

Cooperative decision-making and benefits for all ensure that the resolves potential risk of conflict

There is a committee in the community, they try and meet every month, there are different committees; one for elephants where the mahouts meet, one for homestays, where all the home stay owners meet and then whole village meetings.

When we start we provide multiple days of training for the whole community, everyone is invited, this is to prepare the community for tourism and TAT registration of home stays. It's a wonderful process and the community decide what they charge for home stays, meals, handicraft demonstration etc. They also decide on the rules for tourism in the village and this is then displayed for everyone to see.

The model of community based tourism we use ensures everyone benefits and no one is left out, we also have steering groups for the ladies, they decide how to present and sell their fabric weaving. The elders are all involved showing handicrafts and also doing medicinal herb hikes with guests to show their knowledge and wisdom.