



**International Conference on Ecotourism in Protected Areas:  
Strengthening Livelihoods, Conservation and Adaptation**

19 – 21 May, 2015, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar

# Conference Agenda

<b>19 May 2015, Tuesday</b>	
10:00 – 12:30	<p><b>Ecotourism Policy Dialogue</b> (invitation only)</p> <p>Co-Chairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• H.E. U Win Tun, Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry (MOECAF)</li> <li>• H.E. U Htay Aung, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism (MOHT)</li> </ul> <p>Venue: <i>IRRAWADDY Meeting Room, Kempinski Hotel</i></p>
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:30 – 16:00	<p><b>Ecotourism Policy Dialogue</b> (invitation only)</p> <p>Co-Chairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• H.E. U Win Tun, Union Minister for Environmental Conservation and Forestry (MOECAF)</li> <li>• H.E. U Htay Aung, Union Minister for Hotels and Tourism (MOHT)</li> </ul> <p>Venue: <i>IRRAWADDY Meeting Room, Kempinski Hotel</i></p>
15:00 – 16:00	<i>On-site registration at Kempinski Hotel, Bagan Building</i>
16:00 – 16:20	<i>Buses depart from Kempinski to Myanmar International Convention Centre (MICC 2)</i>
17:30 – 19:00	<p><b>Official Opening</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• H.E. U Nyan Tun, Vice President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar</li> <li>• Launching of Myanmar Ecotourism Policy and Management Strategy</li> <li>• Dr DhruPAD Choudhury, Regional Programme Manager, Adaptation to Change, ICIMOD</li> <li>• Mario Hardy, Chief Executive Officer, Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA)</li> </ul> <p>Venue: Myanmar International Convention Centre (MICC 2)</p>
19:00 – 20:30	<i>Welcome dinner at MICC 2</i>
20:30- 20:45	<i>Buses depart from Myanmar International Convention Centre (MICC 2) to Kempinski</i>



## 20 May 2015, Wednesday

08:00 – 09:00	<i>On-site registration</i>
09:00 – 10:20	<b>[PLENARY] Sustainable ecotourism in the face of climate change</b>  Session style: Formal panel Chair: Pasquale Capizzi, Chief Technical Advisor, Myanmar Climate Change Alliance, UN-Habitat Myanmar Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ghana S. Gurung, Conservation Program Director, World Wildlife Fund (WWF), Nepal</li><li>• Dr Nyi Nyi Kyaw, Director General, Forest Department, Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry</li><li>• Jatan Marma, Private Secretary to Honorable State Minister, Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs</li><li>• Prof. Susan Moore, Environmental and Conservation Sciences, and Leader, Nature Based Tourism Research Group, School of Veterinary and Life Sciences, Murdoch</li><li>• Mario Hardy, Chief Executive Officer, Pacific Asia Travel Association</li></ul> <i>Venue: KISPANADI Ballroom, Kempinski Hotel</i>
10:20 – 10:30	Remarks by Franck Droin, General Manager, Kempinski Hotel, Nay Pyi Taw
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Group Photo + Tea/coffee break</i>
11:00 – 12:30	<b>[PLENARY] Ecotourism financing nature conservation</b>  Session style: Interactive panel Chair: Dr Nakul Chettri, Programme Coordinator Kangchengjunga Landscape, ICIMOD Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ram Kumar Aryal, National Trust for Nature Conservation Chitwan and Owner of Rhino Lodge</li><li>• Paul Eshoo, Regional Conservation Enterprise Advisor, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)</li><li>• Alexander Warasta, Former Head of Anti-Poaching, African Parks Network, Republic of Congo</li><li>• Steven Noakes, Lead Trainer, Inclusive Tourism - Business Innovation Facility Myanmar, Part-owner, Ecolodges Indonesia and Binna Burra Mountain Lodge</li></ul> <i>Venue: KISPANADI Ballroom, Kempinski Hotel</i>
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>



<p>13:30 – 15:00</p>	<p><b>[PARALLEL A] Engaging host communities, ensuring benefits</b>            Session style: Dialogue café            Chair: Dr Paul Rogers, Ecotourism expert, ICIMOD            Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mei Zhang, WildChina, Founder and Chief Executive Officer</li> <li>• Barbara Schott, Fauna and Flora International</li> <li>• Seema Bhatt, Honorary Vice President, Ecotourism Society of India</li> </ul> <p>Venue: <i>KISPANADI Ballroom, Kempinski Hotel</i></p> <hr/> <p><b>[PARALLEL B] Elephants and Ecotourism</b>            Session style: Dialogue café            Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Khyne U Mar, Myanmar Elephant Research Project, Department of Animal and Plant Sciences, University of Sheffield</li> <li>• John Edward Roberts, Director of Elephants &amp; Conservation Activities, Anantara Resorts &amp; Golden Triangle Asian Elephant Foundation</li> </ul> <p>Venue: <i>IRRAWADDY meeting room, Kempinski Hotel</i></p>
<p>15:00 – 15:30</p>	<p><i>Tea/coffee break</i></p>
<p>15:30 – 17:00</p>	<p><b>[PLENARY] Balancing ecotourism development and conservation at high altitudes</b>            Session style: Interactive panel            Chair: Dr Karma Tshering, Tourism Consultant and International Evaluator National Geographic Unique Lodges Program            Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tshewang Namgail, Himalayan Home Stays, Snow Leopard Conservancy Ladakh</li> <li>• Dr. Nakul Chettri, Programme Coordinator Kangchengjunga Landscape, ICIMOD</li> <li>• S.B. Chetry, Putao Trekking House</li> <li>• Astronim Boniv, Pamir Horse Adventure, Tajikistan (VIDEO)</li> </ul> <p>Venue: <i>KISPANADI Ballroom, Kempinski Hotel</i></p>
<p>18.15 – 18:30</p>	<p><i>Buses depart from Kempinski to Mingalathiri Hotel</i></p>
<p>19:00 – 20:30</p>	<p><i>Dinner hosted by Mynamar Tourism Federation, Mingalathiri Hotel</i></p>
<p>20:30 – 20.45</p>	<p><i>Buses depart from Mingalathiri to Kempinski</i></p>



