly two types of development (Private Development and Government Projects) to be dealt with at Plain of Jars, tailored strategies must be designed for each.

For private development projects, ***the project proponent should be informed by the WHO/DICT for the need for HIA at the permit application stage.*** Specifically, upon receipt of the application the WHO/DICT will review the proposed development and notify the project proponent on the requirement for HIA within a limited timeframe after the application has been submitted. This timeframe should be set by the WHO/DICT

and clearly stated in the application form. The DICT must also include on the application form the following; that all funding for the HIA must be provided by the Project Proponent and that the HIA study and report must be completed prior the commencement of construction works. This timing can be ensured through the requirement that ***the HIA report must be approved before a permit is issued by the HD***. For private development, all costs associated with HIA must borne by the project proponent. Non-compliance by project proponent in funding, implementing HIA will results in withdrawal of development permit.

The provincial government in Xiengkhuang should ensure that each department or administrative unit distribute their proposed project plans to DICT for comment prior to confirming or commencing their projects. Upon receipt of the plans it is the responsibility of WHO/DICT at this stage to identify any projects requiring HIA and reply accordingly to the department, stating that HIA will be required. As the funding of government projects is set by financial year, difficulties in gaining additional funds for undertaking HIAs are expected and additional budget specifically for government led projects requiring HIA should be set aside. If this is not feasible and additional funds are not available, the possibility of delaying the project until the next financial year should be considered so that the budget can include funds for HIA. If the project cannot be delayed but is considered urgent, HD should identify whether it is feasible or desirable for WHO/DICT to conduct the HIA to the best of their ability within existing budget.

In the long term, the funding of the implementation of HIA must become the responsibility of the project proponent, both public and private, through appointment of HIA dedicated DICT staff or commissioning of heritage consultants to undertake the required tasks. The monitoring of the HIA implementation is the responsibility of the DICT and HD and should be covered in the annual budget.

IV. SCREENING, SCOPING, COMMISSIONING

Prior to the commencement of the HIA study three steps have to be undertaken to identify which developments will require intervention, what the scope of the HIA will encompass and who will be responsible for undertaking the HIA, namely, ***screening, scoping*** and ***commissioning***. It is envisioned that these three steps will always be controlled by DICT, whether they are undertaken by their own staff or conducted by consultants that have been checked and authorised by DICT.

Screening

The initial assessment to identify projects that will require an HIA

Screening will always be undertaken by WHO/DICT (both short and long-term)

Zones are identified in the National Heritage Law to restrict proposed development (both public and private) within national recognised heritage sites such as jar sites of Xiengkhuang. The National Heritage Law classifies the following four areas within heritage sites:

- *Zone 1 is the central area where the site is located and where no construction is allowed;*
- *Zone 2 is the area surrounding the central area, where activities enhancing Zone 1, can be undertaken provided that the activities cause no damage;*
- *Zone 3 is the peripheral area where construction is possible. The proposed urban planning and tourism developments should protect and enhance the Zones 1 and 2; and*
- *Zone 4 is a management area where construction is possible for urban expansion and tourism.*

Development within the four zones require inspection by the WHO/DICT to proceed and as such a general type of screening already exists. The screening of development projects in Plain of Jars should continue to be conducted by the WHO and DICT and it is recommended that any development associated within the eleven nominated sites and within Zones 1, 2, 3 and 4 as per National Heritage Law at other jar sites automatically be considered as requiring HIA.

The National Heritage Law acknowledges special provisions may be adopted for the management of each site and within the nominated sites and specified under Decree on the Protective Zoning of the Plain of Jars Archaeological Landscape No. 96/GXK dated 10/03/2009 a number of activities are permitted or prohibited within the Zones (see Annex I).

Permitted activities within Zone 1 subject to HIA include:

- Construction of walking paths, rubbish collection points, appropriate signage, information points; and
- Improvement of access to the site.

Within Zone 2 the activities allowed and prohibited are to ensure the visual impacts on the sites and impacts to its setting, are avoided or are minimised;

Permitted activities within Zone 1 subject to HIA include:

- Non-commercial forest conservation areas, agricultural extension areas and livestock grazing development;
- Development of agricultural activities and small infrastructure projects, such as temporary sheds and animal shelters;
- Construction of residential houses within rural village extension at Site 1 within Zone 2; and
- Tourist Service Area development (not exceeding 1 ha), such as a ticket office; an information kiosk; car park; and food and beverage stalls, and toilet facilities.

