

# Overseas Report (Category of Overseas Travel: Other-International Conference)

## ICRTH 2025 (International Conference on Responsible Tourism and Hospitality) International Conference Report

**Institution:** National Kaohsiung University of Hospitality and Tourism (NKUHT)

**Name:** Cho'olle Wario Galma 秋麗

**Presenter from:** International Master's Program in Tourism and Hospitality (IMTH)

**Destination Country:** Philippines

**Conference Venue:** The Bay leaf Hotel Cavite and Lyceum of the Philippines University – Cavite

**Period of Stay:** 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025 – 20<sup>th</sup> June , 2025

**Report Date:** 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2025

## Abstract

The 2025 International Conference on Responsible Tourism and Hospitality (ICRTH) convened global scholars, practitioners, and policymakers under the theme “Responsible Tourism for Sustainable Transformation and Inclusive Societies.” Held at The Bayleaf Hotel and Lyceum of the Philippines University - Cavite from August 16 to 18, 2025, the event showcased tourism’s pivotal role in driving sustainable development and fostering social inclusion, in line with the 2025 UN World Tourism Day theme.

Organized by Sarawak Research Society (SRS) and Responsible Borneo (REBORN), and co-hosted by Lyceum of the Philippines University- Cavite, Polytechnic University of the Philippines, and the Philippine Association of Researchers for Tourism and Hospitality (PARTH), with the support of UN Tourism and multiple national agencies, the conference offered a comprehensive program of research presentations, keynote addresses, cultural exhibitions, a post-conference workshop, and responsible tourism fieldwork.

This report details my first international presentation as a representative of the International Master's Program in Tourism and Hospitality (IMTH) at National Kaohsiung University of

Hospitality and Tourism (NKUHT) at an international conference in Cavite, Philippines. The conference gave me a great opportunity to Present my paper, “*The Loiyangalani Cultural Festival - A Catalyst for Indigenous Heritage Preservation, Peacebuilding, and Sustainable Tourism in Kenya- A Story of Harmony, Heritage & Hope,*” which allowed me to engage with diverse perspectives and strengthen NKUHT’s global presence in the field of responsible tourism

I presented my study to a wide range of academics and business professionals and I got not only meaningful feedback but also the commendable paper award. Even though I was a bit nervous, the event improved my public speaking abilities and broadened my knowledge of international tourism and hospitality trends.

## Table of Contents

### Contents

Overseas Report (Category of Overseas Travel: Other-International Conference).....	1
ICRTH 2025 (International Conference on Responsible Tourism and Hospitality) International Conference Report.....	1
Abstract.....	1
<b>Table of Contents .....</b>	<b>2</b>
Purpose .....	3
Process .....	3
Personal Experience and Suggestions.....	4
Pictures .....	5

## Purpose

The purpose of participating in the 2025 International Conference on Responsible Tourism and Hospitality (ICRTH) was multifaceted. First, it provided an opportunity to present my original research on how the Loiyangalani Cultural Festival in Kenya contributes to indigenous heritage preservation, peacebuilding, and sustainable tourism. Sharing these findings with an international audience allowed me to receive valuable feedback and engage in scholarly dialogue about the intersections of cultural celebration and responsible tourism practices.

Additionally, attending the conference supported my professional development by exposing me to the latest trends, case studies, and methodologies in sustainable tourism and inclusive community engagement. It was also an important platform for networking, enabling me to connect with researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and representatives from international organizations committed to advancing tourism's role in achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Finally, by participating as a delegate of the International Master's Program in Tourism and Hospitality at the National Kaohsiung University of Hospitality and Tourism, I contributed to strengthening our institution's international visibility and reinforcing its reputation as a leader in tourism education and research. The conference experience not only enhanced my academic growth but also inspired me to pursue further contributions to responsible tourism development in diverse cultural contexts.

## Process

Date	Activity
June 13–15, 2025	Arrived in the Philippines; conducted sightseeing and familiarization visits in Cavite and Manila.
June 16, 2025	Main Conference Opening Ceremony and academic presentations.
June 17, 2025	The Post-Conference Workshop, academic presentation, and Networking Dinner.
June 18, 2025	Closing and Award Ceremony.
June 19, 2025	Responsible Tourism Fieldwork at selected community-based tourism sites.
June 20, 2025	Departed the Philippines; returned to Taiwan.

## **Personal Experience and Suggestions**

The event was successful, and I enjoyed every bit of it. Every element of the session, including the speakers, presentations, email, and meals, was well-organized, and everyone was quite kind. I would say the organizers were very kind and understanding, and they were helpful in every step of the event. They showcased what hospitality is all about. From their beautiful smiles to how they upheld themselves.

One of the most enriching aspects of participating in the conference was the chance to build connections with scholars, practitioners, and students from many different countries. Each person contributed a unique perspective on the challenges and opportunities facing tourism and hospitality today, particularly in relation to themes of sustainability, cultural preservation, and inclusiveness. These exchanges deepened my appreciation for the diverse ways that communities and destinations are reimagining responsible tourism in their local contexts.

Delivering my research presentation at an international conference for the first time was both exciting and transformative. Engaging with thoughtful questions and constructive feedback helped me see new angles in my research and inspired ideas for future projects. Overall, this experience has greatly expanded my confidence and prepared me to take on more complex academic and professional challenges in the field of tourism and hospitality.

In conclusion, participating in the 2025 International Conference on Responsible Tourism and Hospitality in Cavite, Philippines, was an invaluable experience that broadened my academic horizons and enhanced my professional development. The opportunity to engage with diverse perspectives, participate in workshops and fieldwork, and build connections with global colleagues has strengthened my skills, deepened my understanding of responsible tourism practices, and inspired me to continue pursuing impactful research and collaboration in this field.

## Pictures



**After presentations**



**Networking dinner**



My presentation



Opening Ceremony