

KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA  
NATION RELIGION KING



MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND FINE ARTS



# CAMBODIAN MEMORIAL SITES

*From Centres of Repression to Places of Peace and Reflection*

NOMINATION DOSSIER FOR INSCRIPTION  
ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST

Volume II:  
Comprehensive Cultural Management Plan

JANUARY 2024



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**State Party:** Kingdom of Cambodia

**Name of nominated property:** Cambodian Memorial Sites: From Centres of Repression to Places of Peace and Reflection.

**State, Province or Region:** The three component parts are in different locations:

- A) Former M-13 prison in Kampong Chhnang province (small part crosses over border into Kampong Speu province)
- B) Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (former S-21 prison) in Phnom Penh (capital city)
- C) Choeung Ek Genocidal Center (former execution site of S-21) in Phnom Penh (capital city)

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The serial nomination for the “Cambodian Memorial Sites: From Centres of Repression to Places for Reflection and Peace” has three component parts that illustrate the essential stages of the Khmer Rouge prison system. The former M-13 prison (A) shows the initial phase during the civil war period, a prototype for subsequent genocidal developments. The centrally located former S-21 prison (B), today Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum in Phnom Penh represents the apex of the system; and its associated execution site (C) now Choeung Ek Genocidal Center tragically reveals its virtually inexorable final killing stage. Taken together, these three sites represent the full scope of the repressive system of imprisonment, interrogation, torture and execution.

This initial version of the Comprehensive Cultural Management Plan (CCMP) for the Cambodian Memorial Sites complements the Nomination Dossier and covers two areas: overall administrative management plan and sectoral plans. The first part addresses description of the sites, threats and challenges, and the development of an overall management system for the serial nomination. Bearing in mind that the three component parts are not yet managed under one single structure, an overarching management system needs to be implemented in coordination with the corresponding stakeholders during 2024.

As per new guidelines for sites of memory associated with recent conflicts to be inscribed on the World Heritage List, this management plan includes also a chapter on site interpretation that embraces the place’s historical past and its present-day meanings.

The second part addresses specific aspects separately: conservation, visitor and risk management. The major threat to all three sites is climatic, linked to the tropical climate with high temperatures, humidity and strong sunlight. The second major threat is development pressures.

Of the three component parts of the serial nomination, Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum already has a solid foundation in overall management and sectoral plans in place, especially for the conservation of the buildings of the former S-21 prison that hold the museum and also the artefacts and documentation that are either part of the exhibition or kept in the storage or archive rooms. Several restoration projects have been completed already as immediate risk mitigation. Corresponding sectoral plans will be further developed in 2024 for M-13 and Choeung Ek Genocidal Center respectively, taking into account the specific needs, contexts and different levels of previous curation.

Visitor Management is well developed for both Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum and Choeung Ek Genocidal Center, as both sites are the most visited sites by international visitors in Phnom Penh, and continue to be widely visited by Cambodians, especially on religious and memorial occasions as well as by school and university students. M-13 is still to be developed as a site to be visited by visitors.

The present document of the Comprehensive Cultural Management Plan is structured as follows:

- Chapter 1: Introduction and Description of Cambodian Memorial Sites
- Chapter 2: Present State of the Nominated Property and Protection
- Chapter 3: Current Management System
- Chapter 4: Proposed Management Structure
- Chapter 5: Site Interpretation
- Chapter 6: Conservation Management
- Chapter 7: Visitor Management
- Chapter 8: Risk Management
- Chapter 9: Action Plan
- Chapter 10: Annexes

## Purpose and Background of the Plan

The present Management Plan establishes an overall strategy for the three component parts, with a specific view on gaps and threats. The objective of the plan is to conserve and convey the Outstanding Universal Value of the Cambodian Memorial Sites in a sustainable manner.

This management plan and accompanied detailed sectoral plans attempts to address all the possible challenges that may occur during the implementation of the action plan or in the forthcoming years. To the largest possible extent, they need to minimise any detrimental impact on the elements and components within the Nominated Property as well as the buffer zones. With particular attention to maintaining Outstanding Universal Value, the plans need to chart the way forward not only to safeguard the attributes from any threat but also to enhance the potentials of the site for visitation and memorial activities.

The main threats and factors affecting all three component parts are conservation of fragile archival and archaeological materials as well as development pressures within the buffer. Furthermore, all three sites are equally exposed to the challenging weather conditions in Cambodia with heavy rains during the rainy season that bring along flooding and mud, and on in the hot season side high temperatures, along with widely varying levels of humidity, which affect any material directly or indirectly exposed to these conditions. Additionally, both Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum and Choeung Ek Genocidal Center are two of the most heavily visited sites by visitors in Phnom Penh with over 1,000 people every day throughout the year. This requires special attention to the care and security of the visitors, while at the same time keeping the highest priority on the protection of the heritage sites.

Hence, it is important to ensure that no attribute of significance is deteriorated or lost by these challenging and concrete factors. For this purpose, it is essential that various Ministries, departments, authorities and stakeholders work in an integrated manner. All the parties mandated with the preservation and management of the Cambodian Memorial Sites need to be involved in the Comprehensive Cultural Management Plan in order to ensure that challenges are addressed in an adequate and professional way.

All three component parts are recognised as historical heritage sites included in the official inventory of state property of the Royal Government of Cambodia, managed by the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts (MCFA) and Phnom Penh Municipality. The MCFA is the country's highest body for the formulation of policies and management of cultural properties to which Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum belongs. TSGM also manages the former M-13 site, reporting for it directly to the MCFA. Choeung Ek Genocidal Center Management has authority over day-to-day operations of the site (including financing and staffing), while responsibility for maintaining and enhancing heritage values and carrying out education and outreach activities will be discharged in consultation with TSGM Management and the Coordinating Committee.

Being historical heritage sites related to the crimes during the Khmer Rouge regime, all three component parts are subject to clear legal protection. This legal protection of the crime sites was introduced already in the early years following the fall of the Khmer Rouge regime, when crime sites associated with Khmer Rouge repression across the country were designated as national heritage property. The protection of S-21 site was established as early as 1979. And Decree Law No. 21 KRC in 1985, already stated was aimed to protect cultural heritage, historical sites, natural monuments throughout the country. This included sites of former prisons and camps, and any other criminal evidence. Additional legal frameworks that cover the preservation of the historical sites of Khmer Rouge crimes followed, including several sub-decrees prohibiting further construction of buildings in the vicinity of historical heritage sites and obliging state institutions and citizens to participate in the protection and preservation of human remains from the Khmer Rouge period.

From an administrative point of view, Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum is an Office under the Department of Museums of the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts responsible to safeguard the former S-21 prison site in Phnom Penh and also former prison M-13. Choeung Ek Genocidal Center was placed under direct control of the Phnom Penh Municipality administration in the 1980s and its management is subcontracted to a private company.

This Management Plan needs to address the site-specific conservation requirements and regulations of their respective nominated property and buffer zones under a new overarching management structure for the three component parts of the nominated property.

This management will further guide the institutional and legal framework, coordination and monitoring for the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value through a coordinated plan under the supervision of Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum. Consequently, the Director of TSGM is the overall coordinating officer mandated to oversee all World Heritage related aspects of the three component sites, coordinating the site level management and conservation with respective stakeholders of the three component parts.

Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, the institution that will supervise and coordinate the three component parts of the nomination, is a museum with long standing experience and has developed very rapidly in the last years to an institution of reference not only nationally but also internationally.

In consideration of the intention to nominate the Cambodian Memorial Sites for World Heritage listing July 2023, the Prime Minister authorised the establishment of an Inter-Ministerial Committee, involving ten ministries as well as three relevant provincial level authorities, chaired by the Minister of Culture and Fine Arts, with responsibility for developing a coherent protective management strategy over all three component parts in preparation of inscription on the World Heritage list.

The Comprehensive Cultural Management Plan for the Cambodian Memorial Sites nominated for the World Heritage list under the sub-title “From Centres of Repression to Places for Peace and Reflection” unifies all the efforts from these different actors, supervised by Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, all together under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts and other relevant authorities of the Inter-Ministerial Committee.

### **Heritage Management Framework**

A process of preparation for any further development or changes to the sites will need to be commenced, developing a Heritage Management Framework for the serial site involving all three component parts. It must involve all relevant stakeholders and experts and should be developed with respect to principles and guidelines outlined by the World Heritage Committee, the Nara Document on Authenticity (1994), the Charter for Angkor (2012) and the Burra Charter (2013). Changes in the fabric of the site must be minimal, reversible and carried out using materials with low impact.

### **Overview of Plans for Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (available in Annex 6)**

Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum has not only already a Management Plan for 2021 to 2025 in place, but also sectoral plans to address specific challenges and aspects that were defined during various assessment efforts by the museum, in an effort to conform with World Heritage standards and safety norms for visitation. These are Risk Mapping of the buildings and related construction, Risk assessment of Artefacts, Data Collection of Graffiti Research Project, Door and Window Restoration Project and Preservation of Artefacts Project.

## CHAPTER 1: DESCRIPTION OF CAMBODIAN MEMORIAL SITES

### 1.1. Draft Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

The Cambodian Memorial Sites bear irrefutable evidence of events amounting to one of the most serious abuses of human rights in the 20th century. Between 1971 and 1979, the Khmer Rouge regime established a nation-wide security system in order to repress political opponents and impose a classless agrarian society of collective farming. The network of “approximately 200 security centres” and “countless execution sites” in every zone throughout Cambodia” (ECCC Trial Chamber Judgment on Case 002/02) touched every aspect of Cambodian life through imprisonment, forced transfers and labour, and denial of the necessities of life. In a single decade, it is estimated that approximately one quarter to one third of the population perished.

This serial site has three component parts that illustrate the essential stages of the Khmer Rouge security system. The former M-13 prison (A) shows the initial phase during the civil war period, a prototype for subsequent developments. The centrally-located former S-21 prison (B, now Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum) in Phnom Penh represents the apex of the system; and its associated execution site (C, now Choeung Ek Genocidal Center) tragically reveals its virtually inexorable final elimination stage. Taken together, these three sites represent the full scope of the repressive system of imprisonment, interrogation, torture, and execution.

Following the defeat of the Khmer Rouge regime, the Cambodian Memorial Sites have over four decades become places of memory for humanity and locations for acts of official memorialisation. The former S-21 prison (B) has several memorial monuments and plaques inscribed with victims’ names. It regularly hosts memorial ceremonies and offers on-site interpretation and exhibitions. The former execution site of S-21 (C) has a tall commemorative stupa, a small museum including displays of artefacts and on-site interpretation. The former M-13 prison (A) site is in the early stages of interpretation and memorialisation, but appropriate religious and traditional ceremonies have already been performed preceding any preliminary archaeological exploration.

It is this tight relationship of embodying the essential stages of the development and functioning of the Khmer Rouge security system that binds these three parts together in a single serial nomination. All three sites also exemplify the movement from repression to peace and reflection, justifying their presentation together. The Cambodian Memorial Sites encourage visitors to take a critical look at the dynamics of violence and the consequences of political persecution under repressive ideologies reasons. As places of reflection and learning, this serial site nomination encourages peaceful coexistence among peoples and fosters a commitment to never repeat such atrocities.

The Cambodian Memorial Sites have specific attributes that convey their potential Outstanding Universal Value. For the theme of serious human rights abuses, as inflicted by the Khmer Rouge security system, the attributes for the former M-13 prison (A) include four pits for detention and interrogation of prisoners, textile and metal artefacts, and the setting of an original pond, stream and remnants of bamboo thicket. For the former S-21 prison (B), the attributes include five buildings that housed detention cells, interrogation rooms, administration functions and staff housing as well as graves, human remains, barbed-wire fencing, a gate, two courtyards, artefacts, graffiti and extensive archives (including photographs, biographies and “confessions” of prisoners as well as lists of those imprisoned and sent for execution and biographical information on staff. For the former execution site of S-21 (C), attributes include 64 still visible mass burial pits (of previously 129 previously identified), remains of more than 6,000 victims exhumed in the early 1980s, execution tools and trees.



Testimony and judgments of the internationally backed Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) serve to verify the authenticity of all these attributes.

For the theme of memorialisation and the honouring of victims and to encourage peaceful coexistence, the attributes include some ceremonies and preliminary development of interpretation materials for the former M-13 prison (A); a memorial monument designated by the ECCC as a non-judicial measure of reparation, including with plaques inscribed with victims' names in gold on memorial stones (steles) set around it, programming such as exhibitions, on-site interpretation and audio-tour, educational activities and public ceremonies (B); and a much-visited commemorative stupa as well as on-site interpretation and audio-tour at (C).

People come from all over the country -- as well as local people, government officials, relevant authorities, students, national tourists -- as well as and international leaders, delegations and tourists from other countries come to make offerings and pray for the victims who lost their lives at former killing or memorial sites. These activities of traditional, religious, spirituality and cultural activities, express that Cambodian people are well aware of the horror of the Khmer Rouge regime and do not want a recurrence. By taking traditional rituals to soothe feelings and pain and their loss, people believe that the victims who lost their lives in Khmer Rouge can rest in peace. And since 1979 until today, millions of people from all over the world have likewise come to pay their respects at both TSGM and CEGC.

Among those millions, recent visitors have included Secretary-General of the United Nations, Antonio Guterres, Director General of UNESCO, Audrey Azoulay, many Heads of State and Government including Justin Trudeau as well as prominent writers, actors, jurists and sports people.



*Map of Cambodia with registered execution sites, "security" offices and genocide memorials (DC-CAM and TSGM)*

## 1.2. Justification for Inscription under Criterion vi

**Criterion vi:** *be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas or beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance.*

The property is nominated under criterion (vi) for its associations with the events of the Khmer Rouge repressive system of imprisonment, interrogation, torture and execution, and for its subsequent living tradition of memorialisation of these events now commemorated in ways that foster peaceful coexistence among peoples. The scale and impact of genocide on the people of Cambodia is an event of outstanding universal significance, confirmed by the judgement of “crimes against humanity” and “genocide” rendered by the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC). All three historical component parts were managed directly by one perpetrator, Kaing Guek Eav, alias Duch. Duch was accountable only to the senior leadership of the Khmer Rouge. All three sites have direct tangible and intangible links with those events through both their evidence and numerous witness accounts of the genocide, and also with living traditions of memorialisation and peacebuilding. The significance of the events and the direct association of these events with the property are comparable to the World Heritage Sites of Auschwitz Birkenau German Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camp in Poland, ESMA in Argentina, Rwanda Genocide Sites and Hiroshima Peace Memorial in Japan, as well as other sites of conflict identified in the comparative analysis.

Cambodian Memorial Sites are an integral part of the transformation of Cambodia from a country identified with “the killing fields” to a land at peace. Taken as a serial whole, it is a rare example of having successfully navigated the difficult challenge of finding both justice and national reconciliation, during continuing civil conflict (until 1998) and in a still ongoing process. These twin associations with both recent conflict and memorialisation make the Cambodian Memorial Sites exceptional candidates as flag bearers for World Heritage and UNESCO values, promoting peace and reconciliation, exemplifying Cambodia’s long struggle and rare successful transition from a genocidal regime to a country whose current slogan is “Thanks for Peace”.

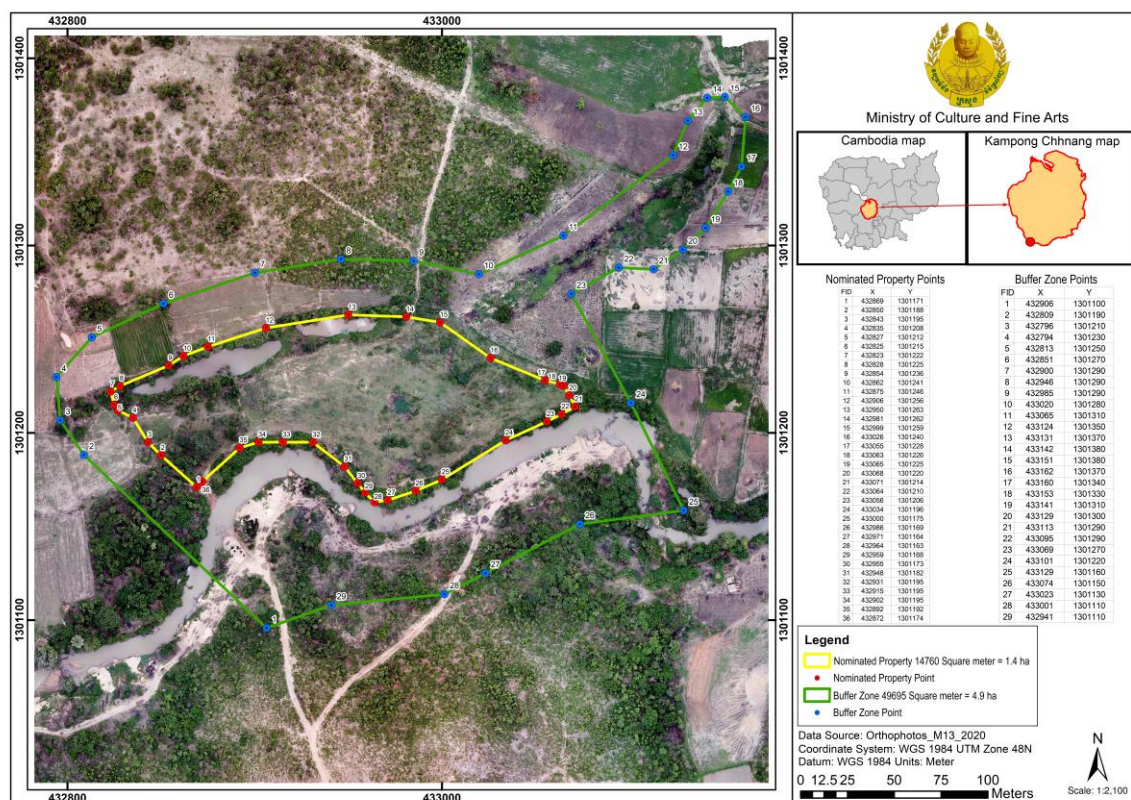
## 1.3. Delineated Boundaries: Nominated Properties and Buffer Zones

Id letter	Name of the component part	Region(s) / District(s)	Coordinates of the central point	Area of nominated component part (ha)	Area of the Buffer Zone incl. NP (ha)	Map N°
A)	Former M-13 prison	Kbal Teuk commune, Teuk Phos district, Kampong Chhnang province, bordering Amleang commune, Thpong district, Kampong Speu province	UTM Zone 48 Easting: 432974 Northing: 1301212	1.5	6.2	1
B)	Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (former S-21 prison)	Boeung Keng Kang III commune, Boeung Keng Kang district, Phnom Penh Municipality	UTM Zone 48 Easting: 491013 Northing: 1276741	1.17	11.4	2

C)	Choeng Ek Genocidal Center (former execution site of S-21)	Choeung Ek and Dangkor communes, Dangkor district, Phnom Penh Municipality	UTM Zone 48 Easting: 489324 Northing: 1269545	1.8	4	3
Total area in hectares				4.47 ha	21.6 ha	

### Textual description of the boundaries of the nominated property

**A) Former M-13 prison:** The boundary of the nominated property of former M-13 lies along what is considered to be the historical pond and the stream that surrounded the bamboo-covered thicket of the former prison where some pits are still existing. This historical reference as to the geography of the site was ascertained from former Khmer Rouge cadres and victims who used to work or be imprisoned there. The nominated property is now under the ownership and control of the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts. The buffer zone for the former M-13 site is proposed to cover the surrounding land, which was used as supporting area for the prison including the stream and pond, some of which remains in private ownership. This surrounding land is considered important for future research and also to be protected for retention of the rural ambience of the site. The borders of the buffer zone have been determined in accordance with a sub decree on the use of public waters that sets 30 meters from any stream under public domain and 20 meters from any creek (Chapter 3, art. 8: Sub decree on River Basin Management). So consequently, although this land can be used for private farming, the state can apply restrictions if needed. As reported by eyewitnesses the creek on the northeastern side of the nominated property was also used for prison purposes, it was decided to include this extended land into the buffer to allow for future research.

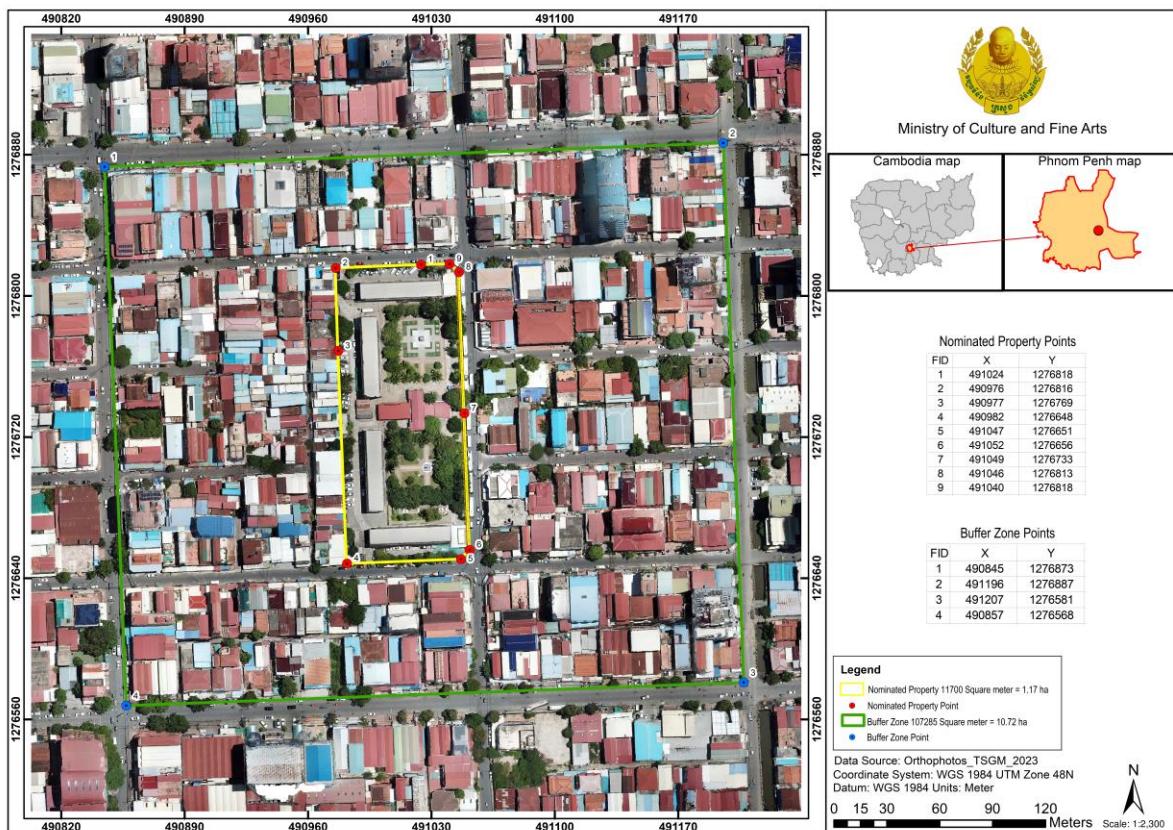


Aerial view of nominated property A and its buffer with attributes (TSGM and DAP)



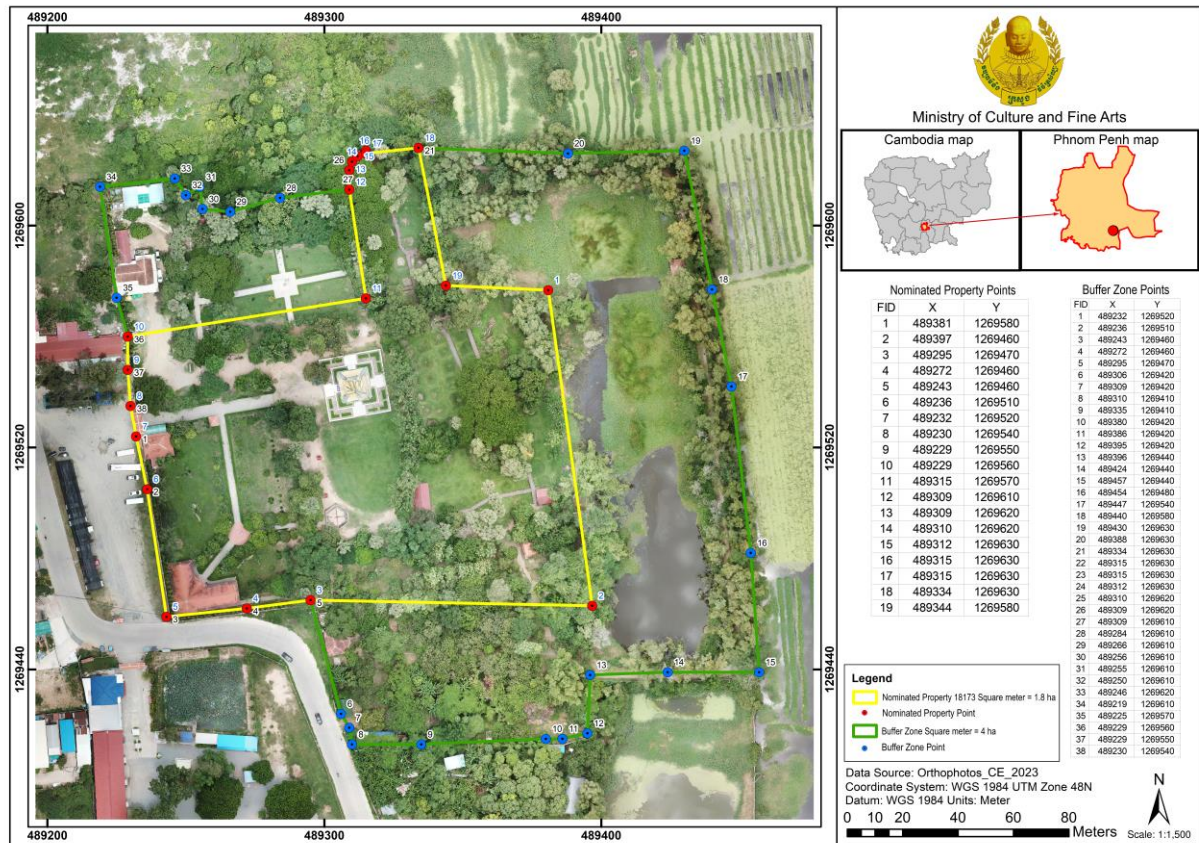
Note: Official gazettement of this nominated property and its buffer zone are currently being proposed as protected areas by the Royal Government of Cambodia. The nominated property was already demarcated by boundary posts erected by the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts (MCFA) in June 2023.

**B) Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (former S-21 prison):** The boundary of the nominated property corresponds to the historical fence line of the former S-21 prison's core operational area, with prison buildings for individual cells and mass detention rooms as well as administrative rooms are shown clearly from existing physical documentary and testimonial evidence. The site is now under the ownership and control of Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, an integral part of the Department of Museums of the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts. The buffer zone is proposed to cover the surrounding area, which functioned to support S-21, including former houses and offices of Khmer Rouge cadres who worked at S-21, several houses used for detention and interrogation of "special" prisoners, as well as a number of mass graves. The buffer zone covers several streets and consists mainly of land under private ownership, with some state-owned land such as electricity substations.



Aerial view of nominated property B and its buffer with attributes (TSGM and DAP)

**C) Choeung Ek Genocidal Center (former execution site of S-21):** The nominated property includes all the attributes contributing to its claimed Outstanding Universal Value, where more than 100 pits are still visible and from which more than 6,000 human bodies were exhumed in the early 1980s. The buffer covers what is believed to delineate the historical area of former execution site. The site was identified by local villagers within days after the Khmer Rouge collapsed. This component part of the nominated property and its buffer are both now under the ownership of the Phnom Penh Municipality, managed under subcontract by a private company.



*Aerial view of nominated property C and its buffer with attributes (TSGM and DAP)*

## 1.4. Brief Historical Background of the Sites

Known widely as the Pol Pot or Khmer Rouge regime, Democratic Kampuchea (DK) caused the death of at least 2 million men, women, and children over the “three years, 8 months and 20 days” when the regime had control over the entire country (17 April 1975 – 6 January 1979). In its zealous pursuit of the Maoist-inspired “super great leap forward”, national and ethnic “purity” and the reclamation of territory “lost” to Vietnam, the Khmer Rouge leadership (known as Angkar, the Organisation) inflicted a reign of terror of exceptional dimension. While exact figures can never be known, and even estimates are difficult due to the lack of statistical data on the size of the population and on demographic trends in 1975, it is estimated that at least one quarter of the population perished as a result of starvation, lack of medical care and forced labour of virtually the entire population, as well as targeted killings. The ECCC accepted expert evidence that from 1975 to 1978, Cambodia suffered 1.0 to 2.1 million deaths in excess of what could normally be expected, of which 720,000 to 1.1 million could be considered “violent”. (ECCC Trial Chamber, Case 002/02 Judgement n.802, p153 citing Patrick Heuveline, *The Boundaries of Genocide: Quantifying the Uncertainty of the Death Toll during some the Pol Pot Regime in Cambodia (1975-79)*, p212). One of the greatest crimes of the 20th century, this tragedy is iconically represented internationally as “the killing fields”.

The focus of this serial nomination is the tragedy of the Cambodian people who suffered under what was euphemistically named the “security” system. As the chief mechanism for the implementation of the Khmer Rouge reign of terror it the security system was, designed to persecute persons whom the Khmer Rouge considered as “enemies of the revolution” and to intimidate the rest of the population. Although seldom given any specific charge or accusation, persons were taken to the vast network of temporary detention houses and prisons based on various allegations or perceived characteristics (former regime members, Vietnamese ethnicity including prisoners of war, intellectuals or people accused of breaking a rule, as well as their entire families, etc.). There was no legal system established in “Democratic Kampuchea”. No police forces existed; no judicial investigations; no courts; no judges; no pronounced sentences, but simply their implementation up to, and including execution in many cases. It is widely reported that anybody could be accused by certain people and, if the local cadres agreed, the person was either killed at the village or taken to a prison. Some prisons were euphemistically referred to as “re-education camps” and arrested persons were often told they were being sent away for further study. The system was arbitrary and relied fully on the decisions of the local cadres and their superiors. Many prisoners did not survive the living conditions and interrogations, while some were killed outright.

In selecting possible sites for comparison with the three component parts of our serial nomination of Cambodian Memorial Sites, we have attempted to establish whether a site was used as a temporary place of detention, a prison, an execution site or as a composite institution. These fewer composite institutions were designed to extract intelligence or information on which to base further arrests or purges, and were referred to as “security centres”, of which S-21 was the most highly developed example.

The three sites together represent the scope of the entire “security” system: precursor phase (prison M-13); fully operational phase (prison S-21), and execution site (at Choeung Ek) of one of the deadliest prisons in the world. Of more than 18,000 men, women, and children, only twelve former prisoners are known to have survived S-21.

### A) Former M-13 Prison

The location of former M-13 prison moved several times after being first established in 1971. Its final location, which is now being nominated as component part (A) of the Cambodian Memorial Sites, is



in the curve of a small river and reportedly surrounded by a thick bamboo fence. The prisoners were mainly kept in rectangular pits (dug into the earth, an estimated 2-3m deep and 3x4m wide (actual size to be confirmed through archaeology) and the prison staff including the head of the prison, Duch, were accommodated in basic huts made of bamboo. Locations of three detention pits for the prisoners, a kitchen space, a pole to torture and kill prisoners have been identified. Of particular note is a larger circular interrogation pit, conjecturally making use of an existing bomb crater. Reportedly, prisoners were executed and their bodies buried outside the fenced area. The number of victims is still unknown, but it is believed to have exceeded two hundred.

After 1975, as far as is known, the site was no longer used, and was gradually covered by natural vegetation. This piece of land was not used for agricultural purposes, as it is difficult to access, on three sides embraced by the river.

Although the precise location of M-13 was not known much beyond the immediate neighbourhood, the existence of the prison was never forgotten. A foreign prisoner, French anthropologist François Bizot, had extraordinarily survived detention by the Khmer Rouge after being captured with two Cambodian colleagues carrying out fieldwork. Sadly, he later learned that his two colleagues were executed. He subsequently published a book (*"Le portail"*) in 2001 describing his experience being prisoner in M-13 in 1972, an account that formed the basis for the film with the same title.

Of considerable relevance to this serial nomination is the fact that the judges of the Trial Chamber of the ECCC decided to open case 001 with testimonies regarding M-13, in view of its role as the progenitor of S-21, which was the sole subject of that trial. Due to the temporal jurisdiction of the ECCC as being only on crimes committed between 1975-1979, Duch was not held accountable for acts at M-13, but evidence from this site helped to establish their widespread and systematic nature, and to show purpose and intent.

When a private owner intended to sell the land in 2019, the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts purchased it, to preserve it and to develop it as a memorial site. The locations of several mass graves and possible execution sites were recently identified in 2021 and remain to be further investigated.

## **B) Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (former S-21 prison)**

The torture and interrogation centre known as "S-21" or "Security Office S-21", was established shortly after the Khmer Rouge regime gained power over the entire country in 1975 and ended its function only when the liberation forces entered Phnom Penh on 7 January 1979. On that very last day the head of the prison, some of his staff and a small number of former prisoners fled from Phnom Penh.

After having been moved three times between two other locations, S-21 began operations in March 1976 in the campuses of the former Tuol Svay Prey High School (before 1970 known as Ponhea Yat High School), and the adjoining Tuol Sleng Primary School, both of which had been established in the 1960s. The head of S-21 was initially In Lon but from March 1976 Kaing Guek Eav (alias Duch) was promoted from Deputy Director to Director – a post he had held formerly at M-13, and that he retained through the duration of the Khmer Rouge regime.

The exact dates are not yet known when the prison zone extended far beyond the school compounds to incorporate nearby buildings extending over a total an area of around 100 hectares of the city (near to the centre), that had been emptied of its previous inhabitants in April 1975.

