

# Module 4



## Background

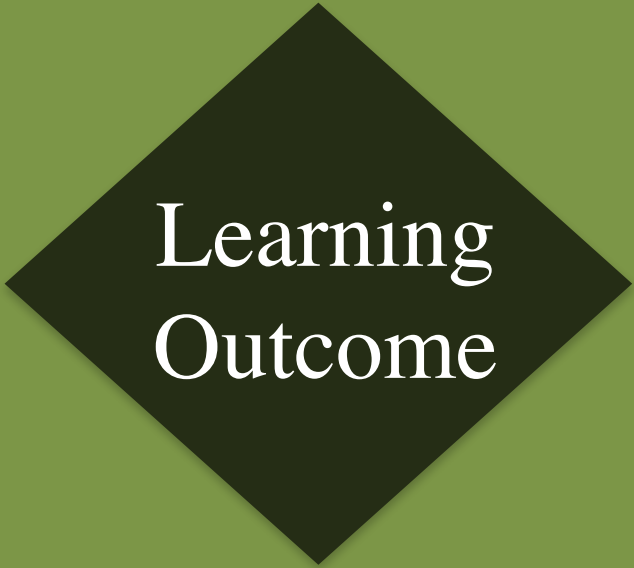
Civil Society groups represent under-privileged sectors of society such as indigenous peoples, child rights, environmental protection, human rights, gender violence, health, and many more. Their studies and reports play an active check and balance role on corporations and governments.



## Objective

Promote an understanding of the role of civil society groups.

How to work with them in advancing the UN SDGs agenda



## Learning Outcome

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## Press Release : Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Government Agencies Working Together Towards SDGs

On 5 September 2019, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand organised the meeting of the Open-ended Working Group for Sustainable Development Goals (OEWG for SDGs). The OEWG aimed to serve as a platform for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to raise relevant issues and allow government agencies to share, discuss, and exchange ideas. Approximately 70 representatives from the public sector, academia, and the Civil Society attended the meeting.

The meeting was an interactive dialogue between CSOs and the government on working towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 4 (Education), SDG 5 (Gender equality), and SDG 13 (Climate change). The meeting discussed in depth (1) the role of women and climate change and (2) education for all small-sized schools in local communities. Moreover, the OEWG attendees were informed of the results of the 2019 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), attended by the Thai Delegation. The meeting was also informed of the preparations for the SDG Summit, to be held under the auspices of the 74th General Assembly of the United Nations, during 24 – 25 September 2019.

As coordinator for SDG 17 (Means of Implementation and Global Partnership) and Chair of the Working Group on Voluntary National Review (VNR) of Thailand, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is determined to work with CSOs



# Supported by the UN



## 68TH UNITED NATIONS CIVIL SOCIETY CONFERENCE

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THE 68<sup>TH</sup>

**UNITED NATIONS  
CIVIL SOCIETY  
CONFERENCE**



The 68<sup>th</sup> United Nations Civil Society Conference  
**BUILDING INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES**



# Supported by ASEAN







# Civil Society Perspectives



They do not  
want just  
development,  
but  
**DEVELOPMENT  
JUSTICE**





## Five Foundational Shifts:

- Redistributive Justice
- Economic Just
- Social and Gender Justice
- Environmental Justice
- Accountability to Peoples

BANGLADESH EMITS **44 TIMES LESS** CARBON PER PERSON THAN THE UNITED STATES, 42 TIMES LESS THAN AUSTRALIA AND ALMOST 37 TIMES LESS THAN SOUTH KOREA. BY 2050, AN ESTIMATED **50 MILLION PEOPLE** WITHIN BANGLADESH WILL BE **DISPLACED** DUE TO CLIMATE CHANGE. WHERE WILL THEY GO?

**62 PEOPLE** IN THE WORLD OWN AS MUCH WEALTH AS HALF THE WORLD'S POPULATION - 3.6 BILLION. AND **JUST 1%** OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION OWNS MORE THAN THE OTHER 99%.

IN **AN ENTIRE YEAR** YEAR A BANGLADESHI GARMENT WORKER WILL MAKE LESS THAN THE WALTON FAMILY, WHO OWN WALMART, MAKE IN **ONE SINGLE SECOND**.

IN ASIA, WOMEN EARN **40% LESS** THAN MEN. **83% OF DOMESTIC WORKERS** WORLDWIDE ARE WOMEN AND ALMOST HALF OF THEM ARE **NOT ENTITLED TO THE MINIMUM WAGE**.

**\$30 BILLION IS HIDDEN** IN TAX HAVENS. CORPORATIONS EXTRACT **\$100 BILLION** FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THROUGH **TAX EVASION** EVERY YEAR.

MORE THAN **A THIRD OF WOMEN WORLDWIDE** HAVE EXPERIENCED **PHYSICAL OR SEXUAL VIOLENCE** IN THEIR LIFETIME, MOSTLY BY A MALE PARTNER.

**TRADE AGREEMENTS** GIVE CORPORATIONS THE POWER TO SUE SOVEREIGN GOVERNMENTS IN **SECRET TRIBUNALS**. IF NEW NATIONAL LAWS OR POLICIES COULD **REDUCE EXPECTED FUTURE PROFITS**, MINING COMPANIES CAN SUE GOVERNMENTS IF THEY ARE NOT GIVEN NEW LICENSES OR ARE FORCED TO CLEAN UP THEIR MESS. WATER COMPANIES CAN **SUE GOVERNMENTS** FOR INTRODUCING POLICIES TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO WATER. **24 COUNTRIES** HAVE BEEN SUED FOR TRYING TO COLLECT CORPORATE TAXES.

