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**GRADUATE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM MANAGEMENT**  
**MASTER THESIS**

**ECOTOURISM AS A TOOL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY  
ALLEVIATION**

**SUSAN EBANGHA BEKECHENG**

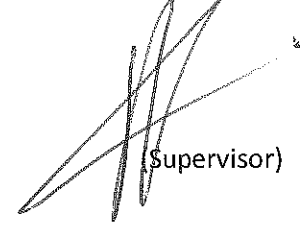
**Thesis Advisor**

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. GÖKÇE ÖZDEMİR**

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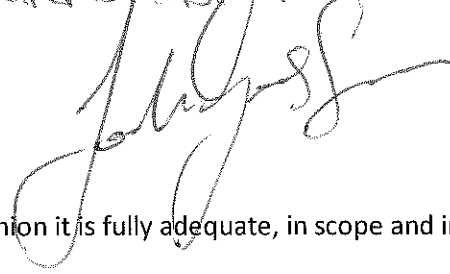
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Yard. Doç. Dr. Feriha Özer Sarı



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Doç. Dr. İsil Özgen



Associate Professor Çağrı BULUT  
Director of the Graduate School

### TEXT OF OATH

I declare that the submitted Master's thesis entitled "ECOTOURISM AS A TOOL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION", has been written solely by me without any third-party assistance inconsistent with scientific ethics and traditions, that all sources from which I have benefit are listed in the bibliography, and that I have benefitted from these sources by means of making references.

.././20...

Name surname

Signature

## DEDICATION

I dedicate this Thesis to my mother who struggled to make sure I travel for studies but the cold hands of death snatched her away from us. May her gentle soul rest in perfect peace.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This study would not have been possible without the help, support and assistance from some persons I would like to mention here. To God Almighty for He has been my source of inspiration and the grace to have taken this project from start to the end, and for His continuous graces throughout this period. My Special regards goes to: my wonderful supervisor; Assoc.Prof.Dr. Gokce Ozdemir the best supervisor ever Thank you so much for kind heartedness and understanding. Also my gratitude goes to my professors Assist. Prof.Dr. Ferika Ozer Sari; Prof.Dr. Orhan Icoz; and Prof. Dr. Recep Meric for molding me up academically. I am also very grateful to my brothers, Armstrong Etta and Dr. Valerie Eta who have been the reason why I can carry out a research project today. I cannot thank you all enough for being the best brothers to me and my siblings. May God reward you all abundantly; you are the best anyone can ever ask for. I would also like to say a big thank you to my sisters, Maurine; Delphine; Felicity; and Mirabel for their moral support and encouragement especially at those times when I felt like I was losing it. Your words of support kept me moving. I would also like to acknowledge my friends who stood by me throughout this research period. A big thank you to you all.

## **ABSTRACT**

**Master Thesis**

# **ECOTOURISM AS A TOOL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION**

**SUSAN EBANGHA BEKECHENG**

**Yasar University**

**Graduate School of Social Sciences**

**Master of Tourism Management**

This research entitled “Ecotourism as a Tool for Sustainable development and Poverty Alleviation”, reviews the meaning of ecotourism, examines the role of sustainability in the tourism industry and the roles of the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) in community development and poverty alleviation. The study also examines ecotourism as an alternative form of tourism which all efforts through it are aimed at conserving the natural ecosystem to achieve sustainability. More so, poverty, its origin and its relationship with ecotourism and the means by which ecotourism can lead to poverty alleviation are examined. As a strategy for environmental conservation, more attention has been given to ecotourism for the protection of biodiversity. As a means of poverty alleviation, local communities have been actively involved in ecotourism initiative. The study discusses at the impact of ecotourism both on the environment and on the local communities. The technique employed in this study and the result from the findings meet the objectives of the study and concludes that ecotourism is a tool for sustainable development and poverty alleviation.

**Key words:** Ecotourism, Sustainable Development, Poverty Alleviation.

## ÖZET

Yüksek Lisans

### SÜRDÜRÜLEBİLİR KALKINMA VE YOKSULLUĞUN GİDERİLMESİ İÇİN BİR ARAÇ OLARAK EKOTURİZM

SUSAN EBANGHA BEKECHENG

Yaşar Üniversitesi

Sosyal Bilimler Enstitüsü

Turizm İşletmeciliği Yüksek Lisans Programı

“Sürdürülebilir kalkınma ve yoksulluğun giderilmesi için bir araç olarak Ekoturizm” başlıklı bu araştırma; Ekoturizm’in tanımını irdelemekte, sürdürülebilirliğin turizm endüstrisi içindeki konumunu ve Birleşmiş Milletler Dünya Turizm Örgütü’nün (UNWTO) toplum gelişimi ve yoksulluk gidermedeki rollerini araştırmaktadır. Ayrıca bu araştırma, Ekoturizm’i; sürdürülebilirlik kapsamında doğal ekosistemin korunması yolunda çabaları temel alan bir alternatif turizm türü olarak değerlendirmektedir. Daha da ötesinde yoksulluk, yoksulluğun kökeni, Ekoturizm’le olan ilişkisi ve Ekoturizm’in yoksulluğun azaltılmasına olan katkısı incelenmiştir. Çevresel koruma stratejisi olarak, biyolojik çeşitliliğin korunması için Ekoturizm’e dikkat çekilmiştir. Yoksulluğun giderilmesi anlamında ise, yerel toplumlar Ekoturizm konusuna aktif bir katılım göstermektedir. Bu çalışma kapsamında, Ekoturizm’in hem çevre hem de yerel toplumlar üzerindeki etkisi birlikte irdelenmektedir. Araştırmada kullanılan teknik ve bulgulardan çıkan sonuç, araştırmanın hedeflerini karşılamakta olup Ekoturizm’in sürdürülebilir kalkınma ve yoksulluğu gidermek için bir araç olduğu sonucunu ortaya çıkarmaktadır.

**Anahtar kelimeler:** Ekoturizm, Sürdürülebilir Kalkınma, Yoksulluğun Giderilmesi

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## INTRODUCTION

The world's resources are drastically decreasing in a manner that calls on everyone's attention. The resources need to be managed sustainably so that they meet the needs of future generation, and this is typical of ecotourism which seeks to protect and conserve the biodiversity in different natural environments such as parks and protected areas. Thus my interest in Ecotourism and alternative tourism, sustainable tourism and nature tourism which have been introduced by many developed and developing countries as a means to alleviate poverty especially within rural communities and to sustain development for future generation.

The interest for ecotourism and open air entertainment is expanding and the weight ashore utilize is getting to be clear both in grew, recently industrialized and creating nations . One of the points of national parks and different sorts of secured zones is to ensure jeopardized species and to support the common biodiversity of the domain, motivation behind why secured regions have a tendency to be exceedingly forested in this manner rationing the characteristic environment and its tenants. Be that as it may, ensured lands pull in extensive number of guests to appreciate the common assets, posturing high weight on the earth. All things considered just a tranquil delight is advanced which mean pulls in mates of calm regular habitat. (Federation for Nature and National parks of Europe FNNPE, 1993).

Ecotourism's essential claim as a protection and advancement apparatus is that it can in principle give neighborhood natural advantages while additionally keeping up biological uprightness through insignificant effect, non-immoderate utilization of nearby assets. Not at all like numerous practical collecting activities, ecotourism can reliably give an arrival for every hectare focused with current area use (Ceballos-Lascurain, 1996; Wunder, 2000). In addition, ecotourism frequently bolsters ensured zones fiscally through tourism related park expenses. Ecotourism can likewise offer the monetary locale important to set up a secured range and can make a voting public among travelers to advance preservation at the site went to and the places where they grew up or nations (Brandon, 1996). Be that as it may, there are a few exercises attempted by guests in ecotourism destinations in order to make their vacation a more charming one. Such exercises incorporate; climbing, trekking, climbing, winged animals and whale watching and mountaineering. Additionally, we can't discuss ecotourism without specifying its

items which incorporate convenience, eateries and carrier administrations accessible to fulfill vacationer's needs.

The purpose of this research is to find out how ecotourism is a tool for sustainable development and poverty alleviation; why and how tourists choose pristine destinations for purposes of study; admiration and taking part in local people's activities that create immediate and long term benefits for the community. Focus is also on how ecotourism as an alternative tourism can be improved and developed to achieve environmental sustainability. The involvement and participation of local people in order to attain the objective of poverty alleviation and to achieve gender equality among the participating groups are also discussed. This study also aims to find out the role of local authorities in decision that directly affect them.

Furthermore, how biodiversity can be conserve through ecotourism, the various definitions by different authors, how ecotourism can be a sustainable activity, sustainable development and its relationship to ecotourism, community based ecotourism, pro-poor tourism for eliminating poverty. Also, the role of United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) in ecotourism will be examine and the possible positive and negative impacts of ecotourism. More attention is given to ecotourism more especially as it is aimed at protecting the natural environment and decisions and policies are being laid down for the development of the industry especially as regards the eradication of poverty in the areas involved. It is most seen as a tool for developing countries that turn to tourism development as it is the major source of foreign exchange earnings and as a result the industry is fast growing one in most developing nations and newly industrialized countries as well.

Qualitative research method will be applied to find answers to the research questions which include;

- How has ecotourism contributed to sustainable development?
- How has ecotourism contributed to poverty alleviation?
- Is ecotourism a strategy for biodiversity conservation?
- Do local communities actually participate and benefit from ecotourism activities?

Finally, the role ecotourism plays in the sustainable use of resources and environmental protection also have some impacts on the environment that will be outline in the course of this

study, both positive and negative impacts. However, the positive outcome of ecotourism will always outweigh the negative outcome. Findings from this research will leave readers with the convincing notion or awareness that certain activity such as ecotourism can be a major tool for sustainable development and poverty alleviation.

## CHAPTER ONE

### THE CONCEPT OF SUSTAINABILITY AND ECOTOURISM

The idea of manageability depends on the reason that individuals and their groups are comprised of social, financial and ecological frameworks that are in steady connection and that must be kept in agreement or parity if the group is to keep on benefitting of its tenant presently and as time passes by (UCLA, 2015). The Brundtland Commission's report defines sustainable development as "*development that meets the need of current generation without compromising the needs of future generation to meet their own needs*" (Brundtland, 1987). The idea underpins solid monetary and social improvement specifically for individuals with a low expectation for everyday comforts. In the meantime, this underlines the significance of ensuring the regular asset base and the earth. Financial and social prosperity can't be enhanced measures that devastate nature. Maintainability presumes that assets are positive and ought to be conservatively and admirably utilized with the perspective to long haul needs and outcomes to the way assets are utilized. In straightforward terms, supportability is about our youngsters and our grandchildren and the world we abandon them (UCLA, 2015).

The idea of preserving assets for future era is one of the significant components that recognize maintainable advancement approach from customary ecological arrangement, which likewise tries to internationalize the externalities of natural corruption. The general objective of supportable advancement is long haul supportability of the economy and environment; this is just achievable through the coordination and affirmation of monetary, ecological and social worry all through the basic leadership process (Emas, 2015). Additionally, where there are dangers of genuine or unchangeable harm, absence of exploratory sureness should not be utilized as an explanation behind putting off savvy measure to forestall ecological debasement (United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, 1992). Therefore, the defender of an action bears the weight of giving that this activity won't bring about huge damage. Expressly expressed in the Rio Declaration, the idea of regular yet separated obligations perceives that every country must have impact on the issue of maintainable advancement. This standard recognizes the diverse commitments to ecological corruption by created and creating countries, while valuing the future

advancement needs of less created nations (Brodhag & Taliere, 2006; Dembach, 1998; United Nations Conference on the Environment, 1992). Created countries hence bear more noteworthy, obligation in the light of the assets they require and the weight they apply on nature.

The key rule of feasible advancement hidden all others is debasement of ecological, social and monetary worries into all parts of basic leadership. Every other rule in the economical improvement system have basic leadership at their center particularly as concern ecotourism its development, advancement and manageability (Dembach, 2003; Stoddart, 2011).

### **1.1 Ecotourist**

“Ecotourism speaks to an extensive variety of explorers, of any age and interests. Explorers who pick ecotourism are dependable customers inspired by social, monetary and ecological manageability. Looking for legitimate neighborhood encounters and chances to offer back to the groups they visit, numerous eco-voyagers take an interest in volunteerism exercises. Progressively, eco-voyagers try to minimize the carbon impression of their travel, going in light of atmosphere by arranging shrewdly and picking intentionally” (The International Ecotourism Society, 2014).

### **1.2 Definitions of Ecotourism**

Ecotourism implies diverse things to various individuals and it has been characterized from various perspectives by various creators. It is characterized as the mindful go to normal zones that save nature and maintain the prosperity of the nearby individuals. Other than it is additionally characterized as a sub classification of supportable tourism or a portion of the bigger nature tourism market. It incorporates an elucidation/learning knowledge conveyed to a few gatherings by little nearby organizations and burdens neighborhood possession especially for neighborhood individuals. Ecotourism is characterized as "capable go to characteristic ranges that moderates the earth, manages the prosperity of the nearby individuals, and includes

translation and instruction". Instruction is intended to be comprehensive of both colleagues and visitors (TIES 2015).

Ecotourism can likewise be characterizing as "earth and appearance to generally undisturbed regular zones, so as to appreciate, respect and acknowledge nature (and any going with social component past or present) that advance preservation, have low guest affect and accommodate valuably dynamic financial contribution of nearby populace" (Ceballos-Lascurain, 1993).

Ecotourism has gotten much consideration as of late. Enthusiasm for the idea has been especially intense inside the creating scene, where it has been connected to supportable improvement activities, secured zone preservation endeavors, and local and group advancement methodologies (Wells 1997, Ceballos-Lascurain, 1993, Nenon & Dust, 1993).