The core of the prison were the four buildings with 60 former classrooms of the Tuol Svay Prey High School where most of the prisoners were detained, while several former private houses nearby were used for offices, detention of "special" prisoners, interrogation and the killing of prisoners, including

by bleeding them to death. The head of the prison, Duch, lived with his family in a private house of his choice just outside the S-21 compound.

S-21 held prisoners varying in numbers from a few dozen to several hundred at the same time in addition to several hundreds of prison staff. Considerable effort has been made in recent years to determine the overall number and individual names of the thousands of prisoners held at S-21. Numerous statistics and incidents from S-21 were reported during the ECCC trials sensationally as if they were new revelations, but these approximate what had already been reported in the early visitors' accounts and had been documented in considerable detail in the PRT held in 1979, including such key points as that the number of prisoners was at least 12-14,000; the main function of S-21 was as a political prison, with a high number of prisoners being Khmer Rouge cadres (both military and administrative officials from the rank of Minister to low-level functionaries who were caught up in ever increasing purges of alleged enemies or traitors to the regime); and gruesome photographic and written details of their executions and torture, including death by blood-letting. Knowing more details was greatly facilitated by the digitisation of S-21 archives, including lists of admissions, various daily registers and execution lists, with the latest estimate being 18,063 prisoners.

Immediately after its discovery, the site was put under control of the new government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, to be used as the main office of an investigation team into crimes committed by the former regime, and also turned into a museum. As early as January 1979, some rooms were opened for exhibition for delegations and by August 1979, after the PRT was concluded, local visitors were welcomed, in the beginning mainly supporting the search for missing relatives and friends.

Since 1979, the site has remained under control of the government and the museum's first director (a former prisoner Ung Pech) was appointed in December 1979. As former inhabitants and displaced persons moved back into the city, it was not possible to keep the entire former S-21 zone for the museum. Over the years, the site was whittled away by encroachment so that since 1995 the museum occupies only the site of the former Tuol Svay Prey High school – the core of the former prison. Details of the gradual reduction of the site have been documented as part of a research project for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the museum. Since 1995 – at the time the ongoing civil war was about to end – the size of the compound has not changed any more.

Duch and his staff made use of the school buildings largely as they were. Only one wooden extension to the central office building was added during the prison time to serve as the office for registration and photography of arriving prisoners. No other buildings were created to meet the needs of the prison. Within some of the former classrooms, individual cells were created either out of wood or bricks to separate the prisoners, although these were apparently removed in 1978 in three out of four of the buildings. (The approximate date of this change was provided by survivor, the former prisoner and well-known artist Vann Nath, but the purpose of the change is unknown).

The current arrangement in three of the four buildings is how the site was found in the early January days in 1979, after the Khmer Rouge regime was overthrown on 7 January 1979. Two Vietnamese army camera men were the first to enter the former crime site and immediately documented how they found the former school buildings turned into a torture and interrogation site. Their priceless footage and still photographs provide the main evidence that not much has changed during more than the last 40 years since the site was turned into a memorial museum.

### **C) Choeung Ek Genocidal Center (former Khmer Rouge execution site of S-21)**

When it became unbearable to keep on killing prisoners and burying them close to the prison compound in central Phnom Penh, Duch decided in March 1977 to move the executions to a site 15 km outside Phnom Penh. He chose a quiet place outside of Phnom Penh, which was partly on a former



Khmer Chinese cemetery (its first time of utilisation is unclear, but relatives would still visit before Khmer Rouge time) and partly an orchard. The first reports of the site in early 1979 noted that it was surrounded by a fence and equipped with a few small wooden huts to a) hold the prisoners (mostly only for a short time prior to execution), b) store execution and other tools and c) housing for the staff assigned to execute. Accounts differ as to whether prisoners had to dig their own graves or if this was done by the prison staff. A loudspeaker was installed. Reportedly, this was used to broadcast music played to drown out the screams of the prisoners from being heard by inhabitants of nearby villages, and light posts illuminated the area, as the executions were carried out at night. To run both light and loudspeaker a generator was installed, and power reportedly drawn from the former glass factory some 3 kilometres away, although it is said that generators were also used.

The only purpose of the site was the execution of the prisoners from S-21. They were brought in trucks by night, registered, had to wait in a shed before being killed by utilising different tools, mainly oxcart or and heavy hoes, and only very occasionally being shot. A team from the prison staff documented and carried out the killing of the prisoners and covered the graves with soil and a chemical substance (DDT and Antrin), of which barrels were found when the site was discovered. At times when many prisoners were ordered to be killed, the team carried out such executions a few times a week, right up until early January 1979.

The site was identified by local villagers in January 1979, but was not part of the site visits arranged during the People's Revolutionary Tribunal in August 1979 as the first investigations, including exhumations, started later. Officially the discovery of the site was declared in 1980. The former wooden buildings from the Khmer Rouge time had already disappeared in 1979/1980, presumably reclaimed by local villagers for building materials. In 1981 and 1983 an investigation team examined the site and identified 129 mass graves and exhumed 8,985 crania and bones. Photographs of this site together with those of mass graves at other sites were published soon after.

After the National Assembly in 1983 proclaimed 20 May to be the "Day of Maintaining Anger", commemorated for the first time in 1984, Choeung Ek was designated for public gatherings, as also Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, and these have continued almost every year since. Initially often wrongly translated as the "Day of Hatred", 20 May is now officially designated as the "National Day of Remembrance", and these changes in its name clearly show the evolution in the focus of the public gatherings, underlining the shift towards remembrance and peace.

In 1988 the three main mass graves were protected by open wooden structures, by adding roofs and fences, and the construction of a large stupa was commenced, which was inaugurated on 7 January 1989 to mark the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the Khmer Rouge regime. In 1991 an office building and a souvenir shop building were added.

A contract was signed in 2005 between the Municipality of Phnom Penh and JC Royal Ltd Company to safeguard and further develop the site. Between 2006 and 2020 several buildings were either newly added or older structures repaired. Major changes in 2008 included the enlargement of the property in the front to include a new entrance and a museum building, and in the back to create a dam to prevent water and flooding of the compound.

In the years 2012 to 2015 a scientific forensic project was realised under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts to analyse and preserve the remaining crania and redisplay them in the stupa, with participation by a forensic scientist from the United States.

The site was made available for access by delegations and researchers by appointment, and has been open to the public since 1989 after the construction of the stupa. It has only been closed for several periods due to the pandemic regulations in 2020-21.

## 1.5. Attributes Supporting Outstanding Universal Value

### Overview and Description Attributes

<b>A) Attributes of Former M-13 prison</b>		
Archaeological findings	A.1	3 detention pits (A.1.1, A.1.2 and A.1.3)
	A.2	1 Round crater (Interrogation pit)
	A.3	Human remains (detailed below)
	A.4	Artefacts (including textile fragments)
Natural features	A.5	Pond
	A.6	Stream
<b>B) Attributes of TSGM</b>		
Archaeological findings	B.1	Mass graves (location)
Built heritage	B.2	Barbed-wire fencing
	B.3	Gates (B.3.1 to B.3.7)
	B.4	6 Buildings (B.4.A, B.4.B, B.4.C, B.4.D, B.4.E, B.4.F)
	B.5	Rooms and cells (Individually identified in risk map)
	B.6	Gymnastic bars used for torture (B.6.1 to B.6.3)
Artefacts	B.7	Archives: Collection of S-21 and museum documents individually catalogued (Displayed and in reserve collection)
	B.8	Objects including torture tools individually catalogued (Displayed and in reserve collection)
	B.9	Textiles (fragments) individually catalogued (Displayed and in reserve collection)
	B.10	Graffiti individually catalogued and locations recorded
Memorialisation	B.11	Cemetery (tombs B.11.1 to B.11.14)
	B.12	Memorial Monument and name steles (B.12.1 to B.12.17)
	B.13	Sculpture
Human Remains	B.14	Human remains (355 crania and bones)
	B.15	Photo boards (B.15.1 and B.15.2)
<b>C) Attributes of Choeung Ek Genocidal Center</b>		
Archaeological findings	C.1	Visible mass graves (C.1.1 to C.1.64)
	C.2	Execution tree
	C.3	Music tree
Built heritage	C.4	Gazebo
	C.5	Sheds (location) (C.5.1 to C.5.4)
Human Remains	C.6	Crania individually catalogued and bone fragments (displayed in stupa)
Artefacts	C.7	Execution tools and textiles (displayed in museum and glass cases). Inventory to be completed.
Memorialisation	C.8	Memorial stupa
	C.9	Archives of CEGC

### A) Attributes of Former M-13 Prison

Former M-13 prison is located in the remote countryside in Kampong Chhnang Province around 90 km northwest of the capital. The site partially crosses over the provincial border between Kampong Chhnang and Kampong Speu province. M-13 was founded in 1971, in an area seized from Khmer Republic government control in the early stages of the civil war, and became known under the Khmer Rouge as a 'special zone'. It The prison moved location several times (in the immediate vicinity) before being firmly established at the site being nominated in March 1973, where it operated until April 1975. It was deliberately camouflaged, particularly against detection from overflying surveillance planes. Prisoners were mainly detained and interrogated in pits covered by roofs made of natural vegetation, while accommodation, offices and cooking facilities were constructed of light perishable bamboo, wood or palm fronds. As a result, we see only a few traces of above-ground elements, however, the archaeological traces of the structures remain as tangible attributes to support the Outstanding Universal Value.



*Aerial photo of M-13 from the East, dated 3 July 2020 (DAP)*

The former M-13 prison is located in what remains as entirely natural rural surroundings. Although formerly a heavily wooded area, it is now mainly grassland with some rice fields. The next village is 2 km away. The former prison site (0.9 ha) was established in the curve of a small river and was reportedly surrounded by a bamboo thicket, of which some traces remain. Only a few light buildings were constructed; instead, prisoners were kept in pits dug into the earth, while the prison staff was accommodated in basic huts.

Currently the former pits, traces of some other structures, and evidence of the utilisation of spaces are still visible. A surface search in 2019 identified several artefacts linked to the function of the prison, including a leg shackle. Since the abandonment of the prison site in 1975, its appearance has been changed from dense forest to a grassy field due to tree felling and a surface clearing of covering vegetation in 2019. Although in private ownership prior to its acquisition by the Ministry, the site and its surroundings have always been accessible to the local community, who still visit occasionally for fishing, and to collect water and wild herbs, etc.



Informants have identified four pits: as three for detention and one for interrogation. The locations of the former above-ground structures have been confirmed by archaeology after being described by surviving witnesses, including both former Khmer Rouge guards and victims who were forced to work or were imprisoned at the site. Recent information from informants suggests that the prison had more additional below-ground structures and graves, and these are now being sought, including by Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR).

In the vicinity, a number of people have been located who have been able to recount their recollections of M-13 and of the head of the prison, Duch. These informants include both former prison staff and prisoners as well as villagers who had delivered goods to the prison during its period of operation. A collection of interviews was conducted, which formed the core of a Master's thesis submitted in 2021 to the History Department of the Royal University of Phnom Penh (by the director of Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, Mr Hang Nisay). In addition, students from the Department of Architecture have conducted site surveys and developed several proposals for a site development plan. The Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts has delimited the site and has now taken it over, assigning management to Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum.

The nominated property: 1.5 hectares, representing the extent of the former M-13 prison, under governmental ownership, having been purchased in 2019 and is now under management by Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum in the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts. (Legal titles deeds number 04080406-2125 dated 15 November 2019 by Kampong Chhnang Provincial Department of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction.)



*Interview with former guard and later prisoner of M-13, 22 August 2023 (TSGM)*

Since 2015, TSGM has conducted field research at M-13 starting with identification of the location. Below is the description of the main attributes for the former M-13 prison that have been so far discovered after visual exploration on the site, archaeological excavation works and interviews with testimonies and eyewitnesses. It is very likely that attributes may be added in future or description enhanced based on future research. The attributes are named below starting with archaeological findings (pits, crater, human remains, artefacts) and then natural features (pond and river).



*Vegetation at M-13 on western side (TSGM)*



Attributes of Former M-13 prison		
Archaeological findings	A.1	3 detention pits (A.1.1, A.1.2 and A.1.3)
	A.2	1 Round crater (Interrogation pit)
	A.3	Human remains (detailed below)
	A.4	Artefacts (including textile fragments)
Natural features	A.5	Pond
	A.6	Stream

### A.1 Detention Pits (A.1.1, A.1.2 and A.1.3)

Today, at the former M-13, the most obvious among the few traces of occupancy of the Khmer Rouge are the pits, which remain as important elements of the Khmer Rouge's brutality in capturing, interrogating, torturing and killing people. After moving the prison's location to Trapeang Chrap in 1973, Duch ordered the guards and prisoners to dig detention pits beside the Kraing Ponley stream. The detention pits were about three to four by 12 metres and between 2-3 metres deep. At the bottom of the pit, a hole was drilled from one to another, apparently for iron shackles to be fastened to lock in the prisoners' feet. The roof was made out of palm leaves giving some protection from sun and rain, raised about half to one metre open to leave space for ventilation.

Prisoners were generally housed in these pits with no beds, mosquito nets, pillows or mats. According to reports of a flood at M-13 in October 1974, survivors said that many detainees had drowned in these pits. However, Duch denied that any deaths occurred.



*Three detention pits after 2023 excavation (TSGM)*



## A.2 Round Crater

In the middle of the nominated property of the former M-13 prison we can today appreciate a circular pit that resembles a bomb crater, but the origin of the round shape has not yet been confirmed. From May to June 2023, in collaboration with Flinders University of Australia, excavations were carried out and also a test pit for this round crater without any concluding result, so further investigation is needed.

According to the testimony of Mr. Chan Voeun, a former guard who worked from mid-1973 until early 1974 at M-13, Duch used this pit for interrogation and torture.



*Round crater (interrogation pit) after 2023 excavation (TSGM)*

## A.3 Human Remains (teeth, bones, partial cranium held in TSGM conservation lab)

In 2019, surface collection was undertaken to find out any traces of the artefacts which could remain on ground after light ploughing by the previous owner. And in June 2023, MCFA, TSGM and Flinders University undertook a joint excavation to find any evidence of human activity and to understand the structure of the former prison M-13.

In 2019 several pieces of bones (two could be forearm) and tooth were found on the ground along with other artefacts. The TSGM team brought all of the findings to the museum for conservation and analysis. These human remains are housed in the conservation lab of the museum, stored in safe bags or boxes. However, TSGM team has no expertise regarding bone conservation.

Later, in June 2023, TSGM carried out a joint excavation campaign in collaboration with Dr. Martin Polkinghorne of Flinders University and other departments of MCFA. Several experts in the study of human bones made significant contributions in this campaign, particularly regarding findings of 15 permanent (secondary) teeth. Based on the duplicate teeth found (there were two maxillaries, right, first premolars) and the marked difference in wear between some teeth, it is suggested that these teeth are from at least two individuals.

The 2023 campaign also included conducting ground penetrating radar (GPR) survey of the entire nominated property. The reports have not yet been fully analysed and reported, but they suggest the presence of further pits that will be excavated in the future.

During the time of the excavation, the team has also met with different stakeholders including local residents, relatives of the victims and authorities to prepare the first religious ceremony at the site and also to ask for their thoughts regarding the preservation and/or display of human remains. All stakeholders agreed to send all human remains to TSGM for the sake of conservation and preservation. However, after such conservation and when appropriate facilities have been constructed locally, they ask the team to bring it back to display and to commemorate all victims who lost their lives at M-13 and under the Khmer Rouge.



*Human remains from surface collection 2019 (TSGM)*

#### **A.4 Artefacts (buttons, fabric, metal pieces, etc held in TSGM conservation lab)**

During the surface collection conducted by Flinders University in 2019, also some artefacts were found such as buttons, pieces of fabric, part of a belt and piece of rope. And in 2023, the archaeological



excavation yielded another button, some fabric that appears to show gunshot remains and a cord with metal medallion, worn traditionally in Cambodia around the waist as an amulet to provide protection.

These artefacts from M-13 are now kept in the conservation lab of TSGM, and some preliminary conservation is being applied by the conservation team. An inventory of finding from M-13 is being developed.



*Metal buckle from surface collection 2019 (TSGM)*

### **A.5 Trapeang Chrap Pond**

Trapeang Chrap is the name given by locals to this natural pond of the nominated property with an estimated length of about 70 metres and a width of 20 metres in the final location of the former M-13 prison. It is possibly an oxbow formed from a previous course of the Kraing Ponley stream now running along the opposite side. Interviews with villagers and local authorities state that it was regularly used for fishing and farming by the villagers before the Khmer Rouge regime. In around March 1973, Duch moved the site M-13, locating it beside the pond. It was used for a number of different purposes such as watering vegetables, a bathing place for the guards and cleaning of wounds for prisoners of M-13. The farmland around the pond is a type of impermeable and sedimentary soil for agriculture.

### **A.6 Kraing Ponley or Chreav Stream**

Kraing Ponley or Chreav is a natural *Steung* (stream). Nowadays, it forms one part of the boundary between Thpong district of Kampong Speu province and Teuk Phos district of Kampong Chhnang province that extends from Chreav mountain to Kraing Ponley (in Ponley commune), Kampong Chhnang.

People who live in Kampong Speu province refer to it as Kraing Ponley stream because it flows from the mountain into Kraing Ponley of Kampong Chhnang province. On the other side, people who live in Kampong Chhnang call it Chreav stream because it flows down from Chreav mountain. According to locals, the people who live in Thpong District, Kampong Speu Province, the villagers used to take water from it for drinking, bathing, washing clothes, farming and fishing.

During the operation of M-13, the river was an important source for drinking, bathing, washing clothes, and fishing for the guards and prisoners and for watering vegetables. But in recent time, due to the bad condition of water from agricultural and animal pollution upstream, the villagers stop using it for their daily life, although a water wheel (*noria*) and diesel generated pumps have been used to bring water onto the fields for irrigation, and some sand mining was carried out along its banks. Since the land was purchased by MCFA as a heritage site in 2019, no such further use of the water is permitted.

The stream together with pond (A.5) served as a natural boundaries and barrier, defining and protecting the site. During the rainy season, the water level in the stream raised at time can flood the site. As noted in A.1 in report of a flood at M-13 in October 1974, survivors said that many detainees had drowned in these pits. However, Duch denied that any deaths occurred.



*Kraing Ponley stream from west in rainy season (TSGM)*



## B) Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (former S-21 prison)

Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum was established in 1979 on the site of the recently abandoned former prison S-21. It is located in the commune of Boeung Keng Kang III in Boeung Keng Kang district of



*Aerial photo of TSGM from east (TSGM)*

Phnom Penh, now in a central part of the city, covering about 1 hectare. The buildings and cells for mass and individual detention and interrogation remain intact, as well as extensive archival documentation and artefacts that have been preserved since days after the Khmer Rouge were driven out of Phnom Penh on 7 January 1979.

Prior to the Khmer Rouge regime, the site was the compound of the former Tuol Svay Prey High School, hosting four 3-storey buildings in the shape of a U, with a 1-storey wooden and concrete office building

dividing the schoolyard into two. In the first courtyard close to the current entrance are the tombs of the last 14 victims last killed at S-21, victims as well as a sculpture created by the French-Cambodian artist Ing Séra entitled 'For those who are no longer here'. The second courtyard has since the opening of the museum been the location for various memorial structures. The current memorial, inaugurated in 2015, is a non-judicial reparation project from the ECCC's case 001 (in which Duch was convicted for his crimes at S-21). The monument is surrounded by marble steles on which are inscribed in gold letters the names of victims (about 12,000) known at that time.

As the urbanisation process in Phnom Penh is moving fast, the Ministry recently successfully convinced the Phnom Penh Municipality in its master plan for Phnom Penh to limit the height of the surrounding buildings (which were themselves during the Khmer Rouge period located within the former larger prison compound).

Before the Covid pandemic the museum used to welcome up to 500,000 visitors per year, including an increasing number of Cambodian students. Visitor numbers have gradually resumed from mid-2022, reaching 332,970 in 2023. The museum is organised into eight departments (management, administration & finance, archives, conservation lab, education, exhibitions, research) and is the workplace of around 70 staff, some of them having worked at the museum since the 1980s.



*Cemetery with 14 tombs (TSGM)*



*Memorial monument and steles with names of victims (TSGM)*

In the last ten years a number of projects related to documentation, preservation, conservation, research and education – in part with external expertise and support – have been realised. This includes the digitisation and online publication of the museum's entire collection of some 700,000 pages of S-21 documents, which were inscribed on the UNESCO Memory of the World register in 2009. An audio guide tour was developed in 2015 in partnership with a private company and available in ten languages and has been widely acclaimed by visitors and on Trip Advisor. The audio tour includes incorporates background historical information, music and recorded interviews. In 2020, a detailed risk mapping of the buildings was undertaken and a comprehensive strategic plan for 2021-2025 was developed.

The nominated property: 1.17 hectares, is under state management, owned by the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts as Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (TSGM). TSGM consists of five main original buildings and secondary structures set in two courtyards and surrounded by corrugated iron and barbed wire fences (partly original from prison times). A ticket office and toilet facilities have been added.

Note: This nominated property is listed in the Inventory of Property of the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts. The buffer has been officially proposed by the Phnom Penh Municipality to be gazetted by the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction in the Land Use Master Plan of Boeung Keng Kong district, the vision of 2035.

#### **Additions following the Khmer Rouge period**

The following additions or changes were realised, listed in chronological order:

- 1979-1984: construction of *sepulchres* inside the first (southern) courtyard to bury the remains of the last prisoners, 14 victims found in prison cells tied to metal bedframes.
- 1984 and later construction in the northern courtyard of several memorials to commemorate the victims of S-21 and others who perished during the Khmer Rouge regime in general. They later collapsed.
- 1998: A souvenir shop building was added at the north-east corner near building D., and later its operations were halted in 2020 due to concerns for preserving the site and its character.
- 2000-2002: Renovation of building D involved repainting of the ground floor interior and exterior, and replacement of ceilings. This activity was also halted due to loss of integrity concerns.
- 2010: Major preservation and repair activities: roof and ceiling replacement and creation of a drainage system, enlargement of the northern garden by removing a parking area.
- 2014: Change of the museum entrance from the middle of the long eastern side (street 113) to the corner (corner of streets 113/350). A small ticket office building was added at this corner. Behind building B and C a paved area was created to provide space for a small parking lot.
- 2015: Erection of memorial monument in northern garden courtyard and steles on which 12,072 names of the victims (as known at that time) were listed to commemorate them.

2010-2017: Renovation of the two original school toilet blocks: on the western side of building A, and between buildings B and C.

2019: A memorial statue to commemorate the victims of the Khmer Rouge time was erected in the first southern courtyard.

All these changes were made to serve the needs of the museum and have not changed the character of the former school compound that served as S-21 prison from March 1976 to January 1979. No buildings from the school or prison time have been demolished or have collapsed since 1979. The overall integrity of the site can be considered as high.

## B) Attributes of Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum

Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum has very strong and clear attributes that convey the Outstanding Universal Value that are furthermore protected and under conservation measures already for many years. They can be subdivided into archaeological findings, built heritage, objects and memorialisation.

Attributes of TSGM		
Archaeological findings	B.1	Mass graves (location)
Built heritage	B.2	Barbed-wire fencing
	B.3	Gates (B.3.1 to B.3.6)
	B.4	6 Buildings (B.4.A, B.4.B, B.4.C, B.4.D, B.4.E, B.4.F)
	B.5	Rooms and cells (Individually identified in risk map)
	B.6	Gymnastic bars used for torture (B.6.1 to B.6.3)
Artefacts	B.7	Archives: Collection of S-21 and museum documents individually catalogued (Displayed and in reserve collection)
	B.8	Objects including torture tools individually catalogued (Displayed and in reserve collection)
	B.9	Textiles (fragments) individually catalogued (Displayed and in reserve collection)
	B.10	Graffiti individually catalogued and locations recorded
Memorialisation	B.11	Cemetery (tombs B.11.1 to B.11.14)
	B.12	Memorial Monument and name steles (B.12.1 to B.12.17)
	B.13	Sculpture
Human Remains	B.14	Human remains (355 crania and bones)
Photo Boards	B.15	2 Photo Boards of survivors (B.15.1 and B.15.2)

### B.1 Mass Graves (location)

Prisoners were mostly transferred to be killed at the execution site of Choeung Ek during the operation of S-21 from 1975 to 1979; however, a number of detainees were killed at the prison premises especially in the early days.



After the fall of Democratic Kampuchea, mass graves were found behind the museum's compound, such as in ponds in the courtyards. A photograph was taken in 1979 of an exhumation and the ECCC in 2008 stated that there is a high likelihood of a mass grave behind Building D.

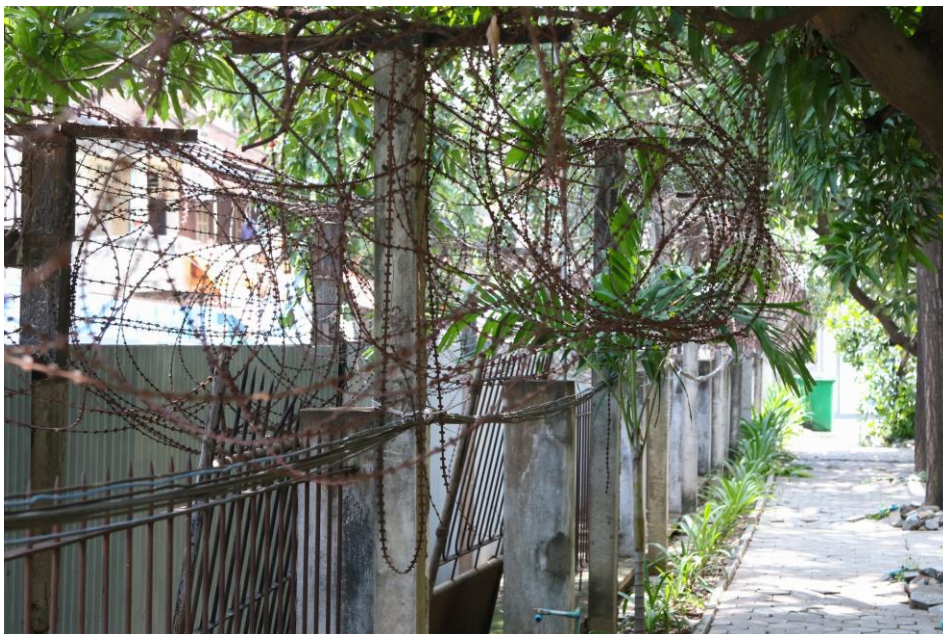
However, there is no clear documentation on the number of detainees killed at or around the site. Since there was no more available space to bury the bodies and in order to avoid infection, according to his testimony at the ECCC, Duch decided to transfer the detainees to kill at Choeung Ek, even though execution at S-21 continued until the site was abandoned after the fall of Democratic Kampuchea. This was mainly of former staff of S-21, high-ranking prisoners and children caught along with the parents, and any prisoners who died during detention or interrogation were reportedly also buried around S-21.

In the past, these mass-graves were covered over without any signage erected. Further research is required to examine all testimonies and reports as well as arranging a survey using ground penetrating radar prior to undertaking archaeological excavations. In recent years, careful rescue excavations are always performed prior to approval being given for any solid structure construction.

## **B.2 Barbed Wire Fence**

Tuol Svay Prey High School had fences and gates around all four sides. During its functioning as S-21 prison, these were reinforced and barbed and electrified wires added, as documented in photographs from 1979 and 1980. Archival reports indicate that the museum took a number of steps to maintain and repair these structures, replacing some where necessary, especially in the south and west.

Today one can still see barbed wire coiled along the top of double fencing (internally brick and concrete columns of 2.4 metres and base with iron pickets, externally corrugated iron sheets) in the north, east and south, with some still existing gate posts from the school entry ways. On the western side of the site, a concrete wall was constructed in 1994, replacing a corrugated iron fence built in 1982, separating the high school and primary school compounds.



*Barbed wire fence (TSGM)*

**B.3 Gates (B.3.1 to B.3.6)**

The main entrance for the school, prison and museum was always in the middle of the eastern side along St 113, until moved for public access to the south-east corner in 2014, together with a ticket office. The old main entrance is now normally closed, and used only for official ceremonies.

The sign designating the name of the museum was erected on the old main entrance in street 113. The name has been changed: in 1979 to 1980 as “Tuol Sleng Extermination Camp of Pol Pot-Ieng Sary’s Clique” on a black background; renamed in 1982 as “Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum”. This black background was later replaced by a wire grill frame.

The site has now visible 6 entrances: 3 on St 113 (of which 2 were sealed during the prison time and still no longer used); 1 new public entrance on the corner of 113 and 350, and 1 each on St 350 and St 320 are used for vehicular access only.

The biggest problem of the barbed-wire fencing and main entrance is the challenging natural deterioration. It is very important to keep the same interface and views for the historical record.

At the corner of Street 360 and Street 113 is a concrete sign that reads “Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum” in Khmer, French and English, indicating the nearby entrance of the museum.

Under Kampuchea Democratic, S-21 spread over a large area to operate a system of detention, interrogation, and execution. The compound of S-21 covered the former Tuol Svay Prey High School as well as Tuol Sleng Primary School and a number of houses around this area. After the fall of the regime, the area between Street 320 and Street 360 was designated to be the museum site, and around 1980, along the main road (Street 360), the museum sign was built. But later, as people occupied the houses in the above area, the museum area was redefined and limited to the campus of the former Tuol Svay Prey High School, and the concrete sign stands outside of it, a block away. However, this sign is still kept and maintained by the museum.



*Former main entrance of S-21 in 2019 (TSGM)*

**B.4 Main Buildings (B.4.A, B.4.B, B.4.C, B.4.D, B.4.E, B.4.F) and B.5 Rooms and cells (Individually identified in risk map)**

Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum is housed in the main 4 former buildings of the Tuol Svay Prey High School, today marked with letters A, B, C and D. The school was built in 1962 by architect Lu Ban Hap out of concrete and in the typical 2-storey construction style of schools all over Cambodia with natural ventilation provided by air vents. Lu Ban Hap was the architect of many other emblematic buildings constructed during the 1960s in Cambodia.

The Khmer Rouge took over the former school compound in January 1976 after it having been abandoned since April the year before. In order to keep prisoners imprisoned, the Khmer Rouge intervened into the former architectural structure in several ways. Building C underwent the biggest intervention during prison time. The first and second floors of building C are lined with rows of cells. On the ground floor they were constructed with brick, and on the first floor they were constructed out of wood. Each former classroom is split into several cells. Prisoners undergoing interrogation were often placed in these cells. Furthermore, the former classrooms were used as mass detention spaces, with a large number of prisoners lying on the ground next to each other and attached with iron shackles to the walls. Today, building C stands out in comparison to the others, because it underwent no outer interventions except recent installation of transparent panels on the doors to protect inscriptions that have been written by Khmer Rouge cadres.

Since 1979 when the prison was discovered, all the rooms have been left unchanged, except for those on the ground floors of buildings B and D, where one wall was removed to open a larger room for the exhibition, and entry ways between the rooms opened to facilitate visitation flow.

There are two more buildings that serve the museum's needs, but not for the exhibition. Building E in the centre of the compound that existed already during the school time, was used as art workshop during the prison time. Today it is used as a meeting room and holds a big painting by Vann Nath that is usually covered with a curtain. Building F was built during the prison time and reportedly was used administrative purposes. Today it holds museum offices and a multimedia room that shows a film for visitors twice a day.

Today we know that at least 18,063 prisoners were detained in these buildings and cells before taken away in trucks to be executed. Victims included Cambodians, foreigners, prisoners of war and former Khmer Rouge soldiers and cadres.

The biggest part of the entire exhibition is housed in these main buildings, so it is necessary to safeguard the buildings in order to protect the core of the museum as well. Due to their conservation status as being marked fragile, the buildings and cells need urgent protection from humid weather conditions, termite infestation and tourist impact.





*Building C view from south (TSGM)*

### **B.6 Gymnastic Bars (B.6.1 to B.6.3)**

There are three remaining gymnastic bars from the school period. The highest is a rope-climbing bar located in front of buildings A and B, nearby the 14 tombs. Two other bars are for pull-up exercises. A former student at Tuol Svay Prey high school said students liked to practise exercise there, and some students were instructed how to climb up the rope during sport academy's exam.

When the high school was turned into the prison during the Khmer Rouge period, the bar was used as a torturing instrument. Based on the testimony of Mr. Vann Nath, survivor from S-21, "I was aware some cases when I came to work downstairs. What I clearly saw was highlighted in my painting. When you see the location of the wooden frames where children used to climb, a prisoner -- he was an artist [...] and the guards took him back, but he was not taken to his room. He was taken to that location that I described [...] I could see that he was put into the water jar and he was strung up there [...]" He also added that "If we talk about the rope, that rope was there permanently. Even a year after liberation, it was still there."

As with as the other historical traces, the bars have been kept in the museum as the evidence to show all visitors. There are also some tools such as rope, jars, and a statue of an emaciated prisoner, which were put by the pole later in order to show how detainees were tortured. However, the museum has kept only the statue and the jars under the pole, but no longer the hung rope. Moreover, there is a

big signboard with the bar described as “The Gallows/exercise/torture bars,” nearby. However, there are no reports of Khmer Rouge carrying out execution by hanging at S-21.

The high bar is now partially broken and bent due to its age and to weather conditions. In 2020, it was inspected and repaired by wooden expert, through replacing resin into the wood, strengthening its foundation, and using a steel bar to reinforce it.



*High bar and southern courtyard from west (TSGM)*

#### **B.7 Archives: Collection of S-21 and museum documents individually catalogued (Displayed and in reserve collection)**

TSGM contained approximately 766,000 pages of historical archives mainly created as part of the operation of S-21 prison between 1975 to 1979 and the administrative collection of the museum in 1980s. These two collections of archives are the main documentary evidence of S-21 crimes and the memorialisation work carried out by the Cambodian government and by survivors of the Khmer Rouge.