In the past 30 years one global economic and political system has defined the development model: Corporate Capitalism. This model assumes that 'development' and 'growth' are synonymous, and that the more money moves around, the more countries 'develop'. When GDP growth counts as development - war becomes more beneficial than peace, illness more beneficial than health, consumption more beneficial than care, private profit more beneficial than public commons.

Governments facilitate Corporate Capitalism by reducing public spending, privatising public assets and services, reducing any regulations on industry, promoting cheap and flexible labour, signing trade agreements, and taking corporate 'donations' to political parties.

This model of development has completely failed the majority of the Earth. It has channelled wealth from working people to the rich, and from developing countries to wealthy countries. It has contributed to the warming of our Earth, caused the displacement of millions of people, lowered real wages, increased labour migration and caused finance, environment, food and energy crises which continue to devastate the lives of women in the global south. The world urgently needs a new model of development, a model that asserts the right to development for all peoples over private profit.

## WE NEED **DEVELOPMENT JUSTICE**

A model of Development Justice should be framed by five foundational shifts:

**1. Redistributive Justice** aims to redistribute resources, wealth, power and opportunities to all human beings equitably. It compels us to dismantle the existing systems that channel resources and wealth from developing countries to wealthy countries, and from people to corporations and elites. It recognises the people as sovereigns of our local and global commons.

**2. Economic Justice** to develop economies that enable dignified lives, accommodate for needs and facilitate capabilities, employment and livelihoods available to all, and is not based on exploitation of people or natural resources or environmental destruction. It is a model that makes economies work for people, rather than compels people to work for economies.

**3. Social and Gender Justice** aims to eliminate all forms of discrimination, marginalisation and exclusion that pervade our communities. It recognises the need to eliminate patriarchal systems and fundamentalisms, challenge existing social structures, deliver gender justice, ensure sexual and reproductive justice and guarantee the human rights of all peoples.

**4. Environmental Justice** recognises the historical responsibility of countries, and elites within countries whose production, consumption and extraction patterns have led to human rights violations, global warming and environmental disasters. Environmental Justice compels those responsible to alleviate and compensate those with the least culpability but who suffer the most: farmers, fishers, women and marginalised groups of the global south.

**5. Accountability to Peoples** requires democratic and just governance that enables people to make informed decisions over their own lives, communities and futures. It necessitates empowering all people, but particularly indigenous and the most marginalised, to be part of free, prior and informed decision making in all stages of development the development processes at the local, national, regional and international levels.





Enlarge the image to see details of the justice demands

**These five shifts provide the foundation of a new development framework that is just and equitable.** There are many proposals for community-driven economies that focus on well-being of peoples and planet. They all require a shift from global over-consumption, and to ensure the right to development for women is respected, must include redistribution of existing resources. Elements that can assist in creating the shift to Development Justice could include:

**The elimination of tax havens, tax holidays, trade mispricing, profit shifting or other tax avoidance and the creation of a global tax floor.** Create additional taxes on harmful practices including finance speculation, arms trade, shipping and extractive industries.

An end to measuring growth and focus instead on wellbeing. Shift from the international poverty line of \$1.90 a day to the international ethical poverty line, which quantifies the scale of socioeconomic change needed to eliminate absolute poverty and addresses the scale of over-consumption in the developed world.<sup>1</sup>

**Establishment of new, democratic, global and national accountability mechanisms for governments.** Support a binding treaty to regulate transnational corporations. Allow localised, democratic civic decision making around the use of resources.

**Provide universal public services** for education, health care - including sexual and reproductive health care, water and sanitation, and sustainable energy.

A reduction in military spending with funds redistributed to public services and goods.

**The provision of a universal social wage and social protection** which would provide all humanity with a dignified standard of living regardless of their employment, citizenship or other status.

**The implementation of all obligations detailed in the Beijing Platform for Action** and the sustained presence of strong, autonomous feminist movements.

**Investment in Decent Work** in sustainable, low carbon industries like care and community work, community services, life-long education. **Establish a living wage for all**, including the informal sector, which would reduce the gender pay gap.

**Respect union and collective organising rights, and increase the number of workers protected by trade unions.**

**The redistribution of paid and unpaid care work.** A commitment to Decent Work for all could allow working hours to be reduced. Care work should be supported by the state and be shared amongst community members. This would reduce the dependence on women's unpaid and undervalued labour.

**An end to land grabbing and redistribution of land captured through concessions made without community consent and Free Prior and Informed Consent of Indigenous Peoples.** Support local land sustainability and agroecology- food production that builds on local ecological systems to enable **Food Sovereignty and retain bio-diversity** while sustaining community and environmental wellbeing.

**Introduce Energy and Resource Democracy** allowing local people, particularly women, to make decisions over the use of local resources and the best way to fulfil their needs.

Eliminate the use of fossil fuels in developed countries, and phase out in other countries depending on the developmental needs. Invest in renewable energies, supporting local production and management. Support communities to manage, preserve and restore forests, as well as eliminate the use of harmful chemicals.

