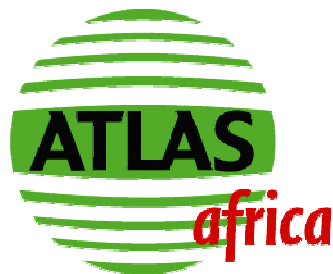




7th ATLAS Africa conference 2011



**Sustainable tourism and environmental
education: A natural link**

**Kampala, Uganda
6th - 8th June 2011**

www.atlas-euro.org

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■ **Introduction**

ATLAS Africa, Makerere University, Kent State University, University of North Texas, Uganda Wildlife Authority, Nature Uganda, Nature Palace Foundation and Uganda Tourist Board invite you to the 7th ATLAS Africa conference in Kampala, Uganda 6th – 8th June 2011.

Nature degradation resulting from rapid population expansion and unsustainable livelihood strategies is alarming in developing countries. The need to protect what is left has attracted both local and international attention. Tourism has been advanced by conservation and development organizations, governments and the tourism industry as an approach through which conservation, development and livelihood issues can be addressed. Tourism is seen to come with new opportunities and benefits like: direct revenues, local area investments, jobs, extra incomes (e.g. by selling handcrafts, agricultural produce etc), and infrastructural development that can contribute to addressing livelihood problems hindering nature conservation.

Tourism from 1980s up to date is the fastest growing industry according to UNWTO, WTTC, and regional organizations' statistics. The WSSD Rio summit, 1992 (Earth summit) and the subsequent WSSD Johannesburg summit in 2002 (Rio +10) focused on tourism among others as a strategy to achieve sustainable development. Agenda 21 on travel and tourism industry and later Sustainable Tourism- Eliminating Poverty (ST-EP) programme were formulated because of the dual role tourism often plays in nature conservation and in achieving global environmental awareness and education.

As a result of these initiatives, new forms of tourism emerged generically referred to as alternative tourism. Different forms of alternative tourism (responsible tourism, ecotourism, green tourism, ethic tourism, community based tourism and sustainable tourism) have grown in popularity. All emphasize environmental ethics and the role of environmental education in tourism management. Yet, the link between tourism, nature conservation and environmental education at the conceptual and / or theoretical level has remained blurred. Meanwhile, the practical use of tourism to achieve development, fight poverty and conserve nature has grown in importance. This explains the emphasis given to tourism in establishing protected areas world over. Although not always stressed in tourism management, environmental education through visitor interpretation, wildlife education centers, and community conservation programmes has become an important natural resource management tool. Generally, however, the lack of a theoretical or conceptual framework to link tourism, nature conservation and environmental education has made it difficult to develop sound policy and management procedures. No policy model apparently exists to combine the three. This is one of the concerns of this conference.

■ **Conference goals and objectives**

The goal of the conference is to discuss how tourism and environmental education can be linked into a major strategy for nature conservation and sustainable development. Developing countries, where biodiversity loss is often more pronounced, will serve as the backdrop for the discussion yet applicable research and case studies from around the world are welcomed.

The conference aims to achieve the following general objectives.

- To analyse the role of environmental education in tourism and nature conservation.
- To critically examine how tourism can be used as a livelihood strategy.
- To critically examine how tourism can be used as a nature conservation strategy.
- To critically examine other approaches, beyond environmental education, that have been used to create environmental awareness.
- To critically assess the roles of various stakeholders in managing tourism and nature conservation.
- To develop new approaches to tourism and environmental education with global and local applicability.
- To provide an open forum for the exchange of views among academics, conservationists and practitioners, local communities, various stakeholders of the tourism industry and all other people and organizations involved.

