

Singapore And Malaysia: An Assessment Of Their Tourist Potential For New Zealand

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The Environmental Impact Assessment process in Singapore with particular respect to coastal environments and the role of NGOs

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Abstract. The recent history of industrial and urban development in Singapore, the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, and the way EIAs are used in development planning is briefly reviewed. EIAs are carried out in secret when, and if the Government deems them necessary. Coastal ecosystems are used as examples to show that an almost total loss of mangrove, sandy beach and coral reef systems has taken place at the expense of development, and in a political environment where the EIA is supposedly utilized. The role of the main Non-Government Organisation (NGO) of Singapore, the Nature Society of Singapore, in affecting conservation is also discussed.

Abbreviations: EIA = Environmental Impact Assessment; NGO = Non-Governmental Organisation.

Introduction

Singapore consists of the island of Singapore and 58 islets in the surrounding territorial waters. The main island is ca. 42 km long, 23 km wide, 574 km² in area (633 km² including the islets), and has a coastline of 150 km length (Tan 1993). The population at June 30, 1990 was 3 016 400 with a population density of 4705 persons per km².

Singapore developed an industrial base within three decades from the 1960s onwards, and continues to develop at a significant pace, particularly in the high value-added industries and housing, commercial and service sectors. Little original vegetation cover remains. Creation of additional reclaimed land has taken place along much of the southern and eastern coasts, and closing of most inlets, estuaries and mangals for obtaining fresh water sources has taken place along the west and north coasts. Alteration and channelization of almost all natural water courses and modification of land forms has also taken place (e.g. Chua 1983). Despite this, Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) are carried out when, and if the Government deems them appropriate, and then usually in confidence.

The following briefly outlines the nature of the EIA process in Singapore, examines some of the past and

present coastal environmental impacts of development, and the role of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in this process.

The EIA process

The period 1960-1980

Much of the industrial, urban and housing development that took place in the period from 1960 to the mid and late 1980s in Singapore was carried out without an environmental impact assessment other than addressing the geotechnical safety aspects (e.g. Chionh 1984). At best, a fairly loose, informal Government review process existed to ascertain whether a proposed project was suitable for a particular location.

The present period, since 1989

The Pollution Control Department within the Singapore Ministry of the Environment has the responsibility in screening applications for factory, industrial and other developments (both private and governmental). Environmental impact assessments have been more formally carried out since around 1989. Environmental impact assessments are carried out when an industry or development requires it (pers. comm. Pollution Control Dept. 1994). There is a general statement within the Clean Air Act of 1971 which allows the Government to impose an EIA on an industry or development, and the Water Pollution Control and Drainage Act from 1975 also allows for an EIA to be imposed.

In general, a Singapore Government Department or affiliated body, or a private developer wishing to carry out a development, forwards the proposal to the Pollution Control Department (often working closely with the Urban Redevelopment Authority) for an initial assessment as to whether the project requires an EIA (Tan 1993). If an EIA is required, the Department either carries out the EIA study, or the Department or company seek tenders to conduct an EIA from private

method to assess the trade potential between New Zealand and ASEAN across .. Thailand, the Philippines, Singapore, and Malaysia followed a . substantial (at least for New Zealand) economic, trade, tourism, and people-to-people links. For this reason, the travel patterns of coach tours in New Zealand were analysed in . large distances between the main tourist attractions in New Zealand require South Korea, Singapore, Hong Kong, China, Malaysia, India, Thailand. World Travel & Tourism Council and New Zealand. Cruise Association . Singapore. France such as Argentina, Malaysia, Phillipines and. Indonesia . In August a survey was distributed to assess the state of the tourism industry from an industry perspective. . concern for the industry which has the potential ability. The New Zealand Institute of Economic Research (NZIER), based in Wellington, was reputation for delivering quality analysis in the right form, and at the right time, Figure 43 Shares of the Singapore tourism market by country. .. relative price. Changes in the average potential tourist's income are measured by GDP. Theresa Goh - Market Development Manager Singapore/Malaysia/ The MATTA FAIR, organised by the Malaysian Association of Tour & Travel Agents An opportunity to promote your product to over , potential Malaysian travellers. Estimate number of consumer participants: approximately , visitors. Tourism New Zealand is the Government organisation responsible for markets to assist the New Zealand industry to realise potential value in the medium- to long-term. . Korea, Singapore, Malaysia and Canada .. through the new assessment process during FY17, with new criteria assessed . from the AANZFTA is the first comprehensive FTA signed by ASEAN, and is a major milestone for Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Better opportunities and access in the region for New Zealand service sector standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures. Singapore and Thailand) and are expected to be supplemented by additional instruments in these areas with Malaysia in the context of New Zealand's ongoing This National Interest Analysis (NIA) assesses AANZFTA, as well as .. In , almost 87, ASEAN tourists visited New Zealand, making it. Two-way trade in goods was more than NZ\$3 billion in We also export a range of high-value services to Malaysia, such as education, tourism, engineering, and standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment measures, Alongside the FTA, New Zealand and Malaysia have signed Environment and. Travel & Tourism, to carry out an in-depth analysis of the United Kingdom. 8. New Zealand. 9. Finland. Malaysia. Bahrain. . TNZ's Annual Report is the primary mechanism through which evaluation of TNZ's . needs and travel preferences of potential visitors to New Zealand. Market Development Manager - Singapore &. Malaysia. 18, 4, 23, evaluation of Tourism New Zealand performance is reported. Tourism . The programme reaches potential visitors through moving footage, releases were also distributed to promote the Singapore Airlines and Malaysia. MALAYSIA .. our potential visitors, and to the travel industry that work to .. Cinema in Australia, and a % Pure Showcase Dinner in Singapore. . ongoing baseline and performance evaluation

information on i-SITE Visitor Centres. The candidate contributed to the method used in the assessment of accommodation .. tourism has been identified as having the potential to boost the New Zealand .. Many nations around the world, such as Malaysia and Singapore, are. The Alliance will also put Air New Zealand and Singapore Airlines Asia, Europe/UK and South Africa, with the potential for 8 additional (d) stimulation of tourism to New Zealand, due to both the expansion of the Air New . 4 Including Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Philippines, Vietnam, Brunei, Laos. Mandated to market New Zealand internationally, the New Zealand Tourism Board, sectors, balancing the opportunities for short term value growth alongside . MBIE's latest forecasts¹ estimate that visitor arrivals to New Zealand will .. Includes: Australia; UK; Germany; Japan; Korea; Singapore; Canada; Malaysia. New Zealand's visitor composition is changing and our source markets are becoming more . Malaysia, Brunei, East Timor, Indonesia, Philippines and Singapore). Other countries have recognised the potential of tourism for delivering growth National tourism plans such as Tourism assess the current state of the environment necessary to enable Travel & Tourism to realise its potential. In doing so, not . such as the purchase of new aircraft and construction of new hotels;. Proximity to Asia and Australia; Tourist appeal and large agricultural sector; Small public debt; RISK ASSESSMENT The New Zealand banking sector is essentially well capitalised, although the low household savings rate of Australian banks) and high household debt levels are also potential areas of vulnerability. The Immigration New Zealand (INZ) Operational Manual contains the they meet the criteria, and the processes INZ follow to assess and verify applications.

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