

UNESCO PROJECTS

VOLUNTEERS TO SUPPORT MANAGEMENT BOARDS (MB) OF PROTECTED SITES IN VIETNAM

Solidarités Jeunesses Vietnam's project



Project title: Support Management Boards of protected sites in Vietnam

Local partner: 8 protected sites including:

- My Son World Heritage site
- Can Gio Biosphere Reserve
- Western Nghe An Biosphere Reserve

- Dong Van Global Karst Plateau Geopark
- Lower U Minh Ha National Park (under Mui Ca Mau Biosphere Reserve)
- Cat Tien National Park (under Dong Nai Biosphere Reserve)
- Dong Nai Culture and Nature Reserve (under Dong Nai Biosphere Reserve)
- Citadel of the Ho Dynasty

Location: Ha Giang Province, Nghe An Province, Quang Nam Province, Ho Chi Minh City, Thanh Hoa Province, Ca Mau Province and Dong Nai Province.

Duration: 6 months – 1 year.

1. About SJ Vietnam

SJ Vietnam operates through a network of national non-profit organizations and partner organizations in Europe, the Middle East, Asia, Africa, South and North America, and Australia.

It organizes short-term and long-term international projects, actions of social integration, training activities, international solidarity actions and runs small Youth centers in Hanoi. SJ Vietnam is a full member of UNESCO – CCIVS and NVDA.

Through these actions, SJ Vietnam aims to promote:

- The voluntary participation of all, particularly young people and those in social disadvantaged situations, in local, national and international life.
- Local development that takes into consideration the needs of the individual, the environment and the Cultural Heritages into consideration.
- The breakdown of barriers between generations, cultures and nations.
- A concrete construction of peace.

SJ Vietnam mobilizes young people themselves to bring the values of tolerance and respects for all human beings without any political or ideological cleavage. The management of the organization and all its activities are open to all young people without any discrimination: SJ Vietnam selects its volunteers only based on their motivations and skills. For each activity, national or international, it tries to manage in lowest cost possibility so that it is accessible to everybody.

Basically, the activities of the hosting projects, which are organized with volunteers, are workcamps (renovation, masonry, carpentry, joinery, teaching,

children activities, environment protection, painting, art performance, etc) and long-term projects (local development).

2. About the sites involved in the project

	Name of the sites	Location	Short description
1	Can Gio Mangrove Biosphere Reserve	Rung Sac street, An Thoi Dong, Can Gio, Ho Chi Minh City	Can Gio Mangrove Biosphere Reserve is located in the South East of Ho Chi Minh City. The total area of the site is 75,740 ha including 4,721ha core area, 41,139ha buffer zone and 29,880 ha transition zone. Can Gio Mangrove Biosphere Reserve has one of the best protected forests in Viet Nam and internationally. The site also has great potential for research and ecotourism.
2	Western Nghe An Biosphere Reserve	Chi Khe Commune, Con Cuong District, Nghe An	<p>Pu Mat National Park is located in the South West of Nghe An province and is 400km away from Ha Noi.</p> <p>The special-use forest in Pu Mat National Park is the one of largest in Northern Viet Nam. It is home to 69 species of animals and 70 species of plants listed in Vietnamese Red Book and IUCN Red List.</p> <p>Pu Mat National Park is not only famous for its biodiversity but also for its magnificent landscapes such as Khe Thoi, Khe Bu, Khe Choang wild forest, Khe Kem waterfall, Moc spring and unique cultural values of Thai, H'mong and Dan Lai people. The site has great potential for tourism development.</p>
3	Dong Van Global Karst Plateau Geopark	16, Tran Phu, Ha Giang City, Ha Giang Province	Dong Van Global Karst Plateau Geopark is located in Northern Viet Nam. The site was the official member of the Global Geopark Network on 8 October 8 2010. The total area of the geopark is 2,446 km ² with a population of 24,000 inhabitants from diverse ethnic groups. 139 geo-heritage sites have been discovered, presenting the rich biodiversity of the region and local culture.