Ecotourism has been defined by many authors in different ways. Below is a table of the different definitions:

**Table 1:** List of ecotourism definitions

<b>Hetzer D. (1965)</b>	Enthusiasm for ecotourism now boundless among tourism organizers and advertisers, is supported by various well known presumptions with respect to the part's potential monetary, ecological and socio-social advantages.
<b>Ceballos Lascurain (1987)</b>	"Ecotourism is defined as traveling to relatively undisturbed natural areas with specific objective of studying admiring and enjoying scenery and its wild animals and plants as well as existing".
<b>Ziffer Karen (1989)</b>	"A form of tourism inspired primarily by the natural history of an area, including its indigenous cultures. The Eco tourist visit

	<p>relatively underdeveloped areas in the spirit of appreciation, participation and sensitivity. The Eco tourist practices a none- consumptive use of wild life and natural resources and contributes visited areas through labor or financial means aimed at directly benefiting the conservation of the site and the economic well-being of the local residents”.</p>
<p><b>Ceballos Lascurain (1991)</b></p>	<p>“Ecotourism is a form of tourism that fosters learning experiences and appreciation of the natural environment or some component thereof, within its associated cultural context”.</p>
<p><b>Young M. (1992)</b></p>	<p>“Ecotourism – tourism based specifically upon natural and archaeological resources such as birds and other wildlife, scenic areas, reefs, caves, fossil sites, archaeological sites, wetlands and areas of rare or endangered species”.</p>
<p><b>Ecotourist Association of Australia, (1992)</b></p>	<p>“Ecotourism- tourism that involves traveling to relatively undisturbed or uncontaminated natural areas with the specific objective of admiring, studying and enjoying the scenery and its wild plants and animals as well as any cultural features (both past and present) found in the area”.</p>
<p><b>Wight Pamela, (1993)</b></p>	<p>“Ecotourism- ecologically sustainable tourism that fosters environmental and cultural understanding, appreciation and conservation”.</p>



<p><b>Valentine, (1993)</b></p>	<p>“Ecotourism- nature tourism that is ecologically sustainable and is based on relatively undisturbed natural areas, is non-damaging and non-degrading, provide and direct contribution to the continued protection and management of protected areas used, and is subject to an adequate and appropriate management regime”.</p>
<p><b>Seace R., (1993)</b></p>	<p>“Ecotourism – Nature travel experience that contribute to conservation of the environment while maintaining and enhancing the integrity of the natural and social- cultural element”.</p>
<p><b>McCormick Kenneth, (1994)</b></p>	<p>“Purposeful travel to natural areas to understand the culture and natural history of the environment, taking care not to alter the integrity of the ecosystem, while producing economic opportunities that makes the conservation of natural resources beneficial to local people”.</p>
<p><b>Hvenegaard Timothy, (1994)</b></p>	<p>“Ecotourism refers to non-consumptive natural history-based and/or wildlife recreation activity such as bird watching, wildlife watching, nature photography, whale watching, botanic study and wildlife trek to safari”.</p>

<p><b>Steele Paul, (1995)</b></p>	<p>“Ecotourism- tourists traveling to particular natural sites, entirely because of amenity and recreational value derived from having contact with some aspects of the natural world”.</p>
<p><b>Bjork Peter, (1995)</b></p>	<p>“Ecotourism- an activity where the tourists travel to natural areas in order to admire, study and culture in a way that does not exploit the resources, but contributes to the conservation of the genuine environment”.</p>
<p><b>Wallace George N. and Susan Pierce, (1996)</b></p>	<p>“Ecotourism- travel to relatively undisturbed natural areas for study, enjoyment or volunteer assistance. It is travel that concerns itself with the flora fauna geology and ecosystem of an area, as well as the people who live nearby, their need, their culture and their relationship to the land. It views natural areas both as “home to all of us” in a global sense but “home to nearby residents” specifically. It is envisioned as a tool for both conservation and sustainable development- especially in areas where local people are asked to forgo the consumptive use of resources for others”.</p>
<p><b>World Conservation Union, (1996)</b></p>	<p>“Environmentally responsible travel and visitation to relatively undisturbed natural areas, in order to enjoy and appreciate nature that promotes conservation, has low negative visitor impact, and provides for beneficially</p>

	active socio-economic involvement of local population”.
<b>Honey Martha, (1999)</b>	“Travel to fragile pristine and usually protected areas that strive to be low impact and (usually) small scale. It helps educate the traveler, provides funds for conservation, directly benefits the economic development and political empowerment of local communities, and fosters respect for different cultures and for human rights”.
<b>Weaver David Bruce, (1999)</b>	Interest in ecotourism now widespread among tourism planners and marketers, is rationalized by a number of popular assumptions regarding the sector’s potential economic, environmental and socio-cultural benefits”.
<b>Weaver David Bruce, (2001)</b>	“Ecotourism is a form of tourism that fosters learning experiences and appreciation of the natural environment or some component thereof, within its associated cultural context”.

**Source:** Developed by the author

However, from all the definitions and descriptions of ecotourism, I came up with my own definition which is “Ecotourism is the purposeful and responsible travel to natural and uncontaminated areas for study, admiration, recreation and participation in the activities of the local people, aimed at creating employment and poverty reduction”, adopted from The International Ecotourism Society (TIES, 2015). The most important purpose of ecotourism thus is protecting the natural resources in a sustainable way in order to meet the needs of future generation while conserving the natural ecosystem by way of creating awareness among local communities and guest as well.

Despite the fact that ecotourism's effect has been exceptionally variable, nations in the creating scene keep on turning to types of nature-based tourism, for example, ecotourism, as a method for adding to national, territorial and nearby development and advancement. In the event that ecotourism is to grow effectively at a destination, there ought to be some agreement among chiefs on what the term implies and what the targets are in advancing its advancement (Wall, 2003). The meaning of ecotourism stresses the natural and financial significance of ecotourism to creating nations. Taking after the United Nation General Assembly statement on the universal year of Ecotourism in 2002, ecotourism has been perceived as an advancement technique and has added to monetary improvement in numerous nations (Gurung & Seeland, 2008; Tuohino & Hynonen, 2001).

The developing significance of ecotourism in the course of recent decades is connected to its rule of making job, and producing stores for the administration and preservation of common and secured zones (Weaver, 1998). Additionally, ecotourism is adulated on account of its capacity to encourage natural mindfulness, and backing for preservation, amongst both nearby inhabitants and travelers (Rose and Wall, 1999). Strengthening of powerless gatherings particularly ladies remains a critical rule of ecotourism (Honey, 2008; Pradhan, 2001). Honey (2008) clarifies that this guideline bolsters the assurance of human rights and law based developments, and prompts the strengthening of the more extensive host group, given that these powerless gatherings constitute the larger part of neighborhood populace. Ecotourism is a type of tourism that does not surpass the conveying limit of a region but rather adds to manageable improvement and preservation. Ecotourism must be non-wasteful and the level and extent of ecotourism is dictated by the delicacy of the earth (nature, society and social) (Bjork, 2000).

Ecotourism ventures must go past winning thoughts of "the cover between nature tourism and economical tourism" to envelop the social measurements of profitable association and ecological protection. Ecotourism must accomplish more than to make a progression of exercises to draw in guests, offering them a chance to interface with nature so as to make it conceivable to safeguard or improve the exceptional characteristics of the site and its verdure, while permitting nearby tenants and future guests to keep on enjoying these qualities. Partners should likewise set up a solid gainful base to permit the neighborhood tenants and ecotourist administration suppliers to appreciate a maintainable way of life while offering these administrations (Barkin,

2003). Being an option tourism giving voyagers another purpose of fascination and a domain free from the effects of mass tourism, ecotourism introduces some essential concerns. Nonetheless, the principal worries of ecotourism incorporate natural debasement, sways on nearby groups, and the requirement for excellent tourism administration for achievable manageability (Wearing and Neil, 1999).

The World Tourism Organization (2005) advances the extension of maintainable tourism/ecotourism as a method for accomplishing the preservation of biological systems, including secured regions. One would along these lines expect the showcasing of ecotourism items to address the "green" Consciousness of travelers. Supportable tourism can just happen if conveying limits for key tourism destinations are led and after that thoroughly actualized through an arrangement of successful arranging and agent control. These studies and controls will constitute the foundation of long haul neighborhood tourism administration systems and arrangements. It additionally requires acknowledgment of the ideas legitimacy and collaboration in its execution from the tourism private division, and in addition the interest of nearby groups and visitors themselves (WTO, 1990: 47).

The "eco" prefix is gotten from the word 'nature'. In this way, to be considered as ecotourism, a movement or experience should decidedly add to nature: 'if the earth has not at any rate accomplished a net advantage towards its manageability and environmental respectability, then the action is not ecotourism' (Butler, 1992). Be that as it may, "the earth" here alludes not just to the common habitat –flora, fauna, landforms and air contemplations – additionally to the social, monetary, logical, administrative and political components. The Ecotourism Society concurs with this rule, expressing that ecotourist 'must add to a supportable future for the destinations they visit' (O'Neill, 1991).

### **1.3 Prospects of ecotourism**

Because of the numerous harms perpetrated on the indigenous habitat by mass tourism, most visitors in future will choose to go for an option (ecotourism). Legitimate administration of assets in the destinations (ecotourism destinations), secure an economical safeguarding for future utilize along these lines, wherever choices are taken and arrangements actualized, ought to be

equipped towards the preservation and the assurance of the common habitat. Ecotourism has an imminent vision for future voyagers in the business.

Equally, ecotourism advancement, especially in host destinations, will enhance organizing in secluded rustic groups that are not reachable by streets and other correspondence joins and therefore, enhance financial, social and other social exercises that address the issues of visitors specifically and those of the nearby group by and large. Ecotourism which is likewise a sort of nature tourism preservation uncovered the nearby individuals to the familiarity with ecological security and nature manageability. Here, protection and conservation of nature totally changes the impression of neighborhood individuals about tourism as they appreciate the exercises advantages.

#### **1.4 Poverty Alleviation and Tourism**

Poverty alleviation portrays the usage of financial and philanthropic measures towards the change of the business of poor people. This might be accomplished by giving training, human services or monetary improvement ventures by governments and associations. These vital destitution mitigation apparatuses may bring about general financial development of groups, making boulevards for tourism.

The advent of tourism in neighborhood destinations where the tenants are subjected to poor living conditions will enhance way of life and the observation they have about guests coming into their group. In any case, the inquiry here is how does tourism identifies with destitution? The quick developing populace needs essential social and financial conveniences, for example, cover, apparel, sustenance, consumable water, medicinal services, sanitation, training and transportation. These assets, by and large are deficient to address the issues of always developing populace particularly in the rustic groups. Tourism which shapes real source nearby and remote salary profit through the inclusion and investment of neighborhood groups in visitor exercises which can lift the groups to a superior monetary economy.

Tourism also creates job opportunities to those directly and indirectly involved in the industry by exposing that particular part of the country to the rest of the world to tourists. Such development of tourism destinations, in addition to providing jobs to the local population, improves the livelihood of the community leading to poverty alleviation. Many researchers have shown that tourism in different parts of the world especially in developing countries can be a tool for sustainable development and poverty alleviation. For example, Choke et al. (2007) in his study, critical analysis of pro-poor tourism and implications for sustainability found out that. In another study, Community based ecotourism is another research carried out by Manu et al. (2012) in Sirigu, Ghana, it was shown that. It may be summarized that these research efforts confirm that tourism can indeed be used as a tool to alleviate poverty in rural communities.

Furthermore, the tourism industry needs a bulk of its employees to serve as local tour guides, cooks, shops keepers and housekeepers, cleaners and drivers. All these are gainful employment to the local people thereby raising their living standard. Some of them can be trained further to be trainers in the future. These are all means of alleviating poverty in the society contributing to economic growth of the community involved. In Ghana for example, community based ecotourism has been executed at the dawn of 1996, towards growing financially and socially touchy areas in the provincial part of the nation (Ghana Tourism Authority, 1996). It has made open doors for provincial groups to acquire pay and make tourism related employments through the protection of neighborhood environments and society.

### **1.5 Alternative Tourism**

Alternative tourism is a procedure which advances a type of movement between individuals from various groups. It looks to accomplish shared comprehension, solidarity and fairness amongst members (Holden, 1984, cited in Smith & Eadington, 1992). These days, explorers who would prefer not to attempt the ordinary sort get-away are lumped together under the general heading of option tourism (De Kadt, 1990). There are various topics to consider when discussing elective tourism; Alternative tourism is connected to tourism which does not harm nature, is biologically stable, maintain a strategic distance from the negative effects of some extensive scale tourism improvements embraced in ranges which have not already been

created. What's more, option tourism is thought to comprise of littler scale advancement or attractions for vacationers who are set in towns or groups and composed by them. These are seen as having less antagonistic impacts on social or social debasement and a superior shot of being worthy to the nearby individuals than mass tourism. Certain sorts of tourism are called elective since they are not exploitative of nearby individuals, in light of the fact that the advantages stream to neighborhood inhabitants or as a rule to poorer groups.

