

Sustainable Tourism Practices for MSMEs

GUIDELINES FOR SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

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Sustainable Tourism Practices for MSMEs, 2022

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SUSTAINABLE TOURISM PRACTICES FOR MSMEs

Purpose

The intent of this resource is to present MSMEs in the tourism value chain with simplified guidelines for the incorporation of and implementation of sustainable practices in their businesses. This resource further draws attention to essential registration processes and certifications that were developed for the betterment of MSMEs.

Introduction

The Sri Lanka Tourism Vision 2025 states that Sri Lanka's tourism sector is growing at an exponential rate. Tourism was the third largest foreign exchange earner for the country in 2019, preceded by worker's remittance and textile and garments (SLTDA, 2019). Very importantly, it recognizes the need for conserving Sri Lanka's natural wealth as it positions tourism as the "vehicle to conserve, preserve, protect and enhance Sri Lanka's plethora of natural and cultural assets." Therefore the sector will play a key role in maximizing the environmental and economic returns of nature and culture-based tourism (SLTDA, 2016a).

Tourism can be a major tool for economic development, but if not properly planned it can have destructive effects on biodiversity and the environment. Negative impacts from tourism occur when the volume of visitors are greater than the environment's ability to cope with this without causing damage to itself. (AJEEPR, 2013). It can cause severe environmental damage and degradation due to excessive consumption patterns that will subsequently generate massive amounts of waste and pollution. In addition, the construction of new establishments could pose a threat to natural habitats and infrastructure and will often leave local residents having to compete for critical resources (Miththapala, 2011a).

In contrast, sustainable tourism 'takes full account of its current and future economic, social and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment and host communities' (UNEP/WTO, 2005). According to the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) account for 99.8% of the total establishments and 75% of the total employment in enterprises in non-agricultural sectors therefore their engagement, contribution and promotion of sustainable practices is timely and essential (UNDP, nd).

With rising energy prices and growing consumer demand there are increasing reasons for MSMEs to adopt sustainability strategies. Sustainability not only serves altruistic motives, but is a smart business move as well because it can deliver higher profit – both in the short and the long term. A sustainable business is more efficient, will possess a resilient business model and would therefore be able to generate reliable cash flows [CPAC et al., 2013].

By taking practical and meaningful steps to improve the carbon and environmental performance of one's business, it could simultaneously improve business reputation among customers and staff and increase access to markets or funding. In fact, many public sector bodies and private companies expect their suppliers to adopt environmentally-friendly practices and may want evidence to demonstrate this. In addition, by adopting sustainable practices, businesses would incur fewer costs thereby saving money as it minimizes wastage and increases efficient utilization of energy, water and other resources [GSB Handbook].

Therefore incorporating best practices for environmental management is critical to ensure business continuity. Please note the following guidelines are simply to guide your business, the list is neither exclusive nor exhaustible.

Key steps to incorporate sustainable practices to your business:

- Assess the environmental impacts of your business and prioritize areas that need to be addressed based on its significance.
 - You can identify your environmental impacts by compiling a list of all the activities of your business. This includes the services you provide, the products you produce, the processes and purchasing of supplies, travel and transportation and administrative costs.
 - Next assess the environmental impacts of such activities such as pollution (of air, land, water, noise etc), use of resources or waste generated.
 - After which you could assess the significance of your environmental impacts and address them in the order in which you have prioritized it.
- Set realistic goals and time scales to demonstrate continuous improvement. Being too ambitious in your planning could demoralize you in the long run.
- Get everyone involved in the plan. Make sure all employees are aware of and understand their role in incorporating sustainable practices in your business.

Involving employees in the development and implementation of the plan will instill a sense of ownership and you will have a better chance of successfully executing it.

- In addition, such practices can motivate you and your employees and take pride in the work you do.
- Monitor your progress and adapt your plan to account for changing circumstances. This will give you the opportunity to curate a plan that complements your business.
- Once your targets are achieved, ensure it is referred to in all your marketing strategies. Adhering to sustainable practices will open up new markets and give you a competitive edge.
 - Ensure you communicate your commitments to your clients and customers as adopting sustainable practices will add credibility to your business.
- Finally, share best practices with organizations that face the same challenges. By networking with organization that shares your goals, you can pool knowledge and co-ordinate your efforts more efficiently.