**The elimination of Intellectual Property Rules** that prevent lifesaving medicines, renewable technologies and technological advances from being shared and expanded. Instead support open source technologies and knowledge sharing designed for social good.

**The abolition of Free Trade Agreements and the Investor State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) arbitration system** that give corporations the power to override national laws and policies. Instead focus on Solidarity Agreements that commit states to acting together in the shared interests of their constituents.

**Join us in making Development Justice a reality - a future that the vast majority of peoples want, a course of global equity, of ecological sustainability, of social justice, human rights enjoyment and dignity for all.**

For more information about the Development Justice model go to <http://www.apwld.org/bangkok-civil-society-declaration-from-inclusive-to-just-development/>



scan the image with your smart phone to get more information from our website  
[www.apwld.org](http://www.apwld.org)

<sup>1</sup> Peter Edward, 'The Ethical Poverty Line: a moral quantification of absolute poverty,' Third World Quarterly, Vol 27, No 2, pp 377-393, 2006



This UN meeting on “tackling tourism development issues” was held in October 1991. So why is it still an issue?



24 OCTOBER 1991

## UNITED NATIONS DAY

INFORMATION SERVICE

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

*For Use of Information Media ..... Not an Official Record*

October 1991

Feature No. F/10/91

UND/01/91

### ESCAP EXERTS MULTIDISCIPLINARY EFFORTS IN TACKLING TOURISM DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

BANGKOK (United Nations Information Service) --- In 1990 tourism reached the 415 million mark with \$US230 billion spent. This makes international tourism one of the fastest growing industries in the world and the third largest export industry after oil and oil products, and the automobile industry.

East Asia and the Pacific have been the region with the highest rate of increase with respect to arrivals and receipts over the last decade. In 1990, arrivals reached 46.5 million and receipts \$US35 billion. South Asia was visited by 3.5 million international tourists spending \$US2.1 billion.

Tourism has been the top foreign exchange earner for Thailand since 1982, when tourism revenue first surpassed income from rice  
(more)

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This paper was presented at German travel agents conference in 1990. Why is it still being discussed?

# TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENT

## HOW CAN BOTH CO-EXIST

by  
Peter Zimmer, ADAC Tourism Consultant  
at the  
Annual Conference of the "Deutsche Reisebüroverband"  
1990 in Singapore

### Environmental catastrophes and expansion of tourism

**T**he ozone gap, dying seals, the algae disaster, toxic waste deposits, the greenhouse effect, sea dumping, dying forests, polluted rivers, Chernobyl, Bhopal, Sandoz — environmental scandals and unspeakable negligence are shaking our globe and affecting tourism. As a result of the Algae Disaster the German travel industry registered a decrease of bookings for the Adriatic coast of 30% for last year.

But there are also catastrophic environmental developments caused or aggravated by tourism itself. Not only in the alpine area with its skiing runways and wire-infested slopes is tourism coming dangerously close to self-destruction by an extremely thoughtless use of natural resources. The building industry in Rhodes, Lanzarote and the Maldives is booming. In Nepal protective forests are destroyed and in Kenya more than 900 photo safari jeeps are sent into wildlife reservations every day. Nearly everywhere nature is turned into a simple consumer product by a ruthless attitude that puts short-term economic growth and profit first.

Modern tourism managers know that ecology is a long-term economic growth, that a well-conserved environment and a friendly host population are the capital which tourism thrives on. Without preservation of the biosphere there will be no future for tourism. In unison with environmental groups, tourists and the local tourism managers fight for active measures to protect our environment.





This paper was presented by Dr Kriengsak Charoenwongsak, Executive Director of Institute of Future Studies for Development, at a Thammasat University conference in July 1996

## IMPACT OF ECONOMIC-DRIVEN TOURISM ON THAI SOCIETY AND CULTURE IN THE 21ST CENTURY

A. H: Maslow's theory of the Hierarchy of Needs indicates that apart from basic needs such as food, housing, clothing and medicine, human beings also have emotional needs. Maslow alleges that human beings have insatiable needs because of the motivation to seek gratification by innovating in response to internal needs, comprising partially of curiosity, entertainment, comfort, recreation. Such inherent needs have motivated millions of people to travel to new territories to satisfy their desires.<sup>1</sup>

As people temporarily move from their original habitat to new locations to fulfill the above objectives, the travellers are called tourists. These tourists come with money for expenditure, the intention to relax from their routine work, the desire to learn and experience new things which cannot be found in their countries. Furthermore, they come with national cultures and practices which differ from recipient countries. On the other side, recipient countries need to welcome tourists as if they were honored guests of the country. As hosts of the country they need to make their guests comfortable by recommending tourist places, accommodation, travel modes, food, and shopping facilities.

An important factor in promoting tourism is "bread and butter" factor. "Economic" is considered the most important factor in vigorously enhancing the recipient country to welcome tourists and meet their needs in exchange for money. The increased income results in a higher standard of living. Thailand has welcomed tourists with the major factor being economic. The gates for tourism in Thailand have opened and brought in large amounts of income for the country. Statistics show that Thailand's top foreign exchange earnings come from tourism even while comparing it to the leading export of the country. According to the Bank of Thailand's BE 2535\* statistics (the first year in the execution of the 7th National and Economic Development Plan), Thailand's income from tourism amounted to 108,000 million baht and in the year BE 2537 the income from tourism rose to 145,211 million baht while income from exports of textile which was the highest source of external trade income totalled 132,772 million baht only.<sup>2</sup>

Tourism has expanded significantly due to the economic factor which further directly and indirectly influenced social and cultural change. People are different; therefore, each language and culture inherently manifest their own distinctions. Whenever two cultures meet, cultural confrontation occurs in both values and practices. Consequently when travellers meet local people, cultural fusion occurs between the visiting culture and the local culture, creating a new behavior pattern for people in Thailand with both desirable and undesirable consequences.

