Social, Cultural and Environmental impacts of Tourism

As we saw, there are many impacts of tourism on local communities. We will expand this to social, cultural and environmental impacts.

Social and Cultural impacts of Tourism:

Tourism pollution: the damaging effect that Tourism ‘pollutes’ the local destination socially and culturally.

We use the term ‘socio-cultural’ to describe this social and cultural impact.

Negative social and cultural impacts of Tourism

• Damage to family structures, ways of life and subsistence food production

This happens through:

• _________________
• _________________
• _________________

Displacement (moving) of local people to make way (build) for:

• _________________
• _________________
• Nature reserves
• Historical and other attraction sites
• Other tourism development projects

Negative behaviour:

• Encouragement of certain behaviours from local people (which may affect tourists) such as:

• _________________
• _________________
• _________________
• ____________________________ of visitors
**Encouragement of urbanization and migration:**

- People become more “_________” as people leave to the city or people migrate (移民) to tourism places.

- **Friction** and resentment (不满) between __________ and __________ because of overcrowding and lack of access for residents to recreational areas and facilities.

- Increase in health risks through diseases such as:
  - __________
  - __________
  - __________
  - Influenza
  - Sexual dis________ can flourish in certain areas
  - Foreigners can bring diseases with them for which the local people have no __________ to (exposure)

**Increase in drug abuse and prostitution:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Open antagonism (resentment) and crimes against visitors –</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• People of many European tourist countries resent the British party traveller due to their bad behaviour</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Just this year there have been many deaths of British people by local people who resent or are affected by the bad behaviour.</td>
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<td>• There are even British police working in many popular resorts around the world to police (v) British tourists.</td>
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**Commercialization of traditional welcome and hospitality customs:**

- Consider African tribes: they become essentially become an attraction for tourists. **Is this acceptable?**
- Loss of cultural identity
- Overcrowding and damage to archaeological and historical sites and monuments.
Positive impact of social-cultural factors

- May encourage attempts to keep culture and traditions alive.
- Traditional ways and goods may be restored because visitors are interested and are willing buyers of these.
- Festivals staged for visitors help to keep local cultures alive.
- May show locals different ways of behaviour, sophistication and open their minds.

Environmental Impacts of Tourism

Negative impacts:

- Changes of land use - from _______ to _______. Problems with irrigation and protection against flooding for example.
- Congestion and ______ pollution.
- Contribution to worldwide environmental problems.
- Deterioration and disturbance of the natural ecology.
- Deterioration of archaeological, historical, architectural, and natural sites.
- Impacts of ______ traffic (crowds of people walking and damaging the surroundings…. consider the 10 million people per year who walk around West Lake, Hangzhou).
- Pollution of ______ lakes, rivers, and underground water.
- Visual clutter: not nice to look at high rise hotels and crowds.
- Insufficient utility service capacities – higher usage of electricity, water and power that may be too much for the destination to provide. This may cause ‘shortages’ and ‘blackouts’.
  - Very common in many developing countries.
Positive impacts on the environment by tourism

- Greater protection of specific ecosystems.
- More control of harmful economic activities such as logging and commercial fishing.
- Part of visitor expenditures may be reinvested in research and better conservation programs.
- Greater understanding among local residents of environmental issues.

Principles of Sustainable Tourism Development

1. Ecological sustainability
2. Social and cultural sustainability
3. Economic sustainability

Some solutions to the impact

- Research, planning and having a long-term strategy
- See traditions in the light of development
- Treat cultural differences with acceptance
- Education
- Emphasize the importance of treasuring the heritages
- Cultivate experts; protect the historical sites with up-to-date theory
- Balance the development and protection

Summary of Economic Benefits & Costs

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefits</th>
<th>Costs</th>
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<td>Create jobs and incomes</td>
<td>Leakage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bring new money into the economy through visitor expenditures</td>
<td>Requires organizational leadership with operational expenses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversify and stabilize rural economies</td>
<td>Increase demands on tax supported public services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Create jobs and incomes through</td>
<td>Inflate property values and the price of goods and services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contribute to the local tax base</td>
<td>Require employee training</td>
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<td>Expand the existing business trade area</td>
<td>Tourism can be seasonal and is affected by forces beyond the community’s control</td>
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## Social and cultural Benefits & Costs

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<td>Support community facilities that could not be supported by the local population</td>
<td>Attract visitors whose lifestyles and ideas conflict with those of the community</td>
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<td>Enhance a community’s sense of place</td>
<td>Residents will need to share local resources with outsiders</td>
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<tr>
<td>Encourage community civic involvement and pride</td>
<td>Result in crowding, congestion and an increase in crime</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provide opportunities for cross cultural exchange</td>
<td>Result in conflicts between those who benefit and those who do not benefit from tourism</td>
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## Summary of Environmental Benefits & Costs

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<td>Foster conservation and preservation of natural, cultural and historic resources</td>
<td>Too many tourists can degrade the quality of important natural and historic areas in a community</td>
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<td>Encourage community beautification and revitalization</td>
<td>Litter, noise and pollution may increase with tourism</td>
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<td>Businesses prioritizing profits over the environment can lead to many problems</td>
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Notes:
### Summary of worksheet

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In your opinion, what is the most important thing to remember?

What are the keywords from this worksheet?

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