



# SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

ASEV LAOS

03/2022 - 03/2024

This report outlines our achievements from the period 2022-2024 where we continued embarking on the sustainability journey amidst the post-COVID operational changes



**Our mission works towards a 3-tier approach with a focus on:**

**Socio-economic development:** Supporting local communities and businesses

**Environmental sustainability:** Reducing our environmental footprint

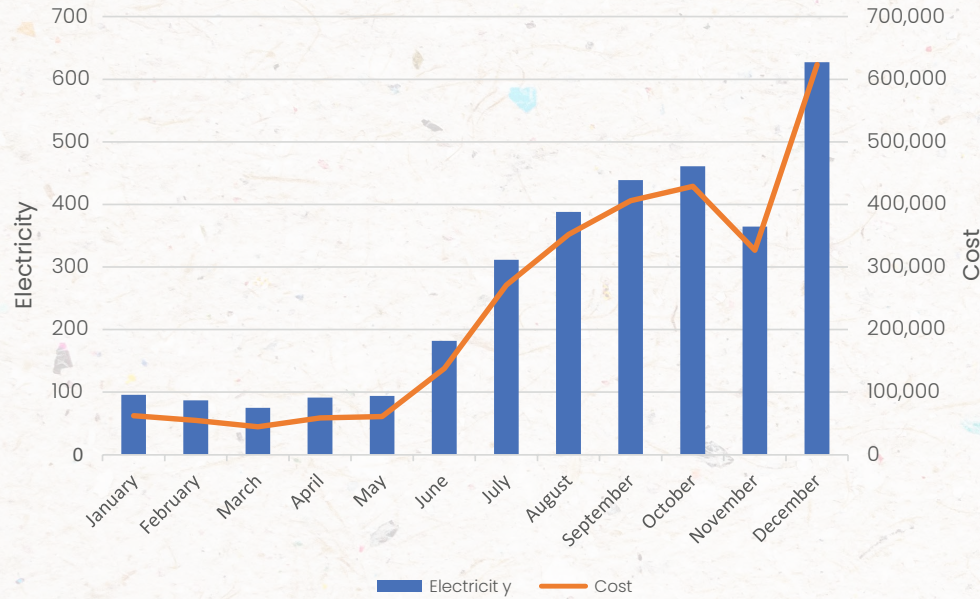
**Cultural sensitivity:** Heritage preservation

# IN OUR OFFICES

## Energy management

Energy consumption is measured and informed to all team members.

Energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emission in 2022



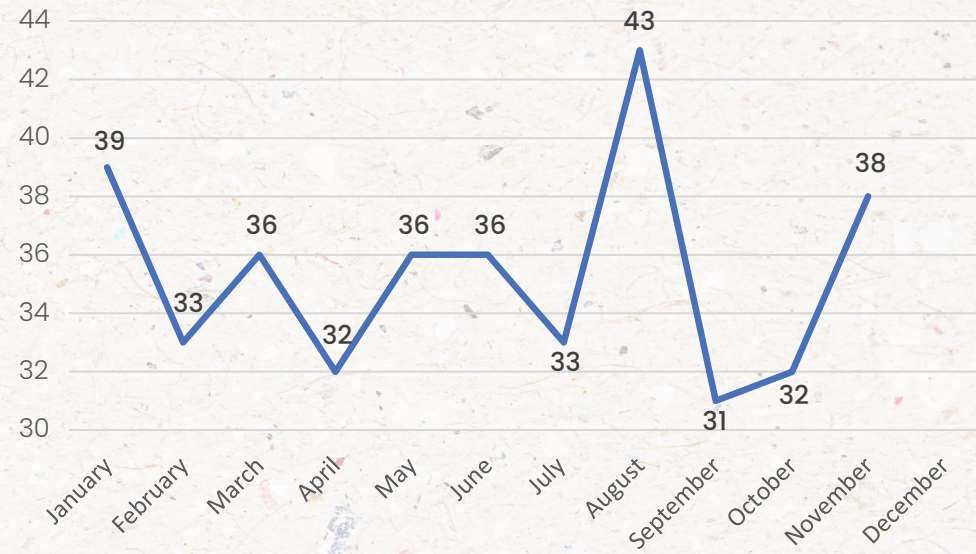
Energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emission in 2023





## Water management

Water consumption 2023



## Health and safety

Office is frequently checked regarding fire risk





# SUSTAINABLE SOURCING AND WASTE REDUCTION

- ❖ We buy in bulk to avoid excess waste.
- ❖ There is no single use plastic bottle in our office.
- ❖ More than 90% paper used is FSC
- ❖ Digital promotional materials are prioritized to save paper.
- ❖ We continue to separate our waste and send separated waste streams to off-takers.



