



AMERICAN JOURNAL OF TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY (AJTH)

ISSN: 2993-6519 (ONLINE)

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 1 (2024)

PUBLISHED BY

E-PALLI PUBLISHERS, DELAWARE, USA

Community-Based Tourism Implementation as Mediator on the Relationship between Community Participation and Socio-Economic Sustainability of Tourism

J. E. Escamis*, K. R. Hinlayagan¹

Article Information

Received: August 15, 2024

Accepted: September 16, 2024

Published: October 26, 2024

Keywords

Community-Based Tourism Implementation, Community Participation, Mediation, Philippines, Socio-Economic Sustainability, Tourism

ABSTRACT

This study explored the mediating effect of community-based tourism implementation on the relationship between community participation and the socio-economic sustainability of tourism in Marilog District. This study employed a quantitative method and stratified random sampling to select the 380 respondents. The survey was distributed to two areas in Marilog District: Barangay Baganihan and Barangay Datu Salumay. The data was evaluated to ascertain whether the variables had a statistical relationship. This study used non-experimental quantitative research, the descriptive-correlation approach, and mediation analysis. The weighted mean, Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient, multiple regression analysis, and path analysis were used to analyze the data. The result revealed that the respondents have high levels of community participation, socio-economic sustainability, and community-based tourism implementation. The relationship between community participation and socio-economic sustainability, community participation and community-based tourism implementation, and socio-economic sustainability and community-based tourism implementation were statistically significant. However, the indirect effect of community participation in socio-economic sustainability through community-based tourism implementation is insignificant and statistically supported by this study, indicating no significant mediation. The study findings' implications are presented.

INTRODUCTION

Tourism is one of the most rapidly increasing and resilient socio-economic industries in recent history (World Tourism Organization and Global Tourism Economy Research Centre, 2020). Yet, there are disadvantages to tourism that fall into the socioeconomic aspect of society (Manalo & Afable, 2023). As Chong (2019) investigated, a local community's reliance on tourism and a lack of efficient government oversight and active local participation will result in undesirable effects. As espoused by Goffi *et al.* (2019), high rates of foreign ownership, economic leakages, unequal distribution of development opportunities, growing alienation in the community, conflicts over access to scarce resources, increasing crime rates, overcrowding, and rising prices of goods, services, and property are some of the disadvantages of tourism in developing nations; wherein these negative socio-economic impacts are more prevalent (Baloch *et al.*, 2022).

Salehi *et al.* (2021) argued that adverse tourism outcomes in third-world countries could be mitigated by conducting tailor-fit and comprehensive research initiatives considering the local context, enabling the less developed nations to adapt to a more sustainable tourism development pattern. A destination could be more sustainable by allowing the host community to develop tourism-related policies, significantly boosting the community's morale (Phuong *et al.*, 2020).

Additionally, all the stakeholders, from ordinary community members to entrepreneurs, local leaders, groups, and the government, should be involved and

given equal voices concerning tourism policy planning and development (Kc *et al.*, 2021). As supported by Nordin and Jamal (2020), for tourism destinations to be sustainable, the local government should honor the local community's opinion in formulating tourism-related policies governing the destination. Meanwhile, as the World Tourism Organization and Global Tourism Economy Research Centre (2020) reported, over 4.6 billion people reside in cities in the Asia Pacific, more than the rural population. Hence, there is a pressing need for rural communities to address socio-economic difficulties and seek more robust and long-term socio-economic models (Liu *et al.*, 2023). Nonetheless, developing a tourism strategy that provides communities with sustainable and resilient socio-economic development is complex and requires a long-term commitment from all stakeholders (Ruiz-Ballesteros & Del Campo Tejedor, 2020).

Therefore, active community participation in a thorough, transparent, and permanent consultation process on the planning, designing, and managing of tourism projects, products, and services is a must (World Tourism Organization and Global Tourism Economy Research Centre (2020). Under the right circumstances, policies for managing and promoting sustainable tourism could significantly impact the competitiveness of tourism destinations (Khan *et al.*, 2021), and tourism expansion can influence socio-economic development (Mejjad *et al.*, 2022). However, in underdeveloped countries, challenges to critical factors in implementing sustainable tourism, such as political stability, institutional support, and decentralized structures, are

¹ International Tourism and Hospitality Management, Professional Schools, The University of Mindanao, Davao City, Philippines

* Corresponding author's e-mail: jescamis@umindanao.edu.ph

prevalent. Only by addressing these challenges can tourism enhance citizens' quality of life (Goffi *et al.*, 2019).

As observed by Lo and Janta (2020), in Thailand, loss of control arises from the fact that many tourist attractions and product and service innovations are overseen by a handful of individuals in the community or by external organizations with minimal or no involvement from the residents. In the same country, community-based tourism has been established to address communities' economic challenges and provide opportunities for sustainable development through a more engaged community. Systematically speaking, real-life hindrances to effective community participation in tourism development exist (Thees *et al.*, 2020). Structural limitations to community participation are associated with institutional power structures and legislative and economic systems (Mtapuri *et al.*, 2021). Structural constraints are associated with elite domination, professionals' role in shaping tourism policies, a need for more professional expertise in managing community participation, an appropriate legal system, and a deficiency of qualified human resources in the tourism sector. Other constraints are the inflated cost of community participation regarding time, money, and skills and the locals' need for more financial resources (Musavengane & Kloppers, 2020).

In the local setting, the researcher has yet to come across any studies conducted on the perception of community-based tourism implementation and how it relates to community participation and the socio-economic sustainability of tourism. Thus, based on the problem statement and the background of the research, and to address this research gap, this study will examine the mediating effect of community-based tourism implementation on the relationship between community participation and the socio-economic sustainability of tourism in Marilog District, Davao City. Previous tourism literature research significantly contributed to advancing knowledge about the importance of community participation in sustainable tourism development in various settings. However, there was a dearth of research further investigating the relationship between community participation in the socio-economic sustainability of tourism in destinations and the mediating effect of community-based tourism implementation and, primarily, utilizing global baselines in evaluating destinations formulated by an international organization such as the Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC). However, a few qualitative studies infusing the GSTC Criteria are noteworthy, such as the assessment of the level of compliance of the master plan strategy from Tanjung Kelayang Tourism (Andrariladchi & Arunotai, 2021) and measuring the concept of sustainable tourism in tourism facilities in the Sirokek Geopark (Anis *et al.*, 2023). A standalone quantitative investigation of socio-economic sustainability is essential and critical. Hence, the conduct of this study is undoubtedly urgent and adds to the existing body of knowledge addressing one of the challenges within tourism-related SDGs: SDG 11 or Sustainable Cities and Communities.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Community participation is a categorical terminology that, in certain situations, enables multiple types of engagement (direct, indirect, active, passive, etc.) at various levels—local, regional, and national (Wang *et al.*, 2021). In the tourism literature, particularly in ancient villages, community participation has been widely debated concerning sustainable tourism (Graci, 2020). Aside from fostering the economic and social development of the local community, community participation addresses the demands of visitors and enhances the value of the local tourism industry through volume growth, scale economies, and tourism diversification (Basile *et al.*, 2021), encouraging democratic processes, and can boost awareness of, engagement in, and concern for issues in territorial matters and assets (Basile *et al.*, 2021).