Traditional tourism requests huge scale association and assets not normally accessible locally or even in the nation as an outcomes its prizes stream away to far off towns or abroad. An offer viewpoint with "Alternative Development" is an accentuation on social maintainability. Tourism which does not harm the way of life of the group is regularly alluded to as option: more than that, Alternative tourism and speak to the social substances experienced by the vacationer through training (De Kadt, 1990). The alternative visits, differently marked 'manageable', "eco" and 'capable', endeavor to make tourism benefits work for nearby situations and groups as opposed to against them. Among these new methodologies, ecotourism emerges for its guarantee both to propel protection objectives and enhance the jobs of nearby people groups. Ecotourism is accordingly comprehensively characterized as nature-based tourism with three unique components: (i) it minimizes the pessimistic ecological, financial and social effects regularly connected with mass tourism; (ii) it conveys a net constructive commitment to natural preservation; and (iii) it enhances the employments of neighborhood individuals (Lindberg and Hawkins, 1993; Cater and Lowman, 1994; Barkin, 1996; Ceballos-Lascurain, 1996; Honey, 1999; Wearing and Neil, 1999). As such, it is tourism that endeavors to minimize negative effects while urging positive commitments to some of today's ecological and social difficulties.

Elective tourism likewise joins traveler's items or individual visitor' administrations, not quite the same as mass tourism by method for supplying association and the human asset included. Traveler item is a progression of interrelated administrations, for example, administration created from different organizations (monetarily), group administrations (social perspectives) and regular assets. Tourism items comprise of encounters of facilities, diversions, recreational exercises and notable locales where every components of the tourism item is set up by individual organizations and are offered independently to shoppers (visitors). The word



alternative tourism fuses the idea of dynamic tourism and additionally adventurer and experience voyaged even with the idea of submitted tourism. Elective tourism dissimilar to the routine mass tourism is gone for ecological preservation and country legacy and the biological community.

## 1.6 Eco labeling

Eco labeling and alternative tourism is the willful strategy for natural execution, confirmation, and naming that is rehearsed the world over. Ecolabel recognizes an item or administration with particular items or administrations class. Rather than "green" images, or claim explanations created by makers and administration suppliers, the most solid marks depend on life cycle contemplations; they are granted by an unprejudiced outsider in connection to specific items or administrations that are autonomously resolved to meet straightforward natural authority criteria (Global Ecolabelling Network, 2016). Confirmation is a method for guaranteeing that an action or an item meets certain gauges. Inside the traveler business, diverse associations have created accreditation programs measuring distinctive parts of tourism: (a) quality, for the whole visitor industry, (b) supportability, likewise for all areas, and (c) ecotourism, for maintainable tourism that happens in characteristic, secured, or delicate biological systems, that may incorporate indigenous groups (Amos, 2006).

The foundations of Eco labeling can be found in the developing worldwide sympathy toward natural security with respect to governments, organizations and people in general. As organizations have come to perceive that ecological concerns might be interpreted into a business sector advantage for specific items and administrations, different natural presentations/claims/names have risen on items and administrations in the commercial center (e.g. common, recyclable, eco-accommodating, low vitality, reused content, and so on.). While these have pulled in shoppers searching for approaches to diminish antagonistic natural effects through their obtaining decisions, they have likewise prompted some disarray and incredulity with respect to buyers. Doubtful or superfluous cases have been marked "green wash" (Global Ecolabelling Network, 2016).

Eco labeling is for the most part utilized by advanced nations as a part of the tourism business as instrumental apparatus for ensuring the indigenous habitat. Ecotourism is an option type of tourism that is reliably picking up grounds on worldwide scale amid the previous couple

of years (UNWTO 2001). It is one of the freshest open doors for money era from regular assets without pulverizing the earth (Colvin, 1996). Its essential standards allude to minimizing negative effect on nature, speaking to the nearby societies and effectively adding to the financial prosperity of host groups and in addition the stockholders included (Manu et al. 2012). Ecotourism can possibly turn into a driver of maintainable improvement furthermore give chances to the impeded minimized and provincial regions prompting destitution easing. It empowers monetary advancement and social prosperity of the general population and in the meantime saving the indigenous habitat and social legacy through mindfulness creation (Manu et al, 2012).

As of recently, research on tourism has been centered around ecological protection, neediness lightening and reasonable administration for future use in the destination including nearby groups as on account of Sirigu, where group based ecotourism has been utilized to improve their living standards (Manu et al, 2012). When all is said and done, Community-Based Ecotourism (CBE) is tourism that is overseen by group for the traveler destination. With general tourism, vacationer visits are frequently advertised and sorted out by private travel organizations and government secured ranges and the main part of the benefits go to the privately owned businesses and government endeavors. Interestingly, Community-Based Ecotourism (CBE) is overseen and keep running by the group itself, administration choices are made by neighborhood individuals and benefits straightforwardly go to the group (Khanal & Babar, 2007).

Agnes (2004) contends that, most ecotourism operations additionally claim to advantage nearby groups, either through business or by adding to group ventures, notwithstanding, the term group situated in group based tourism suggests going past this to including the dynamic cooperation of the groups. This has been deciphered as anything from normal counsels, to guaranteeing that in any event some group individuals take an interest in tourism related monetary exercises, to incomplete or full group responsibility for ecotourism undertakings. In this way, decreasing unemployment rates inside nearby groups and the consequent destitution diminishment.

Rural community cooperation in all attempts is not another idea. The word interest infers how and to what degree individuals can share their perspectives, partake in an action, venture program, basic leadership, benefit sharing and different issues identified with the tourism

advancement process. The most critical purpose behind the incorporation of neighborhood tenants in ecotourism is value, mulling over the preservation of the region through ecotourism advancement which definitely involves confinement in the customary use of nearby assets by the occupants (Lindberg, 1996). Stakeholders and managers of tourism in the local areas try to create employment which is the key point or aspect of this study by the locals in decision-making process.

According to Gray (2009) partners are associations, people and organizations straightforwardly or in a roundabout way required being developed operations and administration of group based ecotourism ventures. The associations incorporate administrative offices, for example, research organizations, neighborhood individuals, customary powers and sightseers. Partners in group based ecotourism can influence the result of tourism improvement. Truth be told, tourism is perplexing and dynamic, with linkages and conditions and in this manner requires numerous partners with different and unique perspectives and qualities. Partners accept aggregate obligation regarding the progressing headings and accomplishment of any ecotourism foundation.

Ecotourism assists in local improvement by giving the option wellspring of business to nearby group which is more reasonable. It plans to moderate assets particularly natural assorted qualities, and keeps up manageable utilization of assets, which can convey biological experience to explorers, save the natural environment and increase monetary advantage. Be that as it may, accomplishing the points in ecotourism relies on upon whether they are earth and naturally practical and monetarily pertinent. Ecotourism helps in including nearby group for the preservation biology and biodiversity of the zone and biodiversity consequently give the monetary motivating forces to the neighborhood group (Tugba, 2013).

Hence, Ecotourism adds to protection of biodiversity, supports the prosperity of neighborhood individuals, includes dependable activity with respect to travelers and the tourism business, advances little and medium tourism undertakings, requires most reduced conceivable utilization of characteristic assets, stresses nearby investment, possession and business open doors especially for provincial individuals and have all incorporates the learning background since they are the objective populace. (Tugba, 2013).

Ecotourism is by all accounts a potential vehicle for giving natural, financial and social advantages both for the nearby and national levels. Claims for ecotourism possibilities are by and large taking into account three keys presumptions that ecotourism can:

- Offer a wellspring of financing for advancement or upkeep of characteristic or socially imperative locales.
- Serves as an impetus for nearby financial advancement and
- Provides required remote and national advantages

Ecotourism is seen as a standout amongst the most encouraging procedures for giving assets to preservation along these lines advocating its significance. Notwithstanding giving a wellspring of income ecotourism is asserted to give the financial legitimization to stop assurance. At the neighborhood levels, it can give financial contrasting options to infringement into protection zones and it can make a driving force for private preservation endeavors. At long last, it can make a familiarity with preservation issues and make a consistency for protection (Brandon, 1996).

Ecotourism is painstakingly arranged vacationer movement (whether characteristic, verifiable, anthological or archeological visits) that is good solid natural standards. Ecotourism result in no environmental harm from gathering sway on national parks and/or normal history assets. It is the theory of travel organizations to bolster/utilize the destinations nearby assets, administrators lodging guides and different assets or administrations and of indicating proof of proceeded with backing for the destination's protection/conservation program and long haul arranging. The reason that ecotourism relies on upon keeping up appealing characteristic scene and a rich widely varied vegetation; along these lines, helping nearby groups acquire cash from ecotourism gives both a motivating force to preservation and a monetary other option to dangerous exercises (Salafsky et al, 2001). Highly successful ecotourism can support biodiversity conservation by influencing national policy. For example, Wunder (2000) reports that a tourism anteroom has effectively opposed endeavors to open a biodiversity-rich site in Ecuador to soil investigation and the administration of Mozambique is setting up vast preservation territories as a key component of it tourism advancement system.

Ecotourism as a type of tourism is relied upon to bring about insignificant adverse effect on the host environment, adds to natural assurance and element preservation of assets, makes the essential assets to advance maintainable security of biological and socio-social assets, contributes in the upgrade of connection, comprehension and concurrence between the guests and local people and adds to the financial (fiscal benefits and openings for work) and social prosperity of the nearby individuals (Sirakaya et al, 1999). The ecotourism depends on the supported protection of assets in a non-immoderate way including non-meddlesome misuse of normal assets through the controlled youth and administration of social and natural assets for what's to come. Ecotourism join the conjunction and collaboration of the common habitat and individuals (voyagers and nearby occupants) and supports the dynamic inclusion of visitors and the neighborhood populace in additive endeavors (Sirakaya et al, 1999).

Ecotourism rations and ensures the regular habitat including the neighborhood group in such activities as group based ecotourism. The fascination of group based ecotourism is the possibility of connecting protection and neighborhood employment, safeguarding biodiversity while all the while lessening rustic destitution and accomplishing both targets on a feasible self-financing premise (Agnes, 2004). Advancement association sees group based ecotourism as a potential wellspring of monetary improvement of neediness mitigation, especially in peripheral rustic territories with constrained farming possibilities (Agnes, 2004).

Improvement in transport and correspondence has expanded portability of individuals. It results in the rise of expanded number of voyagers from created nations to creating nations. The World Bank regularly advances tourism as a pet improvement venture for poor and immature nations. Be that as it may, mass tourism does not by any stretch of the imagination help the nation to get outside money. An enormous extent of the aggregate occasion costs don't really achieve the destination. The vast majority of it goes to the air tickets and inn convenience that are frequently outside claimed. Different spillages happen inside when sightseers pay for nourishment, merchandise and administrations that are foreign for their solace. Change in transport and correspondence has extended compactness of people. It results in the ascent of extended number of voyagers from made countries to making countries. The World Bank frequently progresses tourism as a pet change wander for poor and youthful countries. Nevertheless, mass tourism does not by any stretch of the creative energy help the country to get outside cash. A tremendous degree of the total event costs don't generally accomplish the

destination. By far most of it goes to the air tickets and motel comfort that are much of the time outside guaranteed. Distinctive spillages happen inside when tourists pay for sustenance, stock and organizations that are remote for their comfort.

Alternative tourism is a contrasting option to the mass standard tourism speculation and state of mind. It attempts to rethink tourism back to its unique soul of trade and solidarity. This incorporates giving the protected indigenous habitat, valid climate and the cooking and neighborhood customs, legacy and attractions. Group based tourism is known as a tourism in which the neighborhood populace controls the visitor action, from the techniques for gathering of the members to the produced wages. It offers better points of view to poor districts, on a monetary and additionally human level. In this point of view, it is the town groups that compose themselves to make visitor visits, adjusted to neighborhood substances, build up the way of life and the human trade, and regard the earth. They likewise deal with the corresponding salaries coming about because of this movement (Global Alternative Tourism Network, 2010).

### **1.7 Ecotourism and Environmental Conservation**

A green economy is a supportable economy that outcomes in enhanced human prosperity and social value by diminishing natural dangers and environmental shortcomings (Sukhdev et al., 2010). Most tourism in common territories is not ecotourism and is accordingly not feasible. Ecotourism is recognized by its accentuation on protection, instruction, voyager obligation and dynamic group cooperation. Ecotourism is one of the practical green economy areas perceived by the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) as one of the examples of overcoming adversity of reasonable and green economy on the planet (Sukhdev et al., 2010). It saves nearby regular, social legacy and constructs assets to keep up and improve the personal satisfaction, and traveler involvement with destination regions (Nepal, 1997).

Ecotourism assumes a major part in practical improvement of country groups by creating income from biodiversity preservation (Sindiga 1999; Cusack & Dixon 2006). Advancement of ecotourism advantages neighborhood groups and aides in upgrading protection exercises (Duffy 2008). It provides economic benefits to tourism stakeholders and other people in the community (Gallagher & Hammerschlag, 2011). Nonetheless, a fast increment in the tourism business may

likewise have negative impacts on the earth, economy and society as on account of the Lugu lake region, China (Zhao & Jia 2008). Ecotourism possesses the following characteristics:

- Consciously low effect guest conduct
- Sensitivity towards and valuation for neighborhood societies and biodiversity
- Supports for neighborhood protection endeavors
- Sustainable advantages to neighborhood groups
- Local investment in basic leadership

Educational segments for both the explorers and nearby groups increased tourism to sensitive natural areas without appropriate planning and management can threaten the integrity of ecosystems and local cultures. The expansion number of guests to naturally touchy regions can prompt noteworthy ecological debasement. Moreover, neighborhood groups and indigenous societies can be hurt from various perspectives by an inundation of remote guests and riches.

Furthermore, changes in atmosphere, money trade rates, and political and social conditions can make over-reliance upon tourism an unsafe business. Be that as it may, this development makes critical open doors for both protection and neighborhood groups. Ecotourism can give truly necessary incomes to the insurance of national parks and other normal zones - incomes that won't not be accessible from different sources.

