

The Role of Solidarity Tourism in Achieving Sustainable Development Goals**دور السياحة التضامنية في تحقيق أهداف التنمية المستدامة****Tabouche Ahmed¹, Melki Tarek², Belhadj faradji³**¹ Tahri Mohammed University- BECHAR (Algeria), tabouche.ahmed@univ-bechar.dz² Tahri Mohammed University- BECHAR (Algeria), melki.tarik@univ-bechar.dz³ Tahri Mohammed University- BECHAR (Algeria), belhadj.faradji@univ-bechar.dz**Received:** 24/05/2025**Accepted:** 30/06/2025**Published:** 30/06/2025**Abstract:**

The research objective is to explore the role of solidarity tourism in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by fostering meaningful connections between tourists and local communities. The methodology involves a comprehensive analysis of solidarity tourism's principles, benefits, and challenges, alongside case studies illustrating successful initiatives worldwide. Key findings indicate that solidarity tourism empowers local communities, promotes social justice, and enhances intercultural exchange, thereby contributing to poverty alleviation, gender equality, and environmental sustainability. The study emphasizes the importance of ethical practices and community involvement in tourism initiatives, highlighting that solidarity tourism can serve as a transformative tool for positive social change. Recommendations include promoting awareness, generating support, and creating policies that encourage responsible tourism practices aligned with the SDGs. Overall, the research underscores the potential of solidarity tourism to create equitable and sustainable tourism experiences that benefit both visitors and host communities.

Keywords: tourism; solidarity tourism; sustainable tourism; sustainable development; sustainable development goals.

JEL Classification Codes: Z32, Z39, Q01

ملخص:

الهدف من البحث هو استكشاف دور السياحة التضامنية في تحقيق أهداف التنمية المستدامة من خلال تعزيز الروابط المعنوية بين السياح والمجتمعات المحلية. تشمل المنهجية تحليلاً شاملاً لمبادئ وفوائد وتحديات السياحة التضامنية، إلى جانب دراسات حالة توضح المبادرات الناجحة في جميع أنحاء العالم. تشير النتائج الرئيسية إلى أن السياحة التضامنية تمكّن المجتمعات المحلية، وتعزز العدالة الاجتماعية، وتحسن التبادل الثقافي، مما يساهم في التخفيف من حدة الفقر، والمساواة بين الجنسين، والاستدامة البيئية. تؤكد الدراسة على أهمية الممارسات الأخلاقية ومشاركة المجتمع في مبادرات السياحة، مشددة على أن السياحة التضامنية يمكن أن تكون أداة تحويلية للتغيير الاجتماعي الإيجابي. تشمل التوصيات تعزيز الوعي، وتوليد الدعم، ووضع سياسات تشجع على ممارسات السياحة المسؤولة المتوافقة مع أهداف التنمية المستدامة. بشكل عام، تؤكد الأبحاث على إمكانيات السياحة التضامنية في خلق تجارب سياحية عادلة ومستدامة تفيد كل من الزوار والمجتمعات المضيفة.

كلمات مفتاحية: السياحة؛ السياحة التضامنية؛ السياحة المستدامة؛ التنمية المستدامة؛ أهداف التنمية المستدامة.

