

IMPACT OF TOURISM ON CONSERVATION OF WILDLIFE

Project plan of INTOSAI WGEA research paper

1. BACKGROUND

During the WGEA meeting which was held in June 2010 in Guilin -China, AFROSAI held a side meeting to discuss topics that were presented for the purpose of research. It is in this meeting that Lesotho SAI was chosen to lead the research on the Impact of Tourism on Wildlife Conservation .Swaziland was chosen as a co-leader and sub -committee member SAls were as follows: Chad, Ethiopia, Tanzainia, Egypt and Botswana.

1.1. IMPACT OF TOURISM ON CONSERVATION OF WILDLIFE.

Wildlife conservation and tourism which is interchangeably called wildlife watching and tourism basically deals with the preservation of wildlife with the aim of ensuring sustainability of wildlife, attracting tourism and alleviating poverty. Wildlife watching involves watching mammals, birds, reptiles, insects as well as marine life such as corals, fish etc. There are wildlife establishments in different countries and these were established to conserve and ensure sustainability of wildlife, to impart knowledge to tourists about the natural behaviour of different species of wildlife and to create employment for local communities.

Fees collected from tourists that have watched wildlife are used to develop and strengthen wildlife conservation establishments in different ways such as:

- Involving the communities living within the vicinity of where the wildlife conservation establishment are thereby alleviating poverty;
- Creating awareness on the importance of conserving wildlife for the benefit of future generation;
- Ensuring that wildlife is reproductive and sustainable and controlling the wildlife watching activities to prevent adverse effects on wildlife and local communities.

Key stakeholders in this issue are local communities, Public and private sector wildlife managers, National and Local governments, tour operators, local operators and excursion providers, accommodation sector and Tourists.

2. PROJECT OBJECTIVE AND OUTCOME

The objective of the research paper is to highlight the tourism impact and the related risks on wildlife conservation.

3. SCOPE

The research paper will discuss the background information on the impact of tourism on wildlife, flora and fauna, socio-economic impact on local communities, unsustainable tourism practices, related international

environmental agreements on wildlife conservation and tourism and Public policy tools used by governments such as physical land use planning, resource management plans, regulatory programmes and private sector participation and oversight.

The draft work plan of the research paper was discussed and approved during the 10th WGEA Steering Committee meeting that was held on 8-11 March 2011 in Morocco. The draft research paper will be discussed during the 14th INTOSAI-WGEA meeting that will be held on 7-10 November, 2011 in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

PROPOSED STRUCTURE OF THE RESEARCH PAPER

The research paper material will have the following chapters:

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 2: Background on Tourism, Wildlife and relevant stakeholders

Chapter 3: National laws and International Agreements/treats on Wildlife Conservation

Chapter 4: Audits of Wildlife conservation and tourism

Chapter 5: Good practices on Wildlife Conservation and Tourism

Chapter 1: Introduction

This chapter will cover the following issues

- Definition of terms
- Importance of wildlife and tourism resources;
- Overview of the impact of expansion of wildlife and tourism activities over the years in the world;
- International awareness regarding wildlife and tourism activities;
- The essence of conducting Environmental Audit on wildlife and tourism as INTOSAI WGEA recommends, and;
- Content and structure of document
- Management of tourism.

Chapter 2: Background on Wildlife and Tourism

- Risk associated with the impact of tourism on wildlife conservation (on endangered habitats and species).
- Impacts on flora, fauna and socio-economic impact on local communities.
- By its inherent nature, tourism impacts on lands, water and air which are the essential components of the environment. For instance, increased construction of tourism facilities has put pressure on natural resources and on scenic landscape, There is an increased usage of water in hotels by tourists, and air pollution caused by emissions of gases from different modes of transport used by tourists. Therefore this paper will

describe the main types and causes of pollution and its related audit process.

- The paper will focus on social and economic impacts of tourism on wildlife.
- The paper will describe the nature of wildlife and tourism - (world Protected areas).
- The paper will provide an overview of major stakeholders in wildlife and tourism (e.g. research institutes, non-governmental institutions, private companies etc.)
- This paper will focus on the government's regulation, management planning methods and tools and the environmental impact assessment of tourism on protected areas.
- The paper will focus on tools such as licensing, wildlife off- take and trading which are utilized by governments in identifying, assessing, managing and mitigating impacts of wildlife.

