

## **Niche Tourism: Sustainability and Diversification Strategies**

*Organised by*

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### **SCOPE**

In the realms of globalisation, unpredictable forces, economic, political and sociocultural instabilities, destinations strive on the one hand to be competitive and on the other to be sustainable. However, this equation is not always easy to be solved and matters such as over-tourism, unbalanced development, dependencies on foreign markets and investors, as well as ecological degradation, reduced quality of life, and lost attractiveness are evident in various destinations. Even though tourism could become the panacea for a place's economic growth, its negative impacts which affect mostly the society and environment are evident. In this regard, new strategies for the diversification of tourist destinations emphasizing their sustainable future are imperative. Niche tourism forms could presumably be one way towards the achievement of this goal. This special session aims to examine how niche tourism forms could be utilized so that destinations' competitiveness to be enhanced and at the same time, sustainable development of resources to be managed efficiently. Moreover, the session aims to shed light on the various approaches of niche tourism development and its association with sustainability. The session will give the opportunity to academics, practitioners, policy makers, consultants, and researchers to discuss as well as exchange ideas and methodologies concerning the various types of niche tourism, their contribution to sustainability of destinations, and to the strategies applied for their long-term sustainable development and management.

### **TOPICS OF INTEREST**

Researchers and practitioners are invited to submit papers that focus (but not limited to) on the following themes:

- Theoretical approaches to sustainability and sustainable development of tourism
- Niche tourism and diversification practices
- Responsible tourism and sustainability
- Methodological approaches on sustainability and sustainable development
- Dynamics of experience in niche tourism
- Niche tourism and community development
- Measurement instruments and indicators
- Tourism policy-making for sustainable development
- Sustainable management of tourism
- Stakeholder management
- De-growth versus tourism development
- Case studies for sustainable development of tourism

### **SUBMISSION AND PUBLICATION OF PAPERS**

Abstracts of no more than 350 words should be submitted electronically by April 30, 2019 to: Dr. Nikolaos Boukas ([N.Boukas@euc.ac.cy](mailto:N.Boukas@euc.ac.cy)) and Dr. Myria Ioannou ([M.ioannou@euc.ac.cy](mailto:M.ioannou@euc.ac.cy)). Papers presented at the special session will be considered for publication in a special issue of the *International Journal of Tourism Policy*. For further enquiries regarding conference fees, conference program, recommended accommodation, and registration forms, please visit <https://iatour.org/icot2019/>.