Permitted activities within Zone 3 (buffer zone) subject to HIA include:

Any development or infrastructure works within buffer zone which have the potential to affect integrity and authenticity of the jar sites.

Permitted activities within Zone 4 subject to HIA include:

Development or infrastructure works within wider environment of jar sites but which have the potential to directly or indirectly and negatively affect the nominated sites and associated heritage sites (potentially associated settlement and activity sites, unidentified jar or quarry sites, etc.)

It is recommended that the list of appropriate activities and development be regularly reviewed and that the list of prohibited and permitted activities and development types should be expanded to include a much broader range of projects. Some of these activities which may be included are proposed per zone below:

Within Zone 1

- Landscaping, including planting of trees, shrubs and flowers;
- Construction of temporary or permanent sitting out areas or shelters;
- Activities which include excavation other than for research or minor tourism infrastructure;
- Earth filling unless necessary to stabilise heritage resources;
- Construction of shrines or other religious places.

Within Zone 2

- Golf courses;
- Theme parks;
- Zoological/ botanical gardens;
- Sportsgrounds;
- Scientific farming;
- Commercial farming of crops or livestock;

Within Zones 3 and 4

- Construction and upgrade of roads
- Commercial production of construction materials
- Commercial tourism infrastructure and activities
- Utility and infrastructure upgrade and construction
- Mining activities, dam construction, major housing or hotel developments, development of industries or industrial areas

The system requires private developers and government projects to submit a permit application in order to receive HD approval for their project.

The HIA system requires that **private development permit applications** contain a project proposal which includes all relevant information required by the WHO/DICT to determine if the project will require an HIA.

The proposed guidelines for preparation of a project proposal to be submitted to WHO/DICT by the project proponent are as follows:

- Background of the proposed project; including necessity and benefits of project;
- Detailed description of the proposed project, including construction methods and materials;
- Proposed site location and description of the existing environment;
- Layout plans of the proposed development;
- Conceptual design;
- Description of associated works, such as access roads, electricity provisions, water supply and sewage facilities;
- List of stakeholders; Plan for public consultation process;
- Development alternatives (options).

As discussed in Section II, the application (including project proposal) will then be processed by the WHO/DICT and the project proponent informed whether or not the project will require an HIA. Additional information may be asked by WHO/DICT to ensure an informed decision can be made. If the HIA is necessary, the project proponent will be provided with information on timing of the HIA and the funding necessary to implement the HIA.

For government projects, the project proponent (e.g. transport, tourism, agriculture, UXO) will submit project plans to WHO/DICT, who will review these plans and send back a response, which will include requirement for HIA. It may not be necessary for the submission of a project proposal under these circumstances, but WHO/DICT must be given the ability to acquire the necessary details for screening of the government proposed project and it is recommended that this be conducted through regular meetings and direct liaison between the WHO/DICT and the government project proponent.

Scoping

The process for determining necessary data collection and analysis required for identifying potential impacts to Heritage and compiling the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the HIA Study and Report.

Scoping will most likely have to be undertaken by the WHO/DICT in the short term.

In a fully developed Heritage Impact Assessment system the preparation of a scoping report is the responsibility of the project proponent who would commission a consultant approved by the heritage authority to prepare a scoping report based on guidelines and criteria issued by the relevant Government Department or Ministry, in this case the WHO/DICT and the HD. However, this is not seen as practicable, based upon the short timeframe and lack of a framework already in place. With exception, in cases where an approved consultant² is commissioned, they would of course be able to undertake the scoping and submit their findings to WHO/DICT for approval.

It is recommended that, the following steps for scoping of HIA be used:

1) Determine the Heritage Significance of the site to be affected by the Development Project

The Scoping Report should be based on the existing heritage zoning and on a range of heritage attributes commonly accepted as representing the heritage of Plain of Jars, including but not limited to jar sites, quarry sites and their setting, associated settlement and activity sites, tangible associated burial and other materials such as jars, disc, lids, stones, archaeological artefacts, features and deposits associated with burial and other activities on the jar sites, and stories and legends associated with Plain of Jars. Based on the criteria iii, the following attributes should be considered during the scoping for the nominated sites: jars, discs and stone grave markers.

