H. E. Mr Yong CHANTHALANGSY
Permanent Delegation of the Lao People's
Democratic Republic to UNESCO
Ambassade de la République démocratique
populaire lao - Chancellerie
74, avenue Raymond-Poincaré
75116 Paris

World Heritage List 2019
Megalithic Jar Sites in Xiengkhuang – Plain of Jars (Lao People's Democratic Republic)

Dear Sir,

ICOMOS is currently assessing the nomination of 'Megalithic Jar Sites in Xiengkhuang – Plain of Jars' to the World Heritage List, and an ICOMOS evaluation mission will visit the property to consider matters related to protection, management, conservation and interpretation. ICOMOS is very grateful for the time, expertise and support given to the evaluation mission by the State Party, local experts and other involved in the nomination process.

In order to help with our overall nomination process, we would be grateful to receive further information to clarify several points and to augment the material that has already been submitted in the nomination dossier.

We would be grateful if the State Party could consider the following points and kindly provide additional information on these matters:

Selection of Components
ICOMOS understands that the components have been selected to represent both larger and smaller clusters of jar sites. However, the rationale for presenting a serial proposal that includes clusters of different sizes is not yet well understood. It would greatly assist ICOMOS on its evaluation, if the State Party could further clarify on:

a) the attributes that sustain the proposed Outstanding Universal Value,
b) the selection and composition of the 15 serial components and, in particular, the contribution of each component part in line with par. 137b of the Operational Guidelines, which stipulate that in serial nominations, "Each component part should contribute to the Outstanding Universal Value of the property as a whole in a substantial, scientific, readily defined and discernible way, and may include, inter alia, intangible attributes. The resulting Outstanding Universal Value should be easily understood and communicated."
Disaster Risk Management
In August 2018, ICOMOS was advised that flood disaster had affecting the Xiengkuang Province, and particularly the districts where the Megalithic Jar Sites are located. Accordingly, the mission was postponed until October 2018. ICOMOS would appreciate further details about the damages that have occurred to nominated components and their buffer zones. If any remediation works are planned, ICOMOS would be grateful to receive a summary of them. Furthermore, the nomination dossier states that no disaster risk reduction strategies have been developed for the nominated serial property because the region was not subject to natural hazards. This does not seem consistent with the experiences of these recent weather events. Is there now any intention to develop disaster risk reduction strategies for the nominated property? If so, what is the timeline for this work?

Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA)
The guidance outlined in Annex L.14 appears to foreshadow future processes. ICOMOS would be grateful for additional information in order to better understand whether the described HIA processes are in place now, and how they are linked to the legal frameworks. If this is not yet achieved, please indicate the timeframe when this will be formally in place.

Proposed Developments
ICOMOS would be pleased if the State Party could provide more details about the following planned developments that are briefly mentioned in the nomination dossier: development in the buffer zones of Sites 1 and 25; new access road and high voltage transmission in the buffer zone of Site 3; new interpretation facilities at Site 1; new vehicle road within Site 52. Have these been the subject of 'Heritage Impact Assessment' guidance outlined in Annex L.14? If so, we would be pleased if summary information about the assessments that have been undertaken could be provided.

In general, the nomination dossier provides only brief information about planned developments in and near to the nominated components. A concise list and summary of these, together with their impacts and management responses would be appreciated. If possible, these could be discussed with the mission expert within the overall program for the mission.

Community Awareness and Involvement
The nomination dossier and management system recognizes the crucial role played by local communities in the day-to-day maintenance of the nominated components. Accordingly, ICOMOS is interested to better understand the present and future community involvement in the management system. Given that awareness raising activities are scheduled for completion only following inscription (according to Annex L.10), are the communities associated with the nominated components and their wider settings aware and supportive of the nomination?

Interpretation of the Jar Sites
The dossier acknowledges that the on-site interpretation of the nominated jar sites is currently modest, and Annex L.10 suggests that on-site interpretation will be developed for all components by 2018. Please provide an update on progress with this action. Given that public access to some of the sites is difficult, ICOMOS would be grateful to receive a concise summary of interpretation plans for the nominated components.

Tourism Management Plan
The nomination dossier identifies World Heritage listing and tourism to be an element in the poverty alleviation strategies for this region, but this is not explained in detail. ICOMOS would be pleased if the State Party could provide more information on these expectations.
Is there an intention to develop a specific tourism management plan for the nominated property? If so, please provide a summary information about the scope of this project, and the timeframe.

Finally, the carrying capacity of the nominated property has been estimated. ICOMOS would appreciate further insight into the method of determining this estimate.

**Monitoring**

ICOMOS would be pleased if the State Party could clarify whether the monitoring program outlined in section 6.A of the nomination dossier is currently operating (including improved record keeping of visitor numbers). Please indicate the timeframe in which this program will be fully established.

ICOMOS appreciates that the timeframe for providing this additional information is short. Brief responses are required at this stage, and can be discussed further with the State Party if needed during the ICOMOS World Heritage Panel process.

We look forward to your responses to these points, which will be of great help in our evaluation process.

We would be grateful if you could provide **ICOMOS** and the **UNESCO World Heritage Centre** with the above information by **Friday 9 November 2018 at the latest**.

Please note that the State Party shall submit two copies of the additional information to the UNESCO World Heritage Centre so that it can be formally registered as part of the nomination.

We thank you in advance for your kind cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

Gwenaelle Bourdin  
Director  
ICOMOS Evaluation Unit

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Copy to  
Department of Heritage, Ministry of Information, Culture & Tourism  
UNESCO World Heritage Centre
1. Selection of components

The selection of components provides sufficient and compelling evidence of the significance of the Plain of Jars as an archaeological site demonstrating distinctive mortuary practices dating back to pre-historic Southeast Asia. The key attributes of the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the sites are the eponymous giant stone jars which are found throughout Xieng Khouang in clusters that are strategically located on hill slopes and spurs surrounding the central plateau. Along with stone disks, lids, buried terracotta/ceramic jars and assorted grave goods, these megalithic jars are the primary evidence of the funerary practices that are believed to be associated with an important pre-historic culture. These jar assemblages, along with associated jar production facilities, provide an evocative testimony to this ancient culture and its rituals, its impressive productive capacity, its manipulation over the landscape, and the status of its elites. While pre-historic material dating as far back as 2000 BCE has been found, including Neolithic finds, material from the Iron Age period of 500 BCE to 500-800 CE dominates the archaeological finds at the jar sites.

A total of 11 key jar sites have been selected for nomination. Together, these jar sites encompass all the significant elements of the story of the Plain of Jars, from the production of jars to their varied assemblages as burial sites in a range of settings. All types of jar sites are represented: quarries, manufacturing sites, fields of jars and fields of jars combined with manufacturing sites. The nominated jar sites span from heavily populated clusters with hundreds of jars to a site with a solitary jar, which may provide evidence for future research on population distributions of the ancient people associated with the jar sites. The distribution of the nominated jar sites within the province spans clusters distributed north, east, south and west; including this geographical range of jar sites provide the basis for further inquiry into the historical connections of the jar sites, which are believed to have been linked by trade routes. Most of the jar sites are elevated, in a variety of topographic settings from woodland to ridges to hillslopes which supports future investigation into the practical and possible cosmological dimensions in site selection and placement of the jars, particularly in relation to quarry and manufacturing sites as well as ritual uses and historic settlement patterns. The selected jar sites include rich evidence of accompanying attributes such as disks, lids, buried terracotta/ceramic jars and grave goods that, along with the jars, collectively evoke the funerary practices dating back to the ancient civilization and possibly from on-going use. Preserving this body of evidence that spans the diversity of the jar sites is critical for future research that will shed further light on the Plain of Jars. These research priorities have been articulated in the archaeological research plan (Annex L.11).

In total over 1,300 jars are included in the nominated property, along with other archaeological evidence, which are representative of the 2,100 jars and other artefacts that have been recorded so far. The individual jars included in the nominated site showcase the diversity of jar manufacturing and design. The nominated jars include the full range of production styles and materials displaying the ingenuity of the ancient craftspeople: all rock types used (sandstone, granite, limestone, conglomerate and breccia), various rim styles (flat, recessed, outer rim, prominent rim, collar rim, and combinations) and a wide range of sizes (including the largest known jar which is a towering 3 meters tall). The nomination includes the single jar that is known to be decorated – the jar with the “frogman” motif at Site 1, which has parallels with other significant archaeological finds in China and India. The nominated sites include other important evidence namely buried ceramic/terracotta jars, disks and lids, along with a range of finds such as charcoal, beads, metal and sherds. The disks, both decorated and more
commonly undecorated, are believed to be grave markers. The quarry and manufacturing sites included in the nomination provide insights into the production techniques of the jars, while their locations at some distance from the actual jar clusters pose questions about the transport of the jars which is subject to on-going research.

The five major jar sites emblematic of the Plain of Jars anchor the nomination: Sites 1, 2 and 3 (which are the major visitor attractions today) along with Sites 42 and 52. Sites 23, 25 and 28 are smaller sites that have been selected for their important archaeological evidence regarding burial practices. Three other sites have been picked to represent associated quarry and manufacturing sites (Sites 8 and 21, and 12, respectively). Together, this selection of sites traces the jars from their initial quarrying, their various steps of manufacture to their ritual uses over the centuries.

The main jar field sites capture a range of funerary practices including: (i) primary burial, (ii) the distinctive secondary burial practices that predominate and (iii) terracotta/ceramic jar burials. Site 1 is the most extensive site with the most comprehensive archaeological investigation since the 1930s, yielding important evidence including terracotta/ceramic jars associated with secondary burials, stone jars with human remains and glass beads, a cave that possibly functioned as a crematorium, as well as pit burials containing burial remains and artefacts surrounding the jars. It is the only site where there is evidence of full-body inhumation so far. Site 2 is a major site located on a spectacular hill ridge; the jars were recorded to contain ceramic sherds, glass beads and charcoals. It has no subsurface graves but contains important evidence including pottery jar fragments likely associated with secondary burial. Site 3, on a slope looking out to the vista of a plain, has unearthed a corpus of evidence of burials surrounding the stone jars as well as grave goods and human remains inside some jars. Site 25 is located partially in a wooded area with expansive views over the surrounding plain and contains a number of partially completed jars in an uncommonly used igneous stone. Site 28 contains a single 2.45 meter tall jar spectacularly located on a mountain ridge which had remains of pottery fragments, glass beads, parts of bronze and iron bracelets along with a polished adze. Site 52 is a major site with over 400 jars with a significant amount of lids and disks, and contemporary use as a burial site for the Hmong people.

The largest quarry site, Site 21, which spans over 20 hectares and contains fascinating in situ evidence of each step of the quarrying process, is associated with Site 1. Sites 2 and 3 are associated with a nearby quarry site, Site 8, which encompasses various quarry areas on a hill slope and contains sandstone jars at various stages of completion, providing insight into the manufacturing process of the jars. Site 23 also contains a quarry site along with three nearby jar sites which contain jars produced in conglomerate and breccia, which is the only instance where breccia is found. Site 12 is believed to be a manufacturing site with a large number of jars at various stages of completion, including some still partially carved from the mountain side, along with other objects such as disks as well. Site 42 is both a quarry and a jar site, with trimmed blocks of stone that may explain the jar carving process. These quarry and manufacturing sites hold invaluable scientific and educational value on the production of the jars.

The selection of the components ensures that the nominated property contains all the necessary attributes to convey the Outstanding Universal Value of the Plain of Jars. The selected sites have a high degree of authenticity, with the jars and other archaeological evidence retaining their original
features and design, while their natural setting has also been largely retained with minimal disturbance.

From a protection and management point of view, the scope of the nomination site provides a balance between being representative of the entire Plain of Jars, its corpus of historical and archaeological evidence over centuries of occupation and its varied funerary practices, while being within the reasonable capacity of the authorities and local stakeholders to ensure comprehensive protection and management in the context of limited resources. Operational systems of monitoring have already existed or have been introduced at these selected sites, while reasonable access has allowed these nominated sites to be inventoried, documented and researched.

2. **Disaster Risk Management**

The Plain of Jars has historically been resilient to natural disasters. The area is not vulnerable to hazards such as earthquakes and fires. The key attributes, the jars, are primarily located on elevated areas, and being constructed of stone, they are robust and normally unaffected by flooding or heavy storms.

The unprecedented series of events affecting Lao PDR in late summer 2018 (collapse of a dam in the south, followed by two tropical storms) has affected many provinces in the country. In Xieng Khouang province, damage was concentrated in the north eastern part of the province, outside the nominated area. Within the nominated area, the low-lying cave at Site 1 was temporarily flooded, and the access road to the Sites 52 and 12 was also flooded. Although minor, these impacts have been included in the country-wide, multi-sectoral Post Disaster Needs Assessment undertaken by the UN country team and the Lao Government with a view to planning recovery.

In recognition of the growing impact of climate change, the Heritage Department is now in communication with Ritsumeikan University’s UNESCO Chair programme in heritage and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) to organize training for preparing DRR plans and measures for cultural heritage in Lao PDR, with initial training proposed to focus on Xieng Khouang.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Site No.</th>
<th>Village</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Zone Property Zone</th>
<th>Buffer Zone</th>
<th>Area m²</th>
<th>Bomb</th>
<th>Cluster bomb</th>
<th>Mine</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Site 1</td>
<td>Na O/ Ban Ang</td>
<td>Peak</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>468,875</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Site 2</td>
<td>Ban Na kho</td>
<td>Phaxay</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>159,332</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Site 3</td>
<td>Ban Xiengdi</td>
<td>Phaxay</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>183,475</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Site 8</td>
<td>Ban Xiengdi</td>
<td>Phaxay</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>83,390</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Site 12</td>
<td>Ban Phakeo</td>
<td>Peak</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>12,870</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Site 21</td>
<td>Khangnongluang</td>
<td>Peak</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>31,982</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Site 23</td>
<td>Ban Namhom</td>
<td>Kham</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>29,393</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Site 25</td>
<td>Khum Songhak</td>
<td>Phoukood</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>33,075</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Site 28</td>
<td>Ban Nakhuan</td>
<td>Phoukood</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Site 42</td>
<td>Phou Xang</td>
<td>Kham</td>
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<td></td>
<td>246,660</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Site 52</td>
<td>Ban Phakeo</td>
<td>Peak</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td>154,308</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1,408,363</strong></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>539</td>
<td>0</td>
<td><strong>802</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In terms of man-made risks, the major risk to the site from unexploded ordnance (UXO) has been proactively dealt with as part of the nomination preparation. As of October 2018, all nominated property jar clusters have been cleared of UXO (see table above), and the remaining buffer areas surrounding components are prioritized for clearance. Some of the buffer zones have been already cleared completely, while a number of buffer zones have been cleared partially, particularly those used for agriculture.

3. **Heritage Impact Assessment**

The Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) guidelines prepared for the Plain of Jars (per Annex L14) are currently in the process of being socialized to the relevant authorities, both at national and provincial levels. The HIA guidelines have already been adopted as part of the overall management system that has been endorsed by the National World Heritage Committee and the provincial government. To further reinforce the operational application of the HIA procedures, training in applying the guidelines which will target decision makers from related agencies in Xieng Khouang province (civil works, urban planning, etc) has been scheduled for early November. This will be followed up by more detailed training for Heritage Department focal point staff who will be responsible for undertaking HIA for future projects, including staff from the local heritage office as well as from Vientiane. Future cases in which HIA is used will be comprehensively documented, monitored and evaluated in order to adapt the routines of the procedure if necessary.

4. **Proposed Developments**

The developments mentioned in the nomination dossier pre-date the development of the HIA guidelines and as such have not yet been subject to the full HIA procedures. That said, in some cases, heritage impacts were identified by the Heritage Department and mitigation measures were proposed and carried out in cooperation with relevant other agencies.

In the future, new developments would be subject to the HIA procedures, thus minimizing negative impacts to the site.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Potential impact</th>
<th>Management response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Development in the buffer zone of Site 1 and Site 25</td>
<td>Outside site 1, a Buddhist temple has been built, which was approved prior to the nomination process. This will have visual impact. At site 25, existing low-key village development is already controlled and impacts will thus be restricted.</td>
<td>A tertiary zone beyond the buffer zone is being proposed, which would provide regulations for development control in this larger area surrounding the nominated area, using urban planning regulations and procedures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New access road and high voltage transmission in the buffer zone of Site 3</td>
<td>The access road was a mere proposal and is not going ahead. The high voltage transmission will have visual impacts.</td>
<td>Negotiation by the Heritage Department has already succeeded in shifting the transmission line from its original path within the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New interpretation facilities at Site 1</td>
<td>The location of the facilities in the buffer zone minimizes its visual and archaeological impact.</td>
<td>The facilities enhance visitor understanding of the significance of the site and will contribute to more responsible visitation. Future interpretation facilities at other sites will be subject to HIA procedures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New vehicle road at Site 52</td>
<td>The road could have archaeological impacts.</td>
<td>The road has now been stopped at a distance away from the site boundary.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. **Community awareness and involvement**

As the Plain of Jars has been preparing for World Heritage nomination since the early 2000s, there have been many rounds of community consultation and awareness raising with local stakeholders including local authorities over the years. Under various cooperation projects by UNESCO and the heritage authorities, villagers have been trained in various aspects of safeguarding heritage and sustainable development through community-based cultural tourism. There is a widespread positive support for World Heritage among local stakeholders.

Given the spread-out nature of the site, the management strategy for the Plain of Jars is purposely designed to rely on the close cooperation with the local villages who live nearby the jar sites, under the supervision of the heritage authorities and with the backing of the provincial authorities. In total there are 9 villages. For each village, official Village Contracts have been signed which commits the village to undertake routine monitoring, cleaning, guarding and keeping an eye on visitors to the sites. These duties are within the framework of the provincial management guidelines that have been adopted officially.

The Village Contracts govern setting up “Village Heritage Teams”, who now act as the dedicated focal points to undertake this work and to mobilize other villagers to take part. On a daily basis, 2 villagers are on duty at each site. The Village Heritage Teams have a reporting line directly to the Xieng Khouang heritage office, for both routine and emergency monitoring and reporting. The Village Heritage Teams have received training in their duties by the Heritage Department. The heritage authorities also accompany the village teams during monthly site visits for monitoring, allowing for on-going on-the-job training for the village teams.

In compensation for this important task, the villages will be able to receive a part of the revenue from the ticket sales to the Plain of Jars, under the terms of Provincial Governor Decree Number 995 (Annex L.5). From 2020 onwards, this system will allow for ticket sales from the highly visited sites to be distributed to all sites that are included in the World Heritage nomination.
6. **Interpretation of the jar sites**

Enhanced interpretation for the Plain of Jars has been carried out over the past year through support from the Tourism Development Department as part of an overall interpretation strategy for the site. This includes enhanced interpretation facilities at Site 1, the most popularly visited site. A new museum exhibition has been installed at the Xieng Khouang provincial museum, with extensive information on the Plain of Jars history and significance. As foreseen in the 5-year Action Plan, additional signage has been installed, i.e., at Site 21 and this will be continued at other sites. Several batches of cultural heritage specialist guides have already been trained in the past with support from UNESCO and the Tourism Development Department, and this is proposed in the Action Plan to be expanded in the future. As on-going archaeological work continues at the Plain of Jars, this will continue to enhance the narratives of the site that will be conveyed to visitors for their deeper understanding and appreciation of its significance.

On-site interpretation is installed at numerous sites; still additional installations are needed (as of October 2018), especially at the remote sites that are currently frequented by very few visitors. Although the measure has a high priority and was scheduled for 2018 according to annex L10, it will not be fully implemented until 2019. In analogy to the scheduled preparation of a tourism development plan for the Plain of Jars, the Heritage Department will cooperate with the Department of Tourism Development in the full implementation of this action [3.1.3.].

7. **Tourism Management Plan**

Tourism numbers have been modest in Xieng Khouang so far, with 130,000 international visitors in 2017 to the entire province according to the National Tourism Statistical Report. Within the province, the Plain of Jars has been the premier attraction for two decades and there is well-functioning tourism system in place at the existing visitor destinations. Site 1 is the main attraction and this is well-managed with clear demarcation, controlled entry with ticket sales, site interpretation and marked trails for visitors to follow. At Sites 2 and 3, the local villages currently manage entry and ticket sales at the sites, keep an eye on visitors and in return already receive a portion of the ticket proceeds to the site. At Site 21, there is also ticketed entry to the site. At Site 52, there is already a community-based tourism operation on site which already yields economic benefits to the villagers.

As mentioned above, under Provincial Governor Decree 995, part of the tourism proceeds to the Plain of Jars will be distributed to all villages associated with the nominated clusters. In this way, tourism will contribute directly to the site’s protection and to the improved well-being of all local people on the site, not only the few sites with existing visitation and ticket sales.

Lao PDR’s tourism sector already has numerous guidelines on sustainable tourism including advocacy materials and guidelines aimed at tourists to encourage responsible visitation, which is relevant to the Plain of Jars. This includes do’s and don’ts for visitors in line with local culture and social customs. In recognition of future increased visitation at the site, enhanced tourism management measures will be needed at the Plain of Jars. Cooperation between the Heritage Department and Tourism authorities would be needed to develop a dedicated tourism management plan for the site. As heritage and tourism authorities are under the umbrella of the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism, such cooperation is facilitated.
8. **Monitoring**

The monitoring system that has been explained in section 6.A of the nomination dossier is currently being put into operation. The dedicated Plain of Jars heritage office in Xieng Khouang has been set up with staff with needed qualifications including archaeology. The set up of the Village Heritage Teams provides the necessary eyes on the ground for the routine daily monitoring of the site in accordance with the duties stipulated in the Village Contracts and per the monitoring indicators explained in section 6.A. As mentioned above, the Village Heritage Teams are accompanied by the heritage office technical staff on a regular monthly basis, and this provides the mechanism for more specialized conservation issues to be noted and addressed. In the event of emergency or identification of damage to the site, the Village Heritage Teams are trained to report to the Xieng Khouang heritage authorities for their management action. When reinforced technical assistance is needed, the Xieng Khouang heritage authorities can call upon support from the Heritage Department specialists in Vientiane.

In terms of record keeping of visitor numbers, this is monitored through the ticketed entries to Sites 1, 2 and 3 which are the primary sites for visitation. Once the number of visitors increases in the future, improved options for recording visitor numbers will be tested and implemented, depending on visitation patterns.

To ensure the protection of the site, per the measures explained in the nomination dossier, the nominated sites have all been clearly demarcated and fences and paths have been installed where needed. The monitoring and maintenance of the management infrastructure is included in the duties of the Village Heritage Teams and the provincial heritage authorities.
Megalithic Jar Site in Xiengkhuang – Plain of Jars (Lao PDR)
Response to ICOMOS Interim report and additional information request

1. **Selection of components**

The State Party advises ICOMOS that it wishes to retain all fifteen serial components as originally proposed in the nomination documents and same as the state party had explained in the 7 November 2018 letter from the State Party to ICOMOS, that “Together, these jar sites encompass all the significant elements of the story of the Plain of Jars, from the production of jars to their varied assemblages as burial sites in a range of settings. All types of jar sites are represented: quarries, manufacturing sites, fields of jars and field of jars combined with manufacturing sites. The nominated jar sites span from heavily populated clusters with hundreds of jars to a site with a solitary jar, which may provide evidence for future research on population distributions of the ancient people associated with the jar sites. The distribution of the nominated jar sites within the province spans clusters distributed north, east, south and west; including this geographic range of jar sites provide the basis for further inquiry into the historical connections of the jar sites, which are believed to have been linked by trade routes. Most of the jar sites are elevated, in a variety of topographic settings from woodland to ridges to hillslopes which supports future investigation into the practical and possible cosmological dimensions in site selection and placements of the jars, particularly in relation to quarry and manufacturing sites as well as ritual uses and historic settlement patterns. The selected jar sites include rich evidence of accompanying attributes such as disks, lids, buried terracotta/ceramic jars and grave goods that, along with the jars, collectively evoke the funerary practices dating back to the ancient civilization and possibly from on-going use. Preserving this body of evidence that spans the diversity of the jar sites is critical for future research that will shed further light on the Plan of Jars. These research priorities have been articulated in the archaeological research plan. (Archaeological Research Plan included in the nomination dossier as Annex L.11)

“In total over 1,300 jars are included in the nominated property, along with other archaeological evidence, which are representative of the 2,100 jars and other artefacts that have been recorded so far. The individual jars included in the nominated site showcase the diversity of jar manufacturing and design. The nominated jars include the full range of production styles and materials displaying the ingenuity of the ancient craftspeople: all rock types used (sandstone, granite, limestone, conglomerate and breccia), various rim styles (flat, recessed, outer rim, prominent rim, collar rim, and combinations) and a wide range of sizes (including the largest known jar which is a towering 3 meters tall). The nomination includes the single jar that is known to be decorated – the jar with the “frogman” motif at Site 1, which has parallels with other significant archaeological finds in China and India. The nominated sites include other
important evidence namely buried ceramic/terracotta jars, disks and lids, along with a range of finds such as charcoal, beads, metal and sherds. The disks, both decorated and more commonly undecorated, are believed to be grave markers. **The quarry and manufacturing sites included in the nomination provide insights into the production techniques of the jars, while their locations at some distance from the actual jar clusters pose questions about the transport of the jars, which is subject to on-going research.**

“The five major jar sites emblematic of the Plain of Jars anchor the nomination: Sites 1, 2 and 3 (which are the major visitor attractions today) along with Sites 42 and 52. **Sites 23, 25 and 28 are smaller sites that have been selected for their important archaeological evidence regarding burial practices. Three other sites have been picked to represent associated quarry and manufacturing sites (Sites 8 and 21, and 12, respectively).** Together, this selection of sites traces the jars from their initial quarrying, their various steps of manufacture to their ritual uses over the centuries.

“The main jar field sites capture a range of funerary practices including: (i) primary burial, (ii) the distinctive secondary burial practices that predominate and (iii) terracotta/ceramic jar burials. Site 1 is the most extensive site with the most comprehensive archaeological investigation since the 1930s, yielding important evidence including terracotta/ceramic jars associated with secondary burials, stone jars with human remains and glass beads, a cave that possibly functioned as a crematorium, as well as pit burials containing burial remains and artefacts surrounding the jars. It is the only site where there is evidence of full-body inhumation so far. Site 2 is a major site located on a spectacular hill ridge; the jars were recorded to contain ceramic sherds, glass beads and charcoals. It has no subsurface graves but contains important evidence including pottery jar fragments likely associated with secondary burial. **Site 3, on a slope looking out to the vista of a plain, has unearthed a corpus of evidence of burials surrounding the stone jars as well as grave goods and human remains inside some jars. Site 25 is located partially in a wooded area with expansive views over the surrounding plain and contains a number of partially completed jars in an uncommonly used igneous stone. Site 28 contains a single 2.45 meter tall jar spectacularly located on a mountain ridge which had remains of pottery fragments, glass beads, parts of bronze and iron bracelets along with a polished adze.** Site 52 is a major site with over 400 jars with a significant amount of lids and disks, and contemporary use as a burial site for the Hmong people.

“The largest quarry site, Site21, which spans over 20 hectares and contains fascinating in situ evidence of each step of the quarrying process, is associated with Site1. Sites2 and 3 are associated with a nearby quarry site, Site 8, which encompasses various quarry areas on a hill slope and contains sandstone jars at various stages of completion, providing insight into the manufacturing process of the jars. **Site 23 also contains a quarry site along with three nearby jar sites, which contain jars produced in conglomerate and breccia, which is the only instance where breccia is found. Site 12 is believed to be a manufacturing site with a large number of jars at various stages of completion, including some still partially carved from the mountain**
side, along with other objects such as disks as well. Site 42 is both a quarry and a jar site, with trimmed blocks of stone that may explain the jar carving process. These quarry and manufacturing sites hold invaluable scientific and educational value on the production of the jars.

“The selection of the components ensures that the nominated property contains all the necessary attributes to convey the Outstanding Universal Value of the Plain of Jars. The selected sites have a high degree of authenticity, with the jars and other archaeological evidence retaining their original features and design, while their natural setting has also been largely retained with minimal disturbance.” (emphasis added). Furthermore, the State Party would like to reassure ICOMOS that maintaining this number of components will not affect the management of the nominated property, for reasons explained below.

**Rationale for inclusion of jar sites 3-3, 3-5, 3-7, 12, 23, 25, and 28**

The inclusion of components that have been questioned is justified on the basis of the following rationale, which is specific to each cluster:

- **Components 3-3, 3-5, and 3-7** are justified for inclusion on the basis of the importance of preserving the integrity of the extensive funerary site known as jar site 3, which is comprised of seven (7) sub-groups 3.1 – 3.7. The preservation of the integrity of this large, complex site is important for future archaeological research on the jar sites and their anthropological and environmental settings, as will be explained in detail below.

- **Component 12** is justified for inclusion on the basis that it is the only manufacturing site included in the nominated series, and thus its inclusion in the series is important in order to reflect the intermediate process in the creation of these funerary sites (a process which includes: quarrying; manufacturing; transportation; and use in funerary practices).

- **Components 23, 25, and 28** are justified for inclusion as important in their evidence related to the geographic extent of the civilization, and as evidence of the variable scale of the communities within the civilization and how the funerary practices operated across a range of scales. Site 23 has additional importance as both a jar and quarry site at a small scale, demonstrating multiple functions in the same location at this scale.

More details are elaborated below:

**Components 3-3, 3-5, and 3-7**

Component 3 is a major jar group in the series and is clearly important evidence related to the proposed *Outstanding Universal Value* of the nominated property. This jar site is, in fact, composed of seven sub-sites, closely related geographically and by typology to one another, as indicated by their numbering. Together the seven sub-groups form a coherent spatial configuration of evident cultural meaning that has been interpreted by archaeological research, and confirmed by local traditional knowledge holders, as having possible cosmological significance. This hypothesis is further supported by the finding of historic (i.e. post Iron-Age)
Buddha images at this site, indicating continuity in its perception and reverence as sacred space from prehistoric to historic times. On the basis of currently-available archaeological and anthropological evidence, these seven sub-groups are interpreted to be associated with the same large ancient settlement, which may have comprised a single community composed of several social groups related to one another by kinship, settlement pattern, economic or political hierarchies, or in other ways. On the basis of the importance of maintaining the integrity of this extensive funerary site all seven (7) sub-groups 3-1 through 3-7, including Components 3-3, 3-5, and 3-7 have been included in the proposed serial nomination.

Component 12

Component 12 is the only component presented in the nominated series which is likely to reflect the intermediate process of in the creation of the funerary sites. Component 12 is believed to be neither a quarry nor a funerary site, but rather a manufacturing site used for the further working of the quarried but yet unfinished stone blocks into their final jar form, in a closer location for convenient transhipment to their intended place(s) of use. As such, this is an important site for preserving the evidence for and understanding the process of site formation at the Plain of Jars, within the cultural tradition of stone industry characteristic of the nominated property.

Components 23, 25, and 28

Components 23, 25, and 28 are part of the group of smaller sites included in the serial nomination to ensure the range of sites is represented in the nominated property, in terms of both (i) size of sites (ie. jar and quarry sites of different sizes), and (ii) geographic spread of the cultural tradition and civilization present in the Plain of Jars.

The reasons previously provided for the inclusion of these three components in the nominated series are elaborated upon below:

- **Component 23.** Component 23 is a site comprised of 3 sub-groups of jars located in close geographical proximity with one another, together with a nearby quarry, in which are found 27 unfinished rough-outs of jars *in situ*. Component 23 is an intact, characteristic, and representative example of smaller jar sites located in the same area as the stone source from which the jars of which they are comprised were quarried. It is the only site with jars made from sedimentary breccia that is a part of the site’s immediately local geology, but is not common in the geology of other areas of the Plain of Jars. This typology of jar site represents the small-scale, functionally-integrated type of site located at distance and in relative isolation from larger centers of settlement. Component 23 is the easternmost extension of the cultural area of the Plain of Jars, and is evidence for farthest eastern spread of megalithic jar sites in Xiengkhuang Province.

