



Shaping Tourism Futures®

**Call for Contributions
(Extended abstracts)**

**74th AIEST Conference of Ideas
Paris (France)**

August 24, 2025 (late afternoon) –August 27, 2025 (late)

Comprised of 3 streams of discussion:

Stream of Discussion 1 (AIEST Central Discussion)

Designing tourism systems for a sustainable future

Stream of Discussion 2 (Conference Discussion)

Human & machine relations in tourism

Stream of Discussion 3

*AIEST's Advances in Tourism Research -
Perspectives of Actors, Institutions and Systems*

The International Association of Scientific Experts in Tourism (AIEST) is calling for contributions for its 74th Conference.

The **three themes and core streams of discussion at the Conference** are

- (1) Designing tourism systems for a sustainable future.*
- (2) Human & machine relations in tourism.*
- (3) AIEST's Advances in Tourism Research - Perspectives of Actors, Institutions and Systems.*

We are calling for academic and practitioners' contributions to these themes.

Interesting contributions NOT related to the first two themes of the Conference are very welcomed as well and will be allocated to the stream *AIEST's Advances in Tourism Research - Perspectives of Actors, Institutions and System (Stream 3)*.

The **co-hosts of the Conference** are:

- Patrick Viceriat, President of Detente consulting agency and President of AFEST
- Claude Origet du Cluzeau, Tourism Director of COC consulting agency and Vice-President of AFEST

together with their two colleagues from the **Steering Committee**:

- Laurent Queige, Tourism Director of Reworld Media, Founder of the world's first traveltech startup incubator, and French Honor of Merit
- Sophie Lacour, Director of Advanced Tourism agency, General Secretary of AFEST, and Expert of robotics & prospective in tourism

Partners include

- IREST, a multidisciplinary University institute dedicated to tourism, at Panthéon-Sorbonne University
- Paris Tourist Office

The **location and time of the Conference** will be Paris (France),

- from Sunday late afternoon, August 24, 2025, until
- Wednesday late evening, August 27, 2025 (with departures on Thursday morning, August 28).

On August 24, and before the start of the Conference on Sunday evening, we shall organise a professional Early Career workshop (further information shall follow).

Submission deadline is February 28, 2025.

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1 Overview

1.1 Introductory remarks

AIEST was the first scientific organisation in tourism. Since its foundation, the Association has engaged in *applied, interdisciplinary and solution-oriented research*. The membership of AIEST is not limited to academics. It is based on *the partnership between senior academic members and leading scientifically interested expert members* from tourism companies and organisations.

The annual AIEST conference primarily intends to facilitate exchange and to enhance amicable relations between its participants (members of AIEST and non-members, experienced and young career academics and practitioners). Moreover, it wants to provide a platform to discuss topical work from and with Academia and Practice alike in a friendly, supportive environment. So, as a delegate of a previous conference pointed out,

*"AIEST conferences are spaces occupied by modest experts,
helping you improve your research and/ or deal with practical challenges."*

Overall, **three streams of and for discussion** shall be set up:

- **Stream of Discussion 1** to accommodate contribution to the **AIEST Central Discussion** *Designing tourism systems for a sustainable future*.
- **Stream of Discussion 2** to accommodate contributions to the **conference theme** *Human & machine relations in tourism*.
- **Stream of Discussion 3**, called *AIEST's Advances in Tourism Research - Perspectives of Actors, Institutions and Systems*, to accommodate **all other contributions**.

The conference targets **two major types of contribution and groups of participants**:

- **Academia**, who is invited to present state-of-the-art research in one or more of the major streams of **discussion** and who are willing to contribute from their scientific perspective to build an interdisciplinary body of knowledge. Submissions shall be classified according to the stage of the work, including:
 - (1) Basic conceptual ideas, seeking general feedback;
 - (2) Research design and methodology, seeking validation of logic and plan;
 - (3) Study results, seeking inputs for its discussion;
 - (4) Study results and discussion, seeking inputs for conclusions;
 - (5) Completed studies, seeking final feedback.

- **Practice**, who is invited to provide the latest trends, concepts, and cases in the field of the streams of discussion and who may provide guidance concerning prospective research questions. Submissions shall be classified according to the stage of the work, including:
 - (1) Basic conceptual ideas or projects, seeking general feedback
 - (2) (Observed) problems or challenges, seeking an explanation
 - (3) (Explained) problems or challenges, seeking a solution
 - (4) Think tank type of session on specific topics (multilateral exchange)

For more details, refer to the following sections of this call.

1.2 Streams of discussion

As indicated earlier, there are three streams of discussion:

- **Stream of Discussion 1** to accommodate contribution to the **AIEST Central Discussion** *Designing tourism systems for a sustainable future.*
- **Stream of Discussion 2** to accommodate contributions to the **conference theme** *Human & machine relations in tourism.*
- **Stream of Discussion 3**, called *AIEST's Advances in Tourism Research - Perspectives of Actors, Institutions and Systems*, to accommodate **all other contributions.**

In **all streams of discussion**, we invite participants from different scientific disciplines and tourism-related industries to contribute to the *following four major sub-streams*:

- **Actors' behaviour**, consisting of contributions focusing on behavioural issues of consumers, management, politicians, etc.;
- **Institutional settings**, consisting of contributions focusing on topics such as entrepreneurship and innovation, cooperation and strategic alliances, ITC and productivity led-growth, structural change in leading tourism-relevant industries, etc.
- **Systemic perspective**, consisting of contributions focusing on topics such as the analysis of the market forces, marketing management of destinations, tourism promotion and policies, management of tourism related resources, sustainable development in tourism, regulation and governance of places, etc.
- **Other**, consisting of contributions that cannot be classified as above.

Please be aware that all contributions to the Stream of Discussion 1 and 2 need to be scoped around issues relating to *the topics of those streams*. No such restrictions are applicable with the Stream of Discussion 3.

1.3 Types of contributions

There are two types of contributions following the two different target groups:

- We invite **Academia** to submit topical research results or conceptual models providing the basis for inspiring and controversial sessions. The relevance of the contribution and the interest it raises are as important as the methodical rigour. Out-of-the-box thinking is encouraged. Important: The copyrights remain with authors at all times. This allows submissions of the most recent work in progress. All submissions will be double-blind reviewed.

The **format of contributions** consists of extended abstracts with a maximum (!) length of 12,000 characters Times New Roman 12 pts. (including blanks; excl. references, figures and tables). You can download a formatted master copy (*SubMaster_AIESTConference_2025*) from AIEST homepage (<https://www.aiest.org/aiest-conference/2025-paris-france>). For each contribution, there will be either 10-15 minutes for presentation and at least 10 minutes of discussion.

- We invite **Practice** to put forward thoughts on the challenges it faces. New ideas and concepts should be discussed in an inspiring and critical way. *Out-of-the-mainstream thinking is explicitly welcomed*. The Committee of the AIEST will assess all practitioners' submissions.

The **format of contributions** consists of short PowerPoint presentations of a maximum of 10-15 charts (excluding title pages and possible references). For each contribution, there will be 10-15 minutes for presentation and at least 10-15 minutes of discussion.

1.4 Important notes around the presentation and discussion

In our introductory remarks we say:

The conference “wants to provide a platform to discuss topical work from and with Academia and Practice alike in a friendly, supportive environment”.

What does this mean: **The prime conference mission is "feedback"**, meaning the conference is primarily about getting good feedback for your own work. For this purpose, **10 minutes of discussion are deliberately and clearly quarantined** (and presentations cut-off after 15 minutes at the latest), whereas this discussion should be friendly and critical-constructive. Feedback is NOT about exchanging niceties. **The prime take-away for contributors is therefore the feedback, and not the opportunity to present.**

1.5 Awards

Overall, **3 different awards** are going to be offered at this Conference. They include:

- The **AIEST BEST CONTRIBUTION AWARD** for the overall best contribution at this Conference (irrespective if this contribution stems from an academic or practitioner).
- The **PETER KELLER AWARD** for the best contribution uniting theory and Practice (irrespective if this contribution stems from an academic or practitioner).
- The **AIEST PhD AWARD** for the best academic contribution of a PhD candidate at this Conference.
- **Other awards** are currently in preparation/ evaluation.

1.6 Organisation of the Conference

The programme of the Conference includes different formats:

- **Pre-conference:** AIEST Research Seminar on Sunday (cf. to separate call) as well as several different professional workshops,
- **Opening session:** Dialogue of AIEST with representatives of the host country on Monday morning,
- **Conference:**
 - Keynotes from Academia and Practice (underway),
 - Academic paper sessions with a range of different papers and presentations,
 - Practitioner presentation sessions with a range of different presentations,
 - Technical excursion.

2 Submission guidelines

The submission guidelines are applicable no matter to what stream of discussion you submit.

2.1 Academic contributions

The submission to the Conference consists of one document consisting of a title page (1st page), classification information regarding your submission (2nd page) and an extended abstract starting from page 3. A master copy of this document

(*SubMaster_AIESTConference_2025*) is available at

<https://www.aiest.org/aiest-conference/2025-paris-france>.

Please make use of that master copy.

2.1.1 Title page (page 1)

The title page needs to contain the following information:

- Title of paper
- Authors and major affiliations
- Address of the corresponding author
- Short abstract (maximum of 600 characters, including blanks) and 4-6 keywords

2.1.2 Classification page (page 2)

- At "Type of contribution", tick "Academia"
- Stream of Discussion:

Select one from two streams of discussion by ticking the corresponding box:

- 1: Designing tourism systems for a sustainable future.
- 2: Human & machine relations in tourism.
- 3: AIEST's Advances in Tourism Research - Perspectives of Actors, Institutions and Systems.

- Sub-stream of discussion:

Select one from four sub-streams of discussion by ticking the corresponding box:

- Actors' behaviour
- Institutional settings
- Systemic perspective
- Other

- Classification of the stage of progress of your work:

Select from five possible stages of your work by ticking the corresponding box:

- Basic conceptual ideas, seeking general feedback;
- Research design and methodology, seeking validation of logic and plan;
- Study results, seeking inputs for its discussion;
- Study results and discussion, seeking inputs for conclusions;
- Completed studies, seeking final feedbacks.

