

Sustainable Tourism Development and Local Communities: A Data-Driven Analysis of Responsible Practices in Emerging Asia-Pacific Destinations

Abeer Hriday Deshpande^{1*}, Tanirika Ghoshal²

¹ Department of Tourism and Hospitality Management, Suresh Gyan Vihar University

² Department of Travel and Tourism Studies, Shri Vaishnav Vidyapeeth Vishwavidyalaya

Tanirika Ghoshal, Email: abeer.deshpande@sgvu.edu.in

ABSTRACT

Purpose

This study examines the relationship between tourism growth, sustainability, and community development across selected Asia-Pacific destinations, with a focus on understanding whether tourism expansion leads to equitable and sustainable outcomes.

Design/Methodology/Approach

A quantitative cross-sectional approach is adopted using secondary data from the UN Tourism database (2025). Key indicators analyzed include tourist arrivals, growth rate, and regional market share for both developed and emerging destinations. Statistical techniques such as descriptive analysis, correlation, and regression are employed.

Findings

The results reveal significant disparities in tourism performance. Developed destinations dominate in terms of tourist arrivals, while emerging destinations demonstrate higher growth potential. Correlation analysis shows a very strong positive relationship between tourist arrivals and regional market share, whereas growth rate exhibits only a weak association. Regression analysis confirms that regional market share is the most significant determinant of tourist arrivals, while growth rate is statistically insignificant.

Research Limitations/Implications

The study relies on secondary cross-sectional data, which limits the ability to capture dynamic or long-term trends. Future research could incorporate longitudinal data and additional sustainability indicators to provide deeper insights.

Article History:

Article Type: **Research**

Received Date: **15/12/2025**

Revised Date: **10/01/2026**

Accepted Date: **21/02/2026**

Published Date: **27/03/2026**

Keywords: Sustainable Tourism; Asia-Pacific Destinations; Regional Market Share

1. Introduction

Tourism has become one of the booming sectors in the global economy with a high contribution towards economic growth, creation of employment and foreign exchange. International tourism has been characterised by a significant growth in the last several decades, and the increasing mobility, globalisation, and the increase in disposable income are leading to demand growth in different regions (UN Tourism, 2025). The industry is vital in the economies of nations because it triggers investment, aids in developing infrastructures, and generates employment, especially in developing nations (WTTC, 2024). Simultaneously, tourism has been strongly connected with broader development agendas, such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), being focused on inclusive economic growth, environmental protection, and social well-being (United Nations, 2025).

Nevertheless, the rapid growth of tourism has also brought about issues of concern as to its environmental and social effects, which, in turn, have stimulated greater interest in sustainable tourism practices (UNDP, 2021; D. Weaver, 2018). The increased significance of sustainability in the tourism sector has triggered the move towards more conservative and friendlier approaches to tourism than the traditional mass tourism patterns. Sustainable tourism should focus on the balance between economic gains, environmental protection, and social justice so that the development of tourism does not affect the needs of the next generations (Bramwell et al., 2017; Hall, 2019). In spite of this, the tourism industry is still struggling with major predicaments, especially in regard to imbalanced growth and the strain on resources. Over-tourism, consequently causing environmental degradation, overcrowding, and poor quality of life among local people, has been caused by large numbers of tourists in most of the tourist destinations (Gössling, 2020; Gössling et al., 2021).

On the other hand, some areas are underdeveloped in the sphere of tourism as they do not have the infrastructure and investment to attract tourists and bring about economic gains. (OECD, 2022). This imbalance shows that there is a complicated level between sustainable development and tourism growth. The other essential problem in the tourism industry is that the benefits are not spread equally, with economic benefits often going to a few stakeholders, and the benefits not going to the local communities. Tourism development in most instances has caused social and cultural disturbances, displacement of the local people and strains on natural resources (Higgins-Desbiolles, 2020; Nunkoo & Ramkissoon, 2011). This has led to increased awareness of the

importance of considering local communities in tourism planning and decision-making processes to achieve more inclusive and equitable results (Scheyvens, 2011; Tosun, 2006). Participation by people in the community will not only boost the livelihoods of the neighbourhoods, but also help in the preservation of the cultural heritage and environmental sustainability (Lee, 2013).