Enabling the host community to develop tourism-related policies could make a place more sustainable, positively affecting the community's morale (Phuong *et al.*, 2020). Additionally, all the stakeholders should be involved and be given equal voices concerning tourism policy planning and development (Kc *et al.*, 2021). Hence, the local government should honor the host community's opinion in formulating tourism-related policies governing the destination (Nordin & Jamal, 2020). Moreover, political stability, supportive institutions, and decentralized structures are critical issues in implementing a sustainable tourism planning approach in developing countries (Goffi *et al.*, 2019). Hence, it is imperative to decentralize the central government's power (administrative, political, and financial) to local government to implement locals' participation in tourism (Ezeuduji & Mgabhi, 2023).

The long-term involvement of all stakeholders in tourism planning and development is crucial in developing a rural tourism model and providing sustainable and resilient socio-economic changes for the community (World Tourism Organization and Global Tourism Economy Research Centre (2020). Increasingly, communities choose rural tourism as a tool for economic growth (Ezeuduji & Mgabhi, 2023). Rural tourism development seeks to improve the lives of those living in communities through active participation in various tourism offerings, such as employment creation (Streimikiene *et al.*, 2020), economic growth, infrastructure construction, preservation of local culture, and resource conservation.

Furthermore, local participation in the planning, maintenance, and implementation of the process of rural tourism development is essential—as the outcomes directly affect residents (Campo & De Guzman, 2024; Hassan *et al.*, 2022). Effective local participation in planning depends on using the correct community engagement methods (Basile *et al.*, 2021). Public awareness, education, and training impact residents' involvement in tourism-related activities (Obradović *et al.*, 2021).

Tourism is one of the world's largest industries. Regarding global exports, tourism is third behind fuels and chemicals and is the leading industry in many emerging nations (World Tourism Organization and Global Tourism Economy Research Centre (2020). A study conducted in

Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan, substantiated the positive impact of tourism on economic and social growth. Kozhokulov *et al.* (2019) validated that the economic aspect highly influences the social sphere. Furthermore, the study highlighted that the sector provides employment and, as a result, reduces migration within the community.

Moreover, the Issyk-Kul region's geographic characteristics and natural resources dictate where tourism businesses are located, which helps address socio-economic issues in rural and mountainous areas. Meanwhile, a different trend has been observed in Asia Pacific (World Tourism Organization and Global Tourism Economy Research Centre (2020). In addition to being more susceptible to poverty and population migration to urban regions, rural areas lack the economic boost of cities. Around 4.6 billion people live in the region in cities, compared to rural areas combined. Rural areas must look for more robust and sustainable economic strategies to address these socio-economic issues (Salehi *et al.*, 2021).

Under Section B, the Global Sustainable Tourism Council Destination Criteria v2.0 recommends supporting local entrepreneurs and fair trade, providing advice and financial support to tourism-related SMEs (Small and Medium Enterprises), and providing access to the market (Global Sustainable Tourism Council, 2021). A socioeconomically sustainable destination reflects its competitiveness. However, most people in developing nations do not gain much or at all from the growth of tourism, and they often work in unimportant jobs like street vending and other informal occupations (Akama & Kieti, 2007; Goffi *et al.*, 2019).

The tourism industry is multidimensional, dispersed, and market-driven, and its socioeconomic effects are not always accurately understood and immediately observed (Kronenberg & Fuchs, 2021; Sak *et al.*, 2022; Stabler *et al.*, 2009). Socio-economic development is driven by the notion that economic activities always occur within a societal context. In contrast to neoclassical economic theory, economic development does not constitute economic growth related to increases in GDP (Gross Domestic Product). Instead, it considers the social implications of economic activities, in which development is primarily a social matter. This validates the statement that the economic sphere directly influences the social aspect.

Most Community-Based Tourism (CBT) policy challenges are related to defining participation, especially in emerging economies where communities are not heterogeneous and frequently face socio-cultural and political structures that do not easily align with democratic participation ideas. These challenges are in addition to the recurring hindrances associated with a need for more skills, knowledge, and favorable public policy (Dolezal & Novelli, 2020). According to Arintoko *et al.* (2020), the ownership, management, operation, and oversight of tourism-related enterprises should be community-owned, and a draft policy incorporating the ideas of participation, empowerment, transparency,

and justice is required for sustainable tourism, which is used as a global standard for tourism development. As perpetuated by Yanes *et al.* (2019), a pattern becomes evident when considering tourism scholars' identified elements. Unequal power relations within and between the community and stakeholders are the primary cause of most CBT barriers. For community-based tourism to grow equitably and sustainably, the issue of power relations must be addressed.

This study is anchored on the theory of the ladder of citizen participation formulated by Arnstein (1969). Community participation (CP) is an essential strategy for sustainable tourism development in rural communities. According to the theory, eight ladders evolve into three phrases. The seventh rung (delegated power) is how community members gain control over planning and decision-making. Finally, the eighth rung (citizen control) is where locals acquire dominant control over organizing and making decisions. Community participation has been adopted to improve development and conservation projects. Through community participation, tourism development incorporates the opinions of the local community, which can help fulfill the locals' expectations. The study's independent variable, community participation, is linked to this theory.

Furthermore, this study is aligned with the Stages Model. The Stages Model is used to analyze public policies, offering an upright design for the methodical framework used to examine public policies. According to this model, public policymaking procedures can be divided into numerous stages. The policy cycle has five phases, i.e., agenda setting, policy formulation, policy adaptation/decision making, implementation, and evaluation (Howlett & Ramesh, 1995). This study's mediating variable, community-based tourism implementation, is heavily linked to this specific theory of how it affects sustainable development.

Lastly, this study is rooted in the theoretical perspective on equity. Equity represents the social aspects of sustainable development (Jabareen, 2009). As corroborated by Haughton (2021), the social dimension is critical since an unjust society is unlikely to be environmentally or economically sustainable in the long run. Equity encompasses a variety of concepts, including environmental, social, and economic justice, social equity, equal rights for development, quality of life, equal economic distribution, freedom, democracy, public participation, and empowerment. The dependent variable of this study, socio-economic sustainability, is linked to this perspective.