2.1.3 Extended Abstract (page 3 et sqq.)

Submit an extended abstract consisting of max. (!) 12,000 characters Times New Roman 12 points (including blanks; excl. references) and single-spaced. This is equivalent of approximately three to four pages. However, you can add as many figures and tables as you wish. Please structure your paper as follows (always if applicable):

- Introduction/ purpose (include some remarks about the originality of the work)
- State-of-the-art (lit review)
- Design / methodology / methods
- Results and discussion
- Conclusions consisting of theoretical as well as practical and social implications (if applicable).

2.2 Practitioner contributions

The submission to the Conference consists of two documents:

- Title page (a master copy *SubMaster_AIESTConference_2025* is provided at <https://www.aiest.org/aiest-conference/2025-paris-france>.
Use only pages 1 and 2 of this document.
- PowerPoint presentation.

2.2.1 Title page (page 1)

The title page needs to contain the following information:

- Title of paper
- Authors and major affiliations
- Address of the corresponding author
- Short abstract (maximum of 600 characters, including blanks) and 4-6 keywords

2.2.2 Classification page (page 2)

- At "Type of contribution", tick "Practice"
- Stream of Discussion:
Select one from two streams of discussion by ticking the corresponding box:
 - 1: Designing tourism systems for a sustainable future.
 - 2: Human & machine relations in tourism.
 - 3: AIEST's Advances in Tourism Research -
Perspectives of Actors, Institutions and Systems.
- Sub-stream of discussion:
Select one from four sub-streams of discussion by ticking the corresponding box:
 - Actors' behaviour
 - Institutional settings
 - Systemic perspective
 - Other

- Classification of the stage of progress of your work:

Select from five possible stages of your work by ticking the corresponding box:

- Basic conceptual ideas or projects, seeking general feedback
- (Observed) problems or challenges, seeking an explanation
- (Explained) problems or challenges, seeking a solution
- Think tank type of session on specific topics (multilateral exchange)

2.2.3 Presentation (from page 3)

Please submit a short powerpoint presentation consisting of 10-15 charts, excluding title pages and possible references. The presentation should contain at least the following:

- Title page and author information
- Problem/ challenge statement
- Any type of content
- Conclusions

3 Dates and deadlines

February 28, 2025	Submission deadline. Please use the master copy (<i>SubMaster_AIESTConference_2025</i>) provided on https://www.aiest.org/aiest-conference/2025-paris-france and submit all contributions to info@aiest.org Important: If you are not able to keep that date, send an e-mail containing a short abstract to christian.laesser@unig.ch ; we will then negotiate an extension (which normally can be granted).
April 01, 2025	Final author notification about acceptance of submission(s) and presentation at Conference
April 01, 2025	Early bird registration starts
May 31, 2025	Early bird registration ends
August 11, 2025	Registration ends; onsite registration is available
August 24, 2025	Conference begins

4 Program structure

Please find below a preliminary and very tentative program (structure). Times are approximate and only indicative.

Day	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
SUN, August 24	Arrival of delegates 11-16: Early career researchers' workshops/ professional workshops		19-21: Welcome Reception
MON, August 25	09-10: Official opening ceremony 10-12: Oral presentation sessions	14-17: Oral presentation sessions	17-19: Aiest AGM 19-21: Dinner
TUE, August 26	08-12: Oral presentation sessions	14-17: Oral presentation sessions	17-19: Oral presentation sessions
WED, August 27	08-12: Oral presentation sessions	13-22: Technical excursion (tba) and Conference dinner	
THU, August 29	Departure of delegates		

5 Conference fees

Please find below information about the conference fees.

	Full registration		Daily registration	
	Early bird (till May 31, 2025)	Regular (June 01, 2025 – August 11, 2025)	Early bird (till May 31, 2025)	Regular (June 01, 2025 – August 11, 2025)
AIEST members	600 EUR	700 EUR	-	-
AIEST non-members	800 EUR	900 EUR	300 EUR	350 EUR
Fees include	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conference pack – entrance to all working sessions during the whole period of the Conference - Conference materials - Welcome Reception on Sunday - Coffee breaks from Monday to Wednesday - Lunches from Monday to Wednesday - Dinners on Monday and Wednesday - Technical excursion including transportation and activities 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daily conference pack – entrance to the working session on the particular day - Conference materials - Coffee break(s) on the particular day - Lunch on the particular day 	
Fees <u>do not</u> include	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accommodation - Any other food and beverages - Airport transfers and any other transportation costs, apart the explicitly mentioned - Any personal expenses 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dinner, even though it is on the same day selected - Technical excursion, even though it is on the same day selected - Accommodation - Any other food and beverages, apart from the explicitly mentioned - Airport transfers and any other transportation costs, apart from the explicitly mentioned - Any personal expenses - Please note: Daily registration does not allow for holding an oral presentation of your own work. 	
Additional options for daily registered delegates, accompanying persons and spouses (tentative prices)	-		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reception on Sunday: 50 EUR per person - Dinners: 100 EUR per person - Technical excursion: 100 EUR per person 	