PATA held its  
first  
Sustainable  
Tourism  
Conference and  
Mart in 2002.  
How much  
progress has  
been made  
since?



**PACIFIC ASIA TRAVEL ASSOCIATION**  
**Indonesia Chapter**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

*1<sup>ST</sup> PATA SUSTAINABLE TOURISM CONFERENCE & MART*  
*"Protecting Indigenous Culture and the Environment*  
*for Sustainable Growth"*  
*October 23-26, 2002*  
*Banten, West Java, Indonesia*

Indonesia – The Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) is proud to announce the debut of the Sustainable Tourism Conference and Mart on October 23- 26, 2002, under the theme: "Protecting Indigenous Culture and the Environment for Sustainable Growth". This four-day event will be held in the lush setting of Indonesia's Banten Province.

The event is being developed in line with the Code for Sustainable Tourism that was jointly adopted by PATA and APEC in 2001; together, we are committed to the long-term growth of sustainable tourism across the Pacific Asia region.

Sustainable tourism is often approached from two different viewpoints: the academic perspective and the commercial outlook. The PATA Sustainable Tourism Conference & Mart is a forum for the academic community to meet with business people to discuss the development and promotion of sustainable tourism initiatives that are sensitive, practical and profitable.





Institute of  
Social Studies  
Advisory Service

**Virtue, Order, Health and Money:**  
Towards a Comprehensive Perspective  
on Female Prostitution in Asia

Truong Thanh-Dam

May 1985

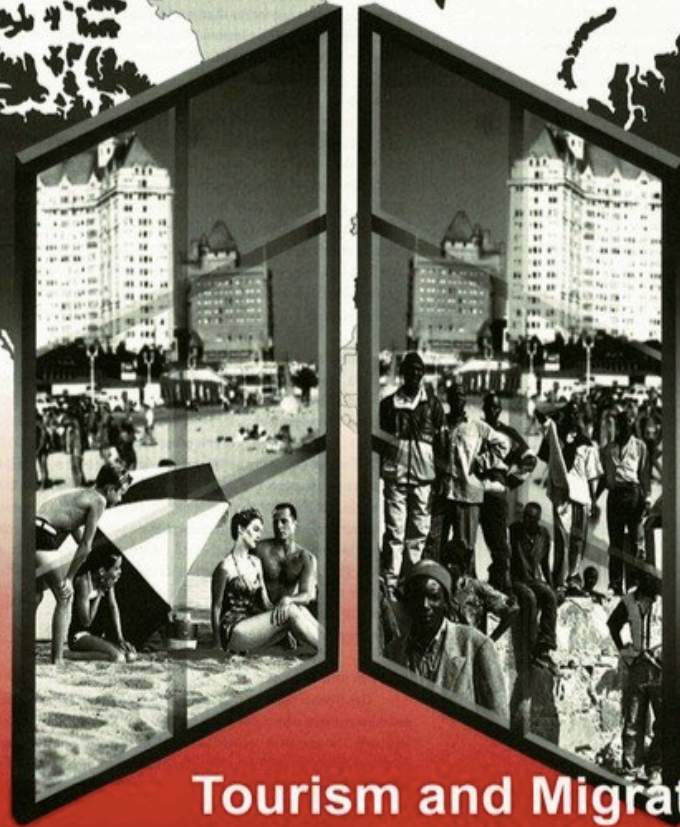
Paper prepared for Workshop of Experts on Prevention and Rehabilitation Schemes for  
Young Women in Prostitution and Related Occupations, ESCAP, Bangkok, 17-21 June 1985.

Prostitution,  
paedophilia and  
sex tourism is  
widespread.  
Why is it never  
discussed at  
industry  
events?



# Contours

Volume 17 No. 2 June - July 2007 | [www.ecotonline.org](http://www.ecotonline.org)

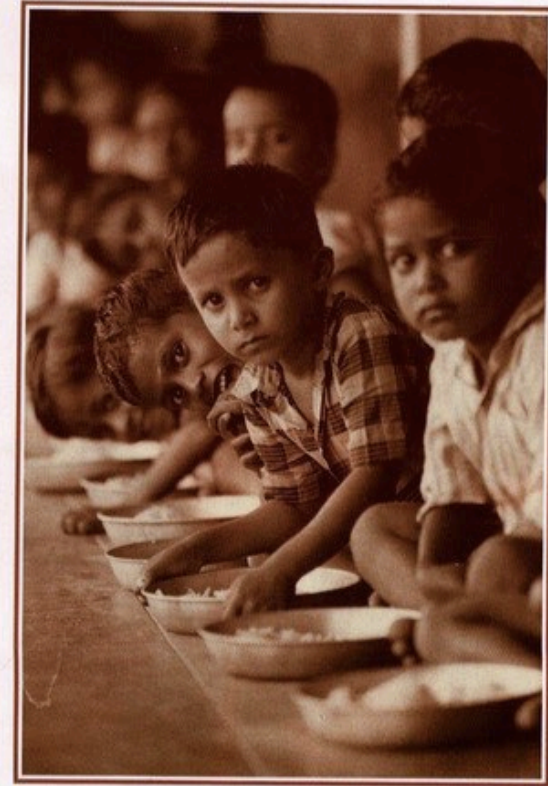


**Tourism and Migration...**  
Two Windows into Globalization



# CHILD

Asia

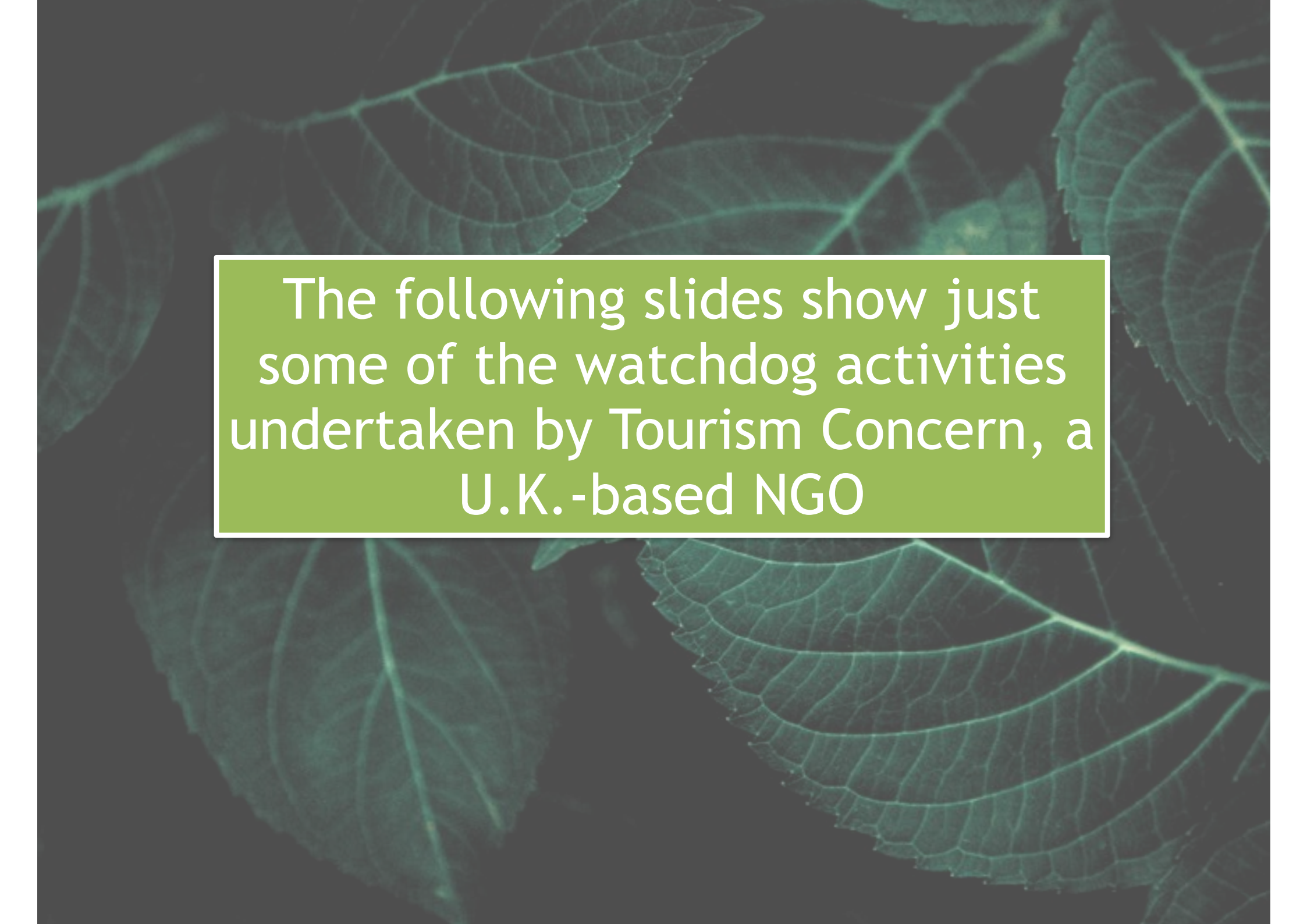


JULY - OCTOBER 1992 NO. 7

Special Anniversary Issue

Tourism watchdog groups have long been warning of its social consequences. Why are they never included on conference agendas?





The following slides show just  
some of the watchdog activities  
undertaken by Tourism Concern, a  
U.K.-based NGO





## SHOULD YOU GO ON A CRUISE?

More and more people are going on a cruise – whether on small ships around Scotland or the gigantic new cruise ships that dominate the Caribbean seas. But is this form of tourism ethical and sustainable? Is it acceptable ethically to take a cruise?

[CONTINUE READING](#)



## SHOULD YOU VISIT AN ORPHANAGE?

Visiting an orphanage has become part of the itinerary for many travellers, especially in places such as Cambodia, where some orphanages even promote themselves as 'tourist attractions'. Luke Gracie, Alternative Care Manager from Friends

CONTINUE READING







## SHOULD YOU RIDE AN ELEPHANT?

An elephant ride is a popular tourist activity, especially in Thailand, Cambodia, Nepal and other parts of Asia. It is also becoming popular in some regions of Africa. The appeal of such treks is clear – the elephant is the largest land mammal, it's intelligent,

CONTINUE READING



Also now on [Travindy](#)



## YOUR HOLIDAYS, THEIR HOMES

Knowing that local people are happy to have you stay is the secret of an enjoyable holiday. Your holiday destination is a place where people live; people who may have different values and sensibilities to your own. Opening your mind to new cultures and traditions is

[CONTINUE READING](#)



Also now on [Travindy](#)





Demand that  
London hotels  
treat their staff  
fairly and pay a  
living wage

It is a national scandal that  
London, in terms of hotel  
workers, is now one of the  
most 'unethical' tourist  
destinations in the world. In  
comparison in New York,  
which has many similarities to  
London, the hotel workers  
have safe, secure and very

CONTINUE READING

Also now on [Travindy](#)





On September 26, 2018, Tourism Concern announced its shutdown due to lack of funding. Some soul-searching is in order: The Travel & Tourism industry spends billions of dollars on marketing and advertising but does not support groups playing a useful check-and-balance role.

Many other civil society groups are active worldwide in advancing the cause of sustainability.

They deserve to be treated as partners rather than critics and adversaries.









Events such as this go a long way towards enhancing the sense of urgency and shaking off public apathy and complacency.



## Live: unions on the move for climate action

### Just Transition for Climate Ambition

Working people around the world are taking to the streets right now for the Global Week of Climate Action to demand ambitious commitments from governments at the UN Climate Summit on 23 September.

30-08-2019

Climate change

Environment

Green jobs

Sustainable development

Demonstration

Green Economy

Climate Justice and Industrial Transformation

We know that a Just Transition for all needs to be part of climate action plans. Governments are feeling the pressure and now is the time to make our voices heard for real climate solutions that bring everybody along.

 [Full coverage here](#) 

On the ground – joining forces

### Equal Times

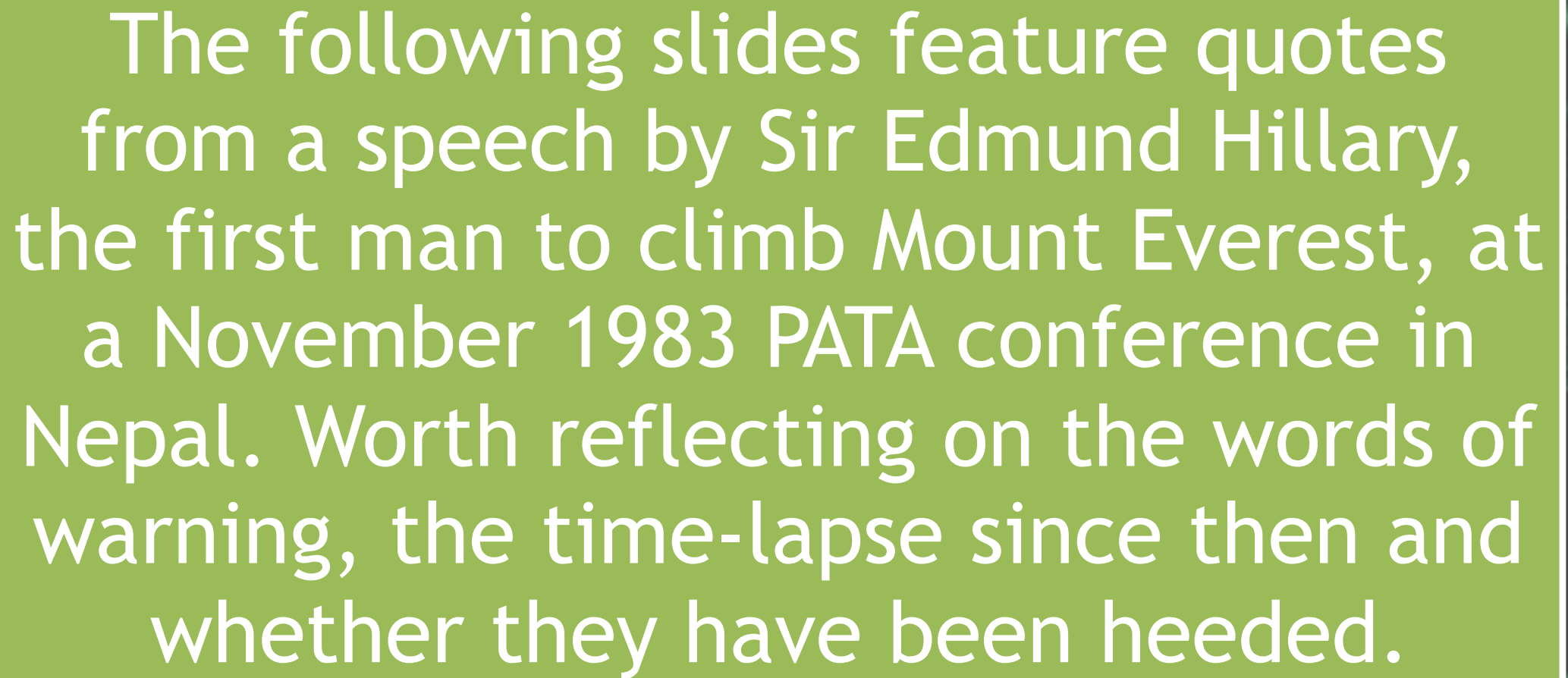
News, opinion & in depth reports

### Search

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Trade Unions are also active on behalf of working people at the grassroots level.



