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An Exploratory Comparative Study Of Eco-Tourism Practices In Dubai And Algeria

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Abstract

Eco-tourism is a recent concept that has received increasing attention in recent decades through the international community and through popular movements. This study aims to clarify how eco-tourism can be translated from theory to practice, by adopting the concept of sustainability and applying sound environmental practices in the tourism sector. In addition, it highlights the extent to which these practices are adopted by hotels, airports and transportation in both Dubai and Algeria to embody the concept of eco-tourism. The findings revealed that Dubai is interested in this aspect and tries to generalize it in all tourism activities employing long-term policies for sustainable development. As for Algeria, there has been some initiatives in tourism institutions, but major effort is required to convert these intiatives to practices.

Key words : eco-tourism, environmental practices, Dubai, Algeria.

1. INTRODUCTION

Tourism specialists are looking for ways to develop their work in a competitive and sustainable manner, and many of them believe that in order to achieve this, they must join international tourism certification systemsk, This is done by applying sound environmental practices in the tourism sector, as ecotourism is considered a means of managing the available resources necessary to meet economic, social and aesthetic needs and preserve cultural heritage, ecosystems and biodiversity, Applying the principle of sustainability to all types of activities, operations, businesses and tourism projects, whether old or new, and from there to the products and services provided to tourists, Here we must rely on techniques and technologies with no side effects that allow the consumption of natural, economic and humanitarian resources over long periods of time, allowing them to be renewed, maintained and preserved, That is, achieving an equation that balances economic returns and preserving the ocean and the environment.

The question is: What are the most important environmental practices that tourism institutions must adhere to in order to embody the concept of ecotourism? Have Dubai and Algeria worked to implement these practices?

• Objectives of the study: The study aims to:

- Highlighting the modern trend of tourism represented by ecotourism.

- Learn about the most important environmental practices applied in the tourism sector to achieve ecotourism.

- Knowing the extent to which environmental practices are applied in the tourism sector in both Dubai and Algeria.

2. STUDY LITERATURE:

2.1. The nature of ecotourism

Ecotourism occupies a specialized position in the field of tourism, as it includes forms of tourism that are consistent with natural, cultural and societal values and enhance cultural and environmental interaction in the original natural environments, and is therefore the forefront of "greening" Tourism in general (Eco-Destinet, 2009).

A- The historical emergence of ecotourism: The idea of ecotourism appeared in 1970, During a feasibility study to stop animal hunting tourism in Kenya and replace it with animal watching and monitoring tourism, which had the greatest impact on preserving wildlife and providing financial resources that were exploited in establishing natural reserves (Al-Sayrafi, 2007), and the environmental extension profession is the first seed for the emergence of the concept of ecotourism.In the 1980s, forests and coral beaches were the focus of a large number of biological studies that focused on biodiversity and natural diversity, These studies have created a number of pieces of evidence to accompany scientists to conduct their research and guide them to unknown areas and how to move within these areas (Rawashda, 2009), as the extension profession was the first ecotourism profession.

The term ecotourism (Eco_Tourisme) has appeared since the early eighties of the 20th century, The first innovation of the term ecotourism is attributed to the Mexican ecologist Hector Ceballos Lascurian Hector, who coined the term in July 1983, when he noticed that there were growing numbers of tourists, Especially from North America, primarily interested in bird watching, he believed that such people could play an important role in promoting and encouraging the local rural economy, Creating new job opportunities and preserving the environment in the region, and he began using the term "ecotourism" to describe this phenomenon (Muzariq and Qaddour, 2010).

