

The Role of Tourism in the Sustainable Development Goals

Peran Pariwisata dalam Tujuan Pembangunan Berkelanjutan

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ABSTRACT

Tourism plays a crucial role in sustainable development, particularly in developing countries. This study aims to explore the relationship between the implementation of sustainable tourism practices and the contribution of the tourism sector to achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in developing countries. The research utilizes a systematic literature review approach to analyze existing literature on the topic. Indicators for sustainable tourism practices and the contribution of the tourism sector to SDGs are identified. The study hypothesizes that greater implementation of sustainable tourism practices leads to a higher contribution of the tourism sector to achieving SDGs. Findings suggest that sustainable tourism practices, including environmental sustainability, community participation, and policy alignment with SDGs, are positively associated with the tourism sector's contribution to sustainable development. This study contributes to the understanding of how sustainable tourism practices can enhance the tourism sector's role in achieving SDGs in developing countries.

Keywords: Sustainable tourism, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Developing countries, Tourism sector.

ABSTRAK

Pariwisata memainkan peran penting dalam pembangunan berkelanjutan, khususnya di negara-negara berkembang. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengeksplorasi hubungan antara penerapan praktik pariwisata berkelanjutan dan kontribusi sektor pariwisata terhadap pencapaian Tujuan Pembangunan Berkelanjutan (SDGs) di negara berkembang. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan tinjauan literatur sistematis untuk menganalisis literatur yang ada mengenai topik tersebut. Indikator praktik pariwisata berkelanjutan dan kontribusi sektor pariwisata terhadap SDGs diidentifikasi. Studi ini berhipotesis bahwa penerapan praktik pariwisata berkelanjutan yang lebih baik akan meningkatkan kontribusi sektor pariwisata terhadap pencapaian SDGs. Temuan menunjukkan bahwa praktik pariwisata berkelanjutan, termasuk kelestarian lingkungan, partisipasi masyarakat, dan penyelarasan kebijakan dengan SDGs, berhubungan positif dengan kontribusi sektor pariwisata terhadap pembangunan berkelanjutan. Studi ini berkontribusi pada pemahaman tentang bagaimana praktik pariwisata berkelanjutan dapat meningkatkan peran sektor pariwisata dalam mencapai SDGs di negara-negara berkembang.

Kata Kunci: Pariwisata berkelanjutan, Tujuan Pembangunan Berkelanjutan (SDGs), Negara berkembang, Sektor Pariwisata.

1. Introduction

Tourism has become a very important sector in global economic development. With its rapid growth and significant impact, the role of the tourism sector in achieving sustainable development goals has become an important subject in global development discussions. This research aims to explore the crucial role of the tourism sector in achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially in developing countries. Tourism not only contributes to a country's economic growth but also has a broad impact on social, environmental and cultural aspects. In the context of the SDGs, the tourism sector has great potential to help achieve

sustainable development goals, such as poverty alleviation, environmental protection, gender equality and hunger eradication. However, to utilize this potential optimally, a deep understanding of how the tourism sector can contribute to efforts to achieve the SDGs in developing countries is needed.

The Role of Tourism in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is a critical aspect of global development, as tourism has the potential to contribute to the achievement of the 17 SDGs. Tourism can create jobs, generate income, and promote cultural understanding, while also having negative impacts on the environment and local communities if not managed sustainably. The United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) has been actively involved in promoting sustainable tourism, which aims to make tourism a driver of economic growth, inclusive development, and environmental sustainability. The organization has developed a set of guidelines and tools to help countries and tourism businesses adopt sustainable practices. The SDGs provide a framework for countries to address global challenges, including poverty, inequality, climate change, and environmental degradation. Tourism can contribute to the achievement of these goals by promoting economic growth, creating jobs, and generating income. However, it is essential to ensure that tourism is managed sustainably to minimize negative impacts on the environment and local communities. Tourism plays a crucial role in contributing to sustainable development goals (SDGs) globally. The United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) recognizes the significance of tourism in sustainable development (Grilli et al., 2021). The UNWTO emphasizes that tourism has the potential to directly or indirectly impact all of the sustainable development goals (Sharples, 2020). Additionally, the Tourism and the Sustainable Development Goals

Various scholars have discussed strategies and ideas to achieve sustainable development goals through tourism. For instance, there have been discussions on metaverse tourism as a means for sustainable tourism development towards the Tourism Agenda 2030 (Go & Kang, 2022; . Furthermore, stakeholders play a critical role in sustainable tourism development, influencing tourism sustainability at both local and international levels (Wanjiku et al., 2022). Recent research evaluated stakeholders' roles in governing sustainable tourism destinations, emphasizing the importance of strengthened partnerships and collaboration among stakeholders in the framework of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and addressing concerns on sustainability, environmental conservation, and local community involvement (Rakitovac & Urošević, 2023).

