



## Impact of Natural Environment to Sustainable Development of Tourism

Sayfutdinov Shukhratjon Sultonovich, Gapparova Umida Yunusbayevna

### ABSTRACT

Sustainable tourism is affects the environment of the host country, where tourists conduct their activities, tourism boosts the economy. In order to assess the contribution of tourism to sustainability, the study paper looks into how tourism affects the environment. For an in-depth investigation, the researcher has thought about gathering qualitative data from multiple sources. To extract more qualitative data to support the study's purpose, an inductive approach has been used. The research showed that tourism has an impact on the environment, as evidenced by the economic, health, and social factors that have both good and bad effects.

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### Introduction

One of the industries with the quickest growth rates worldwide is tourism, which has made a significant contribution to the economy's rapid expansion. Positive environmental importance is another important factor that needs to be considered, given the economic importance of tourism in a nation's growth and development. The local environmental standards must be improved together with the growth in tourists to a destination. Tourism has a negative impact on biodiversity and ecosystems, which has caused considerable harm to natural resources like freshwater, forests, mountainous attractions and marine life. Sustainable tourism has attracted a lot of attention recently because it promotes travel and makes the environment more eco-aware while providing the greatest assurance of protection for the nation's future

generations. The topic "Impact of natural environment to sustainable development of tourism" is important since tourism has negatively impacted the country's once-pristine environment by creating noise pollution, air and water pollution, and physical degradation of ecosystems like rainforests, coral reefs, mangroves and sea grass beds. As a result, it is now vitally crucial for various geographical regions of the world to ensure sustainable tourism growth by acknowledging the balanced use of resources, without having any adverse effects on the environment, and by protecting the nation's cultural and natural legacy. Effectively managed tourist activities can contribute to tourists' awareness of cultural, economic, social, and environmental values, making for a more rewarding trip.

### **Analysis of literature on the topic**

Butzmann & Job (2015) defined sustainable tourism as the management of ecological, cultural, and biological resources in a way that addresses the requirements and preferences of travelers, environmental authorities, and business professionals without depleting those resources. It has become challenging for various geographies to develop and manage their tourism services and products while maintaining the social and economic benefits of local businesses and communities, to protect the cultural and natural assets. This is due to the emergence of the dynamic and challenging environment (Butzmann & Job, 2015). Because of this, the promotion of tourism activities now places a high value on sustainability. It has been noted that tourism aids the preservation of social and natural sciences as well as economic development in developing countries. However, in wealthy countries like the US, UK, and Australia, environmental management is less important since technology has supplanted sustainability and because recreational usage of tourism products outweighs its sustainable use (Buckley, 2013).

In recent years, structured ecotourism has drawn a lot of interest because it places a strong emphasis on helping threatened tourist destinations develop into sustainable tourism offerings. Environmental and sustainable pressures must be managed due to the rapid increase in tourism activities, as evidenced by the fact that international visitor arrivals outnumber local residents by a ratio of more than 1:1 in some countries (for example, Iceland -5.1:1, Croatia -3.3:1, and Montenegro -2.6:1). (WTTC, 2017).

Erik Cohen put forth the "A Phenomenology of Tourist Experiences" idea in 1979, which highlighted various perspectives on these experiences as well as the connections to various "centers" and their locations. This hypothesis holds that every society (country) has a "central" that houses the moral and cultural values that serve as the foundation for travel. Some travelers experience pressure in their "center" and look for places with a better "center" to get some respite. However, some travelers use the location of their "center" as justification to travel and look for other "centers" that share the same moral principles as their own (Herbst, 2013). Additionally, Cohen outlined five classifications of travel experiences: Diverse, Existential, Experimental, Recreational, and Experiential. These categories are based on two sorts of travelers: Individual Mass Tourists and Organized Mass Tourists, both of whom exhibit psychological and behavioral traits associated with the philosophy of sustainable tourism (MacCannell, D. (2013). In order to increase visitor activity and maintain a destination's ecosystem and exhausted resources, sustainable tourism is crucial (Cohen & Cohen, 2016). In order to develop a sustainable environment, the Erik Cohen Theory of Tourism's "phenomenological criterion of visitor experiences" must be met (Benckendorff and Zehrer, 2013).

