

UNWTO/Chimelong Initiative Sub-regional Capacity Building Workshop on Sustainable Tourism & Biodiversity Conservation for the Mekong Sub-region Member States

**Pakse, Lao DPR, 19-21 February 2019
The Champasak Grand Hotel**

Preliminary Programme

Day 1- February 19, 2019

08:00 – 08:30 Registration

08:30 – 09:00 Opening Ceremony of the UNWTO/Chimelong Initiative Workshop on Sustainable Tourism & Biodiversity Conservation for the Mekong Sub-region Countries

Welcome remarks by H.E Ounethoung Khaophan, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism, Lao PDR.

Introductory remarks by Mr. Marcel Leijzer, Manager, Technical Cooperation, UNWTO

09:00 – 10:00 A Champion for Sustainable Tourism and Biodiversity: an orientation

- Introduction facilitated by the UNWTO consultant

10:00 – 10:30 Coffee break

10:30 – 11:30 Session 1: Tourism and Sustainability

This session will provide insights on the links between tourism and sustainability, highlighting the importance of the sector on the three pillars for sustainable development: social, economic and environmental sustainability.

- Facilitated by the UNWTO consultant

11:30 - 12:30 Session 2: Biodiversity

This session will focus on important concepts related to the importance of biodiversity and how this can be related to tourism development.

- Facilitated by the UNWTO consultant

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch (The Champasak Grand Hotel restaurant)

14:00 – 15:15 Session 3: Fluvial and Coastal Biodiversity

The session will examine the importance of biodiversity in fluvial and coastal environments by analysing its different components (e.g. vegetation, animal, species, and soils) and the threats endangering them and their environment.

- Facilitated by the UNWTO consultant

15:15 – 15:45 Coffee break

15:45 – 17:00 Session 4: Environmental Protection

This session will provide an overview on the concepts of environmental protection and conservation and will explore various courses of action that could be applied to the tourism sector.

- Facilitated by the UNWTO consultant

18:30 – 20:00 Dinner (The Champasak Grand Hotel restaurant)

Day 2 - February 20, 2019

08:00 – 09:00 Session 5: Biodiversity and the Environment

The session on Biodiversity and the Environment will provide useful insights on the interlinkages between the biodiversity of the Mekong Sub-region and its environment.

- Facilitated by the UNWTO consultant

09:00 - 10:00 Session 6: Environmental Management – Part 1

The first part of the session on Environmental Management will address global environmental issues and efficiency in energy management including a special focus on the tourism and hospitality sectors.

- Facilitated by the UNWTO consultant

10:00 – 10:30 Coffee Break

10:30 – 11:30 Session 7: Environmental Management – Part 2

The second part of the session on Environmental Management will concentrate on water and waste management including a special focus on the tourism and hospitality sectors.

- Facilitated by the UNWTO consultant

11:30 – 13 : 00 Lunch (The Champasak Grand Hotel restaurant)

13:00 – 16:30 Technical Visit

Khone Pha Pheng Waterfall (Khong District, Champasak Province)

18:00 – 19:00 Dinner (outside of hotel)

Day 3 - February 21, 2019

08:30 – 11:30 Being a Champion: Group Session of Action Planning

This Group session will demonstrate how each participant can act as champions for biodiversity protection and conversation within their community. Ideas for community projects will also be provided for discussion.

- Facilitated by the UNWTO consultant

11:30 – 13:30 Lunch (The Champasak Grand Hotel)

13:30 – 15:30 Group Presentations

This group session will be the occasion for participants to showcase the knowledge and skills earned during this workshop by presenting their tourism project ideas for biodiversity protection and conservation.

- Facilitated by the UNWTO consultant

15:30 – 16:00 Evaluation and Closing Ceremony of the Workshop by Mr. Sounh Manivong, Director General of the Tourism Development Department, MICT