General Guidelines

- Do not allow pollution of the environment.
- Take initiatives to protect your environment. For e.g. organize beach, forest, or river clean ups.
- Protect local plant species and promote restoring threatened or endangered local species.
- Promote conservation via education programs.
 - Educate staff on the environment, human interaction with environment, and local conservation efforts.
 - When working in a protected area, provide all guests with an overview of the establishment of the conservation area and potential threats in an effort to raise awareness.
 - Avoid depleting and disturbing natural resources and ecosystems For e.g. SMEs in fishing communities, establish no-fishing zones to prevent overfishing as numbers of tourists increase.

- Promote "leave no trace" practices to minimize impacts caused by human activities on the health of the surrounding ecosystem.
- Address health education for staff and local people (ex: COVID-19, Dengue).

Sector Specific Guidelines

Manufacturing

Guidelines

- Handicrafts, souvenirs and cards could be made from recycled/ecofriendly material [For e.g. coconut shells for candles, handmade cards made with sustainable materials etc.)
- Purchase large packaged goods to reduce and avoid single packaging in paper, tin or plastic.
- Minimize wastage by promoting recycling/ up cycling practices.
- Adopt a system that collects rainwater to serve your water usage requirements.
- Always use locally and sustainably sourced or recycled materials such as timber, which would be a selling point for guests who would be more inclined to buy ethically sourced goods.
- Refrain from manufacturing products that use banned or endangered materials such as Kumbuk wood, corals, shells or other marine life.

Hospitality

Guidelines

- Use renewable energy and environmentally sensitive water and waste disposal systems. For e.g., establish a rainwater harvesting system, Use storm or grey water for irrigation etc.
- Preserve the natural setting and indigenous landscape Construct establishments using sustainable and green building materials to minimize carbon footprint. Select materials that are popular in local areas such as bamboo, clay, wood, linen etc.
- Support local businesses Purchase food from local farmers, ranchers and fishermen. Use local craftsmen.
- Respect and interact with the local culture Introduce guests to authentic local cultural activities and festivals.

- Land rehabilitation: Focus on erosion control, clearing of alien vegetation, planting of raw material, medicinal, and indigenous flora .
- Acquire wood from invasive alien plantation For e.g. use invasive species for firewood.
- Minimize wastage by recycling/ up cycling materials.
- Furnish guest rooms/ areas with reusable items such as reusable coffee mugs, glasses or cutlery instead of plastic ware, paper or Styrofoam.
- Purchase large packaged goods to reduce and avoid single packaging in paper, tin or plastic.
- Ensure that the products and services are accessible to everyone. For e.g. choosing a ramp instead of stairs to make your establishment wheelchair friendly.
- Obtain visitor details such as Name, address NIC and Tel No. for foreign visitors get document details such as Passport no and flight details like ticket number and name of the flight.
- Undergo First-aid training to prepare for emergencies.
- Always have at least two powerful torches which can be recharged in the premises, or have batteries in the premises in case they need to be replaced.
- If possible, Fire extinguishers should be available in the premises.
- Keep spaces clean from any food debris that might attract small animals such as rats and other pests.

Travel

<u>Guidelines</u>

- Build environmental and cultural awareness Offer excursions to natural and cultural sites.
- Respect and interact with the local culture Introduce guests to authentic local cultural activities and festivals. For e.g. guests can spend a day with local people to provide an authentic immersion into local life.
- Educate guests on specific rituals, protocols, appropriate dress code, and behavior while visiting local communities.
- Do not leave garbage in the wilderness and bring down all organic waste
- Undergo First-aid training to prepare for emergencies.

For tour guides/ safari jeep drivers

- Develop a code of conduct for interaction with wildlife and disseminate information to all employees and guests.
- Ensure that a safe distance is maintained from the visitors/ guests and wildlife at all time. This comprises of prohibiting feeding the animals, chasing or scaring away the animals etc.
- When taking pictures, promote silent photography so as to not disturb the wildlife. i.e., prohibit shutter sounds and flash.
- Avoid off-road driving.
- Regularly check tourist vehicles to ensure vehicles are maintained well and they abide by standard carbon emission protocols.
- When camping, keep a source of light running through the night to discourage animals entering the campsite. Have firecrackers available for use in the worstcase scenario, if an animal enters the campsite and there is risk of serious harm to the guests..
- Always have at least two powerful torches which can be recharged in the premises, or have batteries in the premises in case they need to be replaced.
- If possible, Fire extinguishers should be available in the vehicles.
- Keep spaces clean from any food debris that might attract small animals such as rats, which in turn will attract snakes.
- When working in a nature reserve: Clean any animal droppings and urine patches as soon as possible to prevent the risk of disease and any stains. It is advisable to use gloves when transferring animal droppings, to minimize exposure to any zoonotic diseases. If any vigorous cleaning is required, use a mask. After cleaning the area, use a disinfectant on the surface as well. The waste that is generated should be disposed in a location that is away from human and animal contact.