- **Component 25.** Component 25 is a site comprised of 2 sub-groups of jars, located in close proximity with one another, which together contain a total of 35 jars. Some of the jars at
this site are made from local andesite, which is a hard-to-work igneous rock, and indicates advanced technological experimentation in the stone industry at the Plain of Jars. Component 25 is a spatially complete, undisturbed, and representative example of the typology of smaller jar sites. It is an important site for the future study of the sub-division of social groups within a smaller village community of the ancient inhabitants of the Plain of Jars, represented by the geographical distribution and relationships of the funerary monuments. Visitor access to the jar sites of Component 25 is reasonably easy and its location is evocative, so this component is important as a site where the interpretation of the jar sites in relation to their larger geographical setting, as well as to the ancient communities that created the sites, can be explained with clarity and in detail, using the geographical, geological, and archaeological evidence the site presents. Furthermore, Component 25 is the northernmost of the megalithic jar sites in the Plain of Jars and represents the furthest northern expansion of the megalithic culture and civilization of the ancient inhabitants of Plain of Jars.

- **Component 28.** Component 28 is a site consisting of a single, very large jar. These single-jar sites are typical of and found only in Phukoot District in the far west of the Plain of Jars. Invariably located in high locations overlooking the surrounding plain, the single jars of Phukoot are truly monumental, often more than three meters in height. These single-jar sites are a unique sub-typology of sites in the Plain of jars, standing in majestic isolation from one another and from the larger communal funerary sites to the east and south. Component 28 is a site that is particularly impressive and representative of this typological variant. It provides evidence that a massive single jar could be created and used on its own for an isolated, perhaps single-use, funerary ritual – testimony that even the smallest unit of society was able to create a substantial and monumental funerary site requiring significant investment and technological know-how. Component 28 is the westernmost of the jar sites and defines the furthest spread of the megalithic culture of the Plain of Jars to the west. This site is important for the study of the process and chronology of the expansion of the megalithic culture and civilization of the Plain of Jars, which on the basis of current evidence, may have developed originally in the south of the Xiengkhuang Plain and expanded east, north, and west, as trade routes developed and extended in all directions. Further archaeological research is expected to shed light on this process and its chronology. As the most isolated outlier of the nominated jar sites, but in a location that is relatively accessible to visitors, this iconic site provides dramatic and informative testimony to the importance and choice of the geographical setting of the sites.

The importance of the inclusion of these geographical outliers in the nominated property is because they define the territorial extent of the culture of the Plain of Jars to the east, north, and west of the southern central core area and provide evidence that this civilization expanded to
include the entirety of the broad Xiengkhuang upland plain, incorporating the many village settlements, of various scale, that were located there.

These three components are all individually important to the serial nomination of the Plain of Jars in terms of the evidence that each site provides to the property’s *Outstanding Universal Value* overall. The proposed statement of *Outstanding Universal Value* for the nominated property reads, in part:

“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…”

Two key points arise from this statement:

i. The testimony is not just related to cultural traditions associated with funerary practices; the testimony of the associated civilization, as evidenced by its complex stone industry and an extensive settlement pattern, is also important.

ii. The sites are impressive for a range of qualities, of different scales and complexities, spread across a very large geographic area, unified by a identifiably similar typology of: geographical setting; stone industrial technology; site formation and internal configuration; monumental form of the stone jars; and associated material culture.

From these points, it can be understood the importance of the inclusion of Components 23, 25, and 28 in the nominated series.

The three components are also important in their evidence related to the geographic extent of the civilization represented at the Plain of Jars. It should be recalled that the knowledge of this civilization is still evolving and based largely on the archaeological evidence of the jar sites. Therefore, its geographic extent is a factor of considerable interest, not only for academic research, but also in order to ensure comprehensive safeguarding of the evidence of this now-disappeared civilization. In addition, these three components reflect the smaller-scale of sites created as part of a network of sites of different scales, part of a widespread cultural tradition that expanded extensively over the centuries it flourished. As part of the typology of sites in scale and geographical setting, these smaller sites provide important evidence about the variable scale of the communities within the civilization and how their characteristic funerary practices could operate in cultural analogy across a range of scales within the civilization across this vast expanse of territory.

Possible practical advantage of reducing the number of components of the nominated series

The State Party appreciates the concern of ICOMOS to ensure a manageable outcome of the nominated property. However, the State Party believes that the full nominated series can be
effectively managed, especially given the important role played by local villagers. This role is particularly important in the case of the more remote components.

In terms of practical management, the State Party would like to reassure that:

i. The site relies on a decentralized management strategy, thus, having a greater number of sites does not reduce the ability to manage the various sites.

ii. As all jar sites (both nominated and non-nominated sites) are protected under Lao law, then in any case, the authorities must offer protection to them all anyway, so reducing the number of sites does not reduce the management load.

More details are elaborated below.

Decentralized management strategy

As outlined in the Nomination Dossier (section 5.e) and detailed below in the response concerning the Management System, the management of the Plain of Jars is structured as a highly decentralized system, as befits a serial property composed of multiple components in relatively remote areas. Within this system, each local village is responsible for the monitoring, protection, and maintenance of the jar site(s) within their local jurisdiction, under the legal and regulatory authority of the Xiengkhuang Provincial Government, and with technical advice and assistance of the provincial heritage authorities. The national Department of Heritage monitors the implementation of this management system to ensure that the safeguarding of the integrity and authenticity of the nominated property’s Outstanding Universal Value.

This on-site responsibility for safeguarding a jar site is legally committed in “Village Contracts,” the contracts is attached here (attachment no.1) which are binding contracts concluded between the Village Chief and the responsible local and provincial authorities. Nine Village Contracts have been concluded, covering all fifteen nominated components. Each Village Contract is accompanied by a set of detailed conservation “Site Guidelines”, specific to the site(s) in question, which provides clear instructions on what to do. Under these Village Contracts, the local authority is required to set up a Village Heritage Team, which is responsible for the direct implementation of the Village Contracts. These Village Heritage Teams are trained, equipped and supervised by the provincial and district heritage authorities.

This system is designed specifically to meet the management needs of scattered, geographically distant components of a serial World Heritage property. There is one-to-one congruence between the responsible village and the component(s) to be managed. Thus, the reduction of the number of components would have no impact on the effectiveness of the implementation of this decentralized management system.

Existing Legal Protection and Technical Capacity for Safeguarding All Jar Sites

Under existing national and provincial laws, all megalithic jar sites are protected, regardless of whether or not a site is part of the nominated World Heritage property. This is part of the
government’s obligation to provide protection to all national heritage properties. Therefore, the number of jar sites included as components of the nominated World Heritage property has no impact on the management and monitoring tasks for which the national and provincial authorities are responsible. Reduction of the number of components of the nominated property would have no appreciable effect on the scope of the safeguarding work required of the authorities.

In terms of technical capacity, the national Department of Heritage is the authority responsible for providing specialist technical support and training in archaeological research and protection, conservation of monuments and sites, and other management requirements of all heritage properties throughout the Lao PDR. Similarly, the responsibility and scope of work of the national Department of Heritage applies to all of the nation’s heritage properties. Thus, the Department’s technical capacity would not be significantly impacted if the number of components of the Plain of Jars nominated property were to be reduced.

In conclusion, the State Party is confident that it can ensure the effective, technically competent, and well-coordinated management of all fifteen nominated components of the serial property Megalithic Jar Sites in Xiengkhuang – Plain of Jars. The State Party concludes that there is no need for, or practical advantage to be gained by, the reduction in number of components of the nominated property.

2. **Management system**

   While the State Party appreciates the suggestion of ICOMOS for developing a Management Plan, we would like to provide reassurance that the management system for the nominated site already provides for a harmonized management framework, clear legal basis, and strong coordination mechanisms between the national, provincial and local levels. Most of the components of the management system have already been put in place, and Lao PDR is committed to ensuring that the provisions will be fully developed and implemented, with the support of key partners such as UNESCO Bangkok, SEAMEO-SPAFA and others. We believe that this management system will be sufficient and effective to protect the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the nominated site.

   We would like to note that the key components for what would ordinarily be included in a Management Plan have already been devised and are already in place through the management system. These management components have been explained in the Nomination Dossier and its attached annexes (especially Annex L), and are already adopted by the respective authorities.

   In addition, a DRM plan and Tourism Management Plan have been initiated since the time of nomination. The DRM plan is expected to be developed with the support of SEAMEO-SPAFA, under the framework of an MOU with ICCROM and Ritsumeikan University to build capacity in DRM. The development of the DRM plan is expected to
include capacity building workshops for local staff and heritage management authorities, and should be completed within 12 months.

The Tourism Management Plan has been initiated with cooperation of the Department of Information, Culture and Tourism of Xiengkhuang Province, and an outline is attached here (attachment no.2). The Tourism Management Plan is expected to be completed within 2019.

The key components of the management system are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components of management system</th>
<th>Overview</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overview of management system, including coordination mechanisms</td>
<td>Explanation of the overall system, organigramme of related institutions and coordination mechanisms at all levels is provided in ND Annex L.1, and built into the mandates/TORs of the existing standing committees. (See below for more details.)</td>
<td>Submitted with Nominated Dossier (ND)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal demarcation and zoning</td>
<td>“Xiengkhuang Provincial Governor’s Decree No. 996 concerning the Management and Conservation of the Plain of Jars World Heritage sites” provides legal protective designation and demarcation of each site, along with safeguarding requirements.</td>
<td>Submitted with ND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action plan</td>
<td>Provides 5-year plan for addressing key management issues: (i) site protection, (ii) GIS/inventory/database, (iii) tourism and site development, (iv) awareness raising, (v) capacity building, (vi) UXO clearance, (vii) conservation and enhancement. These action themes correspond with the key management objectives of the site.</td>
<td>Submitted with ND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulatory</td>
<td>Laws exist at the national, provincial and</td>
<td>Submitted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>framework</td>
<td>village level, including village contracts which commits villages to on-site monitoring functions. (See below for more details.)</td>
<td>with ND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection and management requirements</td>
<td>The protection and management requirements are explained in detail in (1) Provincial Guidelines and (2) Site Guidelines that have been adopted for each nominated jar site.</td>
<td>Submitted with ND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring framework</td>
<td>Monitoring is carried out at the provincial level by the newly-set up Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division (which will be renamed the World Heritage Site Office if site is inscribed). At the village level, monitoring is conducted by village heritage teams, per responsibilities committed to in the signed village contracts. More details on the monitoring framework and indicators are explained in the Nomination Dossier Chapter 6</td>
<td>Submitted with ND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site management authorities</td>
<td>“Decree No. 870 concerning Establishment and Operation of Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division” sets up the structure, duties of the newly-established site management office. For on-the-ground support, the Village Heritage Teams have been set up under officially signed Village Contracts.</td>
<td>Submitted with ND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisions for resources (financial, technical, human resources)</td>
<td>“Provincial governor’s Decree No. 995 – Approval of the provincial budget, revenues from the ticket sales of the Plain of Jars sites” makes the innovative provision to share 40% of revenues from ticket sales for the benefit of conservation at the site and for running the site management office.</td>
<td>Submitted with ND</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Nomination Dossier Chapter 5 provides details on other sources of funds including international support of over $300,000.

Chapter 5 also explains the technical and other human resources/expertise available from both international partners and within Lao PDR which can support the site management office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Technical guidelines</th>
<th>Provides guidance on preventative conservation and other measures to stabilize jars and other features</th>
<th>Submitted with ND</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conservation guidelines</td>
<td>Provides guidance during UXO clearance operations for recovery and protection of heritage assets</td>
<td>Submitted with ND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archaeo-demining protocol</td>
<td>Provides guidance on undertaking HIA for new developments</td>
<td>Submitted with ND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heritage Impact Assessment guidelines</td>
<td>Provides guidance on undertaking HIA for new developments</td>
<td>Submitted with ND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialized plans</td>
<td>The plan already submitted with the nomination dossier has been updated with more specific action items.</td>
<td>Submitted with ND</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archaeological Research Plan</td>
<td>An interpretation plan has already been developed by the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism, which forms the basis for new interpretation materials including recently-opened museum in Xiengkhuang province containing updated information on the Plain of Jars.</td>
<td>Already existing and in use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpretation plan</td>
<td>A tourism management plan has been initiated (as per above).</td>
<td>Initiated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tourism management plan</td>
<td>International support is expected from SEAMEO-SPAFA in order to proceed with a</td>
<td>Initiated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disaster Risk Management</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Plan

| DRM plan (as per above). |

For ease of reference, these key components have been compiled into one single volume “Plain of Jars Management System” the management system is attached here. This volume is available in Lao language and is being distributed widely for the common and shared understanding by all relevant management authorities and stakeholders.

This management system has been designed to fit in well with the decentralized governance structure in Lao PDR, as well as the spread out nature of the site. Each of the regulatory and operational provisions under the management system is vested with the authority of the relevant authority at its respective level. In this way, the provisions of the management plan have an enhanced level of ownership, accountability and resource commitment by each and every player who plays an important role in the protection of the Plain of Jars as a whole and the nominated property in particular.

As the site encompasses 9 villages and 4 districts of Xiengkhuang Province, it is necessary to involve heritage protection authorities and stakeholders down to the district and local level. This decentralized system, with specific guidelines and clearly defined responsibilities at each level and for each unit, is believed to be more effective, more responsive and with higher accountability than putting in place a central document (ie, a Management Plan) which is often seen as the main responsibility of the World Heritage site management office only.

To ensure that all parties are working within a harmonized approach for the protection of the site, the management system is designed to have nested levels of authority and laws, with accountability and information channels closely linked at each of the different levels. There is an existing provision for coordination at all levels, and between levels.

- At the national level, the highest level of regulatory authority and coordination are in place, notably in terms of the Heritage Law (2013) and the National World Heritage Committee. Under the authority of the Heritage Law, the Heritage Department is responsible to provide specialized technical inputs for the management of the site, to complement the staff of the site management office.

- The provincial level is critical as the governance system in Lao PDR relies upon decentralized authority, especially at the provincial level. In this regard, the management system is designed to give an important role to the provincial authorities both in terms of the regulatory framework, as well as financial provisions. The Provincial Governor has already issued a number of key Governor’s Decrees which provide the legal and regulatory basis for the protection
of the Plain of Jars, including enhanced provisions for the nominated areas as well as provisions for the larger heritage site encompassing the entire Plain of Jars. Most importantly, this includes provisions for (i) demarcating and protecting the nominated jar sites, (ii) setting up the dedicated heritage site management office for the Plain of Jars, and (iii) sharing tourism ticket proceeds among all the villages taking care of the jar sites. The Provincial Heritage Steering Committee provides the basis for lateral coordination between the heritage authorities and other relevant agencies in the province, including public works, urban planning, environment and UXO clearance. The provincial authorities are involved in the National World Heritage Committee.

- The provincial authority in turn transmits operational responsibilities to the district authorities, which in turn supervises and guides the village authorities. The village authorities must report on a regular basis to the district authorities, including any changes occurring at the sites, including emergency issues (safety of jar sites and individual attributes or safety of visitors). At the district level, there is also a District Heritage Committee undertaking lateral coordination, which is the basis for controlling development at the jar sites. Likewise, the District Heritage Committee reports and consults with the Provincial Heritage Steering Committee.

- At the village level, the front-line on-site monitoring and basic maintenance operations are the responsibility of the Village Heritage Teams. These teams have been set up, trained and equipped. On a regular basis, the teams visit the nominated jar sites, undertake basic maintenance (such as clearing vegetation to prevent forest fires), and carry out preventative measures for protection including monitoring visitor behavior (see attached no.3). Each village chief has signed the Village Contract for his/her village, and therefore there is binding legal provision whereby each village must discharge its responsibilities, and in turn, is eligible to receive funding from the shared visitor ticket income. To guide the work of the villages, customized Site Guidelines have been provided to each village, which clearly explains (i) the demarcation of each nominated jar cluster, (ii) the do’s and don’ts for each jar cluster, (iii) the necessary tasks that should be carried out by the village for protecting each jar cluster.

To summarize the nested and related layers of authority and key agencies:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Management authority</th>
<th>Key legal/regulatory instruments</th>
<th>Technical guidance</th>
<th>Coordination mechanism</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National</td>
<td>Heritage Department under the Ministry of Information, Culture</td>
<td>National Heritage Law (2013)</td>
<td>Coordinates implementation and updating of</td>
<td>National World Heritage Committee, chaired by the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level</td>
<td>Authority/Office/Teams</td>
<td>Management System</td>
<td>Decrees/Documents</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provincial</td>
<td>Xiengkhuang Province Provincial Department of Information, Culture and Tourism World Heritage Office</td>
<td>Provincial Governor’s Decree providing protection of the whole Plain of Jars: Decree 533/PGXK</td>
<td>Decrees applying specifically to the nominated property: Decree 995 Decree 996</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>World Heritage Provincial Guidelines</td>
<td>Provincial Heritage Steering Committee, chaired by the Deputy Governor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>District Department of Information, Culture and Tourism (total 4 districts)</td>
<td>District Heritage Committee, chaired by the Deputy District Governor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Village Heritage Teams (total 9 villages)</td>
<td>Village Contracts</td>
<td>Site Guidelines for the Plain of Jars (customized for each jar site)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Village Committee, led by the Village Head</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Acting transversally and cutting across all the levels of authority, the management system will be implemented in line with the Action Plan, several important Technical Guidelines and Specialized Plans that have been submitted as part of the World Heritage Nomination Dossier. Most notably, these include:

- **Action Plan** covering 5-year period and meant to be updated. The key sections of the Action Plan are: (i) site protection, (ii) GIS/inventory/database, (iii) tourism and site development, (iv) awareness raising, (v) capacity building, (vi) UXO clearance, (vii) conservation and enhancement. These different sections correspond to the management objectives for the site to deal sustainably with the various protection issues for the Plain of Jars. For easy reference, the management objectives have been highlighted for each section.

- **Conservation Guidelines** which have been designed for the physical artefacts, most notably the jars and other associated features.
- **Heritage Impact Assessment Guidelines** which provide the basis for undertaking HIAs as a mechanism for controlling inappropriate development and interventions at the site. Training has already been conducted on the HIA process and guidelines. See the response on “Future Development Plans” for further details.

- **Archaeological Research Plan** which provides a strategy and framework for addressing the pending issues to deepen knowledge about this site, to provide a more evidence-based approach to managing and interpreting the site. See in the response on “Research and Interpretation” for further details.

An important final note is that the management system for the nominated World Heritage property builds upon and is situated within the larger management system for the whole Plain of Jars. The 15 nominated components are set within a vast historic and scenic rural landscape encompassing the greater part of the province which is already protected under Laotian law. It is important to ensure that the larger setting (comprising the archaeological, natural and landscape setting) for the nominated property is effectively protected in a manner that is supportive of the proposed OUV. While a management plan with a narrow geographic and regulatory coverage only on the nominated property would not have the wide-reaching basis to ensure effective and well-synchronized protection of the larger landscape, the management system as designed would be able to do so. Providing a larger framework for maintaining the connection with the other jar clusters, including those which have not been nominated, is also important in light of conducting further research for the Plain of Jars as a whole.

3. **Future Development Plans**

The State Party would like to clarify that there are no additional development plans or projects aside from those that have already been informed in the Nomination Dossier and further clarified in the response provided on 7 November 2018. During the ICOMOS mission, the possibility of future restoration at Site 1 was discussed, primarily in terms of consolidating vulnerable jars and improving site presentation. However, this should be considered conservation work rather than future development. Moreover, this is only a tentative future idea at this stage.

Regarding Heritage Impact Assessment, the State Party fully recognizes the importance of putting in place a HIA system as soon as possible. Guidelines for conducting HIA have already been developed, and were submitted as part of the Nomination Dossier. Training for provincial agencies and the heritage management authorities was conducted
regarding the HIA guidelines in November 2018. Further in-depth training will also be conducted, targeting the heritage management staff whose will become the focal points for conducting HIAs in the future. In order to mandate the HIA procedures into law, consultations have already been carried out with the provincial authorities. It is proposed to issue by mid-2019 a Provincial Governor’s Decree which will require all future development projects in Xiengkhuang province to be subject to HIA procedures.

Finally, it should be emphasized that both the nominated property and its buffer areas are all legally designated as “Cultural Land” under the Land Law (2003), which puts it under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism. Under “Cultural Land” regulations, no construction is allowed in the nominated property, while for proposed construction in the buffer area, permission must be sought from the Provincial Heritage Steering Committee. In terms of integrating the HIA procedures mentioned above, the Steering Committee will instruct the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division to assess the potential impact of any project and to report back to the Steering Committee for its final decision. For large scale projects, the additional consent of the national World Heritage Committee must be secured as well.

4. **Research and Interpretation**

With regard to “Research and Interpretation” the State Party would like to clarify the following points:

*Observations made by ICOMOS:*

a) “A characteristic of this nomination is that relatively little is known about the peoples that made and initially used the jars…”

This observation is, as a general statement, correct, but it can also be observed that the same observation – that relatively little is known about *the people* who made and initially used a now-extinct archaeological site -- can be made of many, if not most, relic archaeological sites which are no longer inhabited by the same people and culture/civilization that created the site. For example, one can make the same observation about other iconic archaeological sites already inscribed on the World Heritage List where there are substantial megalithic stone remains that bear exceptional testimony to civilization which has disappeared, but where little is known about the people who made and initially used the sites: such as Stonehenge, Avebury and Related Sites in the United Kingdom; Gobekli Tepe in Turkey; and the Lines and Geoglyphs of Nasca and Palpa in Peru.
Notwithstanding this observation, the discipline of archaeology has been developed specifically to recover information about the people that created a site through long-term research on a scientific sample of the material cultural artefacts left behind. Reference to the corpus of past archaeological research – as well as the on-going implementation of a long-term research strategy focused on the material cultural artefacts from such sites is therefore an essential part of well-informed knowledge management of these and all archaeological sites.

In this respect, there has been a considerable body of research amassed on the specific and unique type of material culture artefact that is emblematic of the Plain of Jars – that is to say, the stone jars.

This research began with their “discovery” and scientific investigation by the French archaeologist, Madeleine Colani, in the 1930s and continues today. Early in this research, the jars were recognized as the key and characteristic artefact of a elaborate and widespread funerary complex that characterized the now-extinct culture/civilization of the eponymous Plain of Jars. Since that time, the jar sites have been extensively mapped, with new sites being discovered as remote sensing survey technology has become more sophisticated. The great majority of the 2,100 megalithic stone jars identified to date have been recorded in detail and subject to careful comparative lithic analysis. The multi-phase technology complex of the prehistoric stone industry of the civilization that produced the jars has been studied in considerable detail in relation to the typology of jar form and lithic material of which the jars are composed. Stone sources, quarrying, manufacturing, and transshipment sites have all been identified as part of this widespread industry.

b) “...there has been relatively little archaeological research.”

As the above discussion makes clear, this is not an altogether accurate statement – although as to be expected at any prehistoric archaeological site of comparable size and complexity, there is always more research that can and should be carried out.

Please refer to the Bibliography, Section 7.e of the Nomination Dossier, which lists more than 100 research reports directly related to the Plain of Jars, the majority of which report on archaeological research than has taken place over the past 20 years.

This research has included interdisciplinary studies of geology, territorial proximetrics, as well as a number of systematic archaeological excavations in the immediate vicinity of the jars, from which have been recovered a collection of artefacts confirming the Iron Age dating of the jar sites as well as the interpretation of the jar as part of an elaborate funerary complex consisting of primary and secondary inhumation (burial), and cremation.
The systematic demining of the jars sites which has taken place over the past 20 years to remove from the sites unexploded ordnance from the Indochina wars of the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s was also carried out following a unique system designed by UNESCO in cooperation with the Mines Advisory Group (MAG) of the United Kingdom to recover undamaged and within stratigraphic context prehistoric cultural artefacts associated with the jars.

A report on this “archaeo-demining process” and the resultant finds is included in Bibliography Section 7.e of the Nomination Dossier and, for convenient reference, attached to this report (see attached no.4). Further discussion on UXO Clearance can be found below in the section in response to the ICOMOS suggestion concerning the removal of the white concrete markers indicating safe paths for site visitation.


A copy of the published O’Reilly et al article is appended to this report (see attached no.5)

c) “The interpretation of the serial property relies on information which to some extent, are not based on scientific evidence but on the concept of ‘mystery,’…”

This statement is not altogether accurate and taken out of context could be misleading. While it may be correct to observe that the tourist literature on the Plain of Jars (such as guidebooks and other publications marketed to tourists, some un-refereed on-line websites, as well as from the promotional literature of domestic and international tour companies) may spin a romantic narrative of archaeological “mystery”, this is not an uncommon, if regrettable, marketing ploy of the tourist industry. Other archaeological properties inscribed on the World Heritage, such as the above-mentioned Stonehenge, Gobekli Tepe, and Nasca are similarly marketed to tourists as sites of unexplained “mystery.”

However, the State Party would like to assure all concerned that such an unscientific narrative of “mystery” has never been the narrative of serious, academic research about the Plain of Jars carried out by or in co-operation with the competent archaeological services of the State Party. An examination of the Bibliography Section 7.e of the Nomination Dossier will bear this out.
Furthermore, the recently-completed Laotian Government project, supported with primary financial and technical support of New Zealand (NZAID) and a supplementary contribution from the Australian Embassy, to renovate the facilities of the Xiengkhuang Provincial Museum, including the installation of new exhibitions has been extremely careful and conscientious to avoid – and to refute or debunk when appropriate – a repetition of these inaccurate and speculative touristic narratives of “mystery” at the Plain of Jars. All of the new galleries in the Provincial Museum present only factual material that has been checked by Laotian national and international scholars, and substantiated by archaeological, historic, or anthropological research, the sources of which are included in the exhibitions.

The 2018 completion report of the museum renovation project by expert Linda McIntosh is annexed to this report (see attached no.6).

The presentation of accurate, up-to-date information on the nominated property is an ongoing effort that will continue to be further elucidated as more research is conducted and the results made available to the public. An example of this is the current archaeological research being conducted by the joint Laotian-Australian project funded by the Australian Research Council (ARC), which has a one of its major objectives the establishment of scientific bases for the interpretation of the jar sites individually and the property overall, including the identification of human remains and carbon and geo-chronological dating. This project also employs advanced technologies such as non-invasive archaeological investigation techniques (such as Ground Penetrating Radar) and digital site modeling for future research inquiry. Information from this research project is continuously fed into the public information provided by the Department of Information, Culture and Tourism, for instance, at the Xiengkhuang Provincial Museum and through on-site signage as well as on the Department’s website. As it becomes available and more widely disseminated, this scientific data will override the popular narrative of “mystery.” Please refer to Section 4 below for more information about the on-going ARC-supported research project.

An example of one of the new exhibition panels in the Xieng Khuang Provincial Museum is attached to this report (see attached no.7).

d) Recently initiated research project involving Lao and Australian archaeologists

*Australian Research Council-funded project*
Phase 1 of an archaeological research project, supported by the Australian Research Council, and conducted by researchers from the Australian National University and Monash University, in cooperation with the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism, was undertaken in 2016-2017. The work authorized under this project conforms to the long-term research strategic objects set by the national Department of Heritage for the nominated property (Refer to Point e below).

The work completed during Phase 1 of this project was as follows:

- Archaeological mapping and inventory work was conducted at Components (jar sites) 1, 12, and 52. This included photographic inventory and geo-referencing of all on-site attributes. Ground-penetrating radar was utilized in this survey to identified buried stone attributes. During Phase 2 of the project, this mapping and inventory work will be extended to Component (jar site) 2.
- During the course of this survey, the identification of quarry and transhipment functions at Component (jar site) 52 were confirmed.
- On the basis of this survey data, Component (jar site) 1 was been replicated digitally as a 3D model in the CAVE2 immersive visualisation facility at Monash University. This will facilitate inter-active, non-invasive interrogation of site formation.
- Samples for isotopic analysis (strontium, oxygen, carbon) were taken from skeletal remains and environmental samples from Components (jar sites) 1 and 52. Analysis of these samples is on-going.
- OSL dating was attempted at Component (jar site) Site 52, but proved to be inconclusive. During Phase 2 targeted sampling for the purposes of scientific data will be continued.
- Lipid analysis (of stone jar interiors) and resin analysis (of the coatings of some buried ceramic jars) was also attempted. Been conducted. The lipid analysis was inconclusive. The resin is being further analysed in an effort to chemically characterise its composition and to ascertain if it contains any potentially datable material.
- Lithic samples from both quarry sites and from stone jars in the attempt to match the jars with their quarries. The method involved using Sensitive High Resolution Ion Microprobe (SHRIMP) U-Pb zircon dating. Through use this method oxygen isotope composition may be measured and possibly dated. Analysis is ongoing but preliminary results suggest a link between the jars found at Component (jar site) 1 and the Poukeng quarry (Component 21).
Phase 2 of the project has been funded by the Australian National Research Council and approved by the Laotian government. Implementation of Phase 2 began in February 2019.

During Phase 2, work will include:

- Survey using Ground Penetrating Radar at Component (jar site) 2, followed by test excavation where sub-surface anomalies are detected, in order to confirm the quality of information conveyed through the use of non-invasive site investigation.
- Ongoing sampling for scientific analysis: environmental samples and skeletal material (isotopic analysis), jar and quarry materials (geochronology), sediment samples (OSL dating)

In addition, the detailed information collected on jars, discs and other attributes from this project provides valuable inputs for the database/inventory which will be used for monitoring and managing the site for conservation and research purposes.

(For clarification and the record, there has been no involvement of the New Zealand government in this ARC-funded archaeological research project. NZAID was made available for the renovation of the provincial museum, as discussed in Point c above.)

**U.S. Ambassador’s Fund**

In addition, the State Party has taken note of the recommendation by ICOMOS concerning the need for improved mapping of the component sites of the Plain of Jars together with the compilation of a detailed inventory of the jars and all associated artefacts (stone jars, lids, disks, and other stone markers; ceramic jars; bone; and other artefacts such as beads and metal fragments) at each component site. In order to undertake this improved mapping and inventory at each component site, the State Party has applied to the US Ambassador’s Fund for support, which, if approved, will be available in September 2019.

More information on improvements to the inventory/mapping/database are provided in the section on Maps, in response to ICOMOS queries in this regard.

e) **Longer-term research plans to improve the state of knowledge**

It will be recalled that an Archaeological Research Plan was included in the Nomination Dossier as Annex 11. It’s also mentioned in the theme 8 “Archaeological Research Strategy” of Action plan for The Megalithic Jar Sites in Xiengkhuang from 2010 to 2023 of Management System. A copy of the Archaeological Research Plan and the Archaeological Research Strategy are attached to this report (see attached no.8 and 9).
Within the framework of this plan, specific detailed research activities have been identified such as:

- Complete detailed field mapping, of all jar sites (those included as components of the proposed World Heritage property and all others) and enter this data into the comprehensive GIS database. (On-going through Heritage Department’s work and Australian-supported research project)
- Complete detailed geological map of Xiengkhuang Province.
- Design and undertake palaeo-environmental study of Xiengkhuang Province, including pollen analysis, to determine the chronology, type, and extent of environmental change over time during the past 2000 years.
- Sample interior deposits of jars at remote and undisturbed jar sites using flotation and other techniques designed to recover micro artefacts and organic residue. During this sampling process lipid analysis to test for the presence of faunal (presumably, human) fats will be attempted. (On-going through Australian-supported research project)
- Conduct of non-invasive, ground-penetrating radar survey at the eleven component sites of the proposed World Heritage property (and other sites) to identify and quantify sub-surface anomalies, in order to facilitate planning for future archaeological research excavation. (On-going through Australian-supported research project)
- Study of organic residues and soil micro-inclusions of the subsurface deposits around the jars, to test for human and animal remains. (On-going)
- Targeted recovery of samples for C-14 and thermo-luminescence dating of artefacts found in association with the jars. Bone remains, if found, should also be dated if possible, using appropriate scientific dating methods.
- Survey of ancient religious monuments throughout the province, including a condition survey and inventory of their moveable heritage, which may relate to prehistoric sites in the Plain of Jars.
- Study of references, including maps, in historic Chinese written records of trade routes through the Plain of Jars, and the commodities traded along these routes.

It should also be noted that the management system in place for the nominated property includes a suite of actions that are specifically intended to facilitate long-term research. These include:
• The definition of permissible activities within the nominated property that are allowed under Article 43 of the National Heritage Law privileges research as a permitted activity.

• The de facto World Heritage Office, established under the Provincial Department of Information, Culture and Tourism, has an archaeology unit that is mandated with research functions.