The issues highlight the need to embrace responsible tourism practices that focus on economic efficiency, as well as social justice. Although there are increasingly diverse literature on sustainable tourism, there is still a significant gap in scientific research that empirically analyses the relevant aspects of tourism growth, sustainability and community development in emerging destinations. Although there is prior literature on the single elements of tourism development, the interaction of quantitative factors like the number of tourists coming to a particular region, the growth rate, and market share has received little focus on how they relate to sustainable results (Dangi & Jamal, 2016; Saarinen, 2020). In addition, the majority of studies have been conducted on the developed destinations with little to be carried out on the emerging markets.

This gap can be used to indicate that there is a need to conduct analytical research to unite economic and sustainability views with measurable data. To address these gaps, the current study seeks to examine tourism dynamics in the chosen Asia-Pacific countries on a cross-sectional dataset. In particular, the research will aim at analysing patterns of tourism growth in the emergent destinations, determining the correlation between tourism performance and sustainability, and determining how tourism development impacts the locals. The study has been able to offer a comparative outlook by targeting developed and emerging destinations that help inform more about the regional tourism disparities and their overall significance.

With these objectives, the two major research questions that will guide the study include whether tourism growth enhances sustainable development, and the second question is whether emerging destinations are more sustainable than the established markets. These questions need to be answered to find ways to develop tourism in a more balanced and inclusive manner. On the whole, the research adds to the existing literature on sustainable tourism because it provides empirical data on how tourism development can be balanced with environmental and social goals to contribute to the sustainability of the tourism industry in the long term and the welfare of the population.

2. Methodology

The research design embraced in this study will be quantitative to investigate the connection between tourism development and sustainable development in the emerging Asia-Pacific destinations. It uses a cross-sectional approach of analysis, considering tourism data of various countries within a single reference year (2025). Such a design allows comparing destinations at different stages of development of tourism and identifying the patterns and gaps in the performance of tourism. Quantitative approach is appropriate in the given research since it will enable objective quantification and statistical analysis of the tourism indicators, which will result in reliable and generalised findings. The study offers a comparative approach to tourism growth in relation to the distribution of regions and possible impacts on sustainable tourism development by conducting a multi-country analysis on tourism growth.

2.1 Data Source

The research relies on the secondary data sources, such as the database of the United Nations Tourism Organisation (*Tourism Statistics Database, 2025*) that offers internationally recognised and standardised tourism statistics. The dataset comprises cross-sectional data of some selected countries in the Asia-Pacific, including Japan, Thailand, Malaysia, the Republic of Korea (ROK), Singapore, Australia, Sri Lanka, the Maldives, Nepal, and many others, depicted in Table 1.

Table 1: Cross-Sectional Tourism Indicators for Selected Asia-Pacific Countries (2025)

Country	Tourist Arrivals (Million)	Growth Rate (%)	Share of Region (%)	Share of the World (%)
Japan	42.7	15.8	12.9	2.8
Thailand	33	-7.2	10	2.2
Malaysia	26.6	6.4	8	1.7
Hong Kong (China)	23.2	5.7	7	1.5
Korea (ROK)	18.9	15.7	5.7	1.2
Macao (China)	16.5	3.1	5	1.1
Singapore	12.4	-4.6	3.8	0.8
Australia	8.9	8.1	2.7	0.6
Taiwan (China)	8.6	9.1	2.6	0.6
Cambodia	5.6	-16.9	1.7	0.4
Sri Lanka	2.4	15.1	0.7	0.2
Maldives	2.2	9.8	0.7	0.1

Nepal	1.2	0.9	0.4	0.1
-------	-----	-----	-----	-----

Source: UN Tourism (2025) dataset.

Note: Data represent international tourist arrivals and related indicators for selected Asia-Pacific destinations. Values are expressed in millions and percentages.

