



CALL FOR PAPERS ¹

SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON REGIONAL INTEGRATION “ENABLING TOURISM TO INTEGRATE AME ECONOMIES TO COPE WITH CLIMATE CHANGE: SPECIAL FOCUS ON THE AFRICAN SOCIETIES.”

THE EUROPEAN UNION, MEDITERRANEAN AND AFRICA INTEGRATION IN THE GLOBAL AGE

NEW DATE 22-23 October 2020, ON-LINE

University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain

The **AFRICA-MEDITERRANEAN-EUROPE (AMENET) JEAN MONNET NETWORK** is pleased to invite you to participate in the SECOND International Conference on REGIONAL INTEGRATION. This Conference will be carried out under non-presential modality.

RATIONALE

Economic integration throughout Europe, the Mediterranean and Africa faces contradictory forces that shed uncertainty on the future processes. Even if the advantages of integration still remain as columns supporting narratives in the political arena, separatist trends have been gaining social support and political relevance over the last years. Innovative approaches on economic integration are needed to re-launch the integrationist movement either at a political or sociocultural level. Pro-integration strategies are challenged to gain political predicament, economic feasibility and sociocultural appealing.

In the Mediterranean basin and in Africa, the hopes of reaching a worth-deserving life are weakening and hopeless perspectives set into the heart of many. This is leading to diminished social cohesion; a reduction in feelings of belonging and it empowers migration, leaving local societies without their best arguments to reach an ongoing human development pathway.

Climate change is adding difficulties to the socioeconomic development perspectives across the region. More frequent and intense droughts and floods threaten former progress in water availability and food security, while the rise of the sea level salinises soil and aquifers in deltas and coastal lowlands, damaging crop land. Losses of bio and crop diversity reduce the resilience against plagues and the productivity of primary economic activities, in addition to diminishing ecosystems supportiveness for outdoor recreational activities. Modified patterns of transporting nutrients (?) together with overfishing reduce the stocks of fishable species and fishing productivity. Heatwaves and other extreme weather events affect infrastructures and add discomfort to the lives of locals and

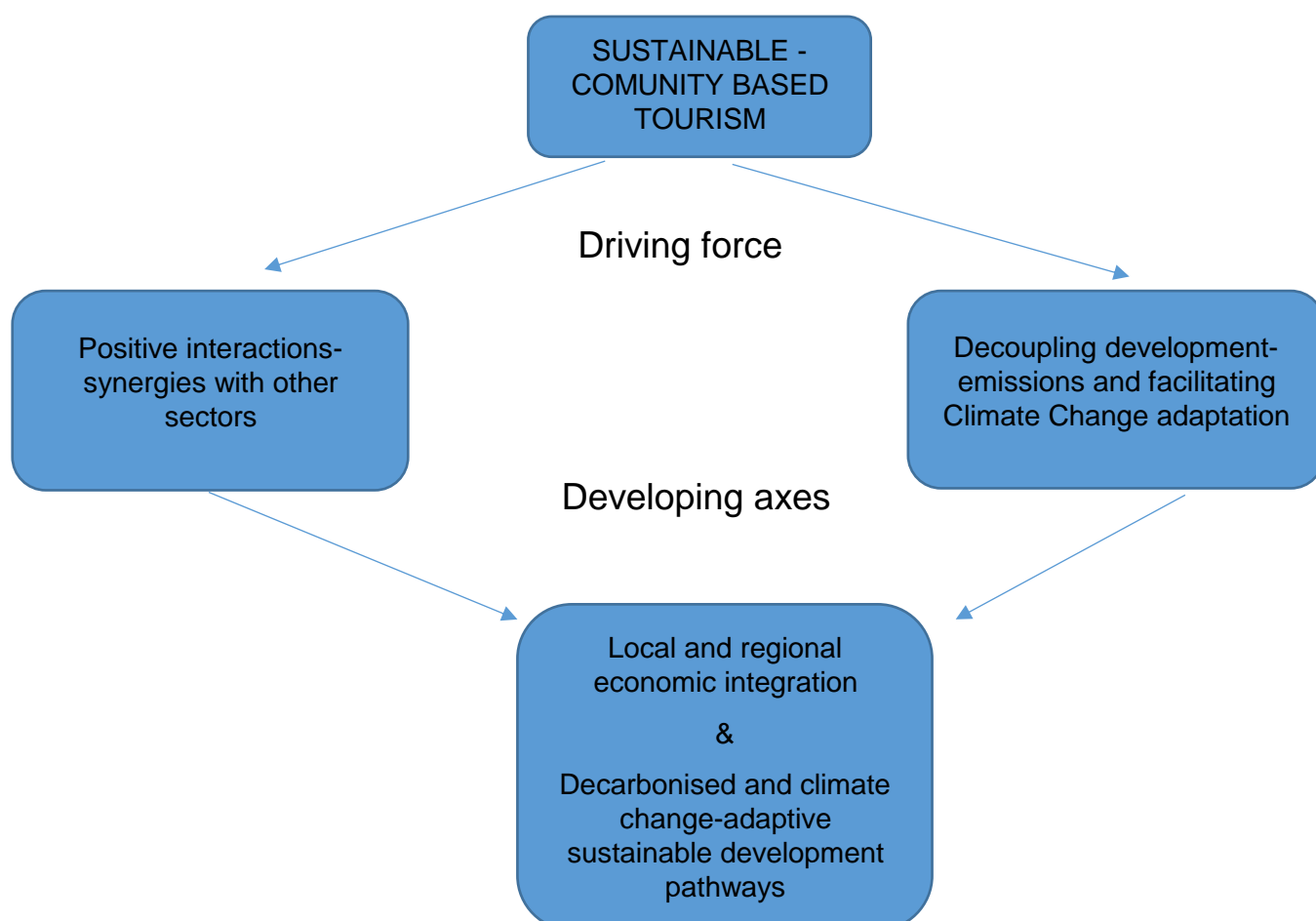
visitors. In parallel, adaptive capacities to climate change in the region are under regarding those needed.

