#### Annex 13 of the Operational Guidelines



#### STATE OF CONSERVATION REPORT OF THE LOWER VALLEY OF OMO BY THE STATE PARTY OF ETHIOPIA



Name of World Heritage property (State(s) Party (ies)) (Identification number)

LOWER VALLEY OF OMO

State Party Ethiopia

Property ID (C17)

Date of Inscription: 1980

Criteria (iii) and (iv)

#### 1. **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE REPORT**

This State of Conservation report is submitted in response to the World Heritage Committee Decision (45 COM 7B.124) adopted, at its 45th session held in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in 10-25 September 2023.

In accordance to the request of the Committee, the State Party of Ethiopia is submitting this State of Conservation report, which states the summery of subjects related to the ongoing actions related to the management of the world heritage property. These activities include the creation of large-scale maps, out sourced to the government body, Space Science and Geo-spatial Institution. The development of large-scale maps is still undergoing through the gathering on site data and processing the digital information.

The second issue raised by the World Heritage Committee is the revision of the Heritage Impact Assessment. In this regard, the original HIA report has been revised using the Guidelines of ICOMOS on heritage impact assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties and Guideline and Tool Kit for Impact Assessment. The revised HIA report is annexed to this SoC report for review by the Advisory Bodies. Therefore, this State of Conservation report has been submitted for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 47th session.

#### 2. Response to the Decision of the World Heritage Committee

The World Heritage Committee aacknowledged the State Party's continuous efforts to establish largescale maps of the Lower Valley of the Omo in order to define the world heritage site's property and buffer zone boundaries based on the Lower Omo Valley Reactive Monitoring Mission's recommendations in 2015. The Committee has also requested that the updated Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) prepared in 2017 be submitted. The Committee requires the State Party to continue its dialogue with the State Party of Kenya to accelerate the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) process and submit to the

World Heritage Centre, an updated report on the state of conservation of the property and the implementation of the above by 1 **December 2024**, for examination by the World Heritage Committee at its 47th session.

# 2.1 Paragraph 4: Request for larger-scale maps for review by the Advisory Bodies, together with evidence from archaeological surveys upon which they are based and related protection and management proposals;

The World Heritage Committee has acknowledged the submission of a general location map of the Lower Omo Valley world heritage property, which was created as part of a European-funded study in partnership with the UNESCO Liaison office in Ethiopia. In accordance with the Reactive Monitoring Mission's 2015 recommendation for clarifying the boundary of the world heritage property and its buffer zone, as well as the World Heritage Committee Decision (45 COM 7B.124) request, the State Party is still working to create larger-scale maps that protect and manage the property. As a result, the Ethiopian Space Science and Geo-spatial Institute, a government organisation in charge of cadaster registration, has been charged with finalising the large-scale and digital maps of the World Heritage Site.

## 2.2 Paragraph: 6 Requested the State Party to update the Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) developed in 2017 and submit the updated HIA for review;

In accordance with the World Heritage Committee request to revise the original Heritage Impact Assessment (2017), the State Party considered to revise the HIA and would like to submit the updated version of the report, annexed to this SoC Report. The revision process strictly followed the ICOMOS Guidlines on heritage impact assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties and Guideline and Tool Kit for Impact Assessment. The revised HIA report is annexed to this SoC report for review by the Advisory Bodies.

## 2.3 Paragraph 7: Urges the State Party to continue its dialogue with the State Party of Kenya to accelerate the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) process...

The World Heritage Committee has requested the State Party of Ethiopia to continue its dialogue with State Party of Kenya to undertake a joint Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) study to evaluate the potential impacts of the Kuraz Sugar Development Project (KSDP) and on the Lake Turkana National Park world heritage property. To this end, the State Party of Ethiopia is seeking to continue its dialogue with the State Party of Kenya on the execution of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

## 3. Other current conservation issues identified by the State(s) Party(ies) which may have an impact on the property's Outstanding Universal Value

➤ No other development activities in the heritage area are identified by the State Party.