2) Identify Potential Impacts associated with the Development Project

Based upon the information submitted by the project proponent in their application, the WHO/DICT (or approved consultant) will determine the scope of the HIA based upon how the potential impacts will affect the heritage values of Plain of Jars. Thus, the first task is to identify the potential impacts associated with the development.

A list of potential impacts which may arise from proposed developments is provided below. The list is intended to be indicative only and provide general information and it is possible that impacts not specifically listed could be identified during the scoping process. Whether these impacts should be addressed is at the discretion of WHO/DICT.

Potential impacts to Megalithic Resources:

- Damage from contact with machinery and equipment;
- Damage and or visual impacts from construction of temporary structures;
- Inappropriate or excessive tourism use or infrastructure at jar sites;

² If the project proponent proposes a consultant for scoping, the consultant's information (including professional qualifications and experience must be submitted to WHO/DICT for approval).

- Restrictions on safe public access to monuments during UXO clearance works;

Potential Impacts on Archaeology:

- Damage of archaeological deposits or buried structures during site formation or landscaping;
- Destruction from unmonitored excavation works;
- Damage from excessive weight pressure on buried deposits or structural remains;
- Damage to deposits from change of water table, drainage or excessive watering;
- Lack of recording of archaeological information through lack of expertise or funding;

Potential Impacts to the Setting/Environment:

- Destruction of setting by changing landscape from traditional use;
- Visual impacts from proposed development on setting of jar landscape;
- Inappropriate use, such as quarrying or change of drainage of landscape by proposed development;
- Failure of construction companies to leave the works area in an acceptable state after the permitted works have been completed;

Potential Impacts on Intangible Heritage:

- Lack of acknowledgement of traditional stories and myths;
- Restricted access by public to traditional activities or festivals;
- Change from traditional handicraft to tourism or non-traditional activities through proposed development;

Potential Cumulative Impacts:

- Clustering of proposed tourism development and infrastructure;
- Increased number of paved roads, increased transport infrastructure affecting jar sites and increasing access to remote sites;
- Increase of residual visual impacts to unacceptable levels;

3) Based on Steps 1 and 2 Determine the ToR for the HIA

The ToR will provide the scope for undertaking the HIA and will also identify the information and methods needed to conduct the HIA study. The information to be determined during the scoping process will include the following:

- Definition of the Study Area
- Identification of potential stakeholders and outlining of proposed public consultation process (including meetings);
- Indication of the baseline data necessary for conducting the HIA study (and proposing the method of collection, such as desk-based research or field survey)
- General indication of the potential impacts expected from the project;
- Overview of the policy, legal and institutional framework relevant to the project;
- Qualifications and Experience required for undertaking the HIA;

Commissioning

The appointment of the HIA expert or team;

Either consultant hired by the Project proponent; or

Short term most likely the assignment of WHO/DICT staff to undertake the HIA on Government projects

Ideally, to ensure objectivity the HIA should be undertaken by a third party and the findings and report submitted to and approved by HD. For the short-term period however, it is expected that the WHO/DICT will conduct the HIAs (with help of outside expertise if required) or in some cases a consultant approved by the WHO/DICT may be commissioned by the project proponent. In the longer term, it is envisioned that a list (register) of approved consultants be officially sanctioned. Once this register has been set up the project proponent can commission the HIA expert/ team from the register.

The expertise needed must come from within the WHO/DICT and for each HIA they will have to determine the appropriate and available staff on a case by case basis. The backgrounds and professional skills of those who conduct HIA are often diverse and individuals cannot always cover all aspects required for an HIA – so there is often a need to form an HIA team with the specific analytical skills needed for a particular project or site.

As discussed earlier, the potential for private developers to fund and utilise an HIA consultancy should be allowed in the short and long-term period, as long as WHO/DICT approval is secured and the consultants' reports are submitted to HD for approval.

Commissioning can be undertaken at various stages in the HIA process and different experts or teams may be used for different stages of the HIA process, these include project scoping, undertaking an HIA study and report, implementation of mitigation measures and monitoring.

V. HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDY AND REPORT

HIA Study and Report

The HIA study consists of baseline research, identification and assessment of impacts, recommendations for mitigation;

The HIA Report will state the methodology followed, relevant legislation and guidelines and present all findings from the study as well as the Heritage Monitoring Plan (HMP);

**Undertaken by either consultant hired by the Project proponent; or
In short term, most likely WHO/DICT staff.**

The HIA methodology to be followed is based on the ICOMOS *Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties* (ICOMOS 2011). The procedure for undertaking HIA is divided into four stages:

1. The first is to prepare a baseline study through desk-based research and supplemented by site/assessment visits;
2. The second is to identify and evaluate the impacts arising from the development; and
3. The third is to propose mitigation to ensure that the development will not adversely impact on the heritage significance of Plain of Jars; and finally
4. Monitoring of compliance of recommended mitigation.

THE HIA STUDY

FIRST STEP: The Baseline Study

Establishing Heritage Significance and identifying attributes which may be affected by the proposed development through desk-based study and site visit/field investigation.

Desk-based research includes gathering information from historical documents, contemporary research papers, statistical data and legislation to gain insight into the heritage significance of the tentative World Heritage property. All heritage elements should be included, but the components contributing to the tentative WH property's future OUV will be particularly relevant. The site visit is an important step in the process, as this allows first-hand information on the proposed site, its surrounding environment and existing impacts. At the desk-based stage a basic understanding of the proposed development should also be gained.

Fifteen sites are nominated as Megalithic Jar Sites in Xiengkhuang and a further minimum of 75 jar sites are present as part of Plain of Jars in Xiengkhuang. The World Heritage significance is reflected in a selected number of attributes, including jars, discs and grave marker stones; in order to sustain the OUV, those attributes need to be protected. Furthermore, the other Plain of Jars sites and heritage elements including potential associated settlements and activity areas, archaeological deposits are protected under the 2013 National Heritage Law; these have the potential to enhance the OUV. Thus, the HIA process needs to consider the impact of any proposed project or change on those attributes, both individually and collectively.

The heritage significance of the nominated Sites is based on the OUV:

The Megalithic Jar Sites in Xiengkhuang province of central Laos is a serial property of 15 components. The ancient jar sites contain extensive and remarkable evidence of funerary practices, and are the outstanding evidence of the Iron Age civilization which created the sites. They include 1,325 ancient stone jars as well as numerous associated discs, burials and other features. Most of the funeral sites are located in elevated positions on hills or ridges, although one major site is located on low hills on a central plain. The funeral sites are believed to date from before the Iron Age (about 500 BCE and 500 CE) into historic times, and are evidence of a substantial and widespread culture which existed in the region. Following this period, the jar sites were used by other cultures until the 18th century CE, as reflected in the complex archaeological evidence.

Criterion (iii): The sites are exceptional testimony to the cultural traditions associated with funerary practices, and to the civilization which created the sites but which disappeared sometime after 500 CE. The megalithic jar sites are impressive because of the size of jars and the technological skill to produce and move the jars from quarry sites to funeral sites, as well as because of the large number of surviving jars, disks and other features spread in groups across a large area of the current province. The sites include important archaeological evidence related to funerary practices, possibly of different eras and cultures, as well as of the material culture of the ancient civilisation which created the jars, and the locations of the funeral sites are highly suggestive of cultural meaning. The funeral sites are the outstanding surviving evidence of this civilisation. While the use of jars in funeral sites is known in other parts of Northeast India and Southeast Asia, the density of sites in Xiengkhuang is remarkable.

The heritage significance of the other jar sites is based on their potential to add to the OUV and understanding of Plain of Jars.

The methodology to be followed for the HIA as well as relevant legislation, regulations and guidelines pertaining to heritage and the proposed development also need to be considered and reviewed at this stage and the salient points should be included into the report.

SECOND STEP: Impact Assessment

Identify Existing Impacts in the Study Area;

Identify Development Associated Impacts;

Evaluate the Severity of Identified Impacts.

