

travel operators for
tigers

Action on responsible use of wild habitats



**Accommodation Provider's Self-Assessment Questionnaire
TOFT VERSION (1) --- JAN' 2007 (SAQ)**

Introduction

to the TOFT (PUG) Rating Self-Assessment



The Travel Operators for Tigers is a collective campaign encompassing all those involved in wildlife tourism in India and South Asia. This includes International and local Travel operators and agents, destination management agents, accommodation providers and visitors.

The focus of this self-assessment questionnaire is to initiate the process of examining your own accommodation provision - both internally within your operations and externally within the greater community.

TOFT aims to support you in your business, offering opportunities to get better and more effective in your provision of your service and therefore more profitable. At the same time to enhance your standing within the local community, within Parks and ultimately to your clients both domestic and foreign.

Its aim is to have a superb 'wildlife experience' to sell to your clients today, tomorrow and into the future, thus securing you with a viable business into the future too!

PUG Self-Assessment contains questions targeting three key factors:

- Economic issues of your operations
- Socio-Cultural impacts of your operations
- Ecological impacts of your operations

This is one of the assessment processes to benchmark your tourism practices, which would be rated as per the TOFT PUG Rating Procedure. An accurate completion of the form is essential and can affect your PUG rating.

The approach to questions will allow us an accurate assessment of

- A) Current PRACTICE
- B) Currently DO NOT PRACTICE
- C) don't do, but AIM TO PRACTICE
- D) N/A (Not Applicable / The factors are not used for your operations)

Acknowledgement : This assessment outline has been modified from Wild Asia's Responsible Tourism Self-Assessment Questionnaire 2005 / 2006. This specific PUG Self-Assessment Questionnaire would be used for 2006 / 2009 period and TOFT would amend / modify future changes through various other external assessments.

1.1 Please provide the following information regarding your operations.

LODGE / CAMP / RESORT / HOTEL:

YOUR NAME :

Title :

Email contact :

Destination Address :

If you are not the owner please give His/Her name(s)

NAME(S) :

Title :

Email contact :

Their Main Address :

1.2 Please give us a summary of your tourism activities. E.g. How many rooms, number of staff & naturalists employed, acreage of your site etc.

1.3 History of Operations. E.g. Your year of establishment, background and other such establishments, and what market segment are you attempting to attract, Luxury/Budget and Foreign/Domestic visitors etc.

1.4 What are your operational objectives for the future?

1.5 Would you call yourself a responsible accommodation provider already?

YES NO

1.6 Do you operate already within a Code of Conduct in your operations?

YES NO

1.7 Do you highlight this Code to Visitors and/or Staff?

YES NO

2. ECONOMIC FACTOR

The Economic Factors which directly influence and affect local communities, local employment and the recognition of wildlife tourism and conservation as an economic benefit.

Our approach is to minimise 'Leakages' and maximise 'Linkages' within each wilderness destinations to ensure the maximum benefit for the continued wildlife conservation in the area is felt by those communities who have to live and work within its influences.

2.1 Employment

PRACTICES	YES	NO	WILL DO	NA	PROOF / EVIDENCE
Do you employ staff from local community?					NA
Does your local staff exceeds more than 50% of your staffing requirements?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do your wage levels meet the 'wage acts' in your area?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you provide clear incentives on seniority and longevity of service?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

2.2 Local Purchasing & Product Development

PRACTICES	YES	NO	WILL DO	NA	PROOF / EVIDENCE
Do you acquiring local food produce for daily requirements?					NA
Does you local food purchasing exceeds more than 50% of your food requirements?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have a separate accounting system for local purchases?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you seek locally made products (non food) and have formal sale arrangements for them?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

2.3 Community Training or Capacity Building

PRACTICES	YES	NO	WILL DO	NA	PROOF / EVIDENCE
Training programs for your employees?					NA
Training local's for self- employment?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

2.4 Visitor Services

PRACTICES	YES	NO	WILL DO	NA	PROOF / EVIDENCE
Do you offer visits to local markets or villages?					NA
Do you offer visit to local craft centres?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have locally produced souvenirs & handicraft on offer ?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you offer guided nature walks?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you offer bike hire for visitors?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

2.5 Visitor Donations & Operational Contributions

PRACTICES	YES	NO	WILL DO	NA	PROOF / EVIDENCE
Do you contribute funds to local projects/ programs?					NA
Do you offer visitors the opportunity to contribute funds to local projects?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you record contribution from visitors / tourists?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

3. SOCIO-CULTURAL FACTOR

The Socio-Cultural Factor focuses on the impact of Tourism with respect of local culture and heritage and aims to prevent negative impacts on social beliefs as well as protecting and preserving the wildlife destination's cultural heritage.

3.1 Co-operative Structure

PRACTICES	YES	NO	WILL DO	NA	PROOF / EVIDENCE
Do you participate in local community activities/events?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you actively seek to maintain good relations with local communities?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

3.2 Local Culture

PRACTICES	YES	NO	WILL DO	NA	PROOF / EVIDENCE
Do you have any involvement in local institutions and committees?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you involve yourselves in steps for promoting tourism potential in the area?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

4. ECOLOGICAL FACTORS

The ecological factor focuses on conservation, the protection of biodiversity and the natural habitat around your operation. It focuses on buildings, aesthetics, the responsible use of the area's natural resources, disposal of waste and pollution.

4.1 Planning, Design & Construction

PRACTICES	YES	NO	WILL DO	NA	PROOF / EVIDENCE
Is your property planned, designed and constructed according to ecological norms and regulations?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

4.2 Energy Management

PRACTICES	YES	NO	WILL DO	NA	PROOF / EVIDENCE
Do you take steps for energy conservation?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you use wood as a fuel for cooking or heating?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have measures in place for noise pollution?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

4.3 Water & Waste Management

PRACTICES	YES	NO	WILL DO	NA	PROOF / EVIDENCE
Do you have a process for recycling of water?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you encourage the conservation of water to staff & visitors?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have a process for recycling of degradable waste ?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have a process for disposal of non biodegradable waste?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

4.4 Nature Conservation

PRACTICES	YES	NO	WILL DO	NA	PROOF / EVIDENCE
Do you ensure restricting wildlife products piracy?					NA
Do you support wildlife conservation & research conducted by the park?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have a reporting system for bad and illegal practices within the park?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you have a good working relationship with the park authorities?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

4.5 Client Briefing, Guiding & Interpretation

PRACTICES	YES	NO	WILL DO	NA	PROOF / EVIDENCE
Do you inform your visitor's about rules & regulations of the park?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you use trained guides?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Do you use park literature for visitor education?					YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>



Please use the space below to clarify your answers above with further details or provide additional information:

Empty rounded rectangular box for providing additional information.

This completed form can be sent or emailed to the contact details below.



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