Call for Papers for the 4th Special Issue of
Asia-Pacific Journal of Social Sciences

Theme for the 4th Special Issue
Tourism and Development in the Asia Pacific Region

The rich and unique cultures, diverse natural environments and standards of service will continue to make destinations in the Asia Pacific region attractive to international tourists. It is clear that the tourism industries of many countries in the region have been remarkably responsive to recent trends in demand. The region should therefore be well placed to benefit from positive prospects for the expansion of tourism industry.

Globalisation has transformed the tourism product over time from domination by mass tourism to a diversified industry creating more individual needs of travellers. New tourism is the term used to define the transformed tourism product. It has emerged from several interrelated trends in the global economy, such as overall economic growth and various other socio-economic changes, government policies, the technological revolution and new management practices. Understanding the economic and social dynamics of the globalisation of the tourism industry and the need for fast responses are major issues for tourism growth.

Asia’s tourism industry maintained resilient growth amidst the global slowdown. The Asia Pacific region is the world’s fastest growing tourism market with an 8 percent growth in tourist arrivals in 2012, compared to the 5 percent growth in the number of international tourists worldwide to 467 million, according to the UN World Tourism Organisation.

According to ‘World Travel and Tourism Council’, travel and tourism directly contribute to GDP with in the Asia Pacific region at about US 553.7 billions. As per the the UN estimates, the Asian Tourism is expected to grow between 4 and 6 percent – higher than the 3-4 percent global average. Tourism is one of the most important economic activities in the world today, because it generates services, products, foreign currencies, employment and investments. In countries where tourism has become a flourishing service industry, it has a far-reaching, economic and social impact on national development. International tourism also has complex linkages with other industries and government development strategies and plans; implicitly it affects the structure and diversity of other economic activities at the national and regional levels.

The prospects of tourism growth, however, will be driven by a number of factors, including globalisation, the concomitant developments in transport and tourism related infrastructure and the development of intraregional travel. At the same time, there are a number of factors that could hinder the development of tourism, for example, visa and
crossborder formalities as well as various unforeseen shocks, such as natural disasters, health crises and security threats, which have direct impact on tourist arrivals.

As a result, there are a number of major issues and challenges that need to be considered in terms of sustainable tourism development. Therefore the main objective of the present special issue is to examine the current situation in the Asia Pacific region as well as prospects for tourism growth.

The prospects should be analysed with respect to globalisation, economic growth, infrastructure development, travel facilitation, intraregional tourism and emerging new markets in the Asia Pacific region.

Interested scholars may send their full length research articles to the Email ID editor.socialsciences@gmail.com. The following are the sub themes of Tourism and Development in the Asia Pacific Region:

**Sub Themes:**
- The Role of Tourism in Socio-economic Issues and Poverty Reduction
- Tourism Development and Tourism Infrastructure
- Tourism and Environmental Management
- Tourism and Disaster Management
- Human Resources Development in the Tourism Sector
- Geographical Strategies and Tourism Development
- Biodiversity and Tourism Development
- Globalisation and Tourism
- Tourism Development and Employment Opportunities especially for Women
- Tourism and Economy
- Tourism and Travel Management

**Deadline** for submission of full length research articles: 30 September 2013.

Guidelines for submission: Research article should not exceed 6,000 words including the Title, Author Name & Address, an abstract of 250 words and 4-6 Keywords/Phrases. Soft copy preferably formatted in MS Word 2003, Times New Roman, font size 12 and double spaced. Cambridge model of references.

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