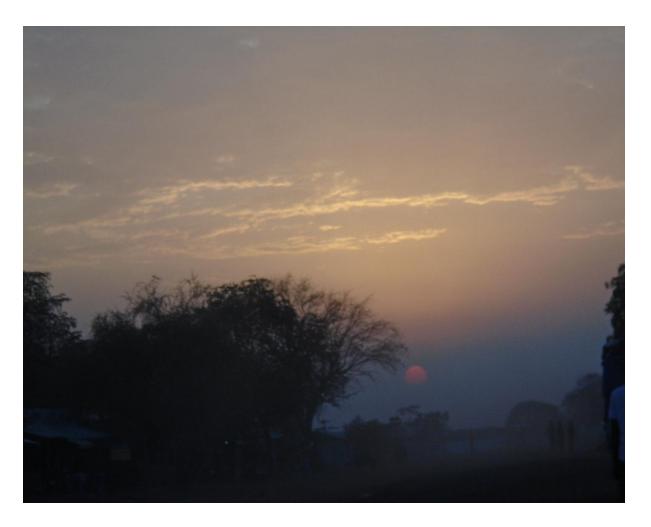
### Annex 13 of the Operational Guidelines

#### 5. Public access to the state of conservation report

The State Party of Ethiopia is willingly sharing this state of conservation report to be open for public access.

6. Signatur	e of the Authority	The Ferral
Full Name:-		- Chillian Walnut and All
Position:		
Signature:_	HIWOT Hall	
Date:	72 9 NOV 2024	Authority a com

## Revised Heritage Impact Assessment lower omo valley WHS



By the Ethiopian Heritage Authority

November 2024

Addis Ababa

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#### List of Abbreviations

ARCCHA	uthority for Research and Conservation of Cultural Heritage
EIAE	invironmental Impact Assessment
FDRE	Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
GPS	Global Positioning System
HIA H	Heritage Impact Assessment
ICOMOS	International Council on Monuments and Site
KSDP	Kuraz Sugar Development Project
LVO	Lower Valley of Omo
MSA	Middle Stone Age
Mya	.Million Years Ago
OUV	Outstanding Universal Values
TCD	.Ton per day
SDS	Sugarcane Development Scheme
SP	
SNNPRS	Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Regional State
SEA	.Strategic Environmental Assessment
	United Nations Educational Scientific and Educational Organization
WHS	
WHC	. World Heritage Center/ World Heritage Committee

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#### Heritage Impact Assessment for lower omo vally whs.

#### 1. Introduction

The UNESCO World Heritage List registered the Lower Omo Valley as a world heritage site in 1980. The Ethiopian Heritage Authority (EHA) commissioned the updated Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) study to evaluate and offer recommendations on the effects of the proposed development projects surrounding the property. Its format is based on the ICOMOS Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties.

The updated HIA report takes into account the 2022 State of Conservation Report of the Lower Omo Valley World Heritage Site, which included the HIA study that was submitted to the World Heritage Center. Both the Kuraz Sugar Development Project (Kuraz I, Kuraz II, Kuraz III, and Kuraz V) and the Lower Omo Valley World Heritage Site (Kibish Formation, Usno Formation, Shingura Formation, and the Fejej Formation) in the South Omo Zone of SNNPRS, which were physically inspected as part of the field visit to the study area.

Results from stakeholder meetings, a field survey, and other secondary sources, along with the initial HIA report, showed that there would be minimal but controllable possible effects on the Lower Omo Valley World Heritage Property.

The proposed development project will not significantly harm the Lower Omo Valley's Paleo-anthropological and archeological world heritage property, according to the report's suggestions and conclusions as well as stakeholder interactions.

