

SUSTAINABLE ORGANISATIONS THAT HELP THE NEEDY

SHINTA MANI FOUNDATION AND SHINTA MANI HOTELS

A Cambodian company shows the true meaning of hospitality.

By **CHARMAINE TAI**

The same way it's impossible to clap with a single hand, it's hard to mention Shinta Mani Hotels without bringing Shinta Mani Foundation into the picture.

While most hospitality companies start with a single property before opening a separate arm for CSR, Shinta Mani Foundation went the opposite direction.

The foundation was started as Shinta Mani School of Hospitality, when local businessman Sokoun Chanpreda saw the need to equip locals with the necessary skills to work in luxury hotels in Siem Reap. Soon after, he opened Shinta Mani Angkor, allowing graduates of the school to practice what they had learnt.

Fourteen years later, the foundation has grown from strength to strength to empower Cambodians through four initiatives: education, healthcare, direct assistance and microfinancing.

The foundation also helps farmers and small business owners to start and grow their businesses through the provision of business plans, equipment and interest-free loans.

While the foundation receives donations from hotel guests and community groups, and international grants from larger firms, Shinta Mani Hotels plays a sizeable part in helping the foundation run. It covers all of the foundation's operating costs, including salaries, overhead costs and even the running of vehicles. In short: it's a sustainable, win-win situation for both companies. shintamanifoundation.org 



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