



Building cultural bridges – The role of tourism in intangible heritage preservation

Aditya Eggert

Postgraduate Program in International Affairs 2007/2008

First European Conference on Tourism and Peace
Stenden University, The Netherlands, October 21-24, 2008

[Overview]

- Introduction
- The project
- Intangible heritage
- The Mask Dances, Dogon Country, Mali
- Treks to build, Humla, Nepal
- Challenges
- Conclusion

[The project: Concept and aims]

- Best practices in the preservation of intangible heritage
- Integration of intangible heritage into tourism
 - Conservation and revaluation
 - Promotion of economic and social development
 - Intercultural exchange

Questions of interest

- How can we ensure that local communities fully benefit from the development of cultural tourism?
- How can negative cultural and socio-economic impacts be limited?
- How can the interdependency between cultural tourism sites and intangible heritage be used for productive intercultural exchange?

[Intangible heritage]

- Living heritage
- Domains
 - oral traditions and expressions
 - performing arts
 - Social and cultural practices
 - knowledge and traditional craftsmanship
- 2003 UNESCO Convention

[Intangible heritage]

- Cultural identity
- Sense of belonging and community cohesion
- Continuity
- Exchange between generations
- Recreation and development
- Respect for cultural diversity and human creativity

Mission Culturelle de Bandiagara, Mali



- Ritual mask dance, Dogon Country
- Threatened livelihood
 - Loss of traditions
- Performances and festivals
 - Income generation
 - Sensitization and education
 - Revitalization
 - Cultural identity
 - Intercultural exchange



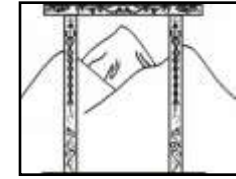
Traditional dogon dances, Mali



October 2008

Aditya Eggert - Building cultural bridges

[The Nepal Trust



- Treks to build health and community
 - Mountaineering and adventure pursuits
 - Economic and social development
 - Direct participation in local community projects
- Treks to rebuild gompa
 - Cultural heritage
 - Intercultural exchange



[The people of Humla]



October 2008

Aditya Eggert - Building cultural bridges

[Buddhism / Hinduism]



Festivities, Songs, Dances



October 2008

Aditya Eggert - Building cultural bridges

[Challenges]

- Commercialization and sellout of intangible heritage
- Promotion of materialistic thinking vs. intangible values
- Decrease of cultural and social values
- Robbery of cultural objects

[Conclusion (1)]

- Tourism can make a valuable contribution to the preservation and revitalization of intangible heritage
 - Effective management by tourism committee
 - Local participation
 - Training of tourism actors
 - Sensitization of tourists
 - Continuous evaluation

[Conclusion (2)]

- Festivals play an essential role in the preservation of intangible heritage
 - Sensitization and education
 - Revitalization and valorization
 - Promote cultural identity and intercultural exchange

Thank you!



Contacts

- Website:
www.pmdogon.org
www.nepaltrust.org
- Email:
aditya.eggert@stiftungskolleg.org