

Tourism impact on the social development in Algeria

SOUAD DOULI*, ILYES SLIMANI

Laboratory of Study Economics & Development Local In South west of Algeria
Department of Management University of Béchar, Algeria

Abstract

The social effects in host communities resulted from the direct and indirect relationship with tourists, thus dealing with the tourism industry. For multiple reasons host communities are the weakest in their coping with the guests, and service providing. The negative effects arise when tourism brings changes to the values and behaviours systems, it threatens the national identity, as well as the changes occurrence in social structures, family relations, traditional collective ways of life and morality. Tourism positive social impacts are represented in: the cultural exchange between the citizen and tourists, the increase of economic level and civilization, the revival of local architectural traditions, to raise the psychological health level of the society and to encourage the arts and local industries. The development of responsible tourism may contribute to the eradication of poverty, which is one of the millennium goals for development since "the tourism sector is a source of growth and development. Hence we can ask the following question: What are the impacts of tourism promotion on the social development in Algeria?

Keywords: Tourism, Sustainable Tourism, Development, Social Development, Poverty, Algeria.

I. Introduction

Tourism sector has a large share of Research and Studies that deal with diagnosing and trying to assess its performance especially with regard to the economic aspect, which occupies a prominent niche. It is measured as tourism revenues and expenditures in addition to macroeconomic indicators, but the tourist activity is not only confined to the economic impact, but went beyond that to the social effects that must be taken into consideration, while it aims to create direct jobs or to influence the social structure and behaviour of the host communities. Another impact cannot be denied, is the impact of this type of activity on the surrounding environment, its impact affects the region and its inhabitants in the short term, medium term, long term, in addition to its impact on the host countries and the local population. Many studies have focused on the importance of environmental impacts of tourism, as well as the impact on the local population in terms of historical and cultural loss of identity and even in terms of luxury.

We can analyse the topic through the following points:

II. Social indicators measurement

The measuring elements to assess the sustainable development of tourism and its impact on society are in the number of accommodations for two seasons, to provide rehabilitative training, and the attendance at organizations for purchase, marketing, transport is also an element and the relative importance to customers with low-income.

For the approved criteria to measure the social dimension in Algeria are:

1. Identification standard: Do local subjects appreciate tourist activities? The possible indicators to measure this standard, life conditions for two seasons and tourism density.
2. Integration standard: Does the tourism sector encourage the integration of all the dealers in it? And the establishment of institutions is the possible indicator to measure this standard configuration.
3. Partnership standard: Are economic traders united in a common framework? To measure this standard, we find common services, and the tourism activism.
4. Accessibility standard: Can residents access easily to tourist sites? With regard to possible indicators to measure this standard, we find the clients diversity and tourism on the outskirts of the city.

The new social progress indicator, which was released in the Skoll World Forum in Oxford, Bretagne showed that among 50 countries covered by the indicator, 5 countries from the Middle East and North Africa occupies an advanced rank in this area, the United Arab Emirates, Tunisia, Jordan, Morocco and Egypt. Algeria and rolled to an inferior position in the social progress indicator. The report pointed out that Sweden occupies the first place in this area, followed by Britain one spot ahead of Germany, which occupies the fifth place, the United States

ranked sixth and Japan ranked eighth.

The report, distributed by Deloitte in Beirut specialized economic studies, The United Arab Emirates ranked 19 among the most socially advanced countries in the world, while the remaining countries occupied between 25th rank and 40 in the following form: Tunisia (82), Jordan (31), Morocco (37) and Egypt (40). Algeria has just been ranked 93th out of 187 countries according to the human development index for the year 2013.

In an international report published by the British newspaper The Economist Intelligence, Algiers is on the list of the last ten cities in the general index of the viable cities year (2013). It is among the worst capitals across the world. Algeria classified fourth in the list of developed cities during the (2013) period and is ranked 134 globally. It came in the list of the last 10 cities in the index along with the capital of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Tehran, Tripoli the capital of Libya, and Damascus capital of Syria. While neighbouring eastern Tunisia was ranked 104, and Casablanca Morocco ranked 112, but this is not the first time that Algiers finishes bottom of the rankings in world's cities in terms of living conditions, the Economist Intelligence ranked it within the 5 worst states to live in, despite the state's efforts to improve the region, and to save the capitals' face.

For providing jobs, we find that it is expected to be completed late (2015). 75 thousand beds require 37,500 users, which means 1875 manager i.e 5%. 3750 receptionist meaning 10% , 5625 tourist guides and travel agents i.e 15%. 9375 accommodation specialist that is 25% and about 16 875 who feeding specialist approximately 45%.

Regarding the training field, there are high schools, and training centers specialized in the field of hospitality and tourism, namely:

- National Institutes specialized in vocational training: There are 10 institutes give (Senior Technician certificate in hostelry (the art of cooking, restaurants, accommodation, reception, management of the hotel, and guide facilities).
- Vocational training and learning centers: There are 55 centers for the formation and give certificates in hotel branches as (the art of cooking, dining and reception).
- National Institute of Hotel and Tourism Technologies (TiziOuzou).
- Tourism National High School (Algiers).
- Tourism hotel center (Boussaâda).

