

Tourism can



Rachid Benmokhtar Benabdellah, Morocco.

The tourism industry is currently considered the fastest-growing global business sector. Rachid Benmokhtar Benabdellah, who currently heads a university in Morocco, expressed the agenda for this working group argued in his opening statement that the potential influence of tourism on urban transformation is enormous. As architect and urbanist Amer Moustafa noted in his summary, “tourism has changed completely. Earlier, travelers wanted to discover unknown places; today they want to visit the famous places. People go where there are no big surprises.” This has also changed the nature of destinations, “because tourism forces us more and more to meet the expectations of tourists. In many places, citizens assume the identity that is expected of them.” This can lead to a loss of authenticity. On the other hand, tourism valorizes authenticity, as various papers demonstrated, insofar as it provides a good argument for maintaining social structures, historic buildings, and received traditions. Moustafa concluded that “tourism can strengthen movements from the middle segment of the population.”

Amer Moustafa, United Arab Emirates.

build identity



Touristic urbanism working group.



Donald Bates, Australia.



Luciana Repiso, Argentina; Lineu Castello, Brazil; Philipp Albisser, Switzerland; Roberto Simon, Brazil.



Marco Cortesi, Italy; Carolyn Aguilar, Mexico.



Apichoke Lekagul, Thailand.



Carlos de Leo, Mexico; Cristina Turalba, Philippines; Carolyn Aguilar, Mexico.