#### 1.2 Objectives

The survey objective is to evaluate the national and worldwide relevance of the cultural heritage sites that have been identified. Along with identifying potential effects of the proposed Kuraz Sugar Development Project (KSDP) on the Lower Omo Valley World Heritage Property's "Outstanding Universal Values," the assessment also aims to provide additional recommendations to help the development initiatives manage the heritage resources responsibly. Among pertinent stakeholders, the poll also takes into account how well communication channels work

#### 1.3 Description of the Assessment Area

In the South Omo Zone of the Southern Ethiopia Regional State (SERS), in southwest Ethiopia, is the Lower Omo Valley World Heritage Site, which occupies 165 km². The property's principal paleontological (archeological) formations include the Usno Formation (05°18'18.2"E and 36°10'02.7"N), the Shingura Formation (05°03'47.7"E and 36°00'38.3"N), the Kibish Formation (05°31'09.53" E and 35'43'09.69" N), and the Fejej Formation (04'30'40.4"E and 36'20'17.8"N). The South Omo Zone's Dasenech Woreda is home to the Fejej Formation, whereas the Nyangatom Woreda is home to the rest three formations.

In the Southern Ethiopia Regional State's (SERS) South Omo Zone, the Ethiopian Sugar Corporation has initiated a comprehensive Sugarcane Development Scheme (SDS). The

project includes building access roads, small housing units, sugarcane farms, and sugar mill factories. The first two of the four sugar mill plants that the KSDP was supposed to build are the Kuraz I and II, which are situated in Selamago Woreda on the left side of the River Omo. The Kuraz III may be found in the Bench Maji Zone's Maji Surma and Menit Shasha Woredas, as well as the Kaffa Zone's Decha Woreda. Instead, the Kuraz V can be located on the Omo River's right bank in Nyangatom Woreda.

## 1.4 Location of the Kuraz Sugar Development Project (KSDP)



Figure 1: General Google Map



Figure 2: Locality Google map

## 2. Legal framework

To guarantee adherence to legal requirements, this section seeks to identify and examine relevant laws, regulations, and policies that direct the impact assessment. The proposed project should thereby demonstrate a commitment to upholding pertinent legal standards, as mentioned below and in Annex 2.

**Table Kit (i): Showing the legal instruments consulted** 

Instrument	Sections and definitions
1. Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE)	• As the major binding document for all other derivative national and regional policies, by-laws and regulations, the Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (1995) has several provisions. These provisions have direct policy, legal and institutional relevance for the appropriate implementation of cultural heritage protection and management (Article 41:9 and Article 91:2) to avoid, mitigate or manage adverse impacts of development interventions including large scale development projects (Article 43 and Article 92:1,2,3, and 4).
2.Cultural Policy Framework of Ethiopia	• The first comprehensive Cultural Policy of Ethiopia was endorsed by the Council of Ministers in 1997 based on the findings and recommendations of previous cultural product preservation strategy of the country. The overall goal of this policy is to enhance the cultural resources of nations, nationalities and peoples of Ethiopia. The policy also promotes the long-term sustainable development of cultural assets through sound management and responsible use of such resources in the country.

#### 2. Assessment Methodology

#### 3.1 Screening (assume the place of government)

**Methodology:** The collection of primary and secondary data, including field surveys, semi-structured interviews, focus groups, and a desktop analysis of the original HIA report, has guided the overall process.

While the Heritage impact assessment on the OUV of the lower Omo Valley was shown to be preventable, it would have irreversible and long-lasting consequences on other locations. To comprehend the potential heritage resources and the extent of the WHS, an HIA and scoping exercise were carried out.

There will be variable degrees of persistent and irreparable effect at some of the sites. In order to have a better understanding of the assessment's overall scope, including its local, extent, and potential impact on heritage resources, an HIA was conducted prior to a scoping exercise.

The first phase was screening the HIA to determine whether the impact will affect additional heritage values and qualities, as well as the OUV of the adjoining Lower Omo Valley WHS. According to the screening, of heritage qualities and values, the assessment is located in the designated buffer zone with other significant national sites that support the OUV of the heritage; however the screening revealed that the influence on the OUV might have been prevented.

#### 3.2 Scoping (assume the place of government)

Assumptions have been made that the results of earlier archeological and paleontological research projects are applicable to this study because the sites have been examined. Consequently, the team has not conducted any archeological or paleontological research, which could be regarded as a study limitation.

