International Conference:

"Territorial development and touristic transition in a changing climate in the Mediterranean"

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SUMMARY

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Concluding a two-day symposium on the issue of territorial development and the energy transition in the Mediterranean in a changing climate, which was the occasion of nearly 45 communications, an average of nearly 13 minutes, 780 second communication, during which several speakers have tended to accelerate the pace of their oratorical flow to keep time or even double their time quota through the responses is really a challenge.

Rather than a synthesis, I will give you a "travel print" that could take the form of a happy result, 2 shared observations, a general avoidance and 2 work proposals.

1. A happy result: a break in the method

The approach has shown a real desire to break with the usual ways of organizing scientific conferences. Although the final tables have been removed (we actually saw an example of table debates without the photos), we saw debates evolve as and the organization of round table with questions, comments, and even rare, the proposals that have been formulated. We even saw a communication (Chloe) integrate content from previous communications and exchanges.

Researchers have not monopolized the floor nearby. Better yet, they tried to play the role of facilitators and to listen to other stakeholders such as experts, responsible for the definition and implementation of public policies, network facilitators, representatives of civil society, tourism operators, network carriers.

The approach stresses the importance of the **relationship between experiences (localized in time and space) and knowledge (transferable)**. It raises the question of methods, but also the role of research and the interface to be built between Universities (research center) and territories. It also stresses the effectiveness of real networks such as virtual broadcast spaces and capitalization of experiences.

2. Two points of convergence: the starting point and the horizon to reach

Several interventions have identified two situations. The first, a starting position, also described as **Fordist tourism or tourism "carbon"**, with some typical forms:

- The station without many links with the territories
- The importance of international tourism and variable shares in GDP, sometimes above 25%
- The nature of mobilized resources, which are generic, such as the sun, sea, coast
- Short timeframes dominated the market
- A strong impact on natural resources and identity (downcycling)
- A vertical governance, marked by hierarchical sector tourism operators, and national policies

Threats related to climate change are confirmed as being strong in the same time they are sometimes fully integrated into development strategies, sometimes undervalued and often mobilized in the affirmation of the first model strategies.

A second model is emerging as a horizon to reach qualified "post Fordist", with several features that allow us to qualify for the "territorial tourism", involving ever:

- Territory (whose forms are far from being stabilized) and the difficult notion of territory project opposite the territory project in which local actors are receptacles projects decided elsewhere)
- The tourist "involved" potential player of the project
- Territorial Resource (or legacy) products, services, knowledge specific and not transferable, differentiated in space and time
- Sun temporality
- Recycling (upcycling) resources:

Strategy elements appear including the climatic condition, length of stay, the customer loyalty, the presence of services, the place of tourism in the development of territories. Specifically, the question several times shared, inclusion of local actors in the development was recalled through a simple definition of sustainable tourism, "tourism to develop and foster the host communities."

We even saw the emergence of the measurement support tools and decision, with such poetic names as the number of globalized services that affirm the option of the global circulation of knowledge and questions about their meaning (Janus, Pilistelia , Take the Med ...).

3. Widespread avoidance

All this would be perfect if a **widely shared unthought had not crossed the two days**: the issue of carbon production was raised, so it embarrassment whatever the model chosen. Sustainable tourism can be defined, and associate different qualifiers: eco-tourism, green tourism, responsible tourism, fair tourism. We cannot define a tourism "carbon die." Mobilities are at the heart of the definition of tourism, and unless some researchers speak of "tourist home", the discussions highlighted the many loopholes mobilized to prevent the matter was clearly raised.

Thus, subjects were not discussed, when they could have merit attention. The issue of domestic tourism (or proximity between the Maghreb countries) has not been mentioned, while its development plays a key role in maintaining a tourism economy in Tunisia, or the development of tourism Merzouga, South is Moroccan, through the operation of the specific resource of the sand bath opens up the possibility of a specific tourism destination to the Moroccan public.

4. Two work proposals
In the end, still remain issues that deserve further study.
First, it would propose a definition of the tourist transition, including the carbon issue. One approach would be to make a transition from a tourism "Fordist" to a "territorial" tourism as we have characterized previously. One possibility would be to ensure that this transition helps build the human, financial and organizational (principles and rules) necessary for this transition, while integrating ever the question of radical impact without dismissing radical solutions of profound transformation means of mobility.

Another hypothesis would be to verify that the operator of territorial tourism transition. A concrete example was given through community tourism companies described by the ITF. Besides classical and sectored tour operators, will argue the "territorial" operators thought as organizations bringing together stakeholders and practices ensuring the implementation of a territorial tourism. These operators would have the characteristics to limit the impact of mobility and while participating in the progressive construction of human, financial and organizational transition related to tourism.

La question finale reste celle de l'existence d'un modèle. N'assiste-t-on pas à un mouvement de *« globalisation par le bas, qui ne brade pas le local au nom d'un impératif économique dicté d'ailleurs et assure à chaque citoyen la possibilité d'expérimenter une utopie concrète » (Paquot T., 2009, p 20)[2].*

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[2] Paquot T, (2009), *« Le territoire des philosophes »,* Paris, La découverte, 398 p.