

Ecotourism In The Arab World

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Tourism Facts

- In 2009 there were 882 million international tourists.
- Spending more than 1.1 Trillion \$
- Tourism is the world's largest employer in the world at 10% and 245 million jobs.
- 7% of the total tourists are ecotourists.

Tourism Components

- **Tourists Attractions**
- **Accommodations, food and beverages**
- **Souvenir shops and other tourist services**
- **Transportation services**
- **Infrastructure and superstructure**

Tourism Economic Role

- **Tourism constitute around 11% of the national product.**
- **It generates around 245 million jobs.**
- **Tourism is open for man and woman.**
- **Tourism is considered to be an industry, the total export in 2008, reached 1.1 Trillion dollar.**
- **The average of Tourism income growth during 1988-2008, reached 11%.**
- **Tourist arrivals is fluctuated, because of political crises and disasters.**

.... Tourism Economic Role

- **The development of the infrastructure in tourist areas.**
The development of souvenirs and crafts industry, gave the locals to interact in tourism industry.
- **Tourism can do a real human development.**
- **Tourism can help in generating hard currency.**

Tourism Relationship

- **Relationship with Environment**
- **Relationship with Society**
- **Relationship with Economy**

Negative aspects of Tourism

- In Nepal each tourist consumed 6 kg of wood daily.
 - In Egypt a Big Hotel consumed electricity equal to what 3600 medium family consumed.
 - In the Caribbean Island big ships threw around 70000 ton of waste in the sea yearly.
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Negative aspects of tourism

- In Tourist areas. Surface and air transportation increasing the air temperature 4%.
- In Jordan, a big hotel consumed of water, equal to 300 medium family.
- In the Gulf, it is rarely to find in a hotel any statement to customers to save water.

Components of Ecotourism

- **Contributes to conservation of biodiversity.**
- **Sustain the well being of local people.**
- **Includes an interpretation/ learning experience.**
- **Involves responsible action on the part of tourists and the tourism industry.**
- **Is delivered primarily to small groups by small- scale business.**
- **To minimize the tourism negative aspects.**

.....Components of Ecotourism

- **It can get the highest profit, with low cost and by using local resources.**
- **Requires lowest possible consumption of non-renewable resources.**
- **Stresses local participants, ownership and business, particularly for rural people..**

The Concept of Ecotourism

- **Ecotourism is responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and sustains the well being of local people**

Principles of Ecotourism

- Minimize the negative impact.
- Nature based.
- Ecologically sustainable.
- Environmental Education.
- Locally beneficial.
- Tourist satisfaction.
- The infrastructure is developed with harmony of environment.

The Concept of Sustainable Tourism

- **Sustainable tourism advocates the need to protect the cultural and natural environment of the tourist destination. We need to respect the cultural and sensitivities of the local community. If we practice sustainable tourism, we can minimize the negative impact of tourism.**

Development of Sustainable Tourism

1. **Visiting Centres, with full information.**
2. **Clear conservation aims.**
3. **The availability of laws and policies.**
4. **Educate and train staff well.**
5. **Employ carrying capacity.**
6. **Develop partnerships with local communities.**

7. Identify tourism activities that are compatible with the area.

8. Establish a program for monitoring and review.

9. Analyze tourist market.

Sustainable Ecotourism

- **Minimize environmental impact**
- **Improves the contribution of locals**
- **Consumed lowest non-renewable resources**
- **Sustain the well being of locals**
- **Stresses local ownership**
- **Conservation the environment**
- **Contributes to biodiversity**

Responsible Tourism

The term responsible typically defined as responsible travel to areas that conserves the environment and sustains the well-being of local people .It is travel to destinations where the natural areas and cultural heritage are the primary attractions. It includes an interpretation experience delivered to small groups by small-scale businesses, and stresses local ownership.

Responsible Tourism

The main concern is to encourage the local inhabitants to involve in tourism activities, and stresses on conservation of nature by educating the visitors how to protect and respect the culture visited. Local people also can play a good role if they are well educated by encouraging tourists to see their communities as more than a site for recreation.

Cape Town Declaration, for Responsible Tourism

1. Minimizes negative economic, environmental, and social impacts.
2. Generates greater economic benefits for local people and enhances the well-being of host communities and improves working conditions.
3. Involves local people in decisions that affect their lives.
4. Makes positive contributions to the conservation of natural and cultural heritage.

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5. Provides experiences for tourists with local people, and a greater understanding of local cultural, social and environmental issues.
6. Provides access for physically challenged people.
7. Create respect between tourists and hosts, and builds local pride and confidence.

