



# "ROLE OF ECO-TOURISM IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT"

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**ABSTRACT:** *Eco-tourism is a new tourism concept that takes a different approach to environmental conservation under the umbrella of sustainable development. Eco-tourism offers a huge potential for economic development and environmental protection in impoverished countries.*

*The purpose of this paper is to highlight the vast scope of eco-tourism in India by focusing on a few eco-tourism destinations. This study also examines how eco-tourism has grown in popularity as a means of balancing environmental concerns with long-term development, as "Green Travel" has been promoted as a "win-win" solution for the third world (developing countries), the environment, tourists, and the travel industry. This paper also examines the government's efforts to promote eco-tourism in order to combat current environmental challenges, as well as a few studies on India's major eco-tourism destinations.*

**Keywords:** *Eco-tourism, environmental protection, Sustainable development.*

**INTRODUCTION:** Today, the entire world is facing a deep crisis and is in the hazard of being doomed and heading closer to the 6th mass extinction. The rich forest areas and organic diversities had been ruthlessly divested to erect concrete jungles has brought about Global Warming and Greenhouse Effects. Fortunately, this has brought about a few perception, and now the world has woke up for new beginnings approximately human responsibility closer to nature. Sustainable development has grow to be the worldwide theme in all the global conferences and summits. Policy creators and improvement experts consider Eco-tourism as an

ideal economic hobby to recommend each sustainability and improvement. Travel and tourism is one in all the biggest and quickest developing monetary sectors in the international. It has emerge as bliss in worldwide monetary strength house, no longer simplest contributing loads to the global GDP. Tourism alone stands for 10% worldwide GDP and accounted for 1 in eleven jobs global. Tourism is an crucial part of financial system of a country. For nations like Macau, Seychelles, Bahamas and many others. It's far the direct source of profits contributing a large percentage in their countries' GDP. Nature based tourism is a primary tourism region, contributing greater than 25% of the worldwide tour market. Eco-tourism is emerging as a new impact inside the tourism industry. The International Eco-tourism Society (TIES) has defined Eco-tourism as “responsible tour to natural areas that conserves the surroundings, sustains the nicely-being of the local community, and entails interpretation and training”.The phrase “Eco-tourism” has a much wider concept as opposed to tourism most effective. It entails the Conservation of natural and cultural background and improving bio cultural diversity, the participation of the groups via growing nearby capacity constructing and employment possibilities to combat in opposition to the poverty, the emphasis on environmental attention and galvanizing personal reviews.

**Eco-tourism Around The World:** Year 2017 has been declared as the worldwide 12 months for Sustainable tourism for Development recalling the capacity of tourism to improve the regularly occurring 2030 schedule for sustainable tourism via United Nations General Assembly. International corporations like United Nations World Tourism Organisation(UNWTO), The International Ecotourism Society (TIES), World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) committed in promoting and developing of ecotourism by using offering recommendations and standards, training, technical help, and academic assets. TIES' international network of ecotourism professionals and travelers is leading the efforts to make tourism a feasible device for conservation, safety of bio-cultural variety, and sustainable network development.TIES currently has participants in greater than one hundred twenty international locations.About 83% of the developing international locations depend on eco-tourism as a prime export and contributory thing of their gross domestic product and employment level calculations. The small u . S . Of Macau contributes to 51% of the overall employment of the united states of america and forty six.7% direct contribution to GDP through eco-tourism. Seychelles accounts for twenty-four.7% of the full GDP and about 26.3% of the total hired human beings are engaged in tourism sports. Anguilla relies upon closely on eco-tourism, contributes to the employment of this usa- to the song of 26.3 % and 22.Nine% to GDP (WTTC 2012). There are many greater examples of countries' dependency on its nature and biodiversity for their sustenance and eco-tourism has paved the manner for conservation of nature as ‘sustainable tourism’.