Additionally, ecotourism can give a feasible financial advancement elective for neighborhood groups with couple of other pay creating choices. In addition, ecotourism can build the level of training and activism among voyagers, making them more energetic and viable operators of protection (The Nature Conservancy, 2016). With tourism being a top remote trade worker in numerous creating nations, destination, around the globe have grasp the need to protect the aspects of their nations that pulls in travelers, for example, perfect nature and rich bio-social differences. Consequently, tourism can adequately give the motivations to advancing vital organization for tourism and preservation executing dynamic protection approaches and empowering group association in economical tourism and group improvement endeavors (The International Ecotourism Society, 2016).

## 1.8 Ecotourism and Community Participation

Ecotourism is a type of tourism generally considered as an open door for neighborhood individuals to infer positive financial advantages from tourism improvement while preserving backwoods (Mensa and Adofo, 2012). According to Mensa ecotourism improvement can maintain reasonable rustic groups and in the meantime addresses the issue of another type of voyagers. Group based ecotourism has leeway concerning ecotourism's protection and advancement objectives. In people group based ecotourism, a nearby group or gathering of groups has significant inclusion in, and control over, ecotourism's improvement and administration, and a noteworthy extent of the advantages stay inside the group (Denman, 2001). In a group based methodology, neighborhood voices, qualities and learning are proactively diverted into methodologies for overseeing assets (Brosius et al., 1998).

Durumm (1998) defines community participation in ecotourism improvement as 'ecotourism projects, which happen under the control and with the dynamic interest of neighborhood individuals who occupy or own a characteristic fascination'. Through the contribution of host groups, tourism can produce support for preservation among such groups the length of they determine a few advantages (Agnes, 2004). Numerous defenders contend that such cooperation is a fundamental component of maintainability, offering ascend to a feeling of proprietorship and strengthening in the group (Schevyens, 1999; Alexander, 2000; Stronza, 2005). On the other hand, diverse makers see unequal relations of power among nearby individuals and visitors in tourism destinations as a potential wellspring of natural issues (e.g. Stonich, 2000; Gossling, 2003). The civil argument is as of now not whether neighborhood groups ought to be required in the improvement of tourism in their zones, however how they ought to be included. This wonder not at all like traditional tourism, ecotourism flourishes in relative untouched indigenous habitat regularly found in country zones and does not make enormous interest on offices and foundation (Mensa and Adofo, 2012).

Moreover, in the territory of timberland protection and administration, group association or interest in ecotourism improvement has turned into a feasible apparatus aside conventional strategy, for example, law requirement, control of timber extraction and safeguarding of jeopardized species. In this way group interest in ecotourism improvement can be seen as both a



preservation and advancement device (Mensa and Adofo, 2012). Rural communities is an imperative tie of restricting the security to the monetary wage and social advantage, and it is the center of partners of ecotourism. The presence and advancement of neighborhood tenants depend on the assets and environment of ecotourism zones. The nearby occupants are both the recipients after natural advancement and the casualties after biological environment broken by ecotourism improvement. Group investment in ecotourism can make a positive advancement to the security of ecotourism environment For instance; it can maintain a strategic distance from the disregard of natural and social advantages, and keep from such wonders as obtaining transient advantage by relinquishing long haul advantage and ecological assurance (Wang and tong, 2009).

Advancement of across the board group training among the group occupants can create and develop group inhabitants' sense and capacity of investment, enhance their positive cognizance of ecotourism improvement and ecological consciousness of rights and commitments. Measures ought to in this way be taken to 1. Permit group occupants realize what nearby environment and assets intend to them, and what number of advantages the ecotourism insurance can bring them, to invigorate their eagerness of taking part in the ecotourism assurance. 2. Teach people group occupants about natural issues, and set up great natural mindfulness, and keep acculturated natural behavioral propensities, in order to dedicate themselves into controlling natural contamination and enhancing the biological environment (Wang and Tong, 2009).

Simons (1994) is of the sentiment that inclusion of a group in any ecotourism undertaking is fundamental for the general achievement of that venture. Brohman (1996) underpins this attestation and promoters for group interest as a device for tackling the issues of ecotourism in growing nations. For rural interest to meet the desires of the rural people, (Tosun, 1996) watched that the neighborhood group should be an integral part of the basic leadership body through meeting by chose and named nearby government offices or by a panel chose by general society particularly to develop and overseeing ecotourism in their area.

Support of host groups in ecotourism improvement and administration could go from the person to the entire group, including an assortment of exercises, for example, occupation, supply of products and administrations, group undertaking proprietorship and joint endeavors (Muganda, 2009). According to (Dei, 2000) note that group interest in basic leadership is

attractive as well as essential in order to expand the financial advantages of ecotourism for the group. Host people group can take an interest in basic leadership through group cooperation (Dei, 2000). Moreover, one of the important hidden standards of ecotourism is that neighborhood groups must take part in tourism choices if their occupation needs are to be reflected in the way ecotourism is produced (Muganda, 2009). Drawing in host groups in the basic leadership process makes the arranging procedure more viable, impartial and honest to goodness, since the individuals who take an interest are agents of the entire group and along these lines venture aggregate interests and in addition those of their own gathering (Buanes et al, 2005).

Cater (1999) recognizes income distributing, business enterprise and vocation and additionally offer of visitor stock as the structures in which group association in ecotourism could show. Ecotourism is more useful to neighborhood groups since it is more work concentrated and offers better little scale business open doors (Scheyvens, 2007). Since ecotourism happens in the rural areas, it is thought to be one of the best put wellsprings of livelihood open doors for local people, including ladies and the casual area (Li, 2005, Scheyvens, 2007). Group interest gives vocation open doors, as little business administrators exploit bottomless regular and social resources accessible in groups in creating nations to deliver ecotourism items and administrations, including painstaking work (Scheyvens, 2007). Tosun (2000) focused on that rural cooperation through work in the tourism business helps nearby groups to bolster advancement of the business as well as to get monetary and different advantages.

Tosun (2000) further underscored that in numerous creating nations group interest through vocation of individuals in the business or through urging them to work little scale organizations, helps neighborhood groups to get more monetary advantages as opposed to simply making open doors for them to have a say in choices made on tourism advancement. Support in tourism through job has more straightforward effects on the lives of poor families; as it controls neediness at the family level by occupying the financial advantages of tourism specifically to the family level (Muganda, 2009).

In an investigation of ecotourism among indigenous groups in the Okavango Region in Botswana it was discovered that ecotourism had turned into the primary wellspring of

employment of the individuals from those groups. Conventional occupation exercises that harmed nature, for example, chasing, social occasion, domesticated animals, and yield cultivating had been supplanted by ecotourism (Mbiawa and Stronza, 2010). Different advantages connected with group support in ecotourism are; preservation of characteristic and social assets strengthening of host groups and sightseers' gratefulness and comprehension of neighborhood societies (Konch, 1997). A few scholars have proposed that the term group based ecotourism (CBE) ought to be utilized to recognize those activities which are naturally delicate, additionally mean to guarantee that individuals from neighborhood groups have a high level of control over the exercises occurred and a noteworthy extent of the advantage accumulate to them (Liu, 1994, Celallos-Lascurain, 1996). This is rather than ecotourism wanders which are controlled entirely by outside administrators, and it is likewise unmistakable from the setting in which a large portion of the monetary advantages of tourism collect to them (Akama, 1996).

Equally, a community based way to deal with ecotourism perceives the need to advance both the personal satisfaction of the general population and the preservation of assets. It is currently perceived in parts of Africa that neighborhood individuals ought to be adjusted for the loss of access to assets they endure when untamed life parks were made (Sindiga, 1995). In Newzealand in the mean time, Maori people group are utilizing ecotourism as a method for economically using physical assets available to them in a way which can give job alternatives. Ngai Tahu for example, is preparing nearby tribe's kin to convey data to compliment visitor exercises, for example, exceedingly whale watch wander. They expect to guarantee that ecotourism can be both socially and monetarily supportable, resuscitating regard for convention and improving neighborhood business by giving a pay to the numerous beforehand unemployed individuals (Anon, 1993). These are all endeavors to exhibit the nearby group contribution in ecotourism wanders.

## CHAPTER TWO

### ORIGIN OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The idea of sustainable development framed the premise of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. The summit denoted the principal universal endeavor to draw up activity arrangements and systems for moving towards a more economical example of advancement. It was gone to by more than 100 Head of States and agents from 178 national governments. The Summit was additionally gone to by agents from a scope of different associations speaking to common society. Practical advancement was the answer for the issues of ecological corruption talked about by the Brundtland Commission in the 1987 report *Our Common Future*.

The dispatch of the Brundtland Report was to explore the various worries that had been brought up in earlier decades, specifically, that human action had serious and negative effects on the planet, and that examples of development and advancement would be unsustainable on the off chance that they proceeded with unchecked. Key works that highlighted this reasoning included Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* (1962), Garret Hardin's *Tragedy of the Commons* (1968), the *Blueprint for Survival* by the *Ecologist* magazine (1972) and the Club of Rome's *Limits to Growth* report (1972).

The idea of sustainable development got its first real global acknowledgment in 1972 at the UN Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm. The term was not alluded to unequivocally, but rather all things considered the global group consented to the thought - now central to reasonable advancement - that both improvement and the earth, until now tended to as partitioned issues, could be overseen in a commonly helpful manner. The term was advanced 15 years after the fact in *Our Common Future*, the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, which included what is regarded the "work of art" meaning of maintainable improvement: "improvement which addresses the issues of the present without bargaining the capacity of future eras to address their own issues" (Brundtland Commission, 1987). It was not until the Rio Summit; in any case, that real world pioneer's perceived manageable advancement as the significant test on the planet today.

As of late, the World Summit on Sustainable Development was held in Johannesburg in 2002, went to by 191 national governments, UN organizations, multilateral money related establishments and other real gatherings to evaluate progress since Rio. The Johannesburg Summit conveyed three key results: a political announcement, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, and a scope of association activities. Key duties incorporated those on manageable utilization and creation, water and sanitation, and vitality (Sustainable Development commission, 2016).

The most widely recognized meaning of sustainable development was composed in the —Our Common Future report of the WCED (Brundtland, 1987, pp.43-44). Economical improvement addresses the issues of the present without trading off the capacity of future eras to address their own particular issues [...] the fulfillment of human needs and goals is the real goal of advancement. The crucial needs of immeasurable quantities of individuals in creating nations—for sustenance, garments, cover, occupations—are not being met, and past their fundamental needs these individuals have genuine desires for an enhanced personal satisfaction. A world in which neediness and imbalance are endemic will dependably be inclined to environmental and different emergencies. Feasible advancement requires meeting the fundamental needs of all and reaching out to all the chance to fulfill their goals for a superior life. Supportable advancement incorporates two negating interests; Sustainability means the cutoff to development and improvement shows the need of development for the most part for the growing nations (Mitcham, 1995).

The idea of sustainable development is opposing and also uncertain. Understanding the three fundamental measurements: environmental, social, efficient, is useful to clear up this idea. For biologically supportable improvement, biodiversity and conveying limit ought to be kept up, and assets and environment ought to be all around overseen. For temperate sustainability, the proficiency of asset use and the effect of utilization and generation ought to be considered. Social value, fair interest and institutional advancement ought to be energized for social economical improvement (Kim, 2012).

In 1972 the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment held in Stockholm brought industrialized and growing countries together to portray the right family to a sound and profitable environment. A progression of such gatherings took after for instance, the privilege of

individuals to satisfactory sustenance, sound lodging, to safe water, to access to method for family arranging. The acknowledgment to rejuvenate humankind's association with nature prompted the formation of worldwide organization inside the United Nation (UN) system (UNCSD, 2012).

In 1980 the International Union for the Conservation of Natural Resources (IUCNR) distributed in World Conservation Strategy (WCS) which gave a forerunner to the idea of reasonable improvement. The procedure attested that protection of nature can't be accomplished without advancement to ease destitution and wretchedness of a huge number of individuals and focused on the reliance of preservation and improvement in which advancement relies on upon tending to the earth. Unless ripeness and profitability of the planet are defended, the human future is at danger (UNCSD, 2012). After ten years, the 48th whole of The General Assembly in 1982 The World Conservation Strategy (WCS) activity finished with the endorsement with the world sanction of nature. The contract expressed that "humankind is a piece of nature and life relies upon the continuous working of the characteristic framework" (UNCSD, 2012).

In 1983, WCED was made and by 1984, it was founded as an autonomous body by The United Nations General Assembly. WCED was approached to detail a worldwide plan for change. In 1987, in its report our regular future, The WCED propelled the comprehension of worldwide reliance and the relationship amongst monetary and the earth beforehand presented by The World Conservation Strategy (WCS). The report wove together social, monetary, social and natural issues and worldwide arrangements. It reaffirmed that "the environment does not exist as a circle separate from human activities, desire and needs and accordingly it ought not be considered in segregation from human concerns". The earth is the place we as a whole live and advancement is the thing that we as a whole do in endeavoring to enhance our part inside that homestead. The two are as one (UNCSD, 2012).

In June 1992, the initially United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) was held in Rio de Janeiro and received a plan for environment and advancement in the 21st century. Motivation 21: A project of Action for Sustainable Development contains the Rio presentation on Environment and Development which perceives every country's rights seek after social and monetary advance and signs to states the obligation of receiving a model of

reasonable improvement, and the announcement of backwoods standards. Assertions were additionally arrived at on the Convention of Biodiversity and the structure Convention on environmental change. The UNCED interestingly assembled the significant gatherings and legitimized their cooperation in the manageable improvement process. This cooperation has remained a consistent until today. Interestingly additionally, the way of life of the present human advancement was tended to on a basic level 8 of the Rio announcement. The earnestness of profound change in utilization and generation examples was explicitly and extensively recognized by state pioneers. Motivation 21 further reaffirmed that maintainable improvement was delimited by the combination of the monetary, social and ecological columns (UNCSD, 2012).