It is considered the biggest Democratic Kampuchea prison collection in Cambodia, and it was inscribed as Memory of the World in 2009. These documents emerge from the registration of prisoners, photographing and writing biographies, forcing them to write or answer to questions for confessions, letters or annotations related to the decision to execute prisoners. In addition, other documents include the S-21 staff diaries that also show the daily life in the prison and in Democratic Kampuchea in general. Staff of S-21 were introduced to torture, along with their political training. Other documents included photographs and propaganda magazines depicting the policies of the Democratic Kampuchea regime. It is the most important and extensive written evidence to explain the crimes in



S-21 itself and its dealings with other Khmer Rouge leaders. Former S-21 leader Kaing Guek Eav alias Duch died in 2020 after being sentenced to life imprisonment by the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) verdict for his crimes committed at Tuol Sleng. Based on this documentary evidence, the role of S-21 was not only to detain and kill people from various ministries and cooperatives across the country, but also to record and compile important documents for the Democratic Kampuchea regime.

Since 1979, when the former S-21 site became a museum, many records have been created. There are approximately 20,000 pages including staff administrative records, description about the exhibition, personnel files, investigation reports, correspondence between museum and researchers and family members of S-21 prisoners, publications by the museum, and detailed statistics and photos of delegations. Dating from March 1979, these documents allow a significant understanding the earliest condition of the crime site when it was not open for public yet in August 1979. Every week, thousands of people came to visit, and many of them identified family members who were killed at site. This is a rare collection explaining why Cambodian people, who survived from Democratic Kampuchea, commit to memorialise and disseminate the history of atrocity to the world.

Currently, the S-21 prison records and TSGM administrative collection are maintained in secure deposits and are accessible online via website, and on site. From 2017 to 2021, 382,487 pages of S-21 prison records were digitised, financed by KOICA under the coordination of UNESCO. Further digitisation is continuing by TSGM staff. The TSGM administrative collection has been fully catalogued and preserved.



*Selection of S-21 archives (TSGM)*

**B.8 Objects including torture tools individually catalogued (displayed and in reserve collection)**

Prisoners at S-21 were divided according to their gender, rank and position. In addition, all their clothes were confiscated, and they were tortured and chained, living under constant extreme pressure both physical and mental.

Many types of objects left over by the Khmer Rouge at S-21 include whips, nail pliers, handcuffs, shackles, beds, tables, chairs, chains, torture beds, etc. The museum has catalogued some 2,621 items in total. In Building "A" 63 objects, Building "B" 639 objects, Building "C" 70 objects, Building "D" 46 objects, and a further 1,803 objects in the depository. All objects are carefully collected and preserved, as they are important historical evidence on the brutal torture of victims during the Khmer Rouge era.

The Conservation team at Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum is working hard to restore all of the high-risk artefacts that have been harmed by a variety of circumstances, such as deterioration, gradual decay, accidents and mechanical pressure caused by handling. Since it was formed in 2014, the team has managed to conserve 71 items. An inventory has been entered into an Excel spreadsheet. While some of the objects are housed in the depository beneath the "C" building's staircase, others are on show in the museum's permanent exhibition. Cabinet storage, dust covers, fan speeds, humidity and temperature control, and pest management are some strategies employed.



*S-21 torture tools and Vann Nath's paintings displayed in building D (TSGM)*

**B.9 Textiles (fragments) individually catalogued (Displayed and in reserve collection)**

Textiles have significant historical value alongside torture tools from the Khmer Rouge era. All the textiles are managed, preserved, and protected by the Conservation Team, and they include items like T-shirts, military uniforms, caps, bags, belts, shoes, silk fragments, and children's dresses, etc.

After seeing that belongings of the victims housed in building “B” were seriously endangered, the management contacted a textile conservation expert to find a solution. Afterwards, the museum met with expert Julia Brennan and requested a textile conservation project from the US Embassy’s Cultural Foundation for Cultural Preservation in Cambodia. This project was carried out from 2018 to 2021. As a result, an inventory of complete textiles was registered by the conservation team, 211 textiles in 22 boxes, including some embroidered with names and symbols. Cleaned textiles that are in good condition have been placed on display in Building “B” on the ground floor. Perishable textiles, on the other hand, are stored in a drying box and stored in the staircase of Building “B”. Daily control is made of humidity, temperature, light and insect infestation by using USB data loggers that are placed where artefacts and textiles are exhibited or stored.

Currently, some textiles are on display in the temporary exhibition in Building A on “Memories of Victims through Clothing: Textile Preservation at Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum” and have received a lot of attention from national and international visitors.



*Girl's dress after conservation (TSGM)*

#### **B.10 Graffiti individually catalogued and locations recorded**

Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum bears witness to a mixture of graffiti, telling the story of its transformation over the years as school, prison and later museum, with three distinct categories of graffiti within its walls, each with its own unique narrative. During research conducted on the topic in 2017, a total of 11,443 inscriptions, or items of graffiti were discovered.

The first category of graffiti goes back to the time when the buildings were still a school. These markings, which are often mathematical formulas and schoolwork related, originated from the hands of students or even teachers. It recalls the facility's initial purpose as an educational institution.

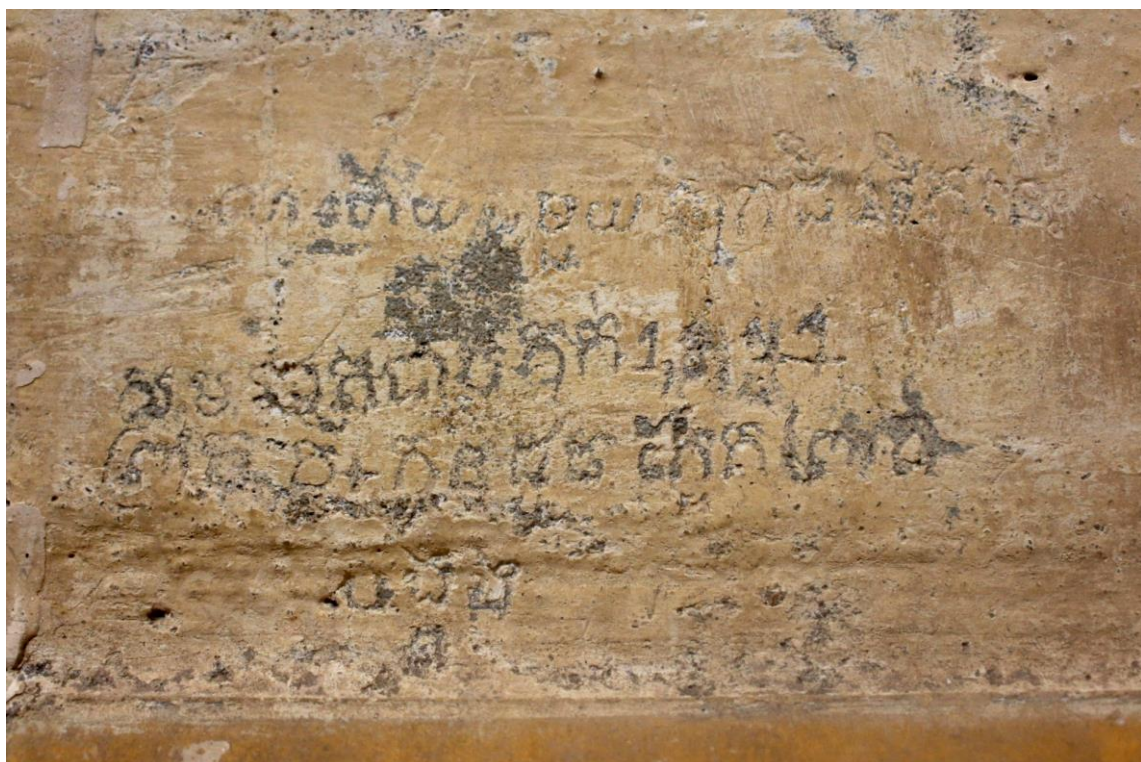


In the period when S-21 was a prison led by Duch, the people detained there and the guards scratched the expressions onto the walls. These writings show a range of emotions, including counting the days they were held captive and asking questions about their situation. Some even created simple drawings, like a picture of the truck that brought them to S-21 or a Khmer Rouge soldier. These graffiti are a powerful reminder of how people can find resilience in the face of despair and in some cases show that they didn't even know why they were detained in the first place. Additionally, some marks were made by the guards for the organisation of the prison, such as indicating where keys should hang on the walls.

The third category involves the period after the prison time, when it became a museum. Visitors have scratched or written on the walls, most typically noting names and dates of their visit.

In the complex mix of graffiti, we see the history of S-21 come to life, connecting aspects of learning, confinement and in the end the impact of visitors over time. The importance of these delicate remnants of history arises as they are the symbol of evidence and need to be valued as witnesses of the authenticity of the site.

The graffiti research project in 2017 included the digitisation and cataloguing of all located graffiti into a database. Unfortunately, most graffiti are today in a vulnerable state. A select few have therefore been covered with protective plexiglass coverings, but the majority remain exposed to the elements and humidity, as well as to the possibility of later modification by new generations and visitors. The danger is that they are gradually fading away due to the aging of the buildings. Additionally, some may have unintentionally been covered or obliterated during the process of setting up offices within the museum in the early years of its existence. Today, the museum's current policy is to minimise any alteration or renovation in order to maintain as far as possible the site's authenticity.



*Graffiti saying "Goodbye to this life! Comrade Chat, I was imprisoned on 1 August 77. Being separated from husband and children like a crow losing its nest". Building A second floor, room 3 (TSGM)*

**B.11 Cemetery (tombs B.11.1 to B.11.14)**

The symbolic cemetery at the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum is located in the first courtyard, right next to Building A. This special memorial features 14 white tombstones, with seven on the left and seven on the right, all placed side by side and shaded by trees.

These tombstones are a memorial for the 14 individuals who were murdered inside the cells of Building A. They were the last victims killed on the final day when S-21 was operational. Afterward, the guards fled the compound, along with some other detainees, a few of whom survived.

The discovery of S-21 occurred a few days later when the Vietnamese army and the Kampuchea United Front for National Salvation liberated the city from the Democratic Kampuchea regime on January 7, 1979. The stench of decomposing bodies led them to the site, where they found the bodies and evidence of the atrocities, which happened there.

Inside the exhibition, there are photographs that show how their bodies were found inside the cells of building A. The tombs themselves were constructed in the early 1980s using soil and then reconstructed in the 1990s with bricks and cement. They have been repainted several times.

Today, the cemetery serves also as the main introduction place for the exhibition circuit adding to the explanation on how the prison was discovered and what occurred here in the last days of the prison and first days after its discovery.



*Cemetery with 14 symbolic tombs in the first courtyard (TSGM)*



**B.12 Memorial Monument and name steles (B.12.1 to B.12.17)**

The Memorial placed in the second courtyard to the northern part of the museum compound is the fourth memorial built in this place, as the former ones collapsed or were damaged by storms. This most recent memorial is the largest in size and construction. It was completed and officially inaugurated on 26 March 2015 and part of the extrajudicial reparations recognised by the ECCC for Case 001 with financial support from the German government through the Victims Support Section.

An inscription in gold letters on the four sides of the Memorial serves as a reminder written in Khmer, English, French and Saying: “Never will we forget the crimes committed during the Democratic Kampuchea Regime”, while on the fourth side is inscribed “Democratic Kampuchea Regime 1975-1979”, also in the same three languages.

At the foot of the memorial and around its base, there are 16 marble stones with the inscription of the names of 12,273 victims. They were identified as having been detained at S-21 and sent to be executed or who died in the prison. Some parts of the marble stones have been left blank without an inscription as they are reserved for the names of other victims who may be discovered in the future. As of today, the research section of the Khmer Rouge Tribunal has found the names of another 5,790 victims. As a result, the total new figure has reached 18,063, but this is still incomplete.

The new memorial does not reflect specific religious beliefs or traditions. Therefore, the followers of all religions may use this site to offer prayers to the victims. Every year, the museum holds various official ceremonies at this memorial with the participation of both government representatives and neighbours, especially on Pchum Ben (Ancestors’ Day) and Day of Remembrance each 20 May.

The first commemoration was held in this place in 1984 when the memorial was still built out of wood with a large ossuary in accordance with Buddhist practice. The commemoration saw huge participation. From that time until today, this has become an area where the public could come to pay tribute to the victims when they visited the museum. This first wooden memorial collapsed in 1999.

The Memorial and the marble stones with the names are in a good condition as they are cleaned and/or painted regularly. A project to inscribe later discovered names will need to be initiated.



*Memorial monument with steles with names of victims (TSGM)*



### B.13 Sculpture

The sculpture in the middle of the garden in the first courtyard is in the form of a man lying in space with his head down and legs slightly raised. It is made of brass on three levels of pedestal 4 metres high and today is on display in the middle of the courtyard in front of Building A and B.

The sculpture was made to commemorate the 17 April 1975, when Khmer Rouge took over and forced population out of Phnom Penh. The artist Ing Séra, who himself was an eyewitness as a child, designed it to be a symbol of overturning the souls of victims in the tragic period of Cambodian history.

The sculpture was conceived as a reparation for Civil Parties at the ECCC in accordance with the final judgment of Case 001 on 7 August 2014 by the French-Cambodian artist Séra (Ing Phusara) and his team. It was funded by Phnom Penh Municipality with contributions by other partners such as the Embassy of France as well as a number of Cambodian and foreign philanthropists. On 7 December 2017 it was launched and displayed by Phnom Penh Municipality at the garden in front of France Embassy before being moved to TSGM.



*Sculpture by Ing Séra to commemorate the forced evacuation from Phnom Penh, in southern courtyard viewed from east (TSGM)*

### B.14 Human Remains (355 crania and bones; inventory being developed)

The museum has in its custody human remains that are displayed in the last exhibition room of the circuit on the ground floor of building D. All human remains, consisting of 355 crania and other bones are kept behind glass, on shelves or columns. Ten of the skulls are displayed individually on identical pedestals built from wooden slats and with a glass case covering them.

The 355 crania and bones displayed at TSGM are not from victims of the former prison S-21. They were brought to the museum from various mass graves in Svay Rieng province, on a date unknown but most probably between 1979 and 1980. The purpose of collecting these remains was to create a map of the territory of Cambodia with skulls and bones arranged to symbolise the loss of millions of lives from all parts of the country. The first photo of this skull map with an identifiable date is from 1981.

The map was on display for more than 20 years until 2002, when it was dismantled upon request by King Norodom Sihanouk that the map be removed due to concerns that it was disrespectful to the deceased. So the map was dismantled, and the bones retained for research and education for future generations. This decision of keeping of the human remains was done according to a circular of the government issued in 2001 on the conservation and preservation of evidence of crimes committed in Khmer Rouge regime. Since the dismantling of the skull map in 2002, these remains have been placed behind glass protection on shelves or in cases, in a reverential setting beside a stupa in the last exhibition room in building D. It was decided to put on the wall a framed photograph of the original map of skulls, and to explain the origin of the human remains displayed at the museum.

The conservation team of the museum is the section responsible for conserving the human remains. However, the team has no expertise on bone conservation, and requires training in this area. Taking into consideration that the remains are exposed to constant high temperatures and humidity, they are in a fair condition and no deterioration has been detected in recent years. Preservation measures include regular light cleaning and setting of insect/rodent baits.



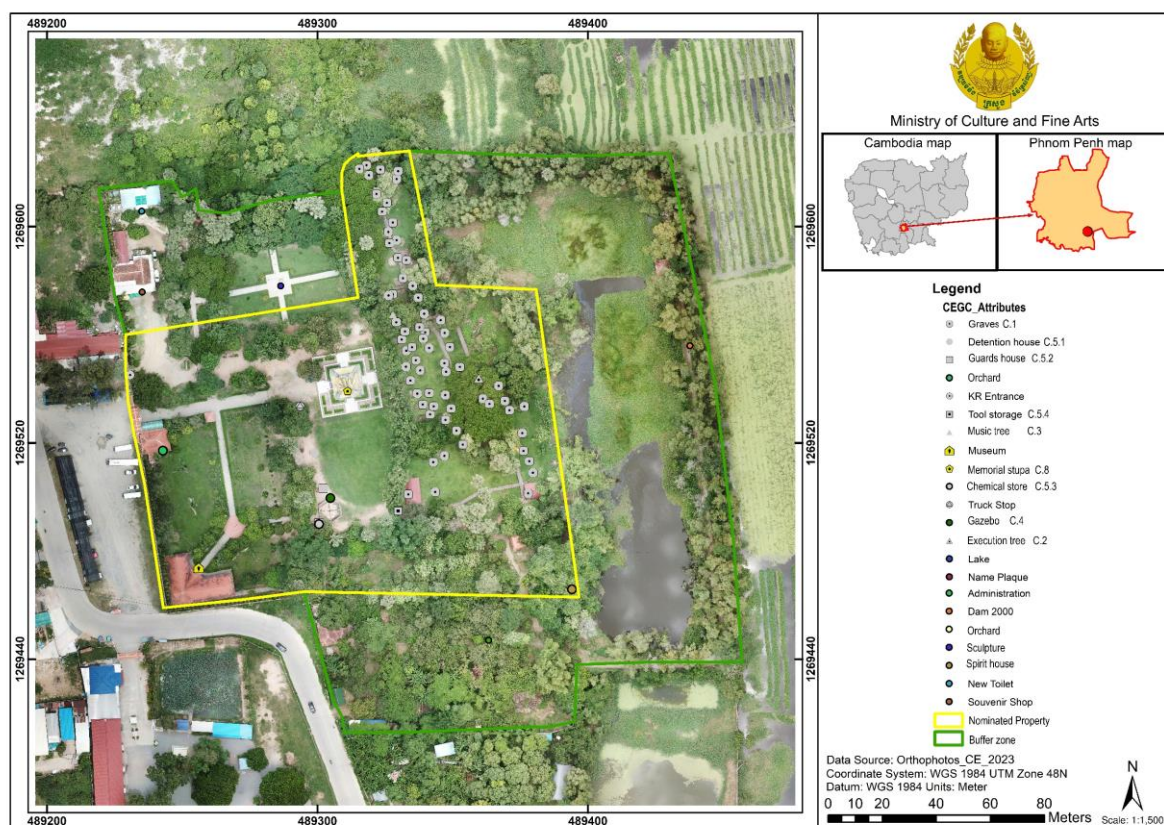
*Small stupa and crania as memorial in Building D (TSGM)*

#### **B.15 Photo boards**

In 2014, two photo display boards were erected on the western side of the Nominated Property. These depict the survivors from S-21, B.15.1 for adults and B.15.2 for children. They are integrated part of the exhibition and measure 5.5m x 7.1m.



## C) Attributes of Choeung Ek Genocidal Center



Map showing the attributes of CEGC, dated 3 May 2023 (TSGM and NASP)

The Choeung Ek Genocidal Center has since 1981 been responsible for the preservation of the mass graves holding the remains of the estimated 18,063 S-21 prisoners who were brought here to be executed. The site was identified by villagers immediately after the Khmer Rouge regime was overthrown and soon afterwards some 129 pits were identified.

The former execution site of S-21 from (operational between 1976 and -1979) is located 15 km outside of Phnom Penh on what had been used for many years as a cemetery for Chinese residents of Phnom Penh. The nominated property includes all the attributes contributing to its claimed Outstanding Universal Value, while the buffer extends to the Genocide Center's surrounding wall, believed to approximate the original boundary of the site. A towering stupa was erected in 1988 to house the human remains, mainly skulls, long bones and clothes. Some 8,985 persons were exhumed from 86 out of the 129 graves (and picked up from the surface) in the 1980s, originally displayed on a wooden rack.

The stupa, inaugurated in 1989, is now the visual core of the memorial site and the central place for memorial commemoration ceremonies. At the very edge of the site, not to detract attention from the original crime site, to the right of the entrance, one-storey buildings have been added to house a museum and rooms for the Center's administration. Pathways and some low fences have also been constructed to prevent visitors from stepping on the graves. At the site entrance, a small building is in use for ticket sales and the handout of an audio guide, also developed in partnership with a private company and offered in 15 languages. On the other side of the entrance is an open space for visitor amenities and an additional memorial. In small stalls visitors can purchase and consume refreshments.





*Glass case displaying human remains (TSGM)*



*Museum with movie room at CEGC (TSGM)*



Outside the entrance gate a large parking area provides space for the high number of visitors' vehicles, including buses and tuk-tuks, and several restaurants serve the needs of the large number of visitors who make the trip from downtown Phnom Penh, numbering 252.035 in 2019 and in 2023 after Covid-19 reaching 161.289.

The nominated property: is 1.8 hectares with a buffer of 4 hectares was used by S-21 as an execution and burial site. Its status is public property under the control of Phnom Penh Municipality, and authorised to function as the Choeung Ek Genocidal Center, under a management agreement with a private company, JC Royal Co. Ltd., on 18 March 2005 (statement by Office of the Council of Minister, 7 April 2005).

Land Expansion and Dam Protection Plan Map showing the location of the Choeung Ek Genocidal Center in Sangkat Choeung Ek, Khan Dangkor, Phnom Penh, and the Department of Land Management, Urban Planning, Construction and Cadastral Affairs of Phnom Penh, no date.

Attributes of Choeung Ek Genocidal Center		
Archaeological findings	C.1	Visible mass graves (C.1.1 to C.1.64)
	C.2	Execution tree
	C.3	Music tree
Built heritage	C.4	Gazebo
	C.5	Sheds (location) (C.5.1 to C.5.4)
Human Remains	C.6	Crania individually catalogued and bone fragments (displayed in stupa)
Artefacts	C.7	Execution tools and textiles (Displayed in museum and glass cases). Inventory to be completed.
Memorialisation	C.8	Memorial stupa
	C.9	Archives of CEGC

In 1976, Duch chose Choeung Ek site as the execution and grave site for victims from S-21. The former execution site of the S-21 prison is today a vast site mainly made of archaeological findings that make the mass graves, human remains and execution tools, and additional interpretation and memorialisation.

### C.1 Visible mass graves

Between 1981 and 1983, Department of Propaganda and Culture had discovered 129 mass graves. Of these, 86 mass graves were exhumed and 8,985 human remains discovered.

There are three noticeable mass graves with the highest number of crania (450), with no skulls (166) and the grave of women and children (100). It is believed that the untouched 43 graves contain the human remains of not more than 10 killed people in each one.

In 2000, the Phnom Penh Municipality created the dam around the site to protect the mass graves from flooding. Until 2008, Choeung Ek Genocidal Center restored the pond to be able to store the water to protect the mass graves. Today, only 64 mass graves are visible; however, these are still facing the challenge because it is getting shallow after the rain and bones surfacing.



*Visible mass graves (TSGM)*

## **C.2 Execution Tree**

A Chan Kiri (lat. *samanea saman*) tree, known as the Execution Tree, is located behind the memorial, near the grave of around 100 bodies of women and children. According to the testimony of Duch, “Children were caught by legs with their head thrown to the tree.” In January 1979, after the overthrow of Democratic Kampuchea, a witness who first discovered Choeung Ek said “[...] As I walked further east, I saw a tree stump with blood stains and some remains all over the tree like hair and brain. [...]”

Since the Royal Government of Cambodia organised the Choeung Ek site to be a memorial site, the Chan Kiri tree has been preserved as evidence of the Khmer Rouge atrocities, and today many visitors have followed a practice of hanging bracelets and toys on the tree in order to honour the souls of child victims who lost their lives here.

## **C.3 Music Tree**

Another witness who found the site on 9 January 1979 said he saw loudspeakers hanging on the Chrey tree (commonly known as *bayan fig*). These loudspeakers were reportedly used to play music during the executions, in order to cover up the victims' painful cries. The tree is located behind the memorial stupa and a sign designates it as the "Magic tree".





Music or "Magic" tree (TSGM)

#### C.4 Gazebo

Still existing from pre-Khmer Rouge time is a kiosk or gazebo built out of concrete, with the roof held up by 5 pillars, probably used as a shelter for visitors to the cemetery. During its time as the execution site of S-21, the gazebo continued to be used by the guards.



Gazebo from pre-Khmer Rouge time, in 2023 (TSGM)



### C.5 Sheds (C.5.1 to C.5.4)

During its utilisation as an execution site by the S-21 prison staff, four simple wooden sheds were added to the site which, with the exception of Shed 2, were all built directly on ground level (not raised on stilts like traditional Khmer wooden houses). *Shed 1* was on the western side of the site, and measured about 9 x 20 metres, and was around 2 metres high, with a corrugated iron roof, with a door facing north, and no windows. In this shed, there were 4 rows of iron chains that were near a central pillar and the walls. This place was used by the guards as a detention house and to check the names of the victims before other staff took them to be killed at the pits. *Shed 2* was located at the south of the detention shed. This structure was reportedly on stilts and used for guard accommodation. *Shed 3* had a corrugated roof and wall on its southern side. It measured about 4 x 4 metres and had a door but no windows. Many bags filled with white DDT powder and Antrin were found in the this? shed when it was discovered in 1979. *Shed 4* had a corrugated roof and walls. It was about 4 x 4 metres and was located on the eastern side of the chemical store. In that shed, handcuffs and shackles were found.



*Reported location of chemical store (shed 3) and reconstruction sketch with audio tour stop (TSGM)*

### C.6 Human Remains: 6,426 crania individually catalogued and bone fragments (displayed in stupa)

Between 1981 and 1983, the Ministry of Culture (Kandal Province) excavated 86 mass graves and the people buried there were counted. The result was 8,985. This number of victims is quoted in other reports on Choeung Ek (see Hughes 2006, Veneciano and Hinton 2007). At that moment, the crania and bones were saved in a wooden stupa at the Choeung Ek site.

According to the “Choeung Ek Conservation of Victims at Killing Fields” Project conducted between August 2013 to December 2015, the project processed a total of 6,426 crania plus 63,112 other skeletal elements including long bones, vertebrae, pelvis, etc. for their evaluation and conservation.



The data collection included the measurement and observation of all bones, to determine age and sex, evidence of violent trauma. All this data was recorded in a database, and the bones consolidated to preserve for the future. At the same time, the Memorial Stupa where the human remains are stored was renewed, namely the exhibition cases and the fixing of other structural challenges. The improvement in the way the victims' bones were displayed, the addition of new labels to educate the visitors on the evidences of trauma and the ways of killing improved significantly the preservation of the human remains but also the visitor experience.

The visitor can today not only see the human remains stored and exhibited in the main central stupa of the compound, but also in the mass graves of the visitation circuit.

While the human remains stored in the stupa underwent a professional conservation process during the project from 2013 and 2015, the biggest challenge is today the surfacing of human remains from the mass graves during the rainy season.



*Human remains in memorial stupa (TSGM)*

### C.7 Execution Tools and textiles (Displayed in museum and glass cases)

According to testimony at the ECCC, the prisoners were brought by truck and then walked to a wooden house where they were held awaiting execution. They were beaten to death by using tools such as bamboo sticks, cart axles, steel rods, hoes, spades, palm knives and axes, etc. After 1979, most tools were taken to be used by people who live nearby.

Some similar tools were collected from the former S-21 prison or elsewhere for display at Choeung Ek Genocide Center as evidence to show the visitors how the Khmer Rouge executed prisoners at the former S-21 or other execution sites throughout Cambodia.

At several locations around the site are placed display cases containing clothing of the victims, as well as bones, handcuffs, blindfolds, ropes and chains, etc.



*Torture tools and other artefact in glass case (TSGM)*

### C.8 Memorial Stupa

In 1988 a memorial was built at Choeung Ek to remember people who were killed here at the hands of the Khmer Rouge according to a Khmer funeral style monument (stupa) and with an ornate pavilion-style roof with coloured decorative tiling. It incorporates a glass chamber with human remains.

The monument is one of a few designed by architect Lim Ourk, who also designed the Cambodia-Vietnam Friendship Monument in Phnom Penh.

The five stages in the middle section of the uppermost roof portion of Choeung Ek symbolise the five rings of subsidiary mountains around Meru, the sacred mountain of Buddhist cosmology. In accordance with this cosmological composition, the central pillar which emerges from the Memorial's roof is the axis mundi, the "world mountain" or "pivot of the universe" evident in traditional stupa structures. Here are displayed 6426 crania and other bones from in what has become one of the most well-known symbols of the crimes of the Khmer Rouge regime, and this is the central focus for memorial ceremonies, notably on 20 May each year.



*Memorial stupa (TSGM)*

### **C.9 Archives of CEGC**

No documentation was produced at this site during its time as execution place because all documentation was held at S-21 where all the administrative offices were located. Since it has been discovered as the execution site, a number of written and photographic document have been generated such as reports on forensic analysis, construction of the stupa and its functioning as memorial site. These documents have not collated into a coherence archive.



## COMMEMORATION EVENTS

People come from all over the country as well as local people, government officials, relevant authorities, students, national tourists and international tourists to make offerings and pray for the victims who lost their lives at former killing or memorial sites. These activities of traditional, religious, spirituality and cultural festival, express that Cambodian people are well aware of the horror of the Khmer Rouge regime and do not want a recurrence. By taking traditional rituals to soothe feelings and pain and their loss, people believe that the victims who lost their lives in Khmer Rouge can rest in peace.

### 20 May Remembrance Day

The 20 May Remembrance Day, is a long-established national holiday marked by significant ceremonies in Phnom Penh and provinces throughout the country, acknowledging the hundreds of thousands of deaths attributable to the Khmer Rouge regime. It is not tied to seasonal or lunar cycles, as is the case for other major Cambodian observances, such as Pchum Ben, the Water Festival, Kathen and the Royal Ploughing Ceremony.

Ceremonies involve wreath laying, song, prayer, ritual offerings to the dead, poetry and speeches by local officials. Survivors of Democratic Kampuchea are asked to come forward at the ceremony to testify to crimes known to them and to speak of their personal losses. In 1999, 2000, 2001 till present day May 20<sup>th</sup> ceremonies at Choeung Ek, promoted by the Phnom Penh municipality have again drawn large crowds to the Choeung Ek Memorial.

The ceremonies were commenced in 1984, coordinated by the Kampuchea United Front for Salvation (Renakse), following a resolution passed by the National Assembly in 1983. Ministries and provincial and district authorities, factories, schools, hospitals and other enterprises, are instructed to make banners and posters condemning the crimes committed by the Pol Pot regime. The 20 May ceremonies at Choeung Ek, promoted by the Phnom Penh municipality are the largest in the country.



*Prayer ceremony on 6 January 2022 (CEGC)*





*Making offerings to the monks at TSGM on 20 May 2023 (TSGM)*

### **Pchum Ben Ceremony**

Pchum Ben (Ancestors' Day) is commemorated by many Cambodians today, remembering and grieving for family and friends, in particular those lost under Democratic Kampuchea. This ancient commemoration takes place at the local pagoda of villages and cities throughout Cambodia. It is a fifteen-day period during which offerings are made to the spirits of ancestors.

The monks receive food, drinks and other offerings as intermediaries between the living and the spirits of the dead. Spirits are believed to search for offerings from family throughout the Pchum Ben period, and traditionally families visit seven pagodas over the festival period to ensure the wellbeing of their hungry and restless ancestors.

Pchum Ben ceremony is also observed at former execution sites and memorials throughout the country, independently whether at a pagoda or not. From the very early moments when the prison S-21 and the execution site at Choeung Ek were discovered, people living locally in the district visited for both Pchum Ben and Khmer New Year. There are ceremonies planned to be held at the former M-13 prison site as of 2024.

One explanation for the popularity of Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum and Choeung Ek Genocidal Center as a site for Pchum Ben is the large and chaotic dispersion of the people throughout Khmer Rouge regime period, so consequently the true resting places of many people remain unknown to their families. In this way, the sites allow for the performance of rites for spirits who lack a proper place of death.

At Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, Pchum Ben takes place always with participation of Ministers and high officials from the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts, as well as from other ministries involved in the nomination process of the Cambodian Memorial Sites.

### **Khmer New Year (dedication ceremony)**

Khmer New Year (Choul Chnam Thmey or Moha Sangkranta) is celebrated over three days starting from the 13th or 14th of April, which coincides with the end of the harvesting season. Khmer New Year is a precious time for Cambodian people to gather for ceremonies with family, friends, and their community. It is celebrated throughout Cambodia and is rooted in Buddhist traditions.

Khmer New Year is also celebrated at Choeung Ek, especially for people living nearby. The major thing to do for people who visit Choeung Ek is to pray and to remind their memories of the loss of their loved ones in the Khmer Rouge regime.



*Making offerings to the monks at TSGM for Khmer New Year in 2018 (TSGM)*

### **Individual spiritual ceremonies**

Individual spiritual ceremonies are performed by Cambodian people and some foreign visitors as well. They are often performed at memorials and grave sites around the country, especially where people's relatives are believed to have died. Such meditation is intended to assist calmness and to relieve pain. In addition, traditional culture and spiritual religious ceremonies are held frequently, especially on holy days, in front of stupas, at wats, temples and other religious sites.

People often place a lotus flower nearby the Memorial stupa or lights incense to pay their last respects to the victims of the three-year, eight-month, and 20-day regime. So do also official delegations visit that the sites, depositing for example lotus flowers to the memorial monument at TSGM or the stupa at CEGC.

## 1.6. Statements of Integrity and Authenticity

### Statement of Integrity

The overall nominated serial property includes all the elements necessary to satisfy the conditions of integrity. The three component parts have varied levels of integrity but retain a significant proportion of the physical fabric and features required to express the totality of the property's potential Outstanding Universal Value. The Cambodian Memorial Sites illustrate the essential stages of the Khmer Rouge security system and are of adequate size to express the repressive processes of imprisonment, interrogation, torture and execution. The property retains the features needed to support the on-going dynamic function of memorialisation essential to its distinctive character. The buffer zones support the proposed values, containing landscape features associated with the historical events. Each of the component parts of the nominated property or buffer has a defined boundary corresponding as close as can be ascertained to the original fencing line during the Khmer Rouge period, and their buffer zones adequately protect the Outstanding Universal Value and are regulated by the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts and governing municipalities.

