In the 41st edition of the Journal of Tourism & Development, we delve into the multifaceted world of sustainable tourism. As the global tourism industry continues to grow, it is crucial to examine the impact and potential of tourism in various contexts. In this issue, we present a collection of articles that shed light on different aspects of sustainable tourism, offering insights from diverse regions and exploring a range of topics.

One of the key themes explored in this edition is the sustainability of tourism in protected areas. Through case studies from Indonesia, Turkey, the Republic of Kosovo and South Africa, the authors investigate the challenges and opportunities faced in preserving natural resources while catering to tourism demands. By examining local perspectives on ecotourism development in Malaysia and community-based tourism in the Philippines, we also gain a deeper understanding of the potential for sustainable tourism practices that benefit visitors and local communities. These articles provide valuable insights into striking a balance between conservation efforts and visitor experiences, highlighting the importance of collaboration-based management and adaptive planning and development.

This edition also presents a collection of articles that delve into creative tourism. The studies explore the lives of creative entrepreneurs, investigate creative tourism, showcase Barcelos as a model for sustainable development, delve into emotions in immersive theatre experiences, and offer a systematic review of empirical research on creative tourism. These articles enhance our understanding of the transformative power of creative tourism for individuals and destinations. Food and gastronomy are also highlighted in the articles that explore gastronomic tourism and the development tools associated with it.

In the scope of consumer behaviour, we examine the perceived image of tourism destinations, such as Latin America and Budapest, through the eyes of U.S. travellers and Turkish students, respectively. These studies shed light on the factors influencing destination choices and the role of cultural experiences in shaping tourists' preferences.

In the wake of global crises, such as the Bali bombings and the COVID-19 pandemic, we investigate the resilience of international tourism demand, the impact of sanitary and regulatory restrictions on the industry, and disaster management. These articles provide valuable insights into tourism dynamics in challenging circumstances and highlight the importance of effective disaster management and communication.

Furthermore, the journal presents research on the influence of financial resources on posttraumatic growth in the hotel industry, the co-creation of value in the hospitality sector, and the empowerment of wellness worldwide. These studies contribute to our understanding of the factors that drive success and innovation within the tourism industry.

Lastly, we delve into the experiences and perspectives of local communities, small business owners, and the millennial generation regarding sustainable tourism. These articles shed light on the challenges faced by stakeholders and the implications for the future of the industry. Additionally, we explore accessibility, the role of transportation infrastructure in international tourism development, Halal tourism, the

emergence of African religious pilgrimages as a tool for local economic development, and the impact of certified products on tourism routes and accommodation.

As you navigate through the diverse array of articles on this issue, we hope you gain a comprehensive understanding of the complexities and possibilities of sustainable tourism. The insights presented here contribute to the ongoing dialogue and efforts aimed at fostering responsible and inclusive tourism practices worldwide. Together, let us embrace the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, working towards a more sustainable and inclusive future for the tourism industry.

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