B- Definition of ecotourism: Ecotourism was initially viewed as: "a process of learning, culture, and raising the components of the environment and is therefore a means of introducing tourists to and engaging in the environment (Mkabla, 2008)." Most definitions focused on three aspects:

- Community-focused definitions: The International Ecotourism Association (1990) defines it as "responsible travel to natural areas that leads to environmental conservation and improved well-being of local people" (Annabi, 2010), As for the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), it believes that it is "environmentally responsible travel and visits to areas that relatively maintain their natural state, to enjoy cultural manifestations, in addition to supporting the economic and social situation of the local population" (Athbi and others, 2005) It is environmentally responsible tourism that works to encourage its conservation with the participation of local communities (Lequin, 2001)

- Demand-focused definitions: The World Environment Fund defines them as "traveling to natural areas that have not been polluted and whose natural balance has not been disturbed, This is to enjoy its plants, wild animals, and the manifestations of its civilization, past and present."(Al Galad, 1977), while Ceballos believes that it involves visiting relatively healthy natural areas, with the aim of a specific study to contemplate and see wild plants and animals, As well as observing any cultural event in these areas (Christian, 2003).

- Resource-focused definitions: defined as tourism that works to create a balance between maintaining economic returns and preserving the culture of host countries and ecological resources. (Navarat and Angela, 2013) Tourism also means environmental responsibility and turns to nature and innate civilizations in small groups to enjoy, observe, learn and conduct some activities without leaving any negative impact on natural and cultural resources and society and works to improve the level Living for

the population, providing material resources to the local community and preserving environmental resources and biodiversity (Alam, 2008).

C- The environmental tourist concept: The tourist is defined as the person who intends to spend his vacation outside his original residence or place of work to enjoy nature, visit historical archaeological sites, or get to know other communities (Abdul Qadir, 2003). If a person has the right to enjoy the beauty of nature, then he has the right to preserve it and not cause any negative impact on the environment to achieve: "Environmental Security" (Al-Qaid, 2005), By adhering to a set of duties and behaviors that tourists must demonstrate in their behavior towards the natural environment in their intellectual concepts, which are (Salem and Suleiman, 2009):

- Care and commitment when dealing with rare components of the natural environment in areas of natural intent.

- Respect the natural environment, refrain from any behavior or appearance that leads to intersection with the components and basics of the environment, and respect the cultural and civilizational environment with caution.

Respecting traditions and societal aspects, especially those related to cultural, cultural and natural heritage.

Not to exploit the economic capabilities of the local population in inhumane or dishonest forms and formulas through the ability to spend highly on tourism.

Definitive abstention from trading in all types of narcotic, prohibited and specific substances.

2.2. Sound environmental practices are the basic pillars of tourism:

Environmental protection requires the application of sound environmental practices in the tourism sector, starting from the tourist's starting point, which is airports, until reaching the tourist site .

A- Airports: We will address environmental issues related to airport operations according to the World Bank Group (World Bank Group, 2007):

- Noise and vibrations:

- Good planning of the airport site with round-trip aircraft routes linked to the actual development of residential areas and noise-sensitive receivers in areas near the airport.

Work to implement the best procedures and methods related to landing and taking off aircraft in areas where there are significant impacts to reduce noise in sensitive areas.

Preventing and controlling noise in areas by applying noise mitigation strategies (such as sound insulation for noise-prone buildings) in cooperation with local authorities.

Working to reduce noise resulting from ground operation or using sound barriers and reflectors.

Providing a power source for aircraft to reduce or eliminate the use of auxiliary power units.

- Air emissions: The process of reducing emissions at airports needs to encourage the adoption of clean technology in manufacturing as a new engine technology while enhancing efficiency (Longhurst et al, 1996). To control the resulting air emissions, the following must be done:

Reducing air emissions from jet kerosene and fuel storage and handling activities .

-Providing the supply of electrical energy and air-conditioned air to reduce the use of auxiliary power units.

Use cleaner fuel in exercises while fighting fires, such as liquefied petroleum gas, and avoid using spent oil or jet fuel (Kerosin jet aircraft).

Burning waste inside licensed facilities that operate in accordance with international standards to prevent pollution .

- Storm water and wastewater: To prevent and control the associated effects, storm water drainage must be diverted and treated in areas where leakage and spillage of chemicals and fuel are likely to occur through the use of a water separator/ Oil or oil before discharge to surface water masses, monitoring liquid waste before discharge to surface water masses, providing wastewater collection systems in airport facilities, and managing the collected liquid waste, In addition to preventing and controlling the flow of defrosting fluids by aircraft in cold climates.