Some Examples of Ecotourism Projects in the Arab World

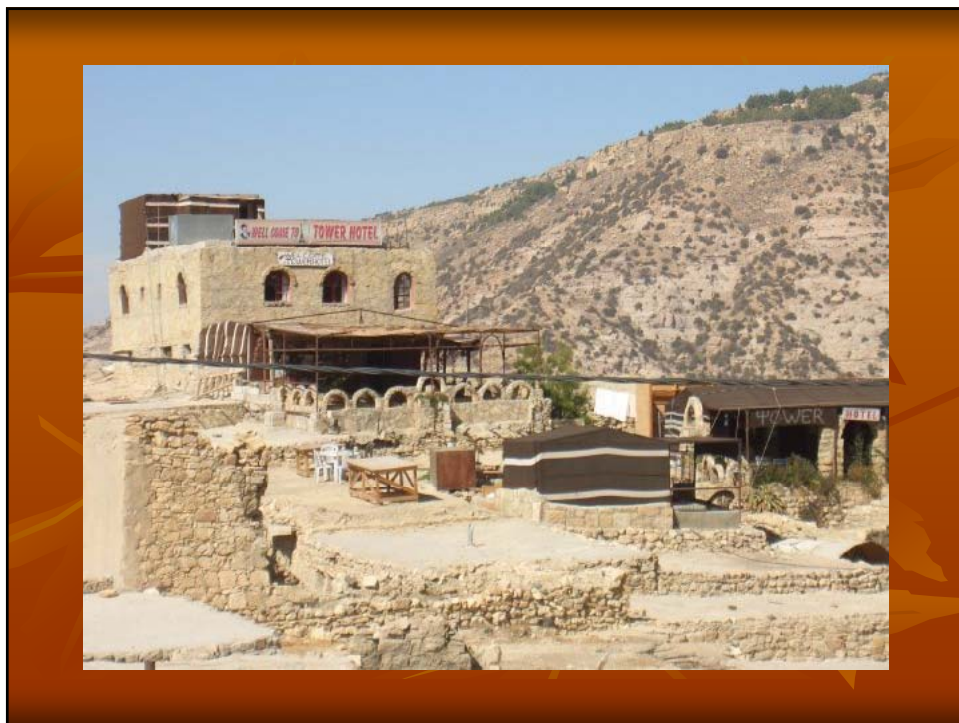
Dhana Ecotourism Village-Jordan

- **Established in 1989**
- **On 320 square km**
- **Rejuvenate the old village**
- **Open the floor for the locals to manage and work in all kinds of jobs (guiding, ecolodge, crafts, catering, farming), and for both males and females**

Dhana Statistics

	1996	2001	2009
Visitors	4735	60000	95000
Income/ \$	51500	250000	650000
% Cost of revenue	30	100	125











Siwa Oasis / Egypt

- It goes back to 2500 years
- This project is private one with local people
- It generated more than 600 jobs
- The jobs generated in tourism, agriculture, hand crafts, and shopping
- The locals built more than 50 old houses, to host the tourists
- No negative aspects till now
- It is good example for sustainable ecotourism project

Siwa-Egypt



Dovecote-Siwa





Shali Fortress



Siwa Town



Shali Ecolodge



Amoun Temple



Cleopatra Bath Spring



Al- Shouf Cedar Reserve Lebanon

- **It is the Biggest Biosphere Reserve in LB**
- **Established in 1996, under UNESCO 2005**
- **Located between Dhahr Albaidar and Albarouk**
- **Important Bird Area**
- **Cedar Alshouf Society/ NGO**
- **Rural Development Programme**
- **Medicinal and Aromatic Plants**

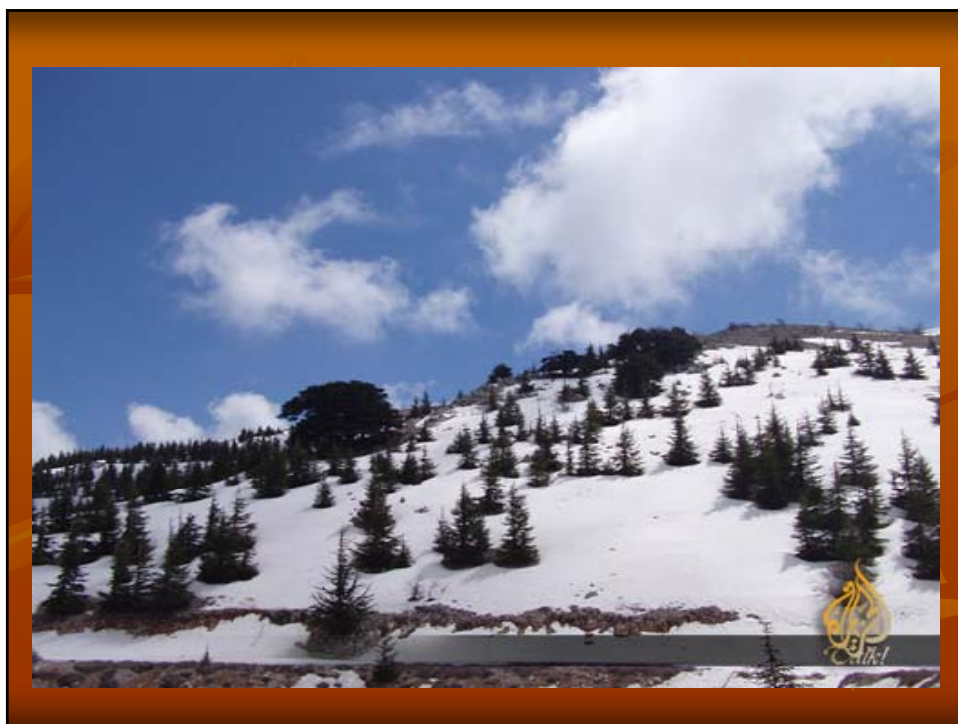
Cedar Alshouf/ Lebanon





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Thank you