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Special Issue "Sustainable Urban Tourism"

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A special issue of [Sustainability \(/journal/sustainability\)](#) (ISSN 2071-1050). This special issue belongs to the section "[Sustainable Urban and Rural Development \(/journal/sustainability/sections/urban_and_rural_development\)](#)".

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Special Issue Editors

Guest Editor

Prof. Carlo Aall

Western Norway Research Institute, Sogndal, Norway

Website (<https://www.vestforsk.no/nn>) | E-Mail ().

Phone: + 47-991-27-222

Interests: sustainable development; sustainable tourism; climate policy; local environmental policy; sustainable mobility

Guest Editor

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NHTV Breda University of Applied Sciences, Breda, The Netherlands

Website (<http://www.kokoens.com/>) | E-Mail ().

Phone: +31-76-533-2055

Interests: slum tourism; urban tourism and hospitality as well as other forms of sustainable, responsible and eco-tourism in Europe, Latin America and Africa, with a specific focus on small businesses and entrepreneurship

Special Issue Information

Dear Colleagues,

2017 was the United Nations International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development. For 30 years, sustainable development has been an important topic in the policy and scientific discourse on tourism. Still, a number of studies indicate that tourism is arguably less sustainable—however, we choose to conceptualize and measure it. A core environmental challenge has proven to be the increase in tourism mobility, particularly that of aviation mobility. Further, due to the highly amorphous nature of tourism, it has proven highly challenging to operationalise and measure the social, cultural and environmental impact of tourism.

Urban tourism is the fastest growing form of tourism, and it stands out from other types of tourism in that people travel to places with a high population density, that time spent at the destination usually is shorter than normally spent on vacation, and that cities host a relatively large number of business and MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferencing and Exhibitions). In addition to being important destinations, cities have a significant role in the overall tourist system, by being gateways for international and domestic tourists, as well as being nodes in air transport systems and therefore acting as a place for stopovers in trips with multiple destinations. Further, as cities are multifunctional entities, tourists' motivation for going can differ greatly. This multifunctionality allows for different experiences to be lived contemporarily, contributing to making the connection between urbanity, mobility, sustainability and tourism complex. As tourists' and residents' desires and needs intersect, cities face different demands for services and facilities. While cities are more dynamic and resilient than rural destinations, increasing tourist numbers can compromise the balance between different user-groups, possibly reducing urban quality of life. This can be observed in multiple urban tourist destinations, where overtourism is considered an increasingly important policy issue. At the same time, such 'tourism problems' are interlinked with wider societal issues and stakeholders in the city. With so many stakeholders involved, it is particularly challenging to engage all relevant stakeholders in governance. In fact, it can be argued that the issues involved in sustainable urban tourism are so great, that they cannot be solved within the boundaries of the current social, economic and political systems, and that a radical transition or transformation is required to come up with solutions.

In spite of its growth, urban tourism has received a disproportionately small amount of attention in academia, both from scholars of tourism, sustainable tourism and urban planning. Thus, this special issue aims at addressing more specifically the question of what sustainable urban tourism can entail. In doing so, we aim at covering all aspects of sustainability—not merely the environmental part. The journal of Sustainability has previously published two special issues of relevance in this context—on Sustainable tourism and on Sustainable cities (both in 2014). This Special Issue aims at developing further and combining the perspectives already touched upon in the two previous Special Issues. We welcome critical analyses of current urban tourism developments, as well as innovative design solutions to come to sustainable urban tourism, both in the Global North, but also in the Global South.

