



Sustainable Tourism
PROGRAMME
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Information Note for Participants

2017 International Symposium and Annual Conference

“Empowering Tourism Destinations’ Sustainability through Innovation”

Kasane, Chobe District, Botswana
December 7th – 9th 2017

Hosted by:



For further information, please contact the Coordination Desk stp10yfp@unwto.org

Supported by:



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1. General Information

1.1. Snapshot of the 2017 International Symposium and Annual Conference

The 2017 edition of the International Symposium and Annual Conference of the 10YFP Sustainable Tourism Programme (STP)¹ will be held from 7th – 9th December 2017 in Kasane, Chobe District, Makgadikgadi and Okavango Delta Ramsar Site, in Botswana; under the theme of "Empowering Tourism Destinations' Sustainability through Innovation".

The event will be hosted by Botswana Tourism Organization and co-organized by the 10YFP STP which is a partnership led by UNWTO with the Governments of France, Morocco and the Republic of Korea as co-leads, with the support of the UN Environment and the 10YFP Secretariat.

The International Symposium of the 10YFP STP will be held on Thursday 7th December and followed by the Annual Conference of 10YFP STP on Friday 8th December. Both events are open to the public.

Participants attending both the International Symposium and Annual Conference will have the possibility to join a field visit on Saturday 9th December.

1.2. General Information on Kasane

Kasane is the administrative centre of the Chobe District of Botswana and a gateway to the region. Kasane is situated a few kilometers from the Chobe River's confluence with the Zambezi River, where the four countries of Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Namibia meet. Chobe National Park, Victoria Falls (Zimbabwe & Zambia), Livingstone (Zambia) and Katima region (Namibia) are within reach.

The abundance of natural resources, exquisite tourism attractions, diverse culture and a growing agricultural sector, define the uniqueness of the District. The District being a tourism hub comprises of Chobe National Park, Wildlife Management Areas and six (6) Forest reserves as well as Chobe River which gives the district a characteristic distinct from others within the Country.

Chobe National Park is the most accessible and frequently visited of Botswana's big game country. Established in 1968, the park covers approximately 11,700 sq kms, encompassing floodplains, swamps and woodland. The Chobe Riverfront is most famous for its large herds of elephants and Cape buffalo. Hippo, giraffe, zebra, roan and sable antelope, kudu, lechwe, waterbuck, warthog, puku, impala, monkeys and baboons, crocodiles, monitor lizards, – and many other mammal and reptile species – are present in good numbers, as are the predators – lion, leopard, jackal and hyena. Over 460 bird species have also been recorded in the park, making it one of Africa's premier areas for bird safari.

Kasane, through Kasane Kazungula Redevelopment Plan, is committed to up-lift the community and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals through eco-tourism. The Chobe, Makgadikgadi and Okavango area is part of the [2016 Top 100 Sustainable Destinations](#) as well as the [winner of WTTC 2017 Tourism for Tomorrow Destination Stewardship Award](#).

¹ The 10YFP Sustainable Tourism Programme (STP) includes: the Lead organization – the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and Co-Leads - the Governments of France, Morocco and the Republic of Korea; a Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Committee (MAC) – comprising 22 representatives from government agencies, non-governmental organizations, private sector businesses, intergovernmental organizations, academia and UN agencies; and 112 partner organizations.

1.3. Venue of the 2017 International Symposium and Annual Conference

The International Symposium and Annual Conference will be held at the Cresta Mowana Safari Resort & Spa which is eco-certified venue. The venue details are:

Cresta Mowana Safari Resort & Spa
Plot 2239, Chobe River, PO Box 226, Kasane, Botswana
Contact person: Leche Baheyesi / banquetingmowana@cresta.co.bw
(+267) 625 0300 www.crestamowana.com

1.4. Working language and translations

The main working language of the events will be English. Simultaneous translations will be available at the International Symposium and Annual Conference in 2 languages: French and English.

1.5. Mandatory online preregistration to the event

It is mandatory for all participants and speakers to register for the events in advance. For this purpose, please visit the Eventsbrite registration page [here](#) to complete your registration process well in advance marking your interest to attend the International Symposium and the Annual Conference. Please note that registration for the field visit will only be possible for those attending both the International Symposium and Annual Conference.