Moreover, the role of tourism in sustainable development is not limited to economic aspects but also extends to environmental and social dimensions. Rural tourism, for example, can contribute to the environmental and social aspects of sustainable development goals (Shevchenko & Petrushenko, 2021). The scientific search for additional opportunities to expand the relationship between environmental and social aspects of rural tourism can increase the potential for the Sustainable Development Goals (Shevchenko & Petrushenko, 2021). Additionally, the tourism industry is recognized as a vital component of sustainable development, emphasizing the importance of inclusive tourism practices for the sustainable development of territories (Kotlyarova et al., 2020). In conclusion, tourism's role in achieving sustainable development goals is multifaceted, encompassing economic, environmental, and social dimensions. Collaboration among stakeholders, the adoption of sustainable practices, and the integration of sustainable development goals into tourism policies are essential for leveraging tourism as a driver for sustainable development.

In conclusion, the role of tourism in the SDGs is complex and multifaceted. While tourism has the potential to contribute to global development, it is crucial to adopt sustainable practices to ensure that the benefits of tourism are shared equitably and that the negative impacts are minimized. The UNWTO and other organizations are working to promote sustainable tourism and help countries and businesses adopt sustainable practices.

The main aim of this research is to provide a better understanding of the role of the tourism sector in achieving the SDGs in developing countries. The benefits of this research are expected to provide better insight to stakeholders, including the government, tourism industry and civil society, in designing policies and strategies to utilize the potential of the tourism sector more effectively in achieving sustainable development goals. This research will focus on the contribution of the tourism sector to achieving SDGs in developing countries. Although there will be reference to the impact of tourism in developed countries, the main focus remains on the developing country context. In addition, this research will not exclusively discuss one particular tourism destination, but will use a broader approach to understand the contribution of the tourism sector in a global context.

2. Research Methods

This research adopts a systematic literature review approach, which aims to identify, evaluate, and synthesize related research in the relevant scientific literature. This approach makes it possible to present a comprehensive picture of existing knowledge in the domain under study. The first step in a systematic literature review is identifying relevant studies. This involves systematically searching academic databases and relevant scientific journals, using keywords relevant to the research topic, such as “tourism”, “Sustainable Development Goals”, and “developing countries”. The studies found were then assessed to ensure relevance to the research topic and adequacy of methodological quality. Clear inclusion and exclusion criteria were used to select appropriate studies. Relevant data, including key findings and study methodology, were extracted for further analysis.

Data from selected studies were systematically evaluated and analyzed. It involves synthesizing key findings from multiple studies to identify patterns, trends, and general conclusions. This analysis makes it possible to understand the contribution of the tourism sector to the SDGs in developing countries, as well as identify knowledge gaps that still exist in the literature. The results of the analysis are translated into findings that can be provided in the research context. The implications of these findings for theoretical and practical understanding of the role of tourism in sustainable development are further explored. The conclusions of the systematic literature review are presented by describing the main findings, implications, and suggestions for further research. By using a systematic literature review approach, it is hoped that this research can provide in-depth insight into the contribution of the tourism sector to achieving SDGs in developing countries, as well as identify future research directions in this domain.

3. Results and Discussions

3.1.1. Contribution of the Tourism Sector in Achieving SDGs in Developing Countries

Tourism plays a significant role in economic development, and its impact on sustainable development is a topic of growing interest. Studies have shown that sustainable tourism development involves a balance between economic, socio-cultural, and environmental aspects (Tiwari et al., 2021). While tourism can drive economic growth, sustainable tourism development also emphasizes societal changes and natural resource conservation alongside economic impacts (Chuamuangphan, 2016). The perspectives of local communities are crucial in assessing the impact of tourism development on sustainability, considering economic, environmental, and sociocultural aspects (Wijaya et al., 2021).