تصنيفات JEL : Z32, Z39, Q01

INTRODUCTION

The significance of tourism as a catalyst for positive social change is increasingly being recognized and acknowledged around the world. In the eyes of tourists, the act of traveling becomes not just a means of exploration, but an essential tool for directly connecting with the rich culture and vibrant lifestyle of local communities. This connection goes beyond mere observation, as it fosters a deep understanding and appreciation for the traditions and customs of the places visited. Moreover, the concept of tourism has evolved, giving rise to various alternative forms that promote sustainability and responsibility. These forms include sustainable tourism, which emphasizes the preservation of natural resources and the protection of the environment. Ecotourism, on the other hand, centers around exploring and appreciating the beauty of fragile ecosystems while minimizing the environmental impact. Cultural tourism aims to celebrate and promote the diverse heritage and traditions of different societies. Additionally, community-based tourism focuses on involving local communities and empowering them through active participation in the tourism industry. Pro-poor tourism seeks to alleviate poverty by redirecting tourism revenues towards local communities and improving their quality of life. These alternative forms of tourism encourage travelers to experience 'the other' in a responsible and sustainable manner, ultimately contributing to the overall well-being of both visitors and hosts. One particular form of tourism that holds great promise in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is known as 'solidarity tourism'. Solidarity tourism goes beyond the traditional boundaries of tourism, aiming to establish meaningful connections between travelers and local communities in need. It strives to create partnerships, promote equality, and foster social cohesion by actively engaging tourists in sustainable development projects. By embracing this unique approach, solidarity tourism has the potential to address a wide range of global challenges, including poverty eradication, gender equality, inclusive economic growth, and environmental sustainability. In summary, the potential role of solidarity tourism in achieving the SDGs cannot be underestimated. As tourism continues to expand and evolve, it is crucial to recognize the transformative power of responsible and sustainable tourism practices. By actively engaging in alternative forms of tourism, such as solidarity tourism, we can create a positive impact on the world, fostering social change, and paving the way for a better and more sustainable future for all.

In order to understand the potential impact of solidarity tourism on achieving the SDGs, we aim to comprehend the concept of solidarity tourism and its challenges and benefits. We will begin by exploring the idea of solidarity as both a value and a practice, followed by an examination of solidarity tourism as a collaborative journey that emphasizes empathy and inclusive participation in creating a more tolerant world. We will then describe why solidarity tourism is practiced as an alternative to mainstream tourism, and how it can potentially contribute to achieving goals such as gender equality, social harmony, and minority rights outlined in the 2030 SDGs. Additionally, we will discuss the challenges in promoting tourism in line with the SDGs, and address any remaining concerns.

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Study Problem:

The document explores how tourism, especially solidarity tourism, can significantly contribute to social transformation and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It examines the potential of solidarity tourism to address global issues such as poverty, gender inequality, and environmental sustainability .

Study Hypotheses:

Solidarity tourism, when implemented responsibly and sustainably, can positively impact local communities, promote equality, and contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Study Objectives:

- To grasp the potential influence of solidarity tourism on the attainment of the SDGs, we seek to understand the notion of solidarity tourism together with its obstacles and advantages.
- To analyze solidarity tourism as a cooperative endeavor that prioritizes empathy and inclusive engagement in fostering a more accepting society.
- To elucidate the rationale for the adoption of solidarity tourism as an alternative to conventional tourism and its potential contributions to objectives such as gender equality, social cohesion, and minority rights as delineated in the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- To examine the obstacles in advancing tourism in accordance with the Sustainable Development Goals and address any outstanding issues

Importance of the Subject:

Solidarity tourism is presented as a means to create meaningful connections between tourists and disadvantaged local populations, promote equity, and enhance social cohesion .

It highlights the importance of adopting responsible and sustainable tourism practices to positively impact the planet, promote social change, and facilitate a more sustainable future for everybody.

Methodology Used in the Study:

The study involves an in-depth analysis of the assumptions underlying solidarity tourism and an examination of its effectiveness as an instrument for transformational change.

It includes a review of best practices, case studies, and analyses of the contributions and impact of various entities and stakeholders, including local development sectors like tourism.

Previous Studies:

The document refers to various prior studies that address sustainable tourism, community-based tourism, emotional solidarity, and their contribution to the SDGs. These studies provide context and support for the arguments made in the document.

Terms of the Study:

Solidarity Tourism: A form of tourism that seeks to establish meaningful connections between tourists and disadvantaged local populations, promoting equity and social cohesion.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): A set of 17 global goals defined by the United Nations to address urgent issues related to poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace, and justice.

Sustainability: The ability to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

1. Conceptual Framework

Solidarity tourism, focusing heavily on the value of human relations in travel, serves as an alternative approach to conventional tourism practices. The aim is to transform tourism by fostering real and deep human relations, challenging the stereotype of the "other," and supporting the principles of social justice. (Joo & Woosnam, 2019, p. 1190) By promoting solidarity, this form of tourism seeks to bridge the gap between the privileged and marginalized communities. Solidarity tourism advocates for sustainable assistance and responsible travel, ensuring that everyone involved in the tourism equation benefits. In solidarity tourism, ethical and genuinely authentic experiences are combined, creating all-inclusive travel opportunities. These experiences aim to empower and uplift local communities, providing them with meaningful benefits. Consequently, these communities can enjoy a fair share of the benefits previously monopolized by extensive mini-group package holidays/tours enjoyed by tourists. (Erul, Woosnam, , & McIntosh, 2020, p. 1165) When it comes to the characteristics of the concept, solidarity tourism primarily emphasizes the development of heartfelt relationships between people. Consequently, the initial approach to achieve this goal may vary significantly. However, the increased popularity of international solidarity travel can be attributed to a historic shift from producer-driven to consumer-driven demands in the second half of the twentieth century. The rise in demand for meaningful and rewarding travel experiences by the late 1960s created opportunities for growth in the travel industry. Human relations and interpersonal communication became crucial factors in the development and marketing of cultural attractions to meet this demand. Consequently, the focus shifted to enhancing the destination experience and its significance to the individuals engaged in it, which now forms the core of today's destination marketing strategies. Solidarity tourism, with its core values, has emerged as a means to foster authentic connections between travelers and immigrants, as well as among the travelers themselves. Organizations and deep travel agencies actively seek out meaningful exchanges between diverse groups, encouraging understanding, friendship, and solidarity. At the foundation of this approach lies the principle that a genuine dialogue is a prerequisite for building bridges of understanding and camaraderie. (Aleshinloye, Woosnam, Kong, & Boley, 2021, p. 3375)

1.1 Solidarity Tourism Defined

Prior to critically examining the importance and implications of solidarity tourism in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), it is useful to clarify what we mean when we talk about 'solidarity tourism'. (Esteves & Genus, 2021, p. 1425) Whereas tourism can broadly be defined as 'the activities of persons traveling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for not more than one consecutive year for leisure, business, and other purposes', a more detailed characteristic of the concept was coined in Spain. According to this definition, based on responses of different social actors – both individuals and collectives, a distinctive aspect of the concept is the close relationship that is created with the local people of the host country or place, and several key hallmarks come to light. Firstly, there is a strong emphasis on the relationship of authors/focalizers, which implies that the travel programs are made by the local people themselves, based on their own interests, aspirations, and needs. This ensures

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that the tourism experiences are authentic and reflective of the local culture, heritage, and values. It also empowers the local communities to have a voice in shaping their own tourism industry and enables them to cater to the unique desires and preferences of the visitors. Secondly, the concept of solidarity tourism involves a relationship of questioning and critical engagement. This occurs on both ends, where the spokespersons of the economic, cultural, health, service, or political sectors are questioned. This allows for a comprehensive and diverse portrayal of the tourist destination, going beyond the superficial aspects and delving into the underlying social, environmental, and economic realities (Buhalis & Leung, 2023, p. 297). By encouraging dialogue and critical thinking, solidarity tourism aims to stimulate awareness and understanding among tourists about the challenges and opportunities faced by the host communities. A third aspect specified in the definition is the idea of coexistence between different members of the community and tourists as a value in itself. Solidarity tourism promotes mutual respect, cultural exchange, and the celebration of diversity. It fosters an inclusive environment where locals and visitors interact, learn from each other, and develop meaningful connections. Through shared experiences and interactions, stereotypes and prejudices can be broken down, and a greater sense of global citizenship and interconnectedness can be cultivated. In summary, solidarity tourism goes beyond the traditional notion of tourism and strives for a more ethical, inclusive, and sustainable approach. It prioritizes the empowerment of local communities, fosters critical engagement, and promotes coexistence and cultural exchange. By embracing solidarity tourism, we can contribute to the achievement of the SDGs, such as reducing poverty, promoting sustainable economic growth, fostering social inclusivity, and preserving cultural and natural heritage. It is an opportunity to transform the tourism industry into a force for positive change and to create a more equitable and just world for all. (Trupp & Dolezal, 2020, p. 15)