### Statement of authenticity

The nominated sites contain physical, written and oral information sources which make it possible to know the history, nature and meaning of the Khmer Rouge Security system. The information sources are rather more abundant for the former S-21 prison and its execution grounds. The material evidence of the physical attributes has been well documented using maps, photographs, archaeology, exhumation of human remains and witness accounts; the security system processes have also been confirmed through oral testimony. In particular, the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum Archives, now listed in UNESCO's Memory of World International Register, reveal in intricate detail the structure and composition of the Khmer Rouge security apparatus. In addition, the judicial records of the international Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) confirm the truthfulness of the tangible and intangible attributes of the property.

The combination of the three sites together represents a significant level of authenticity collectively as well as for each individual site. The component parts along with their buffers are the best representative of the Cambodian Memorial Sites with attributes that convey the Outstanding Universal Value in terms of the human rights abuses inflicted by the Khmer Rouge security system from amongst the hundreds of such sites spread across the country.



## CHAPTER 2: PRESENT STATE OF THE PROPERTY AND PROTECTION

### 2.1 Requirements of the Sites: Protection and Management

<b>Institutional framework: authority /agency</b>	<b>Mandated roles and responsibilities</b>	<b>Legislative or regulatory framework</b>	<b>Site-specific protection by legal framework</b>
Royal Government of Cambodia	The State has the obligation to preserve and protect ancient temples, ancient art, and to restore historical sites.	Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia adopted on 24 September 1993	The CMS are protected by law and cannot be destroyed nor altered, and their conservation is to be promoted
Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts	<p>Preservation and protection of monument or historical heritage, revolutionary artefacts, especially related to genocide crime.</p> <p>Define and decide the management and protection of cultural heritage, historical sites and natural monuments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Law Decree No. 21 KRC dated 18 March 1985 on the Management of Cultural Heritage, Historical Sites and Natural Monuments</li> <li>- Royal Decree on Establishment of Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts (1996)</li> <li>- Law on the Protection of Cultural Heritage (1996)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- specific protection of sites of former prisons and any other criminal evidences</li> <li>- MCFA is responsible for preserving and restoring criminal historical sites</li> <li>- citizens are called to participate in the protection of historical sites</li> <li>- urge importance of preservation and protection of historical sites</li> </ul>
Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction	<p>To protect and enhance any site or immovable property that will provide archaeological, historical, cultural, aesthetic, or technical benefits.</p> <p>To collaborate with the MCFA to protect heritage and historical sites (any construction is regulated by the Law on the Protection of Heritage).</p>	Law on Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction, dated 23 May 1994	No construction of high buildings in the vicinity of historical heritage sites allows. Maximum of 14m height in the vicinity of TSGM

Inter-Ministerial Committee, Chaired by the Minister of Culture and Fine Arts	To support the nomination process and to meet the requirements and issues related to it. Composed of representatives of the Office of the Council of Ministers, nine Ministries and three Municipalities.	Government Decision 53SSR of 17 July 2023	-Ensure legal protection of the zoning of the three component parts, nominated property and buffer zone
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### Cultural Heritage Sites

The three sites are cultural heritage sites included in the official inventory of state property and therefore protected by law.

Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum is an Office under the Department of Museums of the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts responsible to safeguard the former S-21 prison site in Phnom Penh. In 2019, the museum requested the intervention of the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts to preserve the site of the former M-13 prison at Kampong Chhnang Province. Today, the former M-13 prison site is managed by Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, with a dedicated team in charge.

Choeung Ek Genocidal Center was placed under direct control of the Phnom Penh Municipality administration in the 1980s and the management is subcontracted to a private company (JC Royal Company Ltd.)

## 2.2. Present State of Property

The three component parts of the nominated property are in an unequal state of conservation and are affected by different factors. While one site is in the countryside, the others are within the urban setting of the fast-growing capital of Cambodia. Also, they are in different stages of conservation and memorialisation. M-13, although open for visitation upon prior permission, is still under development.

Due to the fact that M-13 prison was from the very beginning conceived as a secret place built from natural construction material such as bamboo or literally by digging spaces into the ground, the conservation status here is rather poor as nature has simply grown and taken over again. On the other hand, the S-21 prison was installed in a former high-school building built in the 1960s out of concrete. The state of conservation is quite good for the building, but the documents and artefacts require careful attention as they were exposed to air and climate for many years, before professional archival and conservation teams were formed and a laboratory installed. The conservation status of Choeung Ek Genocidal Center, the former execution site of S-21 is somewhere in between, in that the execution pits are still topographically visible as are traces of human remains, but no traces of wooden structures from that time have survived.

In sum, the Cambodian Memorial Sites could be considered to be in a stable state of conservation, with some specific parts in a relatively poorer condition requiring prioritised attention.

**A) Former M-13 prison**

As mentioned, M-13 prison was constructed and operated during the civil war period and it had rather a temporary character, ready to be moved to another place when needed. So, the pits for keeping the prisoners as well as other facilities, were simply dug into the ground, camouflaged by roofs made of natural vegetation. All supporting facilities, such as the kitchen or guard tower were constructed of light perishable bamboo, wood or palm fronds. The component part being nominated was abandoned in 1975, and nature took it back. After 1979 people scavenged for metal or other valuables on the surface as well as foraging for bamboo and wood, collecting water etc. Consequently, today no above-ground elements remain visible, although archaeological traces are being discovered and excavated.

According to testimony from witnesses, the current boundary of the component part remains the same today and the people in the local community still remember and know the location of M-13 well thanks to the existence of the Kraing Ponley stream and Trapeang Chrap pond, used by some of them for water or fishing. But other people in the local community prefer not to use these waters because of their spiritual significance, perhaps out of respect for those who perished here, or even because they may contain human remains.

Since the late 1980s, the nominated property has been in private ownership, no work or construction activity has been carried out on the site. From 2017 onwards, the MCFA has appointed TSGM to undertake outreach to the local students and community, raising awareness of the historical value of the site and its need to be preserved for future generations. It was only in early 2019, when it became known that the owner planned to make use of the land for agriculture, that the site was cleared of bamboo, trees and undergrowth by surface ploughing. Fortunately this ploughing was not deep, so it did not penetrate to the ground level of the time when the prison M-13 was operating. A first assessment after the clearing brought to light traces of the former prison and some objects that are believed to have been used at the prison, including a foot shackle. In the same year, the MCFA was able to purchase this land and an archaeological surface collection was done with staff from TSGM and the Departments of Archaeology and Heritage of the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts, with support from experts from Flinders University, Australia.

From 2020 to 2022, TSGM conducted oral history and documentary research and outreach to students. Prior to any further archaeological investigation, TSGM requested assistance from the Cambodian Mine Action Centre to check for and clear away any UXO or mines, several of which were found and successfully removed.

Then in June 2023, GPS and archaeological surveys involving Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) were undertaken, with test trenches dug in the detention and interrogation pits. At the end of this recent archaeological examination, official boundary pillars were erected to delimit the site, marking its protection by the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts.

Thanks to this examination of the site by experts, surface collection and interviews with former prisoners and prison staff, neighbours and other informants we have identified traces of the functionalities of the prison: pits for detention and interrogation, the boundary (former bamboo thicket) and other spots, such as open-air kitchen, vegetable plots, places for torture and killing, and likely mass graves. It is important to mention that informants have also reported the location of execution sites and mass graves both within the nominated property and just outside the boundary (not yet confirmed by archaeology).



In conclusion, the present state of this property can be regarded as being in a very early stage of being investigated and although plans exist, no memorialization or interpretation of the site has been done yet. Equally for the construction of visitation facilities. These have not yet been constructed, as these are to be decided and developed in close cooperation with the villagers living nearby.

## **B) Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (former S-21 prison)**

### **Landscape and setting**

When the school was built (in 1962), it was placed at the then outskirts of Phnom Penh, in a not very densely populated area. The surrounding houses were small to middle size with gardens. During the Khmer Rouge period no houses were added and many of the existing ones were abandoned, as all inhabitants were forced to leave town in April 1975. Over the intervening half century, most of the houses of that time have been changed or enlarged. In addition, many new houses were added, not leaving space for large yards or gardens anymore. The urbanisation pressure in Phnom Penh is increasingly high in Boeung Keng Kang III (the name of the commune), even in the direct neighbourhood of Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum.

The former site of S-21 included not only the former school compound, but a much larger space in the central area of the (then empty) city of Phnom Penh. The central attribute that supports the Outstanding Universal Value is the former Tuol Svay Prey High School. It was the core of the prison and the compound where prisoners were detained. The former primary school nearby was used by the prison staff, most likely as a communal kitchen and eating place. Other individual houses were used for interrogation and torture, offices and killing (including the bleeding of prisoners), as well as staff accommodation. From testimonies, some of these houses could be identified later, but not all. None of the houses outside of the former Tuol Svay Prey high school compound have been placed under protection, some of them have been modified or even demolished, and are in private hands. The former primary school compound has been demolished and new buildings were constructed on that land. Since 1995 the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum has responsibility only for the care of the former Tuol Svay Prey High School compound.

The prison was discovered just a few days after the liberation of Phnom Penh on 7 January 1979. Among the first persons to step into the abandoned prison site were two cameramen from the Vietnamese army, who immediately filmed what they saw. This footage is an incredibly valuable source. Thanks to this, how the site looked at the very end of the prison time is well documented. Later the two cameramen were interviewed at length, and other filmmakers and photographers came soon after. Thanks to these visual references, we can conclude that the core of the prison, which is this component part of, the nominated property looks the same as when it was discovered in January 1979.

Furthermore, the Cambodian government decided immediately to safeguard the site, first turning it into an investigation office and soon afterwards into a museum. Documents and objects were preserved, the core of the site protected, and the remaining buildings and artefacts documented.

### **Built heritage**

As outlined above, the overall site of the former high-school compound that was later turned into a prison has not changed much. The five main buildings still exist, and no major changes have been realised in the last decades. The boundary of the former school compound, the later core of the S-21 prison, has also not changed.

Tuol Svey Prey High School included four 3-storey buildings (named A-D) and one administrative 1-storey building in the middle (E). Adjacent to this building a small yard was covered with a wooden roof and two rooms were added for the use of the prison administration (F). All these buildings still exist until today.

Early conservation efforts are not known, as there is no extant documentation. But since 2015 several projects have focused on compiling detailed documentation of the state of conservation and history of the buildings and its rooms, especially to plan for further conservation and repair needs.

The Risk Mapping completed in 2021 was the first (known) attempt to assess the state of conservation of the entire former school/prison buildings and to identify the preservation needs of the entire ensemble.

### **The artefacts**

The same sources that provide evidence of the buildings, also document the small number of artefacts remaining from S-21. In addition to the footages and photographs – showing piles of items such as documents, paintings, padlocks, torture tools, photographs, negatives, furniture, clothes – the very few survivors have also testified about objects and tools that were utilised at S-21.

From these sources we know that in the first years of the museum (from 1979 onwards), a great number of objects were still on the site. The photos of the first exhibitions show for example a huge pile of clothes and other objects on display. In the following decades many artefacts were lost. Only in 2014 the then newly appointed director, Chhay Visoth, founded a section for conservation and asked the staff to create a first inventory, documenting, describing, and photographing all objects. These objects are now either on display or preserved in a secure storage room.

### **Documents from the S-21 prison time**

In addition to the footage and photographs, the very few surviving eyewitnesses have testified about the abundance of paper documents that were produced and found at S-21 prison when it was discovered. Some of the documents left behind at the former S-21 prison were lost because they were scattered through various buildings within the huge compound of the former prison, and anecdotal reports state that documents were used as wrapping paper for goods sold at the nearby Tuol Tompong Market. Currently, the museum still continues to appeal to the public who may have any documents left behind by the Khmer Rouge regime to hand them over to the museum to be kept for further research and dissemination.

The majority of the 390,000 documents that are today stored in the archive of the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, are in fair or good condition, but approximately 30% need some attention. The Archives Preservation and Digitization Project carried out with UNESCO between 2018 and 2021 classified around 110,000 documents being in fragile or very fragile status (mould, acidic, water damage or torn). Their status is however now relatively stable since a closed archive protected from external climatic influence was established in 1994, and air conditioning and automatic regulation of temperature and humidity with system since 2021.

### **C) Choeung Ek Genocidal Center (former execution site of S-21)**

#### **Landscape and setting**

The overall state of conservation of the setting was compromised because local people initially took wood from the sheds to reuse it as building materials for their homes. There are no remaining original buildings from the time when the site was used as an execution site. However, the principal evidence of the mass crimes that were committed here remain, such as the mass graves and the human remains. So, we can say that the key attributes of the site have been preserved, although in a challenging state of conservation as exposed to direct weather conditions.

Several small amenities buildings were constructed and the site was turned into a memorial park, adding wooden pathways and low fences to prevent visitors from walking over or between the mass graves and therefore adding to their state of conservation.

#### **The pits/mass graves**

The state of conservation of the mass graves represents a challenge. Being not fully protected against the weather, the pits are changing their size, becoming filled up with soil and water, and pieces of bones and textile are regularly surfacing. Diverse forensic projects that have been undertaken are described in separate reports.

#### **Human Remains and Artefacts**

On 7 January 1989, a newly created stupa was inaugurated to hold the remains of some skulls, as well as bones and other items left over from the prisoners (like pieces of clothes). Additionally, there are another two glass cases displaying textile remains and tools found on the site. The textiles have been treated, but no professional conservation has been realised. Other textile fragments are regularly surfacing with during rainy season.

The state of conservation of human remains stored and displayed in the stupa is stabilised but needs urgent attention with professional measures in place. Although there is a curtain that protects the remains partly from the sun, there are others still exposed to it and there is no system for the regular control of light, humidity and temperature in place.

## **2.3. Previous Works Undertaken**

### **A) Former M-13 Prison**

The results of the most recent archaeological work done in June 2023 suggest further efforts towards conserving the nominated property, the settings and specifically the pits and the mass grave/s (such as further investigation of traces of the boundary, more precise identification of the function of the different points inside the former prison compound).

The objects that have been found on the compound of the former prison, were taken to the TSGM conservation lab and have been documented (See Excavation List of M-13) and some preliminary stabilisation measures taken. This is being done after consultation with the local community and the local authorities, who have agreed that any objects found on the former M-13 prison site should be kept temporarily in the TSGM until the official memorialisation of the site.

In order to preserve and ensure the safety of the site, it is planned to take measures to control flooding from the stream. Additionally, the pits need to be regularly cleared of growing plants and



new deposits of soil, to keep them from becoming erased over time. These activities will further make sure that the overall view is not compromised, and the water pond is respected.

## **B) Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (former S-21 prison)**

Major preservation and conservation projects related to the buildings:

1984	Restoration work: repairing the fence along Street 113, replacing corrugated iron sheets and installation of new wooden posts, respecting the original material; construction of new fences along Streets 360 and Street 310.
1995	Roofs of building A, B, E and F were changed from fibre cement to corrugated iron.
2000	Repairing cracked walls, cantilevers, damaged and decayed doors and windows in four buildings, then installing a drainage system and pavement around the buildings.
2000	Building D underwent a major overhaul, with new cement floor tiles on ground floor, doors, windows and re-painting of southern exterior wall.
2010	Renovation work: After a storm in 2010, all roofs of the four buildings from the wooden roof frame to the corrugated iron roof were replaced. The new roof is made of corrugated iron and the ceiling has been changed from corrugated iron mesh to plaster and a floor tile arrangement has been arranged at the back of Building A.
2017	Replacing and relocating the historical photos in Building A.
2019	Graffiti research project at TSGM (investigations of all walls and inscriptions)
2020	Restoration of all window and door shutters (SFF project funded by BMZ Germany).
2021	Repair doors and windows of buildings "A" and "C and repairing barbed wire according to Risk mapping of all buildings.

Measures related to the objects of former S-21 prison:

2014	Creation of an initial inventory
2018	Preservation and reparation of the remaining items of victims clothing.
2019	Textile preservation project (completed in 2021)
2020	Risk assessment of artefacts on display
2021	Full inventory of all artefacts at TSGM
2021	Temporary exhibition on textile preservation project

Measures related to the archives and documentation:

1979	Collecting of documents for the People's Revolutionary Tribunal
1979-85	Safeguarding and rearranging of the documents in the archive
1991-1993	Microfilming the parts of the S-21 collection
1993-1994	Cleaning and reprinting the S-21 photos
1995-6	Digitisation of photographs, posted on the internet
1994-2019	Incremental indexing and creation of catalogues and databases
2008/2009	International recognition of the archives, Inscription in the UNESCO Memory of the World international and Asia Pacific regional registers
2018-2021	UNESCO Archives Preservation and Digitization project. More than 400,000 pages of documents were conserved under the Preservation and Digitization Project, sponsored by the Korea International Cooperation Agency in Cambodia through UNESCO.
2020-2021	Subject of the master thesis of Song Pheaktra, head of archives
2021-2022	Implementation of an archive management system with a museum component

**Measures related to Memorialisation**

Annually	Ceremonies to commemorate the victims on 20 May and during Pchum Ben
2015	Memorial monument with steles with names of 12,272 S-21 victims (replacing former monuments that have collapsed)
2018	Sculpture by Ieng Séra in the first courtyard of the compound in remembrance of the forced evacuation of the population from Phnom Penh

**C) Choeung Ek Genocidal Center (former execution site of S-21)**

9 Jan 1979	Discovery of the execution site by a former local resident. Over the first few months, the four sheds, fences and other items were removed by the locals for their own use.
Sept 1980	Official declaration of discovery by the government, documented by Agence Kampuchea Presse.
1981	Exhumation activities started, and crania placed in a newly created wooden rack (later removed).
1983	Result of exhumation project: 8,985 skulls from 86 out of 129 identified mass graves.
1988-1989	Three main mass graves were fenced and covered with wooden roofs.
1 May 1988	Start of the building of the main stupa.
7 Jan 1989	Inauguration of the stupa on 10th anniversary of the liberation and opening for public.
1991	Adding of office and administrative buildings.
2002	DC-Cam Forensics Project by Dr. Michael S. Pollanen involved a preliminary distance visual inspection of crania in the stupa.
2006	Building of a new main entrance, concrete fence, adding information panels.
2008	Building the museum, the ticket office, toilet, visitor seating with roof.
2009	Creating a drainage system and provision of glass display cases for textile, bones, and other artefacts.
2010	Office added for museum staff.
2011	Introduction of audio-tour and construction of a new information centre
2012-2015	Choeung Ek Conservation of Victims at Killing Fields Project by the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts.
2015	Parking area added outside the perimeter wall.
2016	Creation of further pathways and repair of glass cases in museum.
2017	Construction of a warehouse and storage.
2019	Rescue archaeological dig was carried out before the construction of an additional memorial ("Mourning woman with small child"), no human remains were found, but ancient pottery shards were found.
2019	Addition of eating and drinking facilities.
2020	Inauguration of the sculpture ("Mourning woman with small child").
2020	Addition of more toilet blocks.

## 2.4. Threats: Issues and Gaps

The three component parts are affected differently as they are in very different settings. Although M-13 is in the countryside and the other two component parts in an urban setting, all three sites are under strong development pressures, as in all Cambodia, especially due to construction of new buildings and possible new roads. Furthermore, all three sites are equally exposed to the challenging weather conditions in Cambodia with heavy rains during the rainy season that brings along flooding and mud, and on the other side high temperatures along widely varying levels of humidity, which affects any material directly or indirectly exposed, such as building material, metal or wooden artefacts, documentation, photographs, textiles, human remains, mass graves and pits.

In general, the Cambodian Memorial Sites could be considered to be safe, with the exception of recurrent specific climatic threats requiring urgent attention due to the geographical location, and anticipation of the effects of climate change.

### A) Former M-13 prison

Although located in the countryside 90 km from Phnom Penh, it is still subject to development resulting from increases in land prices throughout Cambodia. The development pressure within and in the immediate surroundings of the nominated property and its buffer zone is not (yet) so high, but this may change in the near future, as Cambodia is a fast-growing country and it is also yet to be seen how the construction in this rural area will develop.

More non-farming activities are likely to be seen in the area that can change the landscape further. Already now, it is hard to imagine that this was deep forest in the prison time, which was the actual reason for its location, to keep it secret.

The river is not only at risk due to natural factors, but by nearby sand mining activities. Efforts are being made to protect the stream in the immediate surrounds to halt such activities or at least ensure that they do not affect the heritage site.

No memorialisation is yet on the spot, as the site is not yet open nor curated for visitors. But the more the site is being promoted and becomes known, the more visitors will come. Visitor facilities will be kept outside the historical site.

### B) Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (former S-21 prison)

The site is in the centre of Boeung Keng Kang III commune of Phnom Penh, the fast developing and expanding capital of Cambodia.

As this district is now part of the city centre, the urbanisation pressure is very high, as described above. The main issues are the change of the former setting and neighbourhood of the site due to further constructions changing the character of the city (before no high buildings, buildings mainly out of wood, no paved roads, no electricity lines, etc.) and the additional risk of fire through nearby buildings. The museum is equipped with firefighting equipment including a fire suppression system for the archives. Emergency training is addressed in the management plan.

In terms of human impact, it is important to mention that the museum opens every day throughout the year without a break and is one of the most visited places in Phnom Penh by visitors. In 2019, there were over 500,000 visitors, or approximately 1,300 per day. This number decreased during Covid-19 but is likely to even grow higher in future. Obviously, this has also an impact on the



community in the immediate vicinity, with traffic challenges in the narrow streets at the entrance of the museum and high number of visitors in the surrounding restaurants/small (family) businesses.



*Development pressure is high in the city centre of Phnom Penh, but under control for the limitation of high buildings in the immediate surroundings of TSGM (TSGM)*

The high numbers of visitors are further creating a problem in the rooms by walking through (and stepping on) them and touching the walls (obscuring wall and inscriptions) and objects and adding graffiti (a form of vandalism).

We may include here the impact from internal demands by the museum organisation itself, such as the need to use some of the former prison rooms as offices, laboratories, storage room, meeting rooms. Changes have been kept to a minimum, limited for instance to adding windowpanes, air conditioning units, electricity, etc. and care has been given to avoid erasing traces and to respecting the character of the rooms.

**C) Choeung Ek Genocidal Center (former execution site of S-21)**

Although the location is 15 km far from Phnom Penh, land prices are rising fast in Cambodia in recent years. Land is being sold on a level unseen before in the region. Construction activities have already reached the outskirts of Phnom Penh, close to Choeung Ek, with an increasing number of trucks passing not far from the memorial site, which does however rather have an impact for the noise and maybe dust but does not negatively affect the status of nominated property as such.

In addition, the annual strong rains are affecting the ability of both soil and the nearby water to absorb rainfall, and hold off flooding, but this is at risk due to the encroaching construction sites.

As mentioned above, the human remains displayed in the central memorial need prioritised attention to control their state of conservation in professional way. Although measures are in place and the state of the human remains regularly controlled, there are no dedicated or trained staff in CEGC dedicated to this task. The same counts for the conservation of objects and pits with surfacing bones and textiles with yearly heavy rains. The need for staff trained in the field of conservation is considered urgent for Choeung Ek Genocidal Centre.

The site has had to adapt to the needs of the high number of visitors, adding some facilities. Raised wooden walkways ensure that visitors do not step on the ground containing human remains. These walkways need to be regularly maintained.



*Mass graves protected by wooden walkways and roofs (TSGM)*

## CHAPTER 3: CURRENT SITE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

### 3.1. Stakeholders and their Functions

#### A) Former M-13 prison

**Ownership:** Nominated property: owned by the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts and managed by Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum.

Buffer zone: land area under private ownership, while waterways are public property owned by state (Trapeang/pond and stream).

**Inhabitants:** Nominated property: No people live in the area of the former M-13 prison.

Buffer zone: No people live in the buffer zone of this nominated property.

#### B) Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (former S-21 prison)

**Ownership:** Nominated property: under state management, owned by the MCFA.  
Buffer zone: small properties privately owned.

**Inhabitants:** Nominated property: there are no people living within the compound of the former S-21 prison, which is today the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum. Guards are stationed 24 hours/7days.

Buffer zone: according to information provided by the commune authority of Boeung Keng Kang III, the population here is 2,820 people or 455 families (status August 2023).

#### C) Choeung Ek Genocidal Center (former execution site of S-21)

**Ownership:** Nominated property: owned by the Phnom Penh Municipality.  
Buffer zone: owned by the Phnom Penh Municipality.

**Inhabitants:** Nominated property: there are no people living in the area of the former execution site of S-21, today Choeung Ek Genocidal Center. Guards are stationed 24 hours/7days.

Buffer zone: there are no people living in the immediate area around the nominated property of the former execution site of S-21, today Choeung Ek Genocidal Center. We are still talking about the ground that make the memorial site. Guards are stationed 24 hours/7days.



### 3.2. Role of Stakeholders and Previous Works Undertaken

The needs of local communities or neighbours have been taken into consideration for the three component parts of the serial nomination, but their recent involvement has been facilitated most significantly in the case of former M-13 prison, as the conversion of this site into a memorial is a very recent project.

Former M-13 prison is in Prey Chrov village in Kbal Teuk commune of Teuk Phos district (Kampong Chhnang province) bordering with Thmor Kob village in Amleang commune of Thpong district (Kampong Speu province). The people living in this area depend mainly upon agriculture as their means of subsistence, so the land surrounding the former M-13 prison is used for their cattle and farming, the pond and river for fishing.

During recent years, good relationships have been developed regarding identifying and developing M-13 as a historical site with the local people and village chief of Thmor Kob, in close cooperation with the provincial and local government, involving them in decision making processes that may affect their living and engaging them in conservation activities.

Every visit by TSGM staff and work on the site is communicated beforehand to the deputy village chief. People from the village participated actively in the most recent archaeological excavations in June 2023. A religious ceremony for the victims was organised with local participation at the end of this excavation. Educational programmes involving students from nearby schools (Kampong Speu: Samrong and Anlong Chrey high school and Kampong Chhnang: Tuol Khpuos high school and Kbal Teuk secondary school). In 2022, 235 students from these schools participated in workshops run by TSGM staff on the history of the Khmer Rouge and M-13. The activities provided not only valuable historical knowledge to the local population of the two communes, but also raised awareness about the importance of their local history and the need for safeguarding the historical site.

The proposal to nominate this site in their immediate vicinity is today well known by the local community and the process provides them the opportunity to collaborate as key stakeholders. Any protection, conservation and management of the property is being done in close dialogue. The development of future memorialisation as well as any visitor plans will require thoughtful preparation, assuring the inclusion of their voices.

Both Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum and Choeung Ek Genocidal Center are extremely well known by local residents who are consistently invited to participate in traditional and religious ceremonies.

#### **Raising awareness on serial nomination process**

Since 2021 several dedicated meetings to raise awareness about the serial nomination process have been organised with stakeholders:

- 3 September 2021: online meeting chaired by the Minister of Culture and Fine Arts on the serial nomination, with the Deputy Governors of Phnom Penh, Kampong Speu and Kampong Chhnang.
- 16 September 2022: meeting of nomination working group chaired by Minister of Culture and Fine Arts about the process of the serial nomination process and progress made.

### 3.3. Existing Legal Framework and Policies

All three sites are cultural heritage sites included in the official **inventory of state property** and therefore protected by law.

Already in the years following the fall of the Khmer Rouge regime, crime sites associated with Khmer Rouge repression across the country became national heritage property. The protection of S-21 site, under the supervision of the Department of Crime Research and Conservation, was established as early as 1979. On 5 October 1983, Ministry of Information and Culture Circular 3123, directed municipal and provincial officers to inspect local genocide sites, prepare statistical data, create a file of evidence on genocidal crime and report to the ministry. The circular instructed no further exhumation of mass graves, but rather construction of memorial site to the victims. Then it was more comprehensively stated in **Decree Law No. 21 KRC in 1985**, aimed to protect cultural heritage, historical sites, natural monuments throughout the country. This included sites of former prisons and camps, and any other criminal evidence.

After 1993, the new **Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia** further established the state's obligation to protect and strengthen its culture, which includes cultural and historical assets.

In implementation of the above legal framework, the new **Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts was established in 1996 (previously from 1979 part of the Ministry of Information and Culture)** and assigned the responsibility of preserving and restoring criminal historical sites.

Additional legal frameworks that cover the preservation of crime sites include the **Law on the Protection of Cultural Heritage (1996)**, which provides an in-depth explanation of the obligations of states, citizens and procedures for participating in the protection of cultural heritage sites, including historical sites.

**Royal Kram No. NS / RKAM / 0801/14 dated 30 August 2001 on Land Law**, Chapter 2, Article 15 includes Archaeological, cultural, and historical heritage in the public property of the State and of public legal entities.

**The Law on the Prevention of Denial of Crimes Committed during the Period of Democratic Kampuchea (2013)** is an additional document that urges the importance of the preservation and protection of historical sites.

Several **sub-decrees** prohibit the construction of buildings in the vicinity of historical heritage sites and oblige state institutions and citizens to participate in the protection and preservation of human remains from the Khmer Rouge period.

A **Royal Decree for Cambodian Memorial Sites** is in preparation and will be followed by **specific sub-decrees** relevant to each of the three component parts.

### 3.4. Review of the Management System

Being inscribed as national historical heritage sites, the three component parts are ultimately under the responsibility of the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts (MCFA). This Ministry is the country's highest body for the formulation of policies and management of cultural properties to which Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum belongs.

Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum is an Office under the Department of Museums of the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts responsible to safeguard the former S-21 prison site in Phnom Penh. In 2019, the museum requested the intervention of the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts to preserve the site of the former M-13 prison at Kampong Chhnang Province. Today, the former M-13 prison site is under control and management of the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, with a dedicated team in charge.

TSGM reports for it directly to the MCFA. It works in alignment with policies set out by the ministry to ensure effective coordination and collaboration with line technical departments of the province and local authorities. The Choeung Ek Genocidal Center was placed under direct control of the Phnom Penh Municipality administration in the 1980s, while the site is managed by the private company JC Royal in the framework of concession until 2035.

### **Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC)**

On 17 July 2023 the Royal Government of Cambodia appointed an Inter-Ministerial Committee to support the Cambodian serial nomination process (Government Decision 53SSR) in order to meet the requirements and issues that are of concern for the serial nomination process. This committee is chaired by the Minister of Culture and Fine Arts and composed of representatives of the Office of the Council of Ministers, nine Ministries and three Municipalities:

1. Minister of Culture and Fine Arts - Chair of the Inter-Ministerial Committee
2. Office of the Council of Ministers - Deputy Chair of the Inter-Ministerial Committee
3. Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts - Deputy Chair of the Inter-Ministerial Committee
4. Ministry of Interior
5. Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning and Construction
6. Ministry of Public Works and Transportation
7. Ministry of Tourism
8. Ministry of Environment
9. Ministry of Rural Development
10. Ministry of Mines and Energy
11. Ministry of Water Resources and Meteorology
12. Phnom Penh Municipality
13. Kampong Chhnang Municipality
14. Kampong Speu Municipality

The Inter-Ministerial Committee has been assigned the following tasks:

- To examine, study and evaluate the definition of the protected zones of the three sites.
- To map and solve the challenges and any impact on the environment, trees and the people living in these areas.
- To draft a Royal Decree regarding the protection of the area of the three sites.
- To set protective pillars on the three sites based on the Royal Decree.
- To follow any other related assignment decided by the Royal Government of Cambodia.
- To report about the results to the Prime Minister through the Office of Council of Ministers.

The first meeting of the IMC was held on 15 January 2024, chaired by the Minister of Culture and Fine Arts. As mandated by its foundation decision, action was commenced on all the above points, including a report that was sent to the Prime Minister.



### 3.5. Gaps in the Management Structure

The process of the nomination of the Cambodian Memorial Sites brought to light the need for an overarching management structure of the three component parts as a whole in view of requirements and standards as World Heritage Site.

Both Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum and Choeung Ek Genocidal Center have long-established experience in running each its site separately and successfully with in average 1,000 national and international visitors visiting the sites daily. They have a good working relationship with each other and there is regular cooperation for activities, mainly for educational projects.

However, there is room for more cooperation and possibly synergies. Also, in view of interpretation of the sites and visitor visitation, more coordination is possible. Additionally, being all three sites part of a potential serial World Heritage Site, any future development of M-13 needs to be equally coordinated and consistent with both Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum and Choeung Ek Genocidal Center in order to oversee the development of the three sites and ensure the protection of their Outstanding Universal Value.

Choeung Ek Genocidal Center belongs to the Phnom Penh Municipality, while TSGM and M-13 belong to the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts. They are administrated separately, also financially.

Conservation is a major issue for all sites and common standards should be applied when possible for the nominated properties. This counts also for visitor and risk management.

Considering the expected additional visitor load and other requirements of the World Heritage Committee the management staff of all three component parts will need to be amplified and reviewed for maximum effectiveness.

## CHAPTER 4: PROPOSED MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

### 4.1. Required Reform in the Structure

**Vision:** *The three sites are managed as a whole for their common Outstanding Universal Value that aims to keep alive the memory of the people who died under the Khmer Rouge regime and by preserving and presenting the evidence of the crimes committed, to serve as places of peace and reflection. The specific needs of each component part for preservation, conservation, visitation and sustainable development are effectively addressed by adequately trained staff, consistent with the objective of safeguarding the authenticity and integrity of the sites by protecting their unique attributes that contribute to the Outstanding Universal Value.*

#### **Need for Overarching Management Structure**

The Management Plan is required to have an appropriate management system in place which ensures that all the attributes contributing to the Outstanding Universal Value are protected and conserved. For the purpose of the same, various departments, authorities and stakeholders need to work in an integrated manner. It is important to ensure that no attribute of significance is lost from any element or component. All the authorities, administrations and departments which have a mandate for conservation of the sites need to cooperate in an integrated manner. The nominated properties and the buffer zones of the proposed world heritage sites are subject to development pressures and climatic challenges. Hence this management plan needs to address these threats and issues in most appropriate manner to make Cambodian Memorial Sites managed appropriately as a World Heritage Site. To manage these challenges, there is a particular need for co-ordination between the stakeholders and to have an efficient management system in place to address conservation, tourism and risk management, as well as interpretation principles.