#### 3.3 Survey

The Ethiopian Heritage Authority (EHA), Sugar Corporation of Ethiopia, and Southern Ethiopia Regional State are among the organizations represented on the professional team. The field trip to the LOV World Heritage Site and the Kuraz Sugar Development Project region was organized by the South Omo Zone Culture and Tourism Office and the Southern Ethiopia Regional State Culture and Tourism Bureau.

The goal of the fieldwork was to use the Global Positioning System (GPS) to take pictures and record sites of archaeological and paleontological importance, as well as to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the project area in order to assess the possible effects of the development interventions. During the field survey, photographs were taken as part of the documentation process and geographic coordinates were acquired using a handheld global

positioning system (GPS). A number of consulting sessions were also conducted as part of the fieldwork with pertinent stakeholders in the study area.

#### 3.4 Site visits

The Lower Omo Valley is basically situated in the Nyangatom and Dasenech Woredas, which are part of the Southern Ethiopia Regional State. There are four major geological formations at this paleo-anthropological heritage site. These include the Fejej, Shungura, Usno, and Kibish formations (Heinzelin,1983). The group of formations has a high fossil abundance and is well exposed. The area's geological formations are distinctive due to the length of time they span and the continuity of the geological sequence with the abundance of fossil records. With its accurate dating, the Shungura Formation has evolved into a kind of standard palaeo-archaeological scale. The Kibish formation's archaeological discoveries offer a window into human behavior near the time of our closest ancestors. Fejej. a sedimentary deposit from the plio-pleistocene epoch is abundant in the paleontological formation (Heinzelin, 1983).

#### 3.5 Observatory walks

In Ethiopia, paleontological studies started in 1902 in the Lower Valley of Omo (LVO), and major studies were conducted from 1933 to 1976. A new palaeo-anthropological study team, the Omo Group study Expedition, was established in response to the Shungura Formation's promise and has been doing active research in the region since 2006. Fossils of hominids, animals, and plants of international significance can still be found in the Lower Omo Valley, which contributes to our understanding of biological, cultural, and human evolution.

#### 3.6 Rights and stakeholders' engagement

A joint forum of a Steering Committee was established to assess and oversee the KSDP's course of action and to guarantee the sustainable development of the UNESCO World Heritage site and its environs. The survey demonstrated that all pertinent agencies were streamlined to improve the effectiveness of their communication arrangements. Representatives from the Sugar Corporation of Ethiopia, the South Omo Zone government, and the SERS Culture and Tourism Bureau, along with its local entities, are on the steering committee.

Since the Steering Committee does not meet on a regular basis to review and monitor the project's overall plans and implementation process, it was determined that the communication arrangement is inactive based on the methodical discussions conducted with representatives of pertinent institutions regarding the Steering Committee's current operational status.

#### 3.7 Impact Assessments

It is crucial to show the locations of the four Lower Valley of Omo World Heritage Site components as well as the ongoing KSDP building activities in order to comprehend the extent of potential impacts of the project's construction phase. On the other side of the Lower Omo Valley World Heritage Site are the Kuraz I, II, and III sub-components of the Kuraz Sugar Development Project (KSDP), as well as related sugar plantations, processing facilities, and service facilities. Nevertheless, Kuraz V, one of the KSDP's sub-components, is situated close to Nyangatom Woreda's World Heritage Site and includes a processing plant, related sugarcane crops, and service facilities.

The Nyangatom Woreda, on the other hand, is home to the Kibish, Usno, and Shingura Formations, the three elements that make up the Lower Omo Valley World Heritage Site. The Dasenech Woreda is home to the Fejej Formation. The fourth component of the KSDP. Kuraz V lies around 50 kilometres from the Kibish Formation. The distance between the Kuraz V and the Usno Formation is roughly 100 kilometres. The Fejej Formation is roughly 180 kilometres from the Kuraz V, whereas the Shingura Formation is roughly 100 km away. Therefore, the survey's findings show that the Kibish Formation, which is 50 km from Kuraz V's command area, is logically the closest part of the world heritage site. This could have a small but controllable impact on the property.