- Hazardous materials management: developing plans by operators to prevent and control spills, emergency preparedness, and airport response plans that relate to the nature of operations, Conducting firefighting drills on impermeable surfaces surrounded by a retaining fence to prevent foam, powders, environmentally hazardous fire extinguishing agents, or contaminated fire water from entering the storm water system, Water containing firefighting agents and non-burning flammable materials also needs to be treated before discharging into surface water.

- Waste management :

- Develop a solid waste recycling program, which should include placing waste containers bearing labels in passenger terminals to collect glass, metal, paper and plastic.

- Separation of configurable food waste and other food waste for recycling for use as agricultural fertilizer and animal feed.

- Separation of waste on the aircraft by airline operators and aircraft cleaning contractors, and recycling of pillows used in the furniture manufacturing process or as an insulating material.

B- In hotels: Hotel environmental management practices focus on recycling, waste reduction, energy saving, water conservation, compliance with legislation, purchasing policy, education, architectural and landscape design (Nazmiye and Cevat, 2009) .

The following are important guidelines that hotel management must take into account. It must protect the environment as follows (United Nations Programme, 2002):

- Regarding water: Water consumption in hotels must be rationalized through:

Encouraging customers to save water consumption and limit the amounts of water in the wash basin, showers and bathrooms by introducing water consumption regulators.

Introducing practical changes to towels and bedding, such as asking the customer to place the towel on the floor or in the bathroom if he wants to change it, while bedding changes upon request.

- Using environmentally friendly detergents by avoiding chemical detergents containing PH, sulfite, or strong bleach. Olive oil, lemon, and vinegar soaps can perform the same purpose for hygiene, Avoid using fabric softeners as they cause skin sensitivity for some (Al-Sharqawi and Hafni, 2008).

- Using water with a temperature between 95-98° mixed with caustic soda to sterilize the cooking area.

- Using rainwater to irrigate gardens and protect the environment in swimming pools by avoiding adding more chlorine than required because this affects groundwater.

- Wastewater treatment: Wastewater must be pumped to the public wastewater network and thus to the purification plant that recycles it, and it can later be used to irrigate gardens.

- Waste Management: Reducing the amount of waste through the following:

- Choose products that are low in packaging, and reduce single-use items .

Using a dispenser of soap liquid in specific quantities and placing enough soap tablets to accommodate the tourist.Putting shampoo, soap, and bathroom perfume containers daily results in a lot of waste.

Separating waste into glass, paper, metal, organic, etc., following a policy of collecting paper for recycling, and disposing of some materials such as lamp batteries.

- Using gas for refrigerators and air conditioners because it is less harmful to the ozone layer.

Benefit from reusing spent towels, sheets, and lids for cleaning purposes or to make bags, and remanufacture used soap partially.

- Energy: The aspect of preserving and rationalizing energy consumption is:

- Acquiring energy saving devices and taking into account their maintenance to reduce energy waste, rationalizing air conditioning by stopping air conditioners when they are not needed, and closing all lighting and air conditioning devices to vacant places.

Efficient lighting using highly efficient lamps, with improvements in lighting designs, The use of optical reflectors, optical sensors, and control devices to reduce energy consumption (Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (A), 2002), and the use of energy alternatives such as solar cells, wind generators, or heat pumps.

Better use of thermostats for thermostats and optimal use of energy-intensive equipment such as air conditioners (Ministry of Tourism, 2012).

Use thermal insulation systems consisting of materials with low thermal conductivity parameters, used to insulate cold/hot water networks, Ventilation holes, furnaces and boilers to reduce heat loss (Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (A), 2002).

- Location and external facilities: Taking into account the distinctive characteristics of the site or area during the design of buildings, and greening the area surrounding the hotel with herbs and shrubs taken from the nature of the area.