<b>21 May 2015, Wednesday</b>	
09:00 – 10:30	<p><b>[PARALLEL A] Gender and ecotourism</b>            Session style: Interactive panel            Chair: Dr Irena Ateljevic, Honorary Research Fellow, Cultural Geography, Landscape Centre and Visiting Scholar, Education and Competence Studies, Wageningen University, Netherlands            Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Veena Sikri, Professor &amp; Ambassador, Convener, South Asia Women's Network &amp; Vice Chairperson, South Asia Foundation</li> <li>• Daw Kyi Kyi Aye, Senior Tourism Expert, Myanmar</li> <li>• Dr Golam Rasul, Theme Leader, Livelihoods, ICIMOD</li> </ul> <p>Venue: <i>IRRAWADDY meeting room, Kempinski Hotel</i></p>
	<p><b>[PARALLEL B] Beyond ecotourism services: community benefits through value chain linkages</b>            Session style: Dialogue café            Chair: U Tint Thwin, Director General, Ministry of Hotels and Tourism            Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renzino Lepcha, Chief Operating Officer MEVEDIR</li> <li>• Dr Dhurpad Choudhury, Regional Programme Manager, Adaptation to Change, ICIMOD</li> <li>• Alex Diment, Wildlife Conservation Society Cambodia</li> </ul> <p>Venue: <i>KISPANADI Ballroom, Kempinski Hotel</i></p>
10:30 – 11:00	<i>Tea/coffee break</i>
11:00 – 12:30	<p><b>[PLENARY] Ecotourism and transboundary heritage trails</b>            Session style: Interactive panel            Chair: Marjorie van Strien, Tourism Specialist, ICIMOD            Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mim Hamal, EU Nepal and GHT Nepal Alliance</li> <li>• Karma Tempa, Park Manager, Bomdeling Wildlife Sanctuary, Bhutan</li> <li>• Deepak Rawat, District Magistrate Nainital, India</li> </ul> <p>Venue: <i>KISPANADI Ballroom, Kempinski Hotel</i></p>
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>
13:30 – 15:00	<p><b>[PARALLEL A] Spiritual tourism in protected areas</b>            Session style: Dialogue café            Moderators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aine Carey, Filmmaker and partner, GetKarmaTravel</li> <li>• Deepak Rawat, District Magistrate Nainital, India</li> </ul> <p>Venue: <i>IRRAWADDY meeting room, Kempinski Hotel</i></p>



	<p><b>[PARALLEL B] Cultural revitalization and managing negative impacts</b>          Session style: Dialogue café          Moderators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Michael Haynes, Heritage Tourism Expert</li> <li>• Dr Aung Myat Kyaw, Vice-Chairman of Myanmar Tourism Federation, Managing Director Orchestra Travels &amp; Chairman of Union of Myanmar Travel Agents.</li> </ul> <p>Venue: <i>Bagan Lounge, Kempinski Hotel</i></p>
	<p><b>[PARALLEL C] Ecotourism monitoring to strengthen protected area management</b>          Session style: Dialogue café          Moderators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof. Susan Moore, Environmental and Conservation Sciences, and Leader, Nature Based Tourism Research Group, School of Veterinary and Life Sciences, Murdoch University</li> <li>• Dr Karma Tshering, , PhD, Tourism Consultant and International Evaluator National Geographic Unique Lodges Program</li> </ul> <p>Venue: <i>KISPANADI Ballroom, Kempinski Hotel</i></p>
15:00 – 15:30	Tea/coffee break
15:30 – 17:00	<p><b>[PLENARY] Closing session: Ecotourism in protected areas, the way forward for Myanmar</b>          Session Style: Interactive Panel          Chair: Barbara Schott, Associate, Tourism Transparency          Reporting of parallel session outcomes by moderators          Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U Tint Thwin, Director General, Ministry of Hotels and Tourism, Myanmar</li> <li>• Dr Nyi Nyi Kyaw, Director General, Forest Department, Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry</li> <li>• U Kyaw Min Htin, Joint Secretary General, Myanmar Tourism Federation</li> <li>• Daw Kyi Kyi Aye, Senior Tourism Expert, Myanmar</li> <li>• Marjorie van Strien, Tourism Specialist, ICIMOD</li> </ul> <p>Venue: <i>KISPANADI Ballroom, Kempinski Hotel</i></p>
17:00 – 17:30	<p><b>Closing Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• H.E U Htay Aung, Union Minister , MoHT</li> <li>• Dr Dhruvad Choudhury, Regional Programme Manager, ICIMOD</li> <li>• Thank you note: Ms Marjorie van Strien, ICIMOD</li> </ul>
18:00 – 19:00	<b>Press Conference</b>
19:00 – 20:30	Dinner hosted by ICIMOD, Kempinski Hotel