



United Nations  
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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **World Heritage Site Museum Workshop**

**10 – 20 May 2012**

**Siem Reap, Cambodia and Pakse, Laos**

### **“Revitalizing World Heritage Site Museums for a Better Interpretation of Living Heritage Sites in Cambodia, Laos, and Viet Nam: Training for World Heritage Site Museums”**

World Heritage Site Museums of Cambodia, Laos, and Viet Nam will gather in Siem Reap, Cambodia to discuss and better understand the respective Outstanding Universal Value of the associated World Heritage sites, especially by highlighting the interconnections between these sites and the population, as well as the role of South East Asia in global history.

The workshop will be attended by directors, curators and conservators from 9 site-related museums, and experts in the field of exhibition management, exhibition design, history, and illicit trafficking. The participating museums will elaborate on a joint sub-regional exhibition on the following themes: Natural world, trade and exchange, and an individual subject-theme developed by each museum to highlight their collection.

This event is the second in a series of workshops under the UNESCO-Japan Funds-in-Trust project, which was designed to support the process of revitalizing the World Heritage-related site museums and interpretation centres dedicated to archaeological sites of the three countries. The programme is aimed primarily for the development of professional skills of staff from these institutions, not only curators and conservators, but also archaeologists and managers of the World Heritage sites. Ultimately, this project aims to strengthen the regional network of site museums and professionals.

The first workshop was held in Hanoi from 14 November to 3 December, 2011. This second workshop brings together the research contents and accumulated information provided by scientific coordinators and the participating site-museums. Through intensive sessions led by experts, the participants will elaborate on the sub-regional exhibition and educational programme during the 10-day workshop.

Field trips to the archaeological Sites of Angkor, Cambodia, and Wat Phu in Champassak, Laos, will also take place. The World Heritage Sites to which the participating museums are affiliated are as follows: Angkor, Temple of Preah Vihear, My Son Sanctuary, Central Sector of the Imperial Citadel of Thang Long – Hanoi, Citadel of the Ho Dynasty, Vat Phu and Associated Ancient Settlements within the Champassak Cultural Landscape.

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