Proceedings of the 1996 World Congress on Coastal and Marine Tourism

Experiences in Management and Development

19-22 June, 1996
Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

Marc L. Miller and Jan Auyong, Editors

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Edited by
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Preface

CMT96 had originally been proposed in response to the growing need to bridge economic development and conservation of our coastal resources. What we learned from participants was that the mixed record of coastal and marine tourism requires immediate and sustained study by a wide range of disciplines as well as a disciplined application of that information.

At CMT96 we wanted to learn about the status of activities since the initial Congress in 1990, and whether we had grown in our knowledge and abilities regarding sustainable tourism on the coast. The 80 presentations/workshops and field trips offered at CMT96 dealt with a variety of topics ranging from cruise ships to kayaking, marine park management and ecotourism to applications of GIS technology and using social science research. CMT96 provided a blend of formal presentations along with field-based workshops and special "hands-on" sessions. The popularity of these workshops and "hands-on" sessions pointed to a need for direct, application-oriented information and procedures.

Although the subtitle of CMT96 was "Experiences in Management and Development," the overriding theme was sustainable marine tourism. The conference "kick-off" session, entitled "Can Sustainable Tourism be Achieved?" introduced attendees to a working framework of: (1) sustainability; (2) integrated resource management; and (3) sustainable community development. Discussions resulting from the keynote session and other sessions showed that we still have a long way to go in achieving sustainability in coastal tourism. However, we do know that there is now a widespread acceptance of the need to address coastal and marine tourism growth issues by governments, industries, and others.

Based upon the input from CMT96, planning for the next CMT congress will be organized to focus not so much on "ends," but rather on the means of achieving more sustainable development. The congress will focus on analytical tools and concepts, evaluation tools and methods, planning procedures, and so forth. To that end, the proposed theme for CMT99 is "Choices, Responsibilities, and Practices." Furthermore, CMT will show that environmentally sensitive, nature-based tourism can be responsibly implemented in urban as well as rural settings, in both developed and developing countries. To that end, CMT99 will be held in Vancouver, BC, Canada, 25-29 April, 1999. We shall explore programs and steps taken in this decade to promote the development of practical programs for environmentally responsible tourism in port/coastal cities, including greater community involvement and awareness. We hope you will find the Congress and its subsequent proceedings to follow in the tradition of previous CMTs.

Jan Auyong, Congress Convenor
Acknowledgments

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Mahalo to everyone.

Jan Auyong, Congress Convener
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