The soul of the gathering was caught by the expression "Harmony with nature" conveyed to the fore with the primary standard of the Rio assertion. "Human creatures are at the focal point of attentiveness toward supportable improvement. They are qualified for a sound and gainful life in agreement with nature" (UNCSD, 2012). In 1993, The United Nation Conference on Environment and Development organized a commission on Sustainable Development (SD) to catch up the execution of motivation 21. In 1997, the General Assembly devoted its nineteenth exceptional session (UNGASS-19) to plan a "project for the further execution of motivation 21". In 2012, 10 years after the Rio revelation, a subsequent gathering the World summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) was met in Johannesburg to restore the worldwide duty to Sustainable Development. The gathering was concurred on the Johannesburg arrangement of execution of economical advancement (UNCSD, 2012).

On second December 2009, the United Nation General Assembly embraced a determination (A/RES/64/236) consenting to hold the United Nation Conference of economical improvement in 2012-additionally alluded to as "Rio +20 or Rio 20". The gathering looks for three destinations: securing recharged political responsibility to maintainable advancement, getting to the advancement and execution crevices in the meeting effectively concurred duty, and tending to new and developing difficulties. The part states have conceded to the accompanying two topics of the meeting: economy inside the setting of feasible improvement, neediness annihilation and institutional edge work for practical advancement.

Since the United Nation Conference on environment and advancement (UNWCED) manageable improvement has turned out to be a piece of worldwide vocabulary. The idea has been fused in numerous unified country presentations and execution, while complex has been at the fore front of world's foundations and associations working in the monetary, social and ecological divisions. In any case, they all perceive how troublesome it has demonstrated to give the natural column the same acknowledgment delighted in by the other two columns in spite of the numerous calls by researcher and common society flagging powerlessness and shakiness of the earth subsequent to the 1960s (UNCSD, 2012).

## **2.1 Sustainable Development and Poverty Alleviation**

Alleviating poverty in every one of its structures and measurements, including compelling destitution, is the best worldwide test and a vital necessity for manageable advancement. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development takes steps to free mankind from the oppression of neediness and to recuperate and secure our planet. The primary Sustainable Development Goal Sustainable plans to "End destitution in every one of its structures all over". Its seven related targets point, among others, to destroy amazing neediness for all individuals all over the place, diminish at any rate significantly the extent of men, ladies and offspring of any age living in destitution, and execute broadly fitting social assurance frameworks and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 accomplish considerable scope of poor people and the defenseless.

As reviewed by the foreword of the 2015 Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Report, at the Millennium Summit in September 2000, 189 nations collectively received the Millennium Declaration, swearing to "extra no push to free our kindred men, ladies and kids from the degraded and dehumanizing states of amazing neediness". This dedication was interpreted into a moving system of eight objectives and, then, into boundless commonsense strides that have empowered individuals over the world to enhance their lives and their future prospects. The MDGs lifted more than one billion individuals out of amazing destitution, to make advances against appetite, to empower more young ladies to go to class than any other time in recent memory and to ensure our planet.

By and by, notwithstanding all the astounding increases, imbalances have persevered and advance has been uneven. Subsequently, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable



Development and its arrangement of Sustainable Development Goals have been conferred, as expressed in the Declaration of the Agenda, "to expand upon the accomplishments of the MDGs and try to complete their unfinished business". Need activities on neediness destruction include:

- Improving access to feasible employments, entrepreneurial open doors and gainful assets;
- providing general access to essential social administrations;
- Progressively creating social insurance frameworks to bolster the individuals who can't bolster themselves;
- Empowering individuals living in neediness and their associations;
- Addressing the lopsided effect of neediness on ladies;

Working with intrigued benefactors and beneficiaries to assign expanded shares of Official Development Assistance (ODA) to neediness annihilation; and

- Intensifying worldwide participation for destitution destruction.

The General Assembly, in its 1997 Program for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 (section 27) chose that destitution annihilation ought to be an abrogating subject of reasonable advancement for the coming years. It is one of the crucial objectives of the global group and of the whole United Nations framework (Sustainable Development)

## **2.2 Biodiversity Conservation through Ecotourism**

Because of their natural worth, ensured ranges, particularly those found in the tropics and in less-created nations, contain huge numbers of the world's most prominent ecotourism attractions. These attractions may comprise of one or a blend of uncommon or endemic types of greenery, rich untamed life, high files of species differing qualities, irregular or terrific geomorphological arrangements, or one of a kind noteworthy or contemporary social signs in a characteristic connection (The Nature Conservancy, 2005)

A few regions have more noteworthy potential for understanding the advantages of ecotourism than others. In territories with low appearance, the potential is not typically clear. In others, tourism may as of now be an imperative component. Not all tourism visits to regular territories is called ecotourism (The Nature Conservancy, 2005). Nature tourism, rather than ecotourism, may do not have the components for moderating effects on the earth and neglect to show regard for the neighborhood society. Financially, nature tourism is likewise blasting (The Nature Conservancy, 2005). Internationally, the rate of development of ecotourism is 5 percent and significantly higher in a nation to nation premise. Routine tourism, then again, has just 4.1 percent.

Ecotourism has turned into a critical financial movement in normal territories around the globe. It gives chances to guests to encounter intense indications of nature and culture, and to find out about the significance of biodiversity protection and neighborhood societies. In the meantime, ecotourism creates salary for preservation and monetary advantages for groups living in provincial and remote ranges (The Nature Conservancy, 2005). Ecotourism being a critical part of biodiversity, more land and types of widely varied vegetation are shielded from being terminated through nearby exercises like poaching. Likewise, including nearby groups in biodiversity preservation make and ingrain more mindfulness and the significance of protection and future maintainability.

Joint exploration in ecotourism is a fundamental device in the administration of ecotourism exercises. There is a requirement for long haul research on issues, and in addition on the examination of different locales encountering vacationer weights. Exploration is additionally expected to figure out what levels and rates of vacationer activity trigger negative effects on untamed life. This will empower park administrators to set levels that will minimize the effects on the biodiversity the parks are built up to ensure. As a result, science-based administration of ecotourism and biodiversity preservation would settle on steady basic leadership. Putting resources into examination bodes well subsequent to the data created in such exercises pay off in consumer loyalty, estimation of the last vacationer item, long haul monetary supportability, and engage broad communications. Advancing people group based endeavors that advantage the nearby groups, including conveying limit of ecotourism destinations are likewise essential viewpoints that ought to be investigated (Asian Centre for Biodiversity, 2016).

The idea of ecotourism has advanced over the previous decade from amusement to mass tourism to a face which is adding to the general greening of the tourism business. In this sense, it can be seen as a procedure and its significance in incorporating change in the business possibly more critical than its classification as a little specialty business sector of little administrators. The greening of tourism is crucial for environmental and sociological headway and manageability industry. In every one of our dealings with vacationers we ought to stressed our regular habitat first before the social and social angles (Stronza, 2008).

### **2.3 Community – Based Ecotourism and Sustainable Development**

A hefty portion of the world's most lovely assets exist in jeopardized living spaces and powerless groups. Group based ecotourism is a type of ecotourism that stresses the advancement of nearby groups and takes into account inhabitants to have generous control over an interest in ecotourism, improvement, administration and a noteworthy extent of the advantages stay inside the (group strengthening Network, 2015). Group based ecotourism ought to encourage feasible use and aggregate duty however it likewise grasps singular activities inside the group (Richard, 2001). Group people have a great deal implanted in them and all they need is the attention to open up their psyches and mind in order to bring out what they have in store. In this way, promising nearby individuals in those viewpoint they know about and inspiring them to draw out their gifts in territories like agribusiness, handiwork, driving and changing over seekers to gatekeepers, will serve sightseers needs.

Inside this type of tourism neighborhood inhabitants share their surroundings and their lifestyle with guests while expanding nearby pay and building neighborhood economies. By sharing exercises, for example, celebrations, homestays and generation of artisan products, group based tourism permits groups to take an interest in the present day worldwide economy while developing a feasible wellspring of wage and keeping up their lifestyle. An effective model of group based tourism works with existing group activities, uses group pioneers, and looks to utilize nearby occupants so pay produced from tourism stays in the group and amplifies neighborhood advantages (community empowerment network, 2015).

In spite of the fact that ecotourism regularly guarantees group individuals enhanced jobs, and a wellspring of livelihood, untrustworthy tourism practices can debilitate normal assets and endeavor neighborhood groups. It is crucial that ways to deal with group based ecotourism activities be a part of a bigger group improvement technique and painstakingly arranged inside group individuals to guarantee that coveted results are steady with the group's way of life and legacy. From numerous points of view members are not representatives but rather chiefs. Group based tourism activities diminish neediness by expanding salary as well as by giving occupants of country groups with the apparatus and learning essential for long haul basic intuition and basic leadership. Tourism is no panacea; group based ecotourism and dependable tourism ought to be a piece of more extensive feasible advancement procedure (community empowerment network, 2015).

The fascination of community-based ecotourism is the possibility of connecting preservation and neighborhood occupations, saving biodiversity whilst at the same time lessening provincial neediness and of accomplishing both goal on a reasonable (self-financing) premise (Agnes, 2004). Group based ecotourism is a type of group based characteristic asset administration (CBNRM), a well known decision of exercises in an undertaking based technique for biodiversity protection and a typical component in incorporated preservation and improvement ventures (ICDP). Most ecotourism undertakings likewise claim to advantage neighborhood groups either through business or by adding to group ventures, yet the term group based ecotourism infers going past this to include groups effectively. This has been deciphered as anything from standard discussions to guaranteeing that at any rate some group individuals partake in tourism-related monetary exercises to incomplete or full group responsibility for ecotourism undertakings (Agnes, 2004).

#### **2.4 Poverty Alleviation Origin and History**

Since the 1950s, there have been endeavors to comprehend destitution at various levels. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) characterized neediness as the hardship of vital resources and chances to which each human is entitled. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) contended that everybody ought to have admittance to essential training and essential wellbeing administrations.

Poor family units have the privilege to support themselves by their work, be sensibly remunerated and have some security from outer stuns. Past wage and fundamental administrations, people and social orders are poor and have a tendency to remain along these lines, on the off chance that they are not engaged to take an interest in settling on the choices that shape their lives (Asian development bank, 1999). The World Bank portrayed neediness in a comparative all encompassing way while indicating its different measurements: levels of salary and utilization, social components, weakness to dangers and access to sound socio-political conditions. Be that as it may, neediness has been most generally comprehended as far as salary levels and has more often than not been measured against a destitution line, for example, the one set by the World Bank at US\$1 every day. There is a general accord among individuals and associations in the improvement group that to viably do the mission against destitution it ought to be comprehended in the majority of its structures and measurements (World Bank, 2001).

At the thousand years summit in 2000, The United Nations distinguished neediness as one of the greatest worldwide difficulties and put forward as one of its Millennium Development Goal (MDGs) to kill amazing destitution by 2015. The United Nation World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) has reacted to this test an open door by eating the Sustainable Tourism Eliminating Poverty (ST-EP) activity which was declared at the World summit on supportable advancement in Johannesburg in 2002. As indicated by Sustainable Tourism Eliminating Poverty, in spite of the exceptional position of tourism in neediness easing, the poor in creating nations and minimum created nations don't profit by monetary effects of tourism UNWTO Sustainable Tourism Eliminating Poverty (ST-EP) advances destitution lightening through the arrangement of help to maintainable advancement ventures. The activity concentrates on improving the association's longstanding work to energize supportable tourism, social financial and biological, with exercises that uniquely lighten destitution, convey improvement and make employments for individuals living on short of what one dollar a day.

The UNWTO view The Sustainable Tourism Eliminating Poverty (ST-EP) activity as a powerful instrument to make a substantial commitment to the MDGs. Tourism can assume a critical part especially for objective tending to great neediness and appetite, sexual orientation uniformity, natural steadiness and worldwide organization. At the 2005 United Nations World summit in New York, UNWTO gathered gatherings with governments, industry UN offices and

common society pioneers on the best way to outfit tourism most adequately for the MDGs. These exchanges finished in the reception of the announcement on ``Harnessing tourism for The MDG, an essential revelation that put on record the acknowledgment of tourism as a noteworthy power for financial and a compelling supporter to MDGs. The revelation approaches governments, universal and respective improvement offices, organizations and common social orders to assist their exertion in backing of the tourism segment through assembling extra assets, manage the cost of tourism more noteworthy need being developed help projects and destitution lightening procedures, advance open private association and great administration ([step.unwto.org/content/background](http://step.unwto.org/content/background)).

## **2.5 Ecotourism and Poverty Alleviation**

The regularly expanding development in the tourism business in the previous couple of decades, has given world forces, states and governments a more profound reflection into the quickly developing tourism industry. Ecotourism an alternative tourism consolidates neighborhood groups in its exercises by making mindfulness in them and including the nearby individuals partake in basic leadership, administration and administration in this manner contributing in the mitigation of destitution inside neighborhood groups.

There were 702.6 million worldwide tourism entries in 2002. Tourism contributed around 10 for each penny of worldwide total national output (GDP) and spoke to 8 for each penny of aggregate worldwide livelihood. In the Asia-Pacific area, tourism landings developed at a normal of 7.1 for every penny for each year over the previous decade. Tourism income dramatically increased and made 1 15 million occupations in 2002 (ESCAP tourism audit, 2006). Tourism could add to neediness mitigation through occupation creation and profitable vocation by offering work concentrated employments and little scale business open doors that for the most part utilize a high extent of ladies and incompetent youth. Charge income from tourism could be utilized to enhance training, wellbeing and framework improvement, all of which are imperative for destitution mitigation. Society and convention could be rejuvenated and the regular habitat could be protected through proper and reasonable tourism improvement. Over the long haul,

tourism advances understanding among individuals of various countries, in this way adding to world peace.