The countries were chosen on the basis of the availability of information, and they represent both developed and emerging tourism destinations. The data set records the important tourism statistics, such as the number of international tourists, growth rates, and market share in the region, which is critical in understanding tourism performance and trends. Secondary data is also credible and comparative since the UN Tourism database is highly utilised in both academic and policy studies.

2.2 Variables

Independent Variables:

- **Growth Rate (percentage):** This shows the yearly percentage change of international tourists arrivals, and this shows growth or depletion of tourism.
- **Share of Region (%):** Refers to the percentage of the total number of tourists arriving in the region that is ascribed to each country and represents the market share of the country in the Asia-Pacific region.

Dependent Variable:

- **Tourist Arrivals (Million):** This is a measure of the total number of international tourists visiting each destination, which is a measure of demand for tourism and the general performance of the destination.

These variables are chosen in order to examine the effect of the dynamics of tourism development and regional positioning on the tourism performance of different destinations.

2.3 Data Analysis Techniques

To fulfil the research goals, the research uses the following statistical methods:

- Descriptive Statistics
- Correlation Analysis
- Regression Analysis

Such methods enable one to thoroughly comprehend the patterns of tourism and its effects on sustainable development.

2.4 Model Specification

The study uses the following functional model:

$$\text{Tourist Arrivals} = f(\text{GrowthRate, Regional Share}) \quad 1$$

It is a model of tourism that presupposes that the rate of growth in tourism demand contributes to tourism performance, which is measured by the number of tourist arrivals and the share of the destination in the regional market. The regression model allows estimating the relative importance of each variable.

3. Results and Interpretation

3.1 Descriptive Statistics

In order to compare and contrast tourism indicators in selected Asia-Pacific countries, descriptive statistics were used to summarise the results of these indicators and reveal differences in tourist arrivals, growth rate, and regional shares.

Table 2: Descriptive Statistics of Tourism Variables (2025)

Statistic	Tourist Arrivals (Million)	Growth Rate (%)	Share of Region (%)
Mean	15.55	4.69	4.71
Median	12.4	6.4	3.8
Standard Deviation	12.89	9.68	3.89
Skewness	0.82	-0.92	0.83
Kurtosis	-0.07	0.59	-0.05
Minimum	1.2	-16.9	0.4
Maximum	42.7	15.8	12.9
Range	41.5	32.7	12.5
Observations	13	13	13

Table 2 indicates that there is high variability in tourist arrivals, with an average of 15.55 million arrivals and a large standard deviation of 12.89, implying that there is no even distribution of arrivals across destinations. There is a lot of variation in growth rates, which indicate unsteadiness in the performance of tourism. The positive skewness of arrivals and in regional share is an indication of concentration in a few major destinations. In general, the findings indicate differences between developed and emerging tourism markets.

3.2 Correlation Analysis

The correlation analysis was used to study the intensity and the direction of relationships between the key variables, especially between growth rate, regional share, and tourist arrivals.

Table 3: Correlation Matrix

	Tourist Arrivals (Million)	Growth Rate (%)	Share of Region (%)
Tourist Arrivals (Million)	1		
Growth Rate (%)	0.131032062	1	
Share of Region (%)	0.999979195	0.12810085	1

Table 3 demonstrates that, as depicted in the correlation matrix, tourist arrivals have a very high positive relationship with the share of the region ($r = 0.9999$), such that countries with a higher share of the region are likely to receive a lot of tourists. This correlation is unsurprising, since the volume of tourist arrivals has a direct impact on the regional share. By contrast, the correlation between growth rate and tourist arrivals is weakly positive ($r = 0.131$), indicating that the increase in growth rates does not always increase tourist volumes. In the same way, there is also a weak correlation existing between the rate of growth and share of region ($r = 0.128$), which shows minimal correlation between short-term growth and overall market position.

The heatmap visually confirms the correlation analysis.

