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Community-Based Ecotourism Principles as a Framework for Community Development in Protected Areas

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1 ABSTRACT

Tourism is one of the most important sources of national & international income in the World. One type which has the potential to contribute to the sustainable development of local communities and alleviation of poverty levels is Ecotourism. Ecotourism implies responsibility to the environment, resident communities, and a duty to respect, invest, and develop local cultures. This definition not only suggets that there should be a recognition of and positive support for the conservation of natural resources, both by suppliers and consumers, but also that there is a necessary social dimension to ecotourism. The term 'community-based ecotourism' (CBET) takes this social dimension a stage further. This is a planning paradigm where the local community has substantial control over, and involvement in its development and management, and a major proportion of the benefits remain within the community. CBET is considered the logical link between the environment, the local community, and the tourism industry. It has become the newest planning process approach in tourism development, devised to support community involvement, improve their living standards and protect natural resources which is the main current problem resulting from the mass tourism industry in Egypt. Since 2002, also the year when eco-tourism was internationally promoted by the UN the Egyptian government began to seek new strategies and plans to actively support the participation of local communities in ecotourism development initiatives in Egypt's rich biodiversity and numerous protected areas. However, the actual implementation of involving communities in decision making is poorly achieved, which impacted negatively on the effectiveness and sustainability of these initiatives. This paper proposes an integrated community-based ecotourism framework. This was done through a theoretical study of the main principles and stratergies of community ecotourism that have been successfully applied in developing countries by using the Egyptian protected areas classifications which determine the applicable community participation types for effectively involving local communities in protected areas. Subsequently the framework can be applied to specific destinations and recommend action points for their development according to each area's needs and variable circumstances. Once developed, this integrated planning tool can be used to devise a local urban development plan by the local government and other organisations in protected areas to improve the physical and social environments and to create a better understanding of the relationship between tourism and community.

Keywords: protected areas, framework, community development, ecotourism, urban planning

2 TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

The ongoing influx of tourists, especially eco-tourists, intensifies the connection between protected areas (PAs) and ecotourism. There are two divergent and conflicting schools of thought among the academics regarding the expansion of ecotourism development in the PAs. On one hand, ecotourism is seen as being compatible with PAs and is therefore crucial to their creation and management (Foxlee, 2007). They are now recognised as one of the top ecotourism locations, offering visitors an exclusive experience. In this respect, ecotourism and PAs appear to be mutually reinforcing, with PAs needing ecotourists and the reverse (Ceballos-Lascurain, 1996). On the other hand, ecologists or conservationists typically resist the development of tourism-related activities in the PAs. Some contend that the historical compatibility of tourism and environmental preservation has been ambiguous (Lawton, 2001; Wall & Mathieson, 2006). Many PAs, for instance, were originally solely created with a non-profit environmental mission in mind; however, they are now increasingly dependent on tourism-based revenues, which could also degrade their resources (Lawton, 2001). This idea, however, seems dubious because certain tourist activity types, as well as their spatial and temporal dimensions, frequently influence resource degradation. Therefore, it would be irrational to consider tourism as a source of environmental degradation and to oppose its growth without considering the characteristics, form, and planning approach.

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Therefore, governments, local communities, and non-governmental organisations have praised the promotion of ecotourism as a strategy to encourage environmental conservation in relation to the development of local communities in the PAs of developing nations (Butcher, 2007). In this regard, issues related to the evolution of community-based ecotourism development in a particular destination (like PAs), the ecotourism planning approaches, community-based ecotourism strategies, local attitudes towards ecotourism development, and the dynamics between local communities, (eco)tourism, and PAs have been discussed below to highlight the critical issues related to CBET development process.

3 ECOTOURISM

3.1 Ecotourism definitions

Ecotourism, as an alternative tourism, involves visiting natural areas in order to learn, study, or carry out environmentally friendly activities (Ruxandra-Irina Popescu, 2011). It's a tourism based on the nature experience, which enables the economic and social development of local communities as well as to ensure a meaningful experience to the tourists, increasing their awareness about sustainability issues and promoting sustainable tourism practices amongst them (UNEP, 2015). It focuses primarily on experiencing and learning about nature and their habitats, as well as about cultural artifacts from the locality. Ecotourism itself is meant to be a sustainable form of natural resource-based tourism. Even though ecotourism lacks a concrete definition, there are many well recognised definitions that have formed a clear picture of its core principles. Ecotourism, in its simplest form, is a responsible travel to relatively unaltered natural and cultural areas that, by building strong relationships and interactions between the place and its people as well as between the local community and ecotourists, fosters ecological and cultural awareness, by enhancing the natural and cultural heritage, and is based on social equity and leads to the long-term well-being of the local people. (World Tourism Organisation UNWTO, 2002).