■ **Call for papers**

The organizers welcome abstracts, full papers and communications on a range of themes but not limited to:

1. Tourism and community development
 - Community tourism development process

- Role of public, private and third (NGOs, IGOs, CBOs etc) sectors.
 - Gendering community tourism development
2. Tourism and nature conservation
 - Tourism and conservation in protected areas
 - Tourism and conservation outside protected areas
 - Community based tourism and nature conservation
 - Role of public, private and third (NGOs, IGOs, CBOs etc) sectors. Tourism and conservation; conflicts, co-existence or symbiosis
 - Law, policy, and ethics in tourism and conservation.
 - Gender and conservation
 - Benefits and benefit sharing of tourism and nature conservation
 3. Entrepreneurship in sustainable tourism and nature conservation
 - Private sector involvement
 - Profits for nature conservation
 - Gender and entrepreneurship in tourism development.
 - Partnerships in tourism businesses
 - Marketing strategies.
 - Entrepreneurship training and skills development.
 4. Environmental education for sustainable tourism and nature conservation
 - Formal education
 - Informal education
 - Non- formal education
 - The role of Indigenous Knowledge (ITK)
 - Education and training for quality tourism products/ facilities/ services delivery.

The official language of the conference will be English.

Submission of abstract

Abstracts (approximately 200-350 words) indicating background, practical implications and applications, methods and or data sources and indicative findings of the paper is expected to be submitted for vetting and verification by scientific committee.

Abstracts should be submitted to ATLAS by using the form at the ATLAS website before December 30th 2010.

■ Publication details

Selected full papers will be considered for publication in a special issue of a selected Journal. More details will follow shortly.

Other papers will be included in the ATLAS Africa series.

■ Important dates and deadlines

Submission of abstracts:	30 th December 2010
Notification of acceptance of abstracts:	15 th February 2011
Submission of full papers:	6 th August 2011

■ Scientific committee

- Prof. Dr. Jockey Baker Nyakaana, Makerere University, Uganda.
- Dr. Andrew Lepp, Kent State University, USA
- Prof. Dr. René Van der Duim Wageningen University, The Netherlands.
- Dr. David Wojnowski, University of North Texas, USA.
- Mr. Wilber Manyisa Ahebwa, Uganda
- Dr. Joseph Oonyu, Makerere University, Uganda
- Dr. Chris Sandbrook, UK
- Prof. Dr. John Akama, Kisi College, Kenya.
- Dr. Dorothea Meyer, Sheffield Hallam University, UK
- Prof. Dr. Jarkko Saarinen, University of Oulu, Finland
- Dr. Joseph Baranga, Mbarara University of Science and Technology, Uganda

■ Field trip

More information will be available later.

■ Provisional programme

The conference will have plenary sessions, workshops and field trips.

Monday 6th 2011

Plenary sessions and workshops

Tuesday 7th 2011

Plenary sessions and workshops

Wednesday 8th 2011

Plenary sessions, closing session and field trips

A detailed program will be published later.

■ Keynote speakers

The conference organizers have invited the following keynote speakers:

- Dr. A. Mugisha of Fauna and Flora International and former Executive Director - Uganda Wildlife Authority
- Jennie Vasarhelyi, Chief of Interpretation, Education & Visitor Services, Cuyahoga Valley National Park, US National Park Service
- Third speaker to be confirmed

■ Conference packages

The conference fee will be:

Residence:	Full fee	Student fee
In Africa	€ 150	€ 100
Outside Africa	€ 300	€ 150

This fee includes 3 days participation, conference documentation, coffee breaks and water, lunches and fieldtrip. This fee does NOT include accommodation and dinners.

■ Cancellation policy

If written cancellation is received on or before April 1st, 2011, a refund of all meeting fees will be made, minus an administration fee of € 25.

No refund will be possible after **April 1st 2011**, but substitute delegates can be nominated.

■ Conference venue

Makerere University, Main campus

Faculty of Technology, New Building.

Kampala, UGANDA

Website: www.agric.mak.ac.ug/

■ Recommended hotels

The recommended hotels will be listed here later

A range of hotels are available throughout Kampala, Uganda's capital city, and can be booked through **Nature Link Safaris**, a full service tour operator in Kampala, Uganda. Contact Joseph Koluo at joseph@naturelinksafaris.co.ug Mention the "ATLAS Africa conference" in your email for specialized services. For a list of additional reliable tour operators please visit Uganda's Official Tourism Website at www.visituganda.com

■ How to get there

More information on how to get to the conference will be included here soon.