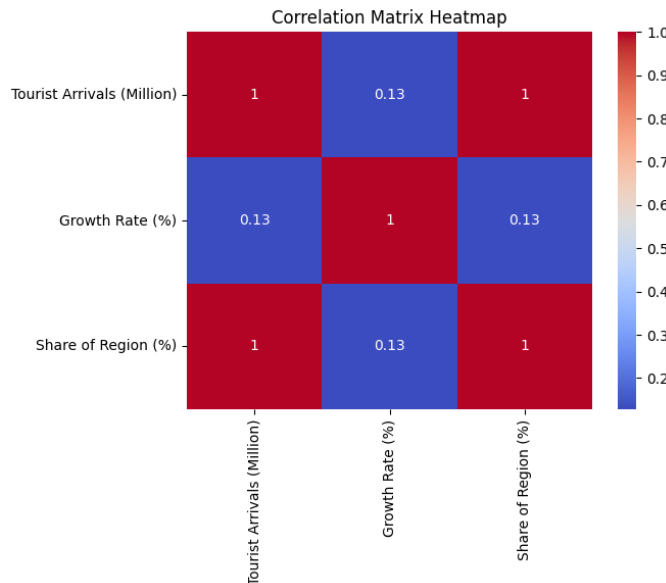


Figure 1: Correlation matrix Heatmap

In Figure 1, a very bright/warm square, where the intersection between the variable Tourist Arrivals (Million) and Share of Region (%) shows that the two variables have a very strong positive

correlation. On the other hand, the squares that contain Growth rate (%) are significantly less warm in color indicating that it has a weak positive relationship with the other two variables.

3.3 Regression Analysis

Regression analysis was performed to assess the impact of growth rate and regional share on tourist arrivals, providing insights into the key determinants of tourism performance.

Table 4: Regression Results

Variable	Coefficient (β)	Standard Error	t-value	p-value	Significance
Intercept	-0.066	0.037	-1.793	0.103	Not Significant
Growth Rate (%)	0.00397	0.00243	1.632	0.134	Not Significant
Share of Region (%)	3.314	0.00606	546.904	<0.001*	Significant

Note:

1. $R^2 = 0.99997$ indicates a very high explanatory power of the model
2. F-statistic is highly significant ($p < 0.01$), confirming model reliability
3. **1.02783E-23**: Extremely high R^2 due to a strong relationship between arrivals and regional share
4. The possibility of multicollinearity as the share of the region is derived from arrivals

The regression model, as indicated in Table 4, is a remarkably high fit with an R^2 of 0.99997, which shows that almost all the variance in tourist arrivals can be attributed to the independent variables. The region share is very important ($p < 0.01$), and it puts a strong positive influence on the tourist arrivals. Conversely, the growth rate is not significant, implying that growth in the short-term does not have any significant effect on total tourism volume. These results affirm that market share is a prevailing factor in the performance of tourism across destinations.

3.4 Model Specification

A multiple regression model is estimated to empirically test this relationship. According to the results of the regression, the estimated equation will be represented as:

$$\text{Tourist Arrivals} = -0.066 + 0.00397(\text{Growth Rate}) + 3.314(\text{Share of Region}) \quad 2$$

This model suggests that the performance of tourism in terms of the number of tourists who visit a destination is dependent on the growth rate of the tourism demand as well as the local market share of the destination. Nonetheless, the size and statistical significance of the coefficients

indicate that there are significant differences in their effects. The coefficient of share of region (3.314) is positive and significant, indicating that the greater the share of region, the greater the number of arrivals of tourists. This proves that those destinations that are more regionally positioned are likely to have more tourists. Contrastingly, the coefficient of rate of growth (0.00397) is extremely low and statistically insignificant, which means that the fluctuations in growth in the short-term do not affect the overall tourism performance significantly. The negative intercept (-0.066) does not lend itself to any practical interpretation, but it shows the level of arrivals of tourists when independent variables are kept at a constant level. Generally, the model shows that the biggest influence on tourism performance is the market share in the region, and the growth rate has a minor effect.

3.5 Comparative Insights

The descriptive and regression findings reveal clear differences between developed and emerging destinations.