• The implementation of a comprehensive geographical information system (GIS) for the property is intended to facilitate research, as well as for monitoring and management of the component jar sites. This function will be enhanced with the implementation of the work programmed with support from the U.S. Ambassador’s Fund (as explained above in response to ICOMOS question on recently-initiated research.)

• UXO clearance is specifically intended not only to ensure the safety of visitors to the jar sites, but also to enable safe archaeological excavation and research.

f) Future plans to deepen the interpretation of the nominated property on the basis of archeological research

A comprehensive interpretation plan for the Plain of Jars has been developed with support from the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism’s Tourism Development Department. This plan uses scientific evidence to convey to visitors the values of the site, drawing upon a range of research findings including recent research, such as findings of the Laotian-Australian team working under the grant sponsored by the Australian Research Council, as discussed in Point 4 above.

This new interpretation plan is used as the framework for developing narratives associated with the Plain of Jars which shed light into the known characteristics of the jars, their manufacture, and their ritual use. The Tourism Development Department in the past 2 years has invested substantially in upgrading interpretation facilities in the province to better improve understanding of the site. In addition to the renovation and installation of new exhibits at the Xiengkhuang Provincial Museum as explain under Point c above, an on-site visitors’ center has recently been completed and opened at Component (Jar Site) 1, which is the most heavily visited of all jar sites.

Moreover, a Tourism Management Plan is currently under preparation and is expected to be completed within 2019. The Tourism Management Plan will incorporate actions to
improve visitor understanding and on-site interpretation through the installation of more informative signage at each of components of the nominated property; production of written information for visitors that has been vetted for correct content by the de facto World Heritage Office; and an improved website. Please refer to the section above responding to ICOMOS questions concerning Management System in place for the property. An outline of the in-process Tourism Management Plan is attached.

5. Maps

The State Party has taken note of the recommendation by ICOMOS concerning the need for improved mapping of the component sites of the Plain of Jars. In January 2019, the technical team from Heritage Department together with the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division, the Village Heritage Teams and the relevant local authorities have conducted additional survey for collecting information to update the maps. Through this survey, we have finished fixing the data and updating the location of jars and boundary of site 25 (see attached no. 10). We also finished updating the location of jars in group 4 of Site 23 (see attached no. 11).

As recommended by ICOMOS, starting with Site 1 and Site 2, the maps have been further enhanced for long term management of the sites. The maps now include all information concerning relevant attributes such as land ownership, building structure, road, pathway and site management office and other tourism facilities (see attached no. 12, 13, 14 and 15).

In the near future, the Heritage Department plans to further improve these maps with more details, by coordinating closely with other projects that are currently working in the field, particularly the joint research project between the Heritage Department and the Australia National University and the project of the Department of Tourism Development for sustainable tourism development with the participation of the community. Furthermore, as noted above, the Department of Heritage has already applied to the US Ambassador’s Fund for support to improve the mapping of the component sites of the Plain of Jars, together with the compilation of a detailed inventory of the jars and all associated artefacts at each component site, which, if approved, will be available in September 2019.

6. UXO Clearance

During the second phase of the UNESCO-Lao Safeguarding the Plain of Jars project from 2004-2007, the project focused on the UXO clearance as one of the priority activities, especially to clear the UXO from the main jar clusters and pathways. The purpose of this clearance was to guarantee the safety for the tourists and also for the archeology research.
Since that time, additional UXO clearance has been undertaken, with the Plain of Jars being earmarked as a priority by UXO and provincial authorities. From 2016 until the end of 2018, all property zones at 15 nominated components were successfully cleared of UXO. Currently, UXO clearance in the buffer zones of the nominated jar components is ongoing as the highest priority of the Lao government as well as Xiengkhuang authorities.

Now that the property zones at all nominated jar sites have been cleared of UXO, and are safe to access, the Xiengkhuang authority has already authorized the Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division together with Village Heritage Teams to start removing those small white concrete markers from the property. It is expected that this will be completed for all 15 nominated components by the end of the year 2019 (see attached no.16).
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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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.

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| **1. Site protection** | • 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** | • 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** | • Understanding and interest of visitors  
• Inappropriate actions by visitors including recreational use  
• Future tourism pressures  
• Local communities in need of improved livelihoods | 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 |
| **4. Awareness raising** | • 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 |
5. Capacity building

- 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

- Remaining UXO

Complete the clearance of UXO within the site, to ensure the safety of residents and visitors.

7. Conservation and enhancement

- Natural erosion processes of jars
- Hillside erosion
- Cattle gazing
- 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.
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID No.</th>
<th>Name of the Component Part</th>
<th>Region(s)/District(s)</th>
<th>Coordinates of the Central Point</th>
<th>Area of Nominated Component of the Property (ha)</th>
<th>Area of the Buffer Zone (ha)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Site 1</td>
<td>Paek District/Na O &amp; Ban Ang Villages</td>
<td>N 19°25'48″ E 103°9’18″</td>
<td>33.97</td>
<td>89.61</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>N 19°19'12″ E 103°9’15″</td>
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<td>133.00</td>
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<td>3-1-3</td>
<td>Site 3 – Groups 1 &amp; 3</td>
<td>Phaxay District/Ban Xiengdi Village</td>
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<td>3-2</td>
<td>Site 3 – Group 2</td>
<td>Phaxay District/Ban Xiengdi Village</td>
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<td>3-5</td>
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<td>Phoukood District/ Ban Nakhuwan Village</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Total area (ha)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>1,012.94</td>
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</table>
Site 1 demarcation

Legend
- Visitor building
- Location of individual jar
- Jar group boundary
- Nominated property area
- Buffer zone

Background:
- Aerial Photo taken in 2013
- Archaeological data from the Heritage Department, Lao PDR / UNESCO
- Other based layers data from the National Geographic Department, Lao PDR

Data source:
- Archaeological data from the Heritage Department, Lao PDR / UNESCO
- Other based layers data from the National Geographic Department, Lao PDR

Prepared by:
- Heritage Department, Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR
Site 2 demarcation

Jar Site 2 on Topographic Map

Legend:
- Visitor building
- Location of individual jar
- Jar group boundary
- Nominated property area
- Buffer zone

Background: Topographic data from US Army Topographic map at 1:50,000 scale
Data source: - Archaeological data from the Heritage Department, Lao PDR / UNESCO
- Other based layers data from the National Geographic Department, Lao PDR
Prepared by: Heritage Department, Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR

Jar Site 2 on Aerial Photo

Legend:
- Visitor building
- Location of individual jar
- Jar group boundary
- Nominated property area
- Buffer zone

Background: Aerial Photo taken in 2013
Data source: - Archaeological data from the Heritage Department, Lao PDR / UNESCO
- Other based layers data from the National Geographic Department, Lao PDR
Prepared by: Heritage Department, Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR
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

Legend
- Visitor building
- Location of individual jar
- Jar group boundary
- Nomination property area
- Buffer zone

Jar Site 12 and Site 52 on Topographic Map

Legend
- Visitor building
- Location of individual jar
- Jar group boundary
- Nomination property area
- Buffer zone

Jar Site 12 and Site 52 on Aerial Photo

Background: Aerial Photo taken in 2013
Data source: - Archaeological data from the Heritage Department, Lao PDR / UNESCO
- Other based layers data from the National Geographic Department, Lao PDR
Prepared by: Heritage Department, Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR
Site 21 demarcation

Legend:
- Visitor building
- Location of individual jar
- Jar group boundary
- Nominated property area
- Buffer zone

Jar Site 21 on Topographic Map

Background: Topographic data from US Army Topographic Map at 1:50,000 scale
Data source: Archaeological data from the Heritage Department, Lao PDR / UNESCO
- Other based layers data from the National Geographic Department, Lao PDR
Prepared by: Heritage Department, Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR

Jar Site 21 on Aerial Photo

Background: Aerial Photo taken in 2013
Data source: Archaeological data from the Heritage Department, Lao PDR / UNESCO
- Other based layers data from the National Geographic Department, Lao PDR
Prepared by: Heritage Department, Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR
Site 23 demarcation
Site 25 demarcation
Site 28 demarcation

Jar Site 28 on Topographic Map

Legend
- Location of individual jar
- Jar group boundary
- Nominated property area
- Buffer zone

Background:
- Topographic data from US Army Topographic map at 1:50,000 scale
- Archaeological data from the Heritage Department, Lao PDR / UNESCO
- Other based layers data from the National Geographic Department, Lao PDR

Prepared by:
- Heritage Department, Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR

Jar Site 28 on Aerial Photo

Legend
- Location of individual jar
- Jar group boundary
- Nominated property area
- Buffer zone

Background:
- Aerial Photo taken in 2013
- Archaeological data from the Heritage Department, Lao PDR / UNESCO
- Other based layers data from the National Geographic Department, Lao PDR

Prepared by:
- Heritage Department, Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR
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.
République Démocratique Populaire Lao
Paix Indépendance Démocratie Unité Prospérité

Président de la République

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

DÉCRET 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 ;

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
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 résolue :
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, ornementations, 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 ;
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, résoudant 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 œuvres 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-vivre, 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, Sihkottabong, 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 Xengthong, la caverne Viengsay, les chutes de Khone Papeng, Liphi, les légendes Sang Sinxay, Siosavath.

Article 21. (révisé) Patrimoine national du niveau régional

Article 22. (révisé) Patrimoine national du niveau mondial

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 Boudha Phrabang, la pagode Phrakéo, la pagode Sisaket, la pagode Xiengthong, douze traitions quartoze 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 œuvre 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 promote toutes 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 enregistre 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 transfert à la personne héritée, 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 héritées, 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, fière de la tradition laborieuse, innovative, 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 culture 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 zones :
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 règle 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.

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 gérer 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 pare 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 tire 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 dé 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 classifies 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 musées national consiste le lieu de collecte, d'accumulation, d'étude, de recherché,
d’analyse, de conservation, d’enregistrement d’exposition et de diffusion des objets de grande
valeur, remarquables dans le territoire du pays;
2. Le musées du secteur consiste le lieu de collecte, d’exposition, de conservation, de
préservation des objets de grande valeur, remarquables du secteur;
3. Le musées 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 consiste les lieux de collecte, d’exposition, de conservation, de
réservation 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 consiste 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 assure et convenable;
3. Techniciens instruits en matière de muse 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. Rédiger, 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. Confidence 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 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 régles 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 chargées 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 œuvre 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 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. Concerter 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, l’agriculture 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/ໜໜໜໜ 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 1055 and forwarding to small ridge near old airport yard and cross to the Keng mountain in northern 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 yard 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 and 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 trash, 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 trials, 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/MoICT 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.
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 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

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 Sangien

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 yard 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

Legend:
- Visitor building
- Location of individual jar
- Jar group boundary
- Nominate property area
- Buffer zone

Jar Site 21 on Topographic Map
Background: Topographic data from US Army Topographic map at 1:50,000 scale
Data source:
- Archaeological data from the Heritage Department, Lao PDR / UNESCO
- Other based layers data from the National Geographic Department, Lao PDR
Prepared by: Heritage Department, Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR

Jar Site 21 on Aerial Photo
Background: Aerial Photo taken in 2013
Data source:
- Archaeological data from the Heritage Department, Lao PDR / UNESCO
- Other based layers data from the National Geographic Department, Lao PDR
Prepared by: Heritage Department, Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR
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.
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 Xiengkhuan 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.
(Groups 3-1 & 3-3, Group 3-2, Group 3-4, Group 3-5, Group 3-7 and 3-8)
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 civilization 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 civilization. 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 civilization 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 civilization. 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 Xiengkhuan 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
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 Sangien

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

Legend
- Location of individual jar
- Jar group boundary
- Nominated property area
- Buffer zone

Jar Site 23 on Topographic Map

Legend
- Location of individual jar
- Jar group boundary
- Nominated property area
- Buffer zone

Jar Site 23 on Aerial Photo
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**

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**Legend**
- Location of individual jar
- Jar group boundary
- Nominated property area
- Buffer zone

**Jar Site 25 on Topographic Map**
- Background: Topographic data from US Army/Topographic map at 1:50,000 scale
- Data source: Archaeological data from the Heritage Department, Lao PDR / UNESCO
- Other based layers data from the National Geographic Department, Lao PDR
- Prepared by: Heritage Department, Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR

**Jar Site 25 on Aerial Photo**
- Background: Aerial Photo taken in 2013
- Data source: Archaeological data from the Heritage Department, Lao PDR / UNESCO
- Other based layers data from the National Geographic Department, Lao PDR
- Prepared by: Heritage Department, Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR
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

**Management Unit (13 staff)**
- Field Manager (1)
- Field Assistant Manager (2)
- Secretary (1)
- Accountant (2)
- Driver (1)
- Office Janitor (1)
- Janitor on the field (5) Site 1

**Conservation and Protection Unit (9 staff)**
- Architect (2)
- Engineer (1)
- Archeologist (1)
- Environmental staff (1)
- Staff at the District Heritage Office (1 each district) for 4 districts (4)

**Archeology and Restoration Unit (5 staff)**
- Historian (1)
- Archeologist (2)
- Restorer (1)
- GIS Specialist (1)

**Information and Awareness-raising Unit (5 staff)**
- GIS Specialist (1)
- IT Technical Staff (1)
- Awareness-raising Staff (3)
DEPARTMENT OF ICT DECREES, 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division annual budget from Provincial</td>
<td>Kip 150M (US$18,100)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government until 2020</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Heritage project funding for 2016-20 (non-salary)</td>
<td>Kip 1,500M (US$181,000)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National and Provincial Expertise in Conservation and Management</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expertise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archaeologist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architect</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surveyor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Art Historian</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cultural management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Curator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expertise</td>
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<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tourism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Pedagogical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Teacher</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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:
**THEME 1: Site protection**

**Management objective:**
- Protect the site from impacts which endanger the long-term safeguarding of its heritage values and attributes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Responsible party</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Time frame</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1. Complete the demarcation of all 15 components of the World Heritage property and their buffer zones using posts to mark the boundaries</td>
<td>MICT / Department of Heritage - Provincial of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2. Complete the fencing of all 15 components of the World Heritage property to protect the jars against damage</td>
<td>Provincial of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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</td>
<td>MICT / Department of Heritage - Provincial of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**THEME 2: GIS, inventory and database**

**Management objective:**
- 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Responsible party</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Time frame</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.1. Site management staff will be trained by staff of Ministry of</td>
<td>Department of Heritage, Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>Short term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Culture and Tourism, especially from the Department of</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heritage, to use the GIS system</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2. The existing GIS will be developed into a full management database</td>
<td>Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>containing data on all aspects of the World Heritage property and</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>buffer zones and will be regularly updated by the staff of</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.3. The Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division will provide a data</td>
<td>Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Long term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>service to other government agencies working in the Megalithic Jar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sites subject to appropriate approval from the Provincial Heritage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steering Committee. The Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
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<tr>
<td>will respond to requests for data from other bodies and individuals</td>
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<tr>
<td>according to the decisions of the Provincial Heritage Steering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Committee. Copyright in all data must remain with the Plain of Jars</td>
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<tr>
<td>Heritage Technical Division and the Office should charge an</td>
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<td>appropriate fee for this service</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.4. The Megalithic Jar Sites monitoring data will be updated annually</td>
<td>Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>Medium term</td>
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<tr>
<td>and an annual progress report on conservation of resources will</td>
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</table>
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THEME 3: Tourism and Site development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Management objectives:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Communicate the site’s importance to national and international audience through improved interpretation and presentation, in line with latest research findings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Ensure tourism develops in a sustainable manner in line with the site’s carrying capacity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Provide benefits to local communities through community-based tourism</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Responsible party</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Time frame</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.1. Site interpretation/presentation/promotion</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1.1. Develop signage/kiosks at visited sites (2, 3, 21, 25 and 52)</td>
<td>Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1.2. Develop other interpretation material (brochures) for all 15 components of the World Heritage property</td>
<td>Provincial of ICT, Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1.3. Develop on-site interpretation for all 15 components of the World Heritage property</td>
<td>Provincial of ICT, Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1.4. Develop tour guiding services</td>
<td>MICT, Provincial of ICT, Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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</td>
<td>MICT, Provincial of ICT, Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### THEME 4: Awareness raising

**Management objective:**
- Improve understanding of the site’s significance and management regulations as a basis for better cooperation in safeguarding the site.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Responsible party</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Time frame</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.1. Communities living near jars sites</td>
<td>- MICT - Provincial of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>M</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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</td>
<td>- Provincial of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
<td>- MICT - Provincial of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**THEME 5: Capacity building**

**Management objectives:**
- 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Responsible party</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Time frame</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>5.1. Conservation</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Responsible party</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Time frame</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 5.2. Heritage Impact Assessment | - Provincial Department of ICT  
- Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division | H | M |
| 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**

**Management objective:**
- Complete the clearance of UXO at the site, to ensure the safety of residents and visitors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Responsible party</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Time frame</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 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:**
- Ensure the protection of the jars, other heritage attributes, along with the archaeological, landscape and natural setting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Responsible party</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Time frame</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7.1. Develop and implement a policy for dealing with dislodged or damaged jars</td>
<td>Provincial Department of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.2. Develop and implement a policy for preventative conservation of the jars, including cleaning and drainage</td>
<td>Provincial Department of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.3. Consolidate and conserve objects that have been removed from jar sites</td>
<td>Provincial Department of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.4. Continue to implement the sustainable heritage management of all jar sites, including by linking World Heritage property management with community-based tourism</td>
<td>MICT / Department of Heritage - Provincial Department of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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</td>
<td>MICT / Department of Heritage - Provincial Department of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Provincial Department of ICT - Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.7. The on-going Cultural and Biodiversity and Socio-economic</td>
<td>Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>M</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Impact Monitoring programme is to be conducted once a year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Responsible party</th>
<th>Priority: High/Medium/Low</th>
<th>Time frame: Short term/Medium term/Long term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 7.8. Site guards will be trained and posted at all sites currently     | - Provincial Department of ICT
- Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division                                 | M                          | S                                           |
|    visited by tourists to control potential impacts.                  |                                                                                   |                           |                                             |
| 7.9. Increased security measures for tourism visited sites during the  | - Provincial Department of ICT
- Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division                                 | M                          | S                                           |
|    local holiday seasons such as the Hmong and Lao New Years          |                                                                                   |                           |                                             |

**THEME 8: Archaeological research strategy**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Responsible party</th>
<th>Priority: High/Medium/Low</th>
<th>Time frame: Short term/Medium term/Long term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.1. Survey and research within the inscribed property sites</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>S &amp; M</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.2. Survey and research outside the property areas within</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>S &amp; M</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xiengkhuang province</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8.3. Survey and research in neighboring provinces: Luang Prabang,</td>
<td>Concerned provincial authorities</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>M &amp; L</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saysomboun and Vientiane.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8.4. Extension of survey and research on non-jars Megalithic sites –</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>M &amp; L</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upright stone or Hin Tang in Hua Phanh province: Menhir, Dolmen,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cromlech and associated elements</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.5. Creation of <strong>Megalithic Culture Study Centre</strong> – MCSC ສູນສາວັດ</td>
<td>DH, NUoL, XK</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>M &amp; L</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 ສາວັດທະນະທໍາຍຸກຫີນໃຫຍ່</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.6. Acquire more scientific material – artifacts &amp; data, for display in</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>M &amp; L</td>
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<tr>
<td>National / Provincial Museum</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8.7. Legal documents and frameworks environment to support</td>
<td>DH/DoA</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>M &amp; L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>archaeological research strategy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.8. Publication of the scientific knowledge for understanding of</td>
<td>DH/DoA/foreign research partners</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>M &amp; L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Megalithic Jars Practice in Laos. Dissemination, academic</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>curriculum in educational institutions</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.8. Site monitoring and Management (prevention of treasure</td>
<td>XK/MJSMO</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>M &amp; L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hunter/illegal digging)</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.8. Consultation/ Coordination/ Carry out Heritage Impact</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>S &amp; M</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment and proper mitigation measures in case of socio-economic development project within the potential megalithic and other sites of historic importance</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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-DEMINING 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.

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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

**Surface Finds**
- Bag finds
- Mark location
- Bag collection at end of each day
- Add bag number
- Recording of location

**Sub-surface Finds**
- Bag finds
- Record depth
- Bag collection at end of each day
- Add bag number
- Recording of location

**Assemblages**
- Noted in grid and lane
- Stop UXO search
- Notify PoJ team
- Excavation, recording and bagging

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- On site
- Off site

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**Implementation**
- Implemented by UXO technicians and site supervisor
- Implemented by designated person
- Implemented by PoJ Team
- Implemented by VAC team or UXO technicians as appropriate
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

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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
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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 to 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 result 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.
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 consultant 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/DoICT.

**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;

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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;
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

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

### 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 civilization 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 civilization. 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 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 on 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/DoICT 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
<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Box number</th>
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</tbody>
</table>
Annex II

Finds recording form
Site Name:  

Site No.:  

Unique number: (form number linked to GIS database)

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)
1. Introduction

The Plain of Jars sites are located mainly in Xieng Khuang Province but more recently jar sites within Luang Prabang Province have been re-surveyed and excavated. The geographical distribution of the jar sites extends from the Xieng Khuang Central Plateau to the south, west as well as east and further.

After years of seclusion Xieng Khuang Province is promoted for economic development including animal husbandry, mining, hydropower and agricultural industries. The nomination of the Plain of Jars for World Heritage will encourage local and international tourism and lead to tourism infrastructure development both private and by authorities. The heightened interest in the Plain of Jars opens up calls for greater attention to the protection of the site and also at the same time opens up an opportunity to deepen knowledge about the site through more research. Ongoing survey and future research will shed more light on the jars themselves, their connection of landscape and sites, and the spread of the culture associated with the producers of the jars.

The Department of Heritage of the Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism has the primary responsibility not only for the safeguarding of the Plain of Jars but also in the improvement of scientific information about the site. To support this mandate, it intends to expand multi-disciplinary collaboration with national and international institutions, including in the fields of archaeology, geology, conservation, GIS and mapping, dating, etc. Capacity building in these related areas should also be sought and encouraged.

2. Objectives of the Archaeological Research Strategy

In the period 2018-2022, the Heritage Department has set out the vision and main objectives of the Archaeological Research Strategy as below:

- To advance archaeological work at the Plain of Jars which is in line with the policy of the Party and Government;
- To provide a framework for expanding cooperation from national and international partners in the future for archaeological research at the Plain of Jars to contribute to conserving the site and to enhancing the conservation of heritage in Lao PDR as a whole.

3. Research Priorities

In order to achieve the above objectives, the Department of Heritage has set the following priorities and archaeological research strategy.

The scope of the research should focus on:

- Survey and research within the 15 nominated jar clusters which are the main attributes of the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the nominated World Heritage site
- Survey and research outside the 15 nominated jar clusters including both jar and associated sites, including but not limited to areas of possible settlement and related activities, and jar manufacturing areas and quarries, etc which may be under threat of development or destruction
- Artefacts associated with the Plain of Jars, including objects now in collections in Lao PDR and abroad

The key research questions include but are not limited to the following:

- **Socio-economic profile of the people who produced the jars**: identity and origins of the people, livelihoods, social hierarchy, ethnic groups, evidence of human mobility, trace to any current descendants, evidence of settlements, period of settlements, reasons for migration or end of this culture

- **Beliefs associated with the jar sites**: spiritual beliefs, significance of the jars, associated mythology

- **Jar production**: technology of jar production and transport, rituals associated with the production and transport of jars, determining if/how jars and artefacts were markers of prestige, exotic items (stone/glass beads, etc), evidence for trading networks

- **Differences in the jars in Xieng Khouang and Luang Prabang**: differences in shape, evolution of jar form possibly tied to use

- **Dating of the jars**: what was the range of the production period, was there a tapering off or an abrupt end?

- **Larger landscape setting of the jars**: location of jars in relation to landscape, rock source, possible overland cultural or trade routes

- **Other historical evidence**: documentary evidence from India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, China and other countries should be researched to triangulate the archaeological evidence

4. **Capacity Building**

In order to strengthen capacity within Lao PDR to undertake archaeological research, additional development of human resources is proposed.

**Human resources**

- Continue to implement on-going capacity building through cooperative activities and projects with international teams.

- At the end of each cooperative project, there should be a technical consultation meeting in order to evaluate and analyse pros and cons as well as challenges encountered during the project period in order to draw lessons learned with a view to future improvements.

- Heritage Department should organize annual field trainings for archaeologists, government officers at the World Heritage Site Offices and researchers at the Archaeology Division of the Heritage Department to undertake field work for data collection, technological equipment application, and for gaining their real experiences on the field.

- The Archaeology Division has developed an archaeological training plan for the staff at the provincial and local level.

- Heritage Department has an agreement with the National University of Lao PDR (NoUL) to accept students from the Faculty of Archaeology and Faculty of History for internship. Those interns will have an opportunity to accompany a research team in the field and gain practical on the job experience that will be useful when applying to relevant government offices especially at the Archaeology Division of the Heritage Department.
For the involvement of the local community, the Archaeology Division has a responsibility to develop a plan for awareness raising on archaeology and World Heritage protection.

Technical skills and equipment
Specialised training is proposed in the following areas:
- Use of technological tools like using drones for recording and making VDOs
- Use of GPS for marking the boundary demarcation points and collecting data for improving the archaeological inventory of the jars
- Jar site data inventorying
- Small finds conservation, drawing and storage
- Implementation of Heritage Impact Assessment
- DNA analysis to supplement existing archaeological analysis techniques
- Use of GIS for site monitoring and management, possibly using open-source GIS software
- In parallel with the technical skills, the following equipment is required:
  - computer hardware and software
  - survey and excavation equipment including but not limited to GPS, theodolites
  - drawing and storage materials
  - transport vehicles to undertake survey, monitoring activities and excavations
  - budget to operate and maintain equipment

5. Proposed methodologies and actions
The following methodologies and actions are proposed:
- Develop a survey plan beyond the World Heritage-nominated jar sites in order to make a comprehensive inventory of jar sites and other heritage resources within Xieng Khouang
- Continue to survey and to conduct multi-disciplinary excavations within the limitations of budget to solve the historical information gaps in the history of the Plain of Jars (as per Section 3). In order to answer those questions, the Heritage Department has to work closely with the other departments, i.e. Department of History, Geology, Anthropology, among others.
- Monitor the sites especially for illegal digging and/or excavations for gold or for when there are artefacts discovered by villagers so that technical staff and researchers from Heritage Department can undertake proper investigation
- Implement Heritage Impact Assessment guidelines by screening development projects in close proximity to heritage sites in close collaboration with provincial authorities and departments with a view to identifying potential adverse impacts and mitigation options
- Oversee and coordinate the archaeological work between the provincial authorities, Heritage Department and central authorities

6. Vision towards an archaeology field research centre in Xieng Khouang
In the long-term, it is proposed to establish an archaeological field research centre in Xieng Khouang, with the following aims that will have an impact at both technical and policy level:
- To seek and collaborate with international institutions on the advancement of Plain of Jars information and archaeology in Lao PDR
- To improve wider understanding about the mystery of the Plain of Jars through the new publications containing updated scientific information
- To strengthen the capacity of the World Heritage Office for the Plain of Jars at the local and provincial level
- To build up scientific knowledge, technology and capacity as well as skills to implement modern archaeological research techniques for Lao archaeologists
- To set up a technical archaeologist team and heritage protection team at the central level and the local level which will be able to exchange experiences, lessons learns and conduct study visits in neighbouring countries with a view to the advancement of archaeology in Lao PDR
- To acquire more archaeological collections for supporting museum displays at the provincial as well as national level
- To provide a venue for capacity building workshops for all related World Heritage offices across the country as well as to organize international seminars on archaeology
- To revise the legal documents and frameworks which are related to archaeology in order to align with the archaeological research strategy
The Archaeological research strategy 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:

### THEME 8: Archaeological research strategy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Responsible party</th>
<th>Priority:</th>
<th>Time frame: Short term/ Medium term/ Long term</th>
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<tr>
<td>8.1. Survey and research within the inscribed property sites</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>H</strong></td>
<td><strong>S &amp; M</strong></td>
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<td>8.2. Survey and research outside the property areas within Xiengkhuang province</td>
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<td>8.3. Survey and research in neighboring provinces: Luang Prabang, Saysomboun and Vientiane.</td>
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<td><strong>M &amp; L</strong></td>
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<td>8.4. Extension of survey and research on non-jars Megalithic sites – Upright stone or Hin Tang in Hua Phanh province: Menhir, Dolmen, Cromlech and associated elements</td>
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<td><strong>M &amp; L</strong></td>
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<td>8.5. Creation of <strong>Megalithic Culture Study Centre</strong> – MCSC ຊູນສຶກສາວັດຕະນະທະນະທໍາຍຸກຫີນໃຫຍ່</td>
<td>DH, NUoL, XK</td>
<td><strong>M</strong></td>
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<td>8.6. Acquire more scientific material – artifacts &amp; data, for display in National / Provincial Museum</td>
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<td>8.7. Legal documents and frameworks environment to support archaeological research strategy</td>
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<td>8.8. Publication of the scientific knowledge for</td>
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<td><strong>M</strong></td>
<td><strong>M &amp; L</strong></td>
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<td>understanding of Megalithic Jars Practice in Laos. Dissemination, academic curriculum in educational institutions</td>
<td>research partners</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.8. Site monitoring and Management (prevention of treasure hunter/illegal digging)</td>
<td>XK/MJSMO</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.8. Consultation/ Coordination/ Carry out Heritage Impact Assessment and proper mitigation measures in case of socio-economic development project within the potential megalithic and other sites of historic importance</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>S &amp; M</td>
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Archaeological results of Site 23 UXO clearance programme.

July 2008
Julie Van Den Bergh and Samlane Luangaphay
Fighting Poverty at the Plain of Jars Project
INTRODUCTION

Section 1. Training programme

Section 2. UXO clearance and archaeological data retrieval methodology

Section 3. Assessment of the Methodology.

Section 4. The finds

Section 5. Test pit excavations

Trench I
Trench II

Section 6. Recording of extra stone features

Section 7. The UXO clearance results

Section 8. Recording of the Ban Nam Hom Quarry

References and Bibliography main text and appendices

Appendix A. Finds form

Appendix B. Archaeological data retrieval results from recorded excavations

Appendix C. Find bag list

Appendix D. Finds photographs

Appendix D. Section drawings
Section 1. Introduction

The UXO Clearance Project at Ban Nam Hom, Muang Kham (Site 23) was commenced on the 2\textsuperscript{nd} of April 2007 and was completed on the 8\textsuperscript{th} of April 2007.

\textit{i) People involved/responsibilities}

UXO clearance Team:

- Village Assistance Clearance Team (VAC): 15 local villagers are hired for the duration of the UXO clearance at Site 23; their responsibilities include vegetation clearance and providing technical support for the MAG technicians;

- MAG Technicians: two teams of 8 trained technicians are deployed to detect metal to specified depths and examine metal readings and provide initial identification of unexploded ordinance (UXO);

- MAG team leader: Experienced MAG technician who is responsible for organisation of work force and initial identification of UXO;

- MAG deputy team leader: Experienced MAG technician who assists the team leader in organisation of work force and initial identification of UXO;

- MAG Technical Field Manager: Mr. Wilfrid Kubriske; responsible for overall site management, UXO identification and bomb detonation.

Archaeological Team:

- Department of Information and Culture (DoIC) provided technical support and facilitated liaison between villages and various teams;

Ms. Julie Van Den Bergh: International Archaeologist

- International Archaeologist responsible training of VAC, MAG technicians, deputy and team leaders and PdJ team; liaising with MAG and villagers and other relevant departments.

Mr. Samlane Luangaphay: National Archaeologist

- National Archaeologist responsible assisting in training of VAC, MAG technicians, deputy and team leaders and PdJ team; liaising with MAG and villagers and other relevant departments.

Mr. Khamleune (Officer of Department of Information and Culture), Mrs. Khammeung Budthavixay, Mr Phousavanh Volasing and Ms. Panpany Mingkhamdeng

- Assisting in the recording of extra stone features, collection of finds; processing, conservation and storage of the finds; responsible for forms; bags; and supplies; monitoring of site labelling of the bags and storage; and finds location map drawing.
Designated person: Selected by MAG to aid in archaeo recording

- The designated person is a MAG Technician selected by MAG to aid in the archaeo-data recording. At the end of the day the designated person will collect all the small finds, label the bags and place them in a temporary storage place. The labelling of the bags will include information on site, bag number, depths and location.

ii) Reporting Format

This report has been divided into seven sections. Section 1 will provide the details and goals of the training programme. The data retrieval strategy will be presented in Section 2 and lessons learned and recommendations will be outlined in section 3. Section 4 will provide brief descriptions for each isolated find bag and section 5 will summarise the details of the trench(es) excavated and results. The full excavation and recording details as well as photographs of the excavated artefacts can be found in Appendix C and D and Appendix E, respectively. Section 6 will highlight the results of the UXO clearance, while its impacts on tourism and the local community will be set out in section 7.