Surfing and Diving

- Undergo first-aid training to prepare for emergencies.
- Take part in regular beach and/or underwater clean ups.
- Collect trash on dives if you can do so safely.
- Prohibit the sale or display of corals, shells and other marine life. Educate customers on the harmful effects of buying souvenirs of coral and marine life.

- When diving, avoid stepping on corals or stirring up sediment.
- Educate staff and customers on ways to interact with marine life. i.e., avoid feeding, touching or chasing away marine life.
- Do not litter in the ocean and provide adequate trash facilities to dispose of waste responsibly.
- Join in on local conservation efforts.
- Prevent harmful chemicals entering the ocean by using reef-safe sunscreen .
- When taking underwater photographs, educate staff and guests on best practices such as securing your equipment so they do not trail over reefs and cause damage, don't touch or hold on to corals, don't invade on an animal's space and take too many shots.
- When diving at night, be careful with your torch so as to not disturb the nocturnal behavior or wake sleeping fish.
- Educate staff and customers on extending the life cycle of equipment. For e.g., if a surfboard breaks, repair it instead of purchasing a new one. Where possible, encourage buying second hand surf boards as well.

Next Steps

Adhering to standards and regulations are critical to ensure not only the sustainable continuation of businesses, but also to mitigate any negative externalities that would be borne by the environment. Therefore, being aware of the required licenses, permits or registrations would spare your business fewer incurred costs. It is important to that your businesses are in compliance with the law and are adhering to relevant regulations.

Certifications are a mechanism used for ensuring that an activity meets certain standards. It provides a feasible way of capturing some of the main objectives of sustainability and clearly distinguishes those enterprises that are achieving them. Such certifications can raise the market profile and image of a destination and provide a way to encourage industries to raise their standards.

Therefore in order to assist you further, please find in the following annexes various additional resources you could refer to further develop and expand your business. Please note the following attached documents are simply to guide your business, the list is neither exclusive nor exhaustible.

Annex A

REGULATIONS: BUSINESSES THAT REQUIRE AN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION LICENSE AS PER THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ACT, No. 47 of 1980 - Order under Section 23A

Manufacturing

THE PRESCRIBED ACTIVITIES FOR WHICH A LICENSE IS REQUIRED - PART A

Industries involved in manufacturing extracting or formulating Ayurvedic, Indigenous medicinal products where 25 or more workers are employed. Batik industries where 10 or more workers are employed.

Textile processing (i.e. bleaching, dyeing, printing) industries or garment washing industries or textile sand blasting industries or commercial laundries where 10 or more workers are employed.

Coconut oil or cinnamon oil extraction industries where 25 or more workers are employed.

THE PRESCRIBED ACTIVITIES FOR WHICH A LICENSE IS REQUIRED - PART B

Industries involved in manufacturing, extracting or formulating Ayurvedic, indigenous medicinal products where more than 10 workers and less than 25 workers are employed.

Batik industries where less than 10 workers are employed.

Hand Looms or knitting or embroidery industry having more than 10 looms Cinnamon oil extracting industry where less than 25 workers are employed.

THE PRESCRIBED ACTIVITIES FOR WHICH A LICENSE IS REQUIRED - PART C

Coconut oil extraction industries where 10 or more workers and less than 25 workers are employed.

Hospitality

THE PRESCRIBED ACTIVITIES FOR WHICH A LICENSE IS REQUIRED - PART A

Hotels, guest houses, rest houses having 20 or more rooms.

THE PRESCRIBED ACTIVITIES FOR WHICH A LICENSE IS REQUIRED - PART B

Food manufacturing and processing industries including bakery products and confectioneries where 5 or more workers and less than 25 workers are employed.

