

GUIDELINES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT, MANAGEMENT & OPERATION OF CAMPSITES IN BHUTAN 2025



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Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Employment
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Thimphu, Bhutan**

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Introduction

Tourism development in Bhutan is guided by the policy of High Value, Low Volume which emphasizes long-term sustainability creating tangible benefits for the current and future generations and visitors alike. Tourism has since its inception been one of the major economic sectors contributing significantly towards socioeconomic development of the country.

The global tourism industry is witnessing shifts in tourism trends from destination-based tourism to experienced-based tourism amongst others wherein an increasing number of visitors are looking for immersive and experiential tourism. Nature-based tourism activities with integration of community engagement and interactions are gaining popularity. These trends can significantly enhance Bhutan's tourism appeal, drawing visitors who seek immersive and authentic experiences amidst pristine landscapes. For visitors, adventure and nature-based activities provide not only physical exhilaration but also emotional and spiritual rejuvenation. Bhutan's unique and untouched environments safeguarded by robust conservation policies offer serene escape, allowing visitors to experience profound solitude or the thrill of exploration in natural landscapes that are both majestic and culturally rich.

In order to maximize the potential benefits from this segment in a sustainable manner for all stakeholders, there is a need to develop appropriate frameworks to guide planning, designing, development, and management including standards and certification of camping facilities in the country.

Towards this end, the proposed guideline will serve as a framework for the sustainable development, management, and operation of campsites in Bhutan, emphasizing sustainability, community welfare, and current tourism trends.

CHAPTER 1

PRELIMINARY

Title

- 1) These guidelines shall be called “**Guidelines for the Development, Operation and Management of Campsites in Bhutan 2025**”.

Commencement

- 2) The guideline shall come into effect from 1st July 2025.

Application

- 3) The guideline shall apply to all categories of campsites developed and operated for tourism purposes.

Objectives

- 4) The main objective of the guideline is *to provide a clear framework for planning, designing, development and operations of campsites*. Additionally, the guidelines shall contribute to;
 - 1) Uphold “**High Value, Low Volume**” tourism policy;
 - 2) Enhance service quality and boost visitor satisfaction;
 - 3) Create opportunities for increased efficiency and innovation in the development and promotion of tourism activities;
 - 4) Facilitate sustainable campsite development and management to enhance economic opportunities, conserve the environment, foster social well-being, and ensure timely dissemination of information; and
 - 5) Enhance authentic experience of community based sustainable tourism for visitors.

Principles of Campsite Development

- 5) The basic premise of campsite development shall be based on the tourism policy of ‘**High Value, Low Volume**’ which emphasizes the importance of sustainable practices in the planning, design, operations, and management of the campsites. Some of the basic principles for consideration for campsite development are:
 - i) Tourism initiatives create supplementary income source for the communities and do not substitute their primary occupation / livelihood;
 - ii) Tourism initiatives do not impact the regular routines of the community;
 - iii) Promote responsible behaviors towards natural and socio-cultural environments;
 - iv) Promote authentic and indigenous attributes of the communities;

- v) Promote diversity and inclusion in the development, operation and management of campsite; and
- vi) Promote continued innovation and value addition to the visitor experiences.

CHAPTER 2

ADMINISTRATION AND APPROVAL

Responsible Administration

- 6) The Department of Tourism and other competent authority authorized by the Department shall be the responsible administration for approving the development of campsites and implement this guideline.

Categories of Campsites

- 7) Campsites are categorized as follows:

- i) **Mobile campsites:** A mobile campsite is a designated open area for visitors to camp with their own camping gears and will not have any built structures. Mobile campsites are located along the trek routes or at other designated sites for outdoor / adventure activities. The sites for open camping shall be designated by the Department of Tourism and in consultation with the competent authorities.
- ii) **Fixed campsites:** A fixed campsite is a designated area which offers basic amenities and services provided by business entities or community groups. The range of amenities and services could include lodging options in tents, lodges or others; food and beverages, outdoor recreation, adventure, and other education and social activities. The campsite will have built infrastructures located in areas that provide access to natural beauty, adventure opportunities and services away from the urban centers.

