



Guest Editors

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This special issue presents a selection of the best papers presented during the 3rd QATEM 'Quantitative Approaches in Tourism Economics and Management' workshop held in the University of Corsica in Corte (France), and co-organised by University of Perpignan *Via Domitia* on 13th July, 2012. The conference was supported by the *LISA (UMR 6240)* and the *CAPEM (EA 4606)* laboratories. QATEM 2012 is the third event under a workshop series which provide an opportunity for gathering, analysing and debating state-of-the-art academic research on this theme. Many submissions have been done and the scientific committee only selected some papers for presentation.

The guest editors identified among them four papers for this special issue of *European Journal of Tourism Research*. Indeed, we have been very keen to ensure that these papers make a substantial contribution to our understanding of one of the many quantitative approaches in tourism economics and management. Moreover, the papers chosen, by virtue of their mixed provenance, show the globalised nature of the QATEM workshop.

In the first paper, Andrea Saayman and Melville Saayman from North-West University (South Africa) investigate the influence of exchange rate volatility on tourism by focusing not only on

the influence of volatility on arrivals, but also on its effect on tourist spending in South Africa. This is an innovative quantitative paper in tourism, since a free floating exchange rate case is investigated, therefore making a significant contribution to the literature on the impact of volatility on arrivals and spending.

In the second paper, Ratsimbanierana, Sbai and Stenger from Univeristy of Perpignan (France) analyse the tourism destination performance in Morocco. This paper proposes an empirical contribution, based on the use of the 'mean-variance shortage function' approach. These Results allow for policy recommendations to destination decision-makers in order to minimize the instability and maximize the return of inbound tourism.

In the third paper, Santana-Jiménez, Hernández and Suárez-Vega from University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (Spain) identify the most relevant environmental attributes valued by the rural tourism market in the Spanish island of La Gomera. The approach used in this paper is a hedonic price model which is an adequate tool to analyse the role of these factors in rural tourism. Managerial recommendations to public and private authorities are derived from the results.

In the fourth paper, Malgorzata Ogonowska and Dominique Torre from University of Nice-Sophia Antipolis (France), analyze the evolution of service provider's offer, in the presence of market power, adapting to demand preferences' modification. This contribution uses a theoretical framework in order to explain how environmental quality standards become general norms in the tourism industry.

The QATEM scientific committee worked very hard to thoroughly choose and review the papers. We hope that the reader will enjoy the selection of the third QATEM workshop and we are looking forward to the next one.