3.2 Ecotourism planning and development approaches

Developing ecotourism and achieving its desired outcomes and goals requires strategy, careful planning, and ongoing evaluation (Denman, 2001). The unregulated tourism development is a market led view of tourism that basically provides attractions, facilities and services that the tourist market needs. The nature of this development lacks long term vision and usually results in environmental degradation and loss of socio-cultural integrity, even if it achieves short term economic benefits (Timothy, 2003). For successful ecotourism planning projects, the host countries have to recognise the importance and the urgent need for sustainable urban development. In recent decades, several tourism planning paradigms have emerged with a general aim to reduce the negative impacts of tourism and improve its positive impacts. These paradigms include: boosterism, the economic or industry-oriented approach, the physical/spatial approach, and the community-oriented approach. These the four recognised traditions of tourism planning.

3.2.1 <u>Boosterism</u>

It's a "growth-based strategy" that relies heavily on the marketing tactics for the expansion of tourism. This strategy predominated in the 1960s and the first few years of the 1970s (Wisansing, 2005), and it was reflected in the decision of the public and private tourism organisations to spend the full allocated budget to draw visitors. In accordance with this method, natural resources are viewed as assets to promote the market and boost the economic benefits, and tourism is seen as good to locations since it lowers development barriers (Getz 2008). However, this strategy disregards the consideration of the host community in the planning process and the carrying capacity of geographic areas. Boosterism continues to be supported by two kinds of people: politicians who think economic expansion is always advantageous and those who profit from tourism. (Farangiz Khaledi Koure, 2022)

3.2.2 Economic oriented

The second strategy is the economic tradition or industry-oriented strategy. Tourism is seen as an industry by which governments may achieve their growth goals, job creation, and regional development through financial incentives, research, and marketing. This custom is developed to bring in money and open employment prospects in particular regions, and it is centred on the economic advantages of tourism. This





strategy is a continuation of boosterism, emphasising commercial aims over social and environmental ones (Robinson, 2009).

3.2.3 <u>Physical/Spatial</u>

The environmental movement has been particularly critical of these two approaches since the 1980s, which helped give rise to the physical/spatial approach. Environmental issues were the main emphasis of the physical-spatial approach. Tourism should, in the opinion of proponents, be based on spatial patterns that minimise its detrimental effects on the environment. Additionally, they give the social, physical, and environmental carrying capacities particular consideration.

3.2.4 Community based

Critics only discovered the fundamental flaws in these three strategies throughout this decade. The main complaint was that contributions of local communities to tourism planning and decision-making were not given enough consideration (Hall, 2009). The community-based strategy was consequently proposed. It placed a strong emphasis on the equitable distribution of income and the bottom-up growth of tourism. The involvement of local organisations in the planning process was also emphasised. The dominant strategy was rejected in the 1980s due to its top-down methodology, which increased the importance of this approach. Participatory planning from the bottom up gained a lot more acceptance. According to this strategy, the planning and development process was facilitated and mobilised by the central government where locally defined goals and local development are an integral part of incremental tourism planning which allows for high levels of predictability, flexibility, and collaboration.

The beneficial function of local communities should not be disregarded in the development of ecotourism as a service-oriented and human-centred activity. Local communities should be seen as more than just consumers when it comes to ecotourism because their role goes beyond conceptions of production and supply. According to Nunkoo and Ramkissoon (2011), community participation gives locals the chance to express the significance of economic, social, cultural, and environmental repercussions from their point of view. He stressed the importance of contributions of local communities to sustainable development; as a result, it is advised to view community participation as the crucial piece lacking from the effective development of the ecotourism industry. Therefore, communities must be included and consulted in a way during the planning and policy-making phases to achieve a successful ecotourism development. It was cited that the lack of community interaction is the primary cause of the failed growth of ecotourism in their study regions.