Development and Management of Mobile Campsites

8) The development and management of mobile campsites shall fulfill the following conditions.

a) Identification of sites for mobile campsites shall be as follows:

i) Along the Trek Routes

- (1) An average walking distance between two campsites should typically range from 10 to 20 kilometers (6 to 12 miles);
- (2) An altitude difference between the campsites should be maintained between 300-500 meters (approximately 1,000 to 16000 feet) for effective acclimatization purposes;
- (3) The campsite shall maintain adequate buffer from water bodies, roads, cultural sites, and ecological hotspots as per the requirements of the relevant regulations;
- (4) The campsite shall have a designated area for toilet tents, located at least 50 meters (164 feet) from water bodies and 20 to 50 meters (164 feet) from sleeping and dining tents. Ideally, they should be on the leeward side and at the lowest elevation to maintain hygiene, prevent odors, and avoid wastewater runoff into the campsite and water bodies.
- (5) The campsite shall have adequate space for setting up the tents, including communal facilities;
- (6) The campsite shall be located in low-risk areas or in locations where appropriate safety measures and controls can be implemented to mitigate these risks;
- (7) A minimum 3-meter setback should be maintained between sleeping tents to ensure privacy of the campers, but tent allocation may vary based on their preferences.
- (8) The necessary clearances shall be obtained from local government, and the Department of Forests and Park Services, and other competent authorities.

ii) Other Designated Sites

- (1) The site shall maintain adequate buffer from water bodies, cultural sites, settlements, and ecological hotspots as per the requirements of the competent authorities;

- (2) The campsite shall have a designated area for toilet tents, located at least 50 meters (164 feet) meters from water bodies and 20 to 50 meters (65 to 164 feet) from sleeping and dining tents. Ideally, they should be on the leeward side and at the lowest elevation to maintain hygiene, prevent odors, and avoid wastewater runoff into the campsite and water bodies.
- (3) The campsite shall have adequate space for setting up the tents, including communal facilities;
- (4) The campsite shall be located in low-risk areas or in locations where appropriate safety measures and controls can be implemented to mitigate these risks;
- (5) A minimum 3-meter setback should be considered between sleeping tents to ensure privacy of the campers, but tent allocation may vary based on their preferences.
- (6) The necessary clearances shall be obtained from Gewogs, and the Department of Forests and Park Services, and other competent authorities

Responsibility of Mobile Camping

- 9) Trekkers and campers shall comply with the following do's and don'ts issued by the Department of Tourism and other competent authorities, among other applicable guidelines.
 - i) Camp only at the campsite areas designated by the Department of Tourism in consultation with competent authorities;
 - ii) Use campsite facilities such as restrooms, showers, dining room, kitchen, and gazebos responsibly;
 - iii) Set up a toilet tent at least 50 meters (164 feet) from water bodies and 20 to 50 meters (65 to 164 feet) from sleeping tent and dining tents. Position the toilet tent on the leeward side and at the lowest elevation to maintain hygiene, prevent odors, and avoid wastewater runoff into the campsite and water bodies;
 - iv) Toilet pit or hole should be dug at least half a meter deep and cover up with organic materials after every use;
 - v) Bring back bio-degradable / non-biodegradable wastes and dispose it responsibly at the waste drop-off center or at designated sites;
 - vi) Always carry a first-aid kit;

- vii) Non-plastic offerings are encouraged, if the trekkers visit any cultural sites;
- viii) Refrain from hoisting synthetic prayer flags along the trail and viewpoints;
- ix) Avoid trenching around the tent;
- x) Avoid activities that may cause disturbance or destruction of the flora and fauna in the locality and abide by the “Forest and Nature Conservation Rules and Regulations”;
- xi) Cycling and similar motor vehicles along hiking trails (unless approved) is strictly prohibited;
- xii) Avoid polluting water bodies/lake with offerings like milk, grains, currency notes or coins;
- xiii) Avoid bathing or washing clothes in streams, rivers and lakes; and
- xiv) Refrain from illegal fishing or similar activities that may cause harm to the biodiversity.

Development and Management of Fixed Campsites

- 10) The planning, design and development of the fixed campsites shall fulfill the following conditions.