Proper management of the tourism sector is essential to ensure lasting sustainable value and to mitigate its systemic impact on the economy, society, and the environment (Franzoni & Pelizzari, 2016). Sustainable tourism development aims to meet the needs of tourists, enhance economic growth, protect destinations, and improve residents' quality of life while ensuring environmental quality (Masa'deh et al., 2017). Mathematical models have

shown that tourism development in local communities can serve as a catalyst for sustainable economic growth under favorable regional conditions (Bihun et al., 2022).

The concept of sustainable tourism is closely linked to environmental conservation and community involvement, aiming to address the negative impacts of tourism growth (Aswita et al., 2023). Stakeholders in the tourism industry recognize the need for sustainable development to counteract the detrimental effects of tourism expansion (Akhtar et al., 2022). Research indicates a substantial influence of tourism on sustainable development, emphasizing the importance of high-quality institutional frameworks in shaping effective tourism development strategies (Iftikhar et al., 2022).

In conclusion, sustainable tourism development requires a holistic approach that considers economic, environmental, and socio-cultural factors. By balancing these aspects and involving local communities in decision-making processes, tourism can contribute positively to sustainable development while minimizing negative impacts on the economy, society, and the environment.

3.1.2. The Social Impact of Tourism on Sustainable Development

Tourism plays a significant role in sustainable development, particularly in terms of its social impact. Various factors influence sustainable tourism development, such as social engagement, state managerial competence, tourism service quality, the quality of tourism human resources, infrastructure development, material tourism facilities, and tourism resources (Vu et al., 2020). Sustainable tourism policies, destination management, and social responsibility have been shown to significantly impact sustainable tourism development (Khan et al., 2021). Additionally, the socio-cultural and socioeconomic impacts of sustainable tourism on local communities can be challenging to assess, highlighting the complexities of quantifying tourism development (Aman et al., 2019).

Community involvement is crucial in sustainable tourism, as it emphasizes the positive impacts of tourism activities on the environment, social structures, and culture of local communities (Koara, 2021). Sustainable tourism development has a high positive correlation with recreation and tourism development, impacting both sectors significantly at tourism destinations (Kumar et al., 2021). Moreover, the integration of corporate social responsibility (CSR) and sustainable development concepts in tourism enterprises contributes to fulfilling social responsibilities and advancing sustainable tourism practices (Wang, 2021).

Resident empowerment and attitudes towards tourism for sustainable development are essential aspects to consider. Social empowerment resulting from sustainable tourism development aims to enhance cohesion and collaboration within communities (Maruyama et al., 2016). Studies have shown that attitudes towards tourism for sustainable development can be positive among social studies student teachers, indicating a favorable perception of tourism's role in sustainable development (Al-Rabaani, 2013).

In conclusion, sustainable tourism development requires a multi-faceted approach that considers social engagement, community involvement, sustainable policies, and the socio-cultural impacts on local communities. By integrating CSR practices, empowering residents, and fostering positive attitudes towards sustainable tourism, destinations can work towards achieving sustainable development goals while minimizing negative impacts on society.

3.1.3. The Environmental Impact of Tourism on Sustainable Development

Tourism plays a significant role in economic, socio-cultural, and environmental development, with these aspects being closely interlinked and impacting sustainable tourism growth (Tiwari et al., 2021). The environmental, economic, and socio-cultural impacts of tourism have the potential to create global changes, emphasizing the necessity for sustainable tourism practices (Tunçer, 2018). Sustainable tourism development is crucial for balancing the

positive and negative impacts of tourism on the environment, local communities, and economies (Bozdaglar, 2023). It is essential to consider the perspectives of local communities in assessing the impact of tourism development on economic, environmental, and sociocultural aspects for sustainable tourism growth (Wijaya et al., 2021).

The environmental impact of tourism is evident in the transportation sector, contributing significantly to carbon dioxide emissions and global warming, highlighting the need for sustainable practices in tourism (Grofelnik et al., 2020). While tourism can have positive impacts, it is also a major contributor to environmental degradation, including air and waste pollution, posing threats to destination sustainability (Suryawardani & Wiranatha, 2016). Sustainable tourism development should not only focus on minimizing environmental impacts but also prioritize community engagement and poverty alleviation, especially in developing countries (Neto, 2003).