This study aimed to elucidate the mediating effect of community-based tourism implementation on the relationship between community participation and tourism's socio-economic sustainability. First, this research is specifically pursued to measure community participation in tourism regarding information exchange, education and support building, decision-making supplements, representational input (active), and representational

input (passive). The second research objective was to assess the socio-economic sustainability of tourism in terms of its economic contribution, work and career opportunities, local entrepreneurs and fair trade, support for the community, exploitation and discrimination, property and user rights, safety and security, and access for all. Third, this study aimed to ascertain the level of the community's perception of the implementation of community-based tourism in the area in terms of the principle of participation, administrative governance, capacity development and assessment, protection of community rights, and distribution of benefits. Fourth, this study aimed to discover the significant relationship between community participation and socio-economic sustainability, community participation and community-based tourism implementation, and community-based tourism implementation and socio-economic sustainability.

The independent variable is community participation, which has five indicators: information exchange, education, support building, decision-making supplements, representational input—active, and representational input – passive (Shani & Pizam, 2011). Information sharing entails utilizing technology, encouraging collaboration, guaranteeing education and training, and upholding transparency to improve visitor satisfaction and destination sustainability. Education and support building guarantees that the local community comprehends tourism's advantages and negative impacts. This can encourage a sense of ownership among community members and increase support for sustainable tourism practices. Decision-making supplements refer to the availability of avenues to verbally challenge authority figures and opportunities to take legal action to dispute or modify governmental intentions. Representational input (active) refers to the community's opportunities to vote on the proposed tourism development plans and appropriate community representation. Representational input (passive) refers to systematic approaches through group sessions and procedures to allow the community to rank tourism development preferences.

The dependent variable is socio-economic sustainability, with the following indicators: economic contribution of tourism, work, and career opportunities; local entrepreneurs and fair trade; support for community; exploitation and discrimination; property and user rights; safety and security; and access to all (Global Sustainable Tourism Council, 2021). The economic contribution of tourism pertains to the availability of data about the contribution of tourism to the destination's economy. Work and career opportunities refer to the availability of training programs and commitment to provide decent and inclusive work opportunities for the community. Local entrepreneurs and fair trade refer to any assistance the community can receive to become part of the tourism value chain. Support for the community pertains to facilitating local tourism enterprises to support the community and create sustainable initiatives. Exploitation

and discrimination refer to the legislation in place to protect the community from exploitation (child labor, human trafficking), as well as discrimination. Property and user rights pertain to legislation regarding property rights and acquisitions in the destination. Safety and security refer to programs that ensure the security and availability of health services in the destination. Access for all pertains to accessibility in the destination's tourism facilities, which promotes inclusive travel.

In this study, the mediating variable is community-based tourism implementation, which has the following indicators: the principle of participation, administrative governance, capacity development and assessment, protection of community rights, and distribution of benefits (Yanes *et al.*, 2019). The principle of participation refers to recognizing various organizational structures, effective and equitable dispute resolution, and assimilation of regional and local stakeholder expectations. Administrative governance is defined as the procedures and structures that govern political and socioeconomic connections, as well as the policy implementation system. Capacity development refers to programs and policies that highlight the importance of local leadership in the destination. Protecting community rights means advocating for self-governance within the local community. Distribution of benefits refers to the fairness of allocation among the citizens in a specific economy.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study's respondents are 380 residents from identified locations in the Marilog District. The area is designated a forest reserve because of its high mountain ranges, diverse vegetation, and good climate, all of which contribute to its high biodiversity. Marilog District is bordered to the northeast by Davao City, to the south by Kitaotao, Bukidnon, and to the east by Arakan, North Cotabato, with a total land area of 63,800 hectares (Dadang *et al.*, 2020). Siddiqui (2016) and Olivar (2021) highlighted that at least 380 respondents are needed to generate significant insights. The researcher chose Barangay Datu Salumay and Barangay Baganihan because these areas have prominent tourist attractions such as the Bemwa Farm, Seagull Mountain Resort, and Epol Spring Falls. Furthermore, in the Marilog District, the Philippine Department of Tourism has identified multiple community-based tourism sites. Currently, Marilog District has a total of 24,201 residents. The sample size has been derived using the Raosoft sample size calculator from the total population of Marilog District to calculate the minimum number of samples needed (Memon *et al.*, 2020).

Furthermore, stratified random sampling was used to acquire a sampling frame. As explained by Aoyama (1954) and Olivar (2021), such a sampling method could determine the estimation of the population parameters from the weighted sample data, which were obtained using the said method from each stratum. The study was conducted from March to May 2024 in the school year

2023 – 2024. The respondents are legal age, graduates of secondary education, and residents of Marilog District in Davao City who have lived for at least two years. Moreover, respondents should be formally employed in any tourism-related establishments or at least involved in the tourism sector or activities of any sort in the locality through associations or organizations. The research survey was performed within the identified geographic setting; the choice of respondents will be made randomly based on the potential participant's willingness to know the intent of the analysis. This is to ensure that the study accounts for all the responses to provide answers to the study's goals. The researcher determines how to recruit the respondents.

The excluded respondents are undergraduates in secondary education, non-residents of Marilog District in Davao City, and underage residents (not of legal age). Moreover, respondents who are not formally employed in any tourism-related establishments or at least involved in the tourism sector or activities of any sort in the locality through associations or organizations are excluded from the conduct of the study. Finally, respondents from the geographic setting's vulnerable sector, specifically indigenous people, were excluded from the study.

A participant is free to withdraw from the research study at any time. When withdrawing from the study, the participant must inform the researcher that they should leave before withdrawing. While not required, a participant may give the researcher reason(s) for ceasing participation in the study. Due to the voluntary nature of research participation, the researcher will orient and emphasize each participant's right to decline to take part at any time without incurring any fees or losing any benefits to which they may otherwise be entitled.

Primary data was gathered using a validated survey instrument. The different contents and components of the instrument were adapted and extracted from several similar studies: community participation (Shani & Pizam, 2011), socio-economic sustainability (Global Sustainable Tourism Council, 2021), and community-based tourism implementation (Yanes *et al.*, 2019). The instrument underwent revisions and reconstructions on the recommendations provided by expert validators, who gave them an average score of 4.60. After the validation, a pilot test with a Cronbach alpha of 0.989 was done to determine the instrument's validity. Cronbach's alpha is a metric to evaluate a scale's or test item's internal consistency or reliability (Tavakol & Dennick, 2011).

The five-level Likert scale, which goes from 1 (Very Low) to 5 (Very High), was employed to measure each variable (Nemoto & Beglar, 2014). To evaluate the level of community participation (CP), socio-economic sustainability of tourism (SEST), and community-based tourism implementation (CBTI) perception of residents in Marilog District, the following matrix was used; With a range of means of 4.21-5.00, it is described as Very high; it means that community participation (CP), socio-economic sustainability of tourism (SEST), and

community-based tourism implementation (CBTI) are always observed or managed; With a range of means of 3.41-4.20, it is described as High, which means that community participation (CP), socio-economic sustainability of tourism (SEST), and community-based tourism implementation (CBTI) are often observed or managed; With a range of means of 2.61-3.40, it is described as Moderate, which means that community participation (CP), socio-economic sustainability of tourism (SEST), and community-based tourism implementation (CBTI) are sometimes observed or managed; With a range of means of 1.81-2.60 described as low, this means that community participation (CP), socio-economic sustainability of tourism (SEST), and community-based tourism implementation (CBTI) are seldom observed or managed; With a range of means of 1.00-1.80 described as very low, community participation (CP), socio-economic sustainability of tourism (SEST), and community-based tourism implementation (CBTI) are never observed or managed.

This study uses a quantitative, non-experimental research design based on correlational techniques. The correlational technique is a non-experimental design where the researcher examines the relationship between two or more variables in a natural setting without manipulation or control. In correlational studies, the researchers investigate the strength of associations between variables by examining how change in one variable correlated with change in the other (Olivar, 2021).

Moreover, a mediation model is used in this study. The mediation model seeks to identify and explicate the mechanism or process that underlies an observed relationship between an independent variable (community participation) and a dependent variable (socio-economic sustainability) via the inclusion of a third explanatory variable, known as a mediator variable (community-based tourism implementation). Rather than hypothesizing a direct causal relationship between the independent and dependent variables, a mediational model hypothesizes that the independent variable influences the mediator variable, which influences the dependent variable. Thus, the mediator variable serves to clarify the nature of the relationship between the independent and dependent variables (MacKinnon, 2012; Olivar, 2021).

The researcher sought approval from the University of Mindanao Ethical Review Committee (UMERC) before data collection. After being approved, permission to conduct the study was requested. In the data collection, the researcher sent a permission letter for the study to the barangay captains of Barangay Datu Salumay and Barangay Baganihan in Marilog District, seeking kind approval. Before signing and testing, the researcher needed to justify the study's conduct to the selected barangays. When conducting research studies, the researcher followed the protocol imposed in the area. With the barangay official's benign approval, the researcher submitted the endorsement letters to the same office and, as a result, requested permission to distribute

the survey questionnaires to the residents. Moreover, the researcher collaborated with the Sangguniang Kabataan (Youth Council) officers of Barangay Baganihan and Barangay Datu Salumay to properly profile the respondents in the area. Following acceptance, the respondents were briefed on the purpose of the study by the researcher, who explained all the items individually and thoroughly to ensure valid and reliable results. Then, a Certificate of Appearance was obtained from the barangay hall concerned to vouch that the researcher honestly collected the data from the study's research respondents. Consequently, the data gathered were tallied, tabulated, analyzed, and interpreted statistically.

During the data analysis, the researcher applied the following statistical techniques: The level of community participation, socio-economic sustainability, and community-based tourism implementation were quantified using the mean, and the Pearson Product Moment Correlation (Pearson R) was used to determine the interrelationships between the variables. Moreover, regression as input to the graph was used to determine the significance of mediation of community-based tourism implementation on the relationship between community participation and the socio-economic sustainability of tourism in Marilog District. Lastly, the Sobel Z Test was used to determine whether a variable carries or mediates the effect of an independent variable on the dependent variable, which is the outcome of interest.

The researcher ensured that all relevant ethical guidelines were observed, followed, and upheld throughout the study. Before distributing the survey questionnaires, the researcher ensured that the data instrument had been examined and authorized by the University of Mindanao Ethical Review Committee (UMERC). Additionally, because the study entails human participation, the

researcher followed the evaluation and defined criteria in the research protocol, especially while handling the population and the data. On the Certificate of Approval (Appendix J) issued by the U MERC, the protocol number U MERC-2024-004 is listed. By securing consent, the researcher ensured that the study participants were invited to participate.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this segment, the data set's outputs on the mediating effect of community-based tourism implementation on the relationship between community participation and the socioeconomic sustainability of tourism in Marilog District are presented, analyzed, interpreted, and ordered based on the research objectives. The order of the discussion on the mentioned topic is as follows: First, level of community participation; second, level of socio-economic sustainability; third, level of community-based tourism implementation perception; fourth, the correlation concerning community participation and socio-economic sustainability, community participation and of community-based tourism implementation, and community-based tourism implementation and socio-economic sustainability. Lastly, the results of the mediation analysis were also presented.

Presented in Table 1 are the descriptive statistics in measuring the level of community participation (CP) as perceived by the respondents, with an overall mean of 3.85 (SD=0.85), with the descriptive equivalent of high. The result of the study revealed that the high level of community participation is gathered from the high ratings of its five indicators, to include information exchange (\bar{x} = 3.83, SD=0.88), education and support building (\bar{x} = 3.92, SD= 0.89), decision-making supplements (\bar{x} = 3.81, SD= 1.00), representational input (active) (\bar{x} = 3.84, SD= 0.98), and representational input (passive) (\bar{x} = 3.85, SD= 1.03).

Table 1: Level of Community Participation (CP) of Marilog District Residents

Indicator	SD	Mean	Descriptive Level
Information Exchange	0.88	3.83	High
Education And Support Building	0.89	3.92	High
Decision-Making Supplements	1.00	3.81	High
Representational Input (Active)	0.98	3.84	High
Representation Input (Passive)	1.03	3.85	High
Overall	0.85	3.85	High

As shown by the results, the residents of Marilog District appear to affirm the existence and availability of various avenues to institute community participation (CP) in tourism development in the area, primarily the local government's initiative in education and support building. Moreover, the respondents also attested that representation input (passive) related activities are being conducted as part of the tourism development process, such as conducting surveys and group sessions to assess the majority's preferences. On the other hand, the indicator with the lowest mean score in this variable is

'decision-making supplements.' This result suggests that residents need help to sway the decisions of those in authority concerning tourism development in the area.

The study shows that the level of community participation in tourism development in Marilog District, as perceived by the residents, is high, which means that they are observed most of the time. Moreover, the results revealed that the government's education and support-building initiatives are high. It indicates that the community has access to avenues to raise petitions and

attempts to educate the decision-makers regarding their views, opinions, and preferences concerning tourism development. As evaluated by Birkić *et al.* (2019), local inhabitants' attitudes must be considered during the decision-making process for future tourism development, and they must be able to express their sentiments concerning employment, standard of living, and product development, among others. Community involvement is crucial to sustainable tourism development, given that it safeguards the ecological and cultural history of the area, maintains destinations' authenticity, and lessens the adverse effects of mass tourism (Nugraha *et al.*, 2024). Furthermore, decision-making supplements gained the lowest mean score in this variable. This result may indicate that residents find it difficult to sway the decisions of those in authority regarding tourism development in the area. This result is associated with Tosun's Model of Community Participation in Tourism, which consists of three levels: spontaneous, induced, and coercive. Spontaneous participation is the highest among the three typologies, wherein citizens have the power and authority to express and influence the decision-making and planning process in tourism development (Dong & Nguyen, 2022).

In contrast, the lowest level of empowerment results in coercive participation, which translates to lesser influence and benefits for the community, ultimately resulting in antagonism and a lack of local support for any destination development strategy the developers employ for sustainable and competitive tourism (Iqbal *et al.*, 2023). If destinations listened to residents' opinions

during the early planning phases, issues could be resolved promptly, and mistakes could be avoided. Residents are recognized for assisting decision-makers in making better decisions, solutions, and design services because of their lived experiences and personal knowledge (Lalicić & Önder, 2018). According to Khalid *et al.* (2019), giving marginalized groups and local communities a voice and power is synonymous with community empowerment, which is why it is centered on the participation and collective action of all community members rather than individual acts. Environmentally friendly tourism can flourish and bring long-term economic and social advantages if sound and strict regulations about resource development, environmental conservation, and local community empowerment are implemented (Nugraha *et al.*, 2024).

The descriptive statistics results on measuring the level of socio-economic sustainability of tourism (SEST) as perceived by the respondents in Marilog District are presented in Table 2. The overall mean for socio-economic sustainability is 3.92 (SD = 0.84), which is considered high. The high level might be attributable to the respondents' assessments of its eight indicators, which all achieved a high descriptive equivalent. These are economic contribution of tourism (\bar{x} =3.94, SD=1.03), work and career opportunities (\bar{x} =3.96, SD=0.93), local entrepreneurs and fair trade (\bar{x} =3.89, SD=0.93), support for community (\bar{x} =3.88, SD=0.99), exploitation and discrimination (\bar{x} =3.91, SD=0.91), property and user rights (\bar{x} =3.90, SD=0.91), safety and security (\bar{x} =3.91, SD=1.00), and access for all (\bar{x} =3.99, SD=0.89).

Table 2: Level of Socio-Economic Sustainability of Tourism (SEST) in Marilog District

Indicator	SD	Mean	Descriptive Level
Economic Contribution of Tourism	1.03	3.94	High
Work and Career Opportunities	0.93	3.96	High
Local Entrepreneurs and Fair Trade	0.93	3.89	High
Support for Community	0.99	3.88	High
Exploitation and Discrimination	0.91	3.91	High
Property and User Rights	0.91	3.90	High
Safety and Security	1.00	3.91	High
Access For All	0.89	3.99	High
Overall	0.84	3.92	High

As highlighted in the results, 'access for all' garnered the highest mean score in this variable, indicating that the residents of Marilog District affirm the presence of regulations and standards regarding the accessibility of tourism in the area. Accessibility in tourism is an essential criterion for a socio-economically sustainable destination, according to the standards established by the Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC). Moreover, the respondents attested to the area's availability of work and career opportunities due to tourism. On the other hand, the indicator with the lowest mean score in this variable is 'community support.' This result suggests that

local tourism enterprises' support for local community and sustainability initiatives should be more frequently encouraged and facilitated in the Marilog District.

As Gillovic and McIntosh (2020) discussed, scholars have long characterized tourism as exclusive; therefore, addressing the industry's lack of accessibility that contributes to social injustice is necessary. In the field of studies about inclusive tourism development, accessibility is a crucial factor to consider while seeking new ideas and proposals to combat socio-economic exclusions and barriers. Promoting the growth of sustainable tourism development, particularly accessible travel, enhances the

standard of living, increases the degree of satisfaction from guests' stay, continually raises the standard of services, gains new values, and enhances promotional initiatives and dissemination as an inclusive tourism destination (Petrevska, 2019).

Community support, on the other hand, has the lowest mean but remains high. This finding suggests that local tourism enterprises' support for local community and sustainability initiatives is not frequently encouraged and facilitated in Marilog District. Community leaders

and local politicians should actively act as a link between internal and external forces. By demonstrating to the locals that tourism growth benefits them rather than places expenses on them, they should be able to win their confidence (Khalid *et al.*, 2019). When community members feel their interests are acknowledged, they enthusiastically support and participate in tourism development activities. Governments should also ensure transparency during tourism planning and management to gain the community's trust.

Table 3: Level of Community-Based Tourism Implementation (CBTI) Perception in Marilog District

Indicator	SD	Mean	Descriptive Level
Principle of Participation	0.90	3.85	High
Administrative Governance	0.88	3.86	High
Capacity Development and Assessment	0.92	3.83	High
Protection of Community Rights	0.90	3.84	High
Distribution of Benefits	0.94	3.87	High
Overall	0.82	3.85	High

Table 3 presents the descriptive statistics for measuring the level of community-based tourism implementation the respondents perceive. Results of the study showed that community-based tourism implementation (CBTI) garnered an overall mean score of 3.85 (SD=0.82), which is defined as high. The high descriptive equivalent reflects the high levels of its five indicators, including principle of participation (\bar{x} =0.90, SD=3.85), administrative governance (\bar{x} =3.86, SD=0.88), capacity development and assessment (\bar{x} =3.83, SD=0.92), protection of community rights (\bar{x} =3.84, SD=0.90), and distribution of benefits (\bar{x} =3.87, SD=0.94).

The results revealed that the local community affirms a mechanism for equitable profit distribution as generated from community-based tourism in Marilog District. On the other hand, the item with the lowest mean score in this variable is 'capacity development and assessment.' This might imply that implementing community-based tourism in the Marilog District needs tourism development leadership within the community, as the respondents perceive. Moreover, this finding might also suggest that the destination heavily relies on external actors to start and lead tourism-related initiatives and projects in the area.

According to Yeboah (2021), equitable sharing of ecotourism benefits could improve sustainable lives, transforming differences into cooperation if compromises are reached collaboratively. In many situations, careful attention to distribution issues and encouraging local-level stewardship of natural resources have been crucial to fulfilling sustainable development objectives. Meanwhile, capacity development and assessment achieved the lowest mean score for the mediating variable. This implies that implementing community-based tourism in Marilog District, as perceived by the respondents, needs more tourism development leadership within the

community. Moreover, this finding might also suggest that the destination heavily relies on external actors to start and lead tourism-related initiatives and projects in the area. Roxas *et al.* (2018) argue that for tourism to be socio-economically sustainable, the need for community leadership to sustain local jobs and avoid elite capture is critical for long-term sustainable development. Involving those participating and affected by tourism activities can stimulate community members' sense of ownership. Tourism's economic activities may not be beneficial to a destination's local community if there is insufficient community ownership and engagement. Moreover, ensuring sustainable and equitable development is of greater significance than merely augmenting economic growth and per capita GDP.

Table 4 presents the significance of the relationship between the independent variable (socio-economic sustainability), dependent variable (community participation), and mediating variable (community-based tourism implementation). The association between the variables was determined using the bivariate correlation analysis.

The correlation analysis between community participation and socio-economic sustainability has revealed a positive relationship between variables, as shown in its r-value of 0.8007. Its probability value of 0.000 and significance of 0.05 rejected the null hypothesis, indicating no significant relationship between community participation and socio-economic sustainability in Marilog District.

Furthermore, the correlation analysis between community participation and community-based tourism implementation also showed a positive and strong connection with an R-value of 0.8528 and significance at 0.05 with a probability value of 0.000. Hence, the null hypothesis of no significant relationship between the two variables is rejected.

Lastly, the correlation analysis between community-based tourism implementation and socio-economic sustainability revealed an r-value of 0.1077, significant at

0.05, with a probability value of 0.000. Thus, this rejects the null hypothesis, stating that the two variables have no significant relationship.

Table 4: Correlation analysis between variables

Pair	Variables	Correlation Coefficient	p-value	Decision on Ho
IV → DV	Community participation and socio-economic sustainability	0.8007	0.000	Reject
IV → MV	Community participation and community-based tourism implementation	0.8528	0.000	Reject
MV → DV	Community-based tourism implementation and socio-economic sustainability	0.1077	0.000	Reject

The positive correlation between community participation and socio-economic sustainability in Marilog District validates similar studies highlighting the importance of community involvement in social capital development and employment (Carius & Job, 2021). The more the community participates in tourism development, the more benefits have been noted for the residents' socio-economic well-being.

Furthermore, in Marilog District, the correlation between community participation and community-based tourism implementation was statistically validated. According to Dolezal and Novelli (2020), community-based tourism, as a sustainable tourism development strategy, encourages community involvement and eventually empowers the host community. This ideology highlights one of the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals, specifically SDG 17: Partnership for Goals.

Lastly, this study has statistically authenticated the positive correlation between community-based tourism implementation and socio-economic sustainability in Marilog District. As corroborated by Mtapuri *et al.* (2021), a sustainable community-based tourism model improves the development of a local economy. Furthermore, this sustainable approach to tourism prevents economic leakage,

which has a negative impact on destinations. Hence, the local community enjoys equal economic distribution, and destinations tend to be more competitive.

Furthermore, the result of the mediating analysis is shown in Figure 1. The independent variable, community participation (CP), significantly influences the mediating variable, community-based tourism implementation (CBTI), and the dependent variable, socio-economic sustainability (SES). Community-based tourism implementation also has a significant effect on socio-economic sustainability. Community participation has a strong and significant direct impact on socio-economic sustainability. However, the indirect effect of community participation in socio-economic sustainability through community-based tourism implementation is not significant. This implies that while community-based tourism implementation plays a role, the direct influence of community participation on socio-economic sustainability is more pronounced, and the mediation effect of community-based tourism implementation is not statistically supported in this case, indicating no significant mediation. Further, the findings of the effect size computation of the mediation test between the three variables are also shown in the figure.

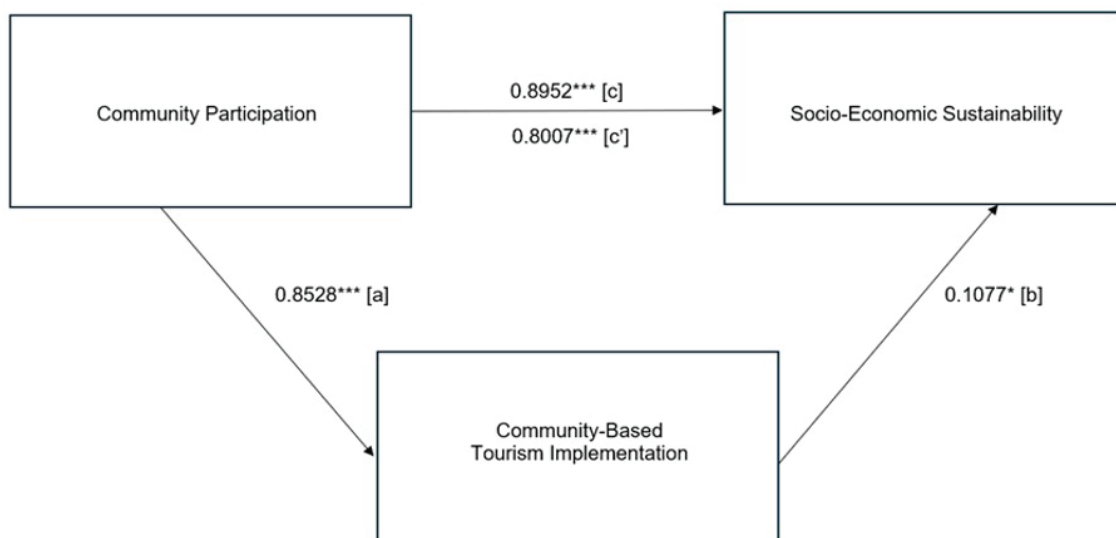


Figure 1: Medgraph Showing the Mediating Effect of Community-Based Tourism Implementation on the Relationship Between Community Participation and Socio-Economic Sustainability

CONCLUSIONS

The study on Marilog District's tourism development found high levels of community participation, with notable results in education, support building, and active representation. However, decision-making involvement was notably lower, aligning with the "Ladder of Citizen Participation" theory, which suggests that tokenistic engagement is unsustainable. The author recommends adopting best practices from successful models like the Bojo Aloguinsan Ecotourism Association (BAETAS). Furthermore, the author suggests that Davao City's 3rd Congressional District representative proposed legislation to enhance community-based tourism (CBT) in Marilog District. Socio-economic development in the district also scored highly, particularly in access and career opportunities, though community support was weaker. The study advises the City Government of Davao to establish policies encouraging local tourism enterprises to pursue sustainable initiatives with appropriate financial and incentive support.

The implementation of CBT was rated positively, especially in benefit distribution, administrative governance, and participation. However, the capacity development aspect was rated poorly, indicating a reliance on external parties and a lack of local leadership. The study suggests that developing local leaders or "local tourism champions" is crucial for driving sustainable tourism efforts. The research also confirmed a strong direct relationship between community participation and socio-economic sustainability, but community-based tourism implementation did not significantly mediate this relationship. Thus, the study recommends creating a policy framework or legislation to boost community participation in tourism and promote sustainable tourism practices. Future research should include perspectives from indigenous communities and policymakers involved in CBT frameworks.

REFERENCES

- Akama, J. S., & Kieti, D. (2007). Tourism and socio-economic development in developing countries: A case study of Mombasa Resort in Kenya. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 15(6), 735–748. <https://doi.org/10.2167/jost543.0>
- Arintoko, A., Ahmad, A. A., Gunawan, D. S., & Supadi, S. (2020). Community-based tourism village development strategies: A case of Borobudur tourism village area, Indonesia. *GeoJournal of Tourism and Geosites*, 29(2), 398–413. <https://doi.org/10.30892/gtg.29202-477>
- Andrariladchi, H., & Arunotai, N. (2021). Sustainable tourism destination assessment as a baseline for Tanjung Kelayang tourism development. *Indonesian Scholars Scientific Summit Taiwan Proceeding*, 3, 64–75. <https://doi.org/10.52162/3.2021114>
- Anis, A., Putra, H. S., Azhar, Z., & Rahmadani, T. (2023). Global Sustainable Tourism Council criteria (GSTC) approach in sustainable tourism planning. In *Advances in economics, business and management research* (pp. 182–189). https://doi.org/10.2991/978-94-6463-158-6_16
- Aoyama, H. (1954). A study of stratified random sampling. *Annals of the Institute of Statistical Mathematics*, 6(1), 1–36.
- Arnstein, S. R. (1969). A ladder of citizen participation. *Journal of the American Institute of Planners*, 35(4), 216–224. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01944366908977225>
- Baloch, Q. B., Shah, S. N., Iqbal, N., Sheeraz, M., Asadullah, M., Mahar, S., & Khan, A. U. (2022). Impact of tourism development upon environmental sustainability: a suggested framework for sustainable ecotourism. *Environmental Science and Pollution Research*, 30(3), 5917–5930. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11356-022-22496-w>
- Basile, G., Tani, M., Sciarelli, M., & Ferri, M. A. (2021). Community participation as a driver of sustainable tourism. The case of an Italian village: Marettimo Island. *Sinergie Italian Journal of Management*, 39(1), 81–102. <https://doi.org/10.7433/s114.2021.06>
- Birkić, D., Primužak, A., & Erdeljac, N. (2019). Sustainable tourism development of coastal destination: The role and the significance of local residents. *Tourism in South East Europe*. <https://doi.org/10.20867/tosee.05.21>
- Campo, C. M., & De Guzman, R. B. (2024). Tourism through local eyes: A potential assessment of Danawan Lake. *American Journal of Tourism and Hospitality*, 2(1), 52–55. <https://doi.org/10.54536/ajth.v2i1.2585>
- Carius, F., & Job, H. (2021). Community involvement and tourism revenue sharing as contributing factors to the UN Sustainable Development Goals in Jozani-Chwaka Bay National Park and Biosphere Reserve, Zanzibar. In *Routledge eBooks* (pp. 122–142). <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003145516-8>
- Chong, K. L. (2019). The side effects of mass tourism: The voices of Bali islanders. *Asia Pacific Journal of Tourism Research*, 25(2), 157–169. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10941665.2019.1683591>
- Dadang, R. J., Casinillo, N. G. B., Coritico, F. P., Simborio, L. T., & Amoroso, V. B. (2020). Living with endangered species: Collection of tree ferns in the forest-reserve of Marilog district, Southern Philippines. *Trees Forests and People*, 2, 100041. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tfp.2020.100041>
- Dolezal, C., & Novelli, M. (2020). Power in community-based tourism: empowerment and partnership in Bali. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 30(10), 2352–2370. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09669582.2020.1838527>
- Dong, X. D., & Nguyen, T. Q. T. (2022). Power, community involvement, and sustainability of tourism destinations. *Tourist Studies*, 23(1), 62–79. <https://doi.org/10.1177/14687976221144335>
- Ezeuduji, I. O., & Mgabhi, N. Z. (2023). Potential for Rural Tourism Development around Hluhluwe iMfolozi Park, South Africa: A Local Community Perspective. *African Journal of Development Studies (Formerly*

- AFFRIKA Journal of Politics Economics and Society*), 13(1), 89–113. <https://doi.org/10.31920/2634-3649/2023/v13n1a5>
- Gillovic, B., & McIntosh, A. (2020). Accessibility and Inclusive Tourism Development: current state and future agenda. *Sustainability*, 12(22), 9722. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su12229722>
- Global Sustainable Tourism Council. (2021). *GSTC destination criteria*. <https://www.gstccouncil.org/gstc-criteria/gstc-destination-criteria/>
- Goffi, G., Cucculelli, M., & Masiero, L. (2019). Fostering tourism destination competitiveness in developing countries: The role of sustainability. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 209, 101–115. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2018.10.208>
- Graci, S. (2020). Collaboration and partnership development for sustainable tourism. In *Routledge eBooks* (pp. 232–249). <https://doi.org/10.1201/9780429324253-14>
- Hassan, T. H., Salem, A. E., & Abdelmoaty, M. A. (2022). Impact of Rural Tourism Development on Residents' Satisfaction with the Local Environment, Socio-Economy and Quality of Life in Al-Ahsa Region, Saudi Arabia. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 19(7), 4410. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph19074410>
- Houghton, G. (2021). Environmental justice and the sustainable city. In *Routledge eBooks* (pp. 62–79). <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315800462-6>
- Howlett, M., & Ramesh, M. (1995). *Studying Public Policy Policy Cycles and Policy Subsystems* (p. 163). Oxford: Oxford University Press. - References - Scientific Research Publishing. (n.d.). <https://www.scirp.org/reference/referencespapers?referenceid=2782831>
- Iqbal, A., Ramachandran, S., Ling, S. M., Subramaniam, T., & Latiff, K. (2023). Insights into the Role of Community Participation as a Tool for Local Support: A Normative Model for Competitive and Sustainable Destination Development. *International Journal of Academic Research in Business and Social Sciences*, 13(1). <https://doi.org/10.6007/ijarbss/v13-i1/15600>
- Jabareen, Y. (2009). Building a conceptual framework: philosophy, definitions, and procedure. *International Journal of Qualitative Methods*, 8(4), 49–62. <https://doi.org/10.1177/160940690900800406>
- Kc, B., Dhungana, A., & Dangi, T. B. (2021). Tourism and the sustainable development goals: Stakeholders' perspectives from Nepal. *Tourism Management Perspectives*, 38, 100822. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tmp.2021.100822>
- Khalid, S., Ahmad, M. S., Ramayah, T., Hwang, J., & Kim, I. (2019). Community Empowerment and Sustainable Tourism Development: The mediating role of community support for tourism. *Sustainability*, 11(22), 6248. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su11226248>
- Khan, M. R., Khan, H. U. R., Lim, C. K., Tan, K. L., & Ahmed, M. F. (2021). Sustainable Tourism Policy, Destination Management and Sustainable Tourism Development: a Moderated-Mediation Model. *Sustainability*, 13(21), 12156. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su132112156>
- Kozhokulov, S., Chen, X., Yang, D., Issanova, G., Samarkhanov, K., & Aliyeva, S. (2019). Assessment of tourism Impact on the Socio-Economic spheres of the Issyk-Kul Region (Kyrgyzstan). *Sustainability*, 11(14), 3886. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su11143886>
- Kronenberg, K., & Fuchs, M. (2021). The socio-economic impact of regional tourism: an occupation-based modelling perspective from Sweden. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 30(12), 2785–2805. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09669582.2021.1924757>
- Lalicic, L., & Önder, I. (2018). Residents' Involvement in Urban Tourism Planning: Opportunities from a Smart City Perspective. *Sustainability*, 10(6), 1852. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su10061852>
- Liu, Y., Chiang, J., & Ko, P. (2023). The benefits of tourism for rural community development. *Humanities and Social Sciences Communications*, 10(1). <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41599-023-01610-4>
- Lo, Y., & Janta, P. (2020). Resident's Perspective on Developing Community-Based Tourism – A Qualitative study of Muen Ngoen Kong Community, Chiang Mai, Thailand. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 11. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2020.01493>
- MacKinnon, D. P. (2012). Introduction to Statistical Mediation Analysis. In *Routledge eBooks*. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203809556>
- Manalo, G. M., & Afable, F. M. (2023). Implementation of green tourism practices in the hotels and resorts of White Beach Puerto Galera. *American Journal of Tourism and Hospitality*, 1(1), 27–34. <https://doi.org/10.54536/ajth.v1i1.1769>
- Mejjad, N., Rossi, A., & Pavel, A. B. (2022). The coastal tourism industry in the Mediterranean: A critical review of the socio-economic and environmental pressures & impacts. *Tourism Management Perspectives*, 44, 101007. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tmp.2022.101007>
- Memon, M. A., Ting, H., Cheah, J., Thurasamy, R., Chuah, F., & Cham, T. H. (2020). Sample size for survey research: Review and recommendations. *Journal of Applied Structural Equation Modeling*, 4(2), i–xx. [https://doi.org/10.47263/jasem.4\(2\)01](https://doi.org/10.47263/jasem.4(2)01)
- Mtapuri, O., Camilleri, M. A., & Dłużewska, A. (2021). Advancing community-based tourism approaches for the sustainable development of destinations. *Sustainable Development*, 30(3), 423–432. <https://doi.org/10.1002/sd.2257>
- Musavengane, R., & Kloppers, R. (2020). Social capital: An investment towards community resilience in the collaborative natural resources management of community-based tourism schemes. *Tourism Management Perspectives*, 34, 100654. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tmp.2020.100654>
- Nemoto, T., & Beglar, D. (2014, November). Likert-scale questionnaires. In *J-ALT 2013 conference proceedings* (Vol. 108, No. 1, pp. 1–6).