Consequently, along with the increasing requirements and responsibility connected with the development of the Cambodian Memorial Sites as World Heritage Sites, the most urgent reform required is to have an overall management structure in place overlooking the three component parts as a whole.

#### **Appointment of a coordinating officer for overall management of the sites**

The appointment of a coordinating officer for the management of the Cambodian Memorial Sites, with a team belonging and reporting to the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts, is necessary. It is proposed that this coordinating officer is the Director of Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum. This position is supported by a dedicated section of TSGM for Research and Preservation of the Khmer Rouge Sites. A site manager for each individual site will be appointed to support the coordinating officer.

#### **Coordination Meetings**

Regular meetings of the Inter-Ministerial Committee support institutionally the nomination process. An Advisory Board is recommended, with designated authorities as well as experts in the field of heritage, memory, conservation and tourism, both national and international. It should meet periodically to advise the three component parts with a special view on World Heritage standards and requirements once inscribed in the List.

### Sustainable development for the sites

Sustainable development is key for the submission for UNESCO World Heritage Site status and this needs consultation with experts. Considerations for sustainable development need to include the findings from the conservation status, stakeholders, risk mapping and tourism, incorporating principles of sustainable development. Principal challenges are how to manage:

- Large and growing visitor numbers
- Required adaptations for accessibility to the sites
- Development pressures
- Climatic and environmental threats
- Required changes of office space and working areas (especially at TSGM)
- Update of exhibitions and activities
- The impact on the community in the immediate vicinity

## 4.2. Current management structures and roles of authorities and departments

### Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts

The Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts is the authority assuring the protection of national cultural heritage sites and as such has the following objectives:

- Ensure the preservation and protection of national cultural heritage
- Support and enhance human heritage resources throughout the country by establishing mechanisms for the preservation of national cultural heritage and the sustainable development of knowledge, skills, talents and techniques
- Increase cooperation between the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts and the public, national and international organisations to ensure the preservation and development of national heritage, especially intangible heritage.
- Implement policies to protect, preserve and enhance the national cultural heritage and general cultural heritage of the Kingdom of Cambodia, manage cultural sites, archaeology, anthropology and history
- Re-integrate and promote the cultural values and beliefs, traditions of the society, inspire the creation of works, promote and develop cultural activities.

### Position of TSGM within the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts

- Cabinet of Minister
- Inspectorate
- Internal Audit Department
- General Department of Administration and Finance
- General Department of Cultural Technique
- **General Department of Heritage**
- Royal University of Fine Arts (RUFA)

The **General Department of Heritage** is headed by a Director General, accompanied by several Deputy Directors General as necessary. The General Department of Heritage has four subordinate departments:

- Department of Antiquities
- **Department of Museums**



- Department of Protection and Preservation of Ancient Buildings
- Department of Archaeology and Prehistory

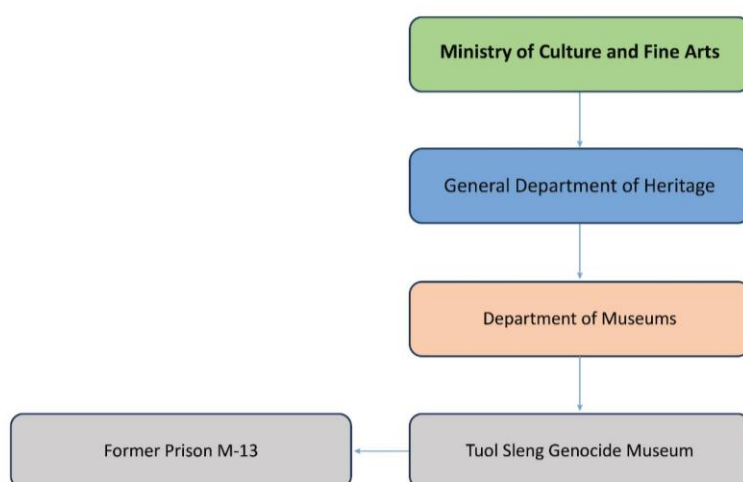
The Department of Museums is a central unit under the General Department of Heritage of the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts, which has the authority to protect, preserve, restore, study and enrich the collection and has the role of implementing state policy in the field of heritage. To know the value of one's own culture.

The **Department of Museums** has the following offices and units:

- Office of Administration
- Office of Personnel
- Office of Conservation
- Inventory and Documentation Office
- Office of Education and Outreach
- Office of Project and Standards
- The National Museum is a unit under the direct supervision of the Director of the Department of Museums
- **Office of Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum**

The roles and responsibilities of each office at the Department of Museums and subsequently also of **Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum** are:

- Ensure the protection, maintenance, and display of exhibits for public dissemination
- Properly manage the inventory and inventory of all exhibits
- Maintain the historical documents in a technical manner and use computer systems to store data and serve the needs of researchers
- Manage the administration, security, the overall order and general hygiene at the museum
- Open the museum to the public and explain the exhibits for public awareness
- Undertake technical work to serve the needs of the organisation
- Perform tasks according to the plan assigned by the Department of Museums



**Section of TSGM for Research and Preservation of the Khmer Rouge Sites:**

- Overall supervision of the protection of the Outstanding Universal Value of the three component parts to be inscribed in the World Heritage List
- Overall management of M-13
- Preserve the former prison M-13 and identify other sites as designated by TSGM
- To overlook and coordinate the development of the sites as historical heritage sites
- Report on the conservation efforts
- Dissemination of the knowledge about the sites in society

## TSGM Management Plan 2021 - 2025

Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum has a solid Management Plan for the years 2021-2025 in place and sectoral plans defined. Being the institution that will supervise and coordinate the three component parts of the nomination, it is important to mention that it is a museum with long standing experience and has developed very rapidly in the last years to an institution of reference not only nationally but also internationally.

The plan was developed in a participatory manner, through a variety of consultation meetings by the TSGM staff with government officials, international experts, partners such as civil society organisations and members of the local community. The plan includes conservation issues and identifies the preservation and the conservation of the site, the remaining buildings and artefacts as of high importance. Therefore, a detailed risk mapping that reviewed both the structural and superficial risks to the buildings was commissioned and completed in 2021.

### *Vision*

Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum looks forward to a peaceful and stable Cambodia in which, as a historical museum and memorial site, it has helped society recover from the pain and suffering of decades of war and mass crimes, and has contributed to making the world more peaceful.

### *Mission*

Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum aims to keep alive the memory of the people who died under the regime of Democratic Kampuchea, and to help prevent crimes of genocide and mass violence by preserving and presenting evidence, and by serving as a place of reflection and education.

### *Values*

- Empathy – we mourn the suffering of the victims and the survivors of DK
- Curiosity – we value interest in history and in the museum's visitors
- Integrity – we value openness, honesty and accountability
- Sharing – we value participation and collaboration
- Efficiency – we value commitment and respect for the use of time
- Peace – we value respect for others and non-violent communication

TSGM management plan sets out four core focus areas that provide a guide for the development of TSGM:

- Build a Professional Organisation
- Connect with the Past
- Connect with the Cambodian People
- Connect with the World

The professionalisation of TSGM is a key priority. The foundation of the management plan is focused on the staff of the museum, and capacity development based upon training and skills transfer. Improvement in processes, structures and governance will also be implemented.

The museum enables people to connect more easily with the past through the online archive, and a rearranged physical archive, supported by upgraded processes and a new integrated museum & archive management system. There will be more opportunities for research by museum staff, external partners and the public.



As for the exhibition and narrative, a review of the permanent exhibition to be made during 2024 will deliver recommendations on how it may be best updated. Additional temporary exhibitions will be delivered with partners, and the mobile exhibition will be updated.

Modern processes and plans for the conservation of objects and buildings will be implemented. The preliminary study for the restoration of the buildings is planned for 2024.

Further efforts will be made to ensure that the primary beneficiaries of the museum, the Cambodian people, are inspired to visit physically and virtually. The education program is being expanded, the activities made available for schools and tour groups and the online and social media strategy seeks to publicise the events and activities. The museum will also continue to attract and welcome an anticipated growing number of national and international visitors.

TSGM will strengthen its connections within the international community that is concerned with dealing with the past. Active membership of formal international networks and collaborations with like-minded institutions in other countries will be maintained, and the museum will pursue UNESCO World Heritage Site status with its partner sites Choeung Ek Genocidal Center and former prison site M-13.

Core Focus Areas	Strategic Goal
1. Build a Professional Organisation	TSGM is recognised as a professional museum whose staff, processes and, structures enable it to operate effectively, and provide a platform for sustainable development
2. Connect with the Past	TSGM is a learning institution that cares for the site and the archives and objects, and provides access to the history of S-21, the Khmer Rouge and the museum period to contribute to remembrance and learning about and from history
3. Connect with the Cambodian People	TSGM provides an opportunity for Cambodian people, especially survivors to reconcile and heal and youth to learn, by increasing their knowledge about S-21 and the causes and consequences of the DK era
4. Connect with the World	TSGM places the history of the Khmer Rouge and of the museum into a global context, supporting truth, justice and peacebuilding in cooperation with international partners

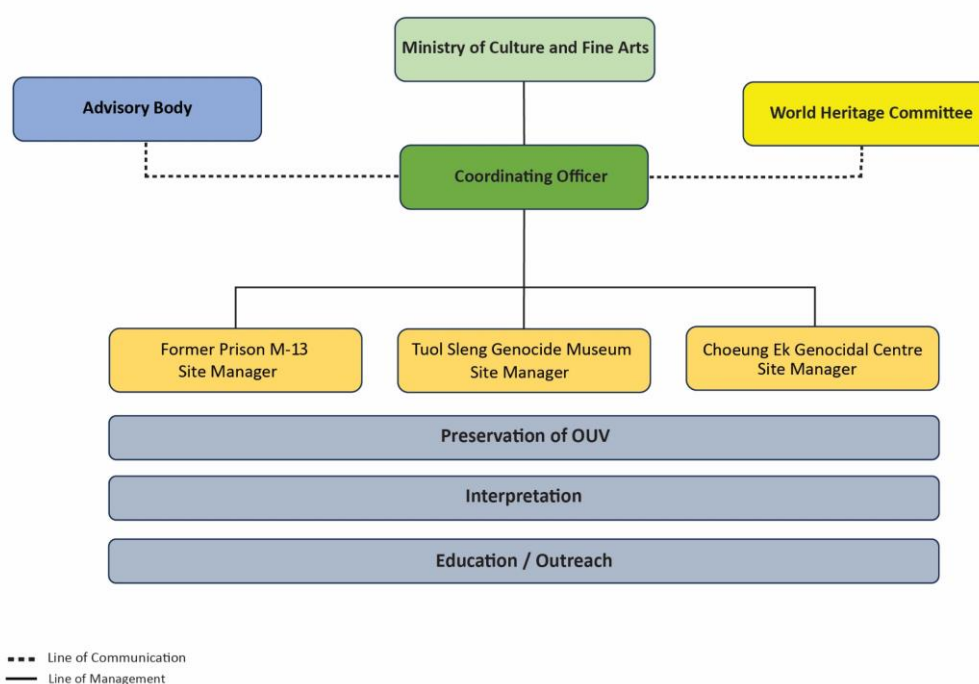
### 4.3. Proposed interlinkage and coordination framework

#### Coordinating Committee chaired by Coordinating Officer

The Coordinating Committee ensures a coherent strategy relating to preservation of OUV and to interpretation, education and outreach for the Cambodian Memorial Sites as a whole, while each component part retains responsibility for day-to-day administration and finance. The Coordinating Officer, with the support of the three site managers, will synthesise information from the three component parts for the periodic reporting to the World Heritage Committee and act as the focal point for communication with the World Heritage Committee relating to all three component parts both during and after the nomination process.

#### Task-based working groups

Working groups and sectoral task forces as required should address specific actions to be undertaken. Smaller technical working groups and relevant departments can directly cope with permanent or ad-hoc requirements of the three sites.



#### Advisory Body

The Advisory Body will be appointed by the Minister of Culture and Fine Arts and will be composed of representatives from key ministries, national authorities and experts, with mandated duties (to be determined). The Advisory Body for Cambodian Memorial Sites will also play an important role in strategising action to be taken, bringing it to the attention of national level authorities where necessary.

#### Annual/Periodic Administrative Review and Reports

A periodic reporting of the activities and measures taken must be in place to ensure the adequate implementation of the Management Plan and its efficiency. These reviews include administration, capacity of staff, conservation and development activities.

#### 4.4. Administrative Arrangements for Monitoring Property

The primary organisation responsible for regular monitoring of the serial properties is the proposed Coordinating Committee for Cambodian Memorial Sites.

Each component part would be monitored separately based on responsibilities designated in the table in Section 4.5. and information supplied to the Coordinating Committee.

The Coordinating Committee will synthesise information from the three component parts for the periodic reporting to the World Heritage Committee as required. The Advisory Body for Cambodian Memorial Sites will also play an important role in strategising action to be taken, bringing it to the attention of national level authorities where necessary.

##### A) Former M-13 prison

The monitoring processes outlined in 4.5 are carried out by the Section of Research and Preservation of the Khmer Rouge Site which reports to TSGM management, and in future will also supply regular information to the Coordinating Committee.

##### B) Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (former S-21 prison)

TSGM is under the supervision and monitoring of the Department of Museums, General Department of Heritage, Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts. TSGM has to report every month, quarterly and annually according to the following structure.

Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts

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General Department of Heritage

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Department of Museums

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Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum

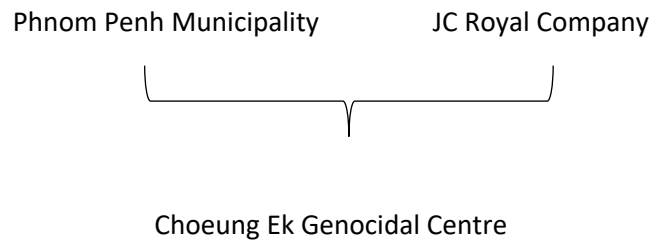
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Relevant sections of TSGM



**B) Choeung Ek Genocidal Center (former execution site of S-21)**

Choeung Ek is under ownership and responsibility of the Phnom Penh Municipality, while the Municipality has given a contract to JC Royal Company to protect and promote the site. Therefore, all activities are carried out, managed, monitored, evaluated and reported with cooperation between the two parties.



The monitoring processes outlined in 6.a will be carried out by the Management of CEGC which will supply regular information to the Coordinating Committee. CEGC Management will retain authority over day-to-day operations of the site (including financing and staffing), while responsibility for maintaining and enhancing heritage values and carrying out education and outreach activities will be discharged in consultation with TSGM Management and the Coordinating Committee.

#### 4.5. Monitoring Framework

Indicator	Method of measurement	Former M-13 prison		Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum		Choeung Ek Genocidal Center	
		Periodicity	Location of records	Periodicity	Location of records	Periodicity	Location of records
CONSERVATION OF SITE CONDITIONS							
Quality and view of the wider setting of nominated property and buffer zone is respected	Landscape survey, aerial photographic survey of view, control of new construction nearby, change of land use	Annual	TSGM	Annual	TSGM	Annual	CEGC and TSGM
Buffer zone effectively protects NP from external development	Development proposals are reviewed for potential impact on nominated property	Annual	TSGM	Annual	TSGM	Annual	CEGC and TSGM
Number of inhabitants in buffer zones (there are no inhabitants within nominated property)	Public register of inhabitants provided by communal authorities	Annual	TSGM	Annual	TSGM	Annual - no inhabitants neither in nominated property nor in buffer zone	CEGC and TSGM
Condition of buildings and key features of site	Photographic and visual control of decay according to Risk Mapping done in 2021	no built construction yet on the site	TSGM	Visually every six months and expert survey every 5 years	TSGM	Visually every six months and expert survey every 5 years	CEGC and TSGM
Condition of attributes in Outstanding Universal Value (see list)	Photographic and visual control of condition, change or deterioration	Annual	TSGM	Annual	TSGM	Annual	CEGC and TSGM

<b>Condition of pits</b>	Photographic and visual control of condition, change or deterioration	Biannual	TSGM	Biannual	TSGM	Biannual	CEGC and TSGM
<b>Condition of documents, photographs and visual material in the archives</b>	Record of temperature/relative humidity by automated control system with data loggers plus visual survey of deterioration	No archive existent on this site, all related documentations kept at TSGM	Not applicable	Daily control and monthly reporting	TSGM	Not applicable	No archive existent on this site, all related documents kept at TSGM
<b>Condition of artefacts collection (wooden, textile, metal)</b>	Record of temperature/relative humidity by data logger Visual control of artefacts	Kept at TSGM, daily control and monthly reporting	TSGM	Daily control and monthly reporting	TSGM	Annual visual control	CEGC and TSGM
<b>Human remains</b>	Visual control and when necessary, photographic control	Annual	TSGM	Annual	TSGM	Annual	Annual
<b>Exhibition, panels and signage</b>	Visual control of quality, readability, lighting etc	Not applicable	Not applicable	Daily control and monthly reporting	TSGM	Daily control and monthly reporting	CEGC and TSGM
<b>VISITATION AND TOURISM</b>							
<b>Number/statistics of visitors (Cambodian and foreigners, age, gender)</b>	Ticket count and questionnaire by ticket office personnel	Annual	TSGM	Monthly and annually	TSGM	Monthly and annually	CEGC and TSGM
<b>Number of student groups</b>	Reports from the educational department	Annual	TSGM	Monthly and annually	TSGM	Monthly and annually	CEGC and TSGM



<b>Visitor facilities (toilets, access for people with disabilities, first aid)</b>	Cleanliness of toilets and security for visitors, including for wheelchair users	Not applicable yet	Not applicable yet	Daily (toilets every hour)	TSGM	Daily (toilets every hour)	CEGC and TSGM
<b>Risk preparedness</b>	State of fire-fighting tools, such as extinguishers and hoses and prevention measures for flooding of ground levels, control of emergency indicators	To be defined sectoral plan		To be defined sectoral plan		To be defined sectoral plan	
<b>Access road/street and direction signage</b>	Security of access. Clarity, visibility and readability of signage	To be defined sectoral plan		To be defined sectoral plan		To be defined sectoral plan	
<b>Visitor trends and satisfaction</b>	Survey campaign, comments in visitors' book	not applicable yet	TSGM	Annual	TSGM	Annual	CEGC and TSGM
<b>SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT</b>							
<b>Physical impact of tourism</b>	Visual control	To be defined sectoral plan	TSGM	To be defined sectoral plan	TSGM	To be defined sectoral plan	CEGC and TSGM
<b>Behaviour of visitors to get to the site</b>	Survey on how visitors arrive, by private car, coach, public transportation, bike, foot, etc.	To be defined sectoral plan	TSGM	To be defined sectoral plan	TSGM	To be defined sectoral plan	TSGM and CEGC
<b>Impact of tourism on local community</b>	Assessment based on resident surveys, focus groups, discussion with village chief	To be defined sectoral plan	TSGM	To be defined sectoral plan	TSGM	To be defined sectoral plan	TSGM and CEGC

<b>Number of floods, storms and natural impact</b>	Assessment of vulnerability of the site to climate change, weather on buildings, features, attributes	To be defined sectoral plan	TSGM	To be defined sectoral plan	TSGM	To be defined sectoral plan	TSGM and CEGC
<b>Environmental policy</b>	Control of energy and water consumption, waste management and recycling, appropriate sewerage, environmental guidelines for new buildings and visitor facilities	To be defined sectoral plan	TSGM	To be defined sectoral plan	TSGM	To be defined sectoral plan	TSGM and CEGC

## 4.6. Capacity building frameworks

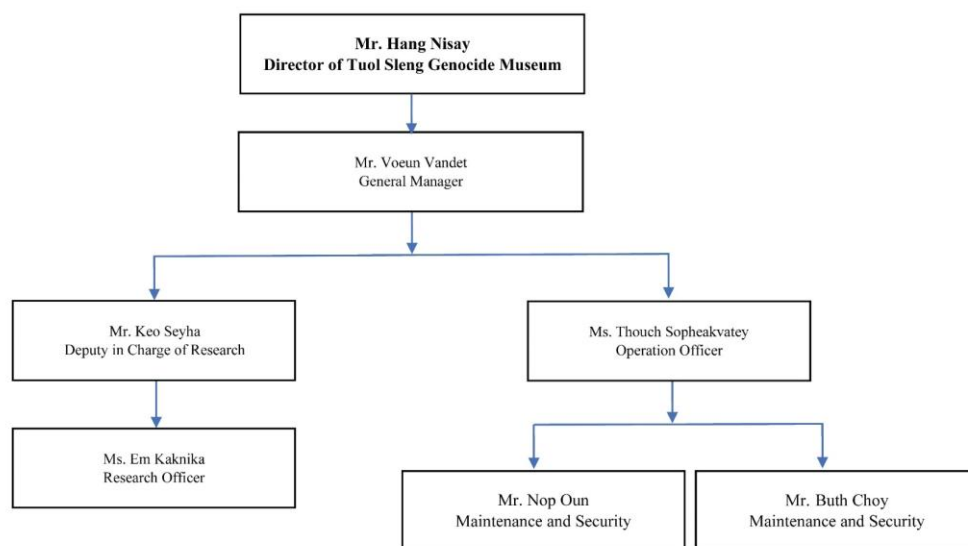
The capacity development of staff is an important responsibility and a priority for the management of Cambodian Memorial Sites. A dedicated team needs to be trained as World Heritage managers. The goal is to have staff that has the capacity to protect the authenticity and integrity of the sites in a sustainable manner with a special view on the Outstanding Universal Value and its attributes.

### Present staffing levels and organigrams

#### Former M-13 prison

Former M-13 prison is under the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts, managed and supervised by the Section for Research and Preservation of KR Sites of the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum. Since 2021, a team from TSGM has been assigned to manage the site and develop programs, namely:

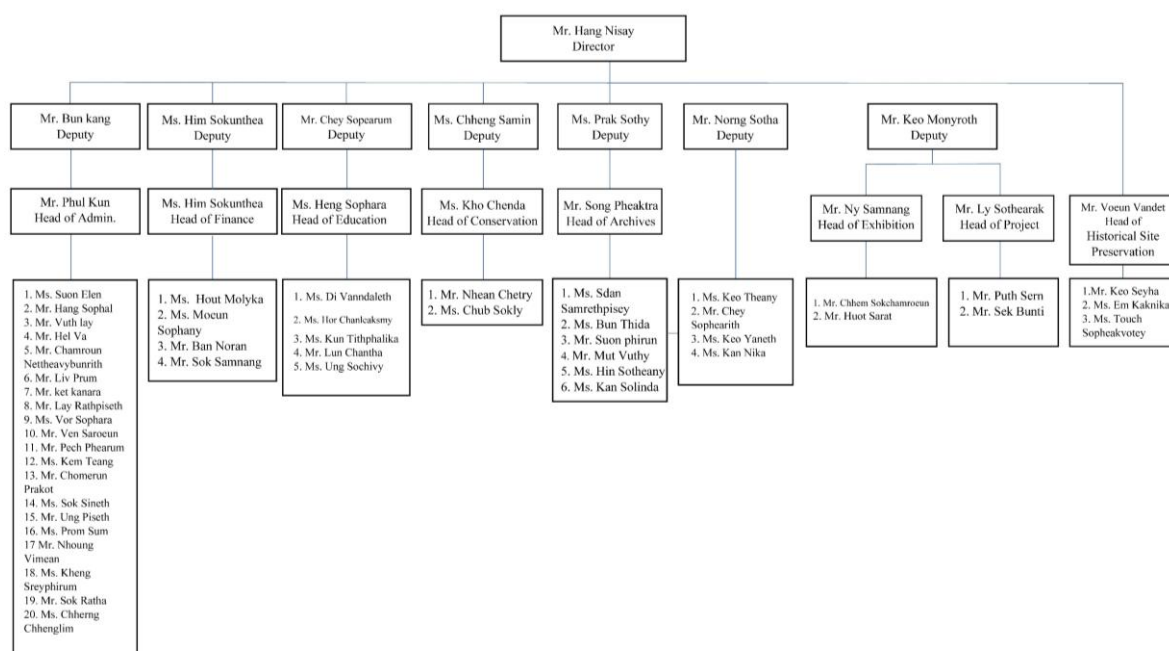
- Director of TSGM (qualified in archaeology and history)
- Head of research and preservation of Khmer Rouge historical sites (historian)
- Deputy Head of research and preservation of Khmer Rouge historical sites (historian)
- 1 member of research and preservation of Khmer Rouge historical sites (historian)
- 1 member of research and preservation of Khmer Rouge historical sites (MA in English literature)
- 2 local contract staff for maintenance



*Organisational chart for the management of the former prison M-13 site (TSGM)*

### Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum

TSGM is an Office of the Department of Museums under the responsibility of a director with staffing as follows:



The total staff profile of the museum is 62 employees with the following expertise:

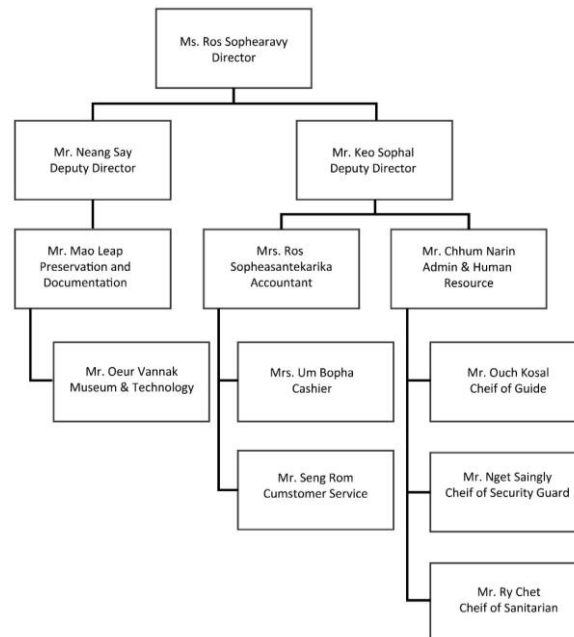
- Education: 6 staff
- Conservation: 3 archaeologists
- Exhibition: 3 staff, including one designer
- Research: 3 historians
- Archive: 10 staff including 1 historian, 1 archivist, 2 archaeologist, 1 paper preservation expert
- Administration: 4 staff
- Finance: 3 staff
- Information Technology: 1 staff
- Security: 6 staff
- Maintenance (including cleaning, garden): 16

One international adviser to the Royal Cambodian Government works closely with the TSGM staff on research and documentation projects. One international advisor and one local peace advisor are working for the museum and financed by the Civil Peace Service of the German Development Agency for a fixed term.



### Choeung Ek Genocidal Centre

Choeung Ek Genocidal Center is under the Phnom Penh Municipality, and it is contracted to JC Royal for management and development of the site.



Choeung Ek Genocidal Centre has a total of 41 employees with the following background:

- 1 staff from agricultural economics
- 1 staff from classic drawing skills
- 1 staff from tourism development
- 1 staff from financial management
- 2 staff from accounting
- 1 staff from agricultural expert
- 1 staff from banking and finance
- 1 staff from Information Technology
- 1 staff from electricity
- 1 staff from archaeology
- 1 staff from English for business
- 2 staff from English literature
- 3 staff from management
- 1 staff from tourism
- 1 staff from economist
- 6 staff finished high school
- 1 staff finished grade 9 (old school system)
- 14 staff finished high school (new school system)

### Need for staff trained in the management of World Heritage sites

During consultations with staff in the preparation of the management plan, there was an acknowledgement that across the three sites, the required professional and technical skills, qualifications and experience in this sense can be enhanced. There has been little chance of recruiting staff with the necessary backgrounds and qualifications to date. Only recently have universities in Cambodia begun to offer advanced courses that relate to disciplines such as museology, archive and conservation. Until now, courses in history and archaeology were the closest match.

To reach the level for the management of the sites as World Heritage sites, the TSGM and CEGC continue their path towards being a professional, internationally acknowledged memorial museum. The target is to employ trained staff in the following **core** departments:

World Heritage:	Incorporate new skills on the management and requirements of the protection of World Heritage sites
Conservation:	Incorporate an advanced level of knowledge of international standards in cooperation with national and international partners
Education:	Transform the knowledge of the KR security system history into an engaging modern education methodology
Archive:	At advanced level to develop the archive to international protection and research standards
Project Mgt.:	In addition, it is important to have professional staff trained in museum management, museology, proposal writing and with law expertise in the management team

To the extent that constraints on recruitment continue, formal training, coaching, and on-the-job-learning are key mechanism by which the sites increase their capacity. The following plan describes a formalised learning and development approach to support capacity development.

### Implement a World Heritage Training Plan

A training plan will be completed for all teams and positions appointed to the management of the Cambodian Memorial Sites to be inscribed in the World Heritage List. It will indicate the training/learning that each staff member needs to complete to be competent in the activities that they conduct in their positions.

The main mechanisms for the development of technical skills will be collaborations with external expert partners in the delivery of technical projects, such as UNESCO. For each project with a technical component and access to external expertise, the project design will give significant attention to capacity development.

In general, projects in which external experts collaborate with museum staff provide excellent learning opportunities if the capacity development is formalised within the design of the project.

### Develop an annual training plan

Based on the priorities and staff available, an annual training plan will be developed, which will include the training and formal coaching activities over the coming years.

## CHAPTER 5: SITE INTERPRETATION

As per new guidelines for sites of memory associated with recent conflicts to be inscribed in the World Heritage List, the nomination needs to include also an “Interpretation strategy” that addresses the following considerations: “Bearing in mind potential differing views and narratives, any interpretation shall be multi-dimensional to present accurately the full meaning of the site and to support an understanding of its full history. The physical location at the place where conflict has taken place and means of interpretation will be part of the interpretation strategy. The interpretation strategy shall embrace the place’s historical past and its present-day meanings, in a dialogue and peace-building perspective. It needs to discuss how the stakeholders concerned with the site intend to take into account the debates on issues of current concern that connect to the themes of the site. The strategy should describe efforts made so that stakeholders who have an interest in the site will be engaged in the development of interpretation for the site” (WHC/23/18.EXTCOM/4).

### 5.1. Interpretation principles for Serial Nomination

Developing an interpretation approach for a museum and memorial sites dedicated to a recent violent conflict such as those three sites proposed for inscription as Cambodian Memorial Sites is a sensitive and complex task and requires a high sense of responsibility. It is important to approach this task with ethical consideration, empathy and an uncompromised commitment to truth and reconciliation. The goal is not only to educate about the past but also to inspire a more peaceful future. It requires a careful consideration of honouring the victims, educating the wider public and promoting healing and understanding of the historical facts.

These are the principles defined for the Cambodian Memorial Sites to guide the development of the interpretation approach:

#### Objectives

- Educational Goals: Inform visitors about the Khmer Rouge regime’s causes, progression and impact, with highest regard for historical accuracy
- Memorialisation: Pay tribute to the victims and affected communities
- Promotion of Peace and Reconciliation: Foster dialogue about peace, healing and the prevention of future conflicts

#### Ethical Considerations

- Respect for the Deceased: Treat all representations of death and suffering with utmost respect
- Work with Historians and Experts: Ensure absolute accuracy in the portrayal of events
- Avoid Political Bias: Strive for a balanced representation that acknowledges the complexity of the conflict

#### Narrative and Content of the exhibitions

- Use of Personal Stories: Humanise the conflict through individual experiences
- Inclusion of Artefacts: Items from the prison time period are powerful exhibits
- Inclusion of Dealing with the Past components: inclusion of previous judicial processes such as the People’s Revolutionary Tribunal and the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia and related topics

### Sensitive and Inclusive Design

- **Respectful Presentation:** Avoid sensationalism; focus on respectful description and display
- **Accessibility:** Ensure the spaces are physically and emotionally accessible to a diverse audience
- **Multilingual Resources:** Cater to both local and international visitors and to minority national communities
- **Interactive and Multimedia Elements:** Use of technology where appropriate and adds to meaningful engagement with visitors (not a primary goal for the Cambodian Memorial Sites, as we strive to retain maximum authenticity of these historic sites)

### Educational Programming and Events

- **Guided Visits and workshops:** Offer visits for deeper understanding by educational team
- **Collaborations with Schools:** Educational programs for students of various ages and different background (foster visit by students from the provinces, outside Phnom Penh)
- **Commemoration Events:** Observation of dates related to the conflict and organisation of events with participation of civil society, especially survivors (20 May, Pchum Benh, Khmer New Year)

### Promoting Healing and Reflection

- **Memorial Space:** Dedicated areas for reflection and remembrance by different religious and other communities
- **Testimonies:** Opportunities for visitors and survivors to share their stories
- **Art and Expression:** Possibility to use art as a medium for processing and expressing emotions related to the conflict

### Ongoing Evaluation and Adaptation

- **Feedback Mechanisms:** Regularly collect visitor feedback for continuous improvement
- **Adaptation to New Information:** Updating of the exhibition as new information or perspectives emerge along with academic research
- **Engagement:** Opportunities to provide constructive input for future enhancement of the presentations, including donation of relevant objects that may have been removed from the site by local people during the immediate years after discovery.

### Involve Stakeholders

- **Consult Survivors and Affected Communities:** Their experiences and perspectives are indispensable
- **Collaborate with Educators:** Develop age-appropriate materials and programs.
- **Engage Local and International NGOs:** Especially those focused on conflict resolution and historical memory



## Heritage Management Framework

A process of preparation for any further development or changes to the sites will need to be commenced, developing a Heritage Management Framework for the serial site involving all three component parts. It must involve all relevant stakeholders and experts and should be developed with respect to principles and guidelines outlined by the World Heritage Committee, the Nara Document on Authenticity (1994), the Charter for Angkor (2012) and the Burra Charter (2013). Changes in the fabric of the site must be minimal, reversible and carried out using materials with low impact.