### **Research methodology**

In the study, the methodology of taking into account the innovative changes expected in the coming years and studying the sustainable development of tourism as a single system in determining the

sustainable development of the tourism sector is used in the research, while studying the opinions of experts in this regard, through methods such as observation, comparison, empirical research, systematic and comparative analysis, and expert evaluation. a method of determining the development directions of the components of the tourism sector is proposed.

### **Analysis and results**

Today, the Republic of Uzbekistan attaches great importance to the development of the tourism industry, the preservation for future generations of the richest historical and cultural heritage left to us by our great ancestors. Uzbekistan is not only a fertile land with unique architectural monuments of antiquity, picturesque nature, rich culture of the people living here, but also a country with a highly developed tourism infrastructure - modern hotels, hotel service that meets international standards, an expanding range of tourist services.

In addition, active work is being carried out in the Republic of Uzbekistan to diversify tourism destinations, create new tours and programs offered to foreign and local tourists: these are medical and recreational, sports, mountaineering, horseback riding tours and walks, camel safaris, jeep safari, fishing, rafting, religious, geotourism, festival, scientific, educational tours.

Ecotourism is one of the main areas of tourism, which contributes to the sustainable development of tourism in Uzbekistan. Ecotourism guarantees the preservation of the environment and cultural heritage while supporting infrastructural expansion. The tourism officials adhere strictly to this because it benefits not only the tourists but also the general populace of the nation. For instance, the Australian government consistently worked between 2011 and 2016 to preserve the terrestrial reserves, or national parks, which are a distinctive feature of the nation and require protection due to their high level of popularity with tourists.

Hisar, Bobotog, Kohitangtog (Surkhandarya), Chakchar (Kashkadarya), Nurota (Navoi-Jizzakh), Zarafshan (Samarkand), Turkestan (Jizzakh), Oloy (Fergana), Kurama, Chotqal (Namangan) mountains, residual mountains in the Kyzylkum desert, Kyzylkum desert, dry bottom of the Aral Sea and salt lakes, Ustyurt Plateau, Borsa Kelmas Shorkhog, Mingbulok Bog, forests on Aydarkol, Dengizkol, Amudarya and Syrdarya coasts, Muruntov quarry and unique monuments of nature are the main resources for the development of ecotourism. It is possible to organize complex and themed ecotours along these areas.

Recently, new types of tourism have appeared and are in demand: ecotourism, agrotourism, rural, exotic-adventure and extreme tourism. The emergence of these new types of services on the market is due to many factors: scientific and technological progress, which provides more and more opportunities for organizing trips, urbanization, in connection with which there is a desire to relieve stress and abstract from the routine of life, and with a certain stable income level that allows you to travel, there is a satiety from standard tourist programs. The reforms implemented in the field of tourism contribute to the sustainable development of tourism

In recent years, the tourism sector of Uzbekistan, thanks to the constant attention of the leadership of our republic, has become one of the most dynamically developing sectors of the economy. The election of Uzbekistan as a member of the Executive Council of the UN World Tourism Organization and the holding of the 99th Session of the Executive Council of the UN World Tourism Organization in Samarkand in October 2014 was a clear evidence of the wide international recognition of the effectiveness of the integrated measures taken in the country to develop the tourism industry.

Today, the Republic of Uzbekistan attaches great importance to the development of the tourism sector, to the preservation of the rich historical and cultural heritage left to us by our great ancestors for future generations. Uzbekistan ranks among the top ten in the world in terms of the scale of tourism and the number of historical monuments. About 1,500 tourist enterprises, more than 1,400 hotels, and more than 2,400 guest houses operate in our country, and there are more than 8,200 tangible cultural heritage objects that are considered tourist resources, more than 200 of which are included in the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage List.

Nowadays, we can see the steady development of the tourism sector in Uzbekistan from the tourist indicators in our country. The number of foreign citizens visiting our country has been growing rapidly in recent years. According to the analysis of statistical data, 2,027 million people visited the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2016, and 2,69 million people visited it in 2017, which means that the number of people who visited the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2017 increased by 32.7% compared to 2016. In turn, we can see that 5,346 million people visited our country in 2018, which is an increase of 99% compared to the previous year, and also 6,748 million people visited our country in 2019, which is an increase of 26.2% compared to the previous year. It is recognized that these tourists are coming to our country for health, educational, professional, pilgrimage or other purposes.