The following slides feature quotes from a speech by Sir Edmund Hillary, the first man to climb Mount Everest, at a November 1983 PATA conference in Nepal. Worth reflecting on the words of warning, the time-lapse since then and whether they have been heeded.





# *Third International PATA Tourism and Heritage Conservation Conference*

Nov 1 - 4, 1983 Kathmandu Nepal



PATA CONFERENCE IN KATHMANDU

NOVEMBER 1-4, 1983

SIR EDMUND HILLARY

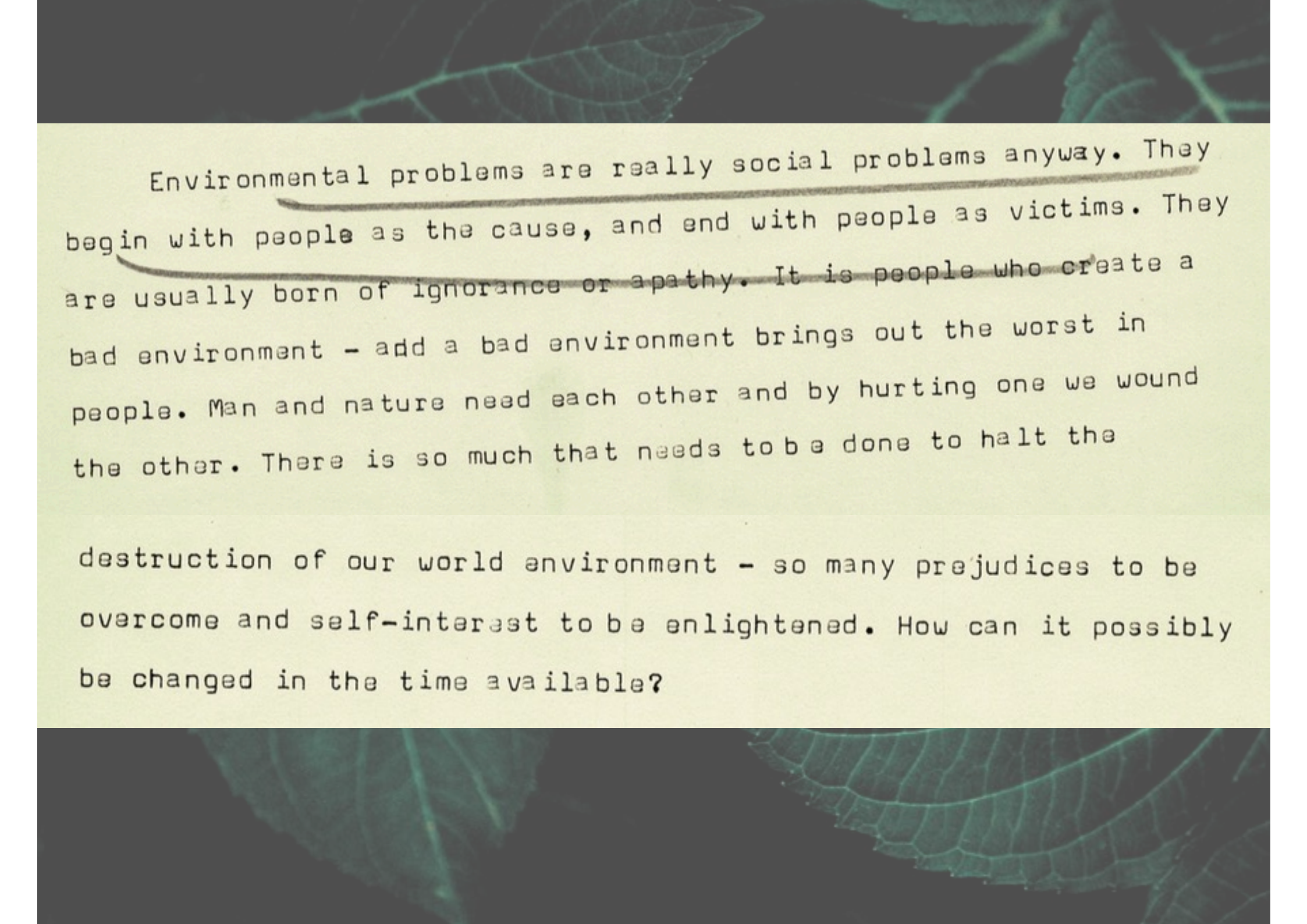
= It is a great pleasure to be present at this PATA Conference in Kathmandu. My home country is New Zealand, in the centre of the South Pacific, but there is much in common between New Zealand and Nepal. The countries are similar in size; they both have relatively small populations; they are largely hilly in nature with many rivers and lakes; and they both have fine mountain ranges - perhaps the New Zealand mountains cannot compare with the great giants of the Himalayas but they are superb peaks for all of that. One major difference is that New Zealand is surrounded by the ocean whereas Nepal is encompassed by the great land mass of Asia.



But the problems are certainly enormous. Regional and commercial interests exert tremendous pressure to mold Government views - often with little interest in the long term view and the welfare of our future generations. Our only hope for the future must lie in a strong and well-informed public opinion and in those devoted people who work so energetically to protect our world from unnecessary exploitation and pollution. In the long run it is all up to us !