With the goal tourism should be an impetus for financial advancement; it is crucial that Governments seek after the supportable improvement of tourism in an exhaustive and arranged way. Proper strategies must be detailed by the administration to guarantee that the advantages are broadly shared; unfriendly effects are minimized, particularly on delicate common habitats; and essential backing is given to cultivate the sound advancement of the business. Powerful techniques and strategies should be executed so as to spread the advantages of tourism to poor groups (The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific ST/ESCAP/2380).

As a device for alleviating poverty, the test for ecotourism is the means by which and where to mediate keeping in mind the end goal to give better open doors, strengthening and security to needy individuals at the neighborhood level, notwithstanding invigorating monetary development at national and provincial levels. Expert poor tourism can be presented at the same time in rustic and urban regions and along these lines open different open doors and expansion access for vacationers as well as for nearby inhabitants. Ecotourism can expand open doors for the country poor in their own groups. It can possibly lessen country out-movement to urban zones, build job open doors for the urban poor because of tourism, and give individuals extra salary to accommodate their families in rustic ranges. Tourism is in this manner a fitting system for destitution decrease. It adds to financial development and can likewise have social, natural and social advantages and expenses. Ecotourism gives occupation open doors by differentiating and expanding wage, which decreases the defenselessness of needy individuals. As an aftereffect of expanded national salary (outside trade income and tax collection), extra finances can be redirected to neediness diminishment programs (WTO, 2002).

Poverty elimination through feasible tourism must be a piece of a general tourism advancement arrangement for a nation as opposed to a bit of hindsight. Government subsidizing and backing is required as is specialized help with the arranging, advancement and advertising of items. The greater part of all, there must be a certified enthusiasm among neighborhood individuals to hold onto ecotourism as an improvement alternative. Being a piece of a tourism

experience is not for everybody and unless individuals are genuinely glad about being a piece of it there is no reason for attempting to create it (WTO, 2002).

## **2.6 Ecotourism and Pro-Poor Tourism**

This is a methodology that looks to use tourism as key instrument to mitigate destitution among the minimized groups. Any type of tourism can add to neediness lessening. For this to happen, particular routes should be distinguished in which tourism organizations and in addition vacationers can specifically and in a roundabout way produce advantages for poor people. This is the thing that Pro-Poor Tourism (PPT) is about. PPT can be characterized as tourism which gives net advantages to needy individuals. PPT is not a particular tourism item or area. It is not the same as eco-tourism or group based tourism, in spite of the fact that these types of tourism can be ace poor; that is, they can convey net advantages to poor people.

Similarly, Pro-Poor Tourism (PPT) is a general way to deal with tourism improvement and administration going for opening open doors for the poor to acquire profits by tourism. There is cover amongst PPT and reasonable tourism. The last alludes to tourism that prompts the administration of all assets in a manner that financial, social, and tasteful needs can be satisfied while keeping up social uprightness, crucial natural procedures, organic assorted qualities and life emotionally supportive networks. The central purpose is on natural supportability. Social is only one part of manageability, while for Pro-Poor Tourism (PPT) destitution is the center and ecological maintainability is a way to that end (Africa n pro-poor tourism development centre, 2006).

Expert poor tourism is utilized to allude to mediations that particularly concentrate on tending to

Destitution – which move past “trickledown” hypothesis and creates net advantages for poor people. Pro- Poor Tourism (PPT) is not a particular tourism item or division, it is a general methodology intended to open doors for poor people. Tourism is expert poor on the off chance that it gives;



- Economic increase through the making of full or low maintenance livelihood or the advancement of Small and Medium size Enterprises (SME) open doors through deals to tourism organizations or to visitors.
- Other business advantages, for example, access to consumable water, streets which convey advantages to poor makers through, for instance, enhanced access to business sectors, enhanced wellbeing or instruction and so forth.
- Opportunities and limit for engagement in basic leadership all together that the poor can enhance their jobs by securing better access to voyagers and tourism ventures (Walter et al, 2004).

Tourism is a gigantic and developing industry officially influencing a large number of poor people, so a peripheral change could create considerable advantages. Additionally, tourism has favorable circumstances over different parts in connection to destitution diminishment. Tourism is an extremely various industry which expands the degree for wide cooperation for instance casual segment. In tourism, the client goes to the item, offering chances to make extra deals (linkages). Tourism is more work escalated than numerous different divisions, for example, fabricating, and utilizes a higher extent of ladies. Tourism items can be based on regular and social assets which are frequently a portion of the couple of advantages that the poor have. Tourism may have potential in nations and territories which have couple of other aggressive fares (African Pro-Poor Tourism Development Center, 2006).

## **2.7 Impacts of Ecotourism**

Ecotourism as an apparatus for reasonable advancement, poverty elimination, rural improvement and advantages for nearby groups, the preservation of assets and insurance of biodiversity has carried with it sway on the earth. Each movement that happens on the surface of the earth be it that which secure the normal assets, social legacy or even in the marine world has impacts on nature be it positive or negative and in this way, ecotourism is not a special case. As human populace and asset utilization keep on growing, all these unprotected ranges are liable to expanding misuse and change, as logging, agrarian leeway and comparative undertakings quicken. Transport, as a principle contributing component to asset use connected with

ecotourism exercises, has, at most, been managed as a wellspring of nearby air contamination, clog or territory pulverization for base development (Buckley, 2004).

Additionally, the human communication and its exercises on the earth and the mission to carry on an agreeable live, have created much harm to the characteristic biological community: - Such exercises incorporate; horticulture, urbanization/industrialization, bringing about loss of biodiversity and jeopardized species, loss of soil dampness and different types of contaminations. The effects can be both positive and negative. Regularly, little scale tourism underpins preservation through instruction by offering voyagers understanding into the effect of individuals on the earth and cultivating a more noteworthy valuation for normal natural surroundings. By enhancing the prosperity of the nearby individuals, the groups figure out how to keep the common territories alluring to sightseers. Ecotourism may likewise advantage nature through direct money related commitments toward preservation.

Given that ecotourism offers considerable financial motivating forces to secure ecological ranges, it is regularly taken a gander at as an awesome trust in both protection and peopling, countering the abuse of common zones for individual monetary addition. In any case, the term regularly is utilized essentially as a promoting apparatus for practices that really hurt the earth or don't advantage the neighborhood groups. Moreover, the achievement of ecotourism may likewise have unintended negative results for nature or the neighborhood groups, unless capably oversaw. There additionally are inborn issues whereby "ecotourism organizations" that keep a greater amount of their benefits or seek after less ecologically inviting activities can increase upper hand over organizations that contribute a greater amount of their benefits for preservation and helping the rural communities.

## **2.8 Positive Impacts of Ecotourism**

Human interaction and its activities on the environment cannot be evaluated without looking at the different ways by which ecotourism can positively affect the environment and its inhabitants. Below are some positive impacts of ecotourism;

The most profitable commitment of eco-tourism is the conservation of biodiversity. Biodiversity is progressively looked upon as a feasible resource and eco-tourism frames an

imperative machine gear-piece of it. The world's biggest wetlands in Brazil's Pantanal's are likewise a huge touching ground for the hamburger industry. For the most part populated by private farms, a practical improvement arrangement as an eco-tourism destination made it an example of overcoming adversity.

Furthermore, Ecotourism has abundantly exhibited its potential to be a tremendous dollar worker. The cash earned ought to be furrowed back into the neighborhood society. This can go to make a superior life for the neighborhood masses however schools, better streets and doctor's facilities. Through charges and shopper spending the entire nation stands to advantage the products of eco-tourism. Once more, the assets created through eco-tourism can be utilized for the safeguarding of the wellspring itself, the common asset.

Additionally, Ecotourism is the blend of societies and individuals. National and/or neighborhood pride is an immediate sign of how thankful a remote society is of one's own. Salary created through eco-tourism advantages local people and keeps relocation for occupations under control. Nearby learning likewise stays inside the group and is passed on. An effective illustration can be found in a created nation – Canada. Nunavut in Northern Canada picked eco-tourism as a feasible industry. An effective exertion saw the conservation the Aboriginal and Inuit people group (saikat, 2008).

Moreso, a decent routine of ecotourism comprises of pertinent projects that advance the utilization of reusing, vitality proficiency, water preservation, air contamination and soil disintegration. Protection or conservation ventures are a fundamental piece of Ecotourism and such projects are offered to voyagers keeping in mind the end goal to give them the chance to take an interest and get included more. A standout amongst the most essential parts of this kind of venture is training. The planned result is that interest won't just improve the familiarity with eco voyagers, however a hands-on methodology, for example, feathered creature viewing in the rainforest of Brazil, to climbing in the Nepal mountains, will motivate them to be more concerned and mindful in regards to ecological issues. At last – carry on in an all the more earth cognizant route later on.

Additionally, Pay can be created from common habitats sourcing and support vital and profitable preservation ventures. Cash is gathered by urging eco voyagers to visit and, amid their stay, pay for additional items, for example, extra charges to attractions, concessions, and licenses. Eco explorers convey cash to vacation destinations and outings, in this manner making work and pay for both family units and groups in and around national parks and other ensured regions (Admin, 2012).

## **2.9 Negative Environmental Impacts**

Ecotourism operations every so often neglect to satisfy preservation standards, even where endeavors are being made to meet a considerable lot of the conditions for ecotourism. At the nearby level, ecotourism has turned into a wellspring of contention over control of area, assets, and tourism benefits, which hurt the earth and the neighborhood individuals. Ecotourism additionally may have more restricted potential for securing nature than is expected. In spite of the fact that ecotourism is proposed for little gatherings, even an unassuming increment in populace, puts additional weight on the neighborhood environment and requires the advancement of extra base and civilities.

Costa Rica, have noticed that albeit some national parks are expansive, most guests need to see particular locales, which prompts stuffing, trail disintegration, and contamination at those destinations. As researchers have likewise watched changes in the behavioral examples of nearby natural life that have all the earmarks of being connected to human action. In Africa for instance, the nearness of ecotourist gatherings to mountain gorillas puts the considerable chimps at danger from human irresistible maladies, for example, measles, polio, flu, and tuberculosis (Clarkin et al, 2015). The development of water treatment plants, sanitation offices, and cabins accompany the misuse of non-renewable vitality sources and the usage of effectively constrained neighborhood assets (Vivanco, 2002). The change of characteristic area to such visitor base is ensnared in deforestation and environment crumbling of butterflies in Mexico and squirrel monkeys in Costa Rica (Isaacs, 2000). In different cases, the earth endures in light of the fact that neighborhood groups can't meet the framework requests of ecotourism. The absence of

satisfactory sanitation offices in numerous East African parks results in the transfer of campground sewage in streams, sullyng the untamed life, domesticated animals, and individuals who draw drinking water from it (Tuohino & Hynonen, 2001).

Despite the fact that ecotourism might be thought to be instructively complex and earth beneficial, actually numerous ecotourists don't comprehend the natural results of their visits and how their everyday exercises add physical effects on the earth. As one researcher watches, they "once in a while recognize how the suppers they eat, the toilets they flush, the water they drink, etc, are all a player in more extensive local monetary and environmental frameworks they are serving to reconfigure with their extremely exercises (Tuohino and Hynonen, 2001). Ecotourist don't perceive the immense utilization of non-renewable vitality required to touch base at their destination, which is normally more remote than ordinary tourism destinations. For example, a fascinating adventure to a spot 10,000 kilometers away devours around 700 liters of fuel for every individual (Mellgren, 2008). Beside ecological debasement with vacationer foundation, populace weights from ecotourism additionally desert waste and contamination (McLaren, 1998).

Ecotourism exercises are, in of itself, issues in ecological effect since they bother fauna and verdure. Ecotourists trust that since they are just taking pictures and leaving impressions, they keep ecotourism locales immaculate, however even innocuous sounding exercises, for example, a nature trek can be naturally ruinous. In the Annapurna Circuit in Nepal, Eco voyagers have exhausted the stamped trails and made backup courses of action, adding to soil impaction, disintegration, and plant harm. Where the ecotourism movement includes untamed life seeing, it can frighten off creatures, upset their bolstering and settling destinations, or adapt them to the nearness of individuals. In Kenya, natural life eyewitness interruption drives cheetahs off their stores, expanding the danger of inbreeding and further jeopardizing the species (Tuohino & Hynonen, 2001).

The quantity of engine vehicles crossing nature park increments as visit drivers scan for uncommon species. The quantity of streets can upset the grass spread, which sways plant and creature species. These territories likewise have a higher rate of aggravations and obtrusive species due to all the activity getting out of the way into new unfamiliar zones. Ecotourism additionally affects species through the quality put on them, and if esteemed, there might be an

overproduction of them (Kamauro, 1996). Similarly, in as much as ecotourism exercises are set to be an advantage to the neighborhood groups by decreasing destitution, the case is not generally the same as they are likewise influenced contrarily. While ecotourism in fact includes giving advantages to the neighborhood groups, these advantages might be exceptionally restricted. Most types of ecotourism are claimed by remote financial specialists and partnerships that give few advantages to neighborhood groups. A mind greater part of benefits are put into the pockets of financial specialists rather than reinvestment into the nearby economy or natural assurance. The restricted quantities of neighborhood individuals who are utilized in the economy enter at its least level, and can't live in traveler ranges in view of small wages and a two business sector framework (Tuohino and Hynonen, 2001). Besides, the absence of nearby foundation, neighborhood manages that know the widely varied vegetation or have the essential abilities, and may lead the eco visit organization to use offices and individuals from outside the neighbourhood.