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Keywords

- Sustainable tourism
- Urban tourism
- Smart Cities
- Impacts of urban tourism
- Urban tourism governance
- Overtourism
- Urban tourism in developing countries
- Sustainable Development Goals and urban tourism
- Sustainable Tourism in the New Urban Agenda
- Urban Tourism transitions and transformations

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Research

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Innovative Forms of Economy and Sustainable Urban Development—Sharing Tourism (/2071-1050/10/11/3919)

by [Bianca Tescașiu \(/search?authors=Bianca%20Tesca%20C8%99iu&orcid=\)](#),
[Gheorghe Epuran \(/search?authors=Gheorghe%20Epuran&orcid=\)](#),
[Alina Simona Tecău \(/search?authors=Alina%20%20Simona%20Tec%20C4%83u&orcid=\)](#),
[Ioana Bianca Chițu \(/search?authors=Ioana%20%20Bianca%20Chi%20C8%9Bu&orcid=\)](#) and
[Janez Mekinc \(/search?authors=Janez%20Mekinc&orcid=\)](#)

Sustainability **2018**, *10*(11), 3919; <https://doi.org/10.3390/su10113919> (<https://doi.org/10.3390/su10113919>)

Received: 1 September 2018 / Revised: 18 October 2018 / Accepted: 25 October 2018 / Published: 28 October 2018

[PDF Full-text \(/2071-1050/10/11/3919/pdf\)](#), (824 KB) | [HTML Full-text \(/2071-1050/10/11/3919/htm\)](#) | [XML Full-text \(/2071-1050/10/11/3919/xml\)](#)

Abstract Sharing economy represents a new business model with an increasing impact on economic life by generating consequences for the traditional business sector. Considering its development during the last years, it is important to know how the governance system should react to the new [...] [Read more.](#)

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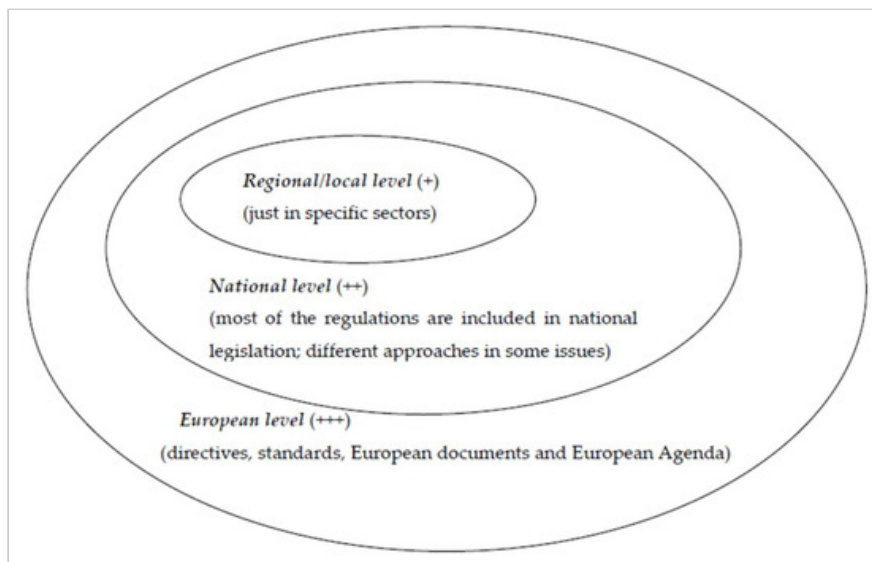


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Host Perceptions of Tourism Impact and Stage of Destination Development in a Developing Country (/2071-1050/10/7/2300)

by [Xiaoming \(Rose\) Liu \(/search?authors=Xiaoming%20%28Rose%29%20Liu&orcid=\)](#) and
[Jun \(Justin\) Li \(/search?authors=Jun%20%28Justin%29%20Li&orcid=\)](#)

Sustainability **2018**, *10*(7), 2300; <https://doi.org/10.3390/su10072300> (<https://doi.org/10.3390/su10072300>)

Received: 20 June 2018 / Revised: 30 June 2018 / Accepted: 2 July 2018 / Published: 3 July 2018

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Abstract This study makes two important contributions to the existing literature. On the one hand, it investigated tourism impacts as perceived by residents in two important historic cities in India (Puri and Varanasi). On the other hand, it analysed residents' perceived tourism impacts in [...] [Read more.](#)