#### 3.6 Operational phase impact assessment

It is vital to illustrate the degree of influence of Kuraz I, II, III, and V on the Lower Valley Omo world heritage property in order to understand the operating phase impact of the Kuraz Sugar Development Project (KSDP). Given the positions of Kuraz I, II, and III, the Lower Omo Valley World Heritage Site is not in danger during the KSDP's operational phase because the project command areas are located at long distant from the site. However, the KSDP's operational phase may have a minor but controllable influence on the world historic site due the Kuraz V bordering to the Kibish Formation.

The processing factories have been built as zero-liquid discharge facilities because the KSDP has an environmentally friendly development strategy. This means that all of the factories' wastewater will be recycled on-site rather than being released into the environment, the Omo river system, or the ground water supply. However, the irrigation water runoff may have limited potential effects by washing down the sugarcane plantation field's agrochemical inputs to the historic site's fossil ferrous strata.

#### 3.8 Mitigation Measures

➤ The total effect of the Kuraz Sugar Development Project (KSDP) on the importance of the Lower Omo Valley Paleo-anthropological site is probably negligible, according desktop study and field the results of the The total effect of the KSDP on the importance of the Lower Omo Valley Paleoanthropological site is probably negligible, according to the results of the desktop survey. study field Recommended and Counter Recommended Mitigation Strategies for the Construction Phase. The suggestions are made in light of the possible effects of the Kuraz V project site's building phase in Nyangatom Woreda.

#### 3.9 Baseline Results and recommendation

During the construction phase of the Kuraz V sub-component, earthworks may have an impact on subterranean deposits that may contain fossil remains or archaeological materials as it is not practical to access such deposits before they are disturbed. Therefore, construction activities should be carefully planned to avoid impacts to the identified cultural heritage resource, particularly the Kibish Formations. As a result, it is advised that experts in paleoanthropology and heritage management be given the chance to check for paleontological and archaeological remnants and keep an eye on the removal of topsoil. In order to handle the finding of fossil remains and artifact's during the construction phase, the Kuraz V sub-component should be backed by comprehensive reporting protocols.

#### 3.10 Arrangement Suggested Mitigation of the Communication

It's crucial to set up an effective working structure that enables all parties to communicate effectively. In order to closely monitor the project operations with all pertinent stakeholders involved, an integral management structure must be in place.

#### 4.2 Suggested Mitigation on Project Screening

To determine which action requires Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), and Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA), project screening calls for a variety of vocations and recognized competencies. To prevent any potential harm to the non-renewable cultural resources, concerned authorities must take on the duty of project screening for each and every intervention.

#### 4.4 SUMMERY AND CONCLUSION

The HIA's findings indicate that, with mitigation, the Kuraz Sugar Development Project in the South Omo Zone won't significantly harm the Lower Omo Valley's Paleo-anthropological and archaeological world heritage property. The majority of the Kuraz Sugar Development Project's recipient environment is generally not regarded as historically or archaeologically sensitive, vulnerable, or threatened.

#### 3.10.1 the Lower Omo Valley OUV

Due to the finding of numerous hominid fossils that have been crucial to the study of human evolution, the ancient sedimentary layers in the Lower Omo Valley are now internationally recognized. A remarkable record of environmental and faunal evolution, including multiple species of human predecessors, can be found in the Lower Omo Valley. The Middle Stone Age (MSA) industry at the Kibish Formation and the Oldowan industry, which dates back to before 2 Mya and originates from the lower Shungura Formation, are the two most extensive examples of the unique records found in behavioral evolution. Numerous animal and hominid fossils, including pieces of Australopithecus, have also been found at the site. Paleo -environmental evolution and human vertebral fauna deposits provide insight into the earliest phases of origins and development.

#### 4.1.2 Paleontological and Archeological value

The LVO exhibits a unique record of hominid, environmental and cultural evolution during plio-pleistocene times. Based on the findings of these research works, the LVO comprises four main geological formation of paleo-anthropological and archaeological significance. These are designated as the Mursi formation (4.5 to 4million years old)the Shungura formation; the Usno formation(3.5 to 1 million years old) and the much younger Kibish formation (possibly 100 000 years old) the LVO has provided an un paralleled Pliocene-Pleistocene record of Hominid and technological remains when compared with any other pale anthropological sites within the east African Refit system.

