

This edition of the Journal of Tourism and Development (Revista de Turismo e Desenvolvimento) includes the refereed papers of the INVTUR 2017 International Conference! The conference, hosted by the University of Aveiro, was in its 4th edition, being organized in cooperation with several foreign partner universities. The event included, not only the international conference, but also a PhD Workshop (pre-event) and the Business Innovation Tank (BIT). The idea was to launch new topics and make the academia move into the future by embracing critical and modern challenges. This edition of the INVTUR Conference was devoted to fuel discussion and to induce new approaches aimed at exploring emerging paradigms of value cocreation in the marketplace that will fuel the foundation of the new tourism ecosystem.

The conference was organized in 5 plenary sessions, with 9 keynote speakers, and 76 parallel sessions, with a total of 321 presentations, offering a wide choice of topics to choose from. Four hundred and forty six works were submitted (272 full papers, 169 extended abstracts and 5 posters), involving a total of 795 authors from 35 countries. This issue of the 'Journal of Tourism and Development' ('Revista Turismo & Desenvolvimento') publishes all the accepted manuscripts, which were subject to double-blind review.

INVTUR 2017 aimed to provide an interactive, dynamic and international platform for academics and practitioners to discuss how to enhance research applications and knowledge management through partnerships. In parallel to the academic conference, a showcase of good practices coming from the tourism industry and organizations took place in the Business Innovation Tank. Debates among tourism businesses and organizations also took place, with the aim of bridging the gap between academics and practitioners. Participants had the opportunity to strengthen partnerships with various stakeholders, including academic researchers, industry professionals, and governmental entities, through dialogues on how to better use research outputs for the benefit of the industry.

INVTUR 2017 would have never been possible without the involvement, participation, and encouragement of numbers of colleagues coming from all around the world. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the keynote speakers, the session organizers, the scientific committee and the panel of reviewers of the conference. Without them this major conference would have never been possible. We also would like to thank the valuable and the enormous amount of work done by the organizing committee. Our special thanks go to Zélia Breda, Filipa Brandão, Rui Costa, Fiona Bakas, Marília Durão and Dimitrios Buhalis. To all participants also our special thanks for coming to Aveiro !

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