Section 1. Training programme

The Ban Nam Hom VAC team and the new PdJ team member received a basic archaeological training prior and during the project.

VAC Team

The VAC training was held on site for the 15 local villagers on the team (Activity report 5). The training was conducted by the international and national archaeologists assisted by Mr. Khamman Phimmasan who gave an introduction to the legislation protecting heritage. The training focused on the significance of the Plain of Jars and artefact recognition.

PdJ Team

During Phase III of Safeguarding the Plain of Jars project the training programme for the PdJ team was designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the tasks involved in the recovery, recording and storage of the archaeological material. Phase IV continued the methodology commenced in Phase III. Training for the new team members was provided by the archaeologists and the old team members prior and during the clearance operation.

Section 2. UXO clearance and archaeological data retrieval methodology

i) Introduction

The clearance of the UXO on the archaeological site dictated a methodology highlighting safety during the retrieval and recording of archaeological information. The aim of the clearance programme is to present a “safe” site for local and international tourists and for long-term research purposes.
ii) Specifications

The tourism and research aspects of the archaeological site of the Plain of Jars called for an adaptation of usual UXO clearance methodology. The specifications were set out in discussion with the bomb disposal group and after careful consideration of previous investigations and results, a three-fold approach was adopted, i.e.;

- Clearance of the ground surface of UXO; within the perimeter of the archaeological site, delineated by the concrete and barbed wire fence;

- Clearance of the on site paths, to a depth of 25 cm below the surface; and

- Clearance of an area of 5 metres around the jars to a depth of 1 metre below the surface, for research purposes.

The goal of this approach was to minimise risk to visitors and make safe excavation possible.

Surface Clearance Methodology

The Village Assistance Clearance (VAC) team, which is made up of 15 local villagers was trained by MAG to clear vegetation to the ground surface, however, the villagers had already cut the vegetation prior to the arrival of the team.

The following procedure was to be followed:

If immovable stone objects, such as unrecorded jars are found, they are marked with survey tape or another type of marker; clearance staff then alerts the site supervisor who will then notify the appropriate PdJ person for follow-up action.

If small finds are found, the team places them in a bag and leaves the bag where the finds were retrieved. The designated person collects, marks location, labels and stores all bags.

Sub-surface Clearance Methodology

Excavation and sub-surface clearance is carried out by fully trained MAG technicians. As part of the initial stages of the programme, a UNESCO training module was given to familiarise the staff with the types of archaeological material, which may be found in the course of clearance. This included the possibility of in situ archaeological assemblages or deposits being exposed.

Standard UXO clearance is carried out within a recording grid of 10m² boxes divided into 1m wide lanes. The lane and box divisions were found to suit archaeological needs of recording. When individual items are found which may be “archaeological” they are collected in a plastic bag and left in the lane. Point locations of each find were to be marked by the MAG team leader in a different colour than the UXO readings. Such a map would form part of the archaeological record.
If a potential deposit or group of remains (in a meaningful spatial arrangement) is encountered, clearance in that lane would temporarily cease and the site supervisor would notify the DoIC contact person for follow-up action.

All occurrences of archaeological material should be recorded on a master map of each grid box.

**Follow-up Action**

There are 3 categories of follow-up action for PdJ team in case of archaeological finds:

1. In the case of surface material reported by the team, the designated person on site records the location of finds by BOX and LANE identification and retrieves object(s).

2. Plastic bags of material collected during sub-surface clearance within the grid box should be collected by the designated person. Each bag is to be marked with BOX and LANE identification code as well as the depth of retrieval in cm and then sealed and stored for later collection and processing by the PdJ team in the office.

3. If a possible intact deposit is found, the PdJ team responds immediately by coming to the site, mapping and photographing the material, excavating it and removing it to the storage facility at the PdJ project office.

**Off-site Processing of Material**

The archaeological material was transported to the UNESCO project office in Phonsavan. The inventory of all bags was undertaken in the site office and forms were filled out itemising the contents of each. The finds were processed by weighing, counting, description and photographing after cleaning. The PdJ team also packed, labelled and appropriately stored the artefacts.

**Section 3. Assessment of the Methodology.**

It was apparent that the on site labelling of the bags and recording of depths had been conducted meticulously. The bags had been given individual numbers, box and lane numbers as requested.

In response to the mapping difficulties experienced at Ban Pakeo the mapping was undertaken by Mr. Khamleune, who marked point locations for archaeological material and mapped the points shortly afterwards using MAG turning points and box corners.

**Section 4. The finds**

A total of 24 bags were collected during the UXO clearance operation and a further 17 bags were filled during the excavation.
**Brief description of the isolated finds**

Thirteen pottery fragments were collected from the surface at the top of the path leading to Group 2. The concentration is approximately 40 metres south of nearest jar Group 2; no in situ material was noted in this area which does not have any stone jars. Twelve of the thirteen fragments may belong to a single vessel (Plate 1, bags 1-4, 6-8, 23, 40 and 44); they consists of thick coarse ware pottery fragments with net pattern decoration on the body. The impressed net pattern (Plate 2) is reminiscent of Iron Age Han Dynasty Pottery in China or the Sa Huyhn Pottery of Central Vietnam.

While the surface material consisted of pottery fragments, the UXO clearance operation recovered metal objects; including several knives and agricultural implements (see appendix E Bags 5 to 22). It was noted that few of the metal implements appear modern; including material in bag 11, 12, 18 and 19 (see bag photos in appendix E). The isolated finds were recorded at depths between surface and 30 cm below the surface, with only three objects deeper than 15cm.

**Section 5  Test pit excavation**

Two test pits were excavated at the end of the clearance programme to verify the stratigraphy. The excavations were used to familiarize the new team members with archaeological recording in the field (plates 4-6).
Trench I

It was decided to locate the test pit in group 2 of Ban Nam Hom jar site. In order to verify if the stone jar is placed on an old surface the test pit was placed immediately west of a stone jar (group 1, jar 2)(plate 3).

The trench measured 1 by 1 metre and was excavated to a depth of 0.65 metre below the surface. The excavation was halted due to safety reason and virgin soil was reached.

A total of five contexts were recorded (plates 7-10, drawings 1.1-1.4). The topsoil, context 01 measured between 7 and 16 cm and contained some roots and evidence of animal activity but no artefacts. It consisted of light brownish grey slightly clayey and slightly sandy silt. Context 02 was light grey slightly sandy and very clayey silt with rounded lime stones. It measures between 10 to 15 cm and 30 cm below the surface in the east and south of the trench and down to approximately 20 cm in the north and west of the trench. Context 02 too was void of artefacts. The, mainly ceramic, finds were excavated from context 03 and context 04. Context 03 consisted of brown very slightly silty gritty clay with a large root. Context 04 was a thin soil deposit recorded only in the south west corner of the trench, it contained few ceramic finds. The soil was pale brown gritty clay with evidence of animal activity. The ceramic finds from context 03 were found in small in situ clusters (plate 11).
Next to a small bowl with footrim a iron knife was excavated at a depth of 45 cm below the surface (plate 12) The test pit was abandoned after a sterile and compacted light yellowish brown silty, gritty clay deposits (context 05) was reached at a depth of approximately 60 cm below the surface.
Trench II

A second test pit was opened on the second day of excavation by the national archaeologist at group 4 of Site 23. It was positioned to the northeast of a large upright jar (group 4, jar 1) (plate 13-16). The trench measured 1 by 1 metre and was excavated to a depth of 0.40 metre below the surface. The excavation was halted due to safety reason and as the excavator did not want to destroy the roots of the trees.

The top soil had a thickness between 1 to 15 cm and contained some tree roots and white limestone fragments scattered within the test pit but no artefacts were found. The top soil consisted of strong brow grey mixed with brownish yellow soil. Below the white limestone fragments and roots at a depth of 24 to 40 cm below the surface a lot of pottery fragments were found in 3 to 4 localities. The pottery found consisted of small bowls, the majority thin walled however, different types were also recovered (plate 14). This layer consisted of dark reddish mixed sandy silt.

Two layers were recorded within test pit 2 at group 4 of site 23. The first layer, topsoil (plate 15) measured between 0 -15 and consisted of dark grey soil. The second layer measured 24 to 40 cm below the surface; it consisted of strong brow grey mixed brownish yellow and contained small fragments stones.
Section 6. Recording of extra stone features

A new group of jars was discovered south of Group Three; Group 4 consists of two stone jars. The jars were surveyed by Mr. Khamleune together with his trainee Ms. Pany.

An additional jar previously obscured by shrubbery was also noted at group two and recorded.

Section 7. The UXO clearance results

During the clearance of jars site 23, MAG cleared a total of 6,837 m², 870 m² deep search and 5,967 m² shallow search. No UXO were found and there was little scrap metal, although the teams did find many 7.62mm cartridge casings and bullets. Community meetings and surveys had indicated potential presence of UXO. The occurrence of large numbers of cartridge casings and bullets indicated that there had been armed conflict on the site and UXO was found during the clearance of nearby agricultural land.

The area which has been cleared of UXO is indicated by a square marking, measuring 20 by 20 cm or 20 by 15 cm and protruding a few centimetres above ground.

The marking system will be explained at the entrance of Site One and new UNESCO posters will be prepared to identify the depth of clearance and methodology employed.

Section 8. Recording of the Ban Na Nam Hom Quarry

The site is a good example of the local sourcing of the jar stone. One of the several bedrock areas at Group 2 was uncovered and cleaned. Several blocks, hewn on five sides but still connected to the bedrock were recorded. Areas where blocks had been removed were also noted and documented. A series of photographs were taken to illustrate the quarrying techniques.
A metal knife (plate 19) was uncovered between the stones, no other material was found near the quarry.
Appendices:

Appendix A Finds form
Appendix B Archaeological data retrieval results from recorded excavations
Appendix C Find bag list
Appendix D Finds photographs
Appendix E Section, ground plan drawings (scanned from hardcopy)

References and Bibliography main text and appendices:


Appendix A  Finds form

LAG-UNESCO PROJECT TO SAFEGUARD THE PLAIN OF JARS:
XIENG KHUANG PROVINCE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND CULTURE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENTS:

Site Name: __________________________  S _____

Finds form

Date recorded: __________  Recorded by: ______________

1. Location (Point area of retrieval): __________________________

2. Context: __________________________
   Depth of retrieval: ________________ (cm)

3. Material categories:

4. Subcategories (identification of find):

5. Fragment count: __________

6. Weight (grams)

7. Condition: good eroded

8. Main decoration (Condition): good fragile eroded

9. Incised geometric  plain
   Incised line glazed brown or green

10. Repository information: shelf________/ box________/bag________

11. Remarks or description association with other artefacts or features description

12. Photograph (Photo):

13. Description:

14. Photographs (Photo):
Appendix B
Archaeological data retrieval results from recorded excavations

Two trenches were excavated. Drawing(s) can be found in Appendix F.

Trench I

A test pit was conducted to verify the stratigraphy of the site. It was decided to locate the test pit in Group 1 of Ban Nam Hom jar site. In order to confirm if the stone jar is placed on an old surface, the test pit was placed immediately next to a stone jar (Group 1, jar #2).

The trench measured 1 by 1 metre and was excavated to a depth of 0.65 metre below the surface. The excavation was halted due to safety reason and the fact that virgin soil was reached.

The stratigraphy. (drawings 1.1 to 1.4; Plates 2.1 to 2.3)

A total of 5 contexts were recorded in the trench. **Contexts 01** consists of the modern day sterile topsoil and comprises of light yellowish grey slightly clayey and slightly sandy SILT. **Context 02** was light grey slightly sandy and very clayey silt with rounded lime stones. It measures between 10 to 15 cm and 30 cm below the surface in the east and south of the trench and down to approximately 20 cm in the north and west of the trench. **Context 03** consisted of brown very slightly silty gritty clay with a large root. **Context 04** was a thin soil deposit recorded only in the south west corner of the trench. The soil was pale brown gritty clay with evidence of animal activity. The test pit was abandoned after a sterile and compacted light yellowish brown silty, gritty clay deposits (**context 05**) was reached at a depth of approximately 60 cm below the surface.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site 23</th>
<th>Trench I</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Context</td>
<td>Depth in cm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>0 – 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>10 - 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>30 - 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>30 - 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>60-65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The finds.

There were no finds recorded in context 01 and context 02.

The majority of the finds were recorded in context 03. They appeared to be in situ. Few finds were collected from context 04; it is believed that the major root running through the test pit accounts for the finds displacement into context 04.

Context 03.
The pottery is thin walled with large inclusions, the majority is plain but faint combing and some incised lines and geometric decoration was noted. The pottery was excavated from small clusters and near a bowl with footrim an iron knife was excavated.

Context 04.
The pottery was same as found in context 03, but the fragments were small and few. The table below summarises the finds excavated from context 03 and context 04:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test pit One</th>
<th>Context</th>
<th>ID</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>Weight in gr.</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bag #25</td>
<td>03; -26cm</td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>Thin resin exterior; small F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>RF</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Resin(^1) out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bag #27</td>
<td>O3; -40; SE</td>
<td>RF</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>One with resin out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>With faint combing, one clear with resin out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>Plain with resin exterior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>Plain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Incised deco possibly wavy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bag #26</td>
<td>03; -41; centre</td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Resin out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>RF</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Incised deco, line and geom.; resin out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bag #28</td>
<td>03; SC</td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Faint combing;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>With exterior resin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>Plain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bag #29</td>
<td>03; C+SE</td>
<td>RF</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>3F of same pot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Resin exterior</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) Resins in this case could be burnished; black in colour on very thin pottery
Interpretation and summary.

The pottery does not resemble the urn pots excavated at Site One, but seem more similar to the thin walled plain pottery fragments excavated from Site Three.

The pottery of context 03 was excavated *in situ*, however, the bottom of the stone jar was located a good 20-30 cm below these deposits. This is unlike the stratigraphy at Site One, Two, Three and Site 52.

**Trench II**

A second test pit was opened on the second day of excavation by the national archaeologist at group 4 of Site 23. It was positioned to the northeast of a large upright jar (group 4, jar 1).

A total of two contexts were recorded in Test pit 2. **Context 01** consists of dark grey soil and **context 02** was strong brown grey mixed brownish yellow and contained small fragments stones. The trench measured 1 by 1 metre and was excavated to a depth of 0.40 metre below the...
surface. The excavation was halted due to safety reason and as the excavator did not want to destroy the roots of the trees.

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<tr>
<td><strong>Context</strong></td>
<td><strong>Depth in cm</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>0 - 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>24 - 40</td>
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</table>

The finds.

All recorded artefacts were excavated from Context 02.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test pit One</th>
<th>Context</th>
<th>ID</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>Weight in gr.</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bag #34</td>
<td>-24cm</td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>Thin resin exterior; two shoulder F</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Paddle marked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>Thin plain heavy quartz temper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Thin, plain with resin exterior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bag #35</td>
<td>-24</td>
<td>RF</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Resin out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Plain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bag #36</td>
<td>-24</td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>Resin out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>Plain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Faint combing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>RF</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>With exterior resin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bag #37</td>
<td>-24</td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>With exterior resin and faint lines</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>80</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Faint lines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Plain with exterior resin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bag #38</td>
<td>-32</td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>Resin exterior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BF</td>
<td>22</td>
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### Appendix C  Find bag list

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<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Metal</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Surface</td>
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<td>bŒ3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Surface</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>3</td>
<td>bŒ2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Metal</td>
</tr>
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<td>12</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>cŒ2</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>cŒ3</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>cŒ3</td>
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<td>In the jar</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>œc1</td>
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<td>A5+</td>
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<td>A1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Metal</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Surface</td>
</tr>
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<td>TP1</td>
<td>Co.04</td>
<td>SW 31</td>
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<td>TP1</td>
<td>Co.03</td>
<td>26</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>TP1</td>
<td>Co.03</td>
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<td>Ceramic</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
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<td>South central</td>
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<td>C+SE</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>TP1</td>
<td>Co.03</td>
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<td>NE corner</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>TP1</td>
<td>Co.03</td>
<td>One with foot rim</td>
<td>Ceramic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>TP1</td>
<td>Co.03</td>
<td>SE</td>
<td>Ceramic</td>
</tr>
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<td>34</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>TP2</td>
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<td>35</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>TP2</td>
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<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>TP2</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>TP2</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>TP2</td>
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<td>Ceramic</td>
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<td>40</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Surface</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

41 and 42 Artefacts were not found at Ban Nam Hom

<p>| | | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>TP1</td>
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<td>48</td>
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</table>

**Appendix D**   Finds photographs

![Bag 1](image1)

![Bag 2](image2)

19
Bag 35

Bag 36

Bag 37

Bag 38

Bag 39

Bag 40

[Bag 41-42 are artefacts not found at Ban Nam Hom]

Bag 43

Bag 44
Appendix D  Section drawings (scanned from hardcopy)
Site 23. Test pit one.

**Summary of Contexts:**
- **01**: Light brownish grey slightly clayey, slightly sandy Silt
- **02**: Light Grey slightly sandy, very clayey Silt
- **03**: Brown very slightly silty CLAY
- **04**: Pale brown gritty CLAY with animal activity
- **05**: Light yellowish brown silt, gritty compacted CLAY

**Legend:**
- R: roots
- A: animal
- S: rocks
Site 23. Test pit one.

Drawing 1.4  Test pit One. Groundplan (Scale 1:10)

Summary of Contexts:

01  Light brownish grey slightly clayey, slightly sandy SILT
02  Light Grey slightly sandy, very clayey SILT
03  Brown very slightly silty CLAY
04  Pale brown gritty CLAY with animal activity
05  Light yellowish brown silty, gritty compacted CLAY

Legend:

R: roots
S: rocks
K: knife
Archaeological results of Site 52 UXO clearance programme.

July 2008
Julie Van Den Bergh and Samlane Luangaphay
Fighting Poverty at the Plain of Jars project
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTENT</th>
<th>page</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 1. Training programme</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 2. UXO clearance and archaeological data retrieval methodology</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>Section 3. Assessment of the Methodology.</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>Section 4. The finds</td>
<td>7-11</td>
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<td>Section 4.1 Brief description of the isolated finds at the main jar site</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 4.2 Brief description of the isolated find at the quarry site</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>Section 5 Test pit excavation. Trench I.</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Section 6 The UXO clearance results</td>
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Introduction

The UXO Clearance Project at Ban Pakeo, Muang Paek (Site 52) was commenced on the 2nd of March 2007 and was completed by the 5th of April 2007.

i) People involved/responsibilities

UXO clearance Team:

-Village Assistance Clearance Team (VAC): 15 local villagers hired specifically for UXO clearance at Site 52; their responsibilities include vegetation clearance and providing technical support for the MAG technicians;

-MAG Technicians: two teams of 8 trained technicians are deployed to detect metal to specified depths and examine metal readings and provide initial identification of unexploded ordinance (UXO);

-MAG team leader: Experienced MAG technician who is responsible for organisation of work force and initial identification of UXO;

-MAG deputy team leader: Experienced MAG technician who assists the team leader in organisation of work force and initial identification of UXO;

-MAG Technical Field Manager: Mr. Wilfrid Kubriske; responsible for overall site management, UXO identification and bomb detonation.

Archaeological Team:

-Department of Information and Culture (DoIC) provided technical support and facilitated liaison between villages and various teams;

Ms. Julie Van Den Bergh: International Archaeologist

- International Archaeologist responsible training of VAC, MAG technicians, deputy and team leaders and PdJ team; liaising with MAG and villagers and other relevant departments.

Mr. Samlane Luangaphay: National Archaeologist

- National Archaeologist responsible assisting in training of VAC, MAG technicians, deputy and team leaders and PdJ team; liaising with MAG and villagers and other relevant departments.

Mr. Khamman Phimmasan (Head of Heritage House, Xieng Khouang) and Mr. Khamleune (Officer of Department of Information and Culture)

- Assisting in the recording of extra stone features, collection of finds; processing, conservation and storage of the finds; responsible for forms; bags; and supplies; monitoring of site labelling of the bags and storage; and finds location map drawing;
Designated person: Selected by MAG to aid in archaeo recording

- The designated person is a MAG Technician selected by MAG to aid in the archaeo-data recording. At the end of the day the designated person will collect all the small finds, label the bags and place them in a temporary storage place. The labelling of the bags will include information on site, bag number, depths and location.

ii) Reporting Format

This report has been divided into seven sections. Section 1 will provide the details and goals of the training programme. The data retrieval strategy will be presented in Section 2 and lessons learned and recommendations will be outlined in section 3. Section 4 will provide brief descriptions for each isolated find bag and section 5 will summarise the details of the trench(es) excavated and results (see Appendix B). The full excavation and recording details as well as drawings and photographs of the excavated artefacts can be found in Appendix A, C and D. Section 6 will highlight the results of the UXO clearance, while its impacts on tourism and the local community will be set out in section 7.

Section 1. Training programme

The Ban Pakeo VAC team, MAG technicians and PdJ team received a basic archaeological training prior and during the project.

VAC Team

The VAC training was held at MAG base camp at Ban Pakeo for the 15 local villagers on the team (Activity report 4, Plate 1a.-b.). The training was conducted by the international and national archaeologists assisted by a Hmong translator from the MAG technicians team. The training focussed on the significance of the Plain of Jars and its artefacts.

MAG Team

The training of the MAG technicians was held in the Plain of Jars Offices in Phonsavan and was attended by 24 MAG personnel (Activity report 3, plate 2 a.-b.). The training introduced
the Plain of Jars as an archaeological site of high significance; it focussed on the recognition of archaeological deposits and handling of potential archaeological material encountered under the surface. The training concluded with an introduction by Mr. Bounpeng to the tourism aspect of the project and the relationship between the tourism and local income benefits.

Pdj Team

During Phase III of Safeguarding the Plain of Jars project the training programme for the PdJ team was designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the tasks involved in the recovery, recording and storage of the archaeological material. Phase IV continued the methodology commenced in Phase III. Refresher training was received by the old team members at the same time as the MAG training.

Section 2. UXO clearance and archaeological data retrieval methodology

i) Introduction

The clearance of the UXO on the archaeological site dictated a methodology highlighting safety during the retrieval and recording of archaeological information. The aim of the clearance programme is to present a “safe” site for local and international tourists and for long-term research purposes.

ii) Specifications

The tourism and research aspects of the archaeological site of the Plain of Jars called for an adaptation of usual UXO clearance methodology. The specifications were set out in discussion with the bomb disposal group and after careful consideration of previous investigations and results, a three-fold approach was adopted, i.e.;

- Clearance of the ground surface of UXO; within the perimeter of the archaeological site, as decided by local authorities in consultation with the archaeologists;
- Clearance of the on site paths, to a depth of 25 cm below the surface; and
Clearance of an area of 5 metres around the jars to a depth of 1 metre below the surface, for research purposes.

The goal of this approach was to minimise risk to visitors and make safe excavation possible.

**Surface Clearance Methodology**

A new requirement was demanded by MAG before the UXO clearance at Ban Pakeo, namely that the vegetation at the sites be cut by the villagers up to a height of 40cm before the commencement of any clearance. While the request came from MAG, UNESCO was expected to formulate the requirement to the villagers as coordinator of the project. The procedure had not been specified or discussed prior to the workshop introduction meeting or signing of the contract between MAG and UNESCO.

In order to smoothen the way and ensure clearance would occur the villagers of Ban Pakeo were asked as part of a vegetation cutting and maintenance training (Activity report 2) to cut down the vegetation.

In addition the Village Assistance Clearance (VAC) team, which is made up of 15 local villagers was trained by MAG to clear vegetation to the ground surface. A UNESCO training component was implemented to familiarise VAC with the types of archaeological material, which might be observed on the site (Activity report 4).

The following procedure was to be followed:

If immovable stone objects, such as unrecorded jars are found, they are marked with survey tape or another type of marker; clearance staff then alerts the site supervisor who will then notify the appropriate PdJ person for follow-up action.

If small finds are found, the team places them in a bag and leaves the bag where the finds were retrieved. The designated person collects, marks location, labels and stores all bags.

**Sub-surface Clearance Methodology**

Excavation and sub-surface clearance is carried out by fully trained MAG technicians. As part of the initial stages of the programme, a UNESCO training module was given to familiarise the staff with the types of archaeological material, which may be found in the course of clearance. This included the possibility of *in situ* archaeological assemblages or deposits being exposed.

Standard UXO clearance is carried out within a recording grid of 10m² boxes divided into 1m wide lanes. The lane and box divisions were found to suit archaeological needs of recording. When individual items are found which may be “archaeological” they are collected in a plastic bag and left in the lane. Point locations of each find were to be marked by the MAG team leader in a different colour than the UXO readings. Such a map would form part of the archaeological record.
If a potential deposit or group of remains (in a meaningful spatial arrangement) is encountered, clearance in that lane would temporarily cease and the site supervisor would notify the DoIC contact person for follow-up action.

All occurrences of archaeological material should be recorded on a master map of each grid box.

**Follow-up Action**

There are 3 categories of follow-up action for PdJ team in case of archaeological finds:

1. In the case of surface material reported by the team, the designated person on site records the location of finds by BOX and LANE identification and retrieves object(s).

2. Plastic bags of material collected during sub-surface clearance within the grid box should be collected by the designated person. Each bag is to be marked with BOX and LANE identification code as well as the depth of retrieval in cm and then sealed and stored for later collection and processing by the PdJ team in the office.

3. If a possible intact deposit is found, the PdJ team responds immediately by coming to the site, mapping and photographing the material, excavating it and removing it to the storage facility at the PdJ project office.

**Off-site Processing of Material**

The archaeological material was transported to the UNESCO project office in Phonsavan. The inventory of all bags was undertaken in the site office and forms were filled out itemising the contents of each. The finds were processed by weighing, counting, description and photographing after cleaning. The PdJ team also packed, labelled and appropriately stored the artefacts.

**Section 3. Assessment of the Methodology.**

It was apparent that the on site labelling of the bags and recording of depths had been conducted meticulously. The bags had been given individual numbers, box and lane numbers as requested.

However, the mapping of the finds was not conducted systematically; the marking of point locations for archaeological material was not taken on. This may have occurred when the designated person’s duties were partially taken over by Mr. Khamman and thus confusion occurred over who was responsible for the marking. The speed in which the clearance operation was conducted (a mere ten days) also resulted in the removal of box corner markers before the finds locations could be measured. When the PdJ team wanted to map the finds locations using the box and lane reference the markers had been long removed.
Section 4.  The finds

The UXO clearance at Ban Pakeo included four groups of the main jar site (site 52) and three quarry site groups. The finds recovered all but one came from the main jar site groups. The single find at the quarry site is described in section 4.2 below.

A total of 88 bags with archaeological material, including pottery, iron, bronze and stone artefacts were recovered from Ban Pakeo, of those 6 come from the test pit excavation as described in section 5 below. Photographs of the content of each bag can be found in Appendix C.

Section 4.1  Brief description of the isolated finds at the main jar site

The majority of the archaeological finds were found isolated without associated (burial) context. A few artefacts however, where found as a pair or occurred as a small assemblage. The depth of retrieval ranged between surface and 25cm (for full details see Appendix B). Lack of stratigraphical data for this site makes it hard to interpret the context or burial sequence of these artefacts and a single test pit excavation was conducted to verify the depositional history of the site.

A total of 25 bags with finds were recovered from Group 1; 22 artefacts are iron knives, and the remainder consist of a modern bell, a plough fragment and an iron ball. All finds were retrieved from relatively shallow depths between 3 and 20 centimetres below surface. The iron knives are similar to the ones recovered by Mme. Colani during her investigations (Plate 3).

Plate 3: Knife-bag 69  (2cm scale)  Knife and iron wire-bag 35 (2cm scale)  Knife-bag 3 (2cm scale)

During the UXO clearance a total of 24 bags were collected from Group 2, all were metal objects with the exception of a modern lighter, two buttons and a single ceramic sherd (see Plate 4).
The finds here too were recovered from shallow depths between 3 and 25 cm below the surface. The majority of the metal finds consisted of knives (11)(plate 7), but two bracelets, two chisels (plate 6), a bell, a sickle, a plough fragment (plate 8) and various iron fragments (plate 5a.-b.) were also recovered.
Twenty eight bags were recovered from group 3; similarly the majority of the finds consisted of knives, 15 in total. The objects were found at depths between 4 and 20 cm below the surface. Other identifiable artefacts included four chisels, two metal bells or parts, an iron adze and iron fragments and a pipe fragment.

Finally four iron knives were excavated at group 4 at depths between 2 and 8 cm below the surface.

Section 4.2  **Brief description of the isolated find at the quarry site**

During the clearance of a path to the quarry site 5 bronze weights were found at 6, 7 and 17 cm below the surface (Plate 10). The provenance of the weights is unknown, similar objects however, have been found during the survey along the Mekong River (Paul Raeymakers 1998). Two of the artefacts have a symbol inscribed (see Plate 9 below).
Section 5

A single test pit was excavated at the end of the clearance programme to verify the stratigraphy.

Trench I

It was decided to locate the test pit in group 2 of Ban Pakeo jar site. In order to verify if the stone jar is placed on an old surface the test pit was placed immediately next to a stone jar (PdJ reference: No.J.64) (plate 11).

The trench measured 1 by 1 metre and was excavated to a depth of 0.70 metre below the surface. The excavation was halted due to safety reason.
The topsoil measured between 24 and 30 cm and contained small angular sandstone fragments possibly from the finishing of the stone jar on site. Context 02 continued to the end of the excavation and had the same colour as topsoil. It contained large roots, more small angular sandstone fragments, and also flecks of charcoal.

Little archaeological material was excavated from the test pit. A pottery and a small iron fragment were found at a depth of 25 cm below the surface. All the above finds are located in the topsoil. Within Context 02 a large unworked quartz crystal was located at a depth of 60 cm below the surface; at the same depth in another part of the excavation a pounder stone was recorded. A stone bead was found at a depth of 43 cm (plate 12).

The stone jar continued to a depth of 30 and 36 cm below the surface and parallels can be drawn with Site One stratigraphy where the stone jars are placed on an old buried surface (context 02).
It may be stated that according to the stratigraphical results of this single small test pit all the artefacts recovered during the UXO clearance programme post date the stone jar as they were located within the topsoil. It is however, premature to assert such important hypothesis on the basis of a single small test pit.

Section 6. The UXO clearance results

Not a single item of UXO was recovered from Ban Pakeo, however, the number of gun cartridges suggest the site was a ground battle site (Plate 13).

Plate 13 gun cartridges collected during clearance

The area which has been cleared of UXO is indicated by a square marking, measuring 20 by 20 cm or 20 by 15 cm and protruding a few centimetres above ground.

The marking system will be explained at the entrance of Site One and new posters will be prepared to identify the depth of clearance and methodology employed.

Section 7. Tourism and local impacts from UXO clearance

Although no UXO was found at the site of Ban Pakeo the fact that the site can be presented as a ‘safe’ site is important to tourism. The site is too remote to have felt any immediate impact of the UXO clearance on tourism, unlike in last Phase when interest into the jar sites increased during clearance.

Ban Pakeo had no tourists visit the site in 2006 and a total of 25 tourists in 2005. The impact of a large group displaying interest in the jar site and income generated from VAC and the team camping out near the village can not be underestimated. As part of the VAC training and for the benefit of the community the Plain of Jars posters (Lao version) were displayed at the Ban Pakeo school (Plate 14 a.-b.).
Appendix A Archaeological data retrieval results from recorded excavations
Appendix B Find bag list
Appendix C Finds photographs
Appendix D Drawings (scanned from hardcopy)

References and Bibliography main text and appendices:


Appendix A
Archaeological data retrieval results from recorded excavations

A single trench was excavated. Drawing(s) can be found in Appendix D.

Trench I

A test pit was conducted to verify the stratigraphy of the site. It was decided to locate the test pit in group 2 of Ban Pakeo jar site. In order to confirm if the stone jar is placed on an old surface, the test pit was placed immediately next to a stone jar (PdJ REF j.64) (Plate A.1).

