

# Editorial

Tourism has various consequences, which are influenced by a large number of variables, especially the ability and willingness of the community to accept changes. For some communities, tourism is one of the few options for economic survival while for others tourism is a combination of positive and negative factors. Tourism development should be part of an economic development and must be done in a manner that is sustainable. Tourism has often been associated with the contact between cultures, behaviors, values and traditions. Tourism is considered a framework where hosts and tourists can learn better about from each other, through direct interaction. Also, tourism requires host communities to be more responsive and educated to provide quality services to tourists. In addition, interactions between locals and tourists generates the emergence of new ideas, values and motivations for social and economic progress. There are authors who argue that consumerism destroys culture and generates environmental and social problems: traffic congestion and queues at natural and man-made attractions. An example of this is Venice, which is overwhelmed by tourists, generating an increasing number of environmental and social issues. "Venice is full of tourists. The invasion of tourists in San Marco Basilica caused damages to the frescoes due to the condensation created by the breath of the visitors. Also, the stone floor was constantly eroded by the river of travelers. Unfortunately, this type of problem is often accepted by tourists as an important part of the personal experience. *Tourism is one of the most important components of the global economy. It generates billions of dollars in revenues and millions of jobs worldwide. It is considered by many communities, especially in emerging countries the only tool for development, and the only chance for increasing the quality of life. Thus the tourism industry has stretched from seaside to mountain resorts and from small villages to big metropolises. But at the same time, tourism started to show its uglier side. Both the actions of investors and of tourists are having negative impacts on the socio-cultural values and environmental assets of host communities all over the world. In the present paper we are trying to observe the impacts of tourism on society from three perspectives: economic, social and cultural, and environmental. From the economic perspective, tourism generates wealth and jobs, but the wealth leaks from the community and the jobs are mainly low-income. From the socio-cultural perspective, tourism brings together people from different backgrounds, cultures and traditions and promotes peace. But at the same time, due to globalization, many communities have lost their cultural identity and gave way to a Disney-fiction of their village or town. Last but not least, tourism helped create national parks and protected areas, where unique examples of flora and fauna can be found. But tourists have been proven to be a problem, because of the pollution they generate. Tourist entrepreneurs can also be blamed for a total disrespect to local traditions and the environment. The*

*main problem from these negative impacts is that the local community is the only side that picks up the check for all the damages on the culture, tradition and, most importantly on the environment.*

Globalization is accused of destroying the socio-cultural identity of the local communities and indigenous values, traditions and lifestyle.. Diversity gives way to efficiency and local culture to global culture. A small village, which is facing many economic problems can succeed a change of 180 degrees, by capitalizing on several features: beautiful scenery, tranquility and lack of congestion. In rural areas, land and coastal areas are purchased by developers / investors, who transform farming and fishing communities in tourist resorts, replacing farms and forests with apartments or shopping centers. Modern hotels, highways and recreation centers have no local charm. All the resources that have attracted tourists in the beginning - the beauty of the landscape, peace and tranquility - are continuously eroded by tourism development and the rapidly increasing pace of life. For this reason, the meaning of local culture might dilute and dissolve.



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