## Code of Conduct

Although it is difficult to implement strictly and requires a lot of flexibility, codes of conduct are encouraged at both Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum and Choeung Ek Genocidal Center. Signboards request visitors to behave and dress respectfully at the sites.

Visitors can get very close to objects displayed and to authentic relics, sometimes with no rope to prevent them from touching the exhibits. Signage is placed in multiple locations reminding them not to touch any objects, and cameras are placed to help prevent theft, both from the exhibits and from other visitors.



*Code of conduct explanation at the ticket office of TSGM (TSGM)*

## 5.2. Audio Tour Guides

Both TSGM and CEGC are best visited with audio guides. Listening and following the entire tour last approximately 2.5 hours for TSGM and 2 hours for Choeung Ek Genocidal Center. Both audio guides were developed under MOUs between Narrowcasters, Inc. and the Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts and JC Royal respectively. Interpretation was produced in close collaboration with the MCFA, with input, including in the recordings themselves, provided by historians, musical composers and other experts. Scripts, music and narration were scrutinised by MCFA; narrators were carefully selected to convey a respectful and authoritative tone; and the English version was narrated by a survivor who was able to speak directly in first person. These two audio guides have received considerable praise by visitors, in Tripadvisor and curators from other museum and historical sites around the world.

The guides are most frequently requested in English and French, followed by Khmer and is provided in 11 languages at TSGM and 15 languages at CEGC.

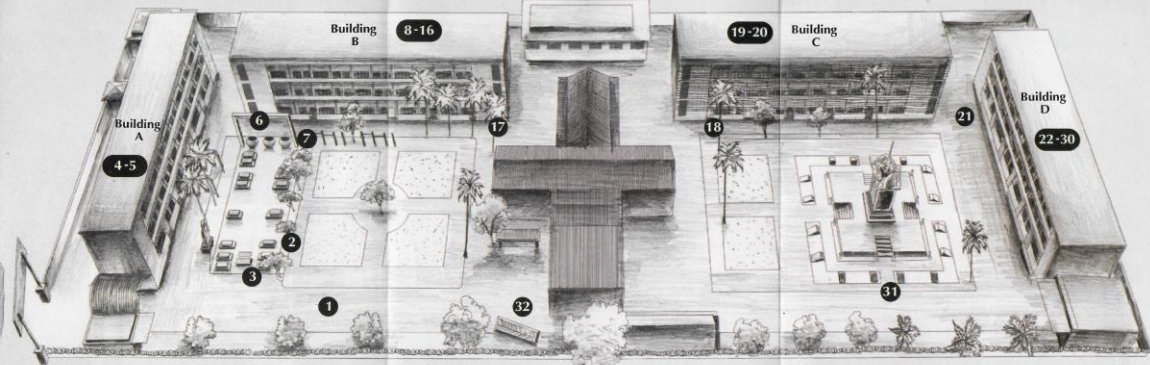
1. Khmer
2. English
3. French
4. Mandarin
5. German
6. Japanese
7. Korean
8. Vietnamese
9. Spanish
10. Dutch
11. Italian
12. Swedish (only at CEGC)
13. Russian (only at CEGC)
14. Malay (only at CEGC)
15. Thai (only at CEGC)



*Audio guides station at the entrance of Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, 22 September 2023 (TSGM)*



## Leaflet with the recommended circuit and stops for visiting Tuol Genocide Museum with audioguide



**AUDIO TOUR STOP LIST**

Please enter the stop number in your audio player. You may pause it and also rewind it to hear something again. For more information, listen to the layers – 131, 151, etc. Red numbers are suggested stops for visitors with limited time.


- 1 Introduction to a Nightmare
- 2 Fourteen Graves, Anonymous but not Forgotten. The Khmer Rouge in Phnom Penh: April 17<sup>th</sup> 1975 – January 7<sup>th</sup> 1979
- 3 Outside Building A. A Place of Suffering and Death
- 4 Inside Building A. Imprisonment and Interrogation
- 5 Who was brought to S-21?
- 501 A Survivor Speaks - Deceived and Arrested
- 6 School Equipment used for Torture
- 7 Outside Building B. S-21 Torture Prison – The Inside Story
- 8 Photographs of leaders. Behind the Organization – the Faces of Angkar
- 9 Photographs. Catastrophe in Phnom Penh – Back to Year Zero
- 10 Photographs. S-21 Staff – Young and Dangerous
- 11 Metal bowl. Slaving and Starving in the Countryside
- 12 ID tags. People Become Numbers
- 13 Photographs. Foreign Victims – Sailing into Deadly Waters
- 131 Coded Messages – A Victim's Brother Testifies
- 14 Photographs. The Anguished Search for Loved Ones
- 15 Iron shackles. Keeping Prisoners In Line
- 151 Creating an Image for Pol Pot
- 16 Photographs. Documenting Death
- 161 Medics without Medicine
- 17 Outside Building B. Records and Revelations
- 18 Outside Building C. Desperate in Detention at S-21
- 19 Inside Building C. A Survivor Speaks - Arriving at S-21
- 20 Cell number 22. A Survivor Speaks - Suffering in a Single Cell
- 21 Outside Building D. Undeniable Evidence
- 22 Inside Building D. Equipment. The Photographic Record
- 221 Processing Prisoners - The Bureaucracy of Death
- 23 Photograph. The Heartbreak of Bophana
- 24 Photographs. A Child Watches his Mother Photographed
- 25 Paintings. Painting as Memory - The Courage of Vann Nath
- 251 Enduring Mass Detention
- 26 Photographs. A Handful of Survivors
- 27 Torture equipment. Agony at S-21
- 271 Torture by the Rules
- 28 Photographs. Devastation - The Legacy of the Khmer Rouge
- 281 Phnom Penh in Ruins
- 29 Large photograph of Mass Grave. The End of Everything
- 30 Skulls, Maps. Analysis and Evidence
- 31 Outside. Memorial to the Victims of Democratic Kampuchea
- 311 A Warning for All Humanity - An Ambassador Speaks
- 32 Outside. Sign board. Seeking Justice at the ECCC - Angkar's Day of Reckoning

**LISTEN ANYTIME TO THESE STOPS**

- 90 Surviving S-21 - A Child Searches for his Mother
- 91 Surviving S-21 - A Miracle and a Tragedy
- 92 Testimony in Court - A Brother Confronts Duch
- 93 Bophana - Undying Love in the Days of Death
- 94 Dealing with the Past - Communities Finding their own Ways
- 95 Meditation as Healing - One Woman's Story
- 96 Comrade Duch, Chairman of S-21
- 961 The Chairman of S-21 Confesses
- 97 Pol Pot, Brother Number One
- 98 Song of Sorrow - *Smot* for those lost in the Khmer Rouge years
- 99 *Bangsok: A Requiem for Cambodia*. Composition by Dr Him Sophy for mixed Khmer-Western orchestra, chorus, and two vocal soloists. Libretto in Khmer and Pali by Trent Walker.

Audio Tour by Narrowcasters

This is a memorial site. Please dress modestly, speak quietly, and do not smoke during your visit.



Interrogation cell

Prisoners from Tuol Sleng were taken to the 'killing fields' at Choeung Ek, executed and buried in mass graves. Today the site, 15km south of Phnom Penh, is a museum and memorial. Audio tours are available in 15 languages.

**THE SECURITY REGULATIONS**

1. YOU MUST ANSWER ACCORDINGLY TO MY QUESTIONS. DON'T TURN THEM AWAY.
2. DON'T TRY TO HIDE THE FACTS BY MAKING PRETEXTS THIS AND THAT. YOU ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED TO CONTEST IT.
3. DON'T BE A FOOL FOR YOUR AUNT AND UNCLE TO TARGET THE REVOLUTION.
4. YOU MUST IMMEDIATELY ANSWER MY QUESTIONS WITHOUT WAITING TIME TO REFLECT.
5. DON'T TELL ME EITHER ABOUT YOUR IMPROBILITIES OR THE BRIBES OF THE REVOLUTION.
6. WHILE GETTING LIGHTS OR ELECTRICITY FROM YOU MUST NOT CRY AT ALL.
7. DO NOTHING BUT STILL AND WAIT FOR MY QUESTIONS IF THERE IS NO VOICE. KEEP QUIET. WHEN YOU DO SOMETHING, YOU MUST DO IT RIGHT AWAY WITHOUT PROTESTING.
8. DON'T TALK PREVIOUSLY ABOUT ANYTHING. YOUR ANSWER TO AVOID YOUR JAIL OF TRAITOR.
9. IF YOU DON'T FOLLOW ALL THE ABOVE RULES, YOU WILL GET MANY LIGHTS AND ELECTRIC WIRE.
10. IF YOU PROVE ANY POINT OF MY REGULATIONS YOU MUST STAY IN THE DARK OR THE BLACK OF ELECTRIC SHOCKS.

Rules for prisoners undergoing interrogation at Tuol Sleng (S-21).

© 2014 C. Narrowcasters (Cambodia) Co., Ltd.  
Audio tour script by Antonia Bagan.  
Brochure designed by Graphic Roots, Phnom Penh

Your admission supports the Museum and the Tuol Sleng Foundation for Education and Research. There is information about the Foundation and how you can support it at the Information Desk at the Museum's entrance.

Narrowcasters thanks the following for their help in preparing this audio tour:


The Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts of the Kingdom of Cambodia  
The Director and Staff of the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum

Bou Meng  
Chum Mey  
Nong Chhaphal  
The family of Vann Nath  
Ouk Neary and Martine Lefevre  
Rob Hamill and the Kerry Hamill Trust

Chhun Chenda Sophea  
Tim Mineo and Kdei Karima organisation  
Sao Sopheak, John Einar Sand and Meta Horse for excerpts from the film *Survivor*  
Rithy Panh and the Bophana Audiovisual Center for excerpts from the film *S-21: The Khmer Rouge Killing Machine*  
Dr Him Sophy and Cambodian Living Arts for excerpts from *Bangsok: A Requiem for Cambodia* original concept for the requiem and initial funding by Charley Chhuon Todd  
The Public Affairs Section, Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia

Henri Locard  
Kep Lundy  
Larch Voleak Kalyan  
Hang Nisay  
Dr Helen Jarvis  
Robert Carmichael  
Chhuon Sarin and Studio KLA

**AUDIO TOUR OF THE TUOL SLENG GENOCIDE MUSEUM**



Tuol Sleng (also called S-21) was the secret center of a network of nearly 200 prisons where people were tortured by the Khmer Rouge.

Between 42,000 and 20,000 people were imprisoned here. There are only twelve confirmed survivors.

Audio Tour by Narrowcasters



## Leaflet with the recommended circuit and stops for visiting Choeung Ek Genocidal Center with audioguide

### AUDIO TOUR STOP LIST

For more information, please listen to the layers – 101, 201, etc.  
Red numbers are suggested stops for visitors with limited time.

- 1 Introduction and walk to Stop 2
- 101 Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge march into Phnom Penh, 17th April 1975
- 2 Sign: Truck Stop
- 201 Him Huy, Khmer Rouge Guard and Executioner
- 3 Sign: Dark and Gloomy Detention
- 301 Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge
- 4 Sign: The Executioners' Working Office
- 5 Former Chinese Ceremonial Kiosk
- 6 Sign: Chemical Substances Storage Room
- 7 Mass Grave: 450 Victims
- 8 Sign: Killing Tools Storage Room. How people were killed
- 9 Chinese Grave. Bones and Teeth Fragments
- 10 Longan Orchard. People worked to death by Angkar
- 11 Walk on path by lake: Music and Memories
- 111 'A Memory from Darkness' by Him Sophy
- 12 Survivor Stories - may be heard anywhere at any time
- 121 Loss of an infant
- 122 Witness to a killing
- 123 Rape leads to shame
- 124 One man's story (125 - 129)
- 125 The first day, forced to leave home
- 126 In the village, his cousin killed in front of him
- 127 Anger, isolation, his mother's dream, hope
- 128 Arrested and beaten; saved by a stranger's sacrifice
- 129 Escapes to America, returns for revenge, healing
- 13 Mass Grave: 166 Victims Without Heads
- 14 Glass Box: Victims' Clothing
- 141 The Khmer Rouge at the UN. Pol Pot's last years
- 15 The Killing Tree
- 151 Former Prison Director Duch at Choeung Ek: A Killer Confesses
- 16 Glass Box: Victims' Bones and Teeth. Spirit House
- 17 The Magic Tree
- 18 Memorial Stupa
- 181 Design and Meaning of the Stupa
- 19 Farewell
- 191 'Oh Phnom Penh' instrumental
- 192 'Oh Phnom Penh' vocal

Please return your audio player to the tour desk near Stop 1.



This is a memorial site. Please dress modestly, speak quietly, and do not smoke during your visit.

Player instructions: Please enter the stop number in your audio player. You may pause it and also rewind it to hear something over.

Visitors may wish to pay their respects at the Memorial Stupa at the beginning of their visit.

Audio Tour by Narrowcasters



Location of Khmer Rouge prisons and killing fields in Democratic Kampuchea (now Cambodia)



Main routes of forced evacuation of cities and towns by Democratic Kampuchea

Sept 2011 © Narrowcasters (Cambodia) Co., Ltd.  
Map by Graphic Roots, Phnom Penh

The Choeung Ek Genocidal Center and Narrowcasters thank the following for their help in preparing this audio tour:

Madame Tihi Kim, Mr Neang Say, Mr Suon Sovann  
Dr Helen Jarvis, Dr Him Sophy  
The Municipality of Phnom Penh  
Cambodian Living Arts ([www.cambodianlivingarts.org](http://www.cambodianlivingarts.org))  
Bophana Audiovisual Resource Center ([www.bophana.org](http://www.bophana.org))  
Transcultural Psychosocial Organisation ([www.tpocambodia.org](http://www.tpocambodia.org))  
Documentation Center of Cambodia ([www.dccam.org](http://www.dccam.org))

Choeung Ek is the most well known of over 300 killing fields throughout Cambodia. For further information about the Democratic Kampuchea regime, headed by Pol Pot, we encourage you to visit both our Museum here and the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum in Phnom Penh.

You may also want to visit the following websites:  
Khmer Rouge Tribunal [www.eccc.gov.kh/en](http://www.eccc.gov.kh/en);  
Yale University's Cambodian Genocide Program [www.yale.edu/cgp](http://www.yale.edu/cgp); and Cambodia Tribunal Monitor [www.cambodiatribunal.org](http://www.cambodiatribunal.org)

Choeung Ek Genocidal Center is located approx 1.5km southeast of the city, in Choeung Ek Commune, Khan Dangkor, Phnom Penh  
[www.cekillingfield.org](http://www.cekillingfield.org)



### THE CHOEUNG EK GENOCIDAL CENTER

#### AUDIO TOUR OF THE KILLING FIELDS



The audio tour ends at the Memorial Stupa where the remains of Choeung Ek's victims are reverently preserved.

Audio Tour by Narrowcasters



## Visitor survey at Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum

For a better understanding and future planning, the museum is currently undertaking random interviews with visitors (1<sup>st</sup> phase only foreign visitors) who have used the audio guide, asking for their opinion about their experience and the exhibition. In total, the museum asked 40 visitors (date: 16th January 2024), with an average age of 32.75 years.

One of the most repeated positive aspects of the exhibition was the authenticity many visitors felt they were able to perceive during their visit. Photos of the prisoners, documents and objects such as torture instruments and in addition the general feeling that the museum has barely been changed since it was discovered, were mostly mentioned in connection with authenticity. Some visitors stated that it can be challenging to connect with history at places that refer to events that happened in the past. However, that the fact that the “rooms remained the same” made it easier for visitors to image what happened here.

Most visitors rarely said anything specifically negative about the exhibition. However, some negative aspects were hidden in positive statements. When visitors highly praised the museum’s audio guide with regards to content, they mentioned the necessity for the audio guide without which it would not be possible to understand the exhibition, because there is only very little written information provided. Furthermore, the audio guide might hold back some visitors from exploring the upper levels of the museum and especially the temporary exhibitions, as it only covers the outside courtyards and ground floors of the buildings. In some cases, visitors walked through the temporary exhibitions, but “did not pay much attention to the written information” and barely read any information about the “personal insights from prisoners” in the permanent exhibition, because they were solely focused on the information given by the audio guide. Comments referred to a lack of signage for temporary exhibitions and an unclear guidance in order to mark areas restricted for only staff members.

Most visitors did research on Google and found out about the museum this way, because they were planning a trip through Cambodia. All interviewed visitors would recommend to other people the museum to be visited. After further questioning, most visitors highlighted the importance of history and remembrance and appreciated the possibility to inform themselves about past events that are not linked directly to their own national history.

### 5.3. Exhibition of Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum

#### Permanent

#### Exhibition

The permanent exhibition includes the site, the buildings, rooms, and fixtures and fittings that are presented to reflect how they were found in 1979 at the end of the Khmer Rouge period. This authenticity of the site as a whole is a major strength. The desire to retain authenticity has been an important constraint on the development of the exhibition over the lifetime of the museum. Some minimal changes to rooms have taken place during the time of the museum (such as installation of lights, ceiling fans and electrical outlets, but they were not always documented in the 1980s).

A range of opinions have been expressed during consultation meetings, on how the permanent exhibition should be developed, though most participants who addressed the question suggested that improvements could be made.

The following describes opportunities to develop the permanent exhibition within the confines of what is possible or desirable given the need to respect the image of TSGM.

#### *Improve accuracy; correct inaccuracies, errors and inconsistencies*

The accuracy and clarity of some sections of the exhibition can be improved to present a more informative depiction of S-21 and the Khmer Rouge period. There is an opportunity to ensure that the exhibits are not misleading and provide clear explanations. For example, clarity needs to be added on the fact that photo boards of the faces of victims also include some guards. And most of the room photos dating from 1979 are hung in different rooms from the ones in which they were taken (Building A).

#### *Make the exhibition easier to follow and understand*

The guided walking tour audio adds a lot of information that is lacking from displays. It is a critical component that enables the exhibition to contribute to the mission of the museum as serving as a place of reflection and learning. However, it requires updating to reflect historical developments, notably including the final judgments of the ECCC, after the guide was completed.

#### *Incorporate new knowledge and use new developments in museology*

A frequent remark made in consultation meetings was that the museum succeeds in shocking visitors and raising awareness about the atrocities of the past, but can do better in describing and explaining what happened and why, with a view to preventing similar crimes in future, although it must be recognised that this has been ameliorated in recent years by signage and exhibitions, as well as the audio guide. The exhibition may be further improved by incorporating new elements and approaches that aim to improve its educational impact, while retaining authenticity.

If change is desired, prior appropriate consultation will be necessary with stakeholders and experts, and the exhibition will be reconceptualised and reworked, after a period of research, to improve the learning outcomes for visitors.

Improved access to the online archive together with improved capacity of staff to conduct research, will enable a deeper and more detailed understanding of S-21 to be reflected in exhibitions, activities and the education program. This could include presenting documents in the exhibition. The current exhibition does not reflect the fact that the crimes happened at S-21 were highly documented. In fact, the TSGM Archives were inscribed on UNESCO's Memory of the World International Register in 2009, were awarded the UNESCO-Jikji Prize for Documentary Preservation, and have been made accessible via the web page.

Also, conservation and preservation work will make available a wider range of catalogued artefacts that are now too fragile to be displayed.

Eventually, it should be possible to cross-reference objects with the document archive and include this important new knowledge within the exhibition.

TSGM has been limited in regard to incorporation of external developments in the theory and practice of museology over the last 40 years not only because of lack of professional education and training by the staff and financial limitations. Also, a fear of disturbing the image on which the reputation of the museum rests has served as a brake on change. However, without considering what is possible, the museum may not be able to reach its potential.

### **Temporary Exhibitions**

In recent years TSGM has developed several temporary exhibitions. Temporary exhibitions provide the opportunity to focus on specific themes that may not be directly related to the permanent exhibition, such as the exhibition about children at S-21 or in 2020 the small “Broken Hope” temporary exhibition which was a fruitful product of an external collaboration.

### **Mobile Exhibition**

The mobile exhibition depicts the three major periods in the history of the site: the school, prison and museum. The exhibition was first developed in 2015 and was then updated in 2016 to better align with the educational needs of the target beneficiaries, who are the public schools in and around Phnom Penh.

To allow for better coordination of educational activities to public schools, the new Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Education for the period 2022 to 2026 will reference the use of the mobile exhibition as an educational tool.

The mobile exhibition itself will be refreshed and updated.

### **Special Exhibition on the History of the Museum**

The largest temporary exhibition project was inaugurated in 2019 and titled “40 Years: Remembering the Victims of S-21” to commemorate the 40-year history of Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum. The museum will maintain this exhibition and convert this temporary exhibition into a permanent exhibition as it explains the history and development of the museum from 1979 to 2019, as well as its significance not only for Cambodia’s efforts to raise awareness about the Khmer Rouge time but also within the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC).



Temporary exhibition "40 years" in building B, 22 September 2023 (TSGM)



### Considerations for updating of the Permanent Exhibition

The following summarises a proposed process for updating the permanent exhibition. It is based upon input from staff and stakeholder consultations and reflects evidence and needs based approaches, in which principles of conservation are established within the exhibition.

The process to update the exhibition would enable decisions to be made by the museum, with the support of the Department of Museums and MCFA, based on the input of external experts acting in the capacity of advisers and process facilitators.

The template for the process is the approach used for the development of the temporary exhibition “40 Years: Remembering the Victims of S-21”, which commemorated the 40 years history of Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum. Through the development of this exhibition, the museum demonstrated that it can deliver a large-scale, research-based, technical project with limited budget and time constraints, developing considerable capacity in the process. A similar process would be established to update the permanent exhibition. Key elements are:

- The process would be run as a formal project in which a cross-cutting team of staff from different teams work together as members of a core project team with defined roles and deliverables that are incorporated within a formal project plan

- An extended team would include external experts and advisers who would also provide skills transfer as well filling gaps in specialisms that the museum cannot yet cover

- Skills-transfer mechanisms would be established to maximise the capacity development opportunities of TSGM staff

- The project would be research based; the exhibition would incorporate both existing knowledge and additional detail

- A knowledge management approach would be necessary to ensure that evidence is documented systematically and is easily available

- A Technical Committee of experts would advise on any changes by providing a range of expert opinions that capture multiple perspectives

- Officials from the Department of Museums and MCFA would be included within the governance to ensure official oversight, support and ownership

- The process would be operated in stages; the entire process through to updating the exhibition would be structured over several years since evaluating what, if any changes are required, is time consuming, as is conducting research to provide evidence for updated exhibits

The process would adopt a step-by-step approach to reduce risk and to break the project into manageable pieces that are within the capacity of the team. It will also allow for lessons to be learned and for official support to be built. The following initial pre-implementation steps are suggested:

1. Agree the process that will be followed and the structure and governance/oversight mechanisms
2. Define principles on which developments may be made, such as:
  - Strengthen the reputation of the museum domestically and internationally
  - Embed preventative conservation within developments
  - Embody a historically accurate depiction of the past
  - Ensure that fact-based knowledge is available based upon further research
  - Develop the permanent exhibition holistically within the context of the site, respecting the authenticity of the site, rooms and traces on the floors and walls
  - Improve learning outcomes for visitors in line with the museum’s mission
3. Taking a holistic and conservation-based approach, identify potential changes such as deficiencies in the current exhibition and opportunities for improvement in line with the principles in stage 2.
4. Review information and evidence available to address deficiencies and opportunities and describe potential changes

5. Develop the 'Vision' and 'Case for Change': these are short statements of approximately half a page each that describe why the exhibition should be updated and what the end state looks like from the perspective of beneficiaries
6. Prioritise potential developments to strengthen the existing exhibition according to a set of agreed criteria, for example
  - Increase sustainability through preventative conservation
  - Improve accuracy; correct inaccuracies, errors and inconsistencies
  - Include recent research results (including the former size of S-21 and functions outside the school compound)
  - Clarify misleading, incoherent or confusing aspects; make the exhibition easier to follow and understand
  - Provide new artefacts, documents or collections to improve the learning experience of visitors
7. Propose and agree changes
  - Agree which changes should be taken forward, timescale, staff and expertise required
  - Gain approval from MCFA, after discussions with the head of the Department of the Museums.
8. Design changes ready for implementation

### **Compliance with World Heritage Standards**

A process of preparation for any further development or changes to the sites will need to be commenced to develop a Heritage Management Framework for the serial site involving all three component parts.

It must involve all relevant stakeholders and experts and should be developed with respect to principles and guidelines outlined by the World Heritage Committee, the Nara Document on Authenticity (1994), the Charter for Angkor (2012) and the Burra Charter (2013). Changes in the fabric of the site must be minimal, reversible and carried out using materials with low impact.

## CHAPTER 6: CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT

### 6.1. Main Threats for Conservation

#### Tropical Climate Conditions

Sunlight, heat and rain combined, causing high humidity are the main threats to all built structures, objects and documents and also to any outdoor signage and exhibition features. The search for the most suitable conservation measures and resistant exhibition material in the long-term has not yet been fully satisfactory and therefore, certain measures are constantly being adapted to newest solutions and standards, within budgetary possibilities. Consequently, many elements need to be exchanged regularly.

This threat is best shown with the example below of the two oversize 5.5m x 7.1m photo boards behind the two courtyards in TSGM showing the only survivors of S-21 prison. One photo shows the adult survivors, the other shows the child survivors. The latest photos had to be replaced after only two years. The new canvas material is hoped to remain in good quality for five years.

**2021**



**2023**



### Pest Infestation

Cambodia, being a tropical country, is home to many insects and rodents that are abundant year-round and expand exponentially during the rainy season when there are stagnant waters all over the country, and when many nests and burrows are inundated and their occupants seek shelter in any nearby dry space. Another source of rodents is the major canal system just a few streets away from TSGM. Additionally, bats that roost between the structural spaces and in ceilings, and birds nesting, especially in building A, cause recurrent challenges as most of the buildings have no glass panes.



*Cleaning of former school board from bat dirt in building A (TSGM)*

During recent, thanks to various analyses and pest control measures put in place, the most damaging threats by pests have been addressed.






Currently, the insects remaining a challenge at Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum are:









- crickets
- lizards
- cockroaches
- spiders

Risk Management addresses also pest control, which means the impediment by closure of any niches in the building where bats and birds can nest, the placement of traps and baits. Furthermore, it is necessary to fumigate the compounds regularly (TSGM every two weeks), for conservation reasons but also for risk prevention, as mosquitos can proliferate dangerously in the buildings and gardens of the sites and could be harmful also to the visitors.



Below are the major pest threats affecting all the three component parts:

No name 	No name 	No name 	Black-cricket 
No name 	Home- cricket 	House LiZard  <a href="https://www.google.com">https://www.google.com</a>	Centipede 

<b>Silverfish (សត្វកន្ទុយបី)</b> <i>Lepisma saccharina</i>  <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Silverfish">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Silverfish</a>	<b>Ant (ស្រមោច)</b> <i>Formididae</i>  <a href="http://competitivepestcontrol.com.au/">http://competitivepestcontrol.com.au/</a>	<b>Cockroach (កន្ទ្រាត)</b> <i>Blattodea</i>  <a href="https://www.adamspetcare.com">https://www.adamspetcare.com</a>	<b>Spider (ពីងពាង)</b> <i>Araneae</i>  <a href="https://www.rentokil.co.uk/">https://www.rentokil.co.uk/</a>
<b>Termite (កណ្តៀវ)</b> <i>Isoptera</i>  <a href="https://www.terminix.com/">https://www.terminix.com/</a>	<b>Rat (កណ្តៀរ)</b> <i>Rattus</i>  <a href="https://atrl.net">https://atrl.net</a>	<b>Fly (សត្វរុយ)</b> <i>Diptera</i>  <a href="http://entoweb.okstate.edu/">http://entoweb.okstate.edu/</a>	<b>Mosquito(មូស)</b> 

## 6.2. Conservation at Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum

### Conservation of objects and artefacts

The Conservation Unit is responsible for the preservation, maintenance, and registration of all artefacts. Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum's collection of artefacts is divided into two main categories:

- a) objects made of metal, stone and clay
- b) textiles

The team is also responsible for inspecting daily the conservation status of all the museum buildings. Risk assessment is being carried out on a regular basis for all objects. The Conservation Unit has the following duties:

- Maintain and preserve objects
- Conserve textile and non-textile artefacts
- Review the registration and inventory numbers on the objects
- Secure storage of objects
- Systemise and integrate data of objects into archive management database
- Monitor and evaluate the impact of continuing display of objects in the permanent exhibition
- Conservation of paintings
- Conservation of buildings

### Conservation of paper documents

All conservation issues regarding paper documents and photos are handled separately by the Archives Unit. This Unit focuses on documentary material (principally paper and photographic, in the physical collection of S-21, of some 700,000 pages that are mostly well preserved and subject to ongoing conservation measures are applied by staff.

This Unit controls the conservation status of the documentation stored in the archive both visually and with technical systems, such as data loggers. An external company (Bakou Systems) was chosen to ensure the best possible regular automatic control of temperature and humidity. The same company is also responsible for mechanical installation of risk prevention measures.

A dedicated room has been installed to serve for the conservation of paper as part of the Archive Unit. The unit has the following duties:

- Ongoing study and collection of S-21 documentation
- Rearranging the physical and digital archive material, coding system, storing system etc.
- Checking quality and making necessary corrections of data in the existing database
- Restoration of S-21 documents: the purpose is to conserve the original hard-copy documents. This project started in the beginning of 2018 when the staff was trained by experts on the conservation of different types of paper. After a short period of training, the team decided to focus on the museum's administration files (after 1979) as well as those parts of the S-21 collection (1975-1979) with major problems such as acidic or/and other severe damages.

### Conservation challenges for the display of objects

Modern conservation techniques are required to prevent further decay of aspects of the exhibition. For example, there are two textile exhibits that are presented in non-climate-controlled cases. The organic materials on display will disintegrate over time. Other objects such as metals are vulnerable to the effects of the climate as are paper displays such as photographs.

Preventative conservation will require that changes are made to the exhibition. Changes will have to be made thoughtfully however, and a holistic approach taken so that individual changes are designed in the context of the whole museum rather than in a piecemeal way that may lead to changes that are incongruous. For example, it may be necessary to incorporate some climate-controlled spaces within the exhibition for the most fragile items, whilst the majority of objects are kept in safe storage.

### Conservation measures in storage rooms and exhibition

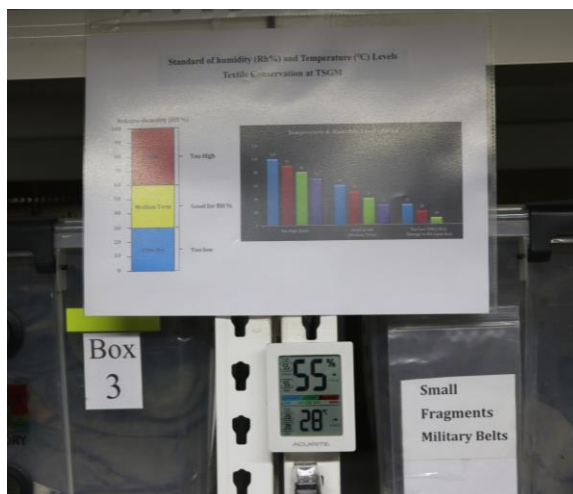
All rooms where objects, artefacts, textiles, furniture are stored or displayed, have a system in place for the control of light, temperature and humidity. The protocol foresees a daily control of the data as well as visual control (see chapter 8.1. of Risk Management).

After a comprehensive textile conservation project, where textiles were cleaned, treated and inventoried, they were stored in special transparent boxes with temperature and humidity measure in place for daily control.

As an additional measure that allows also for a regular visual analysis and evaluation of pest infestation, there are adhesive strips placed in each storage space.



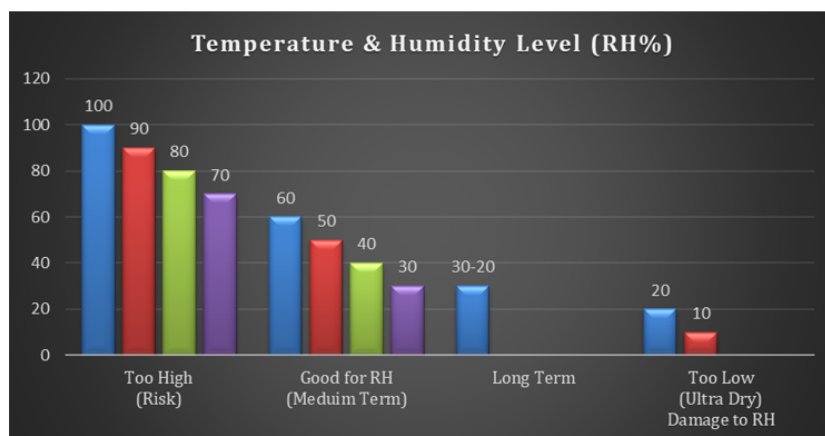
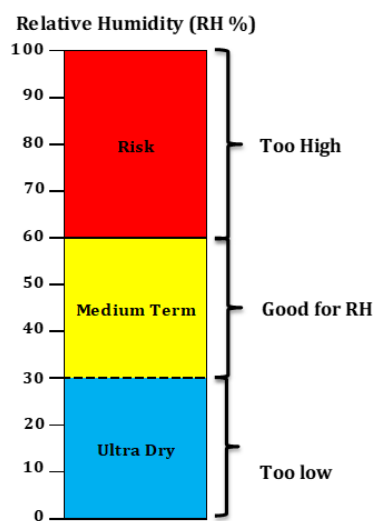


**Storage of textiles in building B**

*All textile fragments are stored in special conservation boxes with temperature and humidity control that is monitored every day (TSGM)*



### Standard of Relative Humidity (Rh%) and Temperature (°C) Control Levels Textile Conservation at TSGM



### Color cards for categories on textile boxes in storage



ចុះបញ្ជីម្តងមួយៗ  
One by one



ពិព័រណ៍  
Exhibition



លក្ខណៈពិសេស  
Special ID



បំណែកក្រណាត់  
Fragment

**Storage of metal objects in building C**



*The collection of metal objects of TSGM include various elements of daily use but also tools used for detention and torture (TSGM)*



**Built Heritage: Risk Mapping of the TSGM buildings (Annex 6)**

This project to study and evaluate the condition and structures of all buildings and rooms at Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum was conducted in 2021 by architects led by Dr. Men Chandevy, expert on cultural heritage architecture. The comprehensive study identified priorities for repairs and maintenance needed to slow down deterioration and degradation.