Eligibility and Requirements

- 11) Any business entities or community group shall be eligible to develop, manage and operate fixed campsites.
- 12) Business entities setting up a fixed campsite shall obtain business license and other clearances from relevant authorities to develop and manage campsite.
- 13) The community groups shall develop, manage, and operate campsites based on the Community Based Organization’s certification and other clearances.
- 14) The operator or employees shall have foundational / basic experience in hospitality service delivery.

Approval Process

- 15) The proponent shall submit an Expression of Interest (EoI) to the Department of Tourism as per the prescribed format attached as **Annexure I**.
- 16) The Department of Tourism shall review the EoI and provide recommendation for the campsite development.
- 17) The proponent shall apply for construction approval through the Construction Approval System (CAS) of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, along with the building construction application form and required documents, including a copy of the Lagthram and two sets of drawings (architectural, structural, electrical, and sanitary & plumbing).
- 18) Once the Construction Approval is approved, the proponent shall submit detailed business plan as per the prescribed format attached as **Annexure II**.
- 19) The Department of Tourism shall review the business plan and accord approval for the development of the campsites.

CHAPTER 3

PLANNING AND DESIGN

Requirement and Criteria for Location or Site Selection of Fixed Campsites

- 20) The selection of a campsite shall be conducted after thorough consultations, sustainability assessments, and feasibility studies. These consultations shall involve local communities, local governments, and other relevant stakeholders.
 - i) **Land** – Campsites shall not be established in areas where sufficient accommodation facilities already exist, to avoid impacting already existing accommodation facilities in these locations. However, this condition does not apply to areas within municipal boundaries where no or limited visitor accommodation facilities are available. Additionally, fixed campsites shall not be located within clustered villages, and the chosen location shall not negatively impact scenic views, historical and culturally significant features, or the overall ambiance of traditional settlements. This condition shall be subject to periodic review, depending on the availability of visitors' accommodation facilities in the area.
 - ii) **Safety** - The risk of natural disasters, such as landslides, falling rocks or trees, and floods, must be thoroughly assessed. Campsites shall only be established in low-risk

- areas or in locations where minimum safety measures and controls can be implemented to mitigate these risks.
- iii) **Water Bodies** - In case the site is proposed near a water body, an adequate buffer as per the existing Forests and Nature Conservation Rules and Regulations shall be maintained.
 - iv) **Cultural Landscape** - The proposed site must maintain the aerial distance prescribed by the competent authority from any designated cultural heritage zone. The development of the site shall not negatively impact the visual integrity or overall aesthetic of nearby cultural heritage zones.
 - v) **Accessibility** - The campsite shall be accessible by roads or trekking trails with proper and standard signage to ensure clear and informative direction to and within the campsite.
 - vi) The proponent shall fulfill the following sustainability and impact assessment:
 - (1) **Environmental Impact** - The proponent shall study traditional local architecture and prioritize the use of environmentally friendly, locally sourced construction materials to reduce the project's environmental impact.
 - (2) **Socio-Cultural Impact** - The proponent shall engage with local communities during the planning phase to understand cultural values and customs. The proponent shall also ensure that campsite locations respect sacred or culturally significant sites and incorporate local traditions into the planning process.
 - (3) **Economic Impact** - The economic impact studies, including market analysis shall be conducted to ensure long-term profitability of the campsite development.

Design Guidelines for Infrastructures

21) The design of the campsite shall fulfill the following conditions:

- i) **Site Zoning and Layout** - The campsite shall be a flat or leveled platform that is well-drained, with proper surface drainage. It must be spacious enough to allow for guest room tents or lodges to be placed at a minimum distance of 3 meters apart, ensuring adequate privacy and promoting the growth of surrounding vegetation. Cleanliness, regular maintenance, and adequate on-site parking are essential.

The campsite shall not be close to major motorways, such as national highways in order to maintain tranquility of the sites. All facilities must be located within the designated campsite plot boundary, maintaining a minimum setback of 2 meters from all sides. However, facilities accommodating septic tanks and soak points must adhere to a minimum setback of 4 meters.

Guest areas shall be clearly separated from staff and service areas, with private functions segregated from public events to enhance privacy and functionality.

