

Tourism for Tomorrow Awards

Destination Stewardship Award

FINALIST: Sentosa Development Corporation, Singapore



Sentosa Development Corporation (SDC) manages Sentosa, a 470-hectare island connected to the city of Singapore by a bridge and a major tourism hub, welcoming over 19 million visitors in 2011. Since 1972, SDC has been tasked with the development, management and promotion of Sentosa Island, which includes an integrated resort (Resorts World Sentosa), 15 hotels, 24 attractions, 195 food, beverage, and retail outlets, and 4,800 residents. The SDC pursues sustainable development that prioritises continued growth while also creating a quality living environment for Singapore's residents.

Environmental sensibility plays a crucial role in Sentosa's development. Working from a Sentosa Land Use Development Plan that is regularly updated, an additional and specific "Green Plan", implemented in 2009, requires that any new development must meet a 40% built and 60% green area ratio. Furthermore, the entire island must maintain a minimum threshold of 45% vegetation cover. These guidelines are statutory and underwritten by the Singaporean Ministry of Trade and Industry. SDC's environmental protection efforts also include attention to water quality and energy use, and a comprehensive reduced carbon traffic management plan for the island.

Through the work of SDC, Sentosa Island is an example of the implementation of sustainable tourism best practices in a mass tourism destination.