However, in the context of the global pandemic, we can see that the number of tourist visits in 2020 was 1.504 million people, which is 77% less than in 2019, and 2021 was 1.881 million, which is 72% less, but 2021 is 25% more than 2020. By 2022, the number of tourists reached 5,232 million people. It has been estimated that tourism is one of the most affected sectors worldwide. 2020 will go down in history for a number of reasons. All tourism professionals expect nothing but a complete stagnation of the market. According to the results of the study, the characteristics of stability and flexibility during the pandemic should revitalize the tourism and hospitality sector.

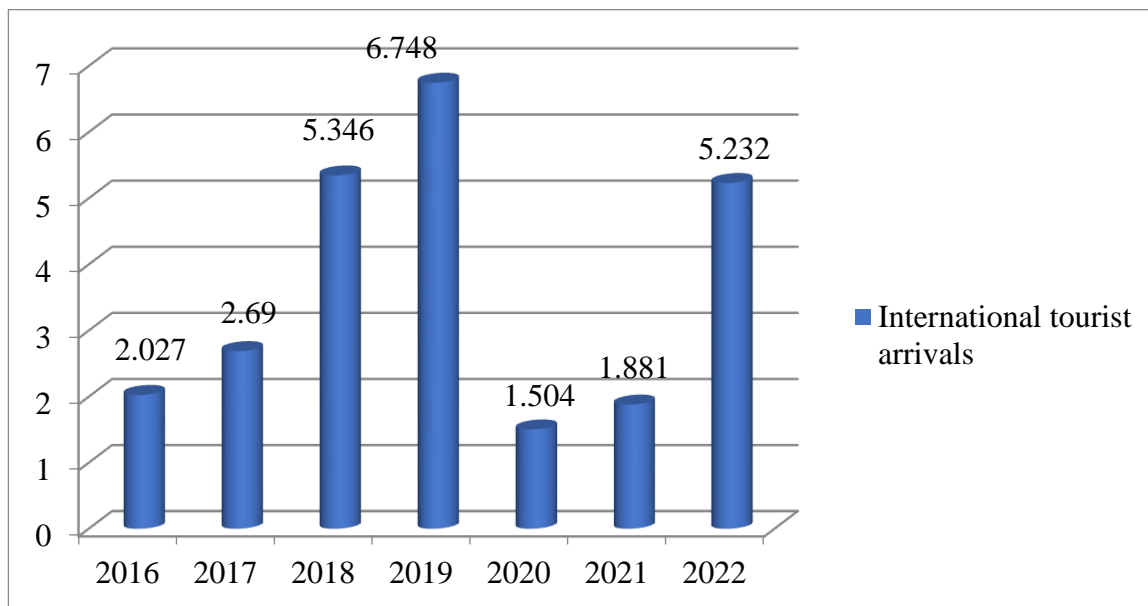


Figure 1. Number of foreign citizens visiting the Republic of Uzbekistan (million people)

The main direction of the sustainable development of tourism is to reduce the gap between the rich and the poor, improve the standard of living in developing regions, since the proper development of the tourism industry can contribute to both increasing prosperity and relieving social tension.

As a factor in the development of the national economy, tourism contributes to the economic development of structurally weak regions. Most often these are areas with a predominant development of agriculture. The development of sustainable tourism in such places is especially favorable, since it makes it possible to sell agricultural products, local crafts, and folk crafts locally, and thus contributes to improving the well-being of the local population.

Tourism should be developed in such a way as to strengthen the local economy, rationally and carefully use natural resources, benefit the local population through the provision of stable employment, promote the development of local crafts and folk crafts, develop infrastructure and services for tourists in a way that benefits local residents. The system of sustainable development of tourism will solve important problems in the social sphere - to improve the standard of living of people, to maximize the employment of local residents, to preserve cultural and natural heritage.

### Conclusion

The discussion has demonstrated that tourism has a variety of environmental effects. The most significant effect is the economic one because tourism boosts the national economy. The discussion of the tour's political ramifications demonstrates that it also has an impact on the nation's political stability. Additionally, the research article emphasized how the environment affects tourism.

There is no denying that tourism has a good effect on the environment. Tourism is one of the means of bringing in people from various cultures, thus the social consequences of the tour are also established.

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