Those involved in tourism and travel have a greater responsibility than most in the protection of the beauties of our world. Your impact is so tremendous - you bring people and finance; you can create or destroy an environment ..... and even a people; you can enhance or despoil any environment. In your world short term profit is simply not good enough - you must look far into the future for the general betterment of mankind.

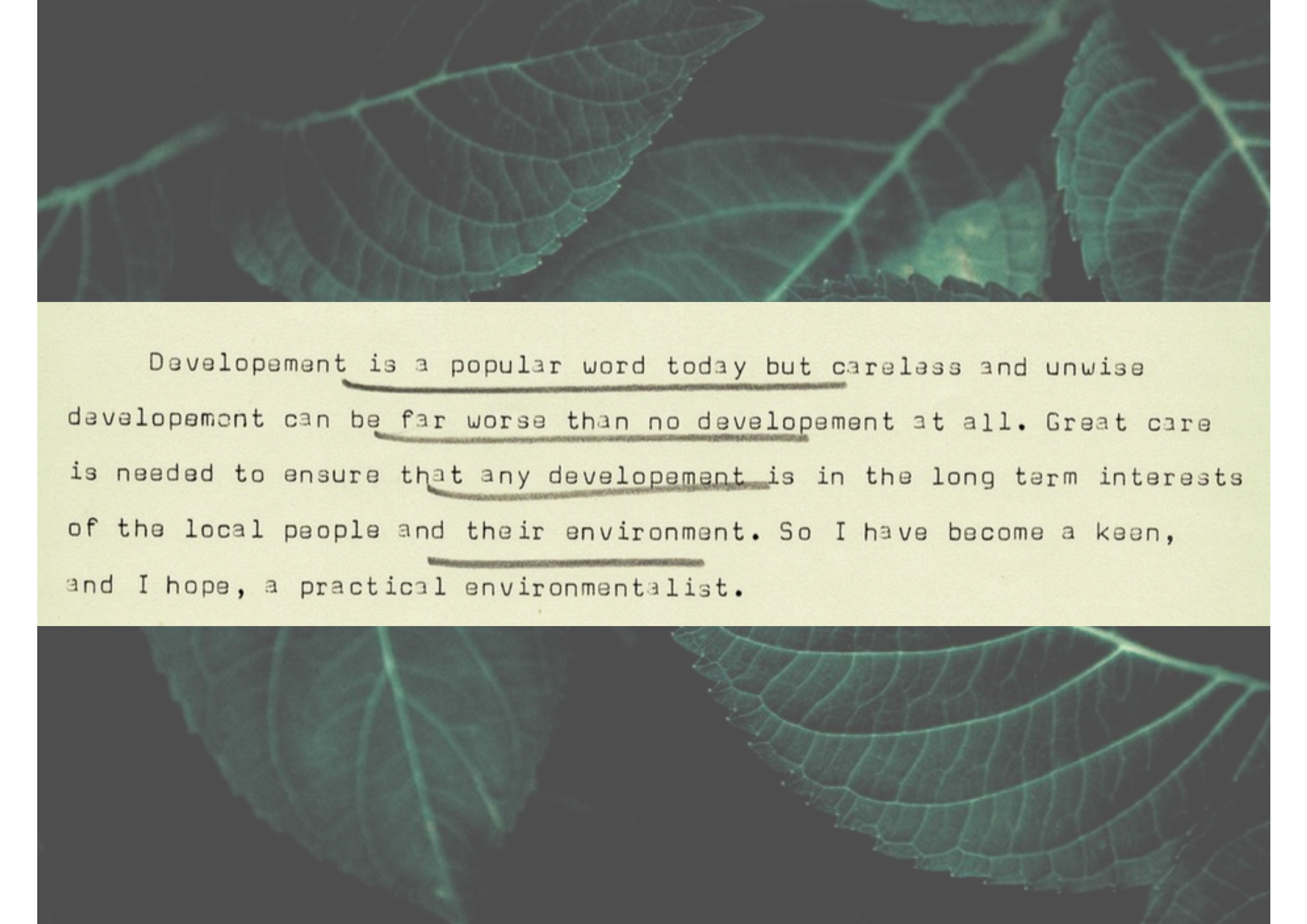


The background of the image features a teal-colored pattern of leaf veins, resembling a close-up of a leaf's structure, which frames the central text area.

Environmental problems are really social problems anyway. They begin with people as the cause, and end with people as victims. They are usually born of ignorance or apathy. It is people who create a bad environment - add a bad environment brings out the worst in people. Man and nature need each other and by hurting one we wound the other. There is so much that needs to be done to halt the

destruction of our world environment - so many prejudices to be overcome and self-interest to be enlightened. How can it possibly be changed in the time available?



The background of the entire image is a teal-colored pattern of overlapping leaf veins, creating a textured, organic feel. The text is centered on a light cream-colored rectangular area.

Development is a popular word today but careless and unwise  
development can be far worse than no development at all. Great care  
is needed to ensure that any development is in the long term interests  
of the local people and their environment. So I have become a keen,  
and I hope, a practical environmentalist.



The background of the image features a close-up of several green leaves with prominent veins, set against a dark, muted green background. A horizontal rectangular box with a light lime green fill and a thin white border is positioned in the upper-middle section of the image. Inside this box, the word "THINK!" is written in a large, bold, white, sans-serif font.

**THINK!**