THE PRESCRIBED ACTIVITIES FOR WHICH A LICENSE IS REQUIRED - PART C

Residential hotels, guest houses, rest houses with 05 or more and less than 20 rooms.

Validity Period for Environmental Protection License

- 1. Prescribed industrial activities coming under List A-Maximum of one year from the effective date of the License.
- 2. Prescribed industrial activities coming under List B-Maximum of three years from effective date of the License.
- 3. Prescribed industrial activities coming under List C-Maximum of three years from the effective date of the License.

License Fees

Once the legal approval is granted; the industrialist is requested to pay the License Fee so as to enable the CEA or Local Authority to issue an EPL for the industrial activity.

- 1. Industrial activities in List A Rs. 7,500.00 per License / for not more than one year.
- 2. Industrial activities in List B Rs. 6,000.00 per License/for not more than 03(three) years.
- 3. Industrial activities in List C Rs. 4,000.00 per License/for not more than 03(three) years.
- * Environmental Protection Licenses for industries in List "A" and list "B" in Gazette Notification No:1533/16 dated 25.01.2008is issued by the relevant Provincial/District offices of the CEA while Environmental Protection Licenses for in the List "C" is issued by the relevant Local Authority.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION LICENCE APPLICATION

Application No.

Sector	(Date
Category	()	

Name of Industry:

Type of Industry: Manufacture/Assembly/Formulation/Repacking/ Processing/Other (specify)/

Name of Applicant:

Postal Address:

Telephone No:

1 GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF INDUSTRY

- 1.1 Nature of Industry:
- 1.2 Location of Industry: (Location map and a clear route sketch with land marks to the site to be annexed)

Address:

- 1.3 Name of local authority :
- 1.4 Is the site within an Approval Industrial Zone?
- 1.5 Amount of Capital Investment :

Local:

Foreign:

- 1.6 Date of Commencement of operation:
- 1.7 Number of Shifts/Day and Times:
- 1.8 Number of Workers in Each Shift:
- 1.9 A List of permits obtained from Local or State Authorities Permitting the Establishment and Operation of the Industry. (Please attach photocopies):

	Name	Date of Issue	Date of Expiry
a.			
b.			
c.			
d.			
e.			

- 1.10 Land use of the area within five km radius –Residential/Commercial/Agricultural/Open Space/Public Area/Marshy Land/Salt Marshy Land/Mangrove/Natural Reserve/Other (Specify);
- 1.11 Land of existing Industries/Institutions/Agricultural land within two km radius:

1.12 Land available for treatment plant:

2 MANUFACTURING PROCESS

2.1 List of main manufactured products and capacities:

List of by-products: 2.2

2.3 Process Details:

2.3.1 A brief description of the processes used (attach process flow diagram):

2.3.2 Raw material used: (State item wise quantity day at all stages of manufacture)

2.3.3 Chemicals Used:

Chemical Name Trade Name

Quantity Day (in kg)

Purpose for which it is used

2.3.4 Precautionary measures adopted in the transport and handling of any hazardous/ toxic/flammable/explosive material:

2.3.5 Storage facilities for hazardous/toxic/flammable/explosive materials:

2.3.6 Do you have adequate fire fighting equipment?

2.3.7 If so, details of such equipment:

3. WATER

3.1 Water Requirement

Processing:	m ³ /day
Cooling:	m ³ /day
Washing:	m ³ /da y
Domestic:	m ³ /day

3.2 Source of water:

- 1. Public Supply
- 2. Ground Water (Wells, springs)
- 3. Surface Water (Stream, river)
- 3.3 Total daily discharge m^3/day :
- 3.4 Method of discharge: Open Channel/Pipeline/Covered Drains/Other:
- 3.5 Final point of discharge of discharge of waste water: Agricultural land /Marshy land/Sewer/Lake/ River/Ela/Estuary/Sea/Other:
- 3.6 What other specific toxic substances are discharged? (Specify nature and concentration *e.g.*: Inorganics and Organics including Pesticides, Organic Chlorine Compounds, Heavy Metals, etc.)
- 3.7 Methods of treatment of Waste Water (Diagrams of Treatment Process to be included):
- 3.8 Method adopted for recording characteristics of waste water before and after treatment:
- 3.9 Give details of water re-cycling, if any:

4 SOLID WASTE

- 4.1 Type and Nature of Solid waste:
- 4.2 Total quantity of solid waste kg/day:
- 4.3 Methods of disposal of solid wastes Municipal Collection System/Land Fill/ Incineration Composting/Sold/Re-cycle:

5. ATMOSPHERIC EMISSIONS

Is there emission to the Atmosphere: Yes/No - - if "Yes" complete the following:

- 5.1 Possible emissions:
 - a. Oxides of Nitrogen -
 - b. Oxides of Sulphur
 - c. Dust and Soot
 - d. Any other
- 5.2 Number of Stacks/Chimneys

Height:

6.0 Does your industry cause odour problems? If "Yes":

Source:

Method of abatement:

7. NOISE POLLUTION

- 7.1 Does your industry cause noise pollution: Yes/No:
- 7.2 If "Yes", source:

Method of abatement:

1. ENERGY REQUIREMENTS

- 1.1 Total Energy Consumption:
 - a. In-plant generation (in kw/h):
 - b. Public supply (in kw/h):
- 1.2 Details of Machinery used in the Industry and their Horse Power Ratings:

- 1.3 Types of Fuel Used:
 - a. Purpose:
 - b. Daily consumption:

2. RECYCLING/REUSE

2.1 Possible salvage of any waste material for reuse: Specify:

10 EXPANSION OF INDUSTRY

Describe your plans for future expansion of the industry. State whether proposed expansion will alter the manufacturing process, raw material usage and finished products.

I hereby certify that the particulars furnished by me in this application are true and correct. I am aware that if any particulars herein are found to be false or incorrect my application will be refused and the licence, if issued, will be cancelled.

Signature of App licant

Date.....

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED FROM UTILIZING CHEMICALS IN INDUSTRY

Detailed information on the following has to be provided:

- 1. A site map extending 1/4 mile beyond the boundaries of the property depicting the facility, the discharge points for effluents, wells, springs and other surface water bodies and drinking water wells.
- 2. A description of the procedures, structures and equipment used at the facility to:
 - i. prevent hazards in transport and unloading operations of chemicals:
 - ii. prevent undue exposure of personals to chemicals (protective clothing ect.).
- 3. A description of
 - (i) precautions to prevent accidental fires resulting from storage of chemicals
 - (ii) available fire fighting equipment
 - (iii) training of personals in fire fighting.
- 4. A description of storage system for bulk chemicals prior to use in the industrial process.

5. A description of recovery methods of used chemicals if any.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

	Licence Application No:		tion No:	
			Sector ()
			Category ()
1.	Date	e of receipt of application:		
2.	Refe	erence Plans, Reports and other documents receive	ed:	
3.	Ifar	ny additional information was requested, details of	such requests:	
4.	Ifth	e obs ervation of any other Agency was requested,	details of such req	uests
5.	Whe	ther a Licence is granted : Yes / No		
6.	Ifa	Licence is granted :		
	a.	Number of the Licence:		
	b.	Date of Licence:		
	c.	Validity period:		
	d.	Date of expiry:		
	e.	Conditions attached (if any)		
7.	IfLi	cence is refused, reasons for refusal :		
			~ .	

Signature and Designation

Of Authorised Officer

Date

Annex B

Export Procedure as per Sri Lanka Export Development Board

01. REGISTRATION AS AN EXPORTER

A person who intends exporting any articles of commercial value form Sri Lanka is required to register with following institutions.

- i. Inland Revenue Department Tax Identification Number (TIN) / Vat Number (http://www.ird.gov.lk/en/sitepages/default.aspx)
- ii. Sri Lanka Customs (http://www.customs.gov.lk)

To register with the above institutions the exporter is required to produce the original Business Registration Certificate or certificate of Incorporation and other related documents along with duly completed application forms. Application forms are available at the above institution.