Interior design: Using local materials for decoration and interior furniture, relying on local expertise in implementing decoration, and working to introduce natural light and air into the rooms.

- **Food:** Providing a variety of local diets, relying on organic local agricultural products, and working to reduce the use of plastic bags and covers in food packaging.

- **Recreational facilities:** Hotel management must evaluate the results of some environmentally destructive or energy-consuming activities and replace them with environmentally friendly activities .

C- Transportation: Improving energy efficiency in the transportation sector, The transition to clean fuels and the transition from private to non-motor-based public transport could result in significant health and economic gains (United Nations Programme, 2011), Improving energy efficiency in transportation is expected to result in a 32% reduction in emissions per kilometer for the traveler between 2005 and 2035 (Iwona, 2012). Therefore, tourists should choose means of transportation that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and reduce energy consumption, such as bicycles, sailing boats, horses, and camels, or use hybrid cars, During the past two decades, it has been possible to develop internal combustion machines for vehicles to operate with compressed natural gas as fuel, and these vehicles have proven their economic and environmental feasibility, especially in reducing the emission of greenhouse gases, There are also currently methods available to improve the quality of fuel used in vehicles, leading to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.Among the most important methods of improvement (Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (B), 2002):

- Using enhanced (reformed) gasoline manufactured by mixing smaller amounts of hydrocarbons with higher combustion efficiency.

- Setting limits on the evaporation of gasoline (Volatility limits) in order to reduce emissions resulting from the evaporation of toxic substances and hydrocarbons from burning fuel.

- Setting limits on sulfur limits in diesel fuel, which would reduce the emission of aerosol particles and toxic atmospheric pollutants from vehicles.

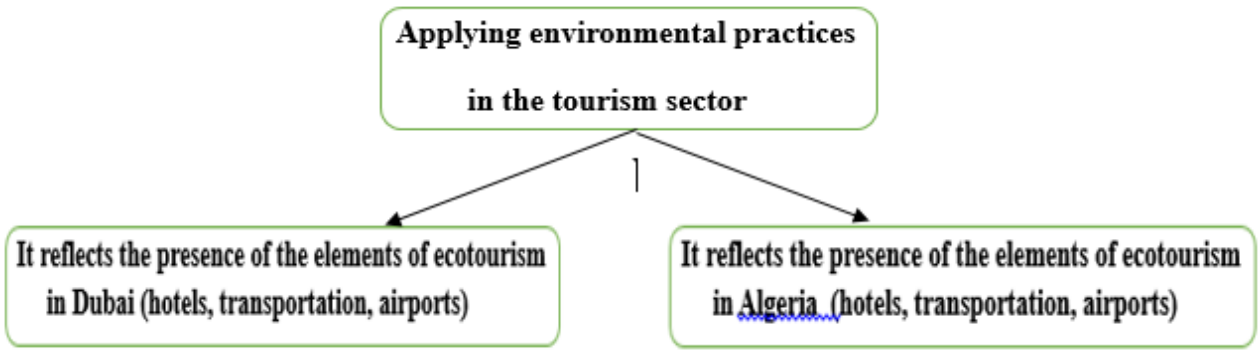
Oxygenated fuel, which is produced by adding substances that provide additional amounts of oxygen, lead to total combustion of the fuel, and reduce CO emissions .

3. Field study

3.1. Study model and hypotheses

By studying the relationship between the application of environmental practices in the tourism sector and the presence of the elements of ecotourism in both Dubai and Algeria, as shown in Figure No.(1):

Fig.1. Study model and hypotheses



From the figure it is clear that there are two hypotheses for the study:

A- Applying environmental practices in the tourism sector works to embody the concept of ecotourism in Dubai.

B- The application of environmental practices in the tourism sector works to embody the concept of ecotourism in Algeria.

3.2. Study methodology

The quantitative approach was used to test hypotheses and is the appropriate approach to reach the objectives of the study and determine the extent of application of environmental practices in both Algeria and Dubai, The questionnaire was distributed to people visiting the relevant destinations, as the Dubai sample included 272 and the Algeria sample 196, and the sample was selected randomly.

