

Engaging poverty with tourism: Pro-poor tourism perspective

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ABSTRACT

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Poverty continues to be one of the most important problems of our time. However, even if different economic measures have been taken to solve poverty, a solution has not been found yet. One of these measures is to ensure the development of tourism in poor regions. The aim of this study is to reveal the relationship between tourism and poverty and to examine whether tourism can be a cure for poverty. In order to reach the aim of the research, a theoretical analysis was carried out. As a result of the research, it was concluded that there is no consensus in the literature on the relationship between tourism and poverty. It has been concluded that there are two different approaches in the literature that tourism reduces poverty and, on the contrary, it does not.

1. Introduction

Poverty, which has been discussed more since the 1990s, continues to be one of the most important problems to be solved today. According to World Bank estimates, the number of extremely poor people (those living on \$1.90 a day or less) has decreased from 1,9 billion in 1990 to about 736 million in 2015 (WorldBank, 2021). As can be seen from the estimations, it is seen that this number has decreased due to the policies implemented throughout the world since the 1990s. However, considering the technological developments and the increasing social expectations of people, it is not enough to think only about absolute poverty. Relative poverty, which compares the economