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JAPAN 2013 | PARKS CONNECT

WG2: TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN PROTECTED AREAS

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PRESENTERS

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DISCUSSION OF WG2

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- **24presetations, 13countries**
- **4 Break out sessions and sectors**

	National government	Local government	NGOs	Institutions	Private companies
• Management of Ecotourism	v	v		v	v
• Participation of Local Residents		v	v		v
• Environmental Education		v	v		v
• Visitor Management	v		v	v	v

PRESENTATIONS

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Management of ecotourism

- Law and national/local government's strategy of ecotourism management in PAs
- Wildlife management and ecotourism in PAs by private company
- Collaborated ecotourism development with local community

PRESENTATIONS

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Participation of Local Residents

- Linkage with local community in tourism product in rural area
- Local participation in ecotourism program
- Youth program in parks related to health recovery

PRESENTATIONS

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Environmental education

- Education and interpretation in private and public sites
- Scientific and technical approach for environmental education
- International exchange education program for children

PRESENTATIONS

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Visitor Management

- Interpretation system and role of visitor center
- Challenges of international visitor management
- Carrying capacity management in World Heritage

DISCUSSION

- How to **secure funding** for tourism management? (e.g. entrance fee)
- How to **involve local people** as certified nature guides? How to educate local people?
- How to **measure the effect** of environmental education?
- How to **control the number of visitors** within carrying capacity?

MESSAGE FROM WG2

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Participants of WG2 commend;

1. **Respect the role of PAs to conserve nature and cultural values and ensure that any tourism use is compatible with this role.**
2. **Develop tourism strategies and business plans for PAs in collaboration with relevant rightsholders and stakeholders and in the context of national, provincial and local development plans.**
3. **Seek to minimize the negative impacts and optimize the positive benefits of tourism in PAs.**
4. **Plan and manage carefully for access to and within PAs.**

Continued…

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5. **Promote the development and use of tourism industry guidelines, codes of conduct and charters to raise industry standards and compliance with environmental safeguards.**
6. **Work with the tourism industry, relevant rightsholders and stakeholders to ensure that tourism benefits are appropriately distributed.**
7. **Build cooperative partnerships within communities and among stakeholders and bestow pride in their region and identity.**
8. **Support EE to develop authentic and creative tourism products/experiences.**

Continued…

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9. Utilize innovative use of Information Communication Technology to enhance tourism experiences and EE.
10. Consider the quality of visitors' experiences in planning of Pas and monitor their responses with appropriate indicators.
11. Invest in enhanced institutional and individual capacity to create client-focused and business-aware PA institutions, staff, rightholders and stakeholders.
12. Ensure governments not lose sight of their obligations to adequately staff and fund PAs.
13. Invest in collaborative research and development on environmentally sustainable and ethical tourism.