The questionnaire included various environmental practices applied in the tourism sector and was distributed to people who attended hotels and airports and used transportation in both Algeria and Dubai.

3.3. STUDY RESULTS AND HYPOTHESIS TESTING:

- Results of the descriptive study:

***Repetitions and ratios**

Table 1. Type of respondents in the sample

Statement	Dubai		Algeria	
	Repetition	Percentage	Repetition	Percentage
Male	119	43.8	86	43.9
Female	153	56.3	110	56.1
Total	272	100	196	100

Table (1) reviews the type of respondents in the study samples taken from Dubai and Algeria.It is clear that the percentage of females exceeds the percentage of males in the two samples, reaching 56.3% in Dubai and Algeria 56.1%.

Table 2. Age of respondents in the sample

Statement	Dubai		Algeria	
	Repetition	Percentage	Repetition	Percentage
18-25 years	113	41.5	29	14.8
26-35 years	57	21.0	126	64.3
36-45 years	73	26.8	37	18.9
46-55 years	16	5.9	3	1.5
More than 55 years old	13	4.8	1	0.5
Total	272	100.0	196	100. 0

Table (2) shows that the youth group is dominant in both samples, as the sample shows: In Dubai, the highest percentage of people between the ages of (18-25 years) is 41.5%. Algeria has the highest percentage of people between the ages of (26-35 years), equivalent to 64.3%.

Table 3. Nationality of respondents in the sample

Statement	Dubai		Algeria	
	Repetition	Percentage	Repetition	Percentage
Arabic	141	51.8	110	56.1
Foreign	131	48.2	86	43.9
Total	272	100.0	196	100.0

We note from Table (3) the people included in the survey that the percentage of Arab nationalities exceeded the percentage of foreigners, as the percentage in Dubai reached 51.8%, while in Algeria it was 56.1%.

Table 4. Opinions of respondents on the elements of green tourism in Dubai and Algeria

Green tourism		Totally disagree (%)	disagree (%)	Neutral (%)	agree (%)	Totally agree (%)
It is considered a world-leading eco-tourism destination	Dubai	3.3	10.3	22.1	37.9	26.5
	Algeria	19.4	36.2	14.3	22.4	7.7
Tourists have a mental image of it as an environmental tourist destination	Dubai	5.9	16.9	31.3	30.1	15.8
	Algeria	13.3	48.5	20.4	16.3	1.5
The tourist's decision to choose to travel is greatly influenced by her mental image as an environmental destination	Dubai	8.5	22.1	21.7	32.7	15.1
	Algeria	9.2	20.9	19.9	35.7	14.3
It has environmental attractions	Dubai	1.8	6.3	17.3	47.8	26.8
	Algeria	6.1	13.3	15.8	35.2	29.6
It works to provide environmental tourism services	Dubai	3.3	9.9	24.3	36.0	26.5
	Algeria	20.9	31.1	33.2	11.2	3.6
It is interested in ecotourism and works to develop and spread awareness to preserve the environment	Dubai	3.3	6.6	16.9	46.7	26.5
	Algeria	19.4	30.1	35.2	13.3	2.0
Its citizens and residents enjoy a culture of environmental preservation	Dubai	6.3	11.0	29.4	36.0	17.3
	Algeria	24.0	36.2	30.6	6.6	2.6
Paying attention to the tourist site environment is one of the motivating factors for traveling there	Dubai	6.6	16.5	21.3	33.1	22.4
	Algeria	11.2	19.9	19.9	28.6	20.4
The tourist is willing to pay a larger amount to obtain environmental services there	Dubai	7.7	10.3	32.7	36.0	13.2
	Algeria	10.2	11.7	39.3	29.6	9.2

The results, Table (4), showed that Dubai is considered a green tourist destination compared to Algeria, despite the latter's richness in natural ingredients, but it has been environmentally neglected, and the results indicated the following:

Visitors believe that Dubai is a global eco-tourism destination with a rate of 64.4% between absolute approval and approval, while Algeria's percentage that sees it as an

eco-tourism destination does not exceed 30 %.

