

Call for Papers:

Special Issue

Crisis and disaster in tourism systems: risk, recovery and resilience Journal of Hospitality & Tourism Management

International tourism is highly vulnerable to disruption by natural hazard events. These range from discrete, localized events such as flood, bushfire and earthquake, to wider-ranging regional and global phenomena. Risks can emerge slowly, such as those associated with climate change, or rapidly with little warning. Our interconnected world means responding to these crises and disasters is going to require transformation in all components of tourism systems globally to ensure a more resilient future.

The focus of this Special Issue is to explore tourism system responses to current and recent tourism risks, crises and disasters, and especially natural hazard events, including the current COVID-19 pandemic. A particular focus of this Special Issue is exploration of longer term recovery and resilience for businesses, destinations, communities and the global tourism system. Contributions are encouraged from a broad range of disciplinary backgrounds and theoretical perspectives, with the aim being to extend interdisciplinary dialogue of these issues.

Research in the field of tourism risk, and recovery in the context of crises and disasters has undergone rapid growth and evolution during the 21st century. This research has sought to extend our understanding of tourism system preparedness, response to, and recovery from crises and disasters, using macro-level (e.g. case studies of resilience of the tourism system and destination communities) and micro-level approaches (e.g. case studies of disaster risks and responses, business recovery planning and marketing). Empirical studies following hazard events have reassessed the suitability of emergency preparedness and response strategies for businesses, destination communities, and the tourists they host, and to embed lessons learnt into forward planning and preparedness (e.g. Calgaro, Lloyd & Dominey-Howes, 2014; Lew, 2014).

To this end, considerable research has focused on disaster recovery in terms of planning (e.g. Faulkner, 2001; Ritchie, 2004; Scott et al., 2008), recovery marketing and communication strategies (e.g., Orchiston & Higham, 2016; Walters & Mair, 2012), and the formal and informal emergency management structures responsible for post-disaster response and recovery in tourist destinations (e.g., Becken & Hughey, 2013; Hall et al., 2019). There are significant research opportunities to further expand current knowledge by adopting a systems approach to better understand the connections and synergies between the different components of the tourism system, from tourists and destination communities to the global community.

While tourism researchers are devoting much attention to crisis and disaster management (preparedness, response and recovery), Prayag (2018) suggests the time is right to also explore the relationship between crisis and disaster management and resilience, stating “crisis and disaster management is necessary but not sufficient for advancing knowledge on how communities, organizations and destinations plan for, cope with, and recover from events that are increasingly larger in magnitude and having significantly more profound socio-economic and environmental impacts on individuals and societies” (p. 133). While the concept of resilience is contested and applied using a range of conceptual lenses (Cheer & Lew, 2017; Hall et al., 2018; Innerhofer,

Fontanari, & Pechlaner, 2018), in the context of tourism the term is often used to describe the emergent property of the complex interactions between various components, or subsystems, of socio-ecological systems (SES) (Benson & Garmestani, 2011).

A central assumption of the socio-ecological interpretation and application of resilience is that change is a constant (Hall et al., 2018); a resilient tourism system is one which has the capacity to adapt, self-organise, self-learn and increase its capacity to buffer against shocks and stresses while maintaining its identity and functionality (Allen, Gunderson & Johnson 2005; Folke, 2006; Walker & Salt, 2012). Becken (2013) describes tourism as a “prime example of a SES, involving both societal (including economic) and natural resources, and their interactions” (p.506). Thus, the tourism system relies on human elements (tourism suppliers, host communities, tourists), environmental features (natural attractions, landscapes) and factors (peripherality, hazardscapes), and the interaction between them. While an SES approach could be applied to explore the way tourism systems adapt and evolve to incremental changes (Lew, 2014), it is in the context of crises or disaster management at a destination or community level that this approach has been most often applied (Prayag, 2018).

This special issue is an initiative of CAUTHE’s (Council of Australasia Tourism and Hospitality Educators Special Interest Group) supported by The Journal of Hospitality & Tourism Management. You are invited to submit articles fitting the scope of this special issue. Preference will be given to papers focused on natural hazard events. Papers will be expected to be grounded in theory and go beyond descriptive case studies of disaster events and recovery to extend understanding of the concepts of risk, recovery and resilience. Topics aligned with the following areas are welcome, though other relevant areas will also be considered:

- *Vulnerability, resilience and adaptive capacities of host communities in tourism destinations*
- *The role of government in mitigating risk and crisis and facilitating destination and enterprise recovery and resilience*
- *The resilience and adaptive capacities of tourists*
- *The integration between the tourism industry and emergency management agencies in developing strategies to manage risks, recovery and long-term resilience.*
- *Resilience to climate change in the tourism system*
- *The conceptual relationship between risk, recovery and resilience*
- *Future directions for risk, recovery and resilience research in tourism*
- *Risk, recovery and resilience management from a tourism system approach*

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We invite expressions of interest by submitting an abstract (Max 200 words) by 31st May 2020 to Joanna Fountain (jo.fountain@lincoln.ac.nz)

Important Dates:

Submission of abstract: 31st May 2020

Feedback to Authors: 30 June 2020

Submission of Full Papers: 30 September 2020

Publication of Special Issue: mid 2021

Authors of accepted abstracts will be invited to submit a full manuscript for a double blind peer-review process in accordance with the journal's submission procedures

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