



The Contribution of Tourism Industry to the Economic Growth in Uzbekistan

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Abstract: In the context of modern civilization, tourism is a special field of activity in terms of its content and role, a segment of significant importance in the economic and social life of most countries of the world. The present work is aimed at analyzing the numerous links and consequences of tourism in the economic sphere, as well as factors determining the degree of contribution of tourism to the economy of the destination. We will show how tourism, through its activities and development, affects both the material and the human component, and describe the beneficial effect of tourism on the intervention zones, acting as an element that stimulates progress and economic development.

Key words: Tourism, economy, development, job creation, encourage investment, progress.

Introduction

Tourism is currently one of the largest industries in the world and one of the fastest growing sectors of the economy. This sector is crucial for creating goodwill among people and, as a result, for socio-economic growth in the country. For many countries, tourism is considered as the main tool of regional development, since it stimulates new types of economic activity. Tourism as an industry makes a significant contribution to the country's foreign exchange reserves and provides direct and indirect employment opportunities to a wide segment of the population. In addition, the support of national crafts and fine arts contributes to the preservation of the beauty of nature, the cultural heritage of the country and soil traditions, as well as strengthening the process of national integration and global brotherhood. Tourism can have a positive economic impact on the balance of payments, employment, gross income and production, but it can also have a negative impact, especially on the environment. Unplanned and uncontrolled growth of tourism can lead to such environmental degradation that the growth of tourism can be jeopardized. Therefore, the environment, which is the main source of tourism product, must be protected for further tourism growth and economic development in the future. This is especially true for tourism based on the natural environment, as well as on historical and cultural heritage.

Material and methods

The study examines the research methods conducted by scientists on the development of sustainable tourism heritage, methods of data analysis, the composition of the main elements of sustainable tourism. Scientific articles are taken from Google Scholar databases and placed as an open resource. In addition, in order to fully understand the importance of tourism in the development of the country's economy, statistical analyses and results conducted by this organization are given below. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, which began in 2020, has damaged the economies of the world, tourism has also become less developed and has had a negative impact on the country's economy. Thus, the data of the statistical analysis of this organization were taken for the period 2016-2019.

	Number of tourists	Receipts	% of GNP
■ 2016	2.03m	579.00m \$	0.67 %
■ 2017	2.69m	835.00m \$	1.3 %
■ 2018	5.35m	1.31bn \$	2.5 %
■ 2019	6.75m	1.58bn \$	2.8 %

Statistical analysis by World Tourism Organization

Results

From 2016 to 2019, the number of tourists increased from 2.0 million to 6.7 million, respectively. In 2019, Uzbekistan registered a total of almost seven million tourists, ranking 30th in the world in absolute terms. Without taking into account the size of the country, such a rating list may not be very significant. Correlating the number of tourists with the population of Uzbekistan, we get a much more comparable picture: with 0.19 tourists per inhabitant, Uzbekistan ranks 91st in the world. In Central Asia, he took 2nd place.

In the same year, according to the assessment of the World Tourism Organization at the United Nations (UNWTO) Uzbekistan has entered the top five countries with the most dynamically developing tourism industry, and The Guardian has recognized the country as the best tourist destination in the world.

Discussion

The tourism industry plays an important role in the economic development of many countries around the world. There are several reasons why tourism is important for economic growth and development:

1. Job creation: Tourism is an industry that creates a significant number of jobs, both directly and indirectly. For example, in companies related to tourism, such as hotels, restaurants and souvenir shops, people work directly. In addition, auxiliary industries, such as transport, construction and maintenance of tourist facilities, indirectly provide employment opportunities.
2. Increase in foreign currency earnings: Countries that attract a large number of foreign tourists receive valuable foreign currency earnings. These revenues can be used to finance imports, repay foreign loans and support economic growth.
3. Encourage investment: The growth of the tourism industry also encourages investment in infrastructure, facilities and other services. This can lead to the development of new, innovative products and services that can benefit the local community and other sectors of the economy.
4. Conservation of natural and cultural resources: The tourism industry plays a role in promoting the conservation of natural and cultural resources. By encouraging the practice of sustainable tourism, the industry can help preserve the environment and cultural heritage of host communities.
5. Promotion of local products and services: Tourism can also promote local products and services, which can help create new economic opportunities for local businesses.

Conclusion

Tourism is an industry that can actively influence the economy of a country or region. With the help of tourism, new jobs are being created, new regions are being developed and the national economy is accelerating. The analysis of the economic impact provides real estimates of these economic interdependencies and allows us to better understand the role and importance of tourism in the economy of the region. Tourism can act as a mechanism for the redistribution of national income in favor of the state, which specializes in this.

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