The trench measured 1 by 1 metre and was excavated to a depth of 0.73 metre below the surface. The excavation was halted due to safety reason.

The stratigraphy. (Drawings 1.2; Plates A.2-5)

A total of 2 contexts were recorded in the trench (Plate A.2-5). **Contexts 01** consists of the modern day topsoil and comprises of reddish brown slightly sandy and slightly clayey silt with roots and small angular sandstone fragments. Few archaeological materials were recorded within the topsoil; it consisted of a single pottery rim sherd and a tiny metal fragment. **Context 02** is subsoil which contained a stone bead, pounder stone and a quartz crystal, the soil consists of reddish brown slightly sandy, silty clay.
<table>
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<th>Context</th>
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<td>Reddish brown</td>
<td>SILT, slightly clayey, slightly sandy with roots, and sandstone fragments</td>
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<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>30 - 73</td>
<td>Reddish brown</td>
<td>CLAY, slightly sandy and silty with roots and charcoal flecks and sandstone fragments</td>
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</table>

The finds.

- **Context 01**: A small rim fragment of coarse ware pottery and a tiny metal fragment were found within the topsoil (Plate A.6-7).
-Context 02 contained a pounder stone, a quartz crystal and a red sandstone bead (Plate A.8-10).

Interpretation and summary.

The stratigraphy is similar to Site One, where modern topsoil covers an old surface on which the stone jars was placed. Two very small artefact were collected from this modern topsoil. Within the old surface no burial was recorded. Two isolated artefacts, stone ponder and stone bead were found unassociated. Quartz crystal is a natural occurrence in the soil although the one found in during the excavation may have been altered and presents one possible smoothened side.
## Appendix B  
Find bag list

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Appendix C  Finds photographs

Bag 1  Bag 2

Bag 3  Bag 4

Bag 5  Bag 6
Bag 39

Bag 40

Bag 41

Bag 42

Bag 43

Bag 44

Bag 45, part one

Bag 45, part two
Appendix D  Section drawings (scanned from hardcopy)
សារការប្រការិយាល់ការបោះបង់ពារសម្រាប់ជនបទ្វារីរុន្ត្រី និងអាជីវកម្មមន្ត្រីក្រុងសៀមរាប ដែលបានធ្វើការជាមួយ្វ្រីប្រកាំពារសម្រាប់ជនបទ្វារីរុន្ត្រី និងអាជីវកម្មមន្ត្រីក្រុងសៀមរាប ប្រការិយាល់បានបញ្ជាក់ជាមួយក្រុមប្រឹក្សាមួយចំនួន២១ ពន្លឺព្រហ្មឆ្នាំ ២០១៨។

- សារសិទ្ធិការបោះបង់ពារសម្រាប់ជនបទ្វារីរុន្ត្រី ក្រុងសៀមរាប ប្រការិយាល់បានបញ្ជាក់ជាមួយក្រុមប្រឹក្សាមួយចំនួន២១ ពន្លឺព្រហ្មឆ្នាំ ២០១៨។
- សារសិទ្ធិការបោះបង់ពារសម្រាប់ជនបទ្វារីរុន្ត្រី ក្រុងសៀមរាប ប្រការិយាល់បានបញ្ជាក់ជាមួយក្រុមប្រឹក្សាមួយចំនួន២១ ពន្លឺព្រហ្មឆ្នាំ ២០១៨។

ប្រការិយាល់បានបញ្ជាក់ជាមួយក្រុមប្រឹក្សាមួយចំនួន២១ ពន្លឺព្រហ្មឆ្នាំ ២០១៨។
សេបយក្រាមប្រការីការចៅប្រការីការណ៍
ដោយអំណាចអធិធានិការណ៍អាជីពអាជីពណាង
បាន បែកប្រញាប់ប្រការីការណ៍អាជីពអាជីពណាង

- មួយមកមុនប្រការីការណ៍អាជីពអាជីពណាង 044 / សុខ, ឆ្នាំ 24 ធ្នូ ឆ្នាំ 2013.

- អាជីពអាជីពសុំសលាបន្តអាជីពអាជីពណាង 12 និង 52 នុម្រឿមការ។

អាជីពអាជីព, ការអភិបត្តិនិង ប្រការីការណ៍អាជីពអាជីពណាងប្រការីការណ៍អាជីពអាជីពណាង 12 និង 52 នុម្រឿមការ។ មួយមកមុនប្រការីការណ៍អាជីពអាជីពណាង ការអភិបត្តិនិង ប្រការីការណ៍អាជីពអាជីពណាង 12 និង 52 នុម្រឿមការ។

ដូច្នេះ, ប្រការីការចៅប្រការីការណ៍អាជីពអាជីពណាង ឈ្នះ ស្តើងអាជីពសុំសលាបន្តអាជីពអាជីពណាង 12 និង 52 នុម្រឿមការ។ ដូច្នេះ, ប្រការីការចៅប្រការីការណ៍អាជីពអាជីពណាង ធ្វើអាជីពសុំសលាបន្តអាជីពអាជីពណាង 12 និង 52 នុម្រឿមការ។ ដូច្នេះ, ប្រការីការចៅប្រការីការណ៍អាជីពអាជីពណាង 12 និង 52 នុម្រឿមការ។

សូមរក្ខារការអភិបត្តិនិង ប្រការីការណ៍អាជីពអាជីពណាង 12 និង 52 នុម្រឿមការ។

អាជីពអាជីពណាង

[Signature]

ន. ប្រៃនី សុីន្ទ័យ

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សមាតា បក្រុតបំពាក់ស្ត្រី

លេខកំពុងបង្កើត: ......01....../មិន
ថ្ងៃទី: 02/01/2018.

សមាតា បក្រុតបំពាក់ស្ត្រី។

- ស្ត្រីត្រូវបានបង្កើតក្នុងប្រការបញ្ជាជី 044 / សម, ថ្ងៃទី 24 ខែមករា 2013.
- បំពាក់ក្នុងប្រការបញ្ជាជី 033/អ.ស., ថ្ងៃទី 04 ខែឧសភា 2014.
- បំពាក់ក្នុងប្រការបញ្ជាជី 005/អ.ស., ថ្ងៃទី 07 ខែកក្កដា 2015.


សមាតា បក្រុតបំពាក់ស្ត្រី។


ការបក្រុតបំពាក់ស្ត្រីអាចរកើនប្រក�

ស្តីបាញ់ពីការសាងសង់អាយុមន្ត្រីជរភាពជូន

និយាយពីការអនុវត្តន៍អាយុមន្ត្រីជូន

- ស្តីបាញ់ពីការសាងសង់អាយុមន្ត្រីជូនដោយបានបញ្ជាក់សមារប់ 044 / សុ សុខាភិបាល 24 ខែមករា 2013.
- ប្រធានាធិបតីប្រធានាធិបតីក្រុងក្តៅនិងអង្គការក្រុងជាច្រើនប្រធានាធិបតីជាច្រើនប្រធានាធិបតីនិងប្រធានាធិបតីជាដៃរាង និង ប្រធានាធិបតីក្រុងក្តៅ និង អាយុមន្ត្រីជូនតាមបណ្តាលីតិច 996/ឬ.ឬ.ឬ. សុខាភិបាល 17 ខែមករា 2017
- ស្តីបាញ់ពីការអនុវត្តន៍អាយុមន្ត្រីជូន និង ទំព័រការប្រជាជនប្រចាំឆ្នាំនេះ ប្រធានាធិបតីអាយុមន្ត្រីជូន និង ប្រធានាធិបតីអាយុមន្ត្រីជូន សមារប់ 870/ឬ.ឬ.ឬ. សុខាភិបាល 25 ខែមករា 2017.
- ប្រធានាធិបតីប្រធានាធិបតីក្រុងក្តៅនិងអង្គការក្រុងជាច្រើនប្រធានាធិបតីជាច្រើនប្រធានាធិបតីនិងប្រធានាធិបតីជាដៃរាង និង ប្រធានាធិបតីក្រុងក្តៅ និង អាយុមន្ត្រីជូន 23 ប្រភេទសម្រាប់សព្វថ្ងៃ និង ការសម្រាប់ការធ្វើការ។
- ប្រធានាធិបតីសិក្រូ, សុខាភិបាល, និង អង្គការប្រជាជនប្រចាំឆ្នាំនេះ ប្រធានាធិបតីអាយុមន្ត្រីជូន 23 ប្រភេទសម្រាប់សព្វថ្ងៃ និង ការសម្រាប់ការធ្វើការ។
- ប្រធានាធិបតីអាយុមន្ត្រីជូន និង ប្រធានាធិបតីអាយុមន្ត្រីជូន សមារប់ 870/ឬ.ឬ.ឬ. សុខាភិបាល 25 ខែមករា 2017.
- ប្រធានាធិបតីអាយុមន្ត្រីជូន និង អាយុមន្ត្រីជូន 23 ប្រភេទសម្រាប់សព្វថ្ងៃ និង ការសម្រាប់ការធ្វើការ។

ដោយសារ, ការបាន់ពីការសាងសង់អាយុមន្ត្រីជូន និង អាយុមន្ត្រីជូន ប្រធានាធិបតីប្រធានាធិបតីក្រុងក្តៅ និង អង្គការក្រុងជាច្រើនប្រធានាធិបតីជាច្រើនប្រធានាធិបតីនិងប្រធានាធិបតីជាដៃរាង និង ប្រធានាធិបតីក្រុងក្តៅ និង អាយុមន្ត្រីជូន 23 ប្រភេទសម្រាប់សព្វថ្ងៃ និង ការសម្រាប់ការធ្វើការ។ សម្រាប់ ការបាន់ពីការសាងសង់អាយុមន្ត្រីជូន និង អាយុមន្ត្រីជូន 23 ប្រភេទសម្រាប់សព្វថ្ងៃ និង ការសម្រាប់ការធ្វើការ។

ចុងក្តៅ, និង ស្ថានិភៅប្រធានាធិបតីប្រធានាធិបតីក្រុងក្តៅ និង អង្គការក្រុងជាច្រើនប្រធានាធិបតីជាច្រើនប្រធានាធិបតីនិងប្រធានាធិបតីជាដៃរាង និង ប្រធានាធិបតីក្រុងក្តៅ និង អាយុមន្ត្រីជូន 23 ប្រភេទសម្រាប់សព្វថ្ងៃ និង ការសម្រាប់ការធ្វើការ។

សម្រាប់ ការបាន់ពីការសាងសង់អាយុមន្ត្រីជូន និង អាយុមន្ត្រីជូន 23 ប្រភេទសម្រាប់សព្វថ្ងៃ និង ការសម្រាប់ការធ្វើការ។

ចុងក្តៅ, និង ស្ថានិភៅប្រធានាធិបតីប្រធានាធិបតីក្រុងក្តៅ និង អង្គការក្រុងជាច្រើនប្រធានាធិបតីជាច្រើនប្រធានាធិបតីនិងប្រធានាធិបតីជាដៃរាង និង ប្រធានាធិបតីក្រុងក្តៅ និង អាយុមន្ត្រីជូន 23 ប្រភេទសម្រាប់សព្វថ្ងៃ និង ការសម្រាប់ការធ្វើការ។

សម្រាប់ ការបាន់ពីការសាងសង់អាយុមន្ត្រីជូន និង អាយុមន្ត្រីជូន 23 ប្រភេទសម្រាប់សព្វថ្ងៃ និង ការសម្រាប់ការធ្វើការ។
សមាតុបការការណ៍សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស
លេខកូដសាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៤ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៤ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស

- ប្រការីការពារសាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបឋមសិក្សាជនបរទេស ៣ សាលាបпочтេស ៣ សាលាបпочтេស ៣ សាលា
សមប្បារការប្រការប្រពៃះក្រពុម្យលេខប្រការី ១ ឆ្នាំ ១៩៤៤

ការប្រការប្រពៃះក្រពុម្យលេខប្រការី ២ ឆ្នាំ ១៩៤៤

- អេឡិចតំណាងាការណ៍នៃក្រសួងពីរ័ន្តរជាតិវប្បធម៌សិក្សាខាងក្រោម។
- ប្រការលើការស្វែងរកប្រការនៃក្រសួងពីរ័ន្តរជាតិវប្បធម៌សិក្សាខាងក្រោម។
- ប្រការលើការស្វែងរកប្រការនៃក្រសួងពីរ័ន្តរជាតិវប្បធម៌សិក្សាខាងក្រោម។
- ប្រការលើការស្វែងរកប្រការនៃក្រសួងពីរ័ន្តរជាតិវប្បធម៌សិក្សាខាងក្រោម។

ចុងក្រោយ, អេឡិចតំណាងាការណ៍នៃក្រសួងពីរ័ន្តរជាតិវប្បធម៌សិក្សាខាងក្រោម។

ប្រការី ៣ ឆ្នាំ ១៩៤៥

- អេឡិចតំណាងាការណ៍នៃក្រសួងពីរ័ន្តរជាតិវប្បធម៌សិក្សាខាងក្រោម។
- ប្រការលើការស្វែងរកប្រការនៃក្រសួងពីរ័ន្តរជាតិវប្បធម៌សិក្សាខាងក្រោម។
- ប្រការលើការស្វែងរកប្រការនៃក្រសួងពីរ័ន្តរជាតិវប្បធម៌សិក្សាខាងក្រោម។
- ប្រការលើការស្វែងរកប្រការនៃក្រសួងពីរ័ន្តរជាតិវប្បធម៌សិក្សាខាងក្រោម។

ចុងក្រោយ, អេឡិចតំណាងាការណ៍នៃក្រសួងពីរ័ន្តរជាតិវប្បធម៌សិក្សាខាងក្រោម។
សេចក្តីថ្លែងការណ៍ពីក្រសួងមនសិក្សាដោយសារព័ត៌នារបស់ហ្វ៊ូនម៉ូដុន ៣៤ ឆ្នាំនេះ ប្រកួតប្រជុះដ៏សេចក្តីនេះគឺជា ប្រកួតប្រជុះដ៏សេចក្តីដ៏ពិសេសក្នុងប្រកួតប្រជុះសេចក្តី ដែលមានប្រការជាងគេក្នុងឆ្នាំនេះ។

- នេះជាការប្រកួតប្រជុះដ៏សេចក្តីដ៏ពិសេសនៅក្នុងឆ្នាំ 2013 ប៊ុលហ្វ៊ូនម៉ូដុន
- ប្រកួតប្រជុះនេះគឺជាការប្រកួតប្រជុះដ៏សេចក្តីដ៏ពិសេសជាច្រើនការប្រកួតប្រជុះប៊ុលហ្វ៊ូនម៉ូដុន និងពីរការប្រកួតប្រជុះដ៏សេចក្តីដ៏ពិសេសដែលបានប្រកួតប្រជុះប៊ុលហ្វ៊ូនម៉ូដុន និងពីរការប្រកួតប្រជុះដ៏សេចក្តីដ៏ពិសេសដែលបានប្រកួតប្រជុះប៊ុលហ្វ៊ូនម៉ូដុន
- ស្តង់ដារដ៏សេចក្តីដ៏ពិសេសនេះគឺជាការប្រកួតប្រជុះដ៏សេចក្តីដ៏ពិសេសនៃក្រសួងមនសិក្សាដោយសារព័ត៌នារបស់ហ្វ៊ូនម៉ូដុន ដែលមានប្រការជាងគេក្នុងឆ្នាំនេះ។

ដូច្នេះ គេហៅឱ្យក្រសួងមនសិក្សាដោយសារព័ត៌នារបស់ហ្វ៊ូនម៉ូដុន និងពីរការប្រកួតប្រជុះដ៏សេចក្តីដ៏សេចក្តីដ៏ពិសេស ដើរឱ្យស្តង់ដារនេះដ៏សេចក្តីដ៏ពិសេសនោះជា ការប្រកួតប្រជុះដ៏សេចក្តីដ៏ពិសេសសំខាន់ៗ។

ចូលរួម ចុងក្រោយ ស្តង់ដារនេះ ចុងក្រោយ ប្រកួតប្រជុះដ៏សេចក្តីដ៏ពិសេស។

ស្តង់ដារ

ហ្វ៊ូនម៉ូដុន សារព័ត៌នារបស់ហ្វ៊ូនម៉ូដុន

ពិសេសស្តង់ដារ

ហ្វ៊ូនម៉ូដុន សារព័ត៌នារបស់ហ្វ៊ូនម៉ូដុន
Applying Technology to Solve the Mysteries

Hands-on excavation remains the principal method to record details of each megalithic jar and other artefacts, but new techniques using modern technology provide details about the people who lived here in the past. Genetic testing of human remains aims to link the people buried at the sites to other civilizations. Another method analyzes teeth, soil, and vegetation to learn about the people’s childhoods and environment.

Researchers are applying radiocarbon dating, or the measuring the amount of carbon-14 in an object, to date some charcoal found in the digs. Examination of rocks from quarry sites to determine age is also occurring.

Aerial photography and video give a bird’s-eye view of the sites and off-site access to jars in remote areas. Radar is used to penetrate the earth’s surface to uncover other archaeological remains. All the findings are stored in a Geographic Information System (GIS) and Global Positioning System (GPS). A Virtual Reality program replicates the excavations, enabling the Plain of Jars to be studied from afar.
Mission Report Three.
Archaeological results of Site Three UXO clearance programme.

Introduction
The UXO Clearance Project at Site Three, Ban Xiengdi was commenced on the 27th of January and was completed on the 28th of March 2005.

i) People involved/responsibilities

UXO clearance Team:

-Village Assistance Clearance Team (VAC): 18 local villagers hired specifically for UXO clearance at Site 3; their responsibilities include vegetation clearance and providing technical support for the MAG technicians;
-MAG Technicians: teams of two trained technicians are deployed to detect metal to specified depths and examine metal readings and provide initial identification of unexploded ordinance (UXO);
-MAG team leader: Mr. Bouhaphet and Mr. Bounsouk; experienced MAG technicians, responsible for organising of work force and identification of UXO;
-MAG Technical Field Manager: Mr. Stuart Broome; responsible for overall site management and bomb detonation.

Archaeological Team:

-Department of Information and Culture (DoIC) provided technical support and facilitated liaison between villages and various teams;

-PdJ Team:

Mr. Khamman Phimmasan:

- Responsibilities to be filled in by Department of Information and Culture

Mr. Khamleune:

- Responsible for daily on site labelling of the bags and storage;
- In charge of surface finds map drawing;
- Checking of sub-surface point location maps and corresponding bags;
- Checking of inventory; mapping of stone features;
- GPS readings of grid points
- End of week report of activities in the field.
Mr. Pon:

- Data entry at the office

Ms. Wisa Wisesjindawat

-GIS consultant responsible for the design of the archaeological database and refresher training of PdJ team and updating and checking the main Plain of Jars GIS database;

Ms. Julie Van Den Bergh

-Archaeology consultant responsible for design of finds form and input into the archaeological finds database; training of VAC and village representatives, MAG technicians and team leader and PdJ team; liaising with MAG and villagers and other relevant departments.

ii) Reporting Format

This report has been divided into four sections. The details and goals of the training programme were set out in the Mission One Report as was the data retrieval strategy. Section 1 will present a further assessment of the effectiveness of the methodology. Section 2 will provide brief descriptions for each isolated find bag and section 3 will present the details of the trenches excavated and their results. Section 4 will briefly highlight the results of the UXO clearance.

Section 1. Assessment of the Methodology.

The recording of the finds in the field was found lacking and non-existing. Prior to the arrival of the UNESCO consultant the only recording conducted was the filling in of form of an extra jar and disc at group five, Ban Phai. For the remaining duration of clearance at Site Three no local DoIC member of Plain of Jars team was present.

The recording of Box coordinates at Site Three had not commenced.

Section 2. Description of the isolated finds.

Isolated finds include two iron knives, two chisels and two pottery fragments all recovered from the main group and a single fragment of iron knife at the newly recorded group 8 at Xiengdi.

The knives (Plate 1.1, Plate 1.2 and Plate 1.3) are of a similar type recorded during this investigation at Site One, while chisels (Plate 1.4 and Plate 1.5)
have never been found on the Plain of Jars. The metal tools were found at shallow depths and are not associated with the burials.

One of the two pottery fragments collected is recent (Plate 1.6); the other green celadon fragment may be Thai or Chinese (Plate 1.7) dating as far back as the 13th century.
Seven groups had been recorded by the PdJ team in 2001, during the clearance operations the VAC team identified in the vicinity of Group 6 more heritage features, these were recorded as Group 8. A total of one jar and five stones were mapped and recorded.

Section 3. Results of subsurface investigation.

The trenches excavated are described below and were connected to MAG discovery of six iron knives.

Trench I

Trench I is located to the north of jar 109; it measured 1 by 1 metre and was hand excavated to a depth of approximately 50 cm below the surface. The trench was further excavated after six metal knives were found together at a depth of 50 cm below the surface. No Plain of Jars team member was on site to deal with the assemblage and the MAG team collected the knives at the end of the day for safekeeping. There was no one to record the find and thus no photo of the knives in situ exists. The MAG excavation (Plate 2.1) had left a hole measuring 45 by 37 and 50 cm deep, which was extended to record the stratigraphical connections of the knives and its surrounding.
The stratigraphy.

A total of seven contexts were recorded (Drawing and Plates). **Context 01** is light yellowish brown slightly clayey silt topsoil with lots of roots. **Context 02** consists of yellowish brown slightly clayey silt. **Context 03** is brownish yellow very clayey silt. The layer contains small sandstone stone fragments. This layer was not recorded continuous within trench I. **Context 04** is soft dark yellowish brown very slightly clayey, very slightly gravelly silt with pinkish red lumps of clay. The surface of this layer represents the old surface on which the stone jar sits. **Context 05** consists of brownish red slightly silty clay. Context 05 is a sterile soil and is interpreted as *in situ* weathered natural soil. Context 06 and 07 were recorded at the east section only. **Context 06** contains small fragments of sandstone and consists of purplish brown silty clay. Context 06 is cut to the north by context 04 and to the south by the pit feature context 07. In the south eastern corner of trench I **context 07** was recorded; it contained no finds or charcoal but it appeared as a pit feature. It was dark yellowish brown with some purple red spots clayey silt and could not be seen in the southern section. A large tree root may have caused the discoloration in the south eastern section.
The finds.

The topsoil and subsoils (contexts 01-03) did not contain any archaeological finds. Context 03 represents the sandstone fragment debris of stone jar manufacturing. Context 04 contained few fragments of pottery (Plate 2.6) and charcoal flecks. The six iron knives (Plate 2.7) were excavated from the same level as context 04 (Drawing xx). Context 06 and context 07 did not contain any artefacts.
The interpretation.

The connection of the knife assemblage with its surrounding was very difficult to establish. There was no evidence of associated artefacts or features. The knives were found alongside the carved stone (which appeared in the north eastern corner). The extension of the trench into Trench II was conducted to verify if the stone covered a pit burial, which may have included the knives. The few sherds were found dispersed in context 04, which is a layer pre-dating the stone jars as it sits on it. Sandstone fragments likely from the manufacturing of the stone jar were found mainly towards the north of Trench I.

Trench II

Trench II is located to the northeast of jar 109 and joins trench I at its north eastern corner (Drawing). It measured 1 by 1 metre and was hand excavated to a depth of approximately 60 cm below the surface.

The stratigraphy.

A total of seven contexts were recorded (Drawing and Plates). Context 01 is dark yellowish brown silt with roots. Context 02 consists of dark yellowish brown very slightly clayey and very slightly gravelly silt. Context 03 is yellowish brown slightly clayey silt with small sandstone fragments. Context 04 contained some coarse ware pottery fragments, which were very small and eroded. The layer also contained numerous charcoal; two samples were taken. Context 04 consisted of dark greyish brown clayey silt. Context 05 is a thin layer separating the cultural layer from sterile soil. It contained some charcoal but no pottery. It is light yellowish brown silty clay. The sterile soil consisted of reddish brown slightly silty stiff clay. Context 06 was recorded at a depth of xx below the surface. Underneath the carved rock context 04 contained more lumps of pinkish red clay and was recorded as context 07. No pottery or other material other then charcoal, which was sampled, was recorded in context 07. A soil sample was taken to identify the presence of bones.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contexts</th>
<th>Colour</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Dark yellowish brown</td>
<td>SILT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Dark yellowish brown</td>
<td>SILT, very slightly clayey, very slightly gravelly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Yellowish brown</td>
<td>SILT, slightly clayey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Dark greyish brown</td>
<td>SILT, clayey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Light brownish yellow</td>
<td>CLAY, silty</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The finds.

The trench only archaeological finds were collected from context 04, very few and tiny coarse ware pottery fragments (Plate 2.3) were scattered throughout this layer. The sandstone fragments of context 03 were collected and will be checked for tool marks. This layer represents the old surface the stone jars sits on.

In the southwestern corner a carved stone (Plate 2.4) was recorded; it was removed but no pit feature, bones or other artefacts were found underneath. A soil sample was taken to verify the phosphate content of the soil or presence of tiny bone fragments.

The interpretation.

Summary.

The results of the trenches concluded on the lack of association of the six iron knives to a burial. It is likely that the knives were buried as a cache in order to safeguard them. Their date is pending further research, however, the frequency of occurrence of the knives on the jar site imply they may be a testimony of a later occupation of the site or have a connection to the burial practices.

Section 4. The UXO clearance results.

A total of 22 UXO items, including 37mm SAP Projectile x 1, 60mm Mortar HE x 8, Grenade Fuse x 2, BLU 26 x 2, BLU 63 x 1, 3.5' Rocket HE x 3, 37mm HE Projectile x 1, MK 118 Rockeye x 4 bomblets, rockets, artillery shells, mortars
and 20mm anti-aircraft rounds were found at Site Three, an area of approximately 19 hectare. The MAG excavations removed along UXO, 6863 scrap metal items, mostly bomb fragmentation. Site Three itself was not a strategic military position during the 1964-1973 conflict, but the area was intensely bombed.

The area, which has been sub-surface cleared of UXO is indicated by a square marker, measuring 20 by 20 cm and protruding a few centimetres above ground. In some areas the path leading to or connecting the eight jar groups are rice field bunds. The nature of the bunds is such that they may change every year during the wet season. The clearance of the bunds was conducted as a risk reduction exercise only as farmers are known to pack UXO, encountered during ploughing, into the bunds. The marking system and areas cleared will be explained at the entrance of Site Three and new UNESCO poster will be prepared to identify the depth of clearance and methodology employed.

- trenches: Are used to join fighting pits together and command posts so as to provide protection for a soldier to crawl between them.
- foxholes: An excavated piece of ground that provides protection to a soldier.
- dug outs: Same as foxholes
- tank scrape: A piece of ground that has been excavated to allow a Tank or Armoured vehicle to hide in and allow the gun turret to still be able to engage targets.
- gun turret: Is mounted on top of a tank or armoured vehicle. The gun is attached to the turret and the turret is able to be rotate 360 degrees
Mission Report Two.
Archaeological results of Site Two UXO clearance programme.

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Introduction

The UXO Clearance Project at Site Two, Ban Nakho was commenced on the 22\textsuperscript{nd} of October 2004 and was completed on the 21\textsuperscript{st} of January 2005.

\textit{i) People involved/responsibilities}

UXO clearance Team:

- Village Assistance Clearance Team (VAC): 18 local villagers hired specifically for UXO clearance at Site 2; their responsibilities include vegetation clearance and providing technical support for the MAG technicians;
- MAG Technicians: teams of two trained technicians are deployed to detect metal to specified depths and examine metal readings and provide initial identification of unexploded ordinance (UXO);
- MAG team leader: Mr. Bouhaphet; experienced MAG technician who is responsible for organising of work force and identification of UXO;
- MAG Technical Field Manager: Mr. Stuart Broome; responsible for overall site management and bomb detonation.

Archaeological Team:

- Department of Information and Culture (DoIC) provided technical support and facilitated liaison between villages and various teams;

-PdJ Team:

Mr. Khamman Phimmasan:

- Responsibilities to be filled in by Department of Information and Culture

Mr. Khamleune:

- Responsible for daily on site labelling of the bags and storage;
- In charge of surface finds map drawing;
- Checking of sub-surface point location maps and corresponding bags;
- Checking of inventory; mapping of stone features;
- GPS readings of grid points
- End of week report of activities in the field.

Mr. Pon:

- Data entry at the office
Ms. Wisa Wisesjindawat

- GIS consultant responsible for the design of the archaeological database and refresher training of PdJ team and updating and checking the main Plain of Jars GIS database;

Ms. Julie Van Den Bergh

- Archaeology consultant responsible for design of finds form and input into the archaeological finds database; training of VAC and village representatives, MAG technicians and team leader and PdJ team; liaising with MAG and villagers and other relevant departments.

ii) Reporting Format

This report has been divided into four sections. The details and goals of the training programme were set out in the Mission One Report as was the data retrieval strategy. Section 1 will present a further assessment of the effectiveness of the methodology. Section 2 will provide brief descriptions for each isolated find bag and section 3 will present full excavation and recording details as well as photographs of the excavated artefacts of the trenches excavated and their results; the section drawing are presented in Appendix I. Section 4 will highlight the results of the UXO clearance.

Section 1. Assessment of the Methodology.

The recording of the finds in the field was found yet again to be minimal. The excavation had been cleaned up for the photo and a scale was used. The photograph however, shows no artefacts or sections; only outline of the trench and dark soil. The recording of this assemblage highlighted the need for continuous monitoring of the PdJ team and further training in the recording of in situ archaeological deposits.

The finds retrieved after the consultant left in early December 2004 had not made it to the office. Two bags were in the personal possession of Mr. Khamleune and one metal object retrieved by Mr. Khamman had remained in the equipment box on site.

The recording of Box coordinates at Site Two was not conducted as requested.
Section 2. Description of the isolated finds.

Two ceramic pot fragments were collected from the surface. One is an almost complete vessel (Plate 1.1) and the other a rim, neck and shoulder fragment (Plate 1.2).

Both fragments have the same wavy, parallel-incised line decoration on the shoulder (plate 1.3).

The pots may date back around 300 years. Similar pots have been found from the kiln sites at Ban Sangha, Luang Prabang and Ban Watna Noi in Vientiane (pers. comm. Samlane Luangaphay). The pot has green and in some places brown glaze. The neck fragment has similarly green and black glaze traces and two vertical loop-handles on its shoulder.

A single metal object (Plate 1.4) was collected from the eastern ridge at a depth of 10 cm below the surface. The PDJ team recorded the find and a trench measuring 30 by 30 cm was excavated. Its location was recorded with GPS. The function of the object is unknown; it may be recent in origin.
Near the stupa a small Buddha statue was found at a depth of 12 cm below the surface. The Buddha figure is sitting on a double pedestal in a meditation position (Plate 1.5). The Buddha has a pointed head, carries a sash over the left shoulder (Plate 1.6); has curly hair and rounded ears. It measures 5.9 cm and is made of lead; the metal carries a white patina.

Section 3. Results of subsurface investigation.

All trenches described below are located at the eastern portion of the ridge and were all connected to MAG excavations.

Trench I

Trench I is located to the southwest of a jar; it measured 1 by 1 metre and was hand excavated to a depth of approximately 80 cm below the surface.

The stratigraphy.

A total of five contexts were recorded (Plate 1.7 and Drawing 1.1-1.4). Context 01 is dark reddish brown very clayey silt topsoil with lots of roots. Context 02 consists of reddish brown silty clay with roots and bioturbation. The layer has an abundance of small sandstone and quartz stone fragments. Context 03 is similar reddish brown very silty clay without the sandstone fragments but more parent material appearing. The layer still contains quartz fragments. Context 04 is soft brownish red silty clay and Context 05 a purple silt with parent material.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Context</th>
<th>Colour</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Dark reddish brown</td>
<td>SILT, very clayey with lots of roots CLAY, silty with some roots, a lot of animal activity, some sandstone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Reddish brown</td>
<td>CLAY, very silty with quartz fragments, few big roots and more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Reddish brown</td>
<td>parent material appearing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Brownish red</td>
<td>CLAY, silty soft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Purple</td>
<td>SILT with parent material</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The finds.

No archaeological material was found inside this trench. Charcoal was collected at a depth of 37 cm below the surface but it had no connection to archaeological material or features. It was collected as part of the training exercise for the PdJ team.

The interpretation.