The results indicate that tourists have a mental image of Dubai as an environmental tourist destination at a rate of more than 45%, and this percentage is also equivalent to the decision to choose a tourist to travel being influenced by the mental image of Dubai as an environmental destination, As for Algeria, more than 50% of the sample believes that tourists do not have a mental image of Algeria as an environmental tourist destination, while more than 50% see it % Among them is that the tourist's choice to travel is influenced by the mental image of Algeria as an environmental tourist destination.

- Both Dubai and Algeria have eco-tourism attractions (mountain climbing, diving, bird watching..) At rates exceeding 60%, Dubai also works to provide ecotourism services (environmental hotel, local food..) Opinions supported this by more than 60%, and the latter did not receive attention from Algeria, as 50% of the sample believes that Algeria does not provide these services.

- Dubai is interested in ecotourism and works to develop and spread awareness to preserve the environment.The approval rate for this exceeded 70%, unlike Algeria, where approximately 50% believe that it does not care about this aspect, The interest in this aspect had an impact on those in the destination and their possession of a culture of environmental preservation, and the lineage confirms this (Dubai is more than 50%, while Algeria is less than 10%).

The results show that interest in the tourist site environment is one of the motivating factors for travel in both destinations.

- Nearly 50% of visitors to Dubai declare their willingness to pay a larger amount in exchange for obtaining environmental services, while in Algeria, approximately 40% of tourists have expressed their desire to do so.

Table 5. Opinions of respondents on green transportation in Dubai and Algeria

Green transportation		Totally disagree (%)	disagree (%)	Neutral (%)	agree (%)	Totally agree (%)
It has multiple means of transportation that preserve the environment	Dubai	2.9	10.7	19.5	47.8	19.1
	Algeria	30.6	30.1	30.6	8.2	.50
Encourages green and natural gas driven transportation to protect the environment	Dubai	3.3	6.6	25.4	47.1	17.6
	Algeria	23.5	29.1	25.0	19.9	2.6
The presence of green transportation helps provide it as an environmental tourist destination for tourists	Dubai	1.1	6.3	18.0	50.4	24.3
	Algeria	13.3	17.3	20.4	28.1	20.9

Table (05) shows the results of the survey for the green transportation sector in Dubai and Algeria, where the results showed that the Emirate of Dubai has green means of transportation that preserve the environment by 66.9 % Between approval and absolute approval, unlike Algeria, where the rate of absolute disapproval and disapproval was 60.7%, The survey also showed that the Dubai government is working to encourage green and natural gas-managed transportation to protect the environment by 64.7%, with comprehensive approval, As for the Algerian government, the results indicated that it was not working to encourage green transportation, and the total disapproval rate was 52.6% . The survey also showed a convergence in the point of view of the samples studied on the issue of the presence of green transportation and its contribution to presenting the destination as an environmental tourist destination, as the results indicate that there is almost an agreement for either Dubai or Algeria, and this is logical, as transportation Green is one of the pillars of green tourism.

Table 6. Opinions of respondents on environmental practices at airports in Dubai and Algeria

Environmental practices at airports		Totally disagree (%)	disagree (%)	Neutral (%)	agree (%)	Totally agree (%)
Using LED lamps for indoor and outdoor lighting in all public areas	Dubai	.70	4.4	30.9	48.5	15.4
	Algeria	6.6	17.9	28.6	41.3	5.6
Using the solar panel array in the building to generate energy	Dubai	2.2	4.0	29.4	43.8	20.6
	Algeria	14.3	34.2	30.6	16.3	4.6
Sort waste into paper, glass, plastic, metal and wood for recycling	Dubai	1.8	6.3	21.0	41.2	29.8
	Algeria	13.3	34.7	33.7	14.3	4.1
Installing flow arresters (water flow control taps) in all bathrooms	Dubai	2.6	1.8	20.2	43.8	31.6
	Algeria	13.3	21.4	27.0	32.7	5.6
Organizing environmental awareness campaigns such as Environmental Awareness Day and Cleaning Day	Dubai	2.9	6.6	28.3	38.6	23.5
	Algeria	12.2	33.7	25.0	23.5	5.6
Participate in the world's celebration of Earth Hour, March 31, by turning off unnecessary lights	Dubai	4.0	3.7	20.6	37.1	34.6
	Algeria	17.3	35.2	27.6	17.9	2.0

The results obtained in Table (6) show that Dubai Airports' environmental practices reflect the application of aspects of sustainability and environmental protection through rationalization of energy consumption, use of renewable energy, recycling waste after sorting it, Water conservation and environmental awareness, where the total approval rates for each of these practices exceeded 60%, While in Algeria, the results indicate that airports use LED lamps in lighting to rationalize energy consumption, with an approval rate exceeding 40%, and airports have neglected other environmental practices.

Table 7. Opinions of respondents on environmental practices in hotels in Dubai and Algeria

Environmental practices in hotels		Totally disagree (%)	disagree (%)	Neutral (%)	agree (%)	Totally agree
Encouraging customers to rationalize water consumption and introduce water consumption regulators	Dubai	3.7	14.7	25.7	42.6	13.2
	Algeria	17.3	25.5	25.0	29.1	3.1
Minimize disposable items such as tissue paper and paper cups	Dubai	5.5	12.5	26.8	41.5	13.6
	Algeria	17.9	29.1	33.7	14.8	4.6
Separating waste into glass, paper, metal, etc., for recycling	Dubai	4.4	7.7	23.9	41.2	22.8
	Algeria	16.8	27.0	40.3	11.7	4.1
Use the room key to control lighting (lighting stops when leaving the room)	Dubai	1.8	3.3	26.5	37.5	30.9
	Algeria	13.8	22.4	41.8	15.8	6.1
Rationalizing air conditioning by stopping air conditioners when they are not needed	Dubai	3.7	13.2	25.4	38.2	19.5
	Algeria	13.8	18.4	20.9	41.3	5.6
Using efficient lighting lamps such as LED lamps	Dubai	2.2	4.0	33.1	39.0	21.7
	Algeria	8.7	13.8	25.0	45.4	7.1
Use local materials for interior decoration and furniture and introduce natural light into the rooms	Dubai	4.0	14.0	37.1	30.5	14.3
	Algeria	12.8	17.3	21.4	40.3	8.2
Working to provide local meals and rely on organic agricultural products	Dubai	6.6	15.8	40.8	22.8	14.0
	Algeria	13.3	23.0	31.1	26.5	6.1

Table (7) shows that hotels in Dubai adhere to the most important sound environmental practices, such as rationalizing water and energy consumption, reducing waste, and sorting and recycling waste, where approval rates exceeded 40 %, While in Algeria, it is noted from the results that most hotels do not adhere to sustainable environmental practices and are limited to some of them only, such as the use of LED lamps in lighting, the use of local materials for deco and interior furniture, and the introduction of natural light into rooms While some of them are served for local meals and rely on organic agricultural products.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The study aimed to highlight the basic pillars of embodying the concept of ecotourism, as sound environmental practices must be applied in the tourism sector in order to ensure the quality of service provided and maintain the relevant safety and health of workers in the tourism sector, The practices also include the rational use of natural resources such as water and energy, in addition to the proper disposal of the

increasing amounts of solid waste produced by tourism.

The study concluded that Dubai is characterized by the availability of environmental tourist attractions and services and that those present there acquire a culture of environmental preservation.This is due to the government's encouragement of this aspect, and we find among the most important environmental practices in which the following were applied:

- **In the transportation sector:** Dubai is working to implement the concept of green transportation, by relying on means of transportation that reduce gas emissions, by relying on clean energies, This is due to the role of the Dubai Roads and Transport Authority in encouraging the use of green transport.