III. The role of sustainable tourism in reducing poverty

The sustainable tourism development must not only look to reduce the negative impacts of tourism on the environment, but should aim to involve the community, and make it one of priorities for reducing poverty, through the local and global interest. It is expected that tourism grows rapidly due to the higher level of living conditions, the level of income, the trips lower cost , free offers increase, and other factors. the United Nations has set a goal of eradicating poverty in the list of priorities, believing that sustainable tourism is a mainstay lurk behind the social and economic development, and can play a key role in the obliteration of poverty . There are a lot of reasons that make the development of tourist activity an effective way to combat poverty stated as follows:

- Provide work in tourism sector, and complementary sectors to the non-specialists, low-income women in urban and rural areas, rural moved to cities, and for those wishing to work a part-time. Providing work for different categories leads undoubtedly to poverty opportunities reduction.
- There is a link with the private sector, which has a multiple effect on poor groups, it dispenses living alternatives for them.
- Sustainable tourism relies heavily on the protection of natural factors such as wildlife and inherited civilizations, the latter represents the financial resources to poor groups.

The sustainable tourism development to combat poverty is based on three components:

1. Increase the economic benefits by expanding employment opportunities and projects for the poor, and provide training just for the non-qualified to enlarge these opportunities.
2. Adopt measurement to deal with the social impact, and environmental tourism development, such as changing the habits of community pressure on natural resources, pollution, and the destruction of the ecosystem.
3. Set a policy that ensures the participation of the poor in planning and managing their tourism activities, remove some of the barriers to ensure that participation, and to support the partnership between government, the private sector and the poor to develop or produce a new tourist service.

IV. Actions taken to avoid the negative impacts of tourism on society

Tourism also may have negative social impacts. The scarcity of fresh water is a major concern that could worsen due to the growth of tourism in a lot of communities. In some areas tourists water daily use is more 10 to 15 times than the use of the residents. The traffic congestion caused by tourism can have a serious impact on the quality of local life, which calls for solutions by managers, the same thing could be done to the loss and damage of public facilities used by local population .

1. The negative effects

- Many jobs in tourism don't provide good or satisfactory working conditions; a the long working hours, unstable employment , low wages, poor training and lack of opportunities to get a good qualification. Some of these jobs use child labour because they are cheap and flexible labour, an economic inequality between the locals and tourists who use more of their spending rates in their countries.
- Tourists usually fails because of disregard or ignorance to respect local customs and ethical values. For example, in Catalonia state which has long represented a major force in the tourism' world, we find that tourism is based on enjoying the sun and entertainment. The tourists who come to the country seeking that fixed images only without worrying about local values, they are the same people who do not dare to shout in their country' streets or to drink day and night, breaking shop windows in their way home.
- The increased tourist activity rates effects may lead to a sharp social pressure that affects the local community.
- Cultural deterioration and damage to the cultural heritage arose from vandalism, looting or illegal transfer of some of the cultural heritage components as well as changing the historical surrounding landscape.
- Disputes related to the use of resources such as competition between the tourism sector, and local residents to use some basic resources such as water and energy as a result of their scarcity.
- High crime rates clearly with the growth and urbanization, collective tourism is usually accompanied by an increase in crime rates, as large number of tourists who have a great deal of money, valuable personal belongings such as cameras or jewelry attract criminals paractising theft, drug trade. Tourism can cause changes or the loss of local values and identity due to a number of detailed inter-related effects as follows:

A) The trading of the local culture: Tourism can shift the local culture into a commodity when reduced to religious traditions and local customs and celebrations in a consistent image with the expectations of tourists.

B) Standardization: Tourist destinations have risks in trying to satisfy the desires of tourists, despite the necessity of landscape diversity, housing, and food and drink etc ..to satisfy the tourist needs so that he can see what is new and unknown, they should not be completely new because few tourists look for new things.

C) adaptation to the tourists demands: tourists love to buy souvenirs, arts and crafts, that express the cultural manifestations of the place, many artisans have responded to the tourism growing demand and even altered the designs of their products, in order to make them suitable to customers new taste, which can contribute in self-worth for the artists and can help to preserve the cultural traditions, but cultural erosion may occur when cultural products become a bought and sold commodity.

2. The most important actions taken by Algeria to avoid the negative impacts of tourism on social development in this context has been the introduction of a confederation of national clients in tourism, travel and hospitality and traditional industries areas so they would have space for consultation, reflection and unified actions, this body plays the role of an interlocutor to other sectors, partners and international bodies operating in the same field, it has an important role through its proposals and decisions related to national development, so that the performance, achievements and quality of the tourism sector depend on its relations with its economical, professional and social environment.

In addition to upgrading the partnership between the public and private sectors, the tourism series in Algeria is known as real dynamics in various sectors (public works, transportation, water resources ...) that will push the wheel of the tourism sector, including Algerian Air Lines company initiative, providing reductions in tickets prices.

The tourism sector in Algeria has adopted a plan several years, based on the establishment of a partnership between the public and private sector in order to transform Algeria into a privileged tourist destination. The custodians in this regard give more importance to the private sector by providing the necessary funds and accompany investors. The private investor is able to repay the loan on a term which may extend to 12 years, and in this framework a compromise was agreed with six banks , and franchising, at the level of the High Plateaus is in dinars for 10 years, extended to 15 years for the great southern part.

The number of the registered private projects at the level of the Algerian Ministry of Tourism is 712 projects with a total estimated cost of 240 billion Algerian dinars, which is based predominantly in urban areas. While in the public sector public officials commanded to reform Hotels built in the seventies, which were the glory of Algerian tourism at that time like the Eurasian in the capital, Andalusia in Oran, and ZayanyenTlemcen, and Cardadha in Busaadha, through the allocation of 70 billion Algerian dinars. The number of hotel establishments involved in this process is 63 hotels belonging to the public sector, but however there were some obstacles that custodians treated them case by case.

The following table shows the proportion of the partnership between the public and private sector in the field of tourism during the year (2012):

Table No. 1

The number of hotels, depending on the sector ownership Act (2014)

The private sector	The number of hotels, 2014
The public sector	16302
The private sector	74233
The Mixed Sector	5962
The total	96497

Source : Ministère du Tourisme et de l'Artisanat © (2013)
http://www.mta.gov.dz/site_relooke/fr/IndicEco.php

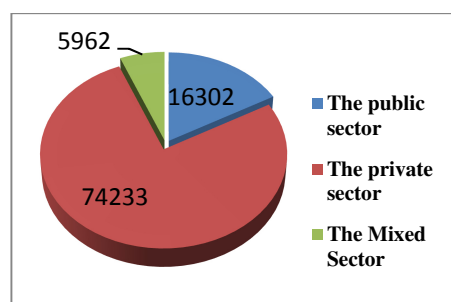


Figure: 1 The number of hotels on by sector Act (2014)

Source: the preparation of a researcher on the basis of data for table No.: (1)

Through Table: (1) we notice that the partnership ratio between the private sector and the public is so small, it was estimated about 6%, and in this context, the custodians tried to get community support, involve the experienced and work to create governmental and civil tourism organizations. In addition to the establishment of a comprehensive board that includes local and governmental representatives, employers and experienced people with knowledge in tourism as well as providing financial support, to run the Local Information Center for tourists, and infrastructure development and orientation towards supporting dealers wishing to invest in the field of tourism for youths. From the premise that best lies in the restoration of this type stature within the sector programs, with the world Tourism Organization experts confirms that 20% of tourist flows in the world of young people, which represent annually about \$ 165 billion, and the move falls within the viability of the Algerian tourism, especially because the sector scheme report expects that the number of tourists arriving to Algeria (in 2030) reaches 11 million tourists, through the activation and recruitment of all efforts in the sector as well, in reference to the role of tourist agencies, and owners of hotel establishments.

Engage everyone in the tourism act under the task of everyone's tourism logo, will inevitably lead to the desired goals in the long and medium terms, as well as ensure the ability of the sector to meet the challenges and achieve high professionalism. Real investment exceeds the hospitality, the broad conception of tourism extends to provide entertainment, comfort and cultural facilities, and all what would upgrade tourism. If the labour is not at the level of expectations, it is not enough to accomplish luxury hotels, after all services provided.

V. Conclusion

The embodiment and the foundations of sustainable development dimensions requires fundamental changes in economic and social systems. This change is not done through the state only, but also through the activation of the so-called civil society: the popular associations, and human rights organizations in the framework of a structured collaborative and consultation. These dimensions, have been reflected since fourteen centuries ago in a structured framework, and cultural guarantees for the rights to life, dignity, freedom, justice, and guarantee the rights of future generations by creating a development, without spoiling or wasting the natural and environmental resources, and through our study of the concept of sustainable development in Islam.

It must also determine the powers and responsibilities in the tourism sector precisely through absolute clarity in the regulations and laws interested in the sector, and then allow us to audit any negligence. The lack of responsibility is the reasons to failure, and directed to the unknown while in both cases the responsible escapes auditing.

References

- *The new social progress indicator, which was released in the Skoll World Forum in Oxford, Bretagne*
<http://www.elhavatalarabiya.com/home/index.php/>
- *UNDP report on Human Development (2013)* <http://1.psp.org.lb.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/themes/anbaa/img/anbaa-logo2.png>
- *The Global Competitiveness Report 2012–2013. To see the* <http://reports.weforum.org/global-competitiveness->
- *International Labour Organization* <http://www.arabgeographers.net/vb/showthread.php?t>
- <http://www.ilo.org/global/lang--en/index.htm>
- <http://ar.wikipedia.org/wiki/%D9%>
- http://www.coastlearn.org/eg/why_socioimpacts.html
- <http://elraaed.com/ara/apropos>
- v.dz/site_relooke/fr/IndicEco.php