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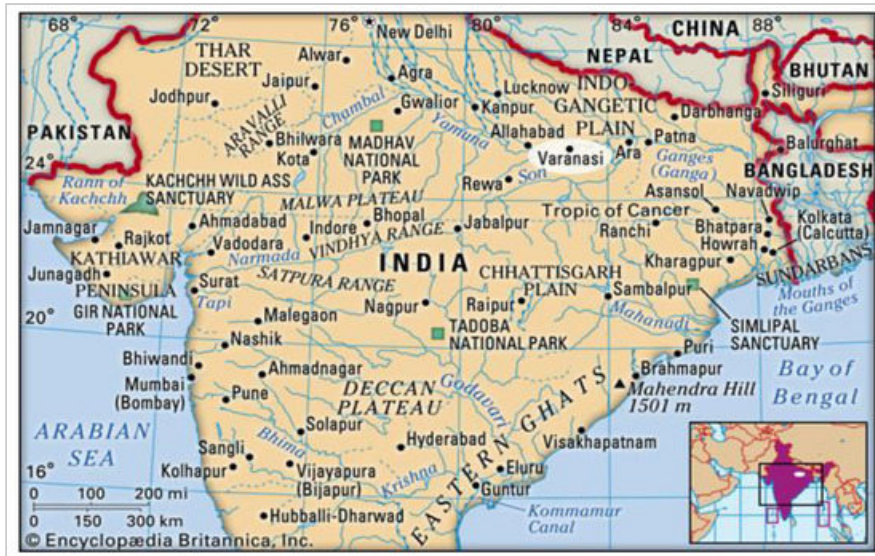


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The Influence of Word of Mouth on Tourism Destination Choice: Tourist–Resident Relationship and Safety Perception among Mainland Chinese Tourists Visiting Macau (/2071-1050/10/7/2114)

by [Ivan Ka Wai Lai \(/search?authors=Ivan%20Ka%20Wai%20Lai&orcid=\)](#),

[Michael Hitchcock \(/search?authors=Michael%20Hitchcock&orcid=\)](#),

[Dong Lu \(/search?authors=Dong%20Lu&orcid=0000-0002-8079-1927\)](#), and

[Yide Liu \(/search?authors=Yide%20Liu&orcid=0000-0001-9268-3555\)](#)

Sustainability **2018**, *10*(7), 2114; <https://doi.org/10.3390/su10072114> (<https://doi.org/10.3390/su10072114>)

Received: 29 May 2018 / Revised: 13 June 2018 / Accepted: 15 June 2018 / Published: 21 June 2018

[PDF Full-text \(/2071-1050/10/7/2114/pdf\)](#) (1950 KB) | [HTML Full-text \(/2071-1050/10/7/2114/html\)](#) | [XML Full-text \(/2071-1050/10/7/2114/xml\)](#)

Abstract The growth of urban tourism has the potential to increase tourist–resident tensions that limit the sustainable growth of tourism in many destination cities. Visitors' perceptions of poor tourist–resident relationships and conditions of safety may have an impact on their attitudes, especially with regard [...] [Read more.](#)

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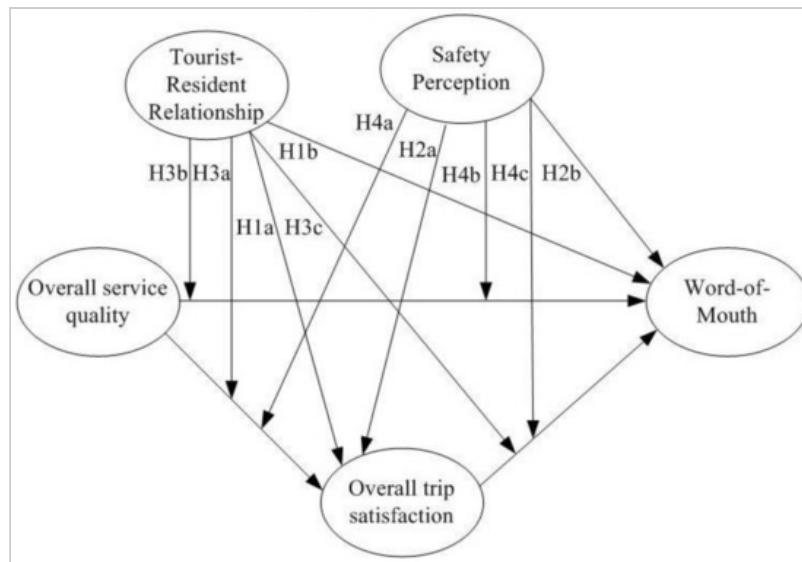