4	Lower U Minh National Park	Vo Doi Village, Tran Hoi Commune, Tran Van Thoi District, Ca Mau	<p>Lower U Minh National Park is a part of Mui Ca Mau Biosphere Reserve with a total area of 8,528 ha. It is located in two communes of U Minh District and three communes of Tran Van Thoi District, Ca Mau Province.</p> <p>Lower U Minh National Park consists of three main parts: one part for the conservation of forest on peat land with a total area of 2,593ha; one part for the restoration and sustainable use of forest on wetland with the total area of 5,134 ha and another part of 801 ha for administrative purposes.</p>
5	Mui Ca Mau National Park	Dat Mui Commune, Ngoc Hien District - Ca Mau province	<p>Mui Ca Mau National Park, a part of Mui Ca Mau Biosphere Reserve, has a total area of 41,682 ha in Nam Can and Ngoc Hien District, Ca Mau Province. The mangrove forest of Mui Ca Mau is 100km away from Ca Mau City.</p> <p>The park is a critical site for conservation and sustainable development due to its rich biodiversity and cultural and historical values. Apart from its unique location at the southernmost tip of Viet Nam, the national park differs from other sites by being home to many rare species of migratory birds and special geomorphic features.</p>
6	Cat Tien National Park	Nam Cat Tien Commune, Tan Phu District - Dong Nai province	<p>Cat Tien National Park is located in three provinces - Dong Nai, Lam Dong and Binh Phuoc - in the south of Viet Nam, approximately 150 km north of Ho Chi Minh City. It has an area of about 720 km² and includes one of the largest areas of lowland tropical rainforests left in Viet Nam. It was recognized by UNESCO as a biosphere reserve in 2001. The site attracts many Vietnamese and international researchers as it is home to a wide range of precious plants and animals.</p>

7	Dong Nai Culture and Nature Reserve	Village 1, Ma Da commune, Vinh Cuu district - Dong Nai province	<p>Dong Nai cultural and natural reserve has a total area of 100,303ha of which 67,903ha consist of forest. This special-use forest is rich in biodiversity with 32,900ha of rivers, springs and lakes. One of the most outstanding lakes is Tri An with a total surface area of 32.400ha. The lake is home to many species of underwater animals representative of the Dong Nai river system.</p> <p>The area used to be a revolutionary base area during the Viet Nam War and was inscribed as National Historic-Cultural Heritage by the Government.</p>
8	My Son World Heritage Site	Duy Phu Commune, Duy Xuyen District, Quang Nam Province	<p>My Son was a religious centre in the capital of the Champa Kingdom. The sanctuary is one of the most outstanding Champa architectural monuments in Viet Nam. In 1898, a French archaeologist, Henri Parmentier, who later carried out many archaeological research and conservation projects in the area, discovered it. 71 temples and monuments in My Son were named in alphabetical order (i.e. A, B, C and etc). Each of them is architecturally unique and representative of the ancient Champa Kingdom at different periods of time. During the Viet Nam War, many historical buildings in My Son were destroyed. The main temple (Kalan) A1, A10 and other historical sites were heavily devastated after carpet-bombing by the American military in 1969.</p>
9	Citadel of Ho Dynasty	Xuan Giai Village, Vinh Tien Commune, Vinh Loc District, Thanh Hoa Province	<p>King Ho Quy Ly built the citadel of the Ho Dynasty in 1397. It consists of the Inner Citadel, La thanh Outer Wall and the Nam Giao Altar covers 155.5 ha, surrounded by a buffer zone of 5078.5 ha. It is located in accordance with geomantic principles in a landscape of great scenic beauty between the Ma and Buoi rivers in Vinh Loc district, Thanh Hoa province of Viet Nam.</p> <p>The Inner Citadel constructed of large limestone blocks represents advances in</p>

		<p>architectural technology and urban planning in East Asia and South-East Asia. It demonstrates the use of architectural elements in space management and decoration designed for a centralized imperial city. The Citadel is the symbol of royal power which was influenced by Confucian philosophy and the predominant Buddhist culture. It was recognized as UNESCO World Cultural Heritage on 27 June 2011.</p> <p>The Management board of Ho Dynasty Citadel is located next to the heritage site. It consists of three main divisions: Heritage Department, Administration Department and Communication Department.</p>
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3. Work description:

During the project, volunteers will stay in or at a very short walking distance to the protected site. Volunteers will support staff of the site management board in tasks such as English training for staff and the local community, conducting research and planning for sustainable tourism development and management, or protecting the tropical forests. It is expected that the volunteers are able to adapt to changes in the working environment and communicate openly with the local staff and the community.