#### 3.10.2 Living cultural heritage resources

The Lower Omo Valley is one of the most fascinating regions in Ethiopia thanks to the cultural diversity of more than a dozen tribes that coexist along the Omo River. Declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, this journey through the Omo Valley will give you the chance to meet some of the most colorful of its tribes and gain a deeper understanding into the history, customs and beliefs of this magnificent part of Ethiopia.

## **Elements of proposed action**

**Table 2: Elements of proposed action analysis** 

## Kit ll: Elements of proposed action analysis

Element of proposed action	Attribute	Description of potential Impact	Freq. of action	Duration of action	Reversibility of action	Reversibility of change to the attribute	Longevity of change to the attribute	Degree of change to the attribute	Quality of change to the attribute	Evaluation of Impact
			Once/ intermitte nt/ continuo us	Short- term/ long- term	Reversible/ irreversible	Reversible/ irreversible	Temporary/permanent change	None/ negligible/some/large change	Positive/ negative change	Neutral/ minor/ moderate/ major impact (negative and positive)
In the Lower Valley of Omo World Heritage Site.( Kuraz Sugar Developm ent Project (KSDP)	Hominid fossils, Australopithec us. faunal and evolution. pale. environmental evolution. (Kibish, Usno, Shingura, Feje j)	The distance between the Kuraz V and the Usno Formation is roughly 100 kilometres. The Fejej Formation is roughly 180 kilometres from the Kuraz V, whereas the Shingura Formation is roughly 100 km away. Therefore, the survey's findings show that the Kibish Formation, which is 50 km from Kuraz V's command area, is logically the closest part of the world heritage site. This could have a small but controllable impact on.	Once	Short time	reversible	reversible	Temporary	Some	Negative	Moderate/ Major?

		If improperly handled, it could cause issues in the home. Wastewater from factories dumped into the environment. Polluting the fossil ferrous strata at the ancient site with pesticide inputs from the sugarcane crop field.  This could have a small but controllable impact on.	Once	Short time	reversible	reversible	Temporary	Some	Negative	Moderate
Sugar Developm ent Project (KSDP), the Kuraz I.	hominid fossils,	The Lower Valley of Omo World Heritage Site together with the on-going construction activities of the KSDP. The sub-components of the Kuraz Sugar Development Project (KSDP), the Kuraz I, along with processing factories and Associated sugar plantations as well as service facilities, are located on the opposite side of the Lower Omo Valley World Heritage Site.the survey result that the KSDP may generate insignificant but manageable impact on the world heritage property	Continuo us	Long term	reversible	reversible	Permanent	Large	Negative	Major

Element of proposed action	Attribute	Description of potential Impact	Freq. of action	Duration of action	Reversibility of action	Reversibility of change to the attribute	Longevity of change to the attribute	Degree of change to the attribute	Quality of change to the attribute	Evaluation of Impact
			Once/ intermittent/ continuous	Short-term/ long-term	Reversible/ irreversible	Reversible/ irreversible	Temporary/per manent change	None/ negligible/ some/larg e change	Positive/ negative change	Neutral/minor/ moderate/major impact (negative and positive)
Sugar Development Project (KSDP), the Kuraz II.	opment Australopithec us, and pale with the on-going construction		Once	Short time	reversible	reversible	Temporary	Some	Negative	M o d e r a t e / M a j o r
Sugar Development Project (KSDP), the Kuraz III	(Lake Turkana)	the Lower Valley of Omo World Heritage Site together with the on-going construction activities of the KSDP. The sub-components of the Kuraz Sugar Development Project (KSDP), the Kuraz III, along with processing factories and associated sugar plantations as well as service facilities, are								

		located on the opposite side of the Lower Omo Valley World Heritage Site.								
Kuraz Sugar Development Project (KSDP), the Kuraz Iv.	fossiliferous strata ( Kibish)	The Kuraz V is bordering the Kibish Formation; the operational phase of the KSDP may generate insignificant but manageable impact on the world heritage property. Limited potential impacts might be generated from the irrigation water runoff, which could wash down agrochemical inputs of the sugarcane plantation field to the fossiliferous deposits of the heritage site.	Once	Short time	reversible	reversible	Temporary	Some	Negative	Moderate

