

THE PARADIGM SHIFT IN SUSTAINABLE TOURISM AND THE IMPLICATIONS FOR ITS MANAGEMENT

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The concept of Sustainable Tourism has relied for decades on the ideas of sustainable development proposed in the '60s by the report Our Common Future, prepared by the WCED. It has been defined as tourism that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of the future generations to meet their own needs. Thus, sustainable tourism management is based on three conceptual pillars of sustainable development (economic development, sociocultural development, and environmental protection), an idea that while it is widely accepted today. However, it has received criticism related to its operationalisation. Over the past decade, the sustainable development paradigm has changed, thanks to the body of knowledge emerged from the study of Complex Adaptive Systems, especially socio-ecological systems knowledge. Thus, today modern approaches to sustainability emphasise the development of adaptive capacity to generate resilient social-ecological systems in complex contexts characterized by uncertainty. This paper addresses from a theoretical approach, how this paradigm shift is changing the way in which sustainable tourism is understood nowadays, and what are the practical effects of this change. It also explores some new management approaches based primarily on cooperation and the development of adaptability and resilience to achieve sustainability in social-ecological systems.

KEY WORDS: *sustainable tourism, resilience, social-ecological systems, adaptive co-management.*