- Nordin, M. R., & Jamal, S. A. (2020). A Decade of Ecotourism Research in Protected Areas: A Bibliometric analysis. *Social and Management Research Journal*, 17(2), 343. <https://doi.org/10.24191/smrj.v17i2.10561>
- Nugraha, I. G. P., Parma, I. P. G., Agustina, M. D. P., & Hutnaleontina, P. N. (2024). The role of government and community participation in realizing sustainable tourism development in Tihingan Village, Bali, Indonesia. *Journal of Infrastructure Policy and Development*, 8(8), 4621. <https://doi.org/10.24294/jipd.v8i8.4621>
- Obradović, S., Stojanović, V., Kovačić, S., Jovanovic, T., Pantelić, M., & Vujičić, M. (2021). Assessment of residents' attitudes toward sustainable tourism development - A case study of Bačko Podunavlje Biosphere Reserve, Serbia. *Journal of Outdoor Recreation and Tourism*, 35, 100384. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jort.2021.100384>
- Olivar, K. (2021). The mediating effect of quality delivery on the relationship between customer satisfaction and loyalty of three-star hotels. *ResearchGate*. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/361275824_The_Mediating_Effect_of_Quality_Delivery_on_the_Relationship_between_Customer_Satisfaction_and_Loyalty_of_Three_Star_Hotels
- Petrevska, B. (2019). Tourists' perception: The case of Ohrid, Macedonia. *Acta Geobalkanica*, 5(2), 75–84. <https://doi.org/10.18509/agb.2019.09>
- Phuong, N. T. M., Van Song, N., & Quang, T. X. (2020). Factors affecting Community-Based Tourism Development and Environmental Protection: Practical study in Vietnam. *Journal of Environmental Protection*, 11(02), 124–151. <https://doi.org/10.4236/jep.2020.112009>
- Roxas, F. M. Y., Rivera, J. P. R., & Gutierrez, E. L. M. (2018). Framework for creating sustainable tourism using systems thinking. *Current Issues in Tourism*, 23(3), 280–296. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13683500.2018.1534805>
- Ruiz-Ballesteros, E., & Del Campo Tejedor, A. (2020). Community-Based tourism as a factor in Socio-Ecological resilience. Economic diversification and community participation in Floreana (Galapagos). *Sustainability*, 12(11), 4724. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su12114724>
- Sak, M., Eren, S., & Bayram, G. E. (2022). Role of event tourism in economic development. In *Apple Academic Press eBooks* (pp. 249–265). <https://doi.org/10.1201/9781003161134-14>
- Salehi, M., Filimonau, V., Ghaderi, Z., & Hamzehzadeh, J. (2021). Energy conservation in large-sized hotels: Insights from a developing country. *International Journal of Hospitality Management*, 99, 103061. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijhm.2021.103061>
- Shani, A., & Pizam, A. (2011). Community participation in tourism planning and development. In *Springer eBooks* (pp. 547–564). https://doi.org/10.1007/978-94-007-2288-0_32
- Siddiqui, K. A. (2016). Heuristics for sample size determination in multivariate statistical techniques. *Academia.edu*. https://www.academia.edu/20466961/Heuristics_for_Sample_Size_Determination_in_Multivariate_Statistical_Techniques
- Stabler, M. J., Papatheodorou, A., & Sinclair, M. T. (2009). *The economics of tourism*. Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203864272>
- Streimikiene, D., Svagzdiene, B., Jasinskas, E., & Simanavicius, A. (2020). Sustainable tourism development and competitiveness: The systematic literature review. *Sustainable Development*, 29(1), 259–271. <https://doi.org/10.1002/sd.2133>
- Tavakol, M., & Dennick, R. (2011). Making sense of Cronbach's alpha. *International Journal of Medical Education*, 2, 53–55. <https://doi.org/10.5116/ijme.4dfb.8dfd>
- Thees, H., Pechlaner, H., Olbrich, N., & Schuhbert, A. (2020). The Living Lab as a tool to promote residents' participation in destination governance. *Sustainability*, 12(3), 1120. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su12031120>
- Wang, M., Jiang, J., Xu, S., & Guo, Y. (2021). Community participation and residents' support for tourism development in ancient villages: The mediating role of perceptions of conflicts in the tourism community. *Sustainability*, 13(5), 2455. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su13052455>
- World Tourism Organization & Global Tourism Economy Research Centre. (2020). *UNWTO/GTERC Asia tourism trends – 2020 edition: Executive summary*. UNWTO. <https://doi.org/10.18111/9789284422272>
- Yanes, A., Zielinski, S., Cano, M. D., & Kim, S. (2019). Community-Based Tourism in Developing Countries: a framework for policy evaluation. *Sustainability*, 11(9), 2506. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su11092506>
- Yeboah, T. (2021). Dynamics of Ecotourism Benefits distribution. *Tourism Planning & Development*, 21(1), 122–137. <https://doi.org/10.1080/21568316.2021.1876161>