Chapter 3: National laws and International Agreements/treaties on Wildlife Conservation

This paper will include possible agreements such as:

1. Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of wild Flora and Fauna (CITES).
2. Aarhus Convention: Convention on Access to information, Public Participation in Decision making and Access to Justice In Environmental matters
3. World heritage Convention: Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and natural Heritage
4. Antarctic Treaty
5. Convention on Biological Diversity
6. Convention on the Conversation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)
7. Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, especially as waterfowl Habitat
8. Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD)
9. Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats

Chapter 4: Audits relating to the Wildlife Conservation and Impact of Human Activities on Wildlife (especially Tourism)

- Audits on wildlife activities, if available will be described as case studies, including their main findings and methods in wildlife, biodiversity and tourism

Chapter 5: Good Practices of Combining Wildlife Conservation and Tourism

- If possible, good practice in governance and/or auditing of wildlife and tourism and audit will be described.

4. PLANNED METHODOLOGY

To get information for the research paper, members will surf websites, exchange information through e-mails, conduct surveys, get audits on tourism and /or wildlife conservation and benchmark from the similar undertakings. The Project Leader will involve all Sub-committee members in all aspects pertaining to the research. In return sub-committee will give inputs/feedback. This will be communicated through CAG Tanzania as Regional WGEA Coordinator. The meeting will be held with sub-committee members to discuss some crucial matters concerning the research paper and progress made by each member.

5. CONTACTS AND MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

COUNTRY: TANZANIA

Names of the contact persons:

1. Mr. Ludovick Utouh (Comptroller and Auditor General and AFROSAI WGEA Coordinator)

E-mail: ocag@auditgen.go.tz or isutouh@yahoo.co.uk

Tel: +255 22 2115157

2. Mr. Robert Cheyo (Member)

E-mail: rcheyo@nao.go.tz or rwcheyo@yahoo.com

Tel: +255 22 2115157/58

COUNTRY: LESOTHO

Names of the contact persons:

1. Mrs. Lucy L. Liphafa (Auditor General and Project Leader)

E-mail: lliphafa@yahoo.co.uk

Tel: +266 22314247

1. Mrs. 'Mamahooana Leisanyane (Member)

E-mail: mamahooanal@yahoo.co.uk

Tel: +266 22314247/+266 22323904 ext.3810

COUNTRY: SWAZILAND

Names of the contact persons:

1. Mr. Africa Hadebe (Auditor General and Project Co- Leader)

E-mail: hadebe@gov.sz

Tel: +268 404 2796/97

2. Mr. Fumene Mkhonta (Member)

E-mail: fumeneonline@yahoo.co.uk

Tel: +268 404 2796/97

COUNTRY: BOTSWANA

Names of the contact persons:

1. Mr R. Sebopeng (Auditor General)
E-mail: oag@gov.bw
Tel: +267 36 1798
2. Mrs. Botho Entaile (Member)
E-mail: bentaile@gov.bw
Tel: +267 718 61446

COUNTRY: ETHIOPIA

Names of the contact persons:

1. Mr. G. D. Godana (Auditor General)
E-mail: ofagit@ethionet.et or oag@ethionet.et
Tel: +251 11 156 1840
2. Mr. Teyib Ali Mohammed (Member)
E-mail: teyibali@yahoo.com
Tel: +251 11 156 1840

COUNTRY: EGYPT

Names of the contact persons:

1. Dr. Gawdat El-Malt (President of the CAO)
E-mail: ircdpt@yahoo.com
Tel: +20 22 401 3956, +20 22 401 3957
2. Mr. Ezzat Saleh Mohamed (Member)
E-mail: ircdpt@yahoo.com
Tel: +20 22 401 8320, +20 22 401 8360

COUNTRY: CHAD

Names of the contact persons:

1. Mrs. Ruth Yaneko Romba (Court President)
E-mail: cs.tchad@intnet.td, or rtromba@yahoo.fr
Tel: +235 22 52 25 12 / +235 22 51 74 32
2. Ms. Fatine Assarah Abdel Aziz (Member)

COUNTRY: INDIA

Name of the contact person:

1. Shri Rajdeep Singh (Senior Deputy Accountant General)
E-mail: rajdeepS@cag.gov.in
Tel: ++0135-2764648

NB:

There is an intention to co-opt more members from other regions.