



MEDIA BRIEF AND FIELD TRIP

Sustainable tourism development in the World Heritage Sites

Date: 12 – 14 March, 2018

Introduction

Resolution No. 08-NQ/TW of the Politburo issued on January 16, 2017 sets tourism as a spearhead economy sector with the target of attracting 17-20 million foreign visitors and 82 million domestic tourists by 2020. Compared with these numbers in 2016, i.e., 10 million foreign visitors and 62 million domestic visitors, the target for 2020 is 1.3-2 times higher than the current number of tourists.

Tourism has the potential to make a major contribution to the conservation and development of cultural and natural resources, as well as economic development. However, in several coastal areas, especially inside and close to protected areas and World Heritage Sites, unregulated tourism development is a growing source of concern.

Tourism development that ignores environmental quality and sustainability has already had serious negative impacts. For example, hotels have been built that fragment the habitat of globally threatened wildlife or without appropriate waste water treatment capacity. And solid waste is huge problem almost everywhere in Vietnam.

Within the framework of the USAID-funded Ha Long-Cat Ba Alliance, IUCN will organize a media brief [] based on the case study from Ha Long-Cat Ba and following by a field trip to Ha Long Bay and Cat Ba National Park.

Time and location: 12 . 13 March in Ha Long and 14 March in Cat Ba National Park

Objectives:

Create an opportunity for reporters and journalists to dialogue with local authorities, experts and international organizations on the impacts of tourism on environment in general and ecosystems in Ha Long-Cat Ba in particular as well as discuss solutions towards sustainable tourism development in this area.

Improve public and p[] development in WHS through media engagement.

Target: journalists from Hanoi, Quang Ninh and Hai Phong and other provinces/cities who are interested in environmental and tourism issues.

Languages: Vietnamese and English (with interpreters)

Deadline: 22 Feb 2018

Online registration form: <https://goo.gl/forms/wlbUjTlkrxebo6T13>

Tentative programme:

Time	Content
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15.00-15.30	Coffee break (long break so that reporters can interview policy makers)	
15.30-15.45	Update on investment in wastewater treatment system in Ha Long	Jake Brunner, Head, IUCN Indo-Burma
15.45-16.00	Voice from private sector about willingness to invest in wastewater treatment system	Representative from Pelican
16.00-16.30	Discussion on the next steps End of the meeting	
Day 3 (14/3)	Field trip to Cat Ba	
7.30-9.30	Travel by boat from Ha Long to Cat Ba	
9.30-11.00	Work with Cat Ba Langur Conservation Project	Neahga Leonard, Director, Cat Ba Langur Conservation Project
11.00-13.30	Divide into groups and explore tourism development in Cat Ba	
13.30-15.20	Groups gather to recap and share ideas	
15.20-15.30	Evaluation	
15.30-15.50	Move to the dock	
16.00-17.00	Travel by speed boat from Cat Ba to Hai Phong	
17.00-19.00	Travel from Hai Phong to Hanoi End of trip	

For further information, please contact:

IUCN Viet Nam Office