3.3 Community based ecotourism

Community based ecotourism (CBET) is a type that improves the capacity of rural communities to manage tourism resources while ensuring the involvement of the local community. CBET can support the area local economy, maintain culture, protect the environment, and offer educational opportunities. It turns, it acts as a tool for reducing poverty because it might offer alternative sources of income to the neighbourhood. A long-term strategy for community-based ecotourism tries to enhance local community gains, and minimise the detrimental effects of tourism on the local population and its natural resources. It encourages the community to take part in connected initiatives and to be involved in observing and reducing negative effects. Below are a few general traits of CBET that UNEP and UNWTO have emphasised: (Bin Zheng, 2021)

- involving appreciation not only of nature, but also of indigenous cultures prevailing in natural areas, as part of the visitor experience
- containing education and interpretation as part of the tourist offer
- not exclusively, organised for small groups by small, specialised and locally owned businesses
- minimising negative impacts on the natural and socio-cultural environment
- supporting the protection of natural and cultural areas by generating economic benefits from it
- providing alternative income and employment for local communities; and
- increasing local and visitor awareness of conservation.

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The development of community-based tourism must be done methodically, starting with an examination of the community's eligibility for participation in tourism and deciding which participation method is the most appropriate according to the local hosts and the destination circumstances.

The framework aim is to offer directions for tourist/rural planners, NGOs, industry participants, and CBET groups in determining which type could work for a certain community and, if it is practicable, how to participate in the tourism business and sustain it eventually. It's a flexible approach that suggests a step-by-step strategy with a list of actions to support each phase according to each participation type which will be discussed below.

3.3.1 Public consultation framework

The framework from the handbook is a result from the study of different case studies and best practices of government, NGO, industry, and community initiated CBETs in ten APEC member economies namely China, Viet Nam, the Philippines, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Chinese Taipei, Indonesia, Korea and Malaysia. The framework offers two parts of nine procedures for establishing and maintaining CBET. The aim of this paper aim is to establish an appropriate similar framework for Egypt's protected areas, with deeper research when it comes to the first step "preparing the community for ecotourism", specifying the applicable community participation technique to each protectorate according to the different habitats, local communities, and protectorate type. The first four steps in Section A deal with launching and growing CBET efforts and are helpful for projects and sites that are starting CBET. The last five steps in Section B, which are more suitable for advanced CBET projects, are gradually advancing up the value chain, and are intended to address the sustainability of CBET initiatives. (Amran Hamzah, 2009) The development of CBET is advised in accordance with a set of action points that are presented in a tabular form below.

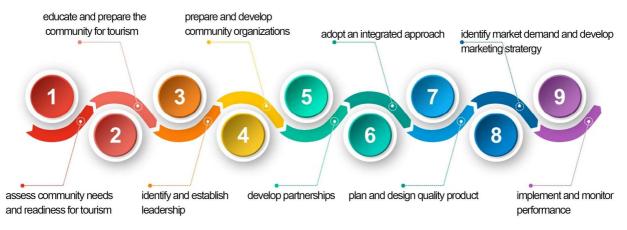


Fig. 1: Nine steps to develop and sustain CBET (Amran Hamzah, 2009)

3.4 Typology of community Participation

Starting with the consultation framework "assessing the community needs and preparing the community for tourism" highlights a very crucial issue which is the main question of this research: how and which technique to use when it comes to community participation. Although it has been referred to by many names and integrated into the development process in several ways, the participatory development concept has frequently surfaced in international development (Stone 1989). More specifically, there are differing viewpoints on the many forms of community involvement, and different experts have categorised the same idea under the same heading but with different titles. As a result, various categories under which to evaluate different forms of community participation exist. However, it has been suggested to categorise it under three broad sections in accordance with UN implications. (Farangiz Khaledi Koure, 2022)

3.4.1 Spontaneous participation

Spontaneous participation is voluntary, bottom-up without external support. It represents an ideal mode of participation, as it mirrors a voluntary and autonomous activity on the part of people to handle their problems without help from governments or other external agencies (UN 1981). This type is also referred to in the developmental literature as informal bottom-up. It may also represent a degree of community power in Arnstein's ladder of citizen participation. Although the above terms for spontaneous participation are used

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interchangeably to a large extent, to explain some of them in further detail may help to identify some other dimensions of this kind of participation (Farangiz Khaledi Koure, 2022)

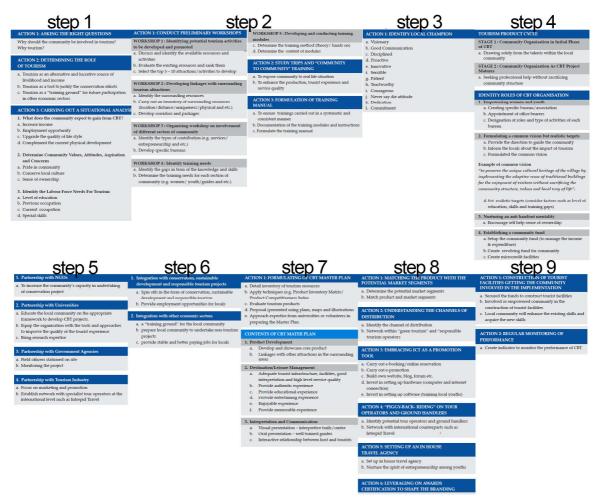


Fig. 2: Nine steps action points (Amran Hamzah, 2009)

3.4.2 Induced participation.

On the other end of the spectrum, induced engagement is supported, required, and formally sanctioned. This type is the most prevalent method, present in 8 developing nations, as government plays a major role in institutionalising participatory action in several of these nations. Building self-management and cooperative organisations, encouraging local leaders to take on leadership positions, and assisting civic and community organisations are some of the techniques that have been used to achieve this (UN 1981).

Other names for induced involvement include formal top-down, passive. Understanding the terminology for induced participation in a broader sense may be aided by defining those terms, which are used interchangeably (Farangiz Khaledi Koure, 2022),

3.4.3 Coercive participation

Additionally, it is referred to as restricted participation and community oppressive. Eventually, forced community participation that lacks public support will prove to be counterproductive and erode community interest in participating in development activities, even though coercive forms of participation can sometimes be difficult to distinguish from the induced type in terms of form (UN 1981).

These three major types of community involvement in the development process undoubtedly represent a wide range of community involvement. Each of these categories includes several types of community participation, as shown in table 1. To draw a clear line between different forms of community participation in each broad category, nevertheless, appears to be quite challenging, as spontaneous, coercive, and induced involvement have similar scopes and meanings. Coercive participation involves more manipulation and tokenism than induced involvement. As a result, it is also known as non-participation. To engage in spontaneous participation, a community must take part in all phases of a development project, including

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decision-making, implementation, benefit sharing, and assessment. In contrast, induced participation refers to community participation in the implementation and distribution of the benefits of development projects. Coercive participation, on the other hand, calls for a community to take part only in the implementation process of a development project, without necessarily sharing in its advantages. In the situation of coerced involvement, a community is left with no genuine alternatives (Farangiz Khaledi Koure, 2022).

The categorazation of community participation may enable us to understand the participatory development activities in a better way in the real world by distinguishing various forms of community participation from each other. Hence, this typology seems to have contributed to conceptual clarity of the term 'community participation' in the tourism literature. After having a clear view of the framework to establish and develop CBET in a destination and according to the typology of community engagement that has been mentioned, several interpretations of community participation in the TDP are acceptable in various situations. In this sense, community engagement in the TDP should be seen as an adaptive and flexible paradigm that enables us to legitimise different forms of community participation in the TDP, depending on site-specific conditions. The public consultation framework above is by providing three different approaches to implement the processes by reordering the phases in accordance with each technique in the diagram below. The hierachy will vary from point 3 through to point 9 to allow a more focused and efficient development when step 2 is complete and which involvement technique works best for the destination and community has been determined.