1.6. Closest international airport and shuttle services connecting with hotels

Kasane International Airport (BBK) is located 4 km south of Kasane town in the Chobe District about 1,000km north of Gaborone. The Airport is open to both domestic and international traffic. Participants shall choose and directly book their preferred flights.

It is recommended that participants arrive to Kasane on 6th December when there will be a shuttle connecting the airport and recommended hotels as per section 1.8 at page 5. Upon arrival, please find information on the shuttle services at the welcome desk located in International Arrival Hall at Kasane International Airport for the 2017 International Symposium and Annual Conference of the 10YFP STP.

1.7. Visa requirements

1.7.1. Visa for Botswana

All participants visiting Botswana should have a valid passport which has at least six months of validity before the expiry date and, if necessary, a visa to enter the Republic of Botswana.

Most of the participants might not need a visa to enter Botswana except those from Bangladesh, Cameroon, Ghana, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. It is nevertheless the responsibility of participants to verify whether their nationality needs a visa as well as to apply and obtain their visa to travel to Botswana when necessary. In exceptional cases, organizers would support early registrants to apply for their visa. The approval of visa, however, can't be guaranteed.

Further information on visas is available at:

<http://www.gov.bw/Ministries--Authorities/Ministries/Ministry-of-Labour--Home-Affairs-MLHA/Tools--Services/Services--Forms/Requirements-for-VISA-application/>

1.7.2. Transit Visa for South Africa

Participants, who would like to transfer his/her flight in South Africa, should check, prior to travel, whether they require a transit visa for entry into South Africa. Please kindly note that it might take one week to get a transit visa for South Africa.

Further information on a South African transit visa is available at:

<http://www.home-affairs.gov.za/index.php/immigration-services>

1.8. Recommended accommodation and shuttle services connecting with the venue

Participants shall choose and directly book their preferred accommodation. Within the list below, the accommodation facilities recommended by the organizers are shown. By mentioning the booking code at the time of making the reservation, participants will be able to benefit from the preferential rates shown in the table. The venue hotel is highlighted in yellow.

No.	Name	Booking code	Room type	Rate		Contact person	E-mail address	Number of rooms available
				BWP	USD (approximation)			
1	Chobe Marina Lodge	BTO/10YFP	Single	1,440	140	Tshepho Dikokola	res1@chobemarinallodge.com	52
			Double	1,730	168			
2	Chobe Safari Lodge	1920157	Single	1,278	125	Maria Thekiso	reservations1@chobesafarilodge.com	30
3	Cresta Mowana Safari Resort & Spa	BTO/UNWTO	Single	1,670	163	Leche Baheyesi	banquetingmowana@cresta.co.bw	73
			Double	2,230	217			
4	Travelodge	BTO International Symposium	Single	860	84	Tumisang Joel	res.kasane@travelodge.co.bw	30
			Double	990	97			

The rates shown in the table include breakfast. Shuttle services will be available connecting the recommended hotels and venue throughout the duration of the event. The times of pick up will be advertised at the front desk. The shuttle services for departure will also be provided on the venue as well as recommended hotels free of charge.

1.9. Additional tips for participants

1.9.1. Time zone

The time zone in Botswana is GMT/UTC+2.

1.9.2. Currency

The currency of Botswana is the Botswana Pula (BWP). The Pula is divided into 100 Thebe (a unit of currency). Banknotes are 10 Pula, 20 Pula, 50 Pula, 100 Pula, and 200 Pula. Coins are 1 Pula, 2 Pula, 5 Pula, 10 Thebe, 25 Thebe, and 50 Thebe.

Some of hotels and restaurants accept US dollars, but it is advisable for participants to use BWP for your convenience in Botswana. A number of foreign exchange bureaus and automatic teller machines are

available in and around Kasane. Major credit cards, such as Visa and Master card, are accepted in most of hotels, restaurants and retail outlets throughout the country.