**ECO-TOURISM IN INDIA:** India is a land of mountains, deserts, plateaus, plains, coastal plains and islands consequently supports wealthy species bio-diversity in addition to cultural bio-range. India is most of the global's 18 mega bio-variety countries and totally represents 4 out of the 35 biodiversity hotspots within the global. India's topography with photograph best landscapes fascinates a number of eco-tourism. Currently, there are about 103 countrywide parks, 18 biosphere reserves and 537 natural world sanctuaries, running for the protection and conservation of wildlife sources of India (MoEF annual record). Areas that have been opened for ecotourism.

**GOVERNMENT'S TAKE ON ECO-TOURISM:** The ministry of environment and forest has drafted the framework pointers on the selection, making plans, improvement, implementation and tracking of ecotourism in India for country governments, Protected Area Management, Tourist facilities/ Tour operators, Temple/Pilgrimage Boards, Local Communities and Public / Visitors respectively. The authorities of Karnataka has even declared 2017 because the year of the Wild, to popularise wasteland tourism and eco-trails across the kingdom. The Ministry of Tourism even awarding the stakeholders to sell and training Eco-Tourism practises in the kinds of "Best Eco Friendly Hotel", Best Responsible Tourism Project", Best Eco pleasant Practises through Tour Operators" in the National Tourism Awards as an encouragement closer to sustainable tourism.

**ECO-TOURISM IN INDIA SOME MAJOR ISSUES:** "Tourism has an inclination to come to be some thing like a steamroller anyplace it is going. It can completely destroy natural places. Ecotourism is ready seeking to forestall that". The quotation tries to define loudly the scope of ecotourism in contrast to mass tourism. Making a idea is a lot easier than its implementation and it's far pretty sensible if we are saying that achieving hundred percent successes in any implementation program is inevitable. It is real with the idea of ecotourism all around the global. Indian ecotourism enterprise is a hit however going through with quantity of problems, which might be adversely affecting. There are wide variety of troubles regarding ecotourism in India, which contradict the very precept of the idea.

**Environmental Issues:** - One of the maximum annoying data about ecotourism is that it's miles especially promoting the expropriation of desert region, country wide parks, remoted tribal areas or even the regions having no hint of any everlasting settlement. Tourists opting for such tourism frequently belong to the rich strata of society and are succesful and ready to pay for the whole lot they wish, so consumerism turns into focal subject here. Tour operators succumb to ever growing demands made by means of site visitors and to facilitate and entertain them, they build completely artificial panorama in the vicinity, which have mega-inns, luxury accommodations, and shopping facilities. Such changes cost almost the whole eco gadget dearly, many of

vegetation and fauna species lose their natural habitat and ultimately this may even result in species extinction.

**Socio-Economic Issues:** - Just due to the fact something is advertised as ecotourism, it does no longer always suggest that the lengthy-term motto of offering socio-monetary gain with safety of surroundings to the host areas will be accomplished. The truth that ecotourism enterprise are regularly owned and controlled by way of outdoor pastimes in just the same way as mass tourism manner the financial blessings often aren't used for the safety of the regions or to assist the local community. Besides, the sporting capacity of host regions isn't always calculated. As a result, there is a breakdown of civil services in the course of height season while the influx of tourists is extraordinary.

**CONCLUSION:** Ecotourism, when practiced efficaciously, is an crucial monetary and educational activity. It has the scope to link to a much broader constituency and construct conservation guide while elevating cognizance about the well worth and fragility of such ecosystems inside the public at massive. It additionally promotes the non-consumptive use of barren region regions, for the benefit of local groups residing round, and dependent on these fragile landscapes. It involves tourism to natural locations which offers escapism from the hyper tensed artificial international and a short time period relief from the pollution of the metropolitan cities. It builds an environmental awareness among the traffic, when people individually. Experience the reference to the nature it generates a feel for its conservation on individual basis and creates an environmental attention. It highlights the local and tribal cultures and engenders a admire for these untold cultures. Eco-tourism not handiest generates employment however additionally offers monetary aid advantages and it empowers the local community. For a growing usa like India ecotourism creates a number of possibilities in environmental issues, empowering nearby tribes, producing employments and sustainable development.

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