The excavation showed that the jar was placed on an older surface, currently located at a depth of 20 cm below the surface (Plate 1.8).
No archaeological feature was recorded. The soil excavated was soft and evidence of bioturbation was recorded; it is possible that this area had been previously excavated by Mme. Colani.

**Trench II**

Trench II is located to the southeast of a jar and joins trench I at its northwest corner. It measured 1 by 1 metre and was hand excavated to a depth of approximately 55 cm below the surface. The excavation was halted as the same results as in trench I were obtained.

The stratigraphy.

A total of three contexts were recorded (Plate 2.1). **Context 01** is dark brown slightly silty clay with roots. **Context 02** consists of dark yellowish brown very slightly silty clay with some sherds. And finally **Context 03** is dark reddish brown silty clay with some small sand stone fragments.

![Plate 2.1](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Context</th>
<th>Colour</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Dark brown</td>
<td>CLAY, slightly silty with roots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dark yellowish</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>brown</td>
<td>CLAY, very slightly silty with some sherds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dark reddish</td>
<td>CLAY, silty with increase in small stone fragments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>brown</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The finds.

Four small coarse ware pottery fragments with large coarse sand temper were excavated from context 2 (Plate 2.2). Alongside the ceramic some quartz crystal fragments (plate 2.3) were collected. The subsequent layer contained some charcoal, which was not collected.
The interpretation.

The sherds were found dispersed in context 2 and no associated feature or material was found. The quartz crystals may occur locally. The stratigraphy of trench II resembled trench I and the stratigraphy and results suggest this area had previously been excavated.

**Trench III**

Trench III is located immediately to the east of a stone disc; it measured 1 by 1 metre and was hand excavated to a depth of approximately 65 cm below the surface. The excavation was halted as no more sherds had been recorded for a depth of over 25 cm.

The stratigraphy.

A total of four contexts were recorded (Plate 3.1). **Context 01** consisted of dark yellowish brown slightly clayey silt with roots. **Context 02** was dark brownish yellow silty clay with some sherds and charcoal flecks scattered. **Context 03** consisted of dark reddish brown slightly silty clay with more charcoal. The charcoal was unrelated to any artefacts. And the final **Context 04** was dark reddish brown silty with gravel clay and an abundance of charcoal mainly on top. Yet again the charcoal was unrelated to artefacts.
Contexts  | Colour       | Description                                
----------|--------------|--------------------------------------------
          | Dark yellowish brown | SILT, slightly clayey with roots          
          | Dark brownish yellow | CLAY, silty with sherds                    
          | Dark reddish brown   | CLAY, slightly silty with charcoal         
          | Dark reddish brown   | CLAY, silty with gravel and charcoal abundance on top

The finds.

Within the topsoil at a depth of 15 cm below the surface a small bronze fragment, possibly from a bell was found (Plate 3.2). Layer 2 contained coarse ware sherds and charcoal fragments. The sherds and charcoal were dispersed within the layer and no feature or association could be established. The sherds were found to be smooth on the inside but eroded on the outside (Plate 3.3).

The interpretation.

The stratigraphy indicated that unlike the first two trenches this area had not previously been excavated. No features or assemblages were recorded within this trench.

Trench IV

Trench IV is located 5 metres to the south of the jar next to trench I; it measured 1 by 1 metre and was hand excavated to a depth of approximately 80 cm below the surface.

The stratigraphy.

A total of five contexts were recorded (Plate 4.1). Context 01 was dark reddish brown slightly clayey silt topsoil. Context 02 consisted of dark reddish brown very clayey silt and was almost indistinguishable with Context 03. This layer was also dark reddish brown and consisted of very silty clay. Context 04 was recorded at the bottom of the trench and consisted of purple brown slightly silty clay. Context 05 contained a number of sherds belonging to the same vessel.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contexts</th>
<th>Colour</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Dark reddish</td>
<td>brown, SILT, slightly clayey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Dark reddish</td>
<td>brown, SILT, very clayey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Dark reddish</td>
<td>brown, CLAY, very silty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Purple brown</td>
<td>Light yellowish, CLAY, slightly silty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>brown</td>
<td>Light yellowish, CLAY, silty</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The finds.

The sherds were recorded at depths between 22 and 79 cm below the surface. Within this context, i.e. (05), was a medium sized local mudstone (still visible in the north section, see Plate 4.1). The pottery consists of twenty-six soft yellow chalky pottery fragments (Plate 4.2). A soft greenish limestone (Plate 4.3) was collected from the same context, which may possibly have been modified.
The interpretation.

A pit feature with interspersed pottery fragments was recorded within trench IV. No bone or associated material was found. A charcoal sample was taken associated with the pit feature and will be sent for dating.

Section 4. The UXO clearance results

A total of 26 UXO items, including a 250 pound bomb (Plate 5.1 and 5.2), bomblets, rockets, artillery shells, mortars, hand grenades, 12.7mm projectile and 20mm anti-aircraft rounds were found at Site Two, an area of approximately 17 hectare. The MAG excavations removed along with UXO, 11,770 scrap metal items, mostly bomb fragmentation. Unlike Site One, Site Two itself was not a strategic military position during the 1964-1973 conflict, although a Pathek Lao camp is located to the south west of the site and evidence of ground battle can be seen on some of the jars (Plate 5.3).
Site Two. Trench I.

Drawing 1.1 Trench I. East section. (scale 1:10)

Summary of contexts:

Co.01: Topsoil
Co.02: Fill
Co.03: Fill
Co.04: Fill
Site Two. Trench I.

Drawing 1.2 Trench I. South section. (scale 1:10)

Summary of contexts:

Co.01: Topsoil
Co.02: Fill
Co.03: Fill
Co.04: Fill
Site Two. Trench I.

Drawing 1.3 Trench I. North section. (scale 1:10)
Site Two. Trench 1.

Drawing 1.4 Trench 1. Groundplan. (scale 1:20)

Legend:

- Stone jar
Site Two. Trench II.

**Drawing 2.1 Trench II. North section. (scale 1:10)**

**Summary of contexts:**

Co.01: Topsoil  
Co.02: Fill  
Co.03: Fill

**Legend:**

( ) root
Site Two. Trench II.

**Drawing 2.2 Trench II. West section. (scale 1:10)**

**Summary of contexts:**

Co.01: Topsoil
Co.02: Fill
Co.03: Fill

**Legend:**

(root)
Site Two. Trench III.

Drawing 3.1 Trench III. North section. (scale 1:10)

Summary of contexts:

Co.01: Topsoil
Co.02: Subsoil with sherds
Co.03: Natural colluvial layer with charcoal
Co.04: Natural colluvial or weathering in situ

Legend:

charcoal
Site Two. Trench III.

Drawing 3.2 Trench III. West section. (scale 1:10)

Summary of contexts:

Co.01: Topsoil
Co.02: Subsoil with sherds
Co.03: Natural colluvial layer with charcoal
Co.04: Natural colluvial or weathering in situ with some charcoal on top

Legend:

.: charcoal
Site Two. Trench IV.

Drawing 4.1 Trench IV. North section. (scale 1:10)

Summary of contexts:
Co.01: Topsoil
Co.02: Subsoil
Co.03: Natural colluvial soil with charcoal
Co.04: Weathered in situ or colluvial deposit
Co.05: Pit feature

Legend:
P pottery
S stone
A charcoal
Site Two. Trench IV.

Drawing 4.2 Trench IV. West section. (scale 1:10)

Summary of contexts:

Co.01: Topsoil
Co.02: Subsoil
Co.03: Natural colluvial soil with charcoal
Co.04: Weathered \textit{in situ} or colluvial deposit
Co.05: Pit feature

Legend:

\[\text{Pit feature}\]
FINAL REPORT – XIENG KHOUANG MUSEUM PHASE 3

[20e – Contract 074]

Dr. Linda S. McIntosh, Heritage Interpretation Expert, April 2018
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Xieng Khouang Provincial Museum Phase III
Implementation of Museum Plan

Summary of Completed Tasks

a. Short Films
   i. Research and development of content to provide to the contracted filmmaker
   ii. On-site filming in the province
b. Research and Writing Exhibit Panel and Label Content
c. Coordinating Translation of Exhibit Panels and Labels
d. Purchase of supplies and equipment
   i. Exhibit track lighting
   ii. Mounting Materials
   iii. Collection Storage/Conservation supplies and equipment
e. Construction of Textile Mounts
f. Supervising assembly of furniture purchased in Year 2
g. Coordinating works with Contractors regarding:
   i. Creating 4 Short Films
   ii. Constructing furniture for Exhibits, Museum Shop, and Reception
   iii. Constructing furniture for Conservation Lab and Storage Areas
   iv. Constructing wayfinding and warning signage
   v. Painting of exhibit area and Installing track lighting rails, emergency lights, ventilators, air conditioner, etc.
   vi. Design of Exhibit Panels and Labels
   vii. Installation of Furniture for Exhibits, Museum Shop, and Reception and artefacts to be exhibited
h. Compiling photographic images to be enlarged and displayed in the museum exhibits
   i. Labelling and Inventory of Procured furniture and equipment (See Appendix B)
j. Acquisition and Accession of artefacts

Outstanding Works

The exhibits could not be completed in their entirety due to several factors. The contract to replace the roof damaged in September 2017 was not signed until April 2018. If the roof leaked before or during replacement, the furniture and artefacts are at risk to being damaged or destroyed. As of April, the design and printing of the panels and label were still unfinished. Thus, instalment of these along with the remaining artefacts to be exhibited will be carried out in the beginning of Year 4 of the project. Due to the probability that damage is going to occur during the roof renovation works, I advise to postpone the instalment of the panels, labels, and rest of the artefacts until the roof has been completed. Water damage has occurred on parts of the ceiling and some plinths.

The organization of the museum staff’s field trip to Luang Prabang’s institutions was also postponed until Year 4. The visit was initially scheduled for March 2018, but the project discovered the museum only had 1 permanent staff, the director, as of February. By the end of March three additional staff were assigned to work at the museum, but the fifth member has not been designated. One staff is serving as a liaison between the project and the DICT Director so is a temporary staff and
not involved in museum operations. The dates are not final, but the trip will be held in the 2nd or 3rd week of June before the museum director begins his English course on June 25 in Vientiane.

None of the museum staff have any experience working in museums. All the team members will need extensive, long-term training. Four staff lack English skills so will need to take classes. As part of their hands-on training, creating a temporary exhibit and adding to the permanent exhibits can take place but only in the second half of Year 4.

Museum operations and outfitting of the museum shop/TIR will also occur in Year 4. It is not out of the ordinary for a museum to not be fully operational at the soft opening. For example, one institution in India had a soft opening in 2017 but does not expect to be fully operational until the end of 2019. It is a long-term process that cannot be taught in a couple of weeks or months. It is especially challenging since none of staff have any experience.

Works to be completed in Year 4:
1. Final instalment of artefacts in the exhibits after the roof renovations are completed – June 2018
2. Instalment of panels and labels after the roof renovations are completed – June
3. Directing spotlights after artefacts, panels and labels installed – June
4. Delivery and instalment of wayfinding signage and electronics equipment – June
5. Save reference materials, handbooks, and artefact acquisition databases on the museum computer and hard drive once this equipment arrives at the museum – June
6. Instalment of wood wayfinding/warning signage
7. Meeting with Ms. Vanpheng Keopannha, Deputy Director of the Heritage Department, Vientiane - June
8. Staff Field Trip – introduction to museums in Luang Prabang - June
9. Training Course on Museum operations and collections care July/August 2018 – January 2019 (1-2 weeks per month for ½ year but can be spread out over 9 months?)
10. Acquiring stock for the museum shop/TIR begins in July/August after creating agreements with local producers
11. Development of various museum policies: mission, group visits, acquisition including donations, etc. Beginning in July/August
12. Staff name tags, if there is no uniform/shirt, entry tickets and stickers must be designed and produced before the opening date.
13. Temporary Exhibit Project works commence January 2019
14. Research of the weapons and ammunitions used in Indochina Wars. After objects are selected to potentially place on exhibit, a conservator must be consulted regarding their condition and conserved before exhibited.

Problems/Issues

Delays occurred in the completion of the works for several reasons, including illness, death of relatives, unexpected damages, workload, and misunderstandings between the different parties. Damage to the roof from a storm requires its replacement. Misunderstandings or confusion regarding the urgency for its replacement has delayed completing the installation of the exhibits and other works. For example, the death of a relative prevented Mrs. Tien from Ban Xieng Kiaw from completing the Sang Pang that will be displayed in the museum. It is taboo to work on a religious object during the mourning period. The PIU will coordinate with Mrs. Tien regarding the transfer of this object to the museum.
The plan to exhibit some items had to be revised due to their unavailability. For example, some Buddha statues were returned to the district. One item could not be acquired due to the constantly increasing asking price. One item of interest was also not acquired since display would be a challenge. Some baskets are now showing insect infestation so these will need to be taken off exhibit until the insect are eradicated.

It is possible to add or change items on exhibit in the near future. There is a selection of textiles for rotation but not for the basketry, weaving equipment, musical instruments, etc. The conditions of the archaeology section need to be closely monitored. If conditions are stable, additional objects can be exhibited. Other objects must be removed from display if the conditions prove unstable such as fluctuations in relative humidity.

Artefacts concerning the war period were not displayed. In the museum plan of Year 2, it was suggested that MAG or UXO Lao be hired to inventory the weapons and ammunitions. However, this hasn’t occurred yet. Most of these objects are in poor condition, broken and oxidizing. A conservator should be hired to stabilize the objects such as stop the oxidation. Stabilization must occur before any of these artefacts can go on permanent exhibit; however, a temporary exhibit can be set up while these works are carried out for the official opening. See #13 of Works to be completed in Year 4 above.

There is a plinth on the 1st floor of the exhibits for these objects, but other plinths and mounts can be ordered. Mounts must be custom made to fit each object and cannot happen until final selection occurs. Creation of labels for any new objects to go on exhibit will be additional works.

Working across departments in the provincial office of Information, Culture and Tourism (DICT) has caused challenges in the completion of works. Over eight months have passed since the signing of the MOU between the project and DICT, and there was still confusion among members of the Culture/Heritage section of the DICT regarding the role of myself and the project with the museum. The hierarchical system of the government has prevented the sharing of knowledge to all local stakeholders.

I think it is important that the PIU and museum staff carry out some of the tasks themselves to gain experience and ownership of the museum. This has been a challenge and will continue to be one. The broken items pointed out in February are still in this state. It took almost one year to have the museum cleaned, and it was the first time the floor had been mopped since the building was completed. Thus, there are be cross-cultural issues as well. The lack of experience and sense of responsibility will continue to create challenges in the future, but, hopefully, these issues can be resolved over time.

Lessons Learned and Recommendations

Lessons learned include trying to be more flexible regarding timelines and interactions with others. All the staff have no experience in museums, and the new responsibilities and information must be overwhelming. It is also wise to have alternative plans in case the current plan is unfeasible.

Recommendations include investing more in the staff in terms of training and hands-on experience through the guidance of an experience personnel. Hiring temporary staff with English skills and experience in the hospitality industry will assist in officially opening the museum by October 2018. Interns can be recruited from the local colleges; this endeavor may require assistance from an outside group such as Elixirs. A native English speaker can be sought to serve as a volunteer to assist with daily operations.
APPENDIX A: ARTEFACT ACQUISITIONS, LTSA YEAR 3  
(Excel Database with more details in Google Drive Folder and will be saved on the museum computer and external hard drive)

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<td>Colonial administrators and bureaucrats</td>
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<td>Young women dressed for a festival</td>
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<td>2017.12.4</td>
<td>Xieng Khouang town</td>
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<td>2017.12.5</td>
<td>Groupe de Mandarins Pou Eun au Tranninh</td>
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<td>Vat Boun Kong Temple Ruins</td>
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<td>Lao soldiers with elephants</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017.12.7b</td>
<td>Siamese commissioner with Lao attendees</td>
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<td>Plain of Jars Site 1</td>
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<td>2017.12.9</td>
<td>Periodical Article</td>
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<td>Hmong teenagers at the market of Lat Houang</td>
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<td>Pony trade caravan</td>
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<td>Muang Ngan citadel</td>
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<td>2017.12.16</td>
<td>Missionaries within the Muang Ngan stockade</td>
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<td>Hmong family of Phu Ke (Tranninh)</td>
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<td>2017.12.19</td>
<td>Lao soldiers in front of bombed buildings</td>
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<td>Soldiers digging trenches on a hill overlooking town</td>
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<td>Soldiers organizing supplies</td>
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<td>Bombed police station</td>
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<td>2017.12.25</td>
<td>French paratroopers crossing Xieng Khouang Plain</td>
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<td>2017.12.26</td>
<td>Xieng Khouang post office</td>
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<td>Laywomen preparing alms</td>
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<td>Three Lao princes</td>
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<td>General Vang Pao</td>
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<td>Civilians fleeing fighting</td>
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2017.13.4  Woman's Hair Pin  200
2017.14.1  Woman's blouse  40
2017.14.2  Woman's blouse  40
2017.15.1  Head Cloth  40
2017.15.2  Head Cloth  40
2017.16.1  Head Cloth  15
2017.17.1  Woman's Belt  20
2017.17.2  Woman's Belt  25
2017.17.3  Head Cloth  20
2017.17.4  Skirt  63
2017.18.1  Blouse  130
2017.18.2  Skirt  50
2017.18.3  Hair Pin  15
2017.19.1  Shoulder Bag  25
2017.20.1  Woman's blouse  130
2017.20.2  Skirt  30
2017.20.3  Head Cloth  12
2017.21.2  Head Cloth for daily ware  10
2017.21.1  Bangle  13
2017.22.2  Bullet Holder  12
2017.22.1  Boy's Hat  25
2017.23.1  Photograph  15
2017.23.2  Photograph  15
2017.23.3  Photograph  15
2017.23.4  Photograph  15
2017.24.1  Blouse  100
2017.24.2  Blouse  50
2017.25.1  Book  200
2017.26.1  Man's Hip Wrapper  200
2017.27.1  Digging trenches in a forest  25
2017.27.2  Neutralist soldier on alert in Xieng Khouang  25
2017.28.1  Blouse  30
2017.28.2  Blouse  30
2017.28.3  Skirt  55
2017.28.4  Apron  0
2017.28.5  Apron  0
2017.29.1  Tai Dam women, Xieng Khouang  44
2017.29.2  White Hmong men, women and children  44
2017.29.3  Striped Hmong women, men, and children  44
2017.29.4  White Hmong mothers and children  44
2017.30.1  Ton Pang - Ritual Tree Sculpture  150
2017.30.2  Maak Khone  1.5
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<td>Khang Khay – a Russian supply truck camouflaged with trees - 1964</td>
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<td>Refugees fleeing the fighting - 1964</td>
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<td>2017.36.2</td>
<td>Village men and women training for PLA - 1969</td>
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<td>Village women working while under threat of bombing - 1969</td>
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<td>2017.36.3</td>
<td>Agricultural Station Employees collecting materials - 1900</td>
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APPENDIX B: Inventory of Xieng Khouang Museum Equipment, Furniture, Mannequins, Spotlights and Mounts (form for inventory check in Google Drive Folder and will be saved on the museum computer and external hard drive)

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<tr>
<td>Chair – Programming room</td>
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<td>L02</td>
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<td>Chair – Programming room</td>
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<table>
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<td>Bench – film room</td>
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Plinth - 220 L x 100 W x 20 cm PL10 (Hmong attire - Wall JJ)
Plinth - 460 L x 80 W x 15 cm PL11 (Baskets - Wall Q)
Plinth - 170 L x 50 W x 15 H cm PL12 (Baskets - Wall P)
Plinth - 230 L x 210 W x 10 cm PL13 (Mosquito net - Wall T-U)
Plinth - 170 L x 30 W x 15 cm PL14 (Textiles - Wall S)
Plinth - 200 L x 200 w x 30 H cm PL15 (Baskets and cradles - in the middle of the floor near film entrance)
Plinth - 250 L x 30 W x 15 H cm PL16 (textiles - Wall T)
  Stand - 80 W x 60 D x 50 H cm + Hood ST1
  ceramic jar
  Stand - 100 W x 60 D x 80 H cm + Hood ST2
  limestone slab
  Stand - 70 W x 50 D x 50 H cm + Hood ST3
  book
  Stand - 100 W x 100 D x 50 H cm + Hood ST4
  small PDJ artefacts
  Stand - 100 W x 50 D x 80 H cm + Hood ST5
  Hmong shaman’s tools
  Stand - 100 W x 50 D x 80 H cm + Hood ST6
  jewellery
  Stand - 50 x 50 x 25 H cm ST7
  Phuan carryall basket - PL15
  Stand - 50 x 50 x 25 H cm ST8
  Phuan carryall basket - PL15
  Stand - 35 x 35 x 40 H cm ST9
  sticky rice basket – PL12
  Stand - 40 x 40 x 30 H cm ST10
  rice seedling basket – PL12
  Stand- 45 x 45 x 30 H cm ST11
  on PL11
  Stand - 20 x 20 x 40 H cm ST12
  sticky rice basket – PL12
  Stand - 70 W x 25 D x 40 H cm ST13
  3 fish traps – PL11
  Stand - 90 W x 60 D x 20 H cm ST14
  cotton gin
  Stand - 120 W x 70 D x 30 H cm ST15
  spinning wheel
  Stand - 40 x 40 x 30 H cm ST16
  pot for coconos
  Stand - 50 x 50 x 20 H cm ST17
  indigo pot

### Type of Item | Code
--- | ---
Plinth - 150 L x 120 W x 40 H cm (Muang Phuan section) | PL1
Plinth - 100 L x 100 w x 15 H cm (Sang Pang Tree) | PL2
Plinth - 500 L x 80 W x 15 H cm (Textile Production - Wall N) | PL3
Plinth - 230 L x 100 W x 15 cm (Textile Production - Wall O) | PL4
Plinth - 220 L x 80 W x 15 cm (Textile Production - Wall M) | PL5
Plinth - 250 L x 60 W x 15 H cm (Musical Instruments – Wall MM) | PL6
Plinth - 250 X 100 W X 15 H cm (Attire - Wall O) | PL7
Plinth - 250 L x 120 W x 15 cm (Attire - Wall O) | PL8
Plinth - 250 L x 100 W x 15 cm (Attire - Wall O) | PL9

### Type of Item | Code
--- | ---
Drill | EQ06
HP Pavilion 570-P050 | EQ07
LED Monitor | EQ08
Epson Projector EB-W05 | EQ09
Epson Projector EB-S05 | EQ10
Screen 150 cm | EQ11
Screen 150 in – film room | EQ12
Sony digital camera | EQ13
DSC-W810 | EQ14
External hard-drive 1 | EQ15
External hard-drive 2 | EQ16
USB memory stick 1 | EQ17
USB memory stick 2 | EQ18
Extension cord 1 | EQ19
Extension cord 2 | EQ20
Windows 10Pro | EQ21
MS Office | EQ22
Antivirus software | EQ23
Amplifier | EQ24
PS8 Speaker 1 | EQ25
PS8 Speaker 2 | EQ26
3M Speaker cable | EQ27
10M Speaker cable | EQ28
AB cable | EQ29
Speaker stand 1 | EQ30
Speaker stand 2 | EQ31
Projector mount 1 | EQ32
Projector mount 2 | EQ33
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<td>Khmu fish trap - PL11</td>
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<td>Stand - 40 x 40 x 35 H cm</td>
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<td>Stand - 30 x 30 x 100 H cm + Hood (Buddha images)</td>
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APPENDIX C: Images from the Museum Exhibit Area, Reception, Shop/TIR
APPENDIX D: Plan for Exhibit Panels

1st Floor
2nd Floor
Green – Ethnography/Culture
APPENDIX E: Paint Codes

DULUX Supercoat, water-based, matte paint

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92BB 07/350 MAJESTIC
Dulux Colour Guide
### APPENDIX F: Spotlight Details

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**TTL**

| GT-THR-5M | Track Rail 0.5m Body color White | 10 | $6.25 | $5.00 | $62.50 | $50.00 |

**TTL**: **$2,685.78**

***PAYMENT: TOTAL US DOLLAR TWO THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIVE AND SEVENTY-EIGHT ONLY***

Shipment Term Send by DHL/REDDX takes around 5-7 days.
Payment terms: **T/T** in advance before production.
Delivery: Estimated delivery within around 5-7 days after receipt of payment.

Our bank information for **T/T**: **SHENZHEN GOLDEN OCEAN INDUSTRY CO., LIMITED**

(Pls write our company name fully, and exactly same, or our bank will withdraw the fund, hope you can understand us, thank you)

Bank name: Hong Kong Bank Limited
Bank Address: No3 Des Voeux Road Central Hong Kong
Account number: 768 27770 000

SWIFT CODE: HKAEEHHH

For and on behalf of **SHENZHEN GOLDEN OCEAN INDUSTRY CO., LIMITED**

[Signature]
APPENDIX G: Roof Repairs April 30, 2018
Including Water Damage to the Ceiling and some Plinths during the Roof Renovations
Jar sites maintenance and tourist monitoring

NaO Village Heritage Team monitoring and maintaining the fence (Photo from the Jar site 1)

NaO Village Heritage Team controlling vegetation around the jar (Photo from the Jar site 1)

NaO Village Heritage Team monitoring and give some site interpretation to the tourist (Photo from the Jar site 1)
Jar sites maintenance and tourist monitoring

Na Kho Village Heritage Team monitoring and give some site interpretation to the tourist before go into the jar site (Photo from site 2)

Na kho Village Heritage Team controlling vegetation around the jar (Photo from site 2)

Na Kho Village Heritage Team controlling vegetation and maintaining the fence (Photo from site 2)
Jar sites maintenance and tourist monitoring

Xiengdi Village Heritage Team monitoring the ticket selling (Photo from the Jar site 3)

Xiengdi Village Heritage Team controlling vegetation around the jar (Photo from site 3)

Xiengdi Village Heritage Team monitoring and maintaining the fence (Photo from site 3)
MEGALITHIC JAR SITES OF LAOS: A COMPREHENSIVE OVERVIEW AND NEW DISCOVERIES

Dougald O’Reilly¹, Louise Shewan², Julie Van Den Bergh³, Samlane Luangaphay⁴ and Thonglith Luangkhoth⁴

1. School of Archaeology and Anthropology, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia
2. School of Earth Sciences, University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
3. Archaeological Assessments Ltd, Lamma Island, Hong Kong
4. Department of Heritage, Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism, Vientiane, Lao PDR

Authors 1, 2 contributed equally to this work. Corresponding author: Dougald O’Reilly dougald.oreilly@anu.edu.au

ABSTRACT
The megalithic jar sites of central Laos remain one of Southeast Asia’s archaeological enigmas. These sites, more than 90 known to date, comprise large stone jars, discs, apparent lids and imported boulders located in elevated positions on hillslopes, mountain ridges or saddles. While the sites were first noted in the late 19th century, the first systematic research at these sites only began in the 1930s with the work of Madeleine Colani. Since that time, attempts to understand the culture that created the jars, their distribution and purpose have been limited not least because of the presence of unexploded ordnance (UXO) dating to the conflict in Indo-China in the 1960s and 70s. Renewed archaeological research by the authors commenced in 2016. This paper provides an inventory of known sites, matching historical accounts with more recent survey and lastly lists new sites identified in the recent research programme.

1.1 INTRODUCTION
The megalithic jar sites of northern Laos, found in Xieng Khouang and Luang Prabang Provinces, constitute one of Southeast Asia’s archaeological mysteries (Fig. 1). The Plain of Jars is a widely known term which describes only the three best known sites near the provincial capital of Phonsavan but megalithic sites are found widely distributed over 10,000 km². Ninety-seven known sites comprising jars made of various types of stone including sandstone, breccia, limestone, conglomerate and granite are found located atop hills, or in mountainous locations, often in a saddle.

The earliest published research on these megalithic sites was undertaken by Madeleine Colani (1935) who documented 21 jar sites (Fig. 2) and five sites with ‘funerary stones’ as well as a number of menhir sites in Hua Phan Province that she felt were separated in time, space and culture from the megalithic jar sites. Colani named the sites she recorded based either on the name of the village closest to the site, by the number of jars or in some cases did not provide any name. Since Colani’s seminal research, small projects have focused on the sites near Phonsavan with work undertaken by Eiji Nitta (1996) and Thongsa Sayavongkhamdy et al. (2000). Given the cultural significance of the sites the Lao government have long sought to have the megalithic jar sites listed as UNESCO World Heritage. Safeguarding the Plain of Jars Project (SPJP) was set up in 1998 as a collaborative effort with UNESCO to document jar sites and to prepare for future World Heritage listing. The result of the SPJP, undertaken by Julie Van Den Bergh and Samlane Luangaphay and others between 2001 and 2008, was the geo-location
and description of 58 jar sites with varying numbers of megalithic jars and other material culture. The sites identified by the SPJP were numbered sequentially as they were documented. Site 1 for example refers to the large jar site near Phonsavan. Further efforts to document jar sites were undertaken by Rosalia Genovese (2015) who created a separate, alphanumeremic inventory of jar sites based on perceived function (i.e. jar sites are assigned a J followed by a number, quarry sites are assigned a Q and QS denotes sites she felt served a dual purpose as quarry and jar site).

![Figure 2. Sites mapped by Colani (1935). Location is unsure where denoted by ?.

The result of these multiple naming conventions has led to a degree of confusion regarding the identification of the sites. Here we hope to present an overview of the known megalithic jar sites of Laos using the convention established with the UNESCO-Lao Government survey as it is the most comprehensive and is the one that has been adopted by the Lao Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism (MoICT), the government body with oversight over archaeological heritage. Herein we present all of the known and recorded sites. The sites documented by the SPJP are presented first and where these sites were also noted by either Colani or Genovese this fact is noted (if no data is recorded, n.d. is inserted). Some sites identified by Genovese and Colani were not included in the original survey and hence have no site number. These sites are presented after the numbered jar sites but exclude sites that Colani (1935) refers to as fields of funerary stones. Sites recently discovered through a joint Lao-Australian research project (Shewan, O’Reilly and Luangkhoth 2016: O’Reilly and Shewan 2016) and two further sites recorded by the Department of Heritage (DoH) are also introduced.
2.1 METHODOLOGY
The coordinates used in Colani’s 1935 report on the jar sites are provided in the French metric degree system which requires conversion. Accurately locating the sites identified by Colani (1935) is challenging as even after converting the coordinates some known sites are not accurately positioned. This may be due to a shift in the location of magnetic north since the coordinates were taken or due to data collection error. Many of her sites have no coordinates and must be located by placing her maps as overlays in Google Earth and the hand-drawn maps are often variable. An additional issue is matching the description of the sites to present-day conditions often heavily altered in the bombing campaign during the 1960s and 70s.

The survey of megalithic sites, undertaken by a UNESCO-Lao government team mentioned above, focused on identifying sites within Xieng Khouang Province only. The survey was conducted using a stepped approach (Box 2003, Rogers et al. 2003) and as such 84 sites were reported by villagers of which 58 sites were fully mapped including coordinates (Fig. 3) by 2008.

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1 The French system at the time divided a circle into 400 ‘gradians’ rather than using a 360 degree circle. This system expresses latitude from 1-100 gradians (as opposed to 1-90°) and longitude from 0-200 gradians (as opposed to 0-180°) rather than coordinates. To convert this to a degrees/minutes coordinate the latitude must be multiplied by 0.9 and longitudes must be multiplied by 0.9 and 2.337231 added to account for the use of Paris as the prime meridian rather than Greenwich. The following formula was used to convert Colani’s coordinates; For latitude: [DEGREES] = [GRADS] x 0.9, For longitude: [DEGREES] = ([GRADS] x 0.9) + 2.337231.
Locating the sites identified by Genovese (2015) was also problematic as locational details are not included in the published material, perhaps cognisant of the threat of looting and we follow this convention here. The maps provided in Genovese 2015 did, however, allow the authors to locate, with relative accuracy, the sites mentioned (Fig. 4).

Figure 4. Sites mapped by Genovese (2015).

Site 1 (Colani: Ban Ang/Genovese: J1)
The first significant research at Ban Ang (now known as Site 1) was initiated by Madeleine Colani in 1931 and continued each year until 1934 (Fig. 5). The results of her research were published in 1935 in a two-volume book. Colani undertook excavations at Site 1 digging around 20 jars. While nothing was found beneath the jars themselves the area surrounding them were rich in finds including ear discs, spindle whorls, glass beads, bronze and iron tools, knives and jewellery. Colani also reported finding terracotta jars used for secondary burial during her excavations. Several of the stone jars contained human remains and glass beads.

