

# 12 A framework for the development of Indigenous tourism policy in the 21st century

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**When reading this chapter, you will engage with these key concepts:**

- Indigenous tourism is historically rooted in colonial encounters
- Indigenous tourism is thriving globally, offering unique and authentic experiences.
- Indigenous tourism preserves cultural heritage and cross-cultural understanding.
- Demand for authentic experiences led to the emergence of Indigenous tourism businesses.
- Governments recognized Indigenous tourism benefits, providing support for Indigenous tourism enterprises.
- Cultural commodification require responsible tourism practices.
- Indigenous-led initiatives emphasise cultural preservation and equitable benefits.
- Collaboration and partnership crucial for ethical and sustainable development.
- Policy development should be responsive to Indigenous stakeholders' needs.

## Introduction

My PhD, '*An interpretive analysis of event policy: South East Queensland regional organisation of councils 1974-2004*' examined the evolution and development of event policy by 19 Australian local governments that formed the South East Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils (SEQROC). Employing a qualitative approach, the study explored the motivations, objectives, processes, and outcomes of event policymaking and identified four phases of event policy development, corresponding to different political, economic, and social contexts and revealed the challenges and opportunities for regional event development. The thesis also proposed a framework for event public