

# **Media Statement**

#### The Routledge Handbook on Gender in Tourism Views on Teaching, Research and Praxis

## Approved for public release. Date: Tuesday, 27 February 2024

The University of South Africa (Unisa)'s prestige academic and Associate Professor in Tourism Prof Magdalena Petronella (Nellie) Swart together with Dr Wenjie Cai (Associate Professor in Tourism, University of Greenwich, UK), Dr Elaine Chiao Ling Yang (Lecture Department of Tourism, Sport and Hotel Management, Griffith University, Australia) and Albert Nsom Kimbu (Head of Department of Tourism and Transport, University of Surrey, UK) co-edited the Routledge Handbook on Gender in Tourism: Views on Teaching, Research and Praxis.

The handbook aims to provide a holistic picture, covering both macro (wider issues on pre-, during and post-COVID-19 impacts and tourism development and policy) and micro (individual experiences) perspectives related to gender in tourism. It addresses a variety of topics related to education, entrepreneurship, employment, mobility, research, sustainability, tourism development, and sexuality to name a few, with intersectionality as a threading theme throughout the book.

This well-crafted piece offers renewed discussions related to teaching and learning, research and gender practices in tourism and provide practical guides and 'takeaway points' to ensure significant contributions are made to the current conversations on gender in tourism.

When conceptualising the book, the editors envisage an intellectual platform for critical and alternative voices, particularly those from the Global South and overlooked regions. Several mentorship and developmental initiatives were introduced to support emerging scholars in developing regions on how to refine their academic writing and publication skills to craft quality chapters according to international publication standards. This has resulted in 16 chapters, written by 37 mostly non-native English-speaking authors from 16 countries.

The concluding chapter of the handbook encompasses dialogues with eight esteemed tourism gender scholars, including director, Dr Stroma Cole (Director at Equality in Tourism; University of Westminster, England) and Dr Heather Jeffrey (University of Birmingham Dubai) on their visions and advice for advancing gender equality in tourism. Dr Stroma described gender equality as the 'transformation of relations' that is critical to the survivability of humans and the planet. Heather urged for more critical self-reflection of one's privilege and bias and to call out gender inequality.

Guided by the collective wisdom of the authors and tourism gender experts, the handbook highlights three directions for continuing gender work in tourism. More practical guides and recommendations can be found in each individual chapter.



- 1. Mainstreaming gender in tourism research and teaching;
- 2. Foregrounding intersectionality in tourism policies and practices to address intertwined inequalities; and
- 3. Adopting a gender transformative approach in responding to the critical challenges of our time, such as climate change and the fourth industrial revolution both have a significant impact on gender relations and the tourism industry.

"This handbook brings together a collection of insightful research that explores the role and importance of a range of these gender issues in tourism studies. It showcases the work of scholars from diverse disciplines, regions, and perspectives, offering a comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the subject matter." – Foreword by Professor Nigel Morgan (University of Surrey, UK)

The Routledge Handbook on Gender in Tourism, which will be officially released on 20 February 2024, is now available for pre-order at <a href="https://www.routledge.com/Routledge-Handbook-on-Gender-in-Tourism-Views-on-Teaching-Research-and/Swart-Cai-Yang-Kimbu/p/book/9781032261348">https://www.routledge.com/Routledge-Handbook-on-Gender-in-Tourism-Views-on-Teaching-Research-and/Swart-Cai-Yang-Kimbu/p/book/9781032261348</a>

It is also available on Amazon and WH Smith:

Routledge Handbook on Gender in Tourism: Views on Teaching, Research and Praxis : Swart, Magdalena Petronella (Nellie), Cai, Wenjie, Yang, Elaine Chiao Ling, Kimbu, Albert Nsom: Amazon.co.uk: Books

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For enquiries, please contact Senior Media Officers Tommy Huma on 072 218 6197 / 012 429 3981 / <u>humatm@unisa.ac.za</u> OR Edgar Rathelele on 063 731 5456 / 012 429 3981 / <u>ratheme@unisa.ac.za</u>