Figure 5. View to the Northeast at Site 1 (Photo: K. Hanus).
Nitta (1996) undertook some excavations at Site 1 in 1994 publishing only a brief summary. Nitta also inventoried the jars (many are numbered on the inside with white paint) and a map was prepared but never published. Nitta found unburned human remains, iron knives and glass beads as well as a ceramic vessel beneath a flat stone which contained human remains. He estimated the ceramic jar burials dated to the late first millennium AD to the early second millennium AD.

Three test excavations were conducted by Sayavongkhamdy (n.d.) at Site 1 in 1996. The excavations around the jars revealed burial pits containing human remains and artefacts. In terms of material culture, the excavation revealed seven miniature pots, 28 glass beads a ceramic earring, fragments of bronze, a bronze bell, iron fragments, an iron knife, a bangle and a stone pendant. Two ceramic vessels were excavated in 2004 by Van Den Bergh (pers. comm.) as part of a rescue operation during the decontamination of the site of UXO. These vessels have since been revealed to contain human remains (Domett and Halcrow pers. comm.).

Excavations were undertaken as part of a collaborative Lao-Australian research effort at Site 1 in 2016 (Shewan, O’Reilly and Luangkhoth 2016; O’Reilly and Shewan 2016; O’Reilly et al. forthcoming). Similar results were obtained during this research to that previously undertaken with evidence of burials, some inside ceramic vessels. The material culture recovered was modest and mirrored that found by Colani and Sayavongkhamdy. As part of this research a survey of the jars at Site 1 revealed that there are 316 jars and 25 discs present which differs in the counts undertaken by SPJP which counted 334 jars and 30 discs and Genovese (2015) who noted 339 jars and 30 discs at the site 1.

Site 2 (Colani: Lat Sen/Genovese: J2)
Located about 15 km to the south of Phonsavan in Phaxay District, Site 2 was known to Colani as the ‘Airfield at Lat Sen’ (Fig. 6). She describes the site as being atop a small hillock, divided in the middle, as it is today, by a depression. She noted more than 80 jars at Site 1 that were arranged in two groups to the west and east. Recent documentation (SPJP; Genovese 2015) of the site counted 93 jars, 14 discs and nine stones and a count taken in 2017 noted just 86 jars and 15 discs (Ball pers. comm.). The eastern group comprises 51 jars and seven discs while the western group includes 35 jars and eight discs (Ball pers. comm.). Several of the discs at Site 2 are decorated including one with an anthropomorphic figure in poor preservation.

![Figure 6. Site 2 (photo: A. Ball)](image)

Colani’s excavations at Site 2 revealed findings on the western hillock only including a groundstone disc-ring fragment, three axes, three stone pendants, a grindstone and ceramic sherds. Also uncovered were clay weights or spindles, discs and ear discs as well as spiral pendants, bells and a ring of bronze, glass and carnelian beads. Inside the jars she recorded ceramic sherds and some glass beads and charcoal.

Genovese (2015) notes the jars found on the eastern hill at Site 2 do exhibit more variation in their styles and are more numerous.

Site 3 (Colani: Ban Sua/Genovese: J3)
Site 3, also known as Ban Xiengdi and, formerly, by Colani as Ban Sua, is located near Site 2 in Phaxay District and comprises, according to Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008) and Genovese (2015) eight groups of jars (Fig. 7). The site is located on a hill slope overlooking a wide plain. There is some discrepancy over the number of groups and jars located at Site 3. Colani (1935) recorded 155 megalithic jars at the main group of Site 3 while Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2015) counted 158 jars and 33 discs at the same group and 245 jars and 43 discs arranged in eight groups. Genovese (2015) writes that the site is home to 247 sandstone jars and 45 discs. A recent survey of the site undertaken in 2017 revealed only 240 jars and 41 discs present (Ball, pers. comm.).

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1 Some of the stone jars of Site 1 were moved to decorate Phonsavan cultural hall (now demolished) and a Phonsavan hotel; in addition, it is known that Hmong general Vang Pao gifted the USA a stone jar which currently resides at the Smithsonian Institution and at least 3 stone jars are known in Vientiane. The four jars which remained in Xieng Khouang have been returned to Site 1. The fragmentary nature of some jars complicates counting. A minimum number of jars, whereby a minimum of 55% of base remaining counts as one jar was adopted by Safeguarding the Plain of Jars team.
Site 5 (Colani:n.d./Genovese:Q55)
The SPJP report places the 11 jars and 38 stones of Site 5 near the village of Ban Phaignam (Fig. 9). The site is arranged in two groups, one near the village with three jars and the rest on a hillock nearby. Again the site has been badly damaged by bombing activity and the jars are noted to be heavily damaged. Genovese records the site as QS5 and counts 11 jars arranged in four groups. She records the same three jars in the village and wonders if they were relocated from the nearby hillock. The remaining three groups of jars she places on a hill less than 500m from the village noting that the remaining eight jars comprise both complete and partially carved megaliths as well as an unworked boulder.
The SPJP report omitted a site between Sites 5 and 7.

Site 4 (Colani:Bergerie?/Genovese:J4)
This site was documented by the SPJP, recorded as being located close to Ban Lathong in Paek District (Fig. 8). They recorded three badly damaged sandstone jars on a hilltop as well as six boulders. The damage to the site was likely the result of bombing during the Indochinese conflict. Genovese (2015), who records the site as J4, noted three jars and writes that there are remnants of other jars and discs nearby. She also notes that a site she dubbed Q18 (Site 18) may have served as the quarry for this site as the stone is visually similar as it is at QS17 (Site 17) and no other potential sources of stone have yet been located. This site may have been known to Colani as Bergerie (Colani 1935:211; Genovese 2015).

Site 7 (Colani:Ban Xot/Genovese:n.d.)
Colani documented four jar sites around a village then known as Ban Xot and she excavated around some of the jars in the area. The site was rediscovered during the SPJP and grouped as one site under the name Site 7 (Fig. 10 and 11). Colani notes that the jars at what she called Ban Xot I lie in a field of ‘real’ boulders of quartz-rich sandstone some of which appear to have been worked. The whole arrangement, including the ten jars, is located in a pass with a view down to the village, presumably indicating they are located on a hilltop (Colani 1935:247). The jars, Colani notes, appear to have been ‘worked on the spot’ and only
two had small apertures. At least two subspherical caps were also recorded. Her excavations around the jars revealed a ground stone fragment, glass beads, a bronze spiral bangle, a partial iron ring and some charcoal. Excavations around the stones at the site revealed a broken ceramic vessel and two potsherds.

![Figure 10. Stone jars at Site 7 (photo: SPJP)](image)

The site labelled as Ban Xot II by Colani (1935:225) is located on the same crest as Ban Xot I, about 50 m distant but slightly higher in altitude and the site afforded a commendable view of the surrounding area. As at the previous location the ground was covered in boulders and ten jars are dispersed between them, three standing and the others either broken or recumbent. Colani notes one of the jars was surrounded by a ring of burial stones and one recumbent jar (Colani 1935:249). Colani noted that one piece of subspherical sandstone, decorated on one side with a disc, could be a jar cap. The jars at Ban Xot II contained glass bead and excavations around the jars returned a ground stone rectangular pendant, ceramics, glass beads, fragments of bronze and iron and some charcoal.

![Figure 11. Unusual stone jar at Site 7 (photo: SPJP)](image)

Ban Xot III is recorded as being c. 150 m from Ban Xot II, comprising about ten quartz-rich sandstone jars (Colani 1935). This site too has the same boulders as the others and ten ‘monolithic jars’, three of which remained standing and subspherical caps were found nearby. She notes that some of the jars appear to be ‘rough-outs’ indicating that they may have been carved in situ. The site did boast an unusual artefact in the form of a sub-spherical rock with a concavity similar to the jars forming, what Colani termed as a cross between a monolithic jar and a burial stone. Seven of the ten megaliths at Ban Xot III were recumbent and none of the jars contained artefacts. Colani conducted excavations around the jars and stones finding ceramic sherds, some decorated, many glass beads, small bronze bells, bronze fragments and five spiral iron rings.

The fourth group in the area Colani (1935) calls the ‘Group of four jars’ which she writes are “no great distance from Ban Xot III” but in a footnote indicates she sometimes refers to the site as Ban Xot IV. This site comprises four jars, two broken, located among quartz-rich sandstone boulders. There were no contents in the jars and no excavations were undertaken at this site.

A disc and 21 jars with small apertures (as opposed to Colani’s count of 34) over four groups were recorded by the SPJP. The SPJP report notes that a new road constructed in 2007 displaced a number of jars and ‘destroyed the site’. It should be noted that Genovesse (2015) does mention Ban Xot but labels it as J26 and places it eight km (based on her map) southeast of Site 7 and very close to Site 27. Genovesse’s J26 and Site 27 both have 11 jars so it is likely that she has misattributed this as the site Colani named as Ban Xot.

Site 8 (Colani: n.d./Genovesse: Q8)

Site 8 near Ban Xiengdii in Phaxai District does not appear to have been known to Colani. The SPJP report states that the site is in close proximity to Site 3 on a slope and comprises several quarry areas of unfinished, broken and complete jars and Site 8 may represent the quarry for Sites 2

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1 Colani’s information is contradictory as she notes that in Jar no.s 1 and 3 she found grey pot sherds.
and 3. This location is recorded as Q8 by Genovese (2015) at which she notes there are eight jars, some of which she feels bear a resemblance to jars found at Site 2 (J2).

Site 9 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: Q9?)
Site 9 was documented by the SPJP near the village of Ban Phakeo not far from Site 52 (J41). The site comprises ten jars of a fine red sandstone and the jars are small compared to the jars found at Site 52 (Fig. 12). Genovese (2015) places a quarry she labels as Q9 near Site 52, stating that it comprises ten sandstone jars and was the quarry for the sites she labels as QS11, J41 (Site 52) and QS44 (Site 10). No coordinates are provided and using a map overlay the location appears to be erroneous.

Figure 12. Stone jar at Site 9 (photo: SPJP)

Site 10 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: QS44)
This site is not recorded by Colani and was documented during the SPJP near Ban Phakeo in Paek District (Fig. 13 and 14). The SPJP report notes that there is a disc with a human figure carved upon it and both finished and unfinished jars. Despite the presence of half-finished jars, the site is unlikely to have been a quarry based on the nature of the surrounding rock. Genovese labels a quarry-site that probably equates to Site 10 as QS44, located she says 1 km south of Site 52 (Genovese’s J41) and includes nine jars.

Site 11 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: QS11?)
Site 11, with two unfinished jars, is located near Ban Phakeo (Site 52). Recorded during the SPJP as having two unfinished jars located on a steep slope. The discoverers note that the site may represent a ‘transportation site’ where the jars were moved from a quarry and were on the way to a jar site before being abandoned for some reason (Fig. 15). As the jar openings are incomplete it is hypothesised that the jars were to be completed upon arrival at the site.

Figure 13. Unfinished stone jars at Site 10 (photo: SPJP)

Figure 14. View of Site 10 (photo: SPJP)

Figure 15. Stone jar at Site 11 (photo: SPJP)

Genovese (2015) has a site labelled as QS11 on her maps but provides no coordinates. Using a map overlay to locate the site places it within the groups of jars at Site 52 which is erroneous. She also records two sandstone jars
here and no discs noting that this was a quarry-site but provides no further detail.

Site 12 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: QS12?)
This jar site is located near Ban Pakeo on a mountain ridge and comprises 34 sandstone jars, some unfinished (Fig. 16). Baldock and Van Den Bergh (2009:147-148) however, identify that the in situ rock mass at Site 12 is unsuitable for jar manufacturing. Two discs were also recorded at the site (Fig. 17).

Figure 16. View of Site 12 (photo: SPJP).

Figure 17. Disc at Site 12 (photo: SPJP).

Genovese (2015) documents a site on a map as QS12 but the location may be erroneous as it appears, based on a map overlay, to sit within the groups of jars at Site 52. She states that this site comprises 34 jars and two discs of sandstone and the site may have been a source for her QS11 (Site 11), J41 (Site 52) & QS44 (Site 10). The recent survey by a joint Lao-Australian research team at Site 12 counted 43 jars and rough-outs, six discs and over 90 boulders (Shewan, O’Reilly and Luangkhoth, 2016: O’Reilly and Shewan 2016; O’Reilly et al. forthcoming.).

Site 13 (Colani: Na Nong?/Genovese: J13)
This site is probably what Colani (1933, 1935) called Na Nong where she recorded 34 poorly preserved jars made of granite. Colani records the site as being located about 12 km from Muang Khoun, the former capital of Xieng Khouang Province. She notes that Na Nong is between two peaks called Pou Kobow and Pou Sao (Colani 1934). Aside from jars Colani found a sub-spherical cap decorated with a human figure which she removed and the present location of this artefact is unknown. Her excavations at Na Nong revealed stone polishing stones, a ceramic jar, ceramic sherds, glass beads and some bronze including a bangle and iron fragments.

Figure 18. Stone jar at Site 13 (photo: SPJP).

Na Nong was recorded during the SPJP as Site 13 at Ban Thoume, San Phou Naluang in Khoune District where they recorded only three jars, considerably less than Colani reported, a disc and 30 boulders (Fig. 18). They report that there were blocks of granite of considerable size. Site 13 is also recorded by Genovese as J13 and she also reports three jars and a disc being located here. It should be noted that based on Colani’s maps, placed as an overlay in Google Earth, the location of Na Nong is roughly 4-7 km south of Site 13 so it is possible that the site Colani called Na Nong has not been recorded recently.
Site 14 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: Q14)
The SPJP report states that the site recorded as Site 14 comprises only jar rough outs (no number is provided) and, even though the environs would be suitable for quarrying stone, no direct evidence for quarrying was found. Located near Ban Natad, Khoune District the site is located at the bottom of a hill slope near a stream. Genovese records this site as Q14 and labels it as a granite quarry.

Site 15 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: QS15)
This quarry site is located near Huay Far Par and is thought by Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008) to have served as the source of the granite jars at Site 13 about 2.8 km to the south. Genovese (2015) does not provide any detail regarding this site but suggests it is a granite quarry and labels it as QS15.

Site 16 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: QS16)
Colani published an account of this site in 1940 and it is further mentioned in Parmentier (1954: 17-18). This site is located near Ban Phai, Khoune District and according to the SPJP report comprises 36 jars, mostly granite in poor condition but one of sandstone (Fig. 19). They also note three stones and a disc at the site which is located on a slight elevation. Genovese (2015) has labelled this site as QS16 and records the same number of jars and discs and places this in a group of sites (mentioned in the preceding site description).

Site 17 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: QS17)
Located in Ban Bouatai in Khoune District, Site 17 was not recorded by Colani. The site, according to the SPJP report comprises five groups of mostly broken sandstone jars (Fig. 20). The first group has nine jars and four discs and funerary marker, the second, six jars, the third, 20 jars and 42 stones while groups four and five have one jar each, totaling 37 jars and four discs. The largest of the jar groups is located on a small rise. Genovese notes that her QS17 is part of a group including J4 (4) and Q18 (18) and she feels that this site is a possible source of the stone for the jars located at Site 4.

Site 18 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: Q18)
Site 18, a quarry, is located near Ban Buatai and Phou Hin Mong in Khoune District on the slope of a hill (Fig. 21). According to Baldock and Van Den Bergh (2009:149) there is evidence for the extraction of maximum 57 jars from the quarry. The 37 jars recorded at Site 17 and a further eight found at Site 18 support the evidence (Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay 2008). Genovese (2015), based on
maps in her thesis, has the same location for this site and records eight sandstone jars.

Site 19 (Colani: n.d./Genovese:n.d.)
Located in Paek District, Site 19 comprises a single broken jar which sits in front of a house in the village of Ban Khangvieng.

Site 20 (Colani: n.d./Genovese:J20/J24)
This site is comprised of four groups of jars, 21 in total, fashioned from conglomerate (Fig. 22). Groups 1, 2, 3 and 4 comprise eight, six, two and five jars respectively. Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008) report the jars to be in very fragmented condition sitting atop a hill about 2 km from the village of Ban Hai. Genovese (2015) also records 21 jars at this site. One of the groups (Group 4) recorded in the SPJP report seems to be identified as J24 by Genovese (2015) while Genovese’s J20 corresponds to Site 20, Groups 1, 2 and 3.

Site 21 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: Q21)
Phu Keng Quarry, labelled as Site 21 in the SPJP report, covers about 20 ha on a mountain side and is likely to have served as the source for the jars at Site 1 c. 9 km distant (Fig. 23 and 24). During their survey they recorded 23 jars on the steep slopes and lower down the mountainside but there are likely many more. Survey is dangerous as the site is heavily contaminated with UXO. Genovese (2015) concurs that this is likely the quarry for the sandstone jars at J1 (Site 1) noting that the source of the conglomerate jars at Site 1 has yet to be determined.

Site 22 (Colani: Ban Hin/Genovese: QS22)
Colani (1935, v2:242) mentions the site of Ban Hin, now Site 22 as being located 2 km from Ban Hin or Ban Na Hin where she found sixteen jars, two recumbent, on the crest of a hill. She reports the jars are fashioned from quartz-rich sandstone and are rather weather-worn. There was, at the time of her visit, a spherical cap-stone at the site as well. Her excavations at the site revealed that the jars were set “deep into the earth” and some sparse artefacts were recovered including two ground stone pendant discs, ceramic sherds and fragments of bronze and iron.

Site 23 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: QS23)
A jar site comprising four groups of jars, 32 in total, was identified near Ban Nam Hom in Kham District. The SPJP report indicates that the groups of conglomerate and breccia jars are located close to each other on two spurs looking the Muang Kham valley (Fig. 25 and 26). Site 23 is notable due to the presence of breccia as this is the only documented case to date. Six stones were recorded here. Genovese (2015) labels this site as QS23 but provides scant detail on the site which she says is home to 28 jars.
Site 25 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: J25)
Site 25, near Ban Songhak in Phoukout District comprises 40 jars in five groups according to the SPJP report (Fig. 28). The first group contains 32 jars and the other eight jars are distributed among the remaining groups. The sandstone jars are in relatively good condition even though the site was the scene of heavy combat during the Indochina war and entrenchments can still be seen around the jars (Fig. 29). Baldock and Van Den Bergh (2009:149-150) note the presence of some andesite roughouts that possibly were abandoned as too difficult to work. Genovese (2015) records 24 jars at this site and also mentions the andesite boulders adding that this site may have been documented by Parmentier (1954:40) and known to him as Thong Hac. Eight stones were also recorded at the site.

Site 26 (Colani: n.d./Genovese:n.d.)
Site 26 is located near Ban Phouvieng (Nameng) in Phoukout district at the foot of Phoukout Mountain (Fig. 30). The surrounds were heavily bombed during the Indochina war and the site nearly obliterated but three groups are reported in the SPJP report. Fragments of 11 jars are in one group
and two single jars comprise the other ‘groups’. One disc was also recorded.

![Image](image_url)

**Figure 29. Modern entrenchments at Site 25 (photo: SPJP).**

Site 27 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: J26)
The SPJP report records this site as being located near Ban Sack or Ban Xot in Phukout District comprising two groups of jars, one with eight and the other with three jars. They also recorded two discs and 16 stones at the site which is situated on a steep-sided hill. Genovese (2015) records this site as being equivalent to Colani’s (1935) Ban Xot which is likely erroneous as Colani’s Ban Xot more likely equates to Site 7. Genovese (2015) notes the site comprises 11 sandstone jars and two discs and most of her description for this site is taken from Colani’s (1935) description of Ban Xot (probably Site 7).

Site 28 (Colani: isolated jar at Ban Sak/Genovese: n.d.)
It is likely that the site now called Site 28 was visited by Colani (1935:246) who records a single jar in a pass in the vicinity of Muong Soui, about a kilometer from Ban Sak (Fig. 31). She records magnificent views from the site and undertook excavations around the jar which she describes as being 2.45 m in height and 2.05m in diameter. A polished adze, ceramic fragments, glass beads and fragments of bronze and iron as well as charcoal were recovered in these excavations the depression of which, according to Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008), are still visible. The SPJP report describes one jar of massive proportions and in good condition and notes four stones at the site.

![Image](image_url)

**Figure 30. View of Site 26 (photo: SPJP).**

Site 29 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: n.d.)
Site 29, Ban Nam Oc Hou, in Phukout District, comprises two groups of jars, one atop a mountain and the other c. 600 m distant on a ridge near the village. The SPJP report indicates three sandstone jars, two in one group and one in another and five incomplete jars (Fig. 32).

Site 30 (Colani: n.d./Genovese:n.d.)
According to the SPJP report, Site 30 is located near Ban Chomsy and San Phou Ten Yang in Phukout District (Fig. 33). The site comprises one group of four sandstone jars located on a mountain ridge. Not far from the jars they recorded four possible funerary stones and a disc (Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay, 2008).
this site, located near Ban Ang and Phu Nabung in Phukout District, and labelled it as Site 31. They note three groups with a total of nine jars, one group boasting five jars and the other two groups, two jars each. The two smaller groups also had discs, two in one of the groups and a single disc in the other. They recognised one jar with a double aperture whereas Colani (1935) recorded two.

The largest of the double aperture jars according to Colani (1935 vol.1:255) was 2.75 m long and the cavities on both were narrow. Within one of the jars, which Colani describes as a ‘dwarf’ jar, were found a glass bead and an iron tool (Fig. 34). Her excavations around the jars and burial stones revealed ceramic sherds, a ceramic vessel and a bronze pendant.

![Figure 32. Stone jar at Site 29 (photo: SPJP).](image1)

![Figure 33. Stone jar at Site 30 (photo: SPJP).](image2)

![Figure 34. Stone jar with ‘dwarf jar’ at Site 31 (photo: SPJP).](image3)

This site, based on the description by Genovese (2015), is likely to equate to her J27/J37 although she states J27 and J37 are separated by a distance of 1.7 km both are described with two, double-aperture sandstone jars (2015:112-113). Genovese (2015:164) records four jars at J27 and eight sandstone jars at J37 (Site 31 is thought to have nine jars) and three discs. She also mentions a dwarf jar nestled next to one of these large jars at J27 and this is described by Colani (1935) for Ban Si which is Site 31 according to Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008).

Site 32 (Colani: Ban Sieng Kieu/Genovese: QS28)
This jar site is listed in the SPJP report as being located in Kham District near the village of Ban Xiengkieu and San Phou Getlin and it may relate to a site mentioned by Colani (1935), Ban Sieng Kieu. Colani (1935:240) mentions that there are 40 megalithic jars at this location on a plateau not far from a village then known as Sieng Kieu, four km west of Ban Ban. The jars are of modest size, the tallest being measured at 1.7m but most are 1-1.5 m tall. Colani also mentions finding three presumed stone lids here, most being concave spherical caps not seen elsewhere. Colani excavated this site finding a groundstone axe, ceramic sherds, a few glass beads and a little fragmentary bronze, many tanged iron knives and projectile points and short spear blades as well as charcoal.
Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008) note the site comprises two groups of 33 sandstone jars sitting atop what is called Naluang hill, a low, flat-topped, foothill. They report two stone lids or discs at the site. Genovese (2015) provides same numbers of features and labels the site QS28. She notes that a pommel decorated disc mentioned by Colani is still extant.

Site 33 (Colani: Eight jars/Genovese: J33?)
It is difficult to be sure that the site labelled Site 33 in the SPJP report equates to the site known by Colani (1935:243) as “Eight Jars” near Ban Nam Ngum but the numbers and location seem to make this likely. Colani mentions the existence of a group of jars at the high point of a pass in the mountains. Four of the jars, fashioned from a quartz-rich sandstone, were standing while the other recumbent jars were broken. Colani conducted ‘perfunctory’ excavations around the jars finding ceramic sherds and bronze and iron fragments as well as tanged iron knives. The jars held no contents.

Site 33 is located near Ban Hok and San Phou Hok in Kham District. The account in the SPJP report indicates that it comprises four groups of jars, nine in total, on the lower foothills of a mountain. Some of the jars are unfinished and they feel that there must be a quarry nearby or perhaps that the site itself is a quarry. The fourth group (one jar) was discovered when vegetation was burned by the locals which may be why it was overlooked by Colani. Genovese (2015) has mapped a site in the same area as Site 33 and labelled it as J33 stating that it contains nine jars but provides no further information.

Site 34 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: J29)
This site was not known to Colani and named Site 34 by Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008). The SPJP report locates it near the village of Ban Xang, Nam Oun in Kham District. The site comprises one group of four jars and one group of two or three jars located in a valley near the river. The limestone jars are noted to be fragmented. The site is recorded by Genovese (2015) who notes seven limestone jars but provides no further information and named it J29.

Site 35 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: J30?)
Site 35 is located near Ban Nathong, San Phou Kokhe in Kham District on the slope of a mountain (Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay, 2008). Two of the three sandstone jars are standing and the recumbent jar is in perfect condition. The site is not mentioned by Colani. Genovese (2015) states that there are three sandstone jars at this site which she labels as J30 and it is presumably the same as Site 35. She provides no further detail on the site.

Site 36 (Colani: n.d./Genovese:n.d.)
This site is located close to a village called Ban Sai in Phoukout District on the lower slopes of a mountain and near a stream. According to the SPJP report the site comprises a group of three incomplete jars and it is interpreted as a transport site based on the lack of suitable rock source nearby (Fig. 35).

Site 37 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: J31)
Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008) place this site near Ban Sihkhou village in Paek District. It comprises a single, recumbent, sandstone jar on a lower hill slope (Fig. 36). Genovese (2015) has a site marked on a map that is in the vicinity which she labels as J31, similarly with a single jar.

Site 38 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: J32)
Three sandstone jars are found near the villages of Ban Phonekham and Ban Sihkhou in Paek District (Fig. 37). The jars lie in a flat upland area and all are broken. Genovese (2015) records a site which she labels as J32 in the same area but claims it has just two sandstone jars and provides no further detail.

Site 39 (Colani: n.d./Genovese:n.d.)
According to the SPJP report this site is located close to Ban Phonekham in Kham District, located on a small hill and hosts two groups of jars with four and seven jars each. The jars are fashioned from limestone and in very poor
condition (Fig. 38). No site in this area is recorded by Colani or Genovese.

Site 40 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: n.d.)
Nine jars are recorded near the village of Ban Namthoum in Kham District which is located in a high pass between two mountain peaks. The main group of jars comprises eight megaliths, half of which are damaged. One jar resides in the village itself. The site recorded by Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008) as Site 40 is not mentioned by Colani (1935) or Genovese (2015).

Site 41 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: QS34?)
This site comprises a single, poorly preserved, limestone jar located near the village of Ban Tha in Kham District and located on a hill (Fig. 39) (Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay, 2008). The site is not recorded by Colani (1935).

The site labelled QS34 by Genovese (2015) is said to be located c. 14 km from Route 7 and 13 km from Ban Tha village in Kham District. It comprises one very fragmented limestone jar. Genovese (2015:173) notes that the site was visited by Dussault in 1912. In examining Genovese’s map it appears that QS34 is located about 12 km west of Site 41 but probably relates to the same site.

Site 42 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: QS35)
Located near the village of Ban Xang and Ban Phu Xang in Kham District, Site 42 comprises five jar groups totaling 90 jars. Groups 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 have 32, 42, 12, one and three jars respectively. The jars are reported in the SPJP report to be of fine red sandstone (Fig. 40). Five discs are reported from the site as well, one of which has a stone loop on it (Fig. 41). It is suggested that the site is both a
quarry and jar site as evidence of quarrying of the source rock is on site. Genovese (2015) calls this site QS35 but counts more jars, totalling 132. She also records some discs with pommels and trimmed blocks of stone which she believes indicates that the technique for carving was to shape the exterior of the jar in the first place and later carve the cavity.

Site 43 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: J36)
Site 43, home to 35 limestone jars, is listed in the SPJP report as being located in Paek District near Phakhom Phu Hai Hin. Genovese (2015) also records 35 jars at this site which she has labelled J36. Some of the jars, she notes, are ‘dwarf’ jars. Both parties describe damage to the jars, noting their use as chicken coops by local farmers who bored holes near the bases (Fig. 42).

Figure 40. Stone jar at Site 42 (photo: SPJP).

Figure 41. Disc at Site 42 (photo: SPJP).

Figure 42. Stone jar at Site 43 (photo: J. Van Den Bergh).

Figure 43. View of Site 44 (photo: SPJP).
Site 44 (Colani: n.d./Genovese:n.d.)
Thirteen jars in two groups are located near Phu Namkhun and Sangniac Nong Paek in Paek District (Fig. 43). They are found on a steep slope in a mountainous setting and the site, in the opinion of Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008), represents a quarry site at which excavation bays can still be seen where the fine-grained sandstone was removed. They note a large number of unfinished jars many displaying unintended breakages that occurred during manufacture.

Site 45 (Colani: n.d./Genovese:n.d.)
At Site 45, located near Ban Nasel and San Phou Huathum, Phoukout District, comprises six jars in one group (Fig. 44). According to the SPJP report the massive jars are located on a hill. No further detail is provided on this site.

Site 46 (Colani: n.d./Genovese:n.d.)
Two jars close together make up Site 46 near Ban Ang, Phu Nasa in Phoukout District (Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay, 2008). The massive sandstone jars are recumbent with small apertures (Fig. 45). No further detail is provided regarding this site and it is not recorded by either Genovese or Colani.

Site 47 (Colani: n.d./Genovese:n.d.)
Site 47 is found near Ban Thalin, Khoune District. The site is recorded in the SPJP report as being located on a lower mountain slope where 85 mostly fragmented jars were recorded in two groups, one group with just two jars (Fig. 46). One disc is recorded.
Site 48 (Colani: Song Méng Group/Genovese: J38)  
Colani (1935) documented groups of jars near a place called Song Méng about 20 km from what is now Muang Khoun (then Xieng Khouang, the provincial capital). She recorded seven jars both intact and fragmented and five more some 50 m away. She thought it possible that further jars may have been buried in between these two groups as most of the jars at the site were buried up to their rims. Colani noted the presence of two large ‘lids’ or possibly discs. The jars held only a few glass beads the colour of terracotta. The excavations she undertook around the jars revealed ceramic sherds, bronze and iron fragments and some glass beads as well as ceramic sherds. The jars she investigated sat atop beds of granite fragments.

Colani visited the site again in 1940 and discovered another field of jars nearby. She excavated and discovered several granite discs with zoomorphic designs carved in the round (Colani, 1940). The account of the site in the SPJP report indicates that the jars are of limestone and comprise three groups located on two hills. The jars in group one appear smaller and are buried (Fig. 47). The report notes 17 jars to be present near the village of Ban Nam Nai in Khoune District. Genovese (2015) calls this site J38 and relates it to Song Méng stating that it is home to 17 limestone jars. She reports that she was unable to locate the granite discs recorded during Colani’s 1940 work.

Site 49 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: QS39)  
According to the SPJP report there are 61 jars at Site 49 which is surrounded by a few granite outcrops near the village of Ban Phiang Na Ploi in Khoune District (Fig. 48). Genovese (2015) named this site QS39 and accounts the same number of jars noting also that they are small in size and mostly buried.

Site 50 (Colani: n.d./Genovese:n.d.)  
According to the SPJP report this site is located c. 200 m from the village of Ban Huayhok in Khoune District and comprises 23 sandstone jars of fine quality red stone (Fig. 49 and 50). The site is found on a mountain ridge in a circumscribed area. Some damage to the jars was reported as the local ethnic group had been using fragments of the jars to cover contemporary graves (Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay, 2008).

Site 51 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: J40)  
Site 51 is found about two km from Ban Sang Luang and contains 14 weathered granodiorite jars and two. According to Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008) the jars may have originally been buried to their rims but the landscape appears to have altered, exposing the jars (Fig. 51 and 52). Genovese (2015) documents this site as J40 and counted 16 small jars, some of which were buried. She also noted that, during her 2011 visit, some of the jars appear to have been exposed by excavations.