Tourism does not always perform as promised in terms of income, jobs, environmental feasibility and cultural respect for local communities; it is true. But still it has potentiality to create synergies with local agriculture, livestock and fishing, allowing for increased income sources from a sustainable amount of natural resources, in addition to increasing the economic value of the cultural resources; it also encourages co-development paths through networking stakeholders at the destinations for co-designing tourist products and experiences and facilitates joint ventures in investing.

Tourism might be planned to be a vigorous vector of adaptive capacity building in AME countries. The least, tourism can do is contribute to developing non-conventional sources of drinking water for residents and tourists (e.g., solar energy powered desalination plants, wind powered wells, etc.); improve sanitation and increase water availability for irrigation thanks to technologically appropriated and local resource based sewage treatment plants; increase coastal protection against erosion and sea level rise promoting responsible tourists' driven coastal reforestation and other simple biotechnological interventions; provide knowledge transference and know-how to increase resilience of urban and coastal structures against extreme weather events; encourage crop substitution towards those more compatible with salted soil; fund improved management of protected areas; and provide incentives for sustainable use of biodiversity and commercial biomass.

Finally, tourism can enhance awareness on stakeholders' interdependences regarding land and natural resources (common pool resources) management; and the necessity to evolve to a more networked and collaborative governance of tangible and intangible common pool resources that may support human sustainable development across the region.

This exciting development perspective must be carried out through complementarily interlinked actions, either at a governmental level or bottom-up, socially driven level. Ultimately, the governance realm holds the most challenging needs for intervention as the most relevant barriers are affected. Collaborative governance is required to successfully go forward along a tourism-driven sustainable development path.



MAIN GOAL

Provide sound insights on the potential of sustainable tourism to promote human sustainable development in AME countries by contributing to economic integration at a local and regional level, and leading local economies to build resilience against climate change impacts.

As a result, this conference kindly calls for contributions oriented to provide insights on the following indicative themes:

1. Tourism and socioeconomic development: mainstream and critical views.
2. Tourism as a driver for inter e intra-regional socioeconomic integration.
3. Tourism as a potential vector for gaining socio-ecological resilience against climate change.
4. Potential benefits from upgrading the role of tourism in the European neighbourhood framework.
5. Tourism as promoter for bottom-up policy making and governance at local and regional level.
6. Resetting the relationships between tourism, protected areas and surrounding rural communities in Africa.
7. Tourism, education and entrepreneurship: towards enhancing triangulation.
8. Entrepreneurship, Small and medium companies, innovation, and local development.
9. Infrastructures and environment.
10. Other issues in tourism and socioeconomic development.

PUBLICATIONS

Only abstracts in French and English are accepted for the Conference. The abstracts will be selected and compiled in an ebook published with ISBN. It is not necessary to send the full paper. The abstracts cannot exceed 1.000 words. They have to include 5 keywords, followed by introduction, methodology, results and main conclusions. The exhibition of the work can be delivered as a presentation (e.g. Power Point) up to 15 minutes. It will be carried out under the non-presential modality; in addition, you will have to send a video with your presentation.

The Scientific Committee, based on the quality of the abstracts received, may choose to request the complete manuscript to the authors for its publication in a special issue of a journal indexed in Scopus.

THIS CONFERENCE IS FREE OF CHARGE, as it is co-financed by the Jean Monnet Program of the European Union.

IMPORTANT DATES

Call for abstracts: January, 2020.

The abstracts can be submitted by sending an email to amenet@ulpgc.es, in word format (doc and docx).

Deadline for abstracts: 31 August, 2020

Acceptance of abstracts: 15 September, 2020

Dates of the Conference: 22-23 October 2020

AMENET LAS PALMAS CONFERENCE WEBSITE: amenet.ulpgc.es

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