ASSESS COMMUNITY NEEDS TOOL : QUESTIONNAIRE & AREAS STUDY	ENVIRONMENTAL	SOCIO CULTURAL	ECONOMIC				
ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS DETERMINING THE ROLE OF TOURISM SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS	SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO JUSTIFY CONSERVATION EFFORTS	SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ECONOMIC CONVENTIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITY ECONOMIC CONVENTIONAL DEVELOPMENT DEVELOPMENT DEVELOP			SPANTANOUES PARTICIPATION BOTTOM UP ACTIVE		
2 EDUCATE & PREPARE THE COMMUNI TOOL : PRELIMANARY ASSESSMENT TRAINING MANUAL					DIRECT PARTITICAPTION FULL MANAGERIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND AUTHOR THE HOST COMMUNITY		
IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL TOURISM ACTIVI DEVELOPING LINKAGES WITH SURROUND IDENTIFY THE INVOLVEMENT OF CO IDENTIFY TRAINING NEEDS DEVELOPING AND CONDUCTING TRAININ	ING TOURISM ATTRACTIONS	TION	PANTANOUES PARTICIPATION NDUCED PARTICIPATION COERCIVE PARTICIPATION	ТУРЕ В	INDUCED PARTICIPATION TOP DOWN APPROACH PASSIVE MOSTLY INDIRECT PARTITICAP		
STUDY TRIPS FORMULATE TRAINING MANUAL					MOSTEP INDIRECT PARTITICAP		
TYPE A	TYPE B		TYPE C				
SPANTANOUES PARTICIPATION	INDUCED PARTICI	PATION	COERCIVE PARTICIPATION		COERCIVE PARTICIPATION TOP DOWN APPROACH PASSIVE MOSTLY INDIRECT PARTITICAPTIC		
3 IDENTIFY LOCAL LEADERSHIP	IDENTIFY LOCAL LEA	ADERSHIP	DEVELOP PARTNERSHIPS	TYPE C			
SELF APPOINTED SPOKESPERSON FOR THE COMMUNITY.	VOLUNTER HIRED BY	AN NGO					
4 PREPARE & DEVELOP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION	PREPARE & DEVELOP ORGANIZATION	COMMUNITY	ADOPT AN INTEGRATED APPROACH				
COMMUNITY ORGANISATION IN INITIAL PHASE OF CEF COMMUNITY ORGANISATION AS CBT PROJECT MA- TURES IDENTITY ROLES OF CBT ORGANISATION : 1. EMPOWERING WOMEN AND YOUTH 2. FORMULATING A COMMON VISION BUT REALISTIC TARGETS 3. NURTURING AN ANT HANDOLT MENTALITY 4. ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY FUND							
5 PLAN AND DESIGN QUALITY PROD-	DEVELOP PARTNE	RSHIPS	PREPARE & DEVELOP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION				
CBT MASTER ACTION PLAN: 1. PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT 2. DESTINATION/LEISURE MANAGEMENT 3. INTERPRETATION AND COMMUNICATION 4. SERVICE QUALITY							
6 IDENTIFY MARKET DEMAND AND DEVELOP MARKETING STRATEGY	ADOPT AN INTEGRATI	ed Approach	IDENTIFY MARKET DEMAND AND DEVELOP MARKETING STRATEGY				
MATCHING THE PRODUCT WITH THE POTENTIAL MARKET SEGMENTS UNDERSTANDING THE CHANNELS OF DISTRIBUTION EMBRACING ICT AS A PROMOTION TOOL PIGGY-BACK. BIOING' ON TOUR OPERATORS AND GROUND HANDLERS SETTING UP AN IN HOUSE TRAVEL AGENCY LEVERAGING ON AWARDS CERTIFICATION TO SHAPE THE BRANDING							
7 ADOPT AN INTEGRATED APPROACH	IDENTIFY MARKET DEM DEVELOP MARKETING		PLAN AND DESIGN QUALITY PROD- UCTS				
INTEGRATION WITH CONSERVATION, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND RESPONSIBLE TOURISM PROJECTS							
INTEGRATION WITH OTHER ECONOMIC SECTORS							
8 DEVELOP PARTNERSHIPS	PLAN AND DESIGN QU	ALITY PROD-	IDENTIFY LOCAL LEADERSHIP				
PARTNERSHIP WITH NGOS PARTNERSHIP WITH UNIVERSITIES PARTNERSHIP WITH GOVERNMENT AGENCIES			GOVERNMENT APPOINTED PROJECT MANAGER				

Fig. 3: Community based framework tailored to participation types (author)



4 EGYPT'S PROTECTED AREAS

Egypt's overall land area is 92% dry desert and 8% fertile land, and it is located midway between Africa and Asia. 22 major habitat groups, including Mediterranean Wetlands, the Nile Valley and Delta, Central and North Sinai, Numerous kinds of vegetation and 324 different types of desert animals are thought to be ecologically significant, particularly in Sinai. With 80 plants, 100 animals, and 82 fish, wetlands particularly those near the Nile constitute a significant ecosystem in addition to the deserts. Along with 26 bird species and 26 reptile species, there are 51 species of mammals that are endangered.