1.2. Key Principles and Characteristics

In solidarity tourism initiatives, priority is given to local communities and values, in keeping with the universal principles of non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Guiding principles, which must be adopted by solidarity tourism projects, are as follows: 1) Initiatives must be based on the rich culture, magnificent architecture, thriving economy, and vibrant language of the local populations. This is the way to overcome seasonality challenges and diversify consumption patterns. (Higgins-Desbiolles, 2022, p. 5) 2) The active participation of the community in local life, consumption patterns, and the inclusion of economic operators and voluntary organizations in social activities can greatly enhance these immersive experiences for both locals and tourists alike. 3) It is imperative that local communities actively participate in and contribute to tourism initiatives. Understanding the differences that exist in traditions, culture, economy, and family structures is crucial. It is only through experiencing the daily lives of local people firsthand that we can truly promote understanding, respect, and forge enduring bonds of solidarity among diverse individuals. 4) Above all, tourism initiatives must strive to preserve and showcase the authenticity and exceptional quality of the regions they encompass. Ethical business practices must be strictly adhered to, and the local host populations should be beneficiaries of these initiatives. The equitable distribution of benefits must be closely aligned with the needs of the population, ensuring sustainable development in

the long run. These principles serve as a clear demarcation, distinguishing solidarity tourism from other tourism paradigms. Solidarity tourism is experiencing significant growth due, in part, to the evolution of society and the changing needs and expectations of tourists. (Mariosa & Morais, 2022, p. 550) It is recognized as a valuable catalyst for achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Such initiatives foster authentic and meaningful interactions between local individuals and visitors, leading to mutual understanding, respect, and support. They have the unique potential to transcend cultural, social, and economic barriers. To exemplify, a successful tourism initiative should be firmly grounded in the culture, architecture, economy, and language of the local populations. The involvement of local communities is essential, as they offer indispensable services and cultural insights, thereby explicating the nuances in traditions, culture, economy, and family dynamics. By upholding the authenticity and exceptional quality of the region, tourism initiatives can thrive. Furthermore, it is imperative to involve and engage local communities, whilst still acknowledging the disparities in family ties, culture, and economy. In doing so, community members can receive their fair share of benefits, creating a sustainable future for subsequent generations. The principles aforementioned are specifically designed to mitigate the potential harm and negative effects discussed earlier. By adhering to these principles, we can pave the way for a more ethical and responsible form of community-based tourism. (Cardoso, 2020, p. 683)

2. The Link Between Solidarity Tourism and Sustainable Development Goals

As Steven extensively and meticulously examined the assumptions underpinning solidarity tourism, delving deep into the discourse surrounding sustainable tourism that ensued, this ongoing project is dedicated to thoroughly investigating and exploring the fundamental concern that the flow of tourists must be transformed into a harmonious and respectful relationship among peoples. Through meticulous analysis and comprehensive research, the aim is to establish and elucidate the mechanisms through which Steven argues that solidarity tourism serves as an influential and transformative tool for such a profound and significant transformation. The effectiveness and potency of the projected means of indivisible being, as catalytic agencies towards achieving the desired ends, is determined through a comprehensive assessment of a myriad of complex and interrelated factors. First and foremost, an in-depth and detailed discussion is presented, focusing on the various multifaceted and interconnected ways in which tourism is envisioned as occurring intrinsically interpersonally. The consideration and examination of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), recognized globally as a comprehensive plan of action for people, planet, and prosperity, is an ongoing and integral process in this regard. The co-constructed nature of solidarity stems profoundly from its strong ethical foundations, which convincingly argue that within the context of tourism, the concept of "solidarity" can be beautifully and meaningfully expressed through tourists engaging in relational acts based on deeply ingrained "ethical" principles that encompass doing what is morally right and just. Additionally, acts of "prudence" in which individual tourists consciously and responsibly act in their own personal or self-interest, and acts born out of "passion" through which individuals actively seek to expand their own capacity for "imaginative understanding," play a crucial role in sustaining

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and nurturing solidarity within the realm of tourism. Hence, it is not only plausible but also highly reasonable to suggest that when it is stated that the view of solidarity under examination is genuinely committed to doing what is right and good, it ultimately implies acting with the intention of promoting and facilitating "fair, harmonious, open communication" that can effectively lead both oneself and others towards a profound and transformative state of imaginative understanding. SoliTour, in its unwavering and tireless pursuit of expanding the imaginative capacities and boundaries of solidarity tourism, ingeniously and profoundly discovers, unravels, and explores the immense potential for envisioning and actively transforming the world into a more just, compassionate, and interconnected global community. Moving forward and embarking on the next phase of this comprehensive exploration, an all-encompassing and holistic overview of the Sustainable Development Goals is provided. The United Nations, in its ceaseless and tireless efforts to promote and advocate for global sustainability, has meticulously outlined and articulated a formidable set of 17 interconnected global development goals. These goals are emphatically aimed at addressing and effectively tackling pressing global challenges that are inherently and intrinsically related to poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace, and justice. Unveiled and established during a momentous summit with world leaders in January 2015, these all-encompassing and profoundly significant goals brilliantly succeeded and built upon the foundation of the preceding Millennium Development Goals. It is of utmost importance and significance to emphasize and underscore the interconnectedness and interdependence of these goals, as they have become irrevocably and intricately intertwined over the course of five years. Remarkably and irrefutably, progress in one specific goal has been unequivocally and compellingly shown to bring about notable and tangible benefits for other interconnected goals. For instance, the noble and significant task of improving education undeniably contributes indelibly to better health outcomes, as better access to education can invariably act as a potent preventative measure against poverty. Similarly, the preservation and conservation of our oceans, diligently and sustainably undertaken, possess a direct and undeniable impact on the global economy, profoundly and intrinsically highlighting the intricate and irrevocable interconnectedness of these goals. The inviolable and foundational principle of shared responsibility and collective action, firmly established through the far-reaching 2030 Agenda, effectively and unambiguously highlights and underscores that the principles and values of sustainability cannot and must not be separated or divorced from the pervasive and comprehensive development of any sector, including, and particularly, tourism. It is therefore of utmost urgency and profound significance for the practices, policies, and ethics of any sector to fully and wholeheartedly integrate and embody the ambitious and transformative sustainability goals outlined by the United Nations. (Esteves & Genus, 2021, p. 1430) With a wide and extensive array of proven strategies, tools, and methodologies available and at our disposal to relentlessly and diligently advance these goals, a comprehensive and rigorous framework is meticulously presented, aiming to meticulously assess, critically review, and meticulously document the contributions, endeavors, and transformational impact made by various entities and stakeholders, including but not limited to local development sectors, such as tourism. Next, the multifaceted and intricate benefits and challenges associated with solidarity tourism are thoroughly, comprehensively, and

