

# 10 Work in progress: Fair tourism work in the Global South

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## Abstract

This chapter addresses the gap in limited research on tourism and hospitality employment in the Global South against the backdrop of the North's hegemony in producing knowledge and shaping global labour policies. We present case studies from the Philippines, Nigeria, and Brazil, highlighting employment issues in these regions. We initiate a dialogue by using the Fair Work principles, namely fair pay, conditions, contracts, management, and representation, to explore how these can be adapted to address the realities of the Global South. The chapter recommends fostering fairness-centred labour practices, ensuring that tourism and hospitality workers in developing countries receive liveable wages, access to social service and legal recourse, safe and inclusive working environments, discontinuing labour contracting, and strengthening grassroots social and economic organisations. Our work aims to promote more inclusive and balanced global labour standards for the tourism and hospitality industry.

## Introduction

Labour policies on hospitality and tourism (H&T) are argued to have been drawn predominantly from the perspectives of the Global North, as most frameworks produced have been centred on the experiences of the West (Higgins-Desbiolles, 2022; Rogerson & Rogerson, 2021). This can be attributed to the limited attention given to H&T employment research in the Global South. While there is a wealth of research on the tourism workforce, there is a dearth of studies contextualised in the Global South (Muñoz & Robinson, 2024). This is because existing scientific traditions within H&T academia tend to privilege studies from well-known researchers and institutions in the developed North (Wijesinghe *et al.*, 2019). Conversely, research from the Global South has received lesser recognition and impact, discouraging researchers from these regions from pursuing studies in