



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI
DI TRENTO

Dipartimento di Informatica
e Studi Aziendali



Seminario Gruppo eTourism

Tourism, ICT & Sustainable Development: cases and observations from the South Pacific

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Abstract

International demand for environmental and cultural tourism products is growing. New Zealand and nearby South Pacific island nations are poised on the edge of a significant increase in visitor arrivals. Any growth in tourism must be effectively managed if we are to sustain important landscapes, protect and enhance the quality of life of the country's residents, and increase economic benefits associated with the industry. In a series of cases drawn from rural New Zealand and small island states in the South Pacific I outline the role that information and communication technologies (ICT) and community informatics (CI) can play in improving communication, cooperation and levels of understanding between various stakeholders in the tourism development process (tourists, residents, industry and government). I outline how the adoption of innovative ICT tools in both business and community settings can enhance the economic performance and broader sustainability of tourism.

About the Speaker:

Simon Milne is Professor of Tourism and Director of the New Zealand Tourism Research Institute, Auckland University of Technology. Simon's research focuses on creating stronger links between tourism and surrounding economies. He has considerable experience in economic impact assessment, and in formulating tourism-related economic and community development strategies. In recent years he has become particularly interested in the use of information technology to improve the economic performance and sustainability of tourism firms and destinations. A New Zealander, Professor Milne added to his University of Auckland masters degree with a PhD in economic geography from Cambridge in 1989. He returned to New Zealand in 1998. Dr Milne has worked for several international agencies as a consultant (UNDP, UNESCAP, EU, CORFO, CIDA) and has conducted research in the Caribbean (Grenada, Cuba, Tobago), Canada, Vietnam, the Philippines, the South Pacific islands, Kenya, Russia and New Zealand.

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