- ii) **Accessibility** - The access road and trail shall be well-maintained, clear, and sufficiently wide to accommodate both vehicles and visitors. The trail shall be constructed with natural/locally sourced materials, or those that blend with the natural surroundings. Barrier-free access for people with disabilities is encouraged to practice diversity and inclusion in the campsite management.
- iii) **Water Supply** - The campsite shall have access to a safe and reliable supply of drinking water, with adequate water taps or outlets provided.
- iv) **Lighting** - The campsite shall provide adequate lighting or have provisions for alternative lighting solutions in case of emergency. However, excessive use of lighting should be avoided to minimize impact on wildlife. The pathway or the circulation within the facility must be well lit. The lighting cables and fittings should be installed in a way that minimizes their visual impact on the natural environment.
- v) **Waste Water Management** - Safe collection and disposal of waste water shall be implemented and the measures shall be taken to protect nearby soil and water bodies from pollution caused by both facilities and visitors.
- vi) **Solid Waste Management** - The design of the campsite shall include a site with designated garbage collection area with segregation and disposal facilities.
- vii) **Safety and Security** - Safety measures such as fire safety, first aid provisions, clear evacuation routes, secure electrical and water systems, domestic or wildlife management (eg. appropriate boundary fences/walls constructed from locally available/environmentally friendly materials or those that blend with the natural landscape), and to ensure the well-being of all visitors shall be in place. Visible posting of local emergency numbers of nearest medical facilities shall be in place including a trained staff in first aid.

- viii) **Architectural Design** - Architectural design shall be in harmony with the natural landscape and local architecture. Employ vernacular cultural expressions in building design. Additionally, the design shall incorporate adequate ventilation and natural shadings, such as louvers, overhangs, etc. The height of the structure shall not disrupt the visual integrity of the natural and cultural landscape.
- ix) **Construction Materials** - To reduce environmental impact, the campsite should prioritize the use of locally sourced materials / plant species for construction and landscaping. Non-native materials like concrete and pre-fabricated structures should be avoided. If necessary for structural stability and climate impact mitigation, artificial or imported materials must be camouflaged with local elements like stone slabs, timber, and thatch, or painted to match the natural surroundings.
- x) **Color** - Colors of tents, exterior surfaces of architectural structure, or any other artificial materials shall blend with the surrounding environment.
- xi) **Pollution** - Facilities and services that produce noise, air and soil pollution should be managed to minimize environmental impact and prevent disturbances to the local communities, wildlife, and non-participating visitors. Vegetation may be used as sound barriers for private areas, and exhaust air from utility areas should be diverted away from public and private spaces.
- xii) **Signage** - Signs shall be installed along the trail to the campsite to provide clear directions. Additionally, a signboard with the campsite's name and contact details should be placed to inform visitors of its location. These signs shall be made from locally available materials or those that blend with the natural landscape.
- xiii) **Parking Area** - The campsite, accessible by motorable road, shall have adequate parking area on-site.
- xiv) **Campsite Boundary** - The campsite shall consider appropriate boundary fences, walls to ensure safety from domestic and wild animals. The structure shall be constructed from locally available/environmentally friendly materials or those that blend with the natural landscape.
- xv) **Recreational Activities** - Additional or any recreational activities shall be designed and planned properly to enhance visitors' experience at the campsite. These shall include necessary approvals, trained / certified personnel, access, safety and standards, and adequate supporting amenities. The conduct of recreational activities shall not

create disturbances / inconveniences to the local communities, wildlife and non-participating visitors.

CHAPTER 4

OPERATIONAL STANDARDS

Quality Assurance

22) The campsite shall ensure basic quality assurance as follows:

- i) The operational standard of the design guidelines for the infrastructure shall be governed by all the relevant policies and regulations of different sectors and accordingly adhere to requirement of any additional standards, permits or clearances.
- ii) The visitors' rooms shall be clean, comfortable, hygienic, well maintained and ventilated with heating and cooling facilities;
- iii) The toilets and bathrooms shall be clean, hygienic, ventilated and well maintained with continuous supply of water;
- iv) The kitchen and dining area shall be clean, hygienic, ventilated and well maintained with appropriate storage equipment for kitchen supplies;
- v) The food and beverages served to the visitors shall be freshly prepared in a hygienic condition by trained personnel; and
- vi) The recreational areas / activities shall have necessary approvals and certifications for visitors' use.

Assessment, Certification and Validity of Fixed Campsites

23) The operation of the fixed campsite shall be subject to assessment and certification by the Department of Tourism or competent authority. The following process is required to be completed:

- i) Submit request for assessment and certification once the campsite is ready for operation as per the attached format annexed as **Annexure III**;

- ii) The Department of Tourism shall review the request and conduct assessment of the campsite;
- iii) The Department of Tourism shall issue certification upon successful completion of the assessment and the provisional certificate shall be valid for **3 years**.

Minimum Facilities and Services Required

24) The operator shall ensure standard operating processes and procedures for:

- i) Visitors' reception, stay, and departure;
- ii) Readying rooms and other facilities for visitor arrivals;
- iii) Food and beverage handling;
- iv) Visitors record keeping and feedback handling;
- v) Emergency preparedness; and
- vi) Periodical maintenance of the facilities.

Environmentally Friendly Practices

25) The operator shall:

- i) Ensure proper waste management with clear segregation of bio-degradable and non-bio-degradable wastes, recycling and reuse;
- ii) Avoid using single use plastics and pet bottles in the campsites
- iii) Ensure local sourcing of food and beverages supplies; and
- iv) Use energy and water saving fittings, devices and mechanisms.

Community Benefit Sharing Mechanisms

26) The Operator shall / should ensure benefit sharing to the local communities through the following:

- i) **Revenue:** Share certain percent of the revenue generated from the campsite operations with the local community.
- ii) **Employment:** Create employment opportunities for the community.
- iii) **Local sourcing:** Procure locally produced food and beverage supplies and materials for use at the campsite operations.
- iv) **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR):** Cash and / or kind contributions to community development such as local festivals, irrigation channels, education and health facilities, etc.

Sustainable Management and Operation Plan

27) The operator shall have sustainability and operational plans to ensure continuity of business operations.

Compliance Monitoring and Assessment

28) The Department of Tourism and / or authority empowered by the Department and/or competent authority shall undertake regular compliance monitoring and assessment of the campsites to ensure compliance.

CHAPTER 5

MISCELLANEOUS

Revisions

29) The Department of Tourism may revise this Guideline in consultation with the other relevant sector if required.

Definitions

Mobile campsite is a designated open area for visitors to camp with their own camping gears and may not have any built structures. Open campsites are located along the trek routes or at other designated sites for outdoor / adventure activities. The sites for open camping shall be designated by the Department of Tourism and or any other competent authority.

Fixed campsite is a designated area which offers a range of amenities and services provided by business entities or community groups. The range of amenities and services could include lodging options in tents, lodges or others; food and beverages, outdoor recreation, adventure, and other education and social activities. The campsite will have built infrastructures located in areas that provide access to natural beauty, adventure opportunities and services away from the urban centers.

Community Based Organization (CBO) is a non-profit group that is formed and operates within a specific community, typically to address local needs and improve the quality of life for its members. CBOs are usually driven by community member themselves and are focused on meeting the social, economic, cultural, or environmental needs of that particular group or area. These organizations can vary in size, structure, and scope, but they are generally grassroots in nature, meaning they are rooted in the local community and led by people who live there.

Eco-camp / Eco-campsites are fixed campsites that adopt **environment friendly practices** in its design and operation such as recycling waste, reducing water consumption and using

biodegradable materials. Any campsites using eco-labels should demonstrate significant contributions to the environment and socio-cultural aspects of the community. Eco-camps / Eco-campsites should be in line with the **Bhutan Green Hotel Standard**.

A **lodge** is a permanent accommodation facility, often located in scenic or rural areas, offering structured lodging options such as rooms or cabins, and typically equipped with amenities like dining areas and bathrooms.

An **Eco-lodge** is a type of lodge specifically designed to operate sustainably, with minimal environmental impact, often located in ecologically sensitive areas. Any lodge using eco-labels should demonstrate significant contributions to the environment and socio-cultural aspects of the community. Eco-lodge should be in line with the **Bhutan Green Hotel Standard**.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) refers to the incorporation of sustainable and socially responsible practices into their operations. This involves considering the environmental, social, and economic impact of campsite development and ensuring that it benefits both the local community and the broader ecosystem.

Competent Authorities refer to government agencies or organizations that have the legal authority to oversee and enforce regulations related to campsite activities.

The **Proponent** refers to an individual or business entity and the community groups intending to develop, manage, and operate the fixed campsites.

The **Expression of Interest (EoI)** is a document or form that provides a proponent's information, location details, and a concise proposal for developing, operating, and managing a fixed campsite.

A **Designated Area** refers to areas identified by the Department of Tourism and or any other competent authority.

A **Low-Risk Area** is an area with minimal exposure to hazards such as natural disasters, health threats, or security risks, ensuring safety and stability of the visitors.

ANNEXURES

Annexure I: Expression of Interest Form for Fixed Campsite

Proponent Details		Date of Application.....	
Name of the proponent:	Citizenship ID No:	Contact Number:	Email address:
Location of the campsite (Please include location coordinate)			
Chiwog/Village:			
Gewog:			
Dzongkhag/Thromde:			
Campsite Details			
Description of the campsite (Facilities and services)	Brief description of the facilities and services to be offered by the campsite including proposed capacity of the campsites. For example: number of tents / lodges, F&B, etc.		
Activities	Brief description of the additional recreational activities to be offered such as village tours, birding, pilgrimage, entertainment, rafting, etc.		
Funding Source	Mention source of funding for the campsite development. For example: self-financing (including loans), partnerships, donors, etc.		
Operation and Management Modality	Brief description how the campsite will be managed and operated. For example: employ managers and employees.		

Annexure II: Business Plan Format for Fixed Campsites

Proposed name of the Campsite	
Location	Specific location and why it was chosen, accessibility and surroundings
Market Analysis	Target market, competition (Analysis of competing campsites or accommodations)
Operational and Management Plan	Business sustainability plan, environmental practices (Waste management, renewable energy, environment friendly materials), etc.
Funding source	Investor contributions, loans, grants
Benefit Sharing Mechanism	<p>The benefit sharing to the local communities are ensured through the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Revenue (Profit) ○ Employment ○ Local sourcing: ○ CSR
Risk Analysis	Potential risks (Natural disasters, legal challenges, market risks), risk mitigation measures.
Feedback Mechanism	
Supporting documents required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● a copy of the latest Lag Thram or Land Ownership Certificate ● A copy of National Identity Card of the proponent; and ● A copy of the architectural drawings (site plan, floor plans, and elevations);
<p>NB: The proponent must obtain the necessary approvals or clearances, such as planning or construction permits, as well as forestry, environmental, cultural, and others, from the competent authorities.</p>	

Annexure III: Checklist for Assessment of Fixed Campsite

Name of the Proponent:		Name of the Campsite:	
Location (Chiwog, Gewog, Dzongkhag):		Contact Details (Email and Open No.):	
Criteria	Indicator	Evidence or Means of Verification	Remarks
Site zoning and layout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The campsite is a flat or leveled platform, and well-drained with proper drainage. -The campsite is spacious enough and a minimum distance of at least 3 meters is maintained between tents. However, the tents may be allocated depending on the privacy requirement of the visitors. -An adequate parking area on-site. - Clean and well maintained -Minimum set back of 2 meters from the site boundary and 4 meters on the site accommodating septic tanks. -Guests function areas separated from staff and service function areas. -Private function areas separated from public function areas. 	Physical verification	
Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The access road and trail are well-maintained, clear, and sufficiently wide to accommodate both vehicles and visitors. -The access trail is constructed with natural/locally sourced material, or those that blend with the natural surroundings. -The main entrance is prominent and directly accessible from the main route 	Physical verification	
Water supply	Access to a safe and reliable supply of drinking water, with adequate water taps or outlets provided.	Physical verification	

Lighting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -An adequate lighting or has provisions for alternative lighting solutions (Torch, generator, chargeable lightings) in case of emergency situations in the facilities and surroundings. -The lighting in the facilities and surrounding areas is not excessive disrupting the wildlife and overall ambience. -The lighting cables and fittings are installed in a way that minimizes the visual impact on the natural environment 	Physical verification	
Environment friendly practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Proper waste management with clear segregation of bio-degradable and non-bio-degradable wastes, recycling and reuse. -Single-use plastics and pet bottles in the campsites are avoided. - Food and beverage supplies are sourced locally. -Energy and water saving fittings, devices and mechanisms are in place. -Environmentally friendly and locally sourced construction materials, or those that blend with the natural surroundings, are utilized. -Architectural designs and colors of the infrastructures are in harmony with the natural landscape and local vernacular architecture. -Facilities and services that produce noise, air and soil pollution are managed to minimize environmental impact. -A designated smoking area is available 	Physical verification	
Safety and Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Fire safety (e.g. fire extinguisher), first aid provisions, clear evacuation routes, secure electrical and water systems are in place. 	Physical verification	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Domestic or wildlife management measures/facilities for visitor's safety are implemented, if applicable to the site. -Information on emergency contacts and local healthcare providers is readily accessible. 		
Signage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ensured proper signage at the main entrance and campsites, displaying the campsite name and contact information. -Constructed out of natural/local materials, or those that blend with natural surroundings. 	Physical verification	
Reception service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The SOP for visitor's reception, stay, and departure are in place and implemented. 	Physical verification/ Written SoPs or standard practices	
Guestroom (tents/lodges/ others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Guest bedrooms are clean, comfortable, hygienic, well maintained and ventilated with heating and cooling facilities. -Tents must be set up on a flat and well-drained surface, but avoid trenching around the tent; - Water proof tents with no leakages are provided. -Mattresses, sleeping bags, blankets, pillows and linens are clean, comfortable and in good condition. -Measures in place to prevent the entry of insects into the room or tent. 	Physical verification	

Restroom/ Shower room	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -At least one separate restroom and shower room for every 10 persons. -Separate restroom and shower room for male and female. -Basic toiletries and fittings such as soap, toilet paper, and a water tap are provided. -Toilet and shower room is clean and well maintained with adequate space, proper ventilation and continuous supply of water. -Waste bin and/or sanitary bin are provided. - Must be easily accessible and located within 50 meters (164 feet) from sleeping and dining areas with proper sanitation measures in place to maintain hygiene, prevent odors, and avoid wastewater runoff into the campsite and water bodies. 	Physical verification	
Kitchen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Kitchen is clean, hygienic, ventilated, and well maintained. -Back entrance and walkway for kitchen staff and service must be provided separately from the guest area. -Utensils, cutlery, crockery are clean without cracks, marks, stains and are stored properly. -Fresh ingredients used in food preparation. -Adequate storage space and proper storage equipment for food supplies. 	Physical verification	
Dining	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -An adequate dining space with comfortable seating chairs and tables are available. -Easily accessible -An adequate lighting is available. -Natural or mechanical ventilation is available. -Measures to prevent insect entry are in place. 	Physical verification	

Digital/Offline presence	-Digital presence or offline (booking, payment, feedback mechanism and visitor registration system)	Physical verification	
Personnel	30 % of the employees are trained in basic hospitality services with (BFDA certified cook/chefs and first aider to be mandatorily certified, etc.	Physical verification	
SoPs	Ensure SoPs are developed and implemented: -Visitors reception, stay, and departure. Ready rooms and other facilities for visitor arrivals. -Food and beverage handling. -visitors record and feedback handling. -Emergency preparedness. -Periodical maintenance of the facilities.	Written SoPs or standard practices	
Benefit Sharing Mechanism	The benefit sharing to the local communities are ensured through any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Revenue (Profit) ○ Employment ○ Local sourcing: ○ CSR 	Mechanisms or management plan	
Sustainable Management and Operation Plan	The sustainable management and operation plans in place to ensure continuity of business operations.	Report / record/ Physical verification	
Recreational Activities	-The activities are conducted responsibly, ensuring minimal disturbance to local communities, wildlife, and non-participating visitors. -Necessary approvals/certifications, qualified staff, safety measures and adequate amenities are in place.	Physical verification	

