

# SUSTAINABLE RENOVATION OF HERITAGE HOTELS FOR ECO-TOURISM

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## 1. Introduction

Tourism is recognized as the world's largest industry. It was estimated in 2010 that the economic contribution of travel and tourism would have grown to 11.6 per cent of the global GDP and will support 250 million jobs. Eco tourism is one branch of the tourism sector, which has the potential to contribute to sustainable development and has been identified as a form of sustainable tourism as expected to contribute to both conservation and development. For the tourism industry, eco tourism is the fastest growing market segment. Interpreted merely as a product, however, it may be ecologically based but not ecologically sound, responsible or sustainable. The Ecotourism Society defines eco tourism as "responsible travel to natural areas, which conserves the environment and sustains the well-being of the local people." Eco tourism is operationally characterized as a form of tourism activities and development that produces: A minimum harmful impact on the host surroundings; a growing assurance to ecological safeguard and preservation of resources; a generation of monetary income to sustain and maintain ecological and socio-cultural resources; an active participation and collaboration of local inhabitants as well as tourists in enhancing the atmosphere; and financial and communal settlement to the host community.

By incorporating these concepts and actions into the structure of any description of eco tourism, a clearer perceptive of what eco tourism is and produces emerges to incorporate these essential characteristics. Eco tourism must adhere to three essential principles. Eco tourism must therefore be ecologically sound, requiring a cooperative link between itself and ecological preservation. It is now generally accepted that conservation cannot be divorced from development issues. Eco tourism must be accountable paying regard to local needs and humanizing local welfare. Eco tourism is to consider not only the interests of tourism enterprises but also tourist satisfaction, the needs of tourists.

## 2. Aspects related to socio-economic outcomes

- Promote community-based tourism as the favorite form of eco tourism.
- Decrease the likelihood that local communities become economically over- dependent on eco tourism.
- Endorse partnerships with a multidisciplinary body of scientists, integrating them in all stages of an eco tourism mission.
- Encourage partnerships among the eco tourism project and eco-friendly and socially responsible companies.
- Support “ecological network philosophy” in all stakeholders, from policymakers to eco-tourists, through environmental education and incorporated development of all eco tourism activities.
- Promote national official recognition of the natural area tourism based on international standards while respecting idiosyncrasies of each region or country.

## 3. Aspects related to animal well-being and population sustainability

- Provide ecological education services to the eco-tourists, preferentially using guides.
- Establish clear strategy for human being access in the eco tourism area, building it more or less restrictive according to season, preservation status, and sensitivities of species and environments to human interruption.
- Avoid physical contact with and very close approach to wild animals.
- Avoid feeding wildlife, predominantly with non-natural and non-native food.
- Prioritize the use of non-invasive techniques, to the extent possible, when studying or monitoring wildlife population within eco tourism and protected areas.
- Apply careful practices to avoid biological invasions and infection transmission.
- Execute accurate practices to prevent environmental pollution, including light and noise pollution.
- Spatially cluster eco tourism infrastructure in order to preserve superior blocks of contiguous habitat.
- Plan and manage roads and trail placement to avoid vehicular collisions and habitat fragmentation and to direct tourists to areas where humans are allowed.

#### 4. Conservation topics related to eco tourism

- Continuously monitor wildlife and the environment, preferably with taxonomic and environment specialists, but constantly with a holistic view of the ecosystem's functions and processes.
- Depend on several biological indicators to check stress in wildlife.
- Carry out accurate controlled studies of wildlife physiology, behaviour, reproductive success, and survival, before and after the introduction of artificial sources of resources, significant habitat alterations, or when introducing non-native species.
- Apply mechanistic information concerning animal physiology, behaviour, ecology, and progression to mitigate impacts or designing low-impact ecotourism activities.
- Inspire research on “compassionate conservation,” animal emotions, and animal cognition for species usually observed in the protected and ecotourism areas.
- Accumulate data on eco tourist visitation to understand current levels of use and as a baseline for future mitigation strategies.
- Conduct social research to understand how different eco tourism activities improve visitors' scientific literacy and increase their engagement in conservation activities.
- Eco tourism best practices should be adaptable to the specific ecological, geographical, and sociological contexts.
- Eco tourism best practices should be updated based on new scientific evidence and with new environmental problems.

Sustainable improvement of the areas which also belong to the eco tourism area helps to develop tourism infrastructure, to generate new functioning spaces, and to give employment to the community in the tourist service area. For the sake of growth of eco tourism it has to be protected the diversity of flora and fauna of the recreation regions and all natural property. It is natural that eco tourism will not expand successfully if some total of the means in use. As a result of illogical exploitation of the local resources the natural may lose the resource of self restoration, particularly it refers to the forests, the deprivation of which causes a lot of unconstructive ecological results. Protection of nature is the planned essential element of the development of eco tourism. It can fetch economical profit. This happens in eco tourism while equally the surroundings and business are well. Sometimes people's welfare is sacrificed to the preservation of the environment. It is essential to understand that tourism cannot build up without determined influence on the surroundings. It is not possible to create the main accent only on the improvement of tourism, without ecological care. One

of the main most important of the sustainable growth of eco tourism is including the inhabitant people into it

The preservation of natural, communal and cultural resources and their sustainable usage is the support of long and successful activities. There are three main principles of sustainable expansion: ecological sustainability provides comparing of basic ecological processes with biological diversity and biological resources; social and cultural sustainability predetermines such situations which provide people's control on their being along with material and cultural growth, which are concerned to this process of development. Also helps to save local originality; economical sustainability provides effectiveness of economic development and such situation when future generations will use chosen methods of handling the operation of the resources. The disturbance of the ecological system and the lost of cultural originality, will lead the decline of financial situation. So as to provide sustainable economy for tourism, tourist sustainability is needed. During the sustainable development of tourism the resources should be used so as to fulfill economic, communal and esthetic requirements, but at simultaneously maintain the uniqueness of the nation.

## 5. Conclusion

In order to make tourism sustainable, the nature of tourist behaviour and ability should forecast the existed natural and artificial resources throughout. The base of formation of tourism sustainable development is the conception of throughput potential. The increase of demand on eco tourism predetermined the requirement of founding protected areas and parks. Nowadays these areas represent the main substance of eco tourism. In the framework of especially protected natural region the organizers of eco tourism prefer scientific cognitive tourism, since they believe that such eco tours are easy to make. In the progression of development of tourism it is necessary to take into consideration not only financial gain, but also its environmental and communal results, because the development of this division won't be complete without its social monetary and environmental parts.

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