meticulously explored, examined, and scrutinized in great depth. Conscientiously conducting tourism activities with the noble and lofty aim of effectively contributing to and actively facilitating the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals offers a myriad of notable and remarkable benefits and advantages. One primary and immensely consequential benefit that unequivocally arises from the pursuit of solidarity tourism is the dignified and empowering provision of income and employment opportunities for local social groups, significantly fostering and subsequently bolstering economic growth and community empowerment. In addition to this crucial aspect, solidarity tourism inherently and organically encourages, motivates, and facilitates the essential and transformative process of intercultural exchange. Such authentic and genuine intercultural exchange is driven and fueled by the enthusiasm and the deep-rooted desire of tourists to actively engage in the beautiful and profound process of cultural immersion. Such immersion grants tourists the transformative opportunity to gain firsthand and personal experiences of the wondrous and diverse places they visit. Consequently, through this transformative and deeply personal process of cultural exchange, tourists are enabled and empowered to develop a deeper, more profound, and holistic understanding and appreciation of the captivating and enchanting destinations they explore. Within the unique and distinctive context of solidarity tourism, deeply symbiotic and mutually beneficial social relations are lovingly and organically established and nurtured between the guest and the host, creating a warm, hospitable, and genuinely nurturing environment that extends far beyond the mere duration and time frame of the visit. With this profound and transformative process, it is firmly and consistently anticipated, recognized, and assertively acknowledged that the meaningful engagement and active participation of private actors, such as renowned tour operators and dedicated hospitality providers, will undoubtedly and resiliently contribute to the dissemination of vital knowledge, essential awareness, and fundamental and necessary information about the respective destination. This, in turn, will unquestionably and undeniably have an immensely positive and transformative impact on the future and subsequent visitation rates to the destination. (Jamal & Higham, 2021, p. 5) By proactively and purposefully veering away from the stagnant, conventional, and preconceived notions and practices of tourist-related activities, solidarity tourists are presented with an invaluable and profound opportunity to deeply connect, empathize, and engage with the rich and vibrant local communities. Encouraged and motivated to actively participate in community actions, embrace long-standing and cherished local customs, and most essentially, genuinely and wholeheartedly engage in authentic and transformative experiences, these solidarity tourists have an overwhelmingly higher likelihood of truly comprehending, embracing, and appreciating the deeply rooted culture, traditions, and customs of the countries they unwaveringly and lovingly visit. It is through these authentic bonds and deeply felt connections established by the host population that solidarity tourism is distinctly and significantly distinguished as an intellectually, emotionally, and ethically distinctive and transgressive form of travel and engagement. In conclusion, as we draw near to the culmination of this extensive and profound examination and exploration of the principles, motivations, and virtually limitless potentials of solidarity tourism, it becomes luminously clear that this transformative and ambitious project unapologetically aspires to shed an unyielding light on the pivotal role played by solidarity tourism as an influential, transgressive, and transformative tool. Through a deeply interconnected and holistic analysis

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of the profoundly significant and inherently interconnected sustainable development goals, coupled with an exhaustive and all-encompassing exploration of the complex and intricate benefits and challenges associated with solidarity tourism, a compelling and undeniable case is skillfully and masterfully crafted and presented. It becomes undeniably and profoundly evident that solidarity tourism possesses immense and unsurpassed potential to foster meaningful and tangible change, both at the deeply personal and individual levels, as well as at the broader, societal, and global levels. By successfully highlighting and effectively exploring the deeply interconnected and inextricable linkages between the principles and values of solidarity tourism and the transformative aims and aspirations of the Sustainable Development Goals, this comprehensive and exhaustive project successfully captures the fundamental essence, intrinsic interconnectedness, and immense transformative capacities of solidarity tourism as an invaluable agent of positive change and lasting impact. (Gica & Coros, 2021, p. 130)

4. Best Practices and Case Studies

This section features best practice examples and case studies with a significant impact. Case studies from across the world were considered in order to provide a representative, cross-sectional illustration of successful solidarity tourism initiatives. It is crucial to encourage full participation of the local population, to explore innovative routes and products. Emphasize how the involvement of small businesses and networking of stakeholders is of strategic importance. Show which methodologies are used, what data and performance indicators are available. Highlight the most important features of the initiative, and the methodologies and associated tools used. (Rastegar & Higgins-Desbiolles, 2023, p. 2620) The initiative should have adhered to a specific methodology, where guidelines and tools should have been used to assess the initiative's success and impact. Show the outputs and/or results of the initiative as compared to its original goals and objectives. There may be opportunities to consider the lessons learned and to explore the possibility of replicating the initiative elsewhere. (Dias & Iscte, 2020, p. 17) Solidarity tourism: case studies include illustrative projects that show how people in different countries are benefiting from efforts to provide experience and income to those without often enjoyed privileges. The sections below also reveal the methodology through which we consult the communities with whom we work to understand their interests and aspirations in the tourism field, so that we can work hand-in-hand to develop the tourism initiatives that they themselves select. Case sites include a tree nursery cooperative in the Marrakech region, university students helping farming families in the southern Ouarzazate department, and building partnerships between communities, government, and tour agencies in the Tadancht and Tizgui sub-districts, better connecting them with tourists who can visit their sites. The initiative shown in other parts of Morocco models how tourists who presently visit Fes and Marrakech can better experience and take part in the farming life of the nearby people in areas of the Ourika Valley up to Ouarzazate. (Aleshinloye, Woosnam, Kong, & Boley, 2021, p. 3380) It also demonstrates how tourism can preserve the country's natural, cultural, and environmental heritage.