Table 5: Comparative Tourism Performance

Category	Characteristics	Examples
Developed Destinations	High arrivals, low/negative growth	Japan, Thailand
Emerging Destinations	Low arrivals, high growth	Sri Lanka, Maldives

Table 5 shows that developed destinations lead in terms of tourist volumes received and have slower or negative growth rates. Contrastingly, emerging destinations have greater growth rates even though they have fewer tourists. This implies that the demand in the tourism industry will gradually shift to less saturated markets. In the comparative analysis of tourism indicators of the chosen countries of Asia-Pacific, it is possible to note big differences in tourist arrivals, growth rates, and market share between the developed and developing destinations.

High-Performing (Developed) Destinations

The regional tourism market is predominantly dominated by countries like Japan, Thailand, Malaysia, Hong Kong and Korea. Japan is the top tourist destination in terms of number of arrivals (42.7 million) and region (12.9), with high growth (15.8%), which is a well-competitive and established tourism industry. Thailand, with the highest arrivals (33 million) and share (10%), indicates negative growth (-7.2%), which indicates the possibility of market saturation or external

factors. Malaysia and South Korea are stable, moderately growing, and have a strong regional presence. Korea (ROK): Korea has both a high number of arrivals (18.9 million) and a high growth (15.7%), which indicates the growing demand for tourism. These locations are well-structured and are popular around the world, but can have sustainable issues like over-tourism.

Mid-Level Destinations

Moderate tourism performance is seen in countries such as Macao, Singapore, Australia and Taiwan. The moderate arrivals with opposite growth trends are found in Macao (China) and Singapore, which had negative growth (-4.6%). Australia and Taiwan show consistent growth (8.1% and 9.1) with average regional shares. These are fairly stable yet not dominant destinations whose growth can be achieved by strategic policies of tourism.

Emerging Destinations

The emerging tourism markets are countries like Cambodia, Sri Lanka, the Maldives, and Nepal. Sri Lanka is experiencing high growth (15.1), although arrivals are low (2.4 million), which implies an increase in demand. The Maldives also proves to have high growth (9.8) and appeal as a niche tourism destination. Nepal is the least developed country that registers the lowest arrivals (1.2 million) and the least growth (0.9%). Cambodia: Negative growth (-16.9%), which is indicative of instability or external shocks.

The findings show that there is a considerable difference in the performance of tourism among nations, with the growth rate not playing a significant role, but regional market share playing a key role in determining tourist arrivals. Although the developed destinations lead in terms of volume, the emerging ones have a greater growth potential. The results indicate that sustainable development cannot be guaranteed by the growth of tourism alone and that there is a need to establish balanced and responsible tourism activities that lead to the growth of the local communities.

4. Discussion

The results of this research provide important information on how the development of tourism impacts sustainability and local community development in emerging destinations in the Asia-Pacific. The findings have vividly revealed significant variations between the developed and emerging tourism markets, and they have highlighted the opportunities and threats of sustainable tourism practices in the region. Among the most important findings of the study is that the new

destinations have relatively high growth rate, despite the fact that their indicators in terms of tourist arrivals are lower. Examples of countries that have a good growth performance are Sri Lanka and the Maldives which are experiencing increased global interest in less saturated and Niche tourism markets. This change is indicative of a larger trend in the tourism sector, as travellers are demanding distinct, genuine and less congested experiences. These developments support the fact that emerging destinations have significant potential for community-based tourism, as it enables the locals to actively participate in tourism activities and reap the economic and social benefits (Scheyvens, 2011; Tosun, 2006).

In addition, it is known that community involvement is an essential element to be considered when making sure that the development of tourism can facilitate an evenly distributed income and enhanced local living standards (Ashley et al., 2001; Lee, 2013). As such, the expansion witnessed in these destinations allows inculcating sustainability concepts at the initial stages of tourism development. Contrary to this, developed destinations like Japan and Thailand have remained dominant in terms of tourist arrivals and share of the regional market, given their robust tourism infrastructure and international popularity. Nonetheless, there is also a growing problem of over-tourism at these destinations. The high density of tourists is usually associated with the degradation of the environment, loss of resources, and local infrastructure and community pressure (Gössling, 2020; Hall, 2019).

