Post-disaster needs assessment for culture and tourism in Laos (2018)

Following tropical storms and sustained heavy rainfalls between July and September 2018, the Government of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic (Laos) requested the assistance of the international community to conduct a Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA). The Heritage Emergency Fund supported the mission of four experts to Laos from 24 September to 15 November 2018 to coordinate the PDNA for the culture and tourism sectors. The experts conducted an initial assessment and concluded that the provinces of Attapeu, Khammouane, Savannakhet and Champasak had suffered the greatest impact. The mission resulted in the elaboration of the culture and tourism chapter of the PDNA, which included a detailed estimation of the damage, losses, and recovery needs for the culture and tourism sectors of Laos; key recommendations to improve resilience to future disasters; and an overall recovery strategy. The PDNA importantly resulted in the generation of a new set of data, which was not available previously, on the condition of the country’s cultural heritage.