![Figure 49. Stone jar at Site 50 (photo: SPJP).](image)

Site 52 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: J41)  
This site is located atop a mountain not far from the village of Ban Phakeo in Paek District. Most of the jars occupy a saddle between two higher peaks. The site was unknown to Colani but was documented in 2001 by Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008) who labelled it Site 52. They documented four groups and counted nearly 400 jars (Fig. 53).
Genovese (2015) labels this site as J41. She counted 371 jars and 96 discs at the site.

Recent research at Site 52 by the authors has identified two further groups of jars increasing the total to 420 sandstone jars and 182 discs/lids. Group 1 comprises 115 jars and 44 lids or discs, Group 2, 82 jars and 52 lids/discs, Group 3, 195 jars and 70 lids or discs, Group 4, 24 jars and 15 lids or discs and Group 5 and 6, previously undocumented contained four and one jars respectively and Group 5 had one lid.

Site 53 (Colani: n.d./Genovese:n.d.)
Site 53 is located in Phoukout District, near the village of San Phu Niathau. A single sandstone jar, surrounded by boulders is located on a mountain ridge (about 800 m from Site 30) according to the SPJP report.

Site 54 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: Ban Vangkham)
Site 54, comprising a single sandstone jar, is located in Phukout District near Ban Vangkham. Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008) report the jar has been converted to an animal feed trough and has been badly damaged. According to Genovese (2015) Ban Vangkham is an unspecified distance from the village of Khum Vangkham, a five-hour trek from Genovese’s site QS42. Genovese (2015) reports the site is home to a single sandstone jar.

Site 55 (Colani: n.d./Genovese: QS42)
Two incomplete sandstone jars were documented by Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008) near Ban Chonsy in Phukout District. The jars are located on a low hill near a
river. Genovese (2015) dubs this site QS42 and also reports two jars stating that evidence for *in situ* carving is apparent. She reports both jars to be recumbent.

Site 56 (Colani: n.d./Genovese:n.d.)
This site is not mentioned by either Colani or Genovese. It is located by Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008) near Phu Biac village in Kham District and boasts just one sandstone jar sitting on a rise (Fig. 54).

![Figure 54. Stone jar at Site 56 (photo: J. Van Den Bergh).](image_url)

Site 57 (Colani: n.d./Genovese:n.d.)
Near the village of Ban Phiangxai in Kham District, three groups of conglomerate jars are described in the SPJP report. The groups comprise three, five and one jar respectively. The nine jars are located on a mountain ridge but they are reportedly in very poor condition and badly fragmented.

Site 58 (Colani: n.d./Genovese:n.d.)
Near the village of Ban Phiangxai in Kham District, three groups of conglomerate jars are noted in the SPJP report. The groups comprise three, five and one jar respectively. The nine jars are located on a mountain ridge but they are reportedly in very poor condition and badly fragmented. Neither Colani or Genovese mention the site.

Site 59 (Colani: n.d./Genovese:Ban Naséo)
Site 59, is located very near the village of Ban Nasel in Phukout District (Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay, 2008). There is a single sandstone jar and two stones at the location which is about 800 m east of Site 45. There is no mention of this site either by Colani or Genovese. It is possible that the site Genovese (2015) refers to as Ban Naséo relates to this site as Genovese credits one jar to this site.

3.1 SITES NOT DOCUMENTED IN THE SPJP REPORT
Several sites have been reported, both by Colani (Fig. 2) and Genovese (Fig. 4), which do not appear in the list of sites compiled by Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008) in the SPJP report or are located in the province of Luang Prabang. A list of these sites and sites detailed by Genovese (2015) with brief descriptions of each is provided below. There is a possibility that some of these locations are duplicates but to the best of our understanding they represent different sites from those listed in the SPJP report.

Genovese: J27
Genovese’s (2015:164) map places this site in Phukout District quite close to Site 31 but, again, the number of jars recorded does not match that provided by Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008) for this location. Genovese records four sandstone jars (Site 31 is thought to have nine jars) and three discs. Genovese’s J27 has jars with apertures at each end and are over 2m in length, a trait found in jars at Site 31. She also mentions a dwarf jar nestled next to one of these large jars and this is described by Colani (1935) for Ban Si which is likely Site 31 according to Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008).

Genovese: J45 /Colani: Ban Ngam Num?
Genovese (2015) plots a site in Paek District she names as J45 but provides no further information other than to say there are six sandstone jars at the location. The site may correspond to Colani’s (1935:239) Ban Nam Ngum site where she recorded eight sandstone jars.

Genovese: J46
Site J46, so named by Genovese (2015), is not recorded by Colani (1935) and was not included in the survey by Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008). The site, in Kham District, is located on the banks of the Nam Mat River and comprises six fragmentary sandstone jars.

Genovese: J48
Genovese documents a single, broken, jar formed from conglomerate stone at this site in Kham District. She notes it bears a recessed inner rim and was 1.5 m high. Villagers informed her that three other jars were nearby until recently (Genovese 2015:174). The site is not documented elsewhere.
Genovese: J50
The location given on the map for J50 by Genovese (2015:166) is near that for a site named ‘The Eleven Jars’ by Colani (1935), however, according to Genovese’s account the two jars and two discs at the site were moved to this location prior to the construction of the Nam Ngum 5 Hydropower dam. The jars, relocated from an area slightly to the south of their current position, are now located at Ban Nanan, Phou Khoun District, Luang Prabang Province (Genovese 2015:168). According to a report by the DoH (Khamphoumy, 2013) the jars at Ban Nanan were excavated in 2011 and many stone jars were found and some ‘lids’ with human figures engraved on them. Finds included beads, pottery and stone jar and lid fragments. An interesting statue in the round was discovered at this site. Although crudely fashioned it appears to be an individual supporting his or her head with one hand.

Genovese: J51/Colani:San Hin Oume
J51, registered by Genovese (2015:70), is thought by her to be the same site named San Hin Oume by Colani (1935) and based on photographs by each this can be confirmed. The former author describes a site with 21 jars and 21 discs, all of sandstone. Today the local toponym is Phu Da Pho (Genovese 2015:70) and the jars there are about 120 cm tall with shallow cavities.

Colani’s description of San Hin Oume places the site in current-day Luang Prabang Province. She provided descriptive details regarding the location but no coordinates for the site, stating that it is about 25 km from a site she called Thao Kham. Colani (1935:221) describes the site as sitting on a spur, aligned north south in a “complicated jumble of mountains.” The site revealed sandstone jars, discs and boulders strewn over an area measuring 12 x 8 m and she notes the jars and discs were worked from the stone present at the site (Colani 1935:125, 222). The discs at the site are described by Colani as resembling ‘mushrooms’ and these were only noted at this site and at ‘The Eleven Jars’ site (see below). She describes these as discs with three parts: a top; a truncated cone; and a foot, in truncated cone form or cylindrical (Colani 1935:170). On some of these were animal forms, carved in relief. Colani’s excavations uncovered polished stone tools, globular ceramic vessels placed mouth-to-mouth, decorated and undecorated potsherds, iron knives and charcoal.

Genovese: J52
The location of Genovese’s J52, in Phou Khoun District, Luang Prabang Province, is c. 8km from the village of Ban Nan Nan and Genovese (2015:168) states is likely to correspond to one of the sites surveyed by Colani. The site is known locally as Nam Phat and contains 19 sandstone jars. The altitude is placed a 1110 m asl and is less than one km from J50.

Genovese: Q10
Genovese (2015) provides no coordinates for the location of this site and states that it contains no jars. Using a map overlay, however, it appears that the site may be erroneously placed as it sits within the jar groups at Site 52 itself. She states that this is a quarry for QS11, J41 (Site 52) and QS44 (Site 10). It is likely that this site represents one of the quarry or transport sites identified by Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008).

Genovese: QS47
QS 47 comprises a single limestone jar at a rock face in Kham District but there may have been at least two more there until recently (Genovese 2015:188). Genovese believes that this site is located near a site documented by Dussault in 1912 called San Tiau (see below). QS47 is reported to be located on a hillock near Phou Huay Xang Kaen village.

Genovese: QS49
This site is described as being located in Ban Naho in Khoun District. Genovese (2015:157) notes the site was not included in the Lao government database she had access to and she discovered nine granite jars near the village of Hoy Phu Mee at an altitude of 1130 m. She notes that there are a variety of different rim styles represented here.

4.1 FURTHER UNCONFIRMED SITES
Several megalithic jar sites documented by Colani (though not revisited) and several sites recorded by Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008) and Genovese 2015 (but not documented or geo-located) are listed below. Further survey is required to accurately locate these sites and confirm the presence of archaeological remains in their vicinity.

Colani: The Eleven Jars
Colani (1935) mentions a site she dubbed ‘The Eleven Jars’ about a day’s march from San Hin Oume. The jars are said to be located a c. 900 m asl near a village, then called Yang Pha Houane, populated by Kha people. Colani (1935:226) provides details of each of the jars at the site and describes a roughly-out representation of a quadruped in stone. Colani did some ‘perfunctory’ excavation but found nothing in the ground or in the jars.

Colani: Kéo Tane
Colani (1935: Map IX) plots a site called Kéo Tane in a mountainous region about 11 km from a place then known as Xieng Dan, east of a village called Ban Houai Thouak. The site comprises three robust jars, upright, and two complete discs and a fragment of a third. The two complete discs are decorated with a recumbent mammal carved in the round. The jars are recorded as having been between 110-140 cm in height, all made of sandstone. Colani’s (1935:fig.187) digging around the jars revealed two ground stone axes.

Colani: Sud de Keotane
To the south of Kéo Tane, Colani (1935) documented a group of three sandstone jars, two of which were lying down and two buried discs, the latter were decorated with
a mammal carved in the round. A third undecorated disc was also encountered (Colani 1935:218). The standing jar was reported to be 130 cm in height and is located near a large boulder that Colani describes as resembling a human face. It appears that there were some roughed-out jars at the sites as well.

Colani excavated around the jars and found a worked piece of shale, a rectangular pendant, a ceramic vessel capped with a large stone, ceramic sherds and a bronze bangle as well as some charcoal. Beneath a large flat stone she found a pendant and a ceramic vessel.

Colani: Circular path linking fields of jars
Colani (1935:219) makes mention of another field of jars, again, south of Kéo Tane which she labels as the ‘Circular path linking fields of jars’. In this location she describes a ‘small field of jars with two statues of mammals and a stone carved with lines. Nearby there is a cylindrical stone decorated at the top with a small disc and two small stones decorated with poorly formed quadrupeds. She reports that she did not have time to investigate the whole area but locals informed her that there were no further points of interest in the vicinity.

Colani: Est de Keo Tane
To the east of Kéo Tane, Colani (1935:219) notes a field of jars and discs and other worked stones. She does not provide a detailed account of the site but her plates show what she describes as a column (c. 65 cm in height), a discoidal button, a block with a quadruped carved upon it and another, similar, both in the round and what appear to be jar rough-outs. Her excavations at this location did not reveal any artefacts.

Colani: Phuo Suong
Although mentioned in her 1935 publication, Colani did not visit the site named Pou Suong (1935:257) but relies on a report from her sister, Mlle E. Colani. She reports the site is located five km east-north-east of Ban Na Séo at around 1320 m asl. There were three groups of jars and burial stones reported but not detailed. Genovese (2015:58) reports visiting a site of the same name stating that there are 38 jars there.

Colani: Sop Nam Miang
According to Colani (1935:224) Sop Nam Miang is a jar site located near the Eleven Jars, c. three kilometres southeast of a village called Ban Houa Ting where two jars are located. The largest jar is 130 cm tall and had a partially buried ‘mushroom’ disc nearby. No information on the second jar is provided. Also, near the large jar were six boulders of quartz-rich sandstone. Excavations revealed no artefacts.

Colani: Unnamed Site
Two jars are located by Colani (1935:257) as being placed somewhere between Ban Si and Ban Na Séo. She writes that each is on a rise, separated by a track. The jar to the west is cracked in half. No further information is provided regarding this site.

Colani: San Tiau
The site of San Tiau is mentioned by Colani as being located near a Hmong (Méo) village of the same name. Colani (1935 v1:124, 125) mentions that the site was noted by Léon Dussault in 1912 and states that it comprises limestone jars. She did not visit San Tiau and it has not been documented since Dussault was there but it has been mentioned by former US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) operatives who were based at a secret air base near the site known as Lima Site 2 in the 1960s (Castle pers. comm.). These reports indicate that, not far from the CIA airstrip, was a group of jars known locally as San Tiau. Genovese (2015) states that the site is located near the site labelled by her as Q447 (Genovese, 2014a:40).

Colani: San Kama
San Kama is rather a mythical site, at least it is known only through a local informant of Colani’s, a “canton official”. He reported that there was a field of 1000 jars at a place bearing this name located about 20 km from Thao Kham, a field of stones. Colani provides no direction from Thao Kham and she never visited the site and of the two scouts she sent out only one returned with a badly swollen neck and she was forbidden from interviewing him and so had to give up on locating this site (Colani 1935:8). Later, Colani did travel to the supposed location of San Kama but did not find any jars there. Similar accounts of huge jar site(s) between Phoukout and Phou Khoun districts were recounted by military personnel and villagers to Safeguarding the Plain of Jars team in 2003. The sites were reported to be remote and no attempt was made to visit as likely located outside the survey area in Luang Prabang.

Genovese: Ban Phan
Genovese (2015) notes the existence of a site in Paek District called Ban Phan at which there are an unknown number of sandstone jars. She offers no further information aside from rough geographical coordinates.

Genovese: Pho Tsa Nghem
Genovese (2015) offers some geographical coordinates for a site called Pho Tsa Nghem in Paek or Khoune Districts which is reported to have jars but the number is unknown although she quotes informants as saying it is a ‘large deposit’ of several dozens of either sandstone or granite jars. The site is near Genovese’s Q18 (Site 18).

Genovese: Ban Phuong
General geographic coordinates are provided for this site in Khoune District which is reported to have ten granite jars.
Genovese: Ban Khekk
Ban Khekk is reported to be in Khoune District and some
general geographic coordinates are given but the number
of jars and material they are made from is unknown.

Genovese: Ban Sop
Genovese (2015:46) states that a site called Ban Sop was
first found by Raquez (1902). According to Genovese,
Raquez travelled through Luang Prabang to Xieng
Khouang and believes this site may be located to the north-
west of the site she calls J26 (Site 27).

Genovese: Ban Sopma
Ban Sopma is within Kham district and comprises 12 jars.
Genovese (2015:143) reports the site is accessible from
Site 20.

Genovese: Phou Nasèo
Phou Nasèo is mentioned once by Genovese (2015:121).
She states that this site in Phoukout district is home to
seven jars buried to their rims. The jars have a reported
diameter of 20-30 cm. The location of the site is unknown.

Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008) note that there
are a further 26 sites with stone jars in Xieng Khouang
Province but no information other than the name of the vil-
lage nearby these sites is provided and these remain un-
documented at time of publication.

5.1 RECENTLY DISCOVERED SITES
In 2011 the Department of Heritage (DoH) produced an
internal report stating that a new jar site had been discov-
ered in Phu Koun district.

Ban Chim
In 2012 site of Ban Chim in Phu Koun District, Luangpra-
bang was excavated by staff from the DoH in February
2012. The jars at Ban Chim were deeply buried to the rims.
The jars were excavated and moved to a higher elevation
as the area was scheduled for inundation as part of the Num
Ngeum 5 Hydropower project. The unpublished internal
report (Khamphoumy, 2013) makes no mention of the
numbers of jars found at the site.

During field work in 2017 by the Plain of Jars Archae-
ological Project at Site 52 near Ban Phakeo several new
sites were documented. These include what are either
quarry or transport sites as most comprised unfinished jars.
The sites were discovered late in the field season and there
was little time to properly document them although the
team recovered as much information as was possible. The
sites were labelled with ‘Q’ numbers awaiting assign-
ment of official site numbers by the Department of Heritage un-
der the Ministry of Interior, Culture and Tourism of the
Lao government.

Site 52 Q1
Q1 is a possible quarry site comprising 21 jars in various
states of completion and 16 boulders. This site is c. 900 m
south of Group 3 at Site 52 (Fig. 55).

Figure 55. Broken incomplete jar at Q1 (photo PoJAP).

Site 52 Q2
Q2 a quarry or transport site with more than 20 jars and
roughs. The site is c. 1.2 km southeast of Group 3 at Site
52. The jar roughs at this site are rather widely dispersed.
Two fragmented jar rough-outs are located at the bottom
of a steep slope in a field cleared for swidden agriculture
and a third jar is mostly intact with evidence of the begin-
ings of a cavity and some chisel marks on the body. These
jar roughs are a pinkish-brown sandstone, quite different,
visually, from the stone used for the jars at Site 52 (Fig.
56).

Figure 56. Broken incomplete jar at Q2 (photo PoJAP).

Ten to 15 m away from these three jar rough-outs there
is a small stream. The stream gully contains several more
jar rough-outs (possibly four). Most of these objects are no
more than generally shaped but one has the beginnings of
a cavity c. 10 cm deep. To the west of the stream there are
two more jar rough-outs, one lies in the steep bank next to
the stream. To the south of the jar rough-outs found in the
gully 14 further jar rough-outs were counted. This is an
area where two streams converge. Some of these objects
appear to be only just begun to be formed into jars but one
is nearly complete (the cavity is c. 50 cm deep and the exterior well finished) and another has the beginnings of a cavity but appears to have been abandoned when the stone split.

Site 52 Q3
This possible quarry is located on a steep slope atop a mountain ridge with more than 23 jar rough-outs c. 1.4 km southwest of Group 3 at Site 52 (Fig. 57).

Figure 57. Incomplete jars at Q3 (photo PoJAP).

Site 52 Q4
Q4 comprises 4 jars/rough-outs south of Group 4 at Site 52. A complete inventory of the site was not possible given time constraints.

Site 52 Q5
Q5 is a possible quarry near a seasonal pond at elevation. The number of jars and rough-outs were not inventoried due to time constraints. This site is c. 1.09 km southeast of Group 3 at Site 52.

6.1 DISCUSSION
In examining the location of most of the jar sites it seems there is a preference for elevated positions for the most part. Most of the known sites are located atop mountains or hills with expansive views of the surrounding landscape. The most famous site, Site 1, is anomalous in this regard. Most of the megalithic sites across Xieng Khouang are found in mountainous areas surrounding the lower elevation plains of the Province although geospatial analysis is needed to confirm this observation.

Most of the identified jar sites have modest numbers of jars. As the numbers of jars at most sites is unconfirmed it is difficult to provide accurate estimates on the distribution of jar numbers by site. However, based on the data that is available regarding jar numbers at present, it is apparent that most sites comprise under 20 megaliths. About 16 sites have between 20-60 jars and three sites have over 200. These latter, sites 1, 3 and 52, are by far the largest collections of jars comprising just over 46% of the total number of recorded jars.

The majority of sites comprise jars fashioned from sandstone but there are some instances of limestone, breccia, granite, conglomerate and andesite jars. Evidence for decoration on the jars is absent save one jar at Site 1 which boasts a human figure in low relief although this theme was found on two associated stone discs and a ceramic vessel (excavated from Site 1 by Nitta (1996)). There is some differentiation in the size and style of the jars found and they range in height and diameter between one to three m (Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay 2008). Six rim styles have been identified including those with a flat rim, a recessed inner rim, an outer rim, a recessed inner rim with an outer rim, a prominent rim and a collar rim (Genovese 2015). It could be argued that three of these styles (the outer rim/prominent rim and collar rim) could be conflated as they are basically the same type but with variations in the height of the collar. The fact that many of the jars were carved with rims has led to speculation that the jars may, at one time, have had lids (Colani, 1935:203; Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay, 2008; Genovese 2015). Some sites indubitably have stone lids, such as Site 52 where elaborate caps have been carved from stone, some decorated in the round but for the most part no lids have been identified at the majority of jar sites. This has led to further speculation that the discs often found at jar sites served as lids but this is unlikely as they are often too large and cannot be accommodated by the rims in most cases. The stone discs are, in some instances, used as grave markers and human interments have been found beneath them (Colani 1935:209; Van Der Bergh and Luangaphay 2008; O’Reilly and Shewan, forthcoming). Other grave markers are also known in the form of unaltered boulders, often imported to the jar sites. Boulders have been found to mark the location of subterranean ceramic jar burials (Nitta, 1996:16; Sayavongkhamdy and Bellwood 2002:106; Shewan, O’Reilly and Luangkhoth 2016; O’Reilly and Shewan, forthcoming).

Evidence of habitation sites that relate to these jar fields remains fugitive as does any evidence of the culture group that created them or, indeed, when they were created. Recent research efforts by the joint Lao-Australian team have focused on addressing these issues targeting a potential habitation site identified by Sayavongkhamdy (pers. comm.) near the Phonsavan airport and field surveys have been undertaken although this task is complicated by
the widespread presence of UXO. In the 2016 excavations at Site 1 human remains were recovered from which it is hoped DNA (aDNA) may be recovered potentially shedding some light on the ethnicity of those interred at the site. Dating remains a challenge and while dates have been obtained from the burial contexts surrounding the megalithic jars (O’Reilly and Shewan forthcoming) these dates do not necessarily relate to the jars themselves. Efforts by the authors to date the jars using optically stimulated luminescence have proved fruitless.

7.1 CONCLUSION

The inventory above, of known, documented megalithic sites in Laos demonstrates the pressing need for a comprehensive account of the heritage assets of Xieng Khouang, Luang Prabang and Hua Phan provinces. The total number of documented jar sites reported by various individuals stands at 93 (Fig. 58). A further 26 jar sites in Xieng Khouang alone were reported by Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay (2008) but were not surveyed so this number remains unconfirmed until survey and documentation can be completed. The site of San Kama mentioned by Colani (1935) also remains unidentified. To date there are potentially, 118 sites in northern Laos with megalithic jars representing a significant culture about which very little is known. Recent research, such as that at Site 52 where four further sites with megalithic jars rough-outs, as well as unknown groups of jars at the site were discovered, indicates that there are probably many more undiscovered sites shrouded in the heavily forested upland landscape. In reviewing the data compiled from various sources including Colani, Van Den Bergh and Luangaphay and Genovese it is clear that the peoples who created the megalithic jars of northern Laos occupied and exploited an expansive territory. Further, the much less recognisable ‘fields of stones’ may also proliferate and no research has been undertaken on this aspect of the megalithic culture of northern Laos.
Table 1: Plain of Jars site inventory.

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<th>HMP Name¹</th>
<th>Site Name</th>
<th>Colani Site Name</th>
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¹ HMP = Heritage Management Plan - used by Lao government.
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since Colani’s time. Regrettably many of the ‘fields of stones’ sites she documented have since been destroyed but it is likely that many more exist that have been unrecognised.

Many questions remain regarding this culture including when the jars were created and whether the mortuary contexts discovered at several of the jar sites are contemporaneous to the jars, whether the mortuary contexts themselves (primary, secondary and ceramic jar burials) are contemporaneous or represent extended site utilisation). We also have no understanding of where the creators of the jars lived or how they transported the jars to their present location from the quarry sites. These questions form part of the renewed investigation of the jar sites.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks to Damian Evans and John Pollard for assistance in converting geographic coordinates provided by Colani and to the Department of National Heritage, Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR government. This work was supported by the Australian Research Council [DP150101164].

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<tr>
<td><strong>1. Background</strong></td>
<td><strong>Identifies the purpose of the Tourism Management Plan, the process of creating it, including stakeholders and documents consulted, and the scope of the plan (physical sites, relevant tourism activities, zones).</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1.1. Introduction</td>
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<td>1.2. Megalithic Jar Sites in Xiengkhuang - Plain of Jars</td>
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<td>1.2.1. Location and boundaries</td>
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<td>1.2.2. Significance and history</td>
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<td>1.3. Objectives of the Tourism Management Plan</td>
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<td><strong>2. Current State of Tourism</strong></td>
<td><strong>Reviews current tourism activity at the site and around it – visitor numbers, positive and negative impacts, legislation and regulations, and revenue-sharing mechanisms in place with communities. Key issues that need to be addressed are also identified.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>2.1. Visitor numbers and profiles</td>
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<td>2.1.1. Visitation patterns</td>
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<td>2.2. Infrastructure</td>
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<td>2.3. Current legislation and decrees</td>
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<td>2.4. Provincial tourism development goals</td>
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<td>2.6. Revenue-sharing</td>
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<td>2.7. Tourism impact</td>
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<td>2.8. Key issues</td>
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<td><strong>3. Tourism Management Plan</strong></td>
<td><strong>Outlines the tourism management mechanisms themselves: tourism goals for the site(s), sector-based destination guidelines, managing visitor flows with infrastructure, interpretation, transportation, and marketing. Also identifies roles, responsibilities, and benefit-sharing of stakeholders, particularly communities near the sites. Decision-making tree for identifying when and what interventions are needed, and how they will be financed.</strong></td>
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<td>3.1. Goals and Principles</td>
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<td>3.2. Destination planning</td>
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<td>3.2.1. Guidelines for tourism development by zone</td>
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<td>3.3. Visitor management</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.3.1. Visitor flows</td>
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<td>3.3.2. Transportation</td>
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<td>3.3.5. Marketing and pricing</td>
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<td>3.4. Impact management</td>
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<td>3.4.1. Carrying capacity</td>
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<td>3.5. Decision-making bodies and process</td>
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<td>3.6. Financing mechanisms</td>
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<td>3.7. Monitoring and evaluation</td>
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</table>
Remove the white concrete markers from the property sites

The white concrete marker for making a safety pathway inside the property zone (Photo from property zone of site 2) Photo cr: ASocialNomad.

Technical staffs from The Plain of Jars Heritage Technical Division recording the GIS point and removed the white concrete marker (Photo from the Entrant of the property zone of site 1).

Technical staffs removing the white concrete marker (inside the property zone of site 1).
Jar Site 23 on Topographic Map

Legend
- Location of individual jar
- Jar group boundary
- Nominated property area
- Buffer zone

Background: Topographic data from US Army Topographic map at 1:50,000 scale
Data source: - Archaeological data from the Heritage Department, Lao PDR / UNESCO
- Other based layers data from the National Geographic Department, Lao PDR
Prepared by: Heritage Department, Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR

Jar Site 23 on Aerial Photo

Legend
- Location of individual jar
- Jar group boundary
- Nominated property area
- Buffer zone

Background: Aerial Photo taken in 2013
Data source: - Archaeological data from the Heritage Department, Lao PDR / UNESCO
- Other based layers data from the National Geographic Department, Lao PDR
Prepared by: Heritage Department, Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR
Legend
- Location of individual jar
- Jar group boundary
- Nominated property area
- Buffer zone

Jar Site 25 on Topographic Map

Background: Topographic data from US Army Topographic map at 1:50,000 scale
Data source: Archaeological data from the Heritage Department, Lao PDR / UNESCO
- Other based layers data from the National Geographic Department, Lao PDR
Prepared by: Heritage Department, Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR

Jar Site 25 on Aerial Photo

Background: Aerial Photo taken in 2013
Data source: Archaeological data from the Heritage Department, Lao PDR / UNESCO
- Other based layers data from the National Geographic Department, Lao PDR
Prepared by: Heritage Department, Ministry of Information Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR
UXO Clearance Protocols:
Archaeological Data Retrieval in the Plain of Jars, Lao PDR

Mines Advisory Group and UNESCO-Lao

1.0 Introduction

The Mines Advisory Group (MAG), with funding support from NZAID, is carrying out a programme of Village Assisted Clearance (VAC) in Lao PDR. The first phase of this work will be the clearance of unexploded ordinance (UXO) from the three most accessible jar sites in the Plain of Jars archaeological site in Xieng Khouang province.

These sites date from 500 BC to AD 500 and represent an important resource for this impoverished province in terms of potential tourism development. Clearance of UXO from these sites will allow cultural heritage management schemes to be put in place and planned tourism to develop. This will be followed by nomination of the Plain of Jars for World Heritage inscription in 2006.

The VAC approach employed by MAG complements the approach taken by UNESCO to management of the proposed Plain of Jars World Heritage Site. MAG uses a community-centered approach with support for post-clearance development activities which empowers local communities and leads to an improved quality of life. Similarly, safeguarding of the widely dispersed and often inaccessible archaeological sites will be in the primary care of village-based teams, trained and supported by UNESCO.

The National Tourism Authority and UNESCO have also combined to promote a village based approach to cultural and eco-tourism in the Plain of Jars. This will be achieved by involving villages adjacent to jar sites in maintenance of the sites and management of tourism as a source of income from ticketing, crafts sales and other services.

However, all preservation and development plans for the Plain of Jars depend on ensuring security for residents and visitors to the archaeological sites. To this end, UNESCO is coordinating with MAG and other stakeholders in a programme to integrate archaeological preservation and data collection with UXO clearance and village training.

2.0 Aim and Objectives of the Programme

During the 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 are 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:

- MAG management, site supervisors, clearance technicians
- VAC staff
- Department of Information and Culture (DIC) - Plain of Jars (POJ) team
- 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 MAG to clear vegetation and carry out surface detection. An additional UNESCO training component will aim to familiarize participants with the types of archaeological material which might be observed on the surface of sites. If material is found, it will be marked with survey tape or other marker; clearance staff will alert the site supervisor who will then notify the DIC contact person for follow-up action.

4.2 Sub-surface Clearance

Excavation and sub-surface clearance is carried out by fully trained MAG 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 25m² boxes divided into 5m wide lanes. Each lane will be further subdivided into 5m units for archaeological recording. When individual items are found which may be “archaeological” they will be collected in a plastic bag and left in that unit.

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 DIC contact person for follow-up action.

All occurrences of archaeological material will be recorded by the DIC - POJ team on a master map of each grid box [ scale 1:20 ]. Symbols will mark the location of:

1. Units where potential archaeological material was bagged
2. Locations within Units where archaeological assemblages were recorded

4.3 Follow-up Action

There are 3 categories of follow-up action:

1. In the case of surface material reported by the VAC team, the DIC - POJ team will visit the site after notification, record the location of finds by GPS and retrieve objects and data.
2. Plastic bags of material collected during sub-surface clearance within the grid box will be collected at the end of each day by a trained Village Recorder. This will be a member of the VAC team trained specifically by the UNESCO team to mark each bag with a grid identification code and then seal and store them for later collection and processing by the DIC -POJ team.

3. If a possible deposit is found, the DIC - POJ team will respond immediately by coming to the site, mapping and photographing the material, excavating it and removing it to the storage facility at the POJ project office.

4.4 Off-site Processing of Material

Archaeological material collected will be taken by the DIC - POJ team to the UNESCO project office in Phonsavan. Processing systems will be put in place by the UNESCO archaeologist(s) for 3 categories of finds:

1. Surface material will be located by GPS reading on site and then bagged and labeled. An inventory of all bags will be made in the site office and forms filled out itemizing the contents of each.

   [ Bag Code: Surface. S001. Bag 01 ]

2. Bags of sub-surface material from the grid boxes will be collected from the village recorder, listed on a separate inventory register and forms filled out itemizing the contents of each bag.


3. Excavated sub-surface assemblages of archaeological material will be taken to the project office after on-site recording. Each assemblage will be numbered separately on an inventory register and its contents itemized on a separate form. All maps, drawings and photographs will be cross-referenced.

   [ Assemblage Code: S001.A01 ]

All the records from each grid box will be filed together and all the grid box records from each site will also be filed together, with the result that each site archive will be easily accessible for computer data entry.

4.5 GIS database

A GIS programme will be developed for mapping the location of all grid boxes and archaeological finds. This will incorporate:

- fixed datum points positioned by MAG for each box
- baselines, lanes and units laid from these datum points
- GPS readings on surface material found outside boxes
- Unit centre points/ or coordinates for units where material was bagged and bag reference numbers
- Unit coordinates /or GPS for units where assemblages were recorded and unit reference numbers
And will integrate existing GIS maps generated as part of the UNESCO-Lao survey of the Plain of Jars.

**Fig. 1 System of Notification and Flow of Responsibility**
6.0 Training Requirements

In the initial stages of the programme UNESCO will provide the following focused training modules in conjunction with MAG training:

- VAC: Basic archaeological familiarization and reporting procedures
- Village recorder: Finds bag labeling with site/box/unit codes and collection
- MAG technicians: Archaeological familiarization and bagging procedures
- DIC - POJ team:
  - On-site master mapping
  - GPS location of surface material, bagging, labeling
  - On-site excavation of assemblages, recording, bagging and labeling
  - Off-site inventory, registration and filling in of relevant forms
  - Maintenance and organization of each site archive