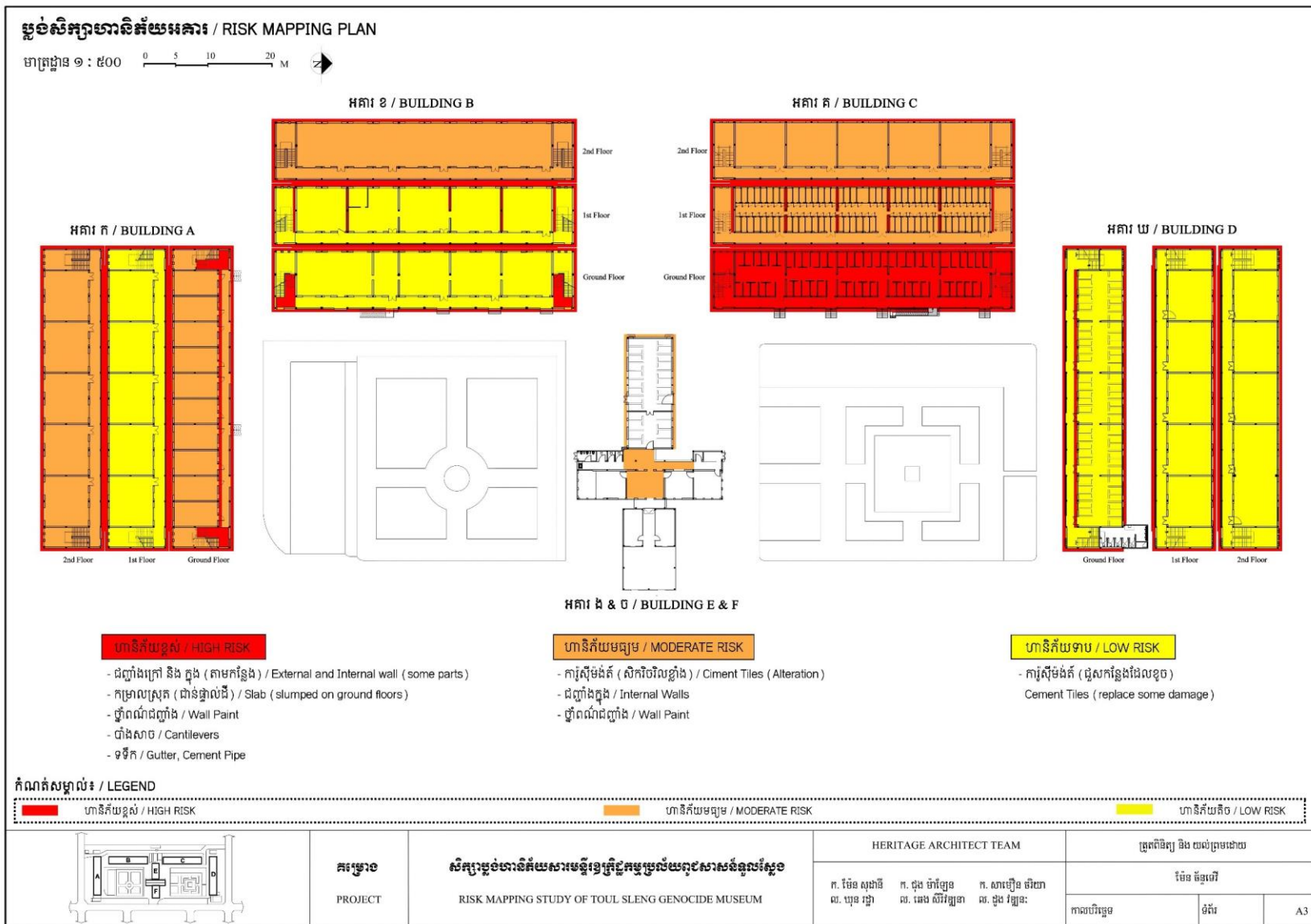
The risk mapping (770 pages) assessed each space in the museum in detail, evaluating how factors such as climate, time and the behaviour of staff/visitors and pests are affecting the buildings and artefacts, so that mitigating actions can be taken. Some issues have already been being addressed for some years, for example pest control is required every five years, and buildings D and E need rapid emergency protection from flooding during heavy rain.

Plans for the conservation and preservation of the buildings are:

- *Project to get rid of bats in buildings A and C*
- *Continue to monitor the quality of termite control services*
- *Scanning project (Ground Penetrating Radar-GPR) of space behind the building D. The possibility of existence of human remains cannot be confirmed without excavation.*

Below are examples of the assessment completed:





## ៦.៤ សិក្សាពីការខូចខាតអារាម

ការខូចខាតនៅលើជញ្ជាំងទាំងបួនទិសនៃអារាម រូបកថា រូបកស្វីម៉ង់ត៍ មានជម្រាបទឹក ស្នែងខ្មៅ

### រូបភាពពីខាងត្បូង

- ស្នាមប្រេះកាត់បណ្តោយលើជញ្ជាំងខាងកើត និងខាងលិច
- ស្នាមប្រេះកាត់ទទឹងផ្នែកជញ្ជាំងខាងលើបង្អស់នៃអារាម
- សំយ៉ាបមានស្នែង ស្នាមប្រេះ រូបកថា និងមានសំណើម
- បង្កាន់ដៃខាងមុខ សិក្ខិតវិល រូបកថា
- ស្នាមជម្រាបទឹកខ្លាំង ស្នែង សិក្ខិតវិល ប្រេះនៅលើជញ្ជាំងអារាម

### រូបភាពពីខាងជើង

- ស្នាមប្រេះកាត់ទទឹងនៅតាមសសរនីមួយៗ និងនៅផ្នែកខាងលិច និងខាងកើត
- ជម្រាបទឹក សិក្ខិតវិល និងស្នែងខ្មៅនៅលើជញ្ជាំង និងតាមបណ្តោយទទឹង
- ស្នាមសិក្ខិតវិលនៅលើជញ្ជាំង ស្នាមបំពេញស៊ីម៉ង់ត៍ថ្មី
- សំយ៉ាប មានស្នែង ប្រេះ សិក្ខិតវិល រូបកស្វីម៉ង់ត៍ និងមានសំណើមខ្លាំង

### រូបភាពពីខាងកើត និងខាងលិច

- ស្នាមប្រេះជាជួរតាមសសរ និងឥដ្ឋ
- មានជម្រាបទឹក និងស្នែងខ្មៅនៅលើជញ្ជាំងខាងកើតនិងខាងលិច
- ស្នាមសិក្ខិតវិលនៅលើជញ្ជាំង ស្នាមបំពេញស៊ីម៉ង់ត៍

### ផ្នែកខាងក្នុងអារាម

#### បាត់ផ្តាច់ដី

#### របៀង និងជណ្តើរ

- ការប្រេះច្រើននៅជណ្តើរខាងកើតនិងតិចតួចនៅជណ្តើរខាងលិច
- ស្នាមប្រេះដាច់ប្រហែល៥មីលីម៉ែត្រនៅផ្នែកខាងក្រោមជួរជណ្តើរនិងខាងលើជួរដែលជាជញ្ជាំងបង្កាន់ដៃ
- ការប្រេះរបៀងមានសំណើម ប្រេះនៅផ្នែកខាងលិចនិងខាងកើត
- សំណើមតាមជើងជញ្ជាំងនៃជណ្តើរទាំងសងខាង តាមជញ្ជាំងបង្កាន់ដៃ និងជញ្ជាំងអារាម
- ស្នាមប្រេះ រូបកថា សិក្ខិតវិលនៅរបៀងខាងមុខ

#### ទ្វារនិងបង្អួច

- ស្នាមប្រេះនៅសន្លឹកទ្វារផ្នែកខាងក្រោម
- ទ្វារដែកនៅជណ្តើរច្រើន
- សន្លឹកទ្វារខ្លះមានសំណើម
- គន្លឹះ កែង ទ្វារ និងបង្អួច ច្រើន ខូចបិទមិនជិត
- ស៊ុមបង្អួចមានសំណើម រូបកថា ពុក កណ្តៀរ និងស៊ុមខ្លះទៀតជួសជុលថ្មី
- ចំរើបង្អួច រៀប ច្រើន

## 6.4 BUILDING DIAGNOSIS D

- The general pathological on the four facades were paint peel off, mortar peeling, humidity and moss.

### South Facade

- Horizontal cracks on the east and west side wall
- Vertical cracks on the top of the wall
- Cantilever has moss, cracks, paint peel off, and humidity
- There were paint peel off at the front side of handrail
- High humidity, moss, paint peel off and cracks on the facade

### South Facade

- Horizontal crack on each column on the west and east sides
- Humidity, peel off, and moss on the lower wall and follow the cement pipe
- Paint peel off all over the wall and partly mortar filling
- The cantilever has moss, cracks, paint peeling, mortar peeling and humidity

### East and West Facades

- The cracks follow the columns and concrete blocks
- Both facades content humid and thickness of moss
- Paint peeling and mortar filling in both facades

### Interior

#### Ground Floor

#### Gallery and Stairs

- Many cracks on the floor tiles of east stair and slightly crack on the west stair
- Through cracked about 5mm under the staircase's beam
- The tiles at the gallery got humidity and cracks on the west and east sides
- Humidity on the lower wall and beside of both staircases and building facades
- Cracks, paint peel on the front gallery

#### Doors and Windows

- Crack on the lower part of the window panel
- Metal folding doors were rusted
- Some Door panels were humid
- The handles of the doors and windows were rusted, damaged
- Window frames were humid, paint peel off, decay and some were repaired
- Metal bars were crooked and rusted

**សាលាខាងត្បូង**

- កម្រាលសិក្សា ប្រលាក់ មានសំណើម ប្រេះច្រើននៅផ្នែកកណ្តាល និងខាងកើតនៃអគារ
- សំណើមតាមជើងជញ្ជាំង
- ស្នាមប្រេះតាមជ្រុងនៃបង្អួច តាមរន្ធខ្យល់
- ស្នាមបំពេញស៊ីម៉ង់ត៍បន្ថែមនៅជុំវិញបង្អួច
- ជញ្ជាំង សិក្សាវិទ្យា ជម្រាបទឹក ជាពិសេសនៅបន្ទប់ខាងកើតមានរបេះស៊ីម៉ង់ត៍ខ្លាំង

**ជាន់ទី១**

**របៀងនិងជណ្តើរ**

- ស្នាមប្រេះកាំ និងប្រលាក់នៅរបៀងខាងមុខបន្ទប់
- បង្កាន់ដៃមានស្នាមប្រេះខ្លះ រលកថ្នាំ
- សំយ៉ាបផ្នែកខាងមុខ និងខាងក្រោយមានស្នាមប្រេះ ស្នែងខ្មៅ សិក្សាវិទ្យា សំណើម និងមានស្នាមបំពេញស៊ីម៉ង់ត៍បន្ថែម
- ស្នាមជម្រាបទឹក ប្រេះនៅជញ្ជាំងនៃជណ្តើរទាំងសងខាង និងជើងជញ្ជាំង

**ទ្វារនិងបង្អួច**

- ស្នាមប្រេះនៅលើសន្លឹកទ្វារផ្នែកខាងក្រោម
- គន្លឹះ ត្រចៀកទ្វារនិងបង្អួចច្រើន បាត់គន្លឹះ
- សន្លឹកទ្វាររលកថ្នាំ ហើយស្លាបព្រិលខ្លះត្រូវជំនួសថ្មី និងមានខ្លះមានសំណើម
- សន្លឹកបង្អួចខ្លះជួសជុលថ្មី មានសំណើម ស្លាបព្រិលបាក់ ប្រេះ ចំរើងដែកច្រើន
- ស៊ីម៉ង់ត៍ រលកថ្នាំ

**សាលាខាងត្បូង**

- កាំប្រេះ ប្រលាក់
- សើមជើងជញ្ជាំង នៅបន្ទប់ផ្នែកខាងកើត
- រលកថ្នាំនៅជញ្ជាំងបង្អួចបន្ទប់ និងស្នាមប្រលាក់

**ជាន់ទី២**

**របៀងនិងជណ្តើរ**

- សើមជើងនៅជញ្ជាំងបង្កាន់ដៃ
- ជញ្ជាំងបង្កាន់ដៃមានស្នែងខ្មៅ ប្រេះ និងរលកថ្នាំ
- កម្រាលមានប្រេះបន្តិចបន្តួច
- សំយ៉ាបផ្នែកខាងមុខនិងខាងក្រោយមានស្នាមប្រេះ មានស្នែងខ្មៅដោយការសិក្សាវិទ្យា និងរបេះស៊ីម៉ង់ត៍
- ជម្រាបទឹក ស្នាមប្រេះ រលកថ្នាំ នៅរន្ធខ្យល់នៃជណ្តើរទាំងសងខាង

**Interior**

- The floor got dark stain, humid and cracks mostly at the middle part and east side of building
- Humidity on the lower wall
- Cacks around the windows and vents
- The paint on the wall peel off, humidity especially the room on the east side with mortar peeling as well

**1st Floor**

**Gallery and Stairs**

- Cracks on the tiles and a little dark stain the on floor
- Slightly cracked and paint peeling on the handrail
- On the both front and back cantilevers were cracked, moss, humidity and mortar filling
- Humidity and cracks on the wall and lower wall of staircases

**Doors and Windows**

- Door panels were cracks on the lower part
- The hinges of doors and windows were rusted, some were missing
- Door panels peel off the paint and some louvers were replaced and some were humid
- Some wooden window louvers were renewed and humid, broken, cracks and the metal bars rusted
- The window frames paint peel off

**Interior**

- The tiles were cracked and got dark stain
- The walls on the east side room were humid
- The paint of the walls peel off and stain

**2nd Floor**

**Gallery and Stairs**

- Humid on the lower wall of handrail
- The handrail at the gallery has moss, cracks, and paint peeling
- Floor tiles have slightly crack
- There were cracks, moss, peeling and mortar peeling at the front and back cantilevers
- Humidity, cracks and paint peeling on the vent of both staircases

**ទ្វារនិងបង្អួច**

- ទ្វារមានការជួសជុលបន្តិចបន្តួចដោយជំនួសស្លាបព្រិលថ្មីនៅកន្លែងខ្លះ
- គន្លឹះ ត្រចៀកទ្វារនិងបង្អួចច្រើន ខូច និង ចម្រើងរៀច
- គន្លឹះទ្វារខូចទាំងស្រុង កែងទ្វារច្រើន
- ស៊ុមបង្អួច បែក ពុក កណ្តៀរ ប្រេះ និងមានសំណើម

**សាលាខាងក្នុង**

- ស្នាមប្រេះស្ទើរមិនឆ្គងនៅតែមបង្អួចខាងកើតបន្ទប់កណ្តាល
- ស្នាមប្រេះនៅលើជញ្ជាំងចន្លោះទ្វារ និងបង្អួច
- ស្នាមប្រេះនៅជុំវិញរន្ធខ្យល់ដែលបិទនៃបន្ទប់ផ្នែកខាងកើត
- សំណើមជើងជញ្ជាំងផ្នែកខាងត្បូង និងខាងជើង
- ជញ្ជាំងនៅបន្ទប់ផ្នែកខាងកើត មានជម្រាបទឹក

**កំណត់សំគាល់:**

កម្រាលកាប្រូស៊ីម៉ង់ត៍នៅអគារ យ នេះគឺ ជាន់ទីផ្ទាល់ដ៏មានការផ្លាស់ប្តូរកាប្រូស៊ីម៉ង់ត៍ ហើយជាន់ទី១ និងទី២ អាចជាការប្រើប្រាស់ដោយមាននៅសល់ស្នាមខ្លះពីសម័យគុក។

**Doors and Windows**

- There were minor repair and replace with new louvers some part
- Window and door handles were damaged and rusted
- The window frames were damaged, decay cause by termites, cracks and humidity

**Interior**

- Mortar peeling beside the window of middle room
- The cracks on the wall in between door and window
- The cracks around the vents on the east side room
- The humidity presents at the lower wall of south and north sides
- The wall of the room at the east side got humid

**Note:**

The floor tiles of the Building D has some changes including the fully renewed of the tile at ground floor but the 1st and 2nd floor could be the original due to the traces remained from prison time.



រូបភាពការខូចខាតលើអគារ ៨ / Pathological Picture of Building D



រូបភាពការខូចខាតខាងក្រៅអគារ / Exterior Pathology



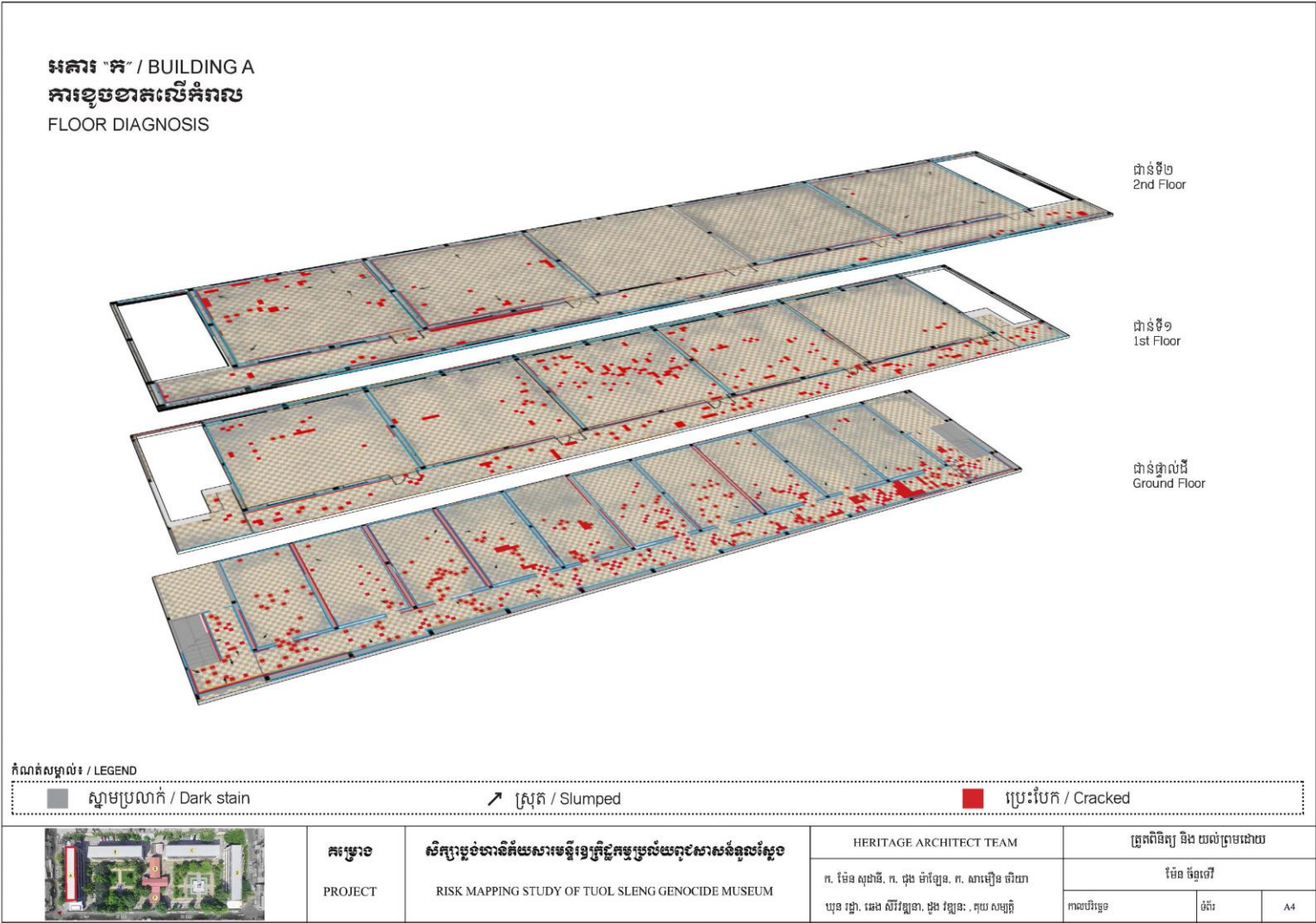
រូបភាពការខូចខាតលើកំពល / Floor Pathology



រូបភាពការខូចខាតខាងក្នុងបន្ទប់ / Interiro Pathology



រូបភាពការខូចខាតលើបង្អួច និងទ្វារ / Windows and doors pathology





**អគារ "ក" / BUILDING A**  
**ប្លង់បណ្តាញការខូចខាតទូទៅ**  
**BUILDING DIAGNOSIS**



**រូបភាពទិសខាងជើងឆៀងខាងកើត**  
 NORTHEAST VISUAL VIEW



**រូបភាពទិសខាងត្បូងឆៀងខាងលិច**  
 SOUTHWEST VISUAL VIEW

**ការខូចខាតទូទៅ ៖ / GENERAL PATHOLOGY**

សំណើម ជ្រាបទឹក / HUMIDITY	ស្ល / MOSS	ស្នាមបំពេញស៊ីម៉ង់ត៍ / MORTAR FILLING	បាត់ / LACUNA
ស្នាមប្រេះ / CRACK	របេះផ្ទៃលាបជញ្ជាំង / PAINT PEELING	ប្រហោង / HOLE	ស្នាមប្រលាក់ផ្ទៃ / DARK STAIN

	<b>គម្រោង</b> PROJECT	<b>សិក្សាប្លង់ហានិភ័យសារមន្ទីរទ្វីបកម្ពុជាប្រលងយុទ្ធសាស្ត្រសង្គ្រាមស៊ីវិល</b> RISK MAPPING STUDY OF TUOL SLENG GENOCIDE MUSEUM	HERITAGE ARCHITECT TEAM			ត្រួតពិនិត្យ និង យល់ព្រមដោយ		
			ក. ម៉ែន សុផានី, ក. ជុង ម៉ាឡាន, ក. សាម៉េន ធីយា			ម៉ែន ផ្នែកទី		
			ហ្សន រដ្ឋា, ឆេង សិរីវឌ្ឍនា, ដូង វិធីនៈ			កាលបរិច្ឆេទ	ទំព័រ	A4

## Conservation Plan for TSGM

The Conservation Team is responsible for conserving and preserving the museum's object collections.

All items in the textile collection of 3,000 pieces, have been cleaned, photographed and tagged. Most items are now in stable long-term storage. A database of the collection has been established and all objects have been indexed. Work practices are being documented.

Conservation of non-textile objects is ongoing but has not yet been the subject of a project to modernise the processes and management of the collection.

### *Institutionalise conservation within the management and operation of the museum*

The following principles will underpin the institutionalisation of conservation:

- Integrating conservation into management and operational decision-making; core processes such as the rotation of artefacts on view, and decisions on which objects should be displayed and which kept in the store, require input from the Conservation Team and other teams

- Embedding a holistic view of conservation within the Conservation Team and across the museum will enable developments to the site and exhibitions to be reviewed as a whole so that the impact of individual changes can be considered in context

- Preventative conservation will be applied to the site and buildings as well as to the objects; risk-based mechanisms to monitor and control the environment and local climate and to assess conservation risks will be implemented

### *Prepare a holistic conservation plan for all objects*

A plan will be developed for the conservation of all objects.

### *Implement preventative conservation for non-textile objects*

The inventory of non-textile objects will be reviewed and the numbers re-written on objects. Also, a safe non-textile object store will be established.

### *Conduct a risk assessment of all objects on display*

A risk assessment of all displayed items has been completed in 2020. Further treatment needs to be decided.

### *Move and expand the conservation lab*

It is intended that the conservation lab will move to a bigger space; there is presently insufficient space in the current room, including for temporary storage of objects that are being conserved.

### *Implement integrated database of artefacts*

Over the longer term, an integrated database of all artefacts will be developed; currently there are separate databases for textiles, non-textile objects and the document archives. The database may include artefacts relating to the buildings such as graffiti.

### *Develop capacity of conservation team*

Capacity development and professionalisation of the Conservation Team is a priority for the team to achieve its goals, and for the museum to develop sustainably. It is important that the team is recognised as providing a career path for specialists to develop deep technical skills within a professional conservation lab.

### *Outreach to students*

The Conservation Team plans to implement a concept to train students from RUFA in techniques of conservation and preservation.



## CHAPTER 7: VISITOR MANAGEMENT

Visitor Management for Cambodian Memorial Sites to be inscribed on the World Heritage List requires a careful balance between preserving the evidence of the atrocities and significance of the site while providing a meaningful, educational, and respectful experience for visitors. The plan should provide a comprehensive framework for managing tourism at the three sites, ensuring they are preserved, respected, and accessible for future generations.

### 7.1. Visitor Numbers

Visitor numbers have not yet recovered since pre-pandemic times, and 2018 was the year with record visitor numbers being over half a million, amounting 520,639 visitors for TSGM. Covid-19 hit the sites heavily during 2021, when they were able to open only for 3 months, from January to March, with serious financial consequences. While the number of visitors has not yet recovered to pre-Covid numbers, in 2023 they had climbed back to 332,970 for TSGM and 161,289 for CEGC.

2023 has demonstrated once again that the sites clearly respond to interest in gaining knowledge and understanding about the KR crimes by both national and international visitors.

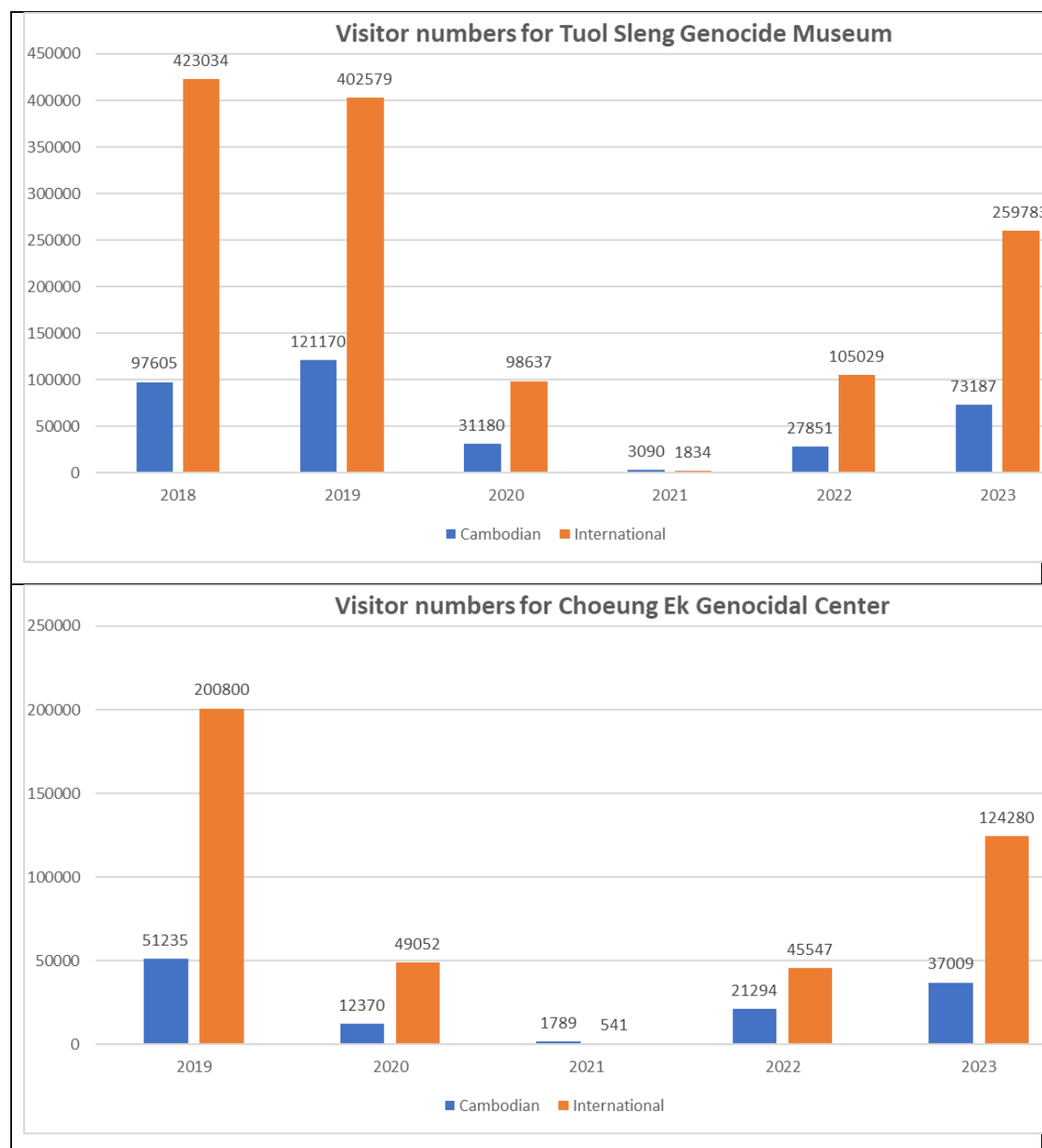
As the former prison M-13 site is not yet open to the general public, visits must be arranged in advance through TSGM or the local staff. To date, such visits have been mainly by experts and local authorities or some local school groups.

#### **Ratio national and international visitors**

Although the trend is positive with increasing number of national visitors over recent years, we still note with some concern that there are significantly more international visitors than nationals to both sites. In percentage figures, we can see that for TSGM in 2019 the percentage of national visitors was 23% of the total number of visitors. This percentage has stayed the same over the years, around 25% (in 2023 it was 22%). In CEGC, the percentage in average of national visitors amount also always around 25%.

Our estimate is that around 80% of these Cambodian visitors are students, most of them visiting in groups and organised by their schools or institutions. This means that there is official support for such visits not only by the educational authorities but also by their parents who need to sign a permission for the school for this “excursion”. Depending on their schedule, they visit the sites for either half or a full day. Many students group visit both TSGM and CEGC (either on the same or different days).

While we do not record nationality of international visitors, we can obtain data from the hiring of the audio tour guides, which we offer in 11 languages in TSGM and 15 in CEGC. The overwhelming majority is of English-speaking background, leading from US, UK and Australia, followed by French speaking countries, and Cambodians seeking Khmer language tour guides ranked 3rd in 2023, while demand for Vietnamese, Chinese and Korean continue to rise.

**Development of visitor numbers**

Origin of top 10 international visitors at TSGM										
2019			2020		2021		2022		2023	
No	Country	Amount	Country	Amount	Country	Amount	Country	Amount	Country	Amount
1	U.S.A.	29125	U.S.A.	1728	France	209	United Kingdom	2124	United Kingdom	14885
2	Australia	24554	China	1698	U.S.A.	168	France	1918	U.S.A.	13479
3	France	19228	Australia	1437	China	103	U.S.A.	1768	France	10556
4	China	15887	Brazil	1415	Thailand	77	Germany	1155	Germany	7159
5	Hong kong	15169	Canada	1347	Korea	74	Australia	1011	Netherlands	6203
6	United Kingdom	13527	Germany	1213	Germany	68	Korea	625	Japan	5525
7	Germany	10156	United Kingdom	1187	United Kingdom	67	China	505	Australia	5350
8	Canada	9707	Finland	1105	Japan	63	Canada	496	Korea	4759
9	Japan	9307	Malaysia	1072	Vietnam	61	Netherlands	472	Canada	4418
10	Malaysia	1912	France	1040	Singapore	32	Singapore	324	China	3928
Source: TSGM Ticket Office										

### Large and growing visitor numbers

Both TSGM and CEGC are amongst the highest-profile and most visited sites in Phnom Penh and can only be expected to rise significantly if and when the Cambodian Memorial Sites are inscribed on the World Heritage List. We are mindful of the fact that visitor numbers increase and there could be a risk threshold number after which the visitor's learning experience becomes diminished and the museum becomes less successful at achieving its mission. Furthermore, the site and buildings may suffer differing degrees of physical damage: paths and steps may become worn, and walls and artefacts may become damaged.

Mechanisms will be required to take actions pre-emptively to avoid or minimise these negative impacts. Such actions are likely to involve managing visitor numbers (with possible need for advance booking at certain hours) as well as facilitating a steady flow (possibly providing alternate circuits). Better physical protection for the buildings and exhibits will be required, such as the construction of walkways and occasionally erecting protective screens or ropes around certain exhibits that are highly visited or particularly fragile. At TSGM such measures have been envisaged in the Five-year Strategic Plan and measures for Choeung Ek Genocidal Centre will need to be developed and for the former prison M-13 included in the development plan from the very beginning.

### The impact on the community in the immediate vicinity

The disruption and disorganisation caused by increasing visitor numbers on the streets outside both sites, but mainly around TSGM, especially for tourist buses, will need to be managed with the local authorities and the neighbouring residents. At present, we are commencing dialogue on the possibility of changing traffic flow to one-way only in streets next to the museum, or even possibly close during opening hours. The impact of growing numbers of visitors on local businesses and residents must be given priority, balancing the positive impact for some businesses bringing in more potential customers to hampering access and deliveries to other businesses and to residential homes.