Ecotourism frequently asserts that it jam and "improves" neighborhood societies. In any case, proof demonstrates that with the foundation of secured zones neighborhood individuals have unlawfully lost their homes, and frequently with no pay (Kamauro, 1996). Pushing individuals onto minimal grounds with unforgiving atmospheres, poor soils, absence of water, and invaded with infection does little to improve employments notwithstanding when extents of ecotourism benefits are coordinated once more into the group. The foundation of parks can make brutal survival substances and deny the general population of their conventional utilization of area and regular assets. Ethnic gatherings are progressively being seen as a "setting" to the landscape and untamed life. The neighborhood individuals battle for social survival and opportunity of social expression while being "saw" by vacationers. Nearby indigenous individuals likewise have solid hatred towards the change, "Tourism has been permitted to create with for all intents and purposes no controls. An excessive number of cabins have been constructed, a lot of kindling is being utilized and no restrictions are put on tourism vehicles. They consistently drive off-track and pester the untamed life. Their vehicle tracks jumble the whole Masai Mara. Unavoidably, the bramble is getting to be disintegrated and debased (Tuohino & Hynonen, 2001).

Another case of groups being moved keeping in mind the end goal to make a recreation center is the case of the Masai. Around 70% of national stops and diversion saves in East Africa are on Masai land (Kamauro, 1996). The principal undesirable effect of tourism was that of the degree of area lost from the Masai society. Nearby and national governments exploited the Masai's obliviousness on the circumstance and denied them of enormous pieces of brushing area, putting to chance their lone financial job. In Kenya, the Masai additionally have not increased any financial advantages. In spite of the loss of their property, occupation supports better instructed specialists. Moreover, financial specialists around there are not neighborhood and have not return benefits to nearby economy. At times, amusement stores can be made without educating or counseling neighborhood individuals, who come to get some answers concerning the circumstance when an expulsion notification is conveyed (Kamauro, 1996). Another wellspring of hatred is the control of the neighborhood individuals by their legislature. This might be as unfulfilled guarantees.

At times, the hatred by local individuals results in natural corruption. As an exceptionally advanced case, the Masai wanderers in Kenya murdered untamed life in national parks to show abhorrence for out of line pay terms and uprooting from customary grounds (Cater, 1994). The absence of financial open doors for neighborhood individuals additionally compels them to corrupt nature as a method for sustenance (Tuohino and Hynonen, 2001). The nearness of rich eco travelers energizes the improvement of dangerous markets in natural life gifts, for example, the offer of coral knickknacks on tropical islands and creature items in Asia, adding to illicit collecting and poaching from the earth. In Suriname, ocean turtle saves utilize a huge segment of their financial plan to make preparations for these dangerous exercises.

Notwithstanding, to a more noteworthy expand ecotourism have broad outcomes on the neighborhood groups in ranges of environment, society and monetary. Ecotourism positively affects the economy of a nation as it produces pay and outside trade from undertakings visit organizations. Guide administrations, lodgings, and private stores. Satellite exercises, creates businesses, transportation and nourishment administrations, and neighborhood Governments can then use this wellspring of salary to run and ensure normal natural surroundings and other slacking divisions of the economy. Creating nations have profited tremendously on their Wildlife and common territories. They have turned out to be all the more engaging and well known

among global travelers. Ecotourism is especially prospering in creating nations as a consequence of their indigenous habitats and eco voyagers are selecting such nations as their most loved destinations.

Similarly, ecotourism has contributed more in making mindfulness among nearby groups and indigenous populaces on the significance of biodiversity preservation and the conservation and insurance of the delicate biological community for future manageability. Additionally, through ecotourism neighborhood societies and conventions can be safeguarded since its point is to accomplish maintainable advancement. Ecotourism has contributed colossally in the annihilation of neediness amongst nearby groups by making work open doors in securing and rationing territories where they live.

#### **2.10 The Role of United Nation World Tourism Organization in Ecotourism**

Tourism is today the primary wellspring of remote trade for 33% of creating nations and among the main three wellsprings of fares income for half of the minimum created nations (LDCs). As universal and residential tourism keeps on developing there is more grounded confirmation that the division, when created and oversaw in a reasonable way, can make a huge commitment to destitution decrease. Specialized collaboration is at the very heart of UNWTO work. For over thirty years, UNWTO has been giving specialized help to its individuals covering an extensive variety of issues from tourism arranging, showcasing and advancement, HR, to particular issues, for example, tourism enactment, tourism satellite record, and quality gauges, among others. UNWTO Technical collaboration incorporates likewise the execution of activities inside the structure of the Sustainable Tourism – Alleviating Poverty (ST-EP) activity. These small scale level undertakings concentrate on creating tourism as a method for economical business at the nearby group level. The ST-EP extends further enhance the limits of national tourism organizations and nearby commanding voices in minimum created and creating nations devise and execute neediness decrease approaches, plans and undertakings, through the advancement of practical types of tourism (UNWTO, 2010).



In a noteworthy affirmation of tourism as an apparatus for advancing supportable advancement, the UN General Assembly collectively received a determination focusing on ecotourism's part in the battle against destitution and the assurance of the earth. The determination, entitled, "Advancement of ecotourism for destitution destruction and environment insurance", approaches UN Member States to receive arrangements that advance ecotourism highlighting its "positive effect on wage era, work creation and training, and hence on the battle against neediness and yearning". It further perceives that "ecotourism makes critical open doors for the preservation, security and maintainable utilization of biodiversity and of common zones by empowering neighborhood and indigenous groups in host nations and visitors alike to protect and regard the characteristic and social legacy".

In accordance with the proposals of the UNWTO report, the determination underscores the requirement for national tourism arrangements to represent market interest and nearby upper hands. It likewise urges part states to advance interest in ecotourism, as per their national enactment, including making little and medium-sized undertakings, advancing cooperatives and encouraging access to fund through comprehensive money related administrations, for example, microcredit activities for poor people, nearby and indigenous groups, in regions of ecotourism potential and provincial zones.

## CHAPTER THREE

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

As a research method; qualitative research technique was chosen for this inductive study in order to provide better and extensive understanding through the data collection and recording procedures (Creswell, 2013). Qualitative research is thought to be especially appropriate for picking up an inside and out comprehension for hidden reasons and inspirations. Notwithstanding this, subjective study is principally exploratory examination that is utilized when analyst has constrained information concerning a specific issue in this manner finding new bits of knowledge and a more profound comprehension (Zikmund, 2003). In other words, it is used to gain an understanding of underlying reasons, opinions, and motivations. This research technique provides insights into the problem or helps to develop ideas or hypotheses for potential quantitative research.

Information gathering in subjective exploration is not from time to time in view of unstructured or semi-organized, but rather methodologically adaptable strategies e.g. singular profundity meetings or gathering examinations, that are suited to inspire extraordinary point by point and a far reaching view. Correspondingly, numerous researchers expressed that subjective information accumulation strategies fluctuate utilizing unstructured or semi-organized systems, for example, center gatherings (bunch examinations), singular meetings, and interest/perceptions (Saunders et al, 2009; Creswell, 2013). Equally, qualitative research typically is explanatory and/or investigative in nature. The data collected from such explicit interview may be used for the design of structured interview (Saunders et al, 2009). Its findings are often not conclusive and cannot automatically be used to make generalizations. However, it is indispensable in developing a deep understanding of a given thematic complex and sound rationale for further decision making. As a data collection tool in-depth interviews used for this research which known as non-directive tool of qualitative research method that enables the interviewee to identify themselves much more free in contrast to quantitative research techniques (Saunders et al, 2009).

In qualitative studies the sample size is regularly little, and respondents are chosen to satisfy a given quantity (Susan, 2011). When all is said in done, subjective exploration produces

rich, itemized and substantial procedure information that add to the top to bottom comprehension of a setting (Atlasti, 2010). Moreso, qualitative data analysis is non-statistical; its methodological approach is primarily guided by the concrete material at hand. In addition to this, qualitative analysis involves continual interplay between theory and analysis (Van de Ven, 2007). In investigating qualitative information, we try to find examples, for instance, changes after some time or conceivable easygoing connections between variables. Qualitative examination measures, with expectations of creating widespread laws where qualitative examination can be portrayed as an investigation of what is thought to be progressive reality. Qualitative exploration does not assert that what is found in the process is widespread, hence replicable.

Conclusively, qualitative examination is likewise used to reveal patterns in thought and feelings, and plunge further into the issue. The subjective examination is about discovering what individuals think about and why they think it. It is about inspiring individuals to discuss their suppositions with the goal that you can comprehend their inspiration and sentiments concerning a specific subject.

### **3.1 Data collection**

Primary data was collected by sending open ended questions to a number of agencies and organizations related to ecotourism directly and indirectly. In this study, an in-depth research was carried out through a form of interview questions sent to reputable agencies and organizations by emails taken from their websites. Fifteen open ended questions were sent to twenty agencies in total in April and in May. Three responses came in after a period of three weeks, then which a reminder email was sent to the agencies to remind them about the research. The organizations include; Sustainable tourism organization, Global bush trans tour, United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), Global tours agency, Independent travel, Ecotourism Destination, Not just Travel Toronto, Sustainable Ecotourism, Sustainable Development, Alternative Development, Community Health and Sustainable Environment (CHASE), Israel Ministry of Tourism, Eagle Travel Agency, World Future Council, Mountain Ecotourism, Ecotourism, The Hague Academy for Local Governance, UNESAP, Biovision Foundation for Ecological Environment and Green Africa Director. These agencies and

organizations were chosen randomly to be a representative sample of the target population. After a reminder email was sent in June, three more responses came in after a period of four weeks. The responses came from Africare, Independent Travel answered by Kobe Ishmael, Ecotourism Destination answered by Liz marshal, Not just Travel Toronto by Claudia Hon, Eagle Travel by Fabian, and Green Africa Director by Obi Asah. However, from the whole interview questions a total of six responses were received and on which the analysis of this research was based.

This research explores the qualitative method in which secondary sources such as publications, websites and academic journals were used. In this dissertation we examine ecotourism as a general phenomenon. Information gathering was done through meetings and auxiliary sources, which included course readings, online assets and productions. This activity has been encouraged by the way that there is plenteous of effectively distributed materials on this theme. This makes it moderately simpler for the scientist to gather information which should be examined for the study.

### **3.2 Findings**

Critically looking at the responses from the interview with regards to the aims/ objectives of the study, which are: - How ecotourism contributes to the growth and development of the tourism industry, to find out the impacts of ecotourism, how ecotourism contributes to sustainable development, how ecotourism can help to alleviate poverty and finally to find out how local people are involved in ecotourism activities. Here is a question from the interview: What do you particularly intend to achieve by organizing ecotourism activities? Findings indicate that most reasons for the organization of ecotourism is to promote sustainability of natural heritage, promote biodiversity conservation at different levels, to foster respect for different cultures and to foster human rights protection within the destination. Even though ecotourism in these destinations is still in the infant stage, more attention is needed for the objectives to be attained. By creating these platforms within the destinations, those responsible for ecotourism organization intend to create awareness and educate the local people on the importance of

ecotourism and its benefits to the whole community by way of providing employment to the locals involved.

According to the interviewees the global environment is changing rapidly due to human activities on the environment and the desire to make it beautiful and comfortable, trees and forests are destroyed everyday everywhere for agriculture and infrastructural purposes, thus organizing and practicing ecotourism in this destination is a way of protecting the environment. Also involving local people to participate in the activities is another way of educating the local population on the dangers of climate change and environmental degradation. Hence, organizing ecotourism will help local communities to limit their actions on the environment and protect the ecosystem.

*The interviewees were also asked how they have contributed to the growth of ecotourism in the specific destination.* According to the interviewees, the growth of ecotourism in destinations where they are practiced have been consistent in the sense that, the more people are aware of the importance and the turn over, they become interested in taking part. Also informal and tertiary businesses which includes small and medium sized enterprises (SME) that are sprouting up as a result of the ecotourism development in the destinations, travel companies for instance National geographic expedition, credit union facilities are also available to assist individuals and groups who intend to set up petit businesses and lodges for visitors both domestic and international. Again, they ask for help from interested donors and whatever they receive, it is plough back to the development of the destination and thus assist some community members who are in need of basic amenities as the aim of the activity is to help reduce the level of poverty and illiteracy in rural areas.

*One of the questions in the interview form was what can they say about the local government management in terms of ecotourism?* So the replies show that the local government management well, they are trying all they can in planning and implementing rules that limit poaching and indiscriminate forest exploitation. There are also groups with license that are allowed to harvest timber from the forests but not in protected areas. The local governments also allocate lands that can be used for the training of community members in taking care of specific tasks. On the contrary, the government always tries her best in management but there are always some unscrupulous and self-centered individuals who will always want corners everything for

themselves in other words siphoning government allocated resources to develop some areas and ministries like Tourism with ecotourism being an alternative form of it. The local government is characterized by a weak legal system and judiciary. Very little is done by local government to implement the laws that can help safeguard the environment. This affects ecotourism in the destination considering the fact that the natural diversity is depleted by poachers who hunt wildlife for meat and forest exploiters who extract timber for export and construction purposes. This will affect the tourism industry in the long run because tourists who are attracted to these destinations with respect to the rich biodiversity will no longer do so.