Existing impacts are developments, activities or events that have taken place previously in the project Study Area; these include existing infrastructure, previous excavations (both archaeological and development related; as well as any other activity including illegal ones such as looting, namely, any activity or situation that effects the significance and/or condition of a heritage feature.

Development associated impacts take many forms – they may be **direct** or **indirect**; **temporary** or **permanent**, **reversible** or **irreversible** and **cumulative** or **residual**. All types of impacts must be considered as part of the assessment process and they must also cover the lifespan of the project. The following project phases should be used to ensure that the entire project lifespan is included as part of the impact assessment;

- **Planning Phase:** The pre-construction phase of the project is where the HIA process should start and covers feasibility studies and planning studies, including conceptual design and layout options available;
- **Construction Phase:** The construction phase runs from the time of site formation to completion of the construction works, with both primary and associated features included;
- **Operation Phase:** The operation phase covers the entire working lifespan of the development;
- **Decommissioning Phase:** This will cover the dismantling and removal of the structure/s and associated features and reinstatement of the site to pre-development status;

Once the impacts have been identified, the next step is to evaluate the effect of these impacts on heritage. The categories used for the evaluation of impacts are as follows:

- **Beneficial:** Beneficial effects may result if it can be shown that development impacts have resulted or will result in improvements and enhancements to the safeguarding of heritage resources in the short and long-term;
- **Neutral:** The integrity and authenticity of the existing condition and setting of heritage resources and their character-defining elements, considered both individually and collectively as a whole, are not now or in future likely to be affected in either a positive (beneficial) or negative (adverse) way by the identified impacts;
- **Acceptable with Mitigation:** The identified impact(s) have had, continue to have, or are likely to have negative effects on the heritage significance, through a number of factors, including; neglect, lack of maintenance, wilful or collateral damage to or loss of any character-defining element; jeopardising the safeguarding of the property in any way and subjecting the property to inappropriate uses (which may result in the degradation of the integrity or authenticity of those criteria/features which constitute the Outstanding Universal Value of the property). The actions/situations can only continue if mitigation can be designed to reverse the negative effects to an acceptable level; and
- **Unacceptable:** The identified impacts are adverse and of a nature that mitigation cannot reduce them to an acceptable level. The development may not go ahead as proposed.

THIRD STEP: Mitigation Recommendations

Measures which can be implemented to reduce the level of impact on heritage to an acceptable level during all or any phases of the development project

Mitigation measures will depend of the type, duration and level of impacts on archaeology, built heritage, cultural landscapes and/or intangible heritage arising from the proposed development. It may include but is not limited to:

Archaeology: Rescue excavation; Archaeological Watching Brief;

Standing structures: Condition survey; vibration monitoring, protective coverings, structural supports, provision of buffer zones and safe public access provisions;

Setting/Environment; Design and layout options chosen to reduce visual impacts;

Intangible: Timing of and possibly temporary cessation of works; access provisions;

The Provincial Decree on HIA should include provision for funding so that private developers will also be required to finance the implementation of mitigation measures including but not limited to all of the above listed measures. For government projects in short term that cannot acquire additional funding and also cannot be delayed until the next financial year, WHO/DICT may be asked to undertake the mitigation with existing staff if project is deemed essential.

For non-specialist mitigation such as safe public access, protective covering and buffer zones the project proponent must ensure that these measures are implemented by the contractor and allow WHO/DICT staff site access to ensure the measures are being conducted properly.

The cost of mitigation must be covered by the project proponent, including in the future for government departments. This is a fundamental principle of HIA and a budget for mitigation should be made compulsory for all development.

THE HIA REPORT

It will be the responsibility of the expert or team undertaking the HIA study to compile a report with their findings and recommendations. The basic structure of the HIA report (based upon the ICOMOS guidelines) is recommended as follows:

1. **Non-Technical Summary** (to allow the findings and recommendations of the report to be understood by all stakeholders);
2. **Table of Contents**
3. **Glossary**
4. **Introduction**
5. **Methodology** (must adhere to Internationally accepted guidelines and provide a step by step list of the steps undertaken and why they are appropriate)
6. **A List and Short Description of Relevant Legislation, Standards and Guidelines**
7. **Baseline Study** (the statement of heritage significance and heritage attributes that will be affected by the proposed project)
8. **Impact Assessment** (including existing impacts and development related impacts)
9. **Impact Evaluation** (The evaluation of the identified impacts into categories, i.e. beneficial, neutral, acceptable with mitigation, unacceptable)
10. **Mitigation Recommendations** (the measures proposed to reduce the identified adverse impacts to acceptable levels)
11. **Summary and Conclusions**
12. **The Heritage Monitoring Plan** (I) Detailed description of the required mitigation measures, including how they should be conducted, when they take place, where they will take place, who is responsible for implementation and the expertise required to undertake the mitigation measures; (II) A detailed schedule for monitoring of mitigation measures if not undertaken by the WHO/DoICT.
13. **Bibliography**

14. Appendices as required

If the report is compiled by an approved consultant it must be submitted to WHO/DICT and other relevant government bodies for review and comment. If the study and reporting have been undertaken by the WHO/DICT, it is expected that liaison with the project proponent would have been ongoing throughout the process. However, it will still be necessary for the WHO/DICT to provide the project proponent with access to the finished HIA Report.

No matter who has written the report, it must be made available for public inspection and submitted to all relevant stakeholders for suggestions before being finalised. It will be the responsibility of the HD to approve the final report.

VI. MONITORING AND AUDIT/ COMPLIANCE

Monitoring and Audit

Periodic checking by the WHO/DICT or approved consultant to ensure that mitigation measures identified in the HIA report are implemented correctly.

The mitigation requirements and monitoring schedule will be included in the HIA report as part of the Heritage Monitoring Plan (HMP). This section of the HIA will clearly state what, when and how mitigation must be carried out and who is responsible for ensuring the mitigation measures are implemented. Finally, to ensure compliance a system of monitoring and audit, including on-site inspection of the mitigation measures by either WHO/DICT staff or an independent consultant who must report all findings directly to the WHO/DICT should also be included.

In the longer term, the monitoring and audit of mitigation should be fully funded by the project proponent. In the interim period, however, again for government projects this may not be possible and it is most likely that much of the mitigation will be carried out by the WHO/DICT. In this case monitoring will not be required. But in cases where mitigation measures are conducted by consultants or contractors, the DICT will perform the duty of ensuring the mitigation measures are being implemented correctly.

Also, with respect to ensuring compliance, it is recommended that a permit system administered by the HD should be utilised for this purpose. To achieve this ***the permit issued by the HD should carry as conditions the requirements of the HMP***, clearly stating mitigation measures and monitoring and audit requirements and responsibilities.

In cases where it is found that the party responsible for mitigation is non-compliant penalties should be imposed. The Provincial Decree should list penalties, potential fine and incarceration, for non-compliance.

Annex

Annex I

Bag list form

ຟອມລະຫັດຖົງຢາງ ສຳລັບວັດຖຸພື້ນດິນ

RUNNING LIST OF BAG NUMBERS FOR (SUB-)SURFACE MATERIAL

ລະຫັດສະຖານທີ່ (SITE) _____

[illegible]

Annex II

Finds recording form

Site Name:
database)

Site No.:

Unique number: (form number linked to GIS

Point of retrieval (can be TP, group-box-lane, GPS coordinates or description of locality)

Context No.

Depth (in cm)

Material Identification: *Ceramic-metal-glass-stone-other-unknown*

Object Identification: *Pottery-knife- chisel-agricultural tool-bead-adze-pointed stone-other-unknown*

No. of fragments number **complete/fragmentary object**

Weight in grams: number

➤ If ceramic:

Measurements: Height (in cm) Width (in cm) Thickness (in cm)

 Diameter of rim (in cm) Diameter of base (in cm)

Decoration: *incised geometric-incised lines-plain-resin in-resin out-glazed in-glazed out-other*

➤ If other material:

Measurements: Height (in cm) Width (in cm) Thickness (in cm)

Decoration description:

Condition of Object: *Good-fragile-eroded*

Proposed date:

Repository information: *shelf* (numbers) *box* (numbers) *bag* (numbers)

Investigation ID: *UXO Clearance* (to be filled in year)

Excavation (to be filled in year and name lead archaeologist/investigator)

Remarks and description of associations or feature descriptions

Photo (linked to GIS unique number)