This downwards trend in increasing growth in Thailand like the one in Thailand could be an indication of market saturation or adverse effects of over-tourism. Such tendencies justify the need to employ more efficient tourism management strategies to avoid environmental and social negative impacts and maintain economic benefits. This restates the necessity of ensuring that development of tourism based on volume is substituted with more sustainable and quality-oriented models of tourism. The other worthy learning of the research is that the increasing trend in tourism is not necessarily a path towards sustainability. Although growth rates are usually taken to be one of the main indices of tourism success, the results of the empirical research show that there is a weak correlation between growth and the general tourism performance. Rather, the structural influences, like the market share in the region, seem to have a more significant role in deciding on the arrivals of tourists. This conclusion complies with the literature which emphasizes that sustainable tourism development should be well balanced to provide that economic growth, environmental conservation and social well being are met (D. B. Weaver & Weaver, 2007). Thus, the overemphasis on the increase in the number of tourists without introducing the element of

<https://ejjhss.com/index.php/hss/index>

sustainability is bound to have negative implications over the long run, including environmental devastation and deterioration in the quality of life of the locals.

The findings underscore the need for balanced development of tourism in destinations. New markets can benefit by studying what other more advanced markets have learned and can implement sustainable practices at an early stage. Through the encouragement of responsible tourism strategies, including eco-tourism programs and community-based tourism programs, these destinations can make sure that tourism plays a positive role in the local economic growth and social welfare (Goodwin, 2016). Meanwhile, developed destinations will have to establish efficient policies to control tourist flows, minimise the adverse environmental effects, and improve the resilience of the local population. Policy-wise, the findings have a number of important implications.

To begin with, the policymakers and tourism authorities ought to consider encouraging responsible tourism activities, which emphasise environmental sustainability and the welfare of the local communities. Second, local involvement in the tourism planning and decision-making processes is highly needed to ensure that tourism development is inclusive and can benefit wider groups of people in society (Nunkoo & Ramkissoon, 2011). Third, there is a need to work on diversifying tourist destinations, which will allow lessening the load on the most popular destinations and enhancing the equal distribution of tourism benefits across regions (OECD, 2022). These strategies are critical towards attaining long-term sustainability and resiliency in the tourism sector.

The paper, in general, highlights the fact that sustainable tourism development is holistic and integrated in a manner that does not discriminate between the economic, environmental and social aspects. Through community engagement and the need to adopt responsible tourism, the developed and emerging tourism destinations can shift towards more sustainable and inclusive tourism. This is not only practical in improving the long-term sustainability of the tourism sector, but it also makes sure that communities living in the areas gain significantly through the development of tourism.

5. Conclusion

The paper extensively analyzes the performance of tourism in the chosen destinations in Asia-Pacific and demonstrates that the key differences exist in terms of the number of tourists, their rates of growth, and their market share in the region. According to the results, the distribution of

the tourism development has not been equal and that the growth has been concentrated in the developed destinations because they are far much bigger in terms of volume and growth is far more promising in emerging destinations. The findings, however, equally illustrate that the increase in tourism is not directly linked with sustainability as the structural factors such as market share in the region are more determinant of the overall performance of tourism. These experiences are the reasons why it is essential to transcend growth-oriented modalities and adopt more balanced and sustainable tourism development modalities. The research is valuable to the current literature on the subject since it offers evidence on the relationship between the growth of tourism and sustainability of tourism using data and a cross-sectional analysis. It adds to the knowledge of the difference in the dynamics of tourism between the developed and emerging destinations, and importance of inclusion of sustainability aspects in tourism planning. The study provides a good foundation to upcoming research and policy formulation in the tourism sector in linking the results of the empirical research to the overall question of sustainability. In practical terms, the results suggest that the policy-makers and tourism authorities should focus on promoting sustainable models of tourism that would balance economic development and environmental conservation and social welfare. The necessity to assist the local communities in terms of inclusive tourism practices and ensuring that tourism benefits are shared equally should be paid more attention to. In addition, development of tourism destinations can be exploited to reduce congestion in the popular destinations and give new opportunities to new destinations. Environmental and social indicators should also be included in future studies to give a more in-depth evaluation of sustainability. Longitudinal studies are also recommended in order to have a better guess concerning the long term relationship between tourism growth, sustainability and community development.