■ Conference organizers

The conference will be organised by ATLAS in partnership with the Makerere University, Kent State University, University of North Texas, Uganda Wildlife Authority, Nature Uganda, Nature Palace Foundation and Uganda Tourist Board.

ATLAS



The Association for Tourism and Leisure Education (ATLAS) was established in 1991 to develop transnational educational initiatives in tourism and leisure. ATLAS was designated a "European Thematic Network" for the tourism and leisure subject areas by the European Commission in 1996. ATLAS provides a forum to promote staff and student exchange, transnational research and to facilitate curriculum and professional development. ATLAS currently has almost 300 member institutions in 75 countries. ATLAS has active chapters in Europe, Asia-Pacific and Africa, and a new chapter ATLAS Americas is being developed at the moment. The ATLAS homepage can be visited via www.atlas-euro.org.

Contact person:

Leontine Onderwater

Email: leontine.onderwater@atlas-euro.org

Tel: +31-26-4452699

Makerere University



Makerere University is one of the oldest Universities in sub-Saharan Africa. Whose mission statement is "To provide quality teaching, carry out research and offer professional services to meet the needs of the changing society". Geography Department established in the late 1940s and its Tourism programme established in 1996 aims at achieving sustainable development through tourism and natural resource conservation. The Department Organises and manages international conferences aimed at promoting knowledge sharing in fields of sustainable development, natural resource conservation and tourism development.

Contact person:

Wilber Manyisa Ahebwa

Email: wilbah@arts.mak.ac.ug or ahebwawilber@yahoo.com

Tel: +256-77-2-616279

Kent State University



Kent State University was founded in 1910 and is located in Kent, Ohio. The university strives to address the needs of the communities it serves and society as a whole by offering 281 academic programs at the certificate, associate, bachelor's, master's, educational specialist, and doctoral levels. The university's College of Education, Health, and Human Services has five associate programs, 18 undergraduate programs, 24 graduate degrees, and 13 doctoral programs. Our graduates go on to serve as leaders in a wide variety of fields including education, hospitality, tourism, and park management.

<http://www.kent.edu/ehhs/>

Contact person:

Dr. Andrew Lepp

Email: alepp1@kent.edu

Tel: +1-330 672 0218

University of North Texas



UNT is a student-centered, public, research university located in Denton, Texas, USA. As one of Texas' largest universities, we offer 97 bachelor's, 101 master's and 48 doctoral degree programs within the university's 12 colleges and schools. UNT is the flagship of the UNT system. <http://www.unt.edu/>

Uganda Wildlife Authority



UWA's mission is to conserve and sustainably manage the wildlife and Protected Areas of Uganda in partnership with neighbouring communities and stakeholders for the benefit of the people of Uganda and the global community. <http://www.uwa.or.ug/>

Nature Uganda



Nature Uganda (NU) is the operational name of the East Africa Natural History Society (EANHS) in Uganda. EANHS is the oldest conservation NGO in East Africa, which was set up in 1909 as a scientific Organization with the aim of documenting the diversity of wildlife in East Africa.

<http://www.natureuganda.org/>

Uganda Tourist Board



If you're planning to visit Uganda or to enjoy holidays here, this is the tourism and travel guidance. Find all the information you need to know about the available tourism sites, tour and travel operators, hotels, transport facilities, important contacts and all other related information provided by the Uganda Tourism Board. <http://www.visituganda.com/>

Nature Palace Foundation



Nature Palace Foundation (NPF) is a national Civil Society Organisation that operates on the principle of blending conservation with Development. NPF promotes pro-poor sustainable tourism as an avenue for Nature Conservation. www.naturepalace.net

Post conference tours

Contact Andrew Lepp at alepp1@kent.edu for more information.

Information on the area

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uganda>

<http://www.visituganda.com/>

<http://www.myuganda.co.ug/>

■ **Registration**

- **Contact**

Please contact: e-mail admin@atlas-euro.org

- **Registration**

To registrate, please submit the registration form at the conference website.

- **Abstract submission form**

Submit the abstract submission form at the conference website.

www.atlas-euro.org