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Report of Study Tour Abroad (Category of Study Tour Abroad: International Conference)

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Attendance to International Conference on
Responsible Tourism and Hospitality
(ICRTH) 2024

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Countries Dispatched to: Malaysia

Period of Study Tour Abroad:

Report Date: 15 September 2024

Abstract

The ICRTTH 2024 held in Kuching brings together scholars and professionals to discuss responsible tourism practices. It provided a valuable platform for networking, learning, and contributing to the field of sustainability. I was particularly impressed by the diverse range of perspectives shared by participants from academia, industry, and government. The conference's focus on sustainability and community engagement resonated with my research interests, and I found the discussions to be particularly insightful. Participating in the conference allowed me to present my paper on dark tourism which build up my skills and knowledge. Additionally, the fieldwork activities during the conference proved valuable the local community's efforts in responsible tourism. Overall, the ICRTTH was an invaluable experience that has deepened my understanding of responsible tourism, as well as marked great collaboration with my IMTH teammates to conquer a new challenge together.

Keyword: *ICRTTH, responsible tourism, presentation, networking*

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I. Purpose

The International Conference on Responsible Tourism and Hospitality (ICRTH) aims to bring together international outstanding scholars and professionals to exchange opinions on responsible tourism practices. It is an avenue where researchers, practitioners, and community members can share their research and best practices. Also, it expects to empower youth and engage local communities in and through tourism and hospitality sectors through the lens of responsibility.

I submitted the extended abstract to the conference in order to participate with below purposes:

1. Network and connect with experienced researchers and industry leaders in the field of responsible tourism.
2. Contribute my research findings insights to the discussion, and learn from the feedbacks
3. Learn more about in tourism practices and sustainability from other scholars
4. Help to promote the image of IMTH' s program as well as NKUHT

II. Process

Agenda

Date	Itinerary
5 Aug	Departure to ICRTH 2024 venue in Kuching, Malaysia
6 Aug	1. Pre-conference seminar Attendance to seminar Publication Strategy
7 Aug	1. Opening Ceremony and Keynote Speech 2. Academic Presentation 3. Networking
8 Aug	1. Academic Presentation 2. Excursion to SJK Chung Hua Paku school 3. Paku Rock Maze Garden field trip 4. Networking dinner
8 Aug	1. Award Ceremony 2. Closing Ceremony
9 Aug	Return

III. Experiences and suggestions

The ICRTTH provided a valuable platform for me to expand my knowledge and network within the field of responsible tourism. I was particularly impressed by the wide range of topics covered at the conference, which showcased the diverse perspectives and challenges within the industry.







The pre-conference seminar on publication strategy was a valuable opportunity to gain insights from both publishers and scholars. Participating in group discussions and Q&A sessions allowed me to seek advice on my thesis plan from experienced academics. The discussions were particularly insightful, providing me with valuable guidance on navigating the publication process. Next, the keynote sessions featured industry leaders who shared their perspectives on current trends and challenges in responsible tourism. The panel discussions offered a diverse range of viewpoints from academics, government representatives, and industry professionals. I was particularly interested in discussions on empowering local wisdom in community-based tourism, as this aligns with one of my previous research.

Presenting my research on dark tourism was a valuable experience that allowed me to receive constructive feedback from the panelists. As a first-time presenter at an international conference, this experience was particularly beneficial for training my presentation skills to communicate my research effectively. After presentation sessions, engaging in discussions with researchers and students from different countries who showed interest in dark tourism research facilitated the exchange of ideas, and broaden my network for future collaboration.

The fieldwork component offered me experience of the local community. Visiting the rock garden and interacting with local students provided a tangible sense of the conference's effort to engage community and promote local natural heritage.

Overall, the ICRTTH was an invaluable experience and opportunities for networking, learning in an friendly yet professional environment. I would highly recommend this conference to my juniors interested in the field.

IV. Appendix: Photos

	
Pre-conference workshop	Keynote speakers
	
IMTH booth	My presentation
	
Listening to other presentation	Coffee workshop



Meet up with students



Fieldtrip



Award ceremony



IMTH with the Chairman