2. PRODUCTS THAT REQUIRE REGISTRATION/LICENSE /CERTIFICATES FOR EXPORT

	Product	License/Permits/Certificates	Responsible Authority for License/Certificate
1.	Tea	Certification of Average Auction Price (AAP) on Bulk Tea. Quality Certificate for each shipment	Sri Lanka Tea Board.
2.	Diamonds, Gems & Jewellery	Gem Dealers license	National Gems & Jewellery Authority (NGJA)
3.	Food & Beverages		
	a. Meat Products	Health Certificate for each shipment	Animal Quarantine Station Department of Animal Production and Health
		Processing Centre Certification with ISO, HACCP or GMP (either one of the certificates)	Sri Lanka Standards Institution
	b. Beer	Permit for export of excisable articles	Department of Excise
	c. Alcoholic Beverages	Permit for export of excisable articles	Department of Excise
	d. Non Alcoholic Beverages (Bottled Drinking Water/ Mineral Water)	Permit for Export	Department of Health

	e. Cashew Kernels	Compulsory pre-shipment inspection Certificate	Sri Lanka Standard Institution (SLSI), Industrial Technology Institute (ITI)
		Fumigation Certificate (on request by buyers)	National Plant Quarantine Service/ Any Authorized Private Fumigation Company
4.	Spices & Allied Products		
	a. All spices	Country of Origin Certificate	Department of Commerce for GSP + Countries/ Chamber of Commerce
	b. Cinnamon	License to use Pure Ceylon Cinnamon Logo	Sri Lanka Export Development Board
			Sri Lanka Standard Institution (SLSI)/ SGS Lanka Pvt Ltd or any other accredited Qualify Institution.
5.	Ayurveda & Herbal Products		
	a. Herbal Finished Products	Approval to market as health care products in the local market and for exports.	Drug Formulator Committee appointed under the Department of Ayurveda
	b. Herbal Cosmetics	Manufacturing License	Cosmetics Devices and Drugs Regulatory Authority
		Quality/Introduction Certification	Industrial Technology Institute (ITI), Pharmaceutical & Cosmetic product section of the Health Department.
	c. Herbal Plants	Permits for export of raw or dried Ayurveda substances in commercial quantities	Department of Forest and the Department of Ayurveda
6.	Coconut & Coconut Based Products	Permits for export of DC/Fresh Coconut/ Coconut Leaf based products	Coconut Development Authority (CDA)
7.	Fruits & Vegetables	Phytosanitary Certificate	National Plant Quarantine Service
8.	Minerals	Export License on minerals in raw & semi-finished forms	Geological Survey & Mines Bureau

9.	Wooden Products				
	a. Wood including logs & Sawn timber value added products	License for export	Department of Forest		
	b. Wooden based Toys & Furniture	Export Permits	Department of Forest		
10.	Fish & Fisheries Products	 Export License on sea Cucumber, Lobsters, Chunks Health Certificate for 	Dept. of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources -do-		
		EU Countries Catch certificate	-do-		
		 Statistical document for Bigeye Tuna 	-do-		
		• ICCAT certificate for Sword fish	-do-		
		Certificate of Origin	Chamber of Commerce		
		• GSP Form A	Department of Commerce		
11.	Ornamental Fish	 Phytosanitary Certificate 	Animal quarantine service		
		 Permits licenses are issued 	Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Resources.		
12.	Organic Products	Organic Certificate Ex. EU, USDA-NOP, JAS etc. Registration in National Organic Control Unit (this registration is compulsorily.)	Any accredited certification body eg: Control Union (Pvt) ltd National Organic Control Unit At EDB		

4. ITEMS PROHIBITED OR RESTRICTED FOR EXPORTS

- I. Dead or live animal or its parts. Permits are issued for research purposes and for exchange with foreign zoos and museums.
- I. Antiques/ Cultural Property
- I. Dangerous drugs
- 7. Explosives
- 7. Live fish(Prohibited spices)
- I. Mineral- raw form
- I. Obscene publication and literature
- I. Protected plants listed under the Fauna & Flora Protection Ordinance

Annex C





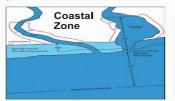
Coast Conservation and Coastal Resource Management Department

Public Notice

A permit should be obtained from the Department of Coast Conservation and Coastal Resource Management prior to commencement of any development activity including constructions for Tourism, Houses, other constructions and Filling in the coastal zone of Sri Lanka under the Coast Conservation and Coastal Resource Management Act No. 57 of 1981, amended by the Act No. 64 of 1988 and No. 49 of 2011. It is to be noted that the Department of Coast Conservation and Coastal Resource Management has the power to remove all unauthorized temporary and permanent structures within the coastal zone under the above Act.