## Tabele 3 Kit Ill showing Mitigation and Enhancement of Impacts

No	Element	Attribute	Value	Impact	Mitigation
1	Sugar Development Project (KSDP), the Kuraz I.	( Shingura) hominid fossils	World heritage values	The sub-components of the Kuraz Sugar Development Project (KSDP), the Kuraz I, along with processing factories and associated sugar plantations as well as service facilities, are located on the	Before de velopmentar work just make 111/4 statement (document).

				opposite side of the Lower Omo Valley World Heritage Site.the survey result that the KSDP may generate insignificant but manageable impact on the world heritage property.	
2	Sugar Development Project (KSDP), the Kuraz II.	Australopithecus, and pale environmental evolution (Shingura)	World heritage value	it is relevant to demonstrate the extent of the influence of the Kuraz III on the Lower Valley Omo world heritage property. Taking into account the locations of Kuraz I, II and III, the operational phase of the KSDP does not generate any threat to the Lower Omo Valley World Heritage Site as the Project command areas are far away from the property	<ul> <li>Respect legal framework &amp; management plan of the site.</li> <li>Create awareness the concerned body</li> <li>Establish Monitoring activities in the site</li> <li>Follow up the convention guide line</li> </ul>
3	Sugar Development Project (KSDP), the Kuraz III	(the turkan Basin)	National value	it is relevant to demonstrate the extent of the influence of the Kuraz III on the Lower Valley Omo world heritage property. Taking into account the locations of Kuraz I, II and III, the operational phase of the KSDP does not generate any threat to the Lower Omo Valley World Heritage Site as the Project command areas are far away from the property	<ul> <li>Monitor the KSDP procedure and strengthen the existing communication system.</li> <li>Recycling the factors waste water before release the environment.</li> <li>Establish Monitoring activities in the site</li> <li>Follow up the convention guide line</li> </ul>

	Committee	Kibish	Wh	Kuraz V is hardaring the Kibish	
4	Sugar Development Project (KSDP), the Kuraz Iv.	(fossiliferous strata.)	values	Kuraz V is bordering the Kibish Formation, the operational phase of the KSDP may generate insignificant but manageable impact on the world heritage property. Iimited potential impacts might be generated from the irrigation water runoff, which could wash down agro- chemical inputs of the sugarcane plantation field to the fossiliferous deposits of the heritage site.	<ul> <li>It should be carefully prepared to prevent any negative effects on the designated cultural heritage, especially the Kibish formation</li> <li>Archaeological and paleontological relics should be inspected by Heritage Management.</li> <li>In order to handle the finding of fossil remains and artifacts throughout the building process, Kuraz V should be supported by complete reporting protocols.</li> </ul>

#### Recommendation 1

- Construction activities of Kuraz V sub-component should be properly planned to avoid impacts to the identified cultural heritage resource, particularly the Kibish Formations;
- During the construction phase of the Kuraz V sub-component, subterranean deposits of the area that may contain fossil remains or archaeological materials, may be impacted on by the earthworks as it is not feasible to access such deposits before they are disturbed. Therefore it is recommended that specialists in the field of paleo-anthropology and heritage management be allowed the opportunity to inspect for the archaeological and paleontological remains and monitor when the topsoil is being removed.
- The construction of Kuraz V sub-component should be supported by detail reporting procedures to manage the discovery of fossil remains and artefacts during the construction process.

#### Recommendation 2

- A buffer area of considerable size should be left between the Kuraz V Project Site and he Kibish Formation, one of the components of the property.
- ➤ Water runoff drainage from the sugar plantation field may cause harm to the subterranean fossiliferous deposits of the property. Therefore water runoff treatment method needs to be introduced to treat waste water discharges from the sugarcane plantation.

#### Recommendation 3

> Strengthen the existing communication arrangement to let other concerned bodies have the opportunity to follow up the process of KSDP.

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