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Transformations and the Level of Tourist Function Development in Polish Voivodeship Capital Cities (/2071-1050/10/6/2095)

by [Katarzyna Przybyła \(/search?authors=Katarzyna%20Przyby%C5%82a&orcid=0000-0002-9717-1599\)](https://search?authors=Katarzyna%20Przyby%C5%82a&orcid=0000-0002-9717-1599) and [Alina Kulczyk-Dynowska \(/search?authors=Alina%20Kulczyk-Dynowska&orcid=\)](https://search?authors=Alina%20Kulczyk-Dynowska&orcid=)

Sustainability **2018**, *10*(6), 2095; <https://doi.org/10.3390/su10062095> (<https://doi.org/10.3390/su10062095>).

Received: 19 April 2018 / Revised: 5 June 2018 / Accepted: 15 June 2018 / Published: 20 June 2018

[PDF Full-text \(/2071-1050/10/6/2095/pdf\)](https://doi.org/10.3390/su10062095/pdf) (436 KB) | [HTML Full-text \(/2071-1050/10/6/2095/htm\)](https://doi.org/10.3390/su10062095/html) | [XML Full-text \(/2071-1050/10/6/2095/xml\)](https://doi.org/10.3390/su10062095/xml)

Abstract The article discusses transformations of the tourist function in Polish voivodeship capital cities in the period between 2005–2015. The first research stage was carried out through the background of the theory of city economic base using two indicators: index of surplus workers (ISW) [...]. [Read more.](#)

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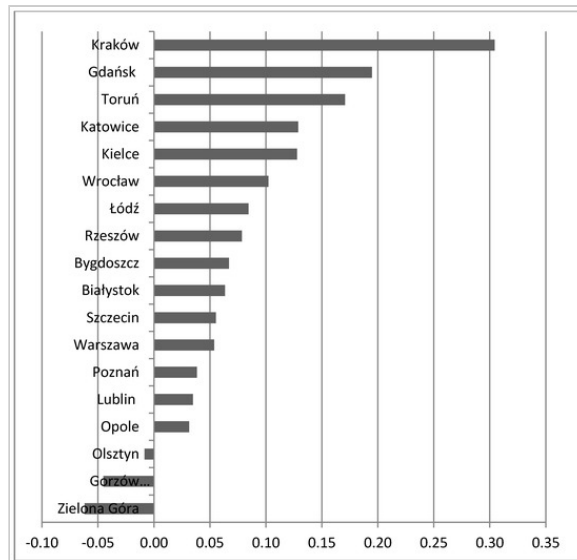


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Barcelona, Housing Rent Bubble in a Tourist City. Social Responses and Local Policies (/2071-1050/10/6/2043)

by [Asunción Blanco-Romero \(/search?authors=Asunci%C3%B3n%20Blanco-Romero&orcid=\)](#),

[Macià Blázquez-Salom \(/search?authors=Maci%C3%A0%20Bl%C3%A1zquez-Salom&orcid=0000-0002-5522-6539\)](#) and

[Gemma Cànoves \(/search?authors=Gemma%20C%C3%A0noves&orcid=\)](#)

Sustainability **2018**, *10*(6), 2043; <https://doi.org/10.3390/su10062043> (<https://doi.org/10.3390/su10062043>)