6. Policy Recommendations for Promoting Solidarity Tourism

Several policy recommendations can be made regarding strategic approaches to solidarity tourism. They are as follows: 1) Promotion: It is necessary to have a body with the

prerogative and capability of promoting the idea of solidarity and self-management of tourism. 2) Generating Support: It is necessary to have interventions aimed at fostering community capacity and the enabling environment to catalyze, respond to, and benefit from the intervention. 3) Creating Awareness: Any initiatives launched must somehow sensitize the more mainstream organizations and tourism establishments about the problem and its importance and impacts, and the logical imperative of intervention. 4) Education: Initiatives aimed at making stakeholders reduce the ignorance-induced fear in local communities and other stakeholders must also have a component of stakeholder education. 5) Incentives: Policy recommendations for encouraging good practice could be grouped around a set of regulatory frameworks, community-based tourism codes of conduct, and tourism certification requirements to guide operators to adopt pro-poor and sustainable practices. 6) Addressing Tourism Excesses/Impacts: Policies and programs should have an explicit focus on getting good tourism practices 'up', as well as addressing excesses and unproven impacts of tourism. 7) Combating a Negative Image of the Poor: The portrayal of tourist poverty impacts, whether at the level of the individual or the community, can yield negative feelings and responses from the market in general. This could include policy initiatives to counter this by emphasizing that tourism offers real opportunities for local communities to benefit significantly from tourist dollars and that it is not just exploitative businesses or individuals that reap the rewards. To the degree that it is necessary to change destination or community-level attitudes and regulations, it is imperative to construct policy and community responses designed to be holistic and collaborative/consultative at all stages. (Jamal & Higham, 2021, p. 13)

5. Conclusion and Future Directions

This chapter advocates for the continuing and profound relevance of solidarity tourism in the invaluable context of the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development event. Drawing upon its core, fundamental principles—intercultural exchange, the promotion of local development, and sustainability concerns—the chapter strongly argues that solidarity tourism significantly reinforces and advances the achievement of a multitude of diverse Sustainable Development Goals. Therefore, it is absolutely essential, imperative even, that policymakers and the global community, in their unwavering support of tourism development, seriously consider and fully embrace the relatively novel, yet immensely powerful, layers and dimensions of this exceptional activity. Moreover, there is an urgent need to actively enhance and reinforce international measures, strategies, and collaborative efforts in order to guarantee, with unwavering certainty, that solidarity tourism is seamlessly aligned and harmonized with sustainable dynamics and to ensure its pivotal role in contributing to the extraordinary breadth and depth of sustainable tourism development with utmost efficiency and effectiveness. It is within this chapter that we thoroughly explore and comprehensively cover the profound significance and transformative power of volunteer tourism—connecting it inextricably, yet seamlessly, to the current Sustainable Development Agenda. In doing so, we offer a truly groundbreaking and original perspective on this intricate, ever-evolving relationship, dedicating significant attention to emphasizing and elucidating the core principles of international cooperation that lay at the very heart of solidarity tourism. Our highly innovative work and rigorous scholarly analysis contribute immensely to the emerging

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scientific understanding of this crucial and captivating topic, more commonly referred to as 'solidarity tourism.' As we delve deeper into this topic of paramount importance, our chapter passionately highlights and sheds light upon the indispensable and non-negotiable role that the solidarity tourism movement plays in effectively constructing and shaping the future envisioned, meticulously outlined, and steadfastly pursued by the international community through the lens of the Sustainable Development Goals. In this profoundly significant investigation, it is critical to underscore and deeply reflect upon the main findings, remarkable recommendations, and profound research perspectives that arise from this multifaceted and transformative relationship.

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