Tourism in Development

Reflective	Essays
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Tourism in Development

Reflective Essays

Edited by

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Contents

Cor	ntributors	vii
	eword son Jenkins	xiii
1	Reflections on 50 Years of Tourism and Development Carson Jenkins	1
Sec	tion 1: Tourism as a Development Option	
2	Tourism and (Sustainable) Development: Revisiting the Theoretical Divide <i>Richard Sharpley</i>	13
3	Sustainability and Tourism Growth Larry Dwyer and Alison Gill	25
4	Tourism Development: From 'Please Come' to 'Please Go' to 'Please Come Back' (After the Virus) Richard Butler	39
5	Tourism as a Development Option: Perspectives from the World Bank <i>Shaun Mann</i>	49
Sec	tion 2: Policies and Planning for Tourism Development	
6	Tourism in Nigeria: New Policy and Planning Directions Needed for a Neglected Sector Peter U.C. Dieke, Nneoma G. Ololo and Afamefuna P. Eyisi	62
7	Social Sustainability: What Does It Say to Tourism Employment? <i>Tom Baum and Shelagh Mooney</i>	78
8	Understanding Project Success or Failure Stephen Wanhill	94

vi Contents

9	Human Capital Issues and Challenges in the Hotel Industry: The Case of Indonesia Sienny Thio and Brian King	105
10	Politics and Tourism Within South East Asia Joan Henderson	120
Sec	tion 3: Innovation in Tourism: Rethinking the Destination	
11	In Search of Alchemy: The Art and Science of Destination Management Terry Stevens	128
12	Creating an Enabling Environment for Urban Tourism Development: The Future of Bangkok Louisa Yee-Sum Lee and Philip L. Pearce	147
13	Smart Tourism Development Ulrike Gretzel	159
Sec	tion 4: Educational Futures in Tourism	
14	The Past, Present and Future of Tourism in the Academy David Airey	169
15	Achieving a Balance Between Education, Research and Practice Geoffrey Wall	178
16	The Development of Tourism Higher Education in China Hanqin Qiu and Dora Dongzhi Chen	186
17	Roads Not Adopted: Tourism Research in Neoliberal(?) Times Roy C. Wood	198
Sec	tion 5: Emerging Challenges in International Tourism	
18	Human Mobility and Tourism Development: A Complex Knot of Enfolded Mobilities Allan M. Williams	209
19	Reflections on Trends and Issues in Global Tourism Alastair M. Morrison	218
20	Reflections on the Intersection Between Gender and Race in Tourism <i>Donna Chambers</i>	233
21	Rethinking the Animal in Tourism Studies <i>Erik Cohen</i>	245
22	Conclusion: Tourism and Development in the Face of Uncertainty and Chaos Richard Sharpley, Brian King and Peter U.C. Dieke	256

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x Contributors

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xii Contributors

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Foreword

It is my great pleasure and privilege to write a foreword to this book.

The idea for the book was first proposed by Peter Dieke. Originally it was intended as a platform for the many University of Strathclyde (The Scottish Hotel School) graduates who had developed both careers and reputations in tourism academia and practice. Its focus was to be on the role and potential of tourism as a development option in the developing world. After many discussions which greatly benefitted from Brian King and Richard Sharpley joining the editorial team, the scope of the book was enlarged. We agreed to retain the focus of the book on the developing countries but to invite as potential contributors many of the outstanding academics in the field, together with experienced consultant/practitioners, with whom we had worked. We were overwhelmed by the favourable response to our invitation. The potential and actual contributions offered not only a depth of experiential learning and academic standing but also of global experience. The contributors were told that we were not preparing a textbook but were asked to write a reflective and critical essay on the subject of their choice, to offer insights arising from their experiences, into the central question of the book; how could tourism contribute to development in the developing countries?

My input to the book was very limited! It was the outstanding editorial team which guided the book from concept to conclusion. We all gratefully acknowledge the guidance of Richard Sharpley in formatting the contributions to provide a systematic structure to the book, and who was our contact with CABI to whom we are grateful for their support and help.

With such an ambitious goal, we are aware that there are many gaps in our coverage of the topic. However, there is enough in the book to, hopefully, further encourage scholarship into the challenging and dynamic tourism and development nexus.

To you all, my sincere thanks. Kit Jenkins