Egypt has made the creation, proper administration, and expansion of protected areas a top goal ever since the country's first national biodiversity policy and action plan were introduced in 1997. The nation, one of the first in the region, declared over 15% of its total land area as protected land area, putting it remarkably close to the 17% global objective thanks to its substantial dedication to this priority. Egypt was able to declare 30 protected areas.Indications show that Egypt's biodiversity is being lost at an accelerated rate, with habitat destruction, over exploitation and pollution (WorldSummit, 2002). Based on existing trends, unless mitigation measures are taken, in the next ten to twenty years Egypt will stand to lose most of its biodiversity. A strategy for a national system of protected areas has been developed and the management of these areas were bearing in mind to make use of the technologies such as GIS and remote sensing. The local economic significance and value of these protected areas and their contribution to the national economy was being considered particularly through the development of ecotourism (WorldSummit, 2002).

4.1 Protected areas classification.

Understanding the location, culture and demographics of the area can help identify the potential community participation types that are applicable. Assessing the level of involvment of the locals and stakeholders, considering the objectives of the protected area whether its conservation or sustainable development or recreation is also important. This study attempted to classify 30 protected sites in accordance with their various habitats, types, local cultures, geographic regions, conservation goals and tourism niches. In turn, this categorisation will help to determine the community's appropriate participation type in the protected area when applying the community-based ecotourism framework on the destination, leading to the application of more specified and suitable action points for a more sustainable successful development. (NCS, 2018)

Category	Description
la	Strict Nature Reserve: Protected area managed mainly for science.
lb	Wilderness Area: Protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection
II	National Park: Protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation
Ш	Natural Monument: Protected area managed mainly for conservation of specific natural features
IV	Habitat /Species Management Area: Protected area managed mainly for conservation through management intervention
V	Protected Landscape/Seascape: Protected area managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation and recreation
VI	Managed Resource Protected Area: Protected area managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural ecosystems

Fig. 4: IUCN protected areas classifications.

According to the international IUCN categorisation of protected areas, No PA in the Egyptian network of PAs is categorised as a Strict Nature Reserve (Category Ia) or a Wilderness Area (Category Ib), However, 15 PAs are designated as protected areas with sustainable management. Within the PAs network, there is the use of natural resources (Category VI), which accounts for 50% of all IUCN management categories. (NCS, 2018)

4.1.1 Successful examples

This research looked at the CBE policies of four developing nations the Republic of Kenya, Tunisia, Jordan, and India achieving successful outputs and effectiveness of the development using the specific community-based ecotourism indicators and particularly the community participation types when it comes to each destination circumstances and local culture. (M. M. ELBARMELGY).

One prominent example of a successful community-based ecotourism project in Jordan is the "Dana Biosphere Reserve.". the community participation approach employed is a combination of different types,

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focusing on collaborative and inclusive decision-making and sustainable development. Here are the key community participation types that were used:

Collaborative Decision-Making: Local communities, NGOs, and governmental agencies collaborate to make decisions about the management and development of the biosphere reserve. This ensures that diverse perspectives are considered, and decisions are collectively formulated.

Empowerment and Ownership: The project empowers local communities by involving them in the ownership and management of tourism-related enterprises, such as guesthouses and guides. This ownership gives communities a direct stake in the success of the ecotourism activities.

Participatory Planning: Local communities actively participate in the planning process of ecotourism initiatives. They share their ideas, aspirations, and concerns, which are incorporated into the design and implementation of tourism activities and conservation efforts.

Cultural Preservation and Sharing: Local communities play a central role in preserving and sharing their cultural heritage. Traditional practices, crafts, and local knowledge are incorporated into the ecotourism experiences, giving visitors an authentic cultural encounter.

Sustainable Resource Management: Community members are actively involved in the sustainable management of natural resources. They take part in monitoring and conserving wildlife and habitats, ensuring that tourism activities do not harm the delicate ecosystem.

Capacity Building: The project invests in capacity-building programs that empower local individuals to become guides, craftsmen, and service providers. This builds human capital within the community.

Education and Awareness: The project focuses on educating both visitors and local community members about the importance of conservation and sustainable tourism practices.

