

SESSION: Antarctic and sub-Antarctic earth science

MARS Themes:

Cross Discipline - Capacity Development

Title:

The perceptions of participants on the impact of South Africa's Class Afloat Program (SEAmester) and its links with travel and tourism

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Abstract:

Educational tourism is a type of tourism where people travel with the primary or secondary purpose of learning (Tomasi, Paviotti & Cavicchi, 2020), travel experiences that are planned to meet educational objectives (Counhary, Srivastavi & Panwar, 2022). It is tourism that is combined with education to improve the leisure and adventurous learning experience, to teach, inform, and promote learning about different cultures, environments, and destinations around the world (Tjitunga, Bama & Makuzva, 2023). Kenfack and Öztüren argue that there has been a growth in the number of nations committed to attracting educational tourists, and certain countries such as Northern Cyprus have been identified as educational tourism destinations. This study aims to investigate the perceptions of participants on the impact of South Africa's Class Afloat Program (SEAmester) and its links with travel and tourism. The study concentrates on individuals who have participated in the program from 2016 to 2023. The study will employ the pragmatic paradigm using a mixed-method approach. Since 2016, 265 graduates have participated in the program, forming the population. A sample of 100 participants will be selected using a convenience sampling technique. An online survey will be administered and data will be analysed using both quantitative and qualitative tools and techniques. The data will be analysed using graphs, charts, and an in-depth assessment of the respondent's responses.

Format:

Oral presentation

Keywords: (add ; between keywords)

Ocean, Capacity Development, Tourism, Seamester