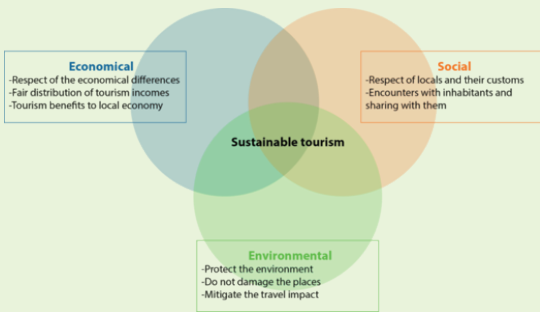


Strengthening partnerships: the role of indigenous tourism in language documentation

This poster aims to explore key lessons that can be learned from indigenous tourism practices and applied to language conservation and documentation, rather than exploring language related tourism activities.

I) The benefits of linking tourism and language documentation together



The 3 core principles of sustainable tourism

Tourism, and specifically sustainable tourism, shares some common points with language documentation. It is a form of tourism that "takes full account of its current and future economic, social and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment and host communities" (UNWTO, 2021). Hence, it is foriented towards the future and meeting the needs of our children and future generations.

Just like language documentatuion, sustainable tourism can be influenced by various power dynamics, misunderstandings when approaching local communities, and can have negative effects if not implemented wisely. Tourism is not only about selling a product, it can aim towards safeguarding cultural heritage, including languages.

II) Indigenous tourism and its core principles

Indigenous Tourism can be defined as "a tourism activity in which Indigenous people are directly involved either through control and/or by having their culture serve as the essence of the attraction" (UNBC, 2020). Connecting local Indigenous cultures with the travel industry can help to inspire, create, and support authentic, meaningful adventure travel experiences. Following the Pacific Asia Indigenous Tourism Conference in Darwin, Australia, held in 2012, the United Nations World Travel Organisation (UNWTO) recognises and supports the principles of the Larrakia Declaration on the Development of Indigenous Tourism. This declaration can be seen as guidelines when involving indigenous communities in tourism.

- Respect:** Respect for customary law and lore, land and water, traditional knowledge, traditional cultural expressions, cultural heritage that will underpin all tourism decisions
- Protection:** Indigenous culture and the land and waters on which it is based, will be protected and promoted through well managed tourism practices and appropriate interpretation.
- Empower:** Indigenous peoples will determine the extent and nature and organizational arrangements for their participation in tourism and that governments and multilateral agencies will support the empowerment of Indigenous people.
- Consult:** That governments have a duty to consult and accommodate Indigenous peoples before undertaking decisions on public policy and programs designed to foster the development of Indigenous tourism.
- Community-based:** The tourism industry will respect Indigenous intellectual property rights, cultures and traditional practices, the need for sustainable and equitable business partnerships and the proper care of the environment and communities that support them.
- Partner:** Equitable partnerships between the tourism industry and Indigenous people will include the sharing of cultural awareness and skills development which support the wellbeing of communities and enable enhancement of individual livelihoods.

The Larrakia Declaration

III) The Larrakia Declaration and its lessons for language documentation

A) For the linguists & researchers

It can be useful to have those principles in mind when collecting data about indigenous languages, and even be fore or after that. For instance, when writing a **positionality statement**.

- ! consult the community about their goals, what they want to us this documentation for, who the data should be collected from; what they views on language endangerment are
- ! share your skills within the community

B) For indigenous leaders & communities



A company based in Canada collaborating with indigenous communities, and helped to create playing cards wich includes a local language



It can be useful to collaborate with entities respecting the Larrakia Declaration to create products such as souvenirs or meaningful marketing campains associated with the values of the local communities.



The logo of the DMO representing indigenous tourism in New Zealand



The Misak University in Cauca Region, Colombia

Initiated by a tourism project and local volunteers, the Misak University is a place that allows tourists and children to learn more about the Misak culture and languages.

Any other ideas on how to link sustainable tourism and language documentation in a meaningful way ?

Some useful references

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