By combining these community participation types, the Dana Biosphere Reserve project in Jordan has managed to create a holistic approach to ecotourism development that not only benefits the local communities economically but also ensures their active involvement in conservation and cultural preservation. This inclusive approach has contributed to the project's success in both sustainable development and biodiversity conservation.

The selection of a suitable community participation type for a specific ecotourism project involves a combination of factors that consider the local context, goals of the project, and the needs and aspirations of the community. Here's how they have decided on the appropriate community participation type:

Community Assessment: The project likely started with an assessment of the local community's characteristics, including their social structures, cultural practices, economic conditions, and existing levels of engagement in conservation and tourism.

Stakeholder Engagement: The project organizers likely engaged with a diverse range of stakeholders, including community members, local leaders, NGOs, government representatives, and experts in various fields. This would help identify the needs, concerns, and aspirations of different groups.

Cultural Sensitivity: Considering the importance of cultural preservation in the Dana Biosphere Reserve, the project planners would have assessed the significance of local traditions and how they could be integrated into the ecotourism experience.

Environmental Considerations: The type of community participation would also be influenced by the level of interaction required with the natural environment. If the goal is strong conservation involvement, a more hands-on approach to resource management might be chosen.

Community Readiness: The readiness of the community to actively participate in various roles, whether in managing enterprises, preserving cultural heritage, or engaging in sustainable practices, would influence the choice of participation type.

Local Economic Conditions: The economic conditions of the community would play a significant role. If there's a need for alternative livelihoods due to declining traditional industries, a focus on community-owned enterprises might be more appropriate.

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Local Skills and Expertise: The existing skills and expertise within the community would be considered. For instance, if there are individuals with guiding skills or traditional crafts, these could form the basis for community involvement.

Alignment with Goals: The selected participation type should align with the overall goals of the project, which might include environmental conservation, cultural preservation, economic development, or a combination of these.

Flexibility: A flexible approach might be chosen that allows for multiple types of participation. For example, the Dana Biosphere Reserve project combines cultural preservation, sustainable resource management, and economic empowerment.

Ultimately, the selection of the community participation type would be a result of careful consideration of these factors, with the aim of creating a model that best suits the local context and ensures the project's success in both conservation and community development.

4.1.2 Egypt's protected areas classification

The following table was suggested after studying each Egyptian PA, classifying the 30 Egyptian protectorates according to their various habitat types, attractions, geographic location, tourism niche, IUCN classification, type, and the local communities. Formulating a deeper study of the PAs to be able to suggest an applicable community participation technique to start with the first steps of the public consultation framework to apply community-based ecotourism effectively in a destination. Egypt has a rich and diverse cultures with different local cultures varying from Nubians, Siwan culture, Bedouin cultures, Coptic culture, and fellahin cultures. Each of these cultures has their own unique traditions, customs, and way of life, which help to determine the applicability of the community tourism participation type. Also, according to their category in the IUCN classifications. Bedouins and Nubians are suited for spontaneous or induced type because they are more likely to be willing to engage and conscious of the development difficulties. Due to their rigorous adherence to their culture and traditions and lack of awareness about ecotourism, the nomad, fallhin, and saidii cultures should use either coercive or induced participation, depending on the other factors listed in the table below. Also, the PA category plays a big role in deciding the participation type, so different factors have to be taken into consideration when applying the selected technique found in the table below and in alliance with all the given factors, the participation type is suggested.

5 CONCLUSION

This study demonstrates that, depending on the destination characteristics and cirucmstances, community involvement in the development process can take many different forms. Different forms of community participation in the tourism development. however, are hardly ever mentioned in tourism research. Instead, it is suggested that one type of participation in the community must be accepted everywhere. This rigidity in tourism studies may be an indication that the field has debated the idea of a participatory approach to tourism development in isolation and with little connection to more general studies on community participation that might produce better insights and greater maturity for the formulation of community participation policies in the ecooturism development. For instance, participatory studies on rural development, housing, irrigation, Third World development programmes, etc. suggest that before beginning any participatory development activity, considerations like operational, structural, and cultural limitations to community participation should be made. Ignoring these restrictions could jeopardise the efficacy and efficiency of a participatory development strategy. This paper aims to start a much-needed conversation about community involvement in the CBET as an adaptive categorical word. This reasoning is based on the idea that different tourist destinations will present different opportunities and difficulties for host communities to participate in the TDP. These tourist destinations will also have various sociocultural, economic, and political conditions as well as different levels and types of tourism development. Naturally, community involvement should occur in these tourist sites on many levels and in various forms. The most important finding from the analyses that came before it is that community participation in the TDP should be viewed as a categorical term that allows host communities to participate in the TDP in a variety of ways and under a variety of conditions. Subsequently the framework can be applied on a destination and thus recommending action points for its development according to each area needs and variable circumstances. This integrated planning tool can be used to devise a local urban development plan by local governments and organisations in protected areas to