It is further brought to the public notice that under the above Act, the Police officers are empowered to arrest without a warrant and produce to the court any person engaged in unauthorized development activities in the Coastal Zone.

According to the Coast Conservation and Coastal Resource Management Act No. 57 of 1981, the beach is defined as a public property which belongs to the state. Any construction either permanent or temporary and maintaining structures is illegal on the beach and is completely prohibited. There are no legal provisions to issue permits for such constructions. The General public has a right to use the beach and any obstruction of this right is an offence. According to the Coast Conservation and Coastal Resource Management Act, the Department is empowered to take action to remove all the structures which have been constructed on the beach.



Coastal Zone

- "Coastal Zone" means the area,
- * 300m landwards of the mean high water line
- * 02 k.m seawards of the mean low water line

* 02 k.m. measured on a perpendicular straight base line towards the land from the entrance points of any water body thus connected to the sea and 100 m inland from the periphery of that water body.

Possible Damages to the Coastal Zone by Unauthorized Activities

- (1) The general public cannot enjoy due to constructions on the beach.
- (2) Discharge of effluent wastewater and oil to the coast and sea by neighboring houses, tourist hotels and factories will cause
- * Degradation of quality of marine water * Destruction of sea weeds
 - * Depletion of coral reefs

S Coas

- * Destruction of marine animals
- * Affect the fisheries industry by
- destruction of fisheries resources. (3) Improper development activities which
- obstruct beach access, cause problems to general public. (4) Construction in the Coast results in destruc-
- (a) Construction in the coast results in destruction of natural beauty through destruction of vegetation in the coast and increase coastal erosion.
- (5) Destruction to the natural environment and public places in coastal area by coastal erosion which was enhanced by unauthorized constructions.

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Maligawatta, Colombo 10. Telephone – 011 2449197 Fax - 011 2438005

- (6) Destruction of mangrove ecosystem in lagoons and estuaries, results in.
 - * Lowering the living standard of fisher community due to decrease of fish breeding. * Destruction of environment in Lagoon and Estuaries
- * Erosion of banks of Lagoons and Estuaries.
 (7) Large scale sand mining worsens coastal erosion and causes destruction of
- erosion and causes destruction of neighboring houses and property of coastal community. (8) Removal of limestone and coral from the
 - coast and sea results in. * Reduction of fish breeding.
 - * Reduction of fish breeding.
 * Enhance the negative impact of natural
 - disasters such as Tsunami.
 - * Destruction to the marine environment
- (9) Lives and Assets are damaged by the Natural disasters due to destruction of Coastal Resources



Development activities in accordance with coast conservation permits enhance the beautify of the coastal environment







Degradation of environment in Lagoon and Estuary due to unauthorized, and improper development activities.

"If we protect the coastal environment, the coastal environment will protect us"

Annex D

Additional Operational Guidelines

- Sri Lanka Tourism Operational Guidelines with Health Protocols Version 1, by the Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority, 2020.
- COVID-19 Operational Guidelines communicated by the Director General of the Department of Wildlife Conservation.
- Guidelines for Contractors and Consultants/CBOs: Safeguards on COVID-19, by ESCAMP, 2020.
- COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), by the World Health Organization, 2020.
- Standard operating procedures (SOPs) for improving visitor services at the Wilpattu National Park Department of Wildlife Conservation.
- The National Red List 2012 of Sri Lanka; Conservation Status of the Fauna and Flora Ministry of Environment, 2012.

Other International Sustainability and CSR Standards and Guidelines:

• ISO 14001 - Environmental Management

ISO 14001 maps out a framework that a company or organization can follow to set up an effective environmental management system after which it can be certified.

• EMAS III - The EU Eco Management and Audit Scheme

The Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) is the EU's voluntary scheme designed for companies and other organizations committing themselves to evaluate, manage and improve their environmental performance.

• GRI - Global Reporting Initiative, Tour Operator Supplement

The GRI Standards enable any organization - large or small, private or

public – to understand and report on their impacts on the economy, environment and people in a comparable and credible way.

• GSTC - Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC) Criteria

The GSTC Criteria serve as the global standards for sustainability in travel and tourism and is used as a basis for certification.

• ISO 26000 - Corporate Social Responsibility Guidelines and principles

Reference document that provides guidance for integration/ implementation of social responsibility/ socially responsible behavior. Notes

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