

Sustainable and Non-sustainable Tourism – Basics

Non-sustainable Planning



Unplanned Activities

Building a guest house without knowing if it is beneficial

Building a ski slope that could not be successful, but ecological damage remains

Duplicating activities in a region resulting in useless competition and resource squandering

Central planning and decision-making

Sustainable Planning



Development Concepts and Plans

Feasible and practical business plans

Regional tourism development planning to create a responsible and co-ordinated approach and use of accessible resources

Decisions made at local level, involving all local stakeholders

True public participation

Economic Only Focus



Thinking of tourism as a universal remedy for social and economic problems

Unprofessional approach that ignores basic economic and social aspects of development

Dependence on one sector - high risk, low capability to withstand threats

Focus on financial profit only

Tourism as one Tool



Understanding tourism as one tool for solving social and economic problems

Have a wider portfolio of economic branches, so if one fails or faces problems, the others can keep the economy going;

Harmonization of economic, social and environmental goals, not only financial profit

Seasonal Focus



Dependent on peak time periods

Negative social (seasonal employment, crowded centers) and environmental impacts

Universal Product



Stereotypic and universal offers

Degrading the visitor to a pawn

Decreasing the quality of experience

Stronger feelings of dissatisfaction

Visitor is less sensitive to the landscape and community

Permanent Demand



Permanent demand and/or offer

Positive impact on the social, ecological and economic environment

Experiential



Tailor-made products for small groups

Atmosphere of friendship and pleasant experiences

Good feeling from visiting the region

Visitor supports the community and sustainable activities



Non-sustainable development of tourism results in the generalization of cultures, degradation of the natural environment, overtourism that results in lower standards of living and higher prices for the local population and the dilution of national and local culture.



A system, designed and developed by all stakeholders in a community to grow a sustainable tourism approach to assure that the entire community benefits.

Sustainable tourism development should improve livelihoods, preserve culture and protect the environment.

Sustainable tourism cuts across multiple UN Sustainable Development Goals. The development of sustainable tourism practices within a community is a long-term, complex and synergic process that must include all local stakeholders.

Want to learn more or get more details on how SRDI can help? Great!
Contact us now!

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