### Traffic challenges in the neighbourhood

At times, especially during high season, the high visitor numbers coming in larger groups and especially those in buses, can cause traffic jams in the neighbourhood. Although currently, this situation is not happening very often as visitor numbers are not yet back to pre-Covid, TSGM in cooperation with Phnom Penh Municipality, is currently evaluating the possibility of a special circulation measure to solve this challenge that can also trigger risk to the visitors.



*Intersection of Street 113 with Street 350, 4 March 2019 (TSGM)*



## 7.2. Safety and wellbeing of visitors

Cambodia's climate is tropical, characterised by a dry season from mid-November to mid-May and a rainy season from mid-May to mid-November. The annual average temperature in Cambodia is 27°C and can rise especially during daytime to a maximum of 38°C in April and May.

Visitors to these historical sites are consequently exposed to these high temperatures. It is therefore essential that the sites offer enough spaces under artificial or natural shade, and also provide places to rest, such as benches in numbers appropriate to the visitation level. Additionally, water stations need to be installed for visitors to serve themselves drinking water with paper cups or fill their bottles for free.

In the area of the ticket office, at times during high season (from November to March) at certain times there can be an accrual of visitors while queuing either for admission tickets, for gathering in groups or for getting the audioguide. Therefore a canvas over the entrance space has been installed to offer protection from the sun while waiting and also an overhead light water spray system to keep cool.

The following facilities are currently provided for security and wellbeing of visitors, but will need to be increased along with, or preferably in advance of increases in visitor numbers:

- Water stations
- Shades (artificial with canvas at entrance or encouraged with natural growth of trees in the courtyards)
- Benches to rest
- Enough toilet facilities: including appropriate toilets for people in wheelchairs
- Adapted access to ground floor exhibition for people in wheelchairs
- First aid kit
- Fire hoses in all buildings and floors (both in exhibition spaces as well as in offices)
- Basketscreens around tree trunks to protect visitors from falling coconuts
- Security cameras
- Non-smoking policy in the entire compound

**Water stations**



**Toilet facility for people with special needs**



**Benches to rest in the shade**



**Shade cloth to protect visitors from sun at ticket office**

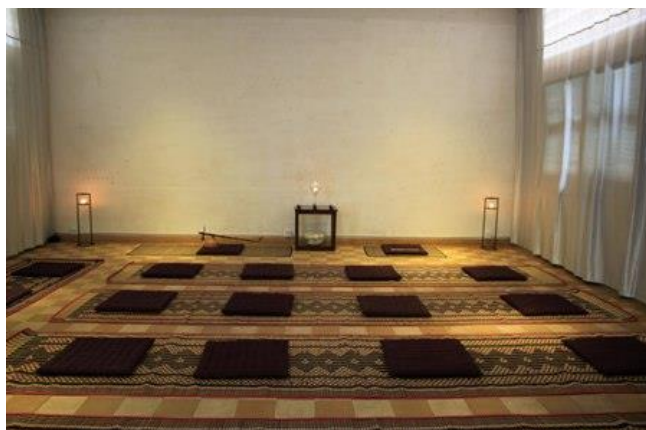


**Protection from falling coconuts**



**Wheelchair access in building C**



**Meditation room****Fire hoses****Security cameras****Non-smoking compound****Warning sign****First aid box at building E**



### Spaces for reflection or meditation

TSGM has various spaces for the visitors to recover and reflect. Based on the good experience with these spaces, similar ones will be promoted at Choeung Ek Genocidal Centre and also developed at the former prison M-13 as it develops for visitation.

The meditation room at the end of the exhibition circuit, called the “Lotus Room” in Building D on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, has air conditioning to assist recovery from the heat outside, although ceiling fans are provided in the indoor exhibition areas. There is a similar space at the end of the 40 year exhibition in Building B on 2nd floor, to remember the victims and there are also plenty of benches in the entire garden where to rest under the shades of the trees. In fact, the growth of the trees and the vegetation in the gardens of the entire compound is fostered to offer a comfortable space for the visitors after seeing the exhibition. In the same way, the museum staff further takes care of many agreeable details around the museum, with flowers and plants being placed at various points all around the circuit.



Mediation room in building D of TSGM, also called "Lotus room" (TSGM)



The meditation room is also used for reflection or debriefing after a group visit (TSGM)





*Space for remembering the victims of TSGM, last room of the temporary exhibition "40 years" in building B, 22 September 2023 (TSGM)*



*Stupa for praying and ceremonies in the last room of exhibition in building D, where human remains are displayed reverentially (TSGM)*

### 7.3. Visitor facilities

#### A) Former M-13 prison

Visitors can access the site, about 90 km from Phnom Penh by National Road 5 that connects with road 136 and coming from the north from Banteay Mean Chey, Battambang, Pursat by the same National Road 5 and then road 136. Currently there is no unscheduled access to the site, as it is in the preparatory phase for preservation and research. For the time being, visits can only be organised via TSGM, for example for educational activities, and facilitated by TSGM staff.

#### B) Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (former S-21 prison)

Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, in the centre of Phnom Penh capital city, is one of most-visited and highly rated visitor spots in the country. The museum is about 15 minutes by any vehicle from Royal Palace and 10 minutes from the Independence Monument, two famous Phnom Penh landmarks. Visitors can access the site from the north through Preah Sihanouk Blvd (274) and street 113, from the south by Mao Tse Tung Blvd, and then street 113. Below key information facilitating the visit of both national and international visitors:

- Open every day of the year from 8:00am – 5:00pm
- Ticket and information office
- Admission fee:
  - Cambodian Citizen: Free of charge
  - Non-Cambodian Adults: \$5.00
  - Non-Cambodian Citizens aged 10-18 years: \$3.00
- Administrative office for staff
- Tour guides available by donation
- Audio guide (in 11 languages: Khmer, English, French, Mandarin, German, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese, Spanish, Dutch, Italian)
  - Cambodian Citizen: \$1.00
  - Non-Cambodian Citizen: \$5.00
- Permanent exhibition
- Diverse temporary exhibitions
- Ceiling fans in all 4 buildings
- Archive and library
- White Lotus room for reflection and meditation
- Movie room (2 movies produced by TSGM about the importance of its archives screened regularly)
- Testimony program from S-21 survivors and other survivors of the Khmer Rouge period (irregular)
- Benches around the grounds for resting
- Access for persons using wheelchairs to visit each building (only ground floors)
- First Aid kit available
- Non-smoking area in the entire compound
- Trash placement, cleaning and garbage management
- 4 toilet areas, separated for men and women, and wheelchair accessible
- Umbrellas provided during rain.
- Outside the museum, there are signs on the main streets of Phnom Penh. Parking on nearby streets facilitated by police and security staff if needed

**Access for visitors with special needs**

*Building C features a ramp for easier and inclusive accessibility for individuals with disabilities, 19th September 2023 (TSGM)*

**Major completed works of maintenance and visitor facilities:**

- 2010: Restroom renovation and construction of ticket office.
- 2016: Renovation of the parking area ground behind building A from paving tiles to concrete.
- 2017: Renovation of the toilet facility near Building A and in front of the administration room to improve the aesthetics and hygiene for national and international visitors.
- 2017: Improvement of access to the buildings for visitors on wheelchairs.
- 2018: Renovation of electricity system.
- 2018: Posts erected along the museum fence, and repair of the toilet behind the building B and installation of restroom for people with disabilities near ticket booth.
- 2023: New fire extinguishers on all levels and on both sides of access stairs of the exhibition circuit.

**C) Choeung Ek Genocidal Centre (former execution site of S-21)**

Visitors can travel the 15 km southwest of Phnom Penh and TSGM to Choeung Ek Genocidal Center by taxi, tour buses or local low-cost transportation (*tuk tuk*). There are three access roads Monireth Blvd, which crosses the Stung Meanchey Bridge, Boeung Tumpung Road, which turns off road 371, and via Samdech Techo Hun Sen Blvd.

- Open every day of the year from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
- Admission
  - Cambodian Citizen: free of charge
  - Non-Cambodian Citizen: \$3.00
- Audio guide (in 15 Languages: Khmer, English, French, Mandarin, German, Japanese, Korean, Vietnamese, Spanish, Dutch, Italian, Swedish, Russian, Malay and Thai)
  - Cambodian Citizen: \$1.00
  - Non-Cambodian Citizen: \$3.00
- Ticket and information office



- Direction signs
- Newly designed walkways
- Toilets, including wheelchair access
- Refreshment and souvenir shop
- Benches at different places on the site
- Permanent exhibition
- Parking area and restaurants outside main entrance
- Emergency services available
- Umbrellas provided during rain
- Trash placement, cleaning and garbage management
- Special trash baskets for plastic bottles
- Warning signs of dangerous places (ponds)
- Botanical naming of trees typical for Cambodia in Khmer and English



*Restrooms including access with wheelchair at Choeung Ek Genocidal Center (TSGM)*



*Rubbish bin and special bin for recycling of plastic at Choeung Ek Genocidal Center (TSGM)*





*Walkways allow site visitation without stepping on the mass graves (TSGM)*



*Places and benches for resting in the shades and explanation boards (TSGM)*

## 7.4. Visitor Development Plan for Former Prison M-13

Although its location was already known by authorities and of course by local people during the 1980s, the former prison M-13 has only recently been investigated more thoroughly through academic research and archaeology. So, the site is quite pristine and the MCFA under the supervision of TSGM has the unique opportunity to develop this site from scratch according to latest standards.

The development will need to be carefully planned in coordination with the local community allowing for participative processes. Main steps to be taken are:

- Secure fence installed.
- Security personnel appointed.
- Access road constructed (currently being planned with local authorities)
- Office for local staff
- Parking
- Access crossing river
- Toilet
- Information boards installation
- Shelter for visitor
- Planting trees or encouraging regrowth in accordance with the historical context of the site, as the local people always mention that it was in the forest.
- Preventing human disasters (put a definitive stop to sand dredging, encroachment on the former M-13 land, further felling of trees in the surrounding area)
- Develop the exhibition hall (show more objects and information panels)
- Visitor amenities will be kept outside the nominated property. No activities like picnics will be allowed even in the buffer.
  - Visitors will normally park all vehicles at the parking lot at the entrance on road 44 (some 1,2 km from the entrance to the site) and ask for general information. It is planned that vehicle access will be restricted only for people with special needs.
  - Visitors to M-13 will access the site by foot, bicycle, oxcart or horse-drawn carriage to M-13, or possibly in future by small electric golf carts
  - The access road will allow visitors to see the forest landscape and can imagine the historical scenery accompanied by a guide. The reason for not allowing vehicles to enter such places is to keep the environment, history and attract tourists.
- Add information of the site to the list of tourist sites of Province (Kampong Chhnang and Kampong Speu) and also in national level information by Ministry of Tourism, and by major tourist operators.
- Prepare plans to cover,
  - Develop M-13 as a historical tourist site, putting up signage and building a Visitor Centre. – a site has been provisionally selected along Route 44 (to be verified after further study including archaeological investigation).
  - Develop a master plan for the development of land suitable for cultural and historical sites, avoiding the destruction of nature or any of the original form of the prison site and the area.
  - Establish a community museum or visitor centre for display of objects, collection of stories, historical awareness and tourism.



### Visit of Students at former M-13 prison

The visits by students are organized by Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum staff together with people from the village and eye-witnesses.



*Temporary access by raft to M-13, September 2023 (TSGM)*



*Students visiting M-13 in September 2023 (TSGM)*

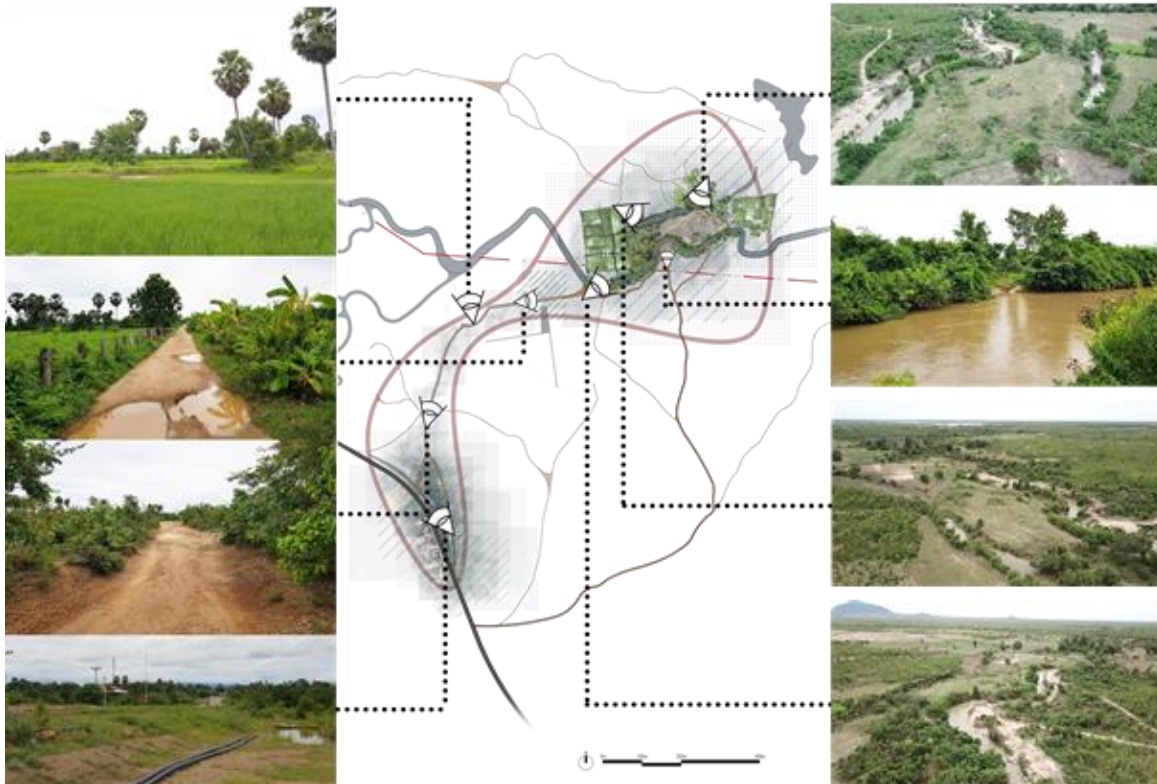


### Museum and Memorial Design Project by Students of Architecture of Royal University of Cambodia

In 2020, students of the bachelor's degree in architecture of the Royal University of Fine Arts in Phnom Penh were assigned a project to design a memorial for the former prison M-13. The names of the students are: Nget Chulong, Kea Sovannidy, Chan Tipprosith.

This project provided one possible vision of how the site could be developed for site visitation. But it remains to be decided which elements of the proposal are realistic and in accordance with the proposed interpretation of the site, that is to be of a minimum interference and keeping most authenticity.

Below are images of the project dossier as designed by the students:





## CHAPTER 8: RISK MANAGEMENT

### Objective

The objective of the Risk Management Plan is to ensure both the safety of the visitors and staff at the sites and the protection of the authenticity and integrity of the sites. This requires an approach to safeguard the uniqueness and with it the Outstanding Universal Value that is supported by the attributes of each site.

The overarching goal is to balance the preservation of the World Heritage site's Outstanding Universal Value with the safety of people and the sustainable management of the site, even in the face of potential risks and disasters.

### Weather conditions

Cambodia's climate is characterised by a dry season from mid-November to mid-May and a rainy season from mid-May to mid-November. The annual average temperature is 27°C and can rise to a maximum of 38°C in April or May.

In effect, it has a relatively high exposure to natural disasters and may increasingly be affected by climate change. Droughts, floods and typhoons are common. They put the population, the nature and buildings at risk, hence also heritage sites. During the rainy season, flooding is quite common.

The overall weather condition poses major challenges for the maintenance of the buildings and monuments, as well as for the attributes of the three sites, including artefacts and human remains.

### Strategy

Recognising the vulnerability of these sites to various hazards, the plan outlines a proactive approach to risk preparedness, response, and recovery.

Disaster scenarios for each site need to be developed and mitigation plans designed accordingly. This includes the definition of adequate emergency responses and protocols. Assistance may be wanted from other heritage sites with similar hazard conditions either from Cambodia or abroad.

Capacity building of especially appointed staff with knowledge in hazard response is required. Training workshops in cooperation of associated authorities and ministries are the most appropriate way. This includes the establishment of a dedicated fire response team in cooperation with the fire service units of the district or village to which the sites belong. The component of first aid is also part of this plan.

This plan should be a dynamic document, regularly reviewed and updated to ensure its relevance and effectiveness. Collaboration with local, national, and international partners is crucial for successful risk management at World Heritage Sites. The plan must encompass both preparedness and response strategies.

## Necessary interventions

Interventions	Tasks
Disaster scenario plans	Development of disaster scenario plans for each component part. Engagement with national or international world heritage sites with similar hazard conditions. Preparation of emergency response plan. Assess the likelihood and severity of each identified risk.
Establishment of emergency and disaster response team	Appointment of staff members to response to emergency situations. Designate a spokesperson and ensure their training in effective crisis communication.  Compile a list of emergency contacts, including local authorities, relevant government agencies, and international organizations.
Training of emergency and disaster response team	Training workshops in cooperation with international organisations experts in cultural heritage.
Emergency and disaster response equipment	Identification, provision and installation of tools and equipment in cooperation with experts (or external company).
Evacuation plan	Develop evacuation routes and assembly points for visitors, staff, and local communities. Establish a system for evacuating valuable artefacts, objects and documents. Special plan for evacuation of TSGM Archive is necessary. Train staff on evacuation procedures.
Periodic risk assessment	Carry out periodic risk assessment of all natural and built heritage, as well as attributes
Periodic mapping of damages and losses	Documentation of the damages, including degree of damage for adjustment of risk mapping
Periodic analysis of damages	Analysis of degree and types of the damage to the attributes for adjustment of prevention measures and identification of responsive measures
Conservation and restoration	Constant conservation and restoration of the sites, settings, buildings, monuments and attributes that contribute to Outstanding Universal Value
Evaluation of emergency and disaster response	Monitoring and reporting of responses, identification of gaps and challenges for adjustment of protocols

## 8.1. Protocol for Daily Risk Assessment at TSGM

### 1. Relative Humidity

Take RH in the morning, between 9- 10 AM;

Take RH in afternoon between 2-3 PM

Write down lowest to highest measurement

Make comparison between morning and afternoon; what changed?

Is it good, is it between 40-60%?

Example: The RH at 9 AM overall in building A is between 45 -50%. This is good because the aim is to achieve a RH between 40 -60% to not damage the objects by creating mould. In the afternoon at 3 PM the RH is between 35-42%. This is lower than in the morning.

### 2. Temperature

Take Temperature in the morning between 9- 10 AM Take Temperature in the afternoon between 2-3 PM

Write down lowest to highest measurement

Make comparison between morning and afternoon; what changed? Example: The Temperature at 9 AM overall in the building A is 28-31 Degree Celsius. In the afternoon at 3 PM the temperature is between 31

33 Degree Celsius. This is higher than in the morning.

### 3. Light:

Take lux in the morning between 9-10 AM Take lux in the afternoon between 2-3 PM

Write down lowest to highest measurement

Make comparison between morning and afternoon; what changed? Is it good?

Look up lux level for objects: Max. 50 lux- Textiles, Paper; Max. 100 lux- Photographs; Max. 150 lux- Wood, Bone, Paintings; Max. 300 lux- Metal, Glass, Stone

Why is the lux too high? (Are windows/doors open? Are the lights on?) Example: The lux in Building A overall is between 64 to 437 at 9 AM in the morning. In the afternoon at 3 Pm it is between 40 to 807. This means that in the afternoon the light level is much higher than in the morning. This could be due to open windows and doors, as well as the lights which are on. These light levels are too high for every object in building A. For a good light level 50Lux for textile and 300Lux for metal must be ensured.

### 4. Pollution

Yes, or no?

Write down possible reasons - What is close to the building (Cars, Street, Visitors, Plants, Animals)



Example: In Building A the possibility of pollution is very high. This is because it is located next to the entrance, where the heaviest use of visitors is, as well as the street. This causes a lot of pollution from the traffic, which can enter due to the open windows. Also, most visitors will visit building A and B causing biggest density, so there is the most human pollution within the museum.

### **5. Cleaning:**

Is there dirt, dust?

Is it on the object? Is it on the floor?

Why? Possible reasons? (Do the visitors bring in dirt? Is there dirt from animals/plants? Is there dirt from insects?)

Example: In Building A, dirt and dust is everywhere located. The most amount of dirt is located in corners on the floor. In a lot of rooms dirt and dust are located on the object as well. This could come from the number of visitors.

### **6. Pests/Insects:**

What? (Spiders, birds, bats, rats, mosquitos, termites etc.?)

Where? (On the object/ In the room)

→ Dead/Alive?

→ How many?

→ Example: In Building A there are many different pests' problems, especially the 2nd Floor has a bat problem. Bats are hiding behind objects and destroying them. Furthermore, these bats are a health risk for the visitors. Also, different objects have spider webs located on them. Moreover, some dead cockroaches are lying on the floor in the 1st Floor. Also, the wooden objects have a problem with termites, which are destroying the objects. Moreover, overall, in the buildings, mosquitos present an ongoing hazard, especially during rainy season in building C because of the small and dark spaces in the cells.

### **7. Water risks:**

→ Possibility of water coming inside? (Open windows/doors?)

Location: From where is the rain coming?)

→ Possibility of a flood in the wet season? Why? (Floor too low?)

→ Water damage already there on floor/walls?

→ What happened in the past?


→ Example: Although no flood has yet been reported, still in Building A there is a possible threat of rain coming inside during the rainy season, due to any open windows/doors. Still overall in the building damage from water on the walls can be found. Low-level flooding has been reported in building D and sandbagging has been required.

**8. Fire risks:**

→ Possible sources?

Ongoing renewal of electric wiring: limits risks

→ No smoking in the buildings: limits risks

 Emergency plan case of a fire?

Example: In Building A the electricity wiring was renewed two years ago. This limits the potential threat coming from electric wires. Furthermore, the threat of fire is limited by the prohibition of smoking inside the building too. Still there is the threat of fire coming from weather extremes, like lightning. Nevertheless, a lightning conductor has been placed on the top of building B with a coverage of 500 metres.

**9. Security:**

Possibility of Theft

→ Are the objects secured?

→ Are visitors able to steal objects?

→ Are visitors able to damage objects? (Direct/indirect damage)

→ Number of visitors

→ Can objects be relocated without notice?

→ Security Guards?

→ CCTV?

→ Example: The possibility of theft in building A is a realistic one, because some objects are not secured. Also, the plastic strings to secure the objects can be easily destroyed or cut off. Due to this, visitors would be able to steal, as well as relocate objects or misplace them. Furthermore, all objects are exposed to the visitors without any barrier around them, so visitors would be able to damage these. Also, building A has high mosquito challenge. Further, in building A and B which are heaviest in use from the visitors, due to their location near to the entrance, the high numbers of visitors, there is high damage to the floor from heavy foot traffic (tile floor is original and need to be preserved and the traces of the former cells). Also, accumulation of visitors causes rise in temperature and humidity due to transpiration. 3 security guards and 4 maintenance staff are watching over the rooms during opening hours.

**10. Loss of information:**

→ Historic value

→ Story behind the object: What does it tell us today? /Why is it important?

Research purpose

Example: The objects tell us the story about high level prisoners who were treated differently. Furthermore, the remaining blackboards are located in the building. These boards tell us about the story about the former school and give visible proof of this time. Overall, this building shows the development from school to prison to museum the best. It also provides the visitors with the most visible authenticity about the school time.

## 8.2. Termite Control for Buildings at TSGM

Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum has addressed its challenge with termites by contracting a specialised company to conduct subterranean termite treatment of the buildings and the installing of termite baiting system. This service is currently contracted for 5 years (until 2025). The schedule foresees four regular inspections and others as needed per year.

The same service includes also fumigation of all buildings and compound to prevent proliferation of insects, that are harmful not only to the buildings and objects, but also to the visitors.

Based on the actual situation at the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, the Contractor has categorised two methods for subterranean termite treatment: Termite Slab Injection System for all buildings except C and Termite Baiting treatment in building C.

- **Termite Slab Injection System:** The Contractor agrees to carry out the service for controlling of subterranean termites such as building Admin, A, B, and D by:
  - Drilling hole into the ground along the internal, external walls
  - Drilling 100 mm -200 mm from internal and external walls and spaced 300 mm – 500 mm from each hole to another and 300 mm - 400 mm in depth or till the drill bit touches soil
  - Inject the chemical dilution 5 litres per hole
  - After injecting the chemical, each drilling hole has to be filled cement or cutting tile.
- **Termite Baiting System:** The Contractor agrees to carry out the service for controlling of subterranean termites on building C by:
  - Install the in concrete (IC) Station surrounding the building. Installing IC Station distant 3.5m to 4m from one to another.
  - Place the interceptor in concrete luring wood into IC Station and checking every two weeks for the first two months.
  - If the termite consumes the interceptor in concrete luring wood, the bait has to be placed in the IC Station and checking every two weeks.







**Termite Inspection Schedule**  
 Address: Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, Street 113/350, BKK III  
 Tel: 010 359 698

<u>1<sup>st</sup> Year</u>	<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Year</u>	<u>3<sup>rd</sup> Year</u>	<u>4<sup>th</sup> Year</u>	<u>5<sup>th</sup> Year</u>	<u>Time Treatment</u>
February-2021	February-2022	February-2023	February-2024	February-2025	Morning
May-2021	May-2022	May-2023	May-2024	May-2025	Morning
August-2021	August-2022	August-2023	August-2024	August-2025	Morning
November-2021	November-2022	November-2023	November-2024	November-2025	Morning

The Treatment will commence follow to the dates mentioned above and if there any change on the schedule please feel free to confirm one (1) day in advance of service.

For further information please do not hesitate to contact us by our company address or via Tel: 011 833 666 / 077 770 005 or email: [info@lpestcontrol.com](mailto:info@lpestcontrol.com)

#### IC STATION



#### SLAB INJECTION



#### OPERATION MANAGER

Mr. VUY PHORLY

COMPANY CONTACT NUMBER : 096 38 50000



### Leading Pest Control Co., Ltd Termite WARRANTY LETTER

Customer Address : Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, Street 113/350, BKK III  
 Warranty Size : Building A /B /C / D & Admin

Termite Treatment Methodology: Termite Baiting System + Slab Injection  
 Termite Chemical : From Exterminex & Ensystex Company

Warranty Five Years : Start from 01 December, 2020 until 30 November, 2025

Inspection Schedule : Following attached details back page  
 Contact number : 096 38 5000 011/ 833 666 / 077 770 005

OPERATION MANAGER

Mr. VUY PHORLY

### Risk Management for the Archives

All the primary sources and archival material for TSGM and M-13 are kept in the Archives of Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum. This Archive started its work already in 1979, but has been professionalised in terms of preservation and conservation in the recent years with the support and in cooperation with international partners.

The primary purpose is to safeguard archival materials against physical (water and fire), environmental and human-related hazards. By addressing each risk separately, TSGM endeavours to ensure the availability of the documents for future generations, maintaining accessibility for study and research while upholding ethical and conservation standards.

TSGM has contracted an external specialised company (Bakou Systems) to put preventive measures in place. The company assists in identifying potential hazards and installs proactive measures to mitigate and manage risks effectively. The contract with Bakou Systems Company comprises the following:

- Alarm system
- Restricted access system with fingerprint code
- Emergency door lock
- Fire compress system
- Air conditioning (cooling system) in Archives room

#### Fire compress system



Fire alarm and extinguisher system

#### Fire hazard response placed at the entrance of archives room



Fire detectors and gas extinguisher system



**Emergency disposal for water hazard**

**Water hazard protection**





## CHAPTER 9: ACTION PLAN

Based on the assessment of the needs described in this management plan, the following required measures and actions are proposed to protect the Outstanding Universal Value of the sites. They are phased into four categories of urgency and identify the responsible institution.

Abbreviations:

MCFA: Ministry of Culture and Fine Arts

IMC: Inter-Ministerial Committee

AB: Advisory Board

TSGM: Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum

CEGC: Choeung Ek Genocidal Center

PPM: Phnom Penh Municipality

CMS: Cambodian Memorial Sites (the three nominated component parts)

The table below will need to be completed with actions along with the development of the individual sectoral plans during 2024.

No	Action	Former M-13	TSGM	CEGC	Immediate (0-1 year)	Urgent (1-2 years)	Necessary (2-5 years)	Desirable (5-10 years)
<b>I. Overall Administrative Management</b>								
	Meeting of Inter-Ministerial Committee							
	Strengthen the legal and regulatory frameworks of nominated properties and buffer zones							
	Appointment of a coordinating officer for the overall management of the three sites							
	Align action plan with management plans and set priorities and timeframes							
	Approve management plan in coordination with authorities							
	Define periodicity and calendar of Advisory Board meetings							

	Define calendar of sectoral meetings							
	Establish task-based working groups							
	Ensure appropriate training for staff taking care of the sites with specific view on WH requirements							
	Appoint M-13 development team							
	Develop capacity plan for conservation, risk management							
	Development of staff policy							
	Office for local staff							
	First aid training							
<b>II. Visitor Management</b>								
	Build access road							
	Build access for crossing the river							
	Shelter for visitors during site visit							
	Develop specific site interpretation plan							
	Build new toilets							
	Plant more trees for more shades							
	Arrange the road for people with special needs							
	Restore walkways over the mass graves							
<b>III. Site Interpretation</b>								
	Development of visitor programs							
	Installation of information boards							
	Promote research of other KR sites							
	Strengthen international cooperation							
	Strengthen national cooperation (MoEYS, Universities, etc.)							
	Training programs with history teachers in Cambodia							

	Add information to the province tourist's location list							
	Campaign to keep site clean (environmental, rubbish)							
	Update and rearrange permanent exhibition							
	Outreach through mobile museum							
	Promotion of the Archive of TSGM							
	Promote visit by nationals, focusing on students							
<b>IV. Conservation Management</b>								
	Preservation and conservation of built heritage							
	Risk assessment of all objects on display							
	Prepare holistic conservation and preservation plan for all objects together							
	Develop plan for preservation of human remains							
	Move or expand conservation lab							
	Establish monitoring system for buffer zone							
	Prepare covers and keep the pit walls from collapsing into the pits to keep the remaining bones from rotting							
	Implementation of protection measures for Vann Nath's paintings							
	Replace glass boxes with artefacts							
	Conservation measures and protocol for objects on displayed							
	Define protocol for handling and conservation of surfacing human remains							

V. Risk Management								
	Secure fence installed							
	Security personnel appointed							
	Implement flooding prevention							
	Revise fire hazard of all buildings and exhibition							
	Assess first aid response							
	Develop security protocol for guards							
	Install pest control system							
	Install new control system for temperature, lux and humidity in central stupa monument							
	Maintenance or repair of installation (electricity and other)							
	Develop plan for prevention of human interventions: stop sand dredging, land encroachment, felling of trees, also in buffer zone							

## CHAPTER 10: ANNEXES (in electronic format)

The following annexes of the nomination dossier available in electronic format are particularly relevant for the CCMP:

### **Annex 3: List of Inventories**

*\* List of titles below, images of inventory lists in Annex 3: Inventory Lists*

- 20-Jan-2024: Inventory List of Objects from the excavation of M-13 (English)
- 20-Jan-2024: Inventory List of Objects of Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (English)
- 20-Jan-2024: Inventory List of Textiles of Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (English)
- 20-Jan-2024: Inventory List of Archives of Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (English)
- 2013: *Inventory of Human's Remains at Choeung EK Genocidal Center*. 32 vols. Phnom Penh (Khmer)

### **Annex 6: Selected Reports and Plans**

*\* List of titles below, full text images in Annex 6: Selected Reports and Plans by CMS*

- **Annual Reports**
  - TSGM. (2017). *Annual report 2017*. Phnom Penh. (Khmer)
  - TSGM. (2018). *Annual report 2018*. Phnom Penh. (Khmer)



- TSGM. (2019). *Annual report 2019*. Phnom Penh. (Khmer)
- TSGM. (2020). *Progress report 2015-2019*. Phnom Penh. (Khmer & English)
- TSGM. (2021). *Annual report 2021*. Phnom Penh. (Khmer)
- **Report of Archives of consultancy**
  - TSGM. (2021). *Report of Archives of consultancy*. (English)
- **Report of Door and Window Renovation**
  - TSGM. (2020). *Door and window restoration*. Phnom Penh
- **Report of Risk Assessment of Objects**
  - TSGM. (2021). *Preservation of Artefacts (SFF-Project)*. Phnom Penh.
- **Report of Risk mapping of built structures**
  - Heritage Architect team. (2021). *Risk mapping of the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum*. Phnom Penh.
- **Strategic Plan**
  - TSGM. (2020, December). *Strategic Plan 2021-2025*. Phnom Penh. (Khmer & English)

### **Annex 7: Awards and Certificates**

\* List of titles below, full text images in Annex 7: Selected Awards of CMS

#### **Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum**

- 2018 - TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence, Travelers's Choice
- 2019 - Cambodia Public Toilet Awardee from Ministry of Tourism
- 2020 - Ministry of Tourism of Cambodia for Tourism Safety Measure during Covid-19
- 2020 - UNESCO JIKJI Memory of the World Prize certificate
- 2021 - ASEAN Public Toilet Standard by ASEAN
- 2022 - ASEAN Sustainable Tourism Award by ASEAN

#### **Choeung Ek Genocidal Center**

- 2012 – Ministry of Tourism of Cambodia certificates of Standard Tourism Site
- 2020 - Ministry of Tourism of Cambodia for Tourism Safety Measure during Covid-19

Front cover: Archive preservation at Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (TSGM).  
Back cover: Local authorities of Teuk Phos district of Kampong Chhnang Province, villagers and TSGM team installing cultural protection pillars at the former M-13 prison site, 19 May 2023 (TSGM).





MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND FINE ARTS



JANUARY 2024