Received: 5 May 2018 / Revised: 11 June 2018 / Accepted: 13 June 2018 / Published: 15 June 2018

[PDF Full-text \(/2071-1050/10/6/2043/pdf\)](#) (1493 KB) | [HTML Full-text \(/2071-1050/10/6/2043/htm\)](#) | [XML Full-text \(/2071-1050/10/6/2043/xml\)](#)

Abstract Ten years after the housing bubble burst, Barcelona has experienced an increase in rental prices. This increase in prices is due to a combination of factors such as household debt, urban entrepreneurialism and the marketing of the city, evictions, investment by speculative capital, [...] [Read more.](#)

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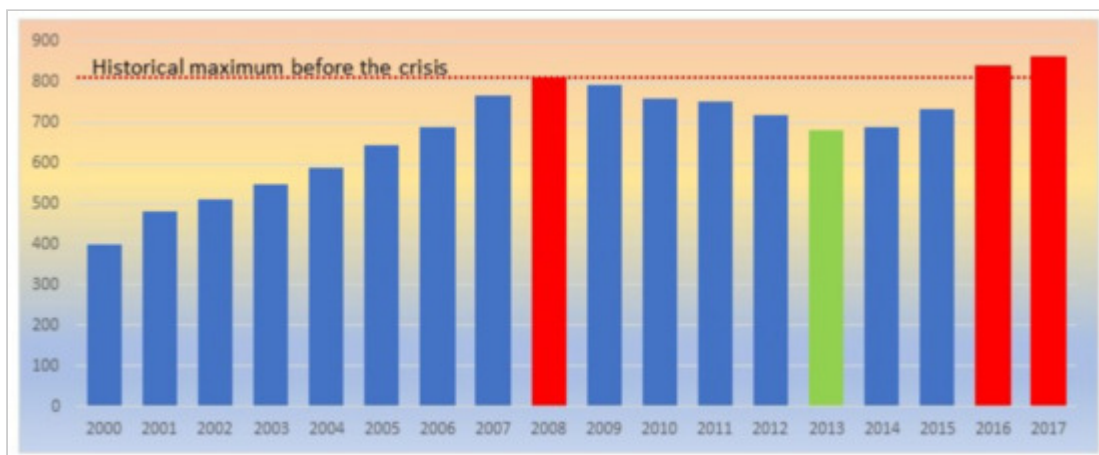


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Sustainable Urban Tourism: Reflections on the Need for Building-Related Indicators (/2071-1050/10/6/1981)

by [Antonella Lerario \(/search?authors=Antonella%20Lerario&orcid=\)](/search?authors=Antonella%20Lerario&orcid=) and

[Silvia Di Turi \(/search?authors=Silvia%20Di%20Turi&orcid=\)](/search?authors=Silvia%20Di%20Turi&orcid=),

Sustainability **2018**, *10*(6), 1981; <https://doi.org/10.3390/su10061981> (<https://doi.org/10.3390/su10061981>).

Received: 7 May 2018 / Revised: 8 June 2018 / Accepted: 11 June 2018 / Published: 13 June 2018

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Abstract A solid and consistent research production has, up to now, considerably contributed to the identification and exploration of the meanings, theoretical foundations, and possible implications of tourism in the cities. The focus on pursuing sustainable tourism activities has also inspired different approaches (eco-tourism, [...]) [Read more.](#)

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Open Access Article

Residents' Involvement in Urban Tourism Planning: Opportunities from a Smart City Perspective (/2071-1050/10/6/1852)

by [Lidija Lalicic \(/search?authors=Lidija%20Lalicic&orcid=0000-0002-8846-1762\)](/search?authors=Lidija%20Lalicic&orcid=0000-0002-8846-1762) and

[Irem Önder \(/search?authors=Irem%20C%96nder&orcid=\)](/search?authors=Irem%20C%96nder&orcid=)

Sustainability **2018**, *10*(6), 1852; <https://doi.org/10.3390/su10061852> (<https://doi.org/10.3390/su10061852>).

