



***Special Session (SS03) on:  
ICT, Transport and Tourism***

**Organizers:**

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**NECTAR Clusters Special Session**

As part of the 13th World Congress of the RSAI, to be held in Marrakech, Morocco from June 2 to 5, 2020, NECTAR clusters 5 on “Leisure, Recreation and Tourism” is organizing a Special Session on “ICT, Transport and Tourism”.

The abstract submission portal is now open. Full information on the venue, abstract submission, registration, schedule of events, accommodation and travel information is posted at <https://www.regionalscience.org/2020worldcongress>. Short abstracts as well as full papers (also in draft format) will be accepted for the Special Session.

During your submission, do not forget to add that your paper is submitted for the NECTAR Cluster 5 Special Session on ICT, Transport and Tourism. Please, also send a copy of the submission to Luca Zamparini, University of Salento, [luca.zamparini@unisalento.it](mailto:luca.zamparini@unisalento.it) and in cc to Peter Nijkamp, Al Cuza University, Iasi, [pnijkamp@hotmail.com](mailto:pnijkamp@hotmail.com) and to Joao Romao, University of Algarve, [joao\\_romao@me.com](mailto:joao_romao@me.com).

Publication opportunities will be proposed at the end of the Special Session.

**Main topic**

A large amount of the travel behavior and demand is increasingly determined by ecological, social and entertainment motives (discretionary time consumption). In this context, the role of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) plays an ever more important role in both the provision of tourism services and the plans and execution of these travel activities. ICT are increasingly important in order to match supply and demand of tourism services, in both space and time. On the other hand, increasing mediatisation and interactivity related to the development of social networks reinforce the importance of tourists as co-creators of destination images. As sustainability is a key issue for the creation of the image of contemporary tourism destinations, sustainable transport services and networks are crucially important for ecological protection and economic efficiency, but also for the image and differentiation of each destination. In this context, the present advances in geocomputation and spatial analysis further enhance the potential of understanding socio-economic dynamics at regional level, given the existence of large digital data sets. In regards to these data sets, complex system analysis brings together a unique opportunity for enabling an adaptive spatial vision for tourism, leisure and recreation. Within this vision, quantitative and qualitative methods may be used and intertwined with Geographic Information Systems and Science, in

particular for enhancing the understanding of the limits of carrying capacity as well as the vulnerability of fragile regions of the future.

The Special Session will mainly focus on these main topics:

- Usage of ICT based solutions related to transport (GPS, mobile applications) in order to increase transport efficiency and monitoring;
- Institutional coordination related to different territorial scales (international, national, regional, local), but also to different stakeholders in different sectors (transport service providers and regulators; tourism service providers, regulators and management organizations);
- Sustainable destination image related to the usage of renewable sources of energy or “soft modes” of transportation in order to differentiate a tourism area as an “eco-friendly” destination;
- Transport services and mobility at local destinations.
- Advanced tourism data metrics and analysis of the current trends in local, national and international tourism.

Any other paper analysing the linkages between transport and tourism is welcome.

The abstracts/papers will be reviewed by the Organizing Committee and the notification of paper acceptance will be distributed by February 20, 2020.

Organizing committee For more information or questions please contact: Luca Zamparini, University of Salento, [luca.zamparini@unisalento.it](mailto:luca.zamparini@unisalento.it).



Website: <http://www.nectar-eu.org/>

NECTAR is a European-based scientific association. The primary objective is to foster research collaboration and exchange of information between experts in the field of transport, communication and mobility from all European countries and the rest of the world. It is a multidisciplinary social science network. It brings together a wide variety of perspectives on transport and communication problems and their impacts on society in an international perspective. For further information see: <http://www.nectar-eu.eu>