The volunteers will have an orientation week upon arrival. During this week, coordinators will provide them with the working schedule.

4. Objectives

There is a need to improve current capacities of management boards of protected sites in Viet Nam to meet the demands for safeguarding, conserving and promoting the values of cultural and natural heritage, as well as for engagement in international cooperation activities. The proposed project aims to assist management boards of protected areas within UNESCO recognized sites in Viet Nam in a wide range of skills including English and computer skills, environmental management, heritage management and tourism management. The project will create a network in which international volunteers and staff of management boards work together toward sustainable development of protected areas in Viet Nam. During that process, staff of management boards will be exposed to international experiences in environmental conservation, safeguarding of heritage, tourism management

and an international working environment. At the same time, international volunteers can benefit from the project by their involvement in site activities. Their understanding of local culture, their ability to work with local staff and communities and their expertise in technical fields will be improved.

5. Duties and responsibilities

List of task	Can Gio	Pu Mat	Ha Giang	U Minh Ha	Mui Ca Mau	Cat Tien	Dong Nai	My Son	Citadel of Ho Dynasty
English training for MB staff	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Training on computer software and applications						✓		✓	✓
Assisting staff of MB in developing proposals and fundraising		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Assisting staff of MB in conducting research in the area	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		
Assisting staff of MB in conducting marketing research, developing marketing strategy to foster tourism development		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
Organizing training sessions for local community on environmental conservation	✓	✓							
Interpretation for international tourists		✓							
Assisting staff of MB in designing tourism publications such as maps, posters, flyers	✓								

Assisting MB in developing/monitoring the data base of biosphere reserves	✓								
Assisting staff of MB in developing/monitoring website			✓						
Assisting staff of MB in improving signs and panels			✓						✓
Assisting staff of MB in fire prevention and fire extinction in the forest				✓	✓				
Organizing training for staff of MB and local community on communication skills in tourism							✓		✓
Assisting staff of MB in safeguarding and restoring heritage sites									✓

6. Work arrangement

6.1 Working place

- Cat Tien National Park
- Can Gio Mangrove Biosphere Reserve
- Western Nghe An Biosphere Reserve
- Ha Giang Global Karst Plateau Geopark
- Mui Ca Mau National Park
- Lower U Minh National Park
- Dong Nai National Park
- My Son World Heritage site
- Citadel of the Ho Dynasty

6.2 Working hours

At least 6 - 7 hours/day from Monday to Friday. Some work may be required during weekends as well (working hours are flexible)

6.3 Accommodation

<p>Guest house of the Management Board</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cat Tien National Park • Can Gio Mangrove Biosphere Reserve • Pu Mat National Park • Mui Ca Mau National Park • Lower U Minh National Park • Dong Nai Culture and Nature Reserve • My Son World Heritage site • Citadel of the Ho Dynasty
<p>Motel/hotel nearby</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ha Giang Global Karst Plateau Geopark

In case of private room at the main office of the National Park, the volunteers will have their own private bedroom. Volunteers might have to share the bathroom and toilets with other residents of the buildings or visitors. Food will be provided either at the site of the project or some shops nearby.

- SJ Viet Nam will help the volunteers to understand Vietnamese culture. One of the long-term coordinators will accompany the volunteers to the National Park and stay one week to arrange working hours and accommodation.

