

Responsible Tourism

CRITICAL ISSUES FOR CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT

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Edited by **Anna Spenceley**

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All too often conservation efforts are seen to be in conflict with local livelihoods and resource use. As more land and natural resources are incorporated into protected areas 'responsible tourism' is often invoked as a way to serve both conservation ends and support local livelihoods and promote economic development. Yet does it actually work in practice?

Employing case studies drawn from across southern Africa - one of the testing grounds for the idea that responsible tourism can promote biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation - this book provides a comprehensive, evidence based examination of the range of issues of what works and what does not. The book opens with an overview of the issues, looks at what sustainable and responsible tourism are in practice and how they may contribute to conservation, poverty alleviation and local economic development. Part one provides a rich examination of policies and institutional activities in responsible tourism by governments, donor agencies and non-governmental organizations in South Africa, Madagascar and Mozambique. Part two considers nature based tourism across southern Africa, looking at local economic development, local benefits from tourism (such as equity and employment), supply and demand for responsible tourism, the economics of wildlife tourism, transfrontier conservation areas, ecological impacts of tourism and a host of other issues. Part three looks at community based tourism in more detail with case studies of various projects drawn from across the region including Namibia, Zimbabwe, Zambia and from as far north as Tanzania. The book concludes with a detailed synthesis of the key findings with implications for policy, management and the business side of tourism. This is an essential reference and a unique and rich source of cases studies and salient insights for professionals and academics from across conservation, development and tourism.

CONTENTS: Part I: Introduction • Part II: Policies, institutional interventions and market forces: Governments, donor agencies and non-governmental organisations • Local Economic Development in Mozambique: An assessment of the implementation of tourism policy as a means to promote local economies • Ecotourism in Madagascar • Public private partnerships in South African National Parks • A Donor's perspective of community based tourism • Responsible tourism and the tourism industry: a demand and supply perspective • The development impacts of tourism supply chains • Part III: Responsible nature-based tourism • Impacts of wildlife tourism on rural livelihoods in Southern Africa • Tourism in transfrontier conservation areas • The realities of ecotourism impacts on Botswana • Citizen participation in the lodge industry of the Okavango Delta • The impacts of tourism initiatives on rural livelihoods and poverty reduction in South Africa • Madikwe Game Reserve, South Africa • Part IV: Community-based tourism • Local impacts of community-based tourism in southern Africa • Livelihoods, Conservation, and Community-based Tourism in Tanzania • Community-based tourism and natural resource management in Namibia • The Unsustainability of Community Tourism Donor Projects • Part V: Conclusions • Index

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This is an indispensable reference for protected area and land managers, development practitioners and academics and students in conservation, land management, development and geography. Based on the most widespread research to date, this book provides a record of the evolving thought and approaches to achieving conservation in southern Africa. Early chapters deal with the traditional 'fines and fences' conservation that occurred in the colonial and early post-independence period. The final section deals with more recent innovations in the sector, focusing on building and strengthening the relationships between parks and society.

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