



**Special “Pedagogy” Award
of the Conference of Regional Film Services**
(in the framework of the TOURA D'OR 1996 contest)

Category: Other Institutions

Galapagos – A Paradise Nearing its End
(Steffen Steigner Filmproduktion, German, 45 minutes)

Judging on the basis of the three TOURA D'OR contest criteria the jury gives the film GALAPAGOS - A PARADISE NEARING ITS END 56 points out of a possible 105 points. The film highlights the views behind the tourist scene. From the perspective of “presenting a particularly interesting and convincing educational approach” (category special award) the film is given 22 of 35 possible points.

The film describes in a very impressive way the current problems the Galapagos Islands are facing as a destination area for tourists who want to get an insight in the flora and fauna there and who - with their number growing - are at the same time a threat to these. The film depicts the causes, connections and impact of tourism. Tourists are attracting an increasing number of tourists. On the one hand this creates jobs and income possibilities for the local people - on the other hand it also attracts other Ecuadorians from the mainland. And yet, the infrastructure is not adequately developed to accommodate and absorb these people. The demands of environmentalists are colliding with the expectations of the islanders.

This difficult situation is dealt with in detail and is documented through interviews with all parties concerned. For the observer these issues are at times depressing giving rise to consternation and thoughtfulness.

The film seems to be particularly suited for presentation in the area of youth and adult education.