1.9.3. Climate

The climate of Botswana during 2017 International Symposium and Annual Conference of the 10YFP STP will be considered summer season. The warmth of summer temperatures averaging between 25C to 35C will allow participants to appreciate the value of Botswana with a bright sunshine. December is also part of the rainy season with sporadic rain which helps to cool the temperature down.

1.9.4. Travel insurance

Good primary health care facilities are located throughout the country. Especially emergency medial standby will be located behind the Cresta Mowana Safari Resort & Spa which is the venue for the event.

It is obligatory for the participants to have an appropriate travel and health insurance for their health care and wellbeing.

1.9.5. Vaccination

Only for participants originating from the countries listed in the table below, a Yellow Fever vaccination certificate will be requested upon arrival.

Angola	Ecuador	Niger
Argentina	Equatorial Guinea	Nigeria
Benin	Ethiopia	Panama
Bolivia	French Guiana	Paraguay
Brazil	Gabon	Peru
Burkina Faso	Gambia	Rwanda
Burundi	Ghana	Senegal
Cameroon	Guinea-Bissau	Sudan
Central African Republic	Guinea	Suriname
Chad	Guyana	Togo
Colombia	Kenya	Trinidad and Tobago
Congo (Republic of)	Liberia	Uganda
Congo (Democratic Republic of)	Mali	Venezuela
Côte d'Ivoire	Mauritania	

No other vaccinations are mandatory to enter Botswana.

1.9.6. Voltage

The electrical voltage used in Botswana is 220-240V. The three types of power sockets are used in Botswana. Please see the pictures below for the details.

Type D	Type G	Type M
		
It is mainly used in India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and some African countries.	It is mainly used in Ireland, Malaysia, Malta, Singapore, and the United Kingdom.	It is used almost only in Lesotho, South Africa, and Swaziland.

Source: <https://www.power-plugs-sockets.com/botswana/>

2. 2017 International Symposium and Annual Conference

2.1. Celebrating the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development

Within the framework of 2017 as the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, the 10YFP STP views the 2017 International Symposium and Annual Conference “Empowering Tourism Destinations’ Sustainability through Innovation” as a platform to advance the thematic pillars of the International Year, mainly the pillar focusing on resource efficiency, environmental protection and climate change.

2.2. International Symposium of the 10YFP STP (Thursday 7th December 2017)

The International Symposium of the 10YFP STP brings stakeholders of the programme and sustainable tourism experts from around the world altogether, who are dedicated to advancing sustainable tourism globally and particularly focusing on applying innovative approaches, tools and techniques to accelerate sustainable SCP patterns in the tourism sector in both developed and developing countries.

The Symposium is open to the public and provides an opportunity for participants to advance the following major topics:

- Tourism and conservation planning: Better data for better management
- Circularity in tourism value chains: Supporting the Paris Agreement through a low carbon transition
- Financing innovation in tourism: Unlocking competitiveness, sustainability and inclusion
- Marketing of Sustainability: Driving the change in an era of 'empowered tourists'

A detailed provisional agenda is available here <http://sdt.unwto.org/conference-10yfp-stp>

2.3. Annual Conference of the 10YFP STP (Friday 8th December 2017)

The Annual Conference of the 10YFP STP is a meeting of programme actors where annual progress, priorities and programme needs are discussed. The Conference presents opportunities for STP programme Lead, Co-Leads, MAC Members and Partners to exchange experiences and play an active role in shaping the direction and work priorities of the 10YFP STP as part of the legacy of the International Year for Sustainable Tourism for Development within a Call for Action.

The Annual Conference is open to all 10YFP actors. Non-partners and other stakeholders can also attend as observers.

A detailed provisional agenda is available here <http://sdt.unwto.org/conference-10yfp-stp>

2.4. Field visits (Saturday 9th December 2017)

A complimentary field visit showcasing sustainable tourism best practices in Botswana will be organized on Saturday December 9th 2017 for those participants attending both the International Symposium and Annual Conference will get a code to join a field visits on this day. The field visit will combine community-based initiatives with wildlife based activities in the Chobe National Park, among others.

A provisional programme for the field visit will be soon available here <http://sdt.unwto.org/conference-10yfp-stp>