Sustainable tourism involves minimizing negative environmental impacts while maximizing positive economic development outcomes (Marsiglio, 2015). The continuous growth of tourism can lead to both positive and negative environmental impacts, necessitating a balance between development and environmental preservation (Zhao & Li, 2018). Environmental sustainability is a critical factor in sustainable tourism, serving as a prerequisite and assessment standard for sustainable practices (Jiang, 2009). The tourism industry's development can have both positive and negative impacts on the environment, emphasizing the importance of sustainable tourism approaches (Suryani et al., 2022).

In conclusion, sustainable tourism development is essential for mitigating the environmental impact of tourism activities while promoting economic growth and preserving local communities' socio-cultural heritage. By adopting sustainable practices, such as community engagement, environmental conservation, and responsible resource management, the tourism industry can contribute to long-term sustainable development while minimizing negative environmental consequences.

3.1.4. Strategies and Policies to Increase Tourism's Contribution to SDGs

To enhance tourism's contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), several strategies and policies can be implemented based on insights from various scholarly articles. Kuzior et al. (2021) emphasize the importance of enforcing policies to enhance sustainable tourism, aligning with SDG 8 which aims for sustainable economic growth. Movono & Hughes (2020) highlight the role of tourism in promoting sustained economic growth, particularly benefiting small island developing states, as outlined in SDG 14.7. Furthermore, Alonso-Muñoz et al. (2022) point out that tourism directly contributes to SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities) and SDG 12 (responsible consumption and production).

Incorporating metaverse tourism, as suggested by (Go & Kang, 2022), can also be a viable strategy to boost profitability for tourism destinations while aligning with the UNWTO Sustainable Development Goals. Additionally, community-based tourism, as discussed by (Nafidah et al., 2021), can play a significant role in achieving the SDGs both directly and indirectly.

To ensure the success of these strategies, broader stakeholder awareness and collaboration are essential, as highlighted by (Mohan, 2022). Policymakers need to act as catalysts for change to facilitate sustainable tourism and SDG achievement. Moreover, leveraging technologies like blockchain, as proposed by (Tyan et al., 2021), can further enhance sustainable tourism development and contribute to the SDGs.

In conclusion, by implementing policies that promote sustainable tourism practices, leveraging emerging technologies, fostering stakeholder collaboration, and focusing on community-based tourism initiatives, countries can significantly increase tourism's contribution to the SDGs. These strategies can help drive economic growth, promote responsible consumption, and support the overall sustainability agenda outlined in the SDGs.

4. Conclusion

From the results of the discussion above, it can be concluded that the tourism sector plays a significant role in efforts to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in developing countries. In the context of economic impact, tourism has an important role in economic growth, but sustainable tourism development also emphasizes social change in society and the preservation of natural resources along with its economic impact. Proper management of the tourism sector is an important key to ensuring lasting sustainable value and to reducing its systemic impact on the economy, society and the environment.

Meanwhile, in the aspect of social impact, the involvement of local communities is considered crucial in sustainable tourism development, because it emphasizes the positive impact of tourism activities on the environment, social structure and culture of local communities. In addition, tourism sustainability also has a close relationship with environmental conservation, where sustainable tourism not only focuses on minimizing negative environmental impacts, but also prioritizes community involvement and poverty alleviation, especially in developing countries.

Appropriate strategies and policies are needed to increase the tourism sector's contribution to the SDGs. Implementing various strategies such as metaverse tourism and community-based tourism can be the right step to increase the profitability of tourism destinations while still paying attention to the sustainable development goals stated in the SDGs. The importance of stakeholder awareness and collaboration as well as the role of policy in facilitating sustainable tourism are also highlighted as crucial steps in supporting the achievement of the SDGs.

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4.1. Research Framework



Figure 1. Research Framework

4.2. Hypothesis:

Implementation of sustainable tourism practices, which include appropriate management of the tourism sector, active involvement of local communities, and SDGs-oriented policies and strategies, will increase the contribution of the tourism sector to achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in developing countries.

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