

Welcome

Sustainable Eco-Tourism in the face of Climate Change

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Definition

- Sustainable Development: *is 'a process to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.'*-the World Commission on Environment and Development (1987).
 - Economic sustainability
 - Social sustainability
 - Environmental sustainability

Eco-Tourism

- Ecotourism is now defined as "responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment, sustains the well-being of the local people, and involves interpretation and education" (TIES, 2015). Education is meant to be inclusive of both staff and guests.
- IUCN: "Environmentally responsible travel to natural areas, in order to enjoy and appreciate nature (and accompanying cultural features, both past and present) that promotes conservation, have a low visitor impact and provide for beneficially active socio-economic involvement of local peoples."

Climate Change

- Climate change is when the average long-term weather patterns of a region are altered for an extended period of time, typically decades or longer. Examples include shifts in wind patterns, the average temperature or the amount of precipitation. These changes can affect one region, many regions or the whole planet.

Goals of Eco-Tourism

- **Protection of the environment**
- **Economic Sustainability**
- **Cultural integrity and enhancement**
- **Education value**

Characteristics of Eco-Tourism

TIES:

- Involves travel to natural destinations
- Minimizes impact
- Builds environmental awareness
- Provides direct financial benefits for conservation
- Provides financial benefits and empowerment for local people
- Respects local culture
- Supports human rights and democratic movements

IUCN:

- Conscientious, low-impact visitor behavior
- Sensitivity towards, and appreciation of, local cultures and biodiversity
- Support for local conservation efforts
- Sustainable benefits to local communities
- Local participation in decision-making
- Educational components for both the traveler and local communities.

Purposes of Eco-Tourism

- conservation of [biological diversity](#) and [cultural diversity](#) through [ecosystem](#) protection
- promotion of [sustainable use](#) of biodiversity, by providing jobs to local populations
- sharing of socio-economic benefits with local communities and [indigenous peoples](#) by having their [informed consent](#) and participation in the management of ecotourism enterprises
- tourism to unspoiled natural resources, with minimal impact on the environment being a primary concern.
- minimization of tourism's own environmental impact
- affordability and lack of waste in the form of luxury
- local culture, flora and fauna being the main attractions
- local people benefit from this form of tourism economically, often more than mass tourism

Why should we go for Sustainable Eco-Tourism?

Kusler (2000), eco-tourism

- Can conform to existing infrastructure, accommodation, facilities and societies.
- is intensive and encourages desirable types of employment
- can help to protect the natural and cultural values of an area by attracting visitors who are respectful and appreciative of the destination.
- can provide financial support to protect natural and cultural areas that are being destroyed by over-fishing or other activities.
- helps to educate individuals throughout the society about the importance of preserving environment and culture
- offers educational and scientific research opportunities.

Relationship between Tourism and sustainable development

- Interaction
- Awareness
- Dependency
- Positive and Negative Impact

Key challenges for more sustainable tourism

- Managing dynamic growth
- Effects of Climate Change
- Poverty alleviation
- Support for conservation
- Health, safety and security

How to address the challenges in the face of climate change

- Regulation and accreditation
- Guidelines and education
- Small scale, slow growth and local control
- Efforts to preserve ecosystems at risk
- Natural Resource Management

Key Player of the Industry

- **Role of the Public Sector**

- Take the leadership role
- Involve key parties in the decision-making process
- Facilitate efficient private sector activity by minimizing market interference and relying on competition as a means of control.
- Ensure a sound macroeconomic environment
- Guarantee law and order, and the just settlement of disputes
- Ensure the provision of appropriate infrastructure
- Protect the public interest by regulation
- Acknowledge the role of small business entrepreneurs.

Role of the Private Sector

- Infrastructure development
- Marketing activities
- Environmental and cultural enhancement
- Human resource development-necessary for sustainable eco-tourism development
- Adopt the necessary practices to conserve the environment
- Take into consideration community attitudes and cultural values and concerns
- Include environmental assessment as an important step in considering any tourism site or project

Role of the Private Sector

- Make sure the assessment procedures consider the total, as well as the individual, environmental effects of all developments combined
- Encourage regular environmental and social audits of practices throughout the tourism industry and encourage necessary changes to harmful practices
- Increase the awareness of environmental and conservation principles in tourism management and amongst the staff
- Include conservation principles in education, training and planning of eco-tourism
- Enhance the tourists appreciation and understanding of the environment by providing accurate information and appropriate interpretation.

Bangladesh situation

- Problems and Prospects of Eco-tourism
- Potentialities in Chittagong Hill Tracts

Thank You