- **At airports:** Dubai Airports works to rationalize water consumption by using control taps and also works to reduce energy consumption by using LED lights with diodes, which are characterized by energy saving, In addition to relying on renewable energies such as solar energy, airports also sort and recycle waste, contribute to awareness and participate in environmental events, Dubai Airports has played a major role in encouraging these practices.

- **In hotels:** Hotels in Dubai rationalize energy consumption as well as sort waste for recycling.It has also been noted that there are hotels that neglect some practices, such as encouraging customers to rationalize energy consumption, Reducing single-use items and using local materials in design and serving local meals.

The environmental practices applied in both airports and hotels are due to the role of the Dubai Electricity and Water Authority in encouraging green practices in all Dubai buildings, as well as the role of the Department of Tourism and Commerce Marketing in encouraging green hotels, The use of modern technologies also played a major role, as it gave the emirate the character of a smart city, While we find that there are some practices that have not received attention from some hotels due to the latter's connection to the contemporary characteristic, as they use things that are used once,

It also does not rely on local materials in design, in addition to providing foreign food to meet the tastes of foreign customers.

Dubai has played a major role in supporting sound environmental practices and encouraging tourism institutions to implement them.This is due to the Dubai Sustainability Plan in order to make Dubai a green and sustainable city, And creating a competitive advantage, especially with similar destinations that have a tourist status, as they work to revitalize this sector, which represents one of the most important pillars of the economy, It works to modernize it in a way that makes it able to keep pace with developments and keep pace with the cultural complex.

As for Algeria, it is noted that it has begun to move towards implementing environmental practices in the tourism sector, but its orientation remains weak despite its possession of ecotourism attractions. It needs more support, and through the study the following was noted:

- Transport sector: Algeria's lack of interest in providing green transport, which is rarely available in major cities.This is due to the failure to encourage the integration of the environmental dimension within the transport sector.

- Airports: It was noted that environmental practices related to water and energy conservation are not applied in all airports ،We find some airports paying attention to this aspect, especially modern airports, while other airports still maintain their traditional practices that do not care about the environment.

Hotels: As is the case in airports in Algeria, so is the case in hotels.We find that hotels belonging to international chains that have environmental markings work to apply sound environmental practices, Unlike other hotels, some of which only apply or neglect them completely.

Therefore, Algeria must encourage the various parties concerned with adopting sustainability within tourism activities through the full support of the actors for the

success of the issue of environmental sustainability, Tourist destinations must adopt a comprehensive and multifaceted approach to change, The road map for environmental change must include many tools, including regulatory, economic and technological tools that are relied upon to apply environmentally sound practices and embody the concept of ecotourism.

5. CONCLUSION

The importance of the study stems from considering environmentally friendly practices in the tourism sector as an essential factor for the long-term success of the tourism sector, Those in charge of the tourism industry in the world realized the importance of good practices towards the environment and society as a whole for this sector because of their benefit to it in particular, and to the environment and society in general, This topic is also considered one of the modern studies that will enrich the Arab library and can be used in future research.This applies to the theoretical aspect, As for the applied aspect, through the results reached, general recommendations can be presented that benefit the tourism sector in the Emirate of Dubai and Algeria, especially the latter, in which a lack of environmental practices was observed, Therefore, tourism sector stakeholders should do the following:

- Coordinating with the private tourism sector to promote ecotourism and training guides in this field.

- Preferring and supporting environmentally friendly tourism projects and creating an appropriate framework for financing such projects.

- Carrying out continuous and permanent awareness-raising work towards the population and all actors in the tourism field, as well as partners, and intensifying children's visits about green tourism courses.

Encouraging and qualifying human resources and qualified users in this field.

- Promoting the exchange of expertise and experiences between countries that have

made strides in this field and allowing the transfer of environmentally friendly knowledge and technology.

- Encouraging the use of clean energies in the field of tourism, especially by tourism institutions and small and medium enterprises.

- Taking into account the sustainability standards approved by the World Tourism Organization (economy, society and environment).

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