*Another question that has been directed to the organisations was Do you think the local communities are gaining something from ecotourism activities?* The answers to this question revealed that local communities are gaining something but they are still ignorant of the value of these benefits and thus the need for more awareness". Also, local people do benefit from this activity especially in terms of the provision of social amenities and employment but sometimes the local people end up with empty promises because individuals embezzle money meant to execute local development projects. Nevertheless, the local community has gained and will continue to benefit from ecotourism activities in the destinations. Due to ecotourism practices some communities around have been able to receive clean portable water, health care centres and basic education which brings us to one of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), primary education and to achieve gender equality. Local people also benefit from employment opportunities offered in the industry thereby reducing crime wave and Juvenal delinquency within the local milieu. Also, as a result of ecotourism, the local community has benefited from infrastructure such as roads, community halls, health centre, hotels and schools. This has in a way exposed the potentials of the community to the rest of the world which is an important benefit to the local community.

*Additionally, interviewees were asked if ecotourism is beneficial to the local communities.* Ecotourism can positively and negatively be beneficial to local communities. The former is beneficial in the sense that, the motto of some of the ecotourism activities is ecotourism for village and poverty alleviation and improvements of the livelihood of the local community. The latter can be attributed to the fact that sometimes the government neglects this section of the community especially financially. This situation is compounded by selfish individuals who still

stoop so low to embezzled the little money given by the government for local community benefit like infrastructure education health amongst others. Again the benefit comes through employment, education, infrastructure and integrations.

In addition to the previous answers, it can also be said that Ecotourism has impacted a lot on the environment and to the local communities as well. To find out how ecotourism have benefited the local people, the response is yes and no. "Yes because the motto of some or all ecotourism activities is ecotourism for local people, poverty alleviation and improvements of the livelihood of the local community. Thus, the sole reason for ecotourism activities are to involve local communities in its practice that intend bring some socio-economic benefits to the community. No because sometimes the government neglects this section of the community especially financially this situation is compounded by selfish individuals who still stoop so low to embezzled the little money given by the government for local community benefit like infrastructure education health amongst others. Additionally, in an endeavor of reducing poverty in the rural areas and enhancing living conditions inside communities, organization working inside their private structures makes occupation open doors and help families. Preservation Corporation Africa (CCA) is a private organization that works more than 20 amusement cabins and holds in six African nations, incorporating five hotels in South Africa (CCA, 2002). The Conservation Corporation Africa (CCA) has 2500 workers, supporting more than 20,000 families (Buckley, 2003). Again Conservation Corporation Africa (CCA) has set up a group improvement store, at first an entirely possessed backup called the Rural Investment Fund (RIF).

Nevertheless, Ecotourism is an alternative form of tourism that has emerged to curb down the excesses caused by conventional mass tourism. Nowadays tourists prefer to take their vacations to natural pristine destination where the environment is almost natural. This is as a result of the protection and conservation of nature with very little negative impacts. The world today has realized the importance of nature and it's doing its very best to protect it and one of the ways of doing this is through ecotourism ventures and other reforestation programs and way of setting up projects and corporations. For example, World Conservation Union as one of The Agencies under The United Nations World Tourism Organizations. Equally, local communities can now benefit from the development of ecotourism ventures by way of gainful employment. Currently, findings indicate that, there are negative impacts in small amount but could increase in

the long- term. All stakeholders including local people should explore measures of managing ecotourism and its varying objectives.

*The organisations were also asked if they agreed they agreed that Ecotourism in this destination is a strategy for environmental conservation.* Also, it has been strongly agreed and proven that ecotourism is a means for biodiversity conservation and the protection of the natural environment typically by the fact that many attempts have been put in place for this reason. There are many natural reserves and parks in the world today all in an effort to protect biodiversity, thus it is strongly agreed that ecotourism is a strategy for environmental conservation and the preservation of cultural and natural heritage. Londolozi is a case of one of the most seasoned store in the Conservation Corporation Africa (CCA) portfolio that was initially distinguished in the 1920s. In the event that there is a prototype ecotourism wander, maybe it is Londolozi. It is 140 km<sup>2</sup> in region and is a piece of the 560 km<sup>2</sup> SabiSands Private Reserve, which is coterminous with the freely claimed Kruger National Park, 20,000 km<sup>2</sup> in zone. Londolozi Lodge is an individual from the selective global Relais et Chateaux gather and has won various tourism recompenses. The national parks of Kenya have for quite some time been one of the world's symbol untamed life tourism destinations. They are overseen by the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), which is in charge of somewhere in the range of 20 national stops and saves the nation over, summing up to 30,000 km<sup>2</sup> in zone (Kenya Wildlife Service, 2002). These are all ways to prove that ecotourism helps in environmental conservation.

*The interviewees were also asked if they can you conveniently say that ecotourism in this destination is sustainable?* Conveniently, It has been mentioned that ecotourism has greatly contributed to the development of the destinations where it is practiced. The reason is that, the growth of ecotourism has led to infrastructural development of destinations as tourists need to be transported from the city to the rural areas where parks are situated and the need for accommodation as well. The creation of local businesses and souvenir shops is also as a result of ecotourism development and this has really upgraded the living standards of the local people. As the saying goes that “where a road passes development follows” applies to these destinations where ecotourism is practiced. The transport means in these destinations has created communication links with other surrounding villages and with the rest of the country. Thus, ecotourism is an epitome of development in any destination it is practiced.



*The question what can you say need to be done to improve the development of ecotourism?* Has received many responses. As regards the development of ecotourism, more still need to be done in areas like planning and implementing environmental laws that protects animals and plant species especially the endangered species as they are almost on extinction. Therefore, local government and stakeholders need to look deeply in to this and implement laws and policies that would protect the environment and the forest ecosystem.

*The interviewees were also asked if they agree or not in creating awareness amongst tourists and local communities can go a long way in protecting and conserving natural areas.* It was strongly agreed that, the world in general and the local communities in particular needs to be aware of the importance of environmental protection. In the rural areas where subsistence agriculture is the main source of their livelihood and the method which they used tend to pollute and destroy soil organisms that is the slash and burnt method of farming. Thus, creating awareness among tourists and local communities can go a long way in protecting and conserving natural areas.

*One of the questions that was asked include, do you think this activity has contributed to the protection of the cultural heritage of this site?* So the replied that Ecotourism has in a way contributed to the protection of cultural heritage in the host destination as most cultures that were almost forgotten are now been preserved and guarded for visitor's interests. Folk music and dance are good examples of these heritage cultures of which some of them are thought in schools as traditional dances. However, in as much as ecotourism seek to preserve the natural environment, it also contributes to the protection of cultural heritage of host destinations.

*The question "From your observation and your experience can you conveniently say that ecotourism contributes to the development of this destination"?* Was also been replied promptly mentioning that they cannot completely say that ecotourism is not sustainable to an extend in Africa and Cameroon in particular the activities is still growing but at arithmetic rate. Compared to Asia and the rest of the continents. we can't completely deny that the activities are not sustainable but the rate is slow and steady, cause by government policy which times is neglects lack of interest and dishonesty of individuals who corners money given by the government for sustainability. The proper management of the natural ecosystem and resources for future use is of environmental sustainability, and ecotourism acts as a tool for sustainable development. It is

often argued that ecotourism can also contribute to conservation of endangered species and ecosystems more indirectly by providing educational opportunities for clients. There are far too many people in the world for all of them to take ecotourism trips to see endangered species, however, and large sectors of the world's population are unable to afford any but the most local travel. Therefore, the fewer the number of people in an ecotourist destination, the lesser the impact on the environment hence environmental protection enhancing sustainability.

*The organisations were also asked if they think local authorities take significant part in decision making concerning ecotourism.* Findings also reveal that local authorities take significant part in decision making process as they are custodians of their customs and traditions and as such it is wise and appropriate to include them in such an important role. The local communities are active participants in the ecotourism activity as it is geared towards their growth and development. Most ecotourism programs are carried out and the profits generated goes back to the community. On the contrary, sometimes the local people's opinions do not count or consider because most important decisions come from higher authority in the capital sometime not even the minds of the local authorities but the views of senior government officials whether good or bad maybe inconsequential when the higher authority has spoken. This is also a confirmation to the responses from the interview questions. Community participation can also be in the form of projects which are aimed at developing the local communities such as Community-Based Ecotourism (CBE) and Pro-Poor Tourism.

This study has for the most part conveyed to the fore the way that group based ecotourism can be utilized as a key instrument for neediness mitigation as on account of Sirigu in the Kasena Nankana West District in the Upper East Region. The upgrade of job through tourism related pay creating exercises at this goal has been made conceivable in light of the fact that the administration and limit working at goals group based ecotourism undertaking is done in conjunction with the nearby group which is without a doubt a genuine impression of the importance of group based ecotourism: that is, ecotourism endeavor of which there is expanded control and contributions of neighborhood inhabitants and additionally huge advantages for the host group (Manu et al. 2012).

### 3.3 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Carefully looking at the available literature related to this study, a general conclusion can be reached. Findings from this research indicate that ecotourism can serve as a tool for sustainable development and poverty alleviation in various ecotourism destinations. Creating awareness amongst local people and tourists concerning environmental protection, builds a positive future for the tourism industry. Equally, ecotourism has been a good measure for biodiversity conservation.

Ecotourism can make a net positive commitment to worldwide protection. There are private endeavors in different parts of the world that have built up private preservation holds subsidized through tourism and which, to the extent can be judged, the protection benefits incredibly exceed the tourism sways. Such noteworthy advantages are most regular in zones and nations where, without tourism, the saved area would some way or another be utilized for horticulture or other essential businesses. There are likewise private and group undertakings which, without building up secretly held stores, have effectively utilized tourism to enhance the protection prospects of jeopardized creature or sometimes plant species, either by decreasing chasing, poaching, catching and gathering or by changing area administration rehearses to grow or enhance environment accessible for the species concerned (Buckley, 2003).

Furthermore, the study also looked at different definitions by different authors including that of The International Ecotourism Society (TIES) 1999, and they all portray a common idea the responsible travel to natural undisturbed and uncontaminated areas for relaxation and education. This therefore means that ecotourism brings tourists from around the world closed to nature educating them on the necessity of environmental conservation.

One of the main objectives of this study is- How ecotourism contributes to the growth and development of the tourism industry so the results confirm that ecotourism has contributed more and will still continue to contribute to the development of the tourism sector. For example, Ecotourism offers market-joins, long haul arrangements and powerful monetary impetuses and upgrading bio-social assorted qualities and ensures the common and social legacy of our wonderful planet. By expanding limit building open doors, ecotourism is likewise a compelling vehicle for enabling nearby groups the world over; battle against destitution and to accomplish

maintainable improvement. Moreover, ecotourism has given a catalyst to help with greening the tourism business on numerous fronts (TIES, 2014).

Again, it is with no doubt that ecotourism is a strong measure for the sustainable use of the world's resources as a result, countries around the world are promoting and encouraging the development of the activity as it is aimed at reducing rural poverty and to create equality amongst local communities. The United Nations World Tourism organization (UNWTO) has been a backbone to the tourism industry and its interest in the activities has kept the industry growing. This has been in the form of conferences and summits held and organized by the UNWTO calling on world leaders to take tourism activities seriously especially that of ecotourism as it deals mostly with the natural environment and the greening of the tourism industry. Such conferences and summits include; the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in 1992 Rio de Janeiro, World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) 2002 in Johannesburg, just to name a few.

Moreso, there have been non profitable projects aimed at reducing rural poverty such as Pro-Poor Tourism and Community-Based Ecotourism. These projects incorporate local people in environmental programs that educate them on the importance of nature and the sustainable use of resources and any donation made by visitors remain within the community and use for further development. For example, community-based ecotourism and livelihood enhancement in Sirigu, Ghana, poverty alleviation through pro-poor tourism in Botswana.

Equally, it has been identified from this research that in most cases local community involvement in ecotourism activity is of utmost importance as local communities have some control over, and sharing in the benefits of ecotourism initiatives in their areas. The rationale behind this study is that ecotourism should promote both conservation and development at the local level. Findings from this study also indicate that ecotourism offers communities an opportunity to improve their well-being and economic livelihood. It can also encourage individuals to conserve forests and wildlife.

Ecotourism should be seen in direct relation to nature conservation (protected areas), with Preservation of the authentic natural and cultural heritage, involving local communities in all stages of the process. Development process is a lengthy process, which requires a sustained

effort from all those involved but can bring major benefits in the long term; contribute directly to the creation of "sustainable existing target area (Roxana, 2012). However, ecotourism promotes the conservation of wildlife and the ecosystem, the preservation of cultural heritage, which constitutes a sustainable practice which is necessary as a tool for the development of sustainable ecotourism and poverty alleviation.

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## APPENDIX

### Interview Questions

- 1) What do you particularly intend to achieve by organizing eco-tourism activities?
- 2) How have you contributed to the growth of eco-tourism in the specific destination?
- 3) What can you say about the local government management in terms of eco-tourism?
- 4) Do you think the local communities are gaining something from eco-tourism activities?
- 5) Can you conveniently say that ecotourism in this destination is sustainable?
- 6) Ecotourism in this destination is a strategy for environmental conservation do you agree?
- 7) Do you think local authorities take significant part in decision making concerning ecotourism?
- 8) Can you say ecotourism benefits the local people?
- 9) From your observation and your experience can you conveniently say that ecotourism contributes to the development of this destination?
- 10) As a means of reducing poverty do you think this activity has created job opportunities for the local people?
- 11) Have local living standards improve as a result of this activity?
- 12) What can you say need to be done to improve the development of ecotourism?
- 13) Creating awareness amongst tourists and local communities can go a long way in protecting and conserving natural areas. Do you agree?
- 14) What kind of businesses are gaining grounds as a result of this activity?

15) Do you think this activity has contributed to the protection of the cultural heritage of this site?