Received: 30 April 2018 / Revised: 22 May 2018 / Accepted: 1 June 2018 / Published: 2 June 2018

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Abstract In this paper, we speculate that new advances in technologies will reshape tourism planning and residents engagement in many ways which subsequently will help cities to work towards sustainable urban planning practices. The paper addresses the question how should destinations prepare themselves for [...]) [Read more.](#)

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Type of citizen engagement	Flow of information
Information/Communication	Organiser → Public
Consultation	Organiser ← Public
Participation	Organiser ↔ Public

Figure 1

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Factors Affecting Time Spent Visiting Heritage City Areas (/2071-1050/10/6/1824)

by [Esther Martinez-Garcia \(/search?authors=Esther%20Martinez-Garcia&orcid=0000-0001-6828-4933\)](#),
[Josep M. Raya-Vilchez \(/search?authors=Josep%20M.%20Raya-Vilchez&orcid=0000-0002-2885-234X\)](#) and
[Nuria Galí \(/search?authors=Nuria%20Gal%C3%AD&orcid=0000-0001-6008-1357\)](#).

Sustainability **2018**, *10*(6), 1824; <https://doi.org/10.3390/su10061824> (<https://doi.org/10.3390/su10061824>).

Received: 30 April 2018 / Revised: 23 May 2018 / Accepted: 29 May 2018 / Published: 1 June 2018

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Abstract Urban tourism is growing fast, and in many cities visitor influx tends to concentrate in historic urban centers. When there are large numbers of visitors, deepening the knowledge on visitor time consumption is critical to better managing their impact on the city, and [...] [Read more.](#)

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Linking Importance–Performance Analysis, Satisfaction, and Loyalty: A Study of Savannah, GA (/2071-1050/10/3/704)

by [Jinyang Deng \(/search?authors=Jinyang%20Deng&orcid=\)](#) and
[Chad D. Pierskalla \(/search?authors=Chad%20D.%20Pierskalla&orcid=\)](#)

Sustainability **2018**, *10*(3), 704; <https://doi.org/10.3390/su10030704> (<https://doi.org/10.3390/su10030704>).

Received: 13 February 2018 / Revised: 24 February 2018 / Accepted: 1 March 2018 / Published: 5 March 2018

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Abstract Importance–performance analysis (IPA) has been widely used to examine the relationship between importance, performance, and overall satisfaction in tourism destinations. IPA implicitly assumes that attribute performance will have little impact on overall satisfaction when stated importance is low. However, this assumption is rarely [...] [Read more.](#)

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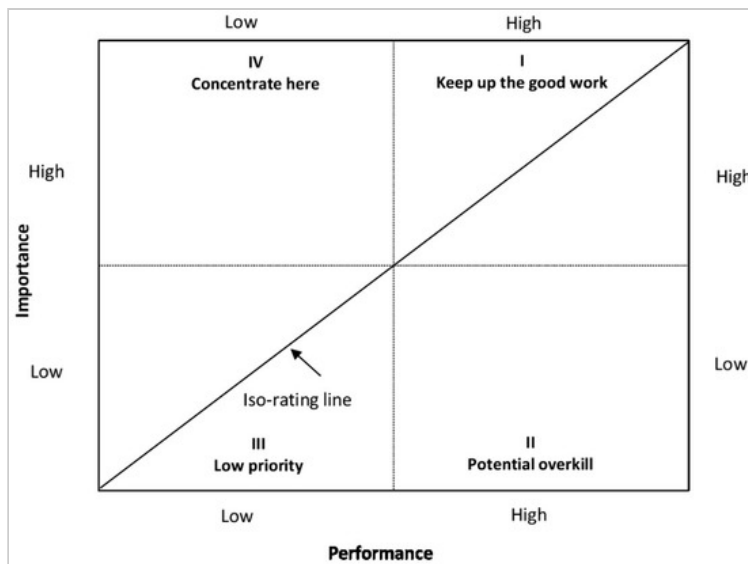


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