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improve the physical and social environments and create a better understanding of the relationship betweeen tourism and communities.

Protected Area :	Participation ty	no	decert	marine/coastal	riverine	wetland	CATEGO	DV 1	CATEGORY	CATECODV 3	CATEGORY A	CATEGORY 5
1.Ras Mohamed National Park	Induced	pe	uesent	manne/coastai	Inverine	wetianu	CATLOC		CATEGORT 2	CATEGORT 3	CATEGORT 4	CATEGORT
2. Zaranik PA												
3. Ahrash PA	Spontaneous											
	Spontaneous											
4. El Omayed PA	Induced											
5. Elba National Park	Coercive											
6. Saluga and Ghazal	Spontaneous											
7. St. Katherine National Park	Coercive	_				-			-			
8. Ashtum El Gamil PA	Coercive											
9. Lake Qarun PA	Induced]]	
10. Wadi El Rayan PA	Induced			-								
11. Wadi Alaqi PA	Induced											
12. Wadi El Assuti PA	Coercive											
13. El Hassana Dome	Coercive											
14. Petrified Forest PA	Coercive											
15. Sannur Cave PA	Coercive											
16. Nabaq PA	Spontaneous											
17. Abu Galum PA	Spontaneous											
18. Taba PA	Spontaneous											
19. Lake Burullus PA	Spontaneous											
20. Nile Islands PAs	Coercive											
21. Wadi Degla PA	Coercive											
22. Siwa Desert land	Induced											
23. White Desert	Induced											
24. Wadi El Gemal - Hamata	Induced											
25.red sea northern islands	Coercive											
26.elgulf el kebeer	Coercive											
27.el dababya	Spontaneous	_										
28.elsalum	Spontaneous											
29.elwahat elbahareya	Spontaneous	_										
30.mount kamel meteor	Spontaneous											
Protected Area :	easterndesert			western desert	sinai	nile valle				cultu		
1.Ras Mohamed National Park	easterndesert	nortr	iwest	western desert	sinai	nile valley	y deita	_	Dedautin ()	A DESCRIPTION OF T	re Ie Tarabin tril	
2. Zaranik PA								-		lazayna or tr	le Tarabin tri	bespeople)
3. Ahrash PA								Local Bedouin Local Bedouin				
									Local Bedouin			
4. El Omayed PA							-	and the second second	Nomads tribes			
5. Elba National Park							-					
6. Saluga and Ghazal							-		Nubian			
7. St. Katherine National Park								-	nomads with distict lifestyle			
8. Ashtum El Gamil PA									between portsaid & damietta			
9. Lake Qarun PA							_		Fallahin			
10. Wadi El Rayan PA							_	Arab or Bedouin				
11. Wadi Alaqi PA		ļ			-			Nubian				
12. Wadi El Assuti PA								-	Saidii			
13. El Hassana Dome									N/A			
14. Petrified Forest PA									N/A			
15. Sannur Cave PA								Saidii				
16. Nabaq PA								Local Bedouin				
17. Abu Galum PA								Local Bedouin/Nomad tribes				
18 Taba DA								1000	al Redouin			

Table 1: Egyptian Protected areas classification

6 REFERENCES

18. Taba PA

19. Lake Burullus PA

20. Nile Islands PAs

21. Wadi Degla PA

23. White Desert

26.elgulf el kebeer

29.elwahat elbahareya

30.mount kamel meteor

27.el dababya

28.elsalum

22. Siwa Desert land

24. Wadi El Gemal - Hamata 25.red sea northern islands

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Local Bedouin

N/A

N/A

N/A

Saidii

Nubian

Nubian

Nubia

Amazighi

Amazighi

Arabian tribes

Local fishermen / peasants

Ababda & bashareya local tribes

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