REFERENCES

1. Ashley, C., Roe, D., & Wc, L. (2001). *Pro-Poor Tourism Strategies: Expanding Opportunities for the Poor*.
2. Bramwell, B., Higham, J., Lane, B., & Miller, G. (2017). Twenty-five years of sustainable tourism and the *Journal of Sustainable Tourism: Looking back and moving forward*. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 25(1), 1–9. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09669582.2017.1251689>
3. Dangi, T. B., & Jamal, T. (2016). An Integrated Approach to “Sustainable Community-Based Tourism.” *Sustainability*, 8(5). <https://doi.org/10.3390/su8050475>

4. Goodwin, H. (with Internet Archive). (2016). *Responsible tourism: Using tourism for sustainable development*. Wolvercote, Oxford : Goodfellow Publishers Ltd. <http://archive.org/details/responsibletour0000good>
5. Gössling, S. (2020). Risks, resilience, and pathways to sustainable aviation: A COVID-19 perspective. *Journal of Air Transport Management*, 89, 101933. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jairtraman.2020.101933>
6. Gössling, S., Scott, D., & Hall, C. M. (2021). Pandemics, tourism and global change: A rapid assessment of COVID-19. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 29(1), 1–20. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09669582.2020.1758708>
7. Hall, C. M. (2019). Constructing sustainable tourism development: The 2030 agenda and the managerial ecology of sustainable tourism. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 27(7), 1044–1060. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09669582.2018.1560456>
8. Higgins-Desbiolles, F. (2020). Socialising tourism for social and ecological justice after COVID-19. *Tourism Geographies*, 22(3), 610–623. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14616688.2020.1757748>
9. Lee, T. H. (2013). Influence analysis of community resident support for sustainable tourism development. *Tourism Management*, 34, 37–46. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tourman.2012.03.007>
10. Nunkoo, R., & Ramkissoon, H. (2011). Developing a community support model for tourism. *Annals of Tourism Research*, 38(3), 964–988. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.annals.2011.01.017>
11. OECD. (2022). *OECD Tourism Trends and Policies 2022*. OECD Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.1787/a8dd3019-en>
12. Saarinen, J. (2020). Tourism and sustainable development goals: Research on sustainable tourism geographies | Request PDF. In *ResearchGate*. <https://doi.org/10.1201/9780429324253-1>
13. Scheyvens, R. (2011). *Tourism-and-Poverty-Reduction*. https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Regina-Scheyvens-2/publication/303697596_Tourism_and_Poverty_Reduction/links/57589cda08aed88462067e86/Tourism-and-Poverty-Reduction.pdf
14. Tosun, C. (2006). Expected nature of community participation in tourism development. *Tourism Management*, 27(3), 493–504. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tourman.2004.12.004>
15. *Tourism Statistics Database*. (n.d.). Retrieved April 15, 2026, from <https://www.untourism.int/tourism-statistics/tourism-statistics-database>

16. UN Tourism. (2025). *Tourism Statistics | World Tourism Organization*. Tourism Statistics. <https://www.e-unwto.org/toc/unwtotfb/current>
17. UNDP. (2021). *Planetary action*. <https://wedocs.unep.org/rest/api/core/bitstreams/943473b7-ee3f-46ae-8e91-ddc9c9f8866e/content>
18. United Nations. (2025). *The-Sustainable-Development-Goals-Report-2025*.
19. Weaver, D. (2018). Creative periphery syndrome? Opportunities for sustainable tourism innovation in Timor-Leste, an early stage destination. *Tourism Recreation Research*, 43(1), 118–128. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02508281.2017.1397838>
20. Weaver, D. B., & Weaver, D. B. (2007). *Sustainable tourism: Theory and practice* (1. ed., reprint). Butterworth-Heinemann.
21. WTTC. (2024). *Sustainability Reporting*. <https://wttc.org/social-impact/sustainability-reporting>