

Call for Contributions

ICNT conference

17th – 20th of June 2019

Leeuwarden, The Netherlands

Conference theme

“The future of community engagement in tourism: addressing the (im-)balance between tourism growth and local community development”

From the perspective of sustainable tourism development, involvement of the community has been a key criterion since its inception in the 1980s. Even poor and illiterate people should, for example, be able to take part in the planning that concerns their own living environment and the living environment of their children and grandchildren. Tourism can only be sustainable if the interests between the tourists (quality of experience), tourism industry (quality of opportunity) and the local community (quality of life) are considered integrated (Postma, 2001, 2013).

Nowadays, most destinations still approach tourism from an economic perspective. In this “dominant social paradigm”, the main aim of tourism is its economic value, and its contribution to economic growth and profit. Planning and development are mainly led by outsiders, while they also get most of the benefits. Tourism is represented as a separate industry, making use of universal approaches in which it views tourism as a global resource. On the contrary, ideally, sustainable tourism development takes the “new environmental paradigm” as a starting point. Tourism’s main focus is on human values and its contribution to human development. Planning and development are led by the local community (civil society) and it is also the community that gets the benefits in return. Tourism is perceived as a tool for community development and not as separate from other agents of change, and as a local resource (Postma, 2001, 2007). In fact, involvement of the community has also been leading in Leeuwarden-Friesland 2018, European Capital of Culture. Here, the community is referred to with the Frisian word *mienskip*. Thousands of local people have been involved in the numerous events during the year of the Cultural Capital.

Whereas these two perspectives can be regarded as the ends of a continuum, it seems that, with the massive rise of international tourism, during the past few years the resilience of destinations is at stake and that, gradually, the view towards tourism seems to change to the advantage of the latter paradigm. People stand up against tourism developments they don’t like. The critique towards international corporations determining the rules of the game is increasing (e.g. airports, airline companies, media houses), the resistance of locals towards tourists overrunning their city, their village, or their properties is growing (e.g. Venice, Barcelona, Giethoorn) (UNWTO, 2018; WTTC, 2018; Peeters, et al, 2018; Postma, et al 2018; Koens et al, 2018; Postma & Schmuecker, 2017). Locals even stand up more and more against festivalisation of their living environment.

The aim of the ICNT conference in June of this year is to share and discuss examples of balance or imbalance between tourism growth and local community involvement in different places of the world, to learn of how imminent imbalance can be anticipated in time, and to learn how balance can be maintained or imbalances can be prevented, in order to ensure resilience and contribute to sustainable tourism development as “it is meant to be”.

We invite you to give a presentation and, if possible, to submit a paper on your talk to be included in an edited book published by Peter Lang Verlag. A template is attached. Submission dates and word count for your written contributions will be communicated after the conference in June.

Topics

Possible topics are:

- Theoretical perspectives
- Case studies
- Community engagement in tourism development
- Tourism and community development
- Tourism growth and development
- Host perceptions of tourism
- Tourism impacts
- Carrying capacity (psychological, social, physical, etc. capacities)
- Resident irritation and tolerance
- Identity
- Host-guest encounters
- Critical encounters in tourism development
- Case studies
- Festivalisation, Disneyfication
- Strategies to anticipate imminent imbalance
- Growing/anticipated balance or imbalance between tourism growth and local community involvement
- Theories and perspectives of development
- Planning paradigms
- Local satisfiers and dissatisfiers of tourism
- Western versus non-western perspectives
- Role of the local, regional or national government

You can upload your abstract to

<https://www.etfi.nl/en/events/future-community-engagement-tourism>

Deadline is for submitting your abstract is: 31st May 2019.

References

- Koens, K., Postma, A., Papp, B. (2018). "Is Overtourism overused? Understanding the Impact of Tourism in a City Context". *Sustainability*, 10(12), 4384, doi:10.3390/su10124384 (downloadable from <https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/10/12/4384/htm>).
- Postma, A., Papp, B., & Koens, K. (2018). Visitor pressure and events in an urban setting: understanding and managing visitor pressure in seven European urban tourism destinations. Breda/Leeuwarden/Vlissingen: CELTH. (downloadable from www.etfi.eu)
- Peeters, P., Gössling, S., Klijs, J., Milano, C., Novelli, M., Dijkmans, C., Eijgelaar, E., Hartman, S., Heslinga, J., Isaac, R., Mitas, O., Moretti, S., Nawijn, J., Papp, B. and Postma, A. (2018). Research for TRAN Committee - Overtourism: impact and possible policy responses. Brussels: European Parliament, Policy Department for

Structural and Cohesion Policies. (downloadable from: <https://www.cstt.nl/Projects/Research-study-on-Overtourism--impact-and-possible-policy-responses/30>)

- UNWTO (2018, ed.). 'Overtourism'? Understanding and managing urban tourism growth beyond perceptions. Madrid: UNWTO. (downloadable from: <https://www.e-unwto.org/doi/book/10.18111/9789284420070>). Based on Koens and Postma, 2016)
- Postma, A. & Schmücker, D. (2017). "Overcoming negative impacts of tourism in city destinations: Conceptual model and strategic framework". Special Issue The Future of City Tourism. Journal of Tourism Futures. Issue 3-2. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JTF-04-2017-0022>
- Postma, A., Buda, D., & Gugerell, K. (2017). "The future of city tourism". Special Issue The Future of City Tourism. Journal of Tourism Futures. Issue 3-2. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JTF-09-2017-067>
- Koens, K., & Postma, A. (2016). Understanding and managing visitor pressure in urban tourism. A study into the nature of and methods used to manage visitor pressure in six major European cities. Breda/Leeuwarden/Vlissingen: CELTH. (not published).
- Postma, A. (2013). "When the tourists flew in". Critical encounters in the development of tourism. Ph.D. thesis. University of Groningen, Faculty of Spatial Sciences.
- Postma, A. & A.K. Schilder (2007) Critical Impacts of Tourism; the case of Schiermonnikoog. In Casado-Diaz, M., Everett, S. en Wilson, J. (eds.) Social and Cultural Change: Making Space(s) for Leisure and Tourism. Leisure Studies Association, LSA 99, Volume 4. Eastborne, UK: University of Brighton. <http://leisure-studies-bookstore.myshopify.com/products/social-and-cultural-change-making-spaces-for-leisure-and-tourism>
- Postma, A. (2001, October). "An approach for integrated development of quality tourism". In: Andrews, N., Flanagan, S., & Ruddy, J. (Eds.) (2002) Tourism Destination Planning. Dublin: Tourist Research Center, Dublin Institute of Technology. (http://isbndb.com/d/book/tourism_destination_planning.html)