7. How go to the site?

Cat Tien National Park	<p>Go by taxi from Tan Son Nhat airport, Ho Chi Minh City to Mien Dong bus station.</p> <p>Go by bus named Kim Hoan from Mien Dong bus station to Nam Cat Tien bus station, ticket price 80,000 VND.</p> <p>Cat Tien National Park is 500m away from Nam Cat Tien bus station.</p>
Can Gio Mangrove Biosphere Reserve	<p>Go by bus from Tan Son Nhat airport to Ben Thanh bus station (last bus stop) 4,000 VND.</p> <p>Go by bus No 20 to Nha Be 4,000 VND.</p> <p>Buy ferry ticket to Can Gio 1,000 VND.</p> <p>Go by bus No 90 to the Dan Xay 4,000 VND.</p> <p>Can Gio Mangrove Biosphere reserve is opposite the bus stop.</p>
Pu Mat National Park	<p>Go by bus from My Dinh Bus station to Pu Mat National Park. Ticket price: 170,000 VND (\$9).</p>
Mui Ca Mau National Park	<p>Upon arrival at Ca Mau airport, you go to Ca Mau-Dat Mui Canoe station, which is 3 km away from the airport.</p> <p>You take a canoe there to Mui Ca Mau National Park, which costs 160,000 VND (approx. \$8).</p>
Lower U Minh National Park	<p>Upon arrival at Ca Mau airport, you go to Lower U Minh National Park by taxi, which costs 600,000 VND (\$30).</p>
Dong Nai Culture and Nature Reserve	<p>A car will be arranged to pick up the volunteers from Tan Son Nhat Airport (Ho Chi Minh city) to Dong Nai Culture & Nature Reserve.</p>
My Son World Heritage site	<p>Upon arrival at Da Nang International Airport, walk or take a motorbike taxi to Nui Thanh road (100 metres</p>

	away from the airport) and go to My Son by bus, which may cost 50,000 VND (\$2.5) or take a taxi 600,000 VND (\$30).
Phong Nha Ke Bang World Natural Heritage site	Go by train from Hanoi Train station to Dong Hoi train station at 530,000 VND (\$27). Go by taxi from Dong Hoi train station to Phong Nha Ke Bang World Heritage site at 700,000 VND (\$35).
Ha Giang Global Karst Plateau Geopark	Take a bus named Hai Van from My Dinh Bus station to Ha Giang bus station, which costs 150,000 VND (\$8). Once arriving at the Ha Giang bus station, you can call the staff of the Management Board to pick you up.
Citadel of the Ho Dynasty	Go by bus from My Dinh Bus station or Giap Bat bus station to Thanh Hoa Bus station. Ticket price is around 70,000 VND. Thanh Hoa Bus station to the office of Management board of Ho Dynasty Citadel in Thanh hoa City. Address: No 16 Hac Thanh, Thanh Hoa City (about 1km away from Thanh Hoa Bus station). Staff of the Management Board will take the volunteers from Thanh Hoa City to the Citadel in Vinh Loc District

8. Qualification and experience

- Background/experience in environmental management, heritage management or tourism management is an asset
- Previous experience in voluntary work is an asset

- Good command of English skills (basic Vietnamese is an asset)
- Good communication skills
- Independent
- Can adapt to different working and living environments
- Open-minded
- Hard working and patient
- Self motivated
- Can handle challenging situations

9. Participation fee

7.500.000VND /month this fee includes food, transportation and basic accommodation in host families. Volunteers will pay all their participation fees in a single payment to their sending organizations or directly to SJ Vietnam bank account 2 weeks before they come to Vietnam. Volunteers have to send a scan of the receipt and bring it to SJ Vietnam. If they do not pay their participation fees before coming, they will be in the waiting list. The volunteers can stay longer or less than couples of months but they are supposed to pay for the whole months and may be a half as well. For example, if volunteers stay for 3 months and 10 days, they are supposed to pay for 3 months and a half (it means they will pay 26.250.000VND); if they stay for 3 months and 20 days, they are supposed to pay for 4 months (it means they will pay 30.000.000VND). If volunteers have holiday in the middle

of their voluntary durations, the holiday duration will still be considered as their voluntary time so volunteers are supposed to pay for the holiday duration. If they have holiday after finishing all voluntary work with SJ Vietnam, they do not have to pay for that.

Following is the address to transfer fee:

Account name: SJ Vietnam

Account number: 4054928

Address: ANZ Hanoi Branch

No 14, Le Thai To Street, Hanoi, Vietnam

Swift: ANZBVNVX

Telephone: +84 438258190

Fax: +84 438258188/9

10. Application procedures

Interested candidates should email a detailed resume/CV and an application letter to their voluntary organizations.

The national voluntary organizations have to send their candidates' CVs to: in@sjvietnam.org. Our incoming coordinator is responsible for accepting volunteers.