



Prepared by Mrs. Kimberly Christopher, Green Globe Asia Pacific, from source material prepared by Dr. Johannes Bauer and Kandalama Hotel, Sri Lanka.

GREEN GLOBE CERTIFIED COMPANY

KANDALAMA HOTEL, SRI LANKA



BACKGROUND

Nestled at the foot of Mt Ereulagala and Mt Dikkandahena in Sri Lanka is the Kandalama Hotel. Sri Lanka is considered to showcase some of the best examples of biodiversity on the Asian continent. Kandalama's attractiveness and uniqueness lies in its location which is at the cross-roads of different ecological zones that harbour a spectrum of wildlife.

Kandalama's 162 room hotel is designed in a way that complements and enhances the natural environment, despite its size. Additional facilities at Kandalama include 3 swimming pools, six food and beverage outlets and daily activities and entertainment that centre greatly around the beauty of the natural surroundings of Sri Lanka.

Kandalama's outstanding performance in the tourism industry is reflected in the many awards it has received, particularly for Eco management. In addition to Kandalama being the proud recipient of the first GREEN GLOBE Certified Hotel in Asia, its other achievements include World Travel Market Awards for 'Environmental Company' in 1997, Leeds Green building certification and PATA Green Leaf Gold Award. These awards show Kandalama's commitment to protecting the natural environment.

GREEN GLOBE CATEGORY: Company

GREEN GLOBE SECTOR: Accommodation

CERTIFIED PERFORMANCE CRITERIA***ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL POLICY***

- The environmental management system of Kandalama Hotel has been developed by Ravi De Silva an environmental engineer, who presented an outline of its operation during the 13th PATA Conference on Eco and Adventure Tourism (De Silva, 2001). The key environmental issues targeted by Kandalama were:
 - The impact of the initial construction on local forest and scenic beauty
 - The impacts during construction activities (clearing, disturbance, erosion and sedimentation)
 - The effects of the Hotel site on natural hydrology and run off patterns
 - The discharge of solid and liquid waste into the lake system
 - The discharge of waste and operational by-products in the proximate semi-pristine forest system
 - The impact on the local community

ENERGY

- The hot water system of 80 guest rooms using electric heaters has been modified to use steam from the boiler as the heating medium saving 86,500 kWh per year.
- Electrically heated hot water systems were replaced with solar water heaters saving 80,300 kWh per year.
- Within the next two years, hotel management expects to meet 40% of its energy requirements through solar energy (Da Silva, 2001)
- Lamps that are used for more than four hours per day have been replaced with energy efficient fluorescent lamps.
- Key tag activated master switches have been introduced to guest rooms to save energy.

The replacement of incandescent lamps in all public areas with compact fluorescent lamps has saved 75,000 kWh per year.

SOLID WASTE AND LIQUID WASTE

- Waste water generated by the hotel is treated and recycled within a modern and well maintained and operated system. This is then recycled for watering of the hotel compound.
- Over the past 8 years since its establishment, Kandalama has managed to almost completely eliminate waste through a state-of-the-art recycling system.
- Kandalama encourages its suppliers to reuse glass bottles and jars for their products. Wherever possible, eco-friendly containers such as clay pots are used instead of plastics.
- Waste paper is sent for producing recycled paper which is used for hotel stationery.

AIR QUALITY AND NOISE CONTROL

- Bicycles are encouraged as transport and a bus provides a service to travel to town and back which contributes to the reduction of private vehicles and thereby reducing emissions into the atmosphere.
- Drivers and guides are instructed to have the engines of the vehicles switched off when the vehicle is parked and awaiting the arrival of guests.
- No substances generating toxic fumes are burnt within the hotel premises.
- All air-conditioned rooms and public areas are provided with sufficient quantities of fresh air to ensure levels of CO² are kept to a minimum.

RESOURCE CONSERVATION

- A tree planting program is in operation utilizing discarded coconut shells as seedling containers. A total of 26 local species are grown this way and replanted around the hotel site and to a network of regional schools which plant then during school planting days.
- Kandalama has been central to the rehabilitation of approximately 230 ha of rainforest.
- Rain water collection tanks have been introduced at Kandalama with a view to installing more in the future.
- Grey water from filters and softeners in the water treatment plant is collected and used to spray the gravel to reduce the distribution of dust.

Kandalama has developed an Eco-Park on 5 acres of land within the grounds of the Hotel. The concept of the Eco-Park was awarded Gold at the 2000 PATA awards under Environmental Education.

SOCIAL COMMITMENT

- Kandalama provides economic benefits to Sri Lanka and the local community.
- Derives significant income for Sri Lanka and the local community.
- The EcoPark at Kandalama has highlighted the hotel's commitment to sustainable development and to the local community. Initially the project employed over 300 people and generated an income of over US\$500,000 which assisted in increased living standards for locals.
- The EcoPark is used as an educational tool about the environment for local schools groups.

More than 300 local people are employed in the hotel and continues to provide work opportunities for the local population.

LAND USE PLANNING

- Collaborative partnerships are in development with the Department of Forest Conservation and the Government to declare the forest around the hotel as a Conservation forest.
- The in-house nursery continues to produce indigenous plants for the reforestation programme that operates on the 50 acre hotel property and areas outside.

ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT

- Kandalama has become an important control mechanism for illegal activities around the hotel site such as poaching, clearing and firewood collection.

CONTACT DETAILS:

- Company Name: Kandalama Hotel
- Trading Name: As Above
- Location: PO Box 11, Dambulla, Sri Lanka
- Telephone: +(94) 66 234 75
- Fax: +(94) 66 234 82
- Website: www.aitkenspence.com/hotels
- Contact: Mr Ravi De Silva (Hotel Manager and Environmental Manager)
- Email: ashmepac@slt.net.lk or ruki@diamond.lanka.net