## IN OUR SUPPLY CHAIN

Our activity and accommodation suppliers are made aware of key sustainability goals and objectives. We keep searching sustainable suppliers by surveys and developing sustainability clauses that are integrated into contracts and signed accordingly.

We communicate internally about sustainable suppliers to prioritize their services in our programs and externally on web pages to promote their visibility.



## SUSTAINABLE PACKAGE

When creating new products, we prioritize offering environmentally friendly options like low-carbon –footprint tours, more community engagement, participation in conservation efforts and giving back to community.

Since 2023, 50% of the program has sustainable destinations, activities, accommodations.

Every route has at least 1 walking tour and goes through destinations accessible by trains.



# SUSTAINABLE ACCOMMODATION

For any accommodation that has achieved a sustainability certification, we place a sustainable logo against the property in all materials of our communications to clients. We also ask all properties to sign a sustainability contract that requires a minimum standard to be met regarding their services and accommodations.

We try to work with certified suppliers. 8 hotels we often work with got the internationally-certified standards Travelife for Accommodation. 50% of suppliers we work with in Luang Prabang, Vientiane are certified with Travelife-recognized Lasting Laos standards.





# SUSTAINABLE RESTAURANT

Our criteria of selection include local ownership, traditional cuisine, and when made possible, local style of architecture, decoration and restaurants with a social cause (i.e. community based). We also favor venues which offer locally grown and/or organic products. We do not promote nor allow our guests to chose restaurants who offer endangered species on their menu, such as shark fin soup, turtle eggs, turtle soups or satays etc.

Some restaurants we work with are certified with Lasting Laos (a Travelife-recognized standard).



## LOCAL ENGAGEMENT



*Certified*  
Khua Mordin  
cooking class



*Certified*  
Living Land Farm



*Certified*  
Ock Pop Tok



*Certified*  
Pottery house



## REDUCED FOOTPRINT

- ❖ Walking tour in Luang Prabang
- ❖ Morning trekking around Pakbeng
- ❖ Walking tour in Muang Ngoi
- ❖ Trekking in Phongsaly
- ❖ Trekking in Luang Namtha and Muang Sing



## RESPONSIBLE MINDSET

Lunch at the Carpe Diem restaurant. The Carpe Diem restaurant donates 5% of its profits to the ASAS association, whose aim is to build access to drinking water and help rehabilitate schools in isolated villages in northern Laos.



## ANIMAL WELFARE

A day at the Mekong Elephant Park.



# PROMOTION OF RESPONSIBLE TRAVEL PRODUCTS IN PROPOSALS



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## JOUR 02 – PAKBENG [B/L/-]

Avec accompagnateur anglophone non privatif – Avec transport (non privatif)

Petit-déjeuner à l'hôtel.

**08h45 : Rendez-vous à la réception de l'hôtel Pakbeng Lodge.**

Vous traversez le Mékong à bord d'une pirogue pour rejoindre le **Mekong Elephant Park** et passez votre matinée au contact de l'animal emblématique du Laos, l'éléphant d'Asie.

*Conçu comme un projet éco touristique pilote, le Mekong Elephant Park illustre la volonté de ses créateurs de promouvoir un tourisme durable, en offrant aux propriétaires d'éléphants une alternative économique viable à l'exploitation intensive de la forêt tout en conservant les techniques ancestrales de cornage et en associant au projet les habitants des villages environnants. Les éléphants évoluent dans un environnement naturel, et sont soignés par des cornacs qui les respectent.*

A votre arrivée au centre, vous assistez dans un premier temps à une présentation générale sur la situation des éléphants au Laos, ainsi que sur les enjeux de la conservation de l'espèce. Vous recevez également les informations utiles en prévision de votre rencontre avec les géants. Au terme de cette présentation, partez à la **rencontre des éléphants et de leurs cornacs** ! Une occasion pour vous de bénéficier d'un moment privilégié avec ces animaux fascinants avant d'entamer à leurs côtés une belle balade au milieu de la forêt de bambous environnante. Au retour, vous assistez au bain des éléphants dans le Mékong, un joyeux moment de partage entre l'animal et son cornac.



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## JOUR 05 – NAM NGUM – LUANG PRABANG

[B/L/D]

Petit-déjeuner à l'hôtel.

Le matin, transfert à la gare ferroviaire de **Vang Vieng**. Départ (vers oghoo - horaires actuels à titre indicatif - à confirmer) pour **Luang Prabang** en train via la ligne de chemin de fer construite dans le cadre des Nouvelles Routes de la Soie, et mise en service en décembre 2021.

Cette ligne de chemin de fer qui compte de nombreux tunnels et ponts permet de rejoindre Luang Prabang en moins d'une heure contre environ 4h par la route.

Puis transfert aux magnifiques et rafraîchissantes **chutes de Khuang Sy**, qui cascaded dans un écrin de verdure. Situées à une trentaine de kilomètres au sud-ouest de la ville, les chutes s'élancent au milieu de la jungle sur des formations calcaires dans lesquelles elles ont creusé plusieurs petits bassins turquoise. Un spectacle de toute beauté. Le site accueille également de vastes enclos gérés par l'ONG Free the Bears où sont hébergés des ours à collier, espèce endémique au Laos, qui ont eu la chance d'échapper aux braconniers et un exil probable en Chine.

**Déjeuner au restaurant Carpe Diem**, situé en contrebas du site, à l'écart de la foule, et qui propose une cuisine fusion pleine de saveur dans un décor de rêve sur des terrasses entourées de petits bassins turquoise ! De plus, Carpe Diem reverse 5% des bénéfices à l'association ASAS dont l'objet social est de construire des accès à l'eau potable et participer à la réhabilitation d'écoles dans les villages isolés du Nord Laos.



# ... AND ON OUR WEB PAGE



## Family Fun in Luang Prabang

Sustainable & Tailor-made

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



## Lao Traditional Cuisine & Kamu Villages

Sustainable & Tailor-made

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



## Mekong Elephant Park Sanctuary Experience

Classic

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

ACCÉDEZ À VOTRE  
GUIDE DE VOYAGE  
EN LIGNE



## COMMUNICATION

- ❖ Our inclusive feedback form including questions regarding to guests' satisfaction on our sustainable initiatives.
- ❖ Customer protection policy visible to Guests.
- ❖ Complaint procedure visible to Guests.
- ❖ Sustainable practice guide for Guests to be responsible travellers.



### OUR ENGAGEMENT:

As your local interlocutor operating for your travel agency, we have tried to see how we could participate to a more sustainable world. As to give us a guideline, we have engaged ourselves to work towards the Travelife Certification. We aim to promote human rights and social condition in our company and with our partners, reduce our energy and water consumption, reduce our waste and encourage all our partners (hotels, activities, transport, restaurants) to engage in a sustainable process. You can have access to our full sustainability policy [here](#).



### REDUCING YOUR WASTE:

Laos is a country where waste management barely exists. By reducing your own consumption, you will therefore reduce your and our carbon footprint. One of the main concerns is plastic and therefore you may act on the following to avoid single used plastic items:



Carry your own shopping bag to avoid plastic use



Tap water is not drinkable, and your first instinct would be no doubt to buy a plastic bottle.

**But other possibilities exist:** There are refillable water points and networks around all the main cities in Laos, especially in Luang Prabang (please see the map). All individual travelers will systematically be handed a Refill Bottle to use during their stay throughout their trip in Laos. As for groups, guests are welcome to bring their own or ask their travel agency to include a reusable bottle during their tour.

# MOVING FORWARD

❖ Continue to do training for freelance guides on sustainable destinations.

❖ Increase the percentage of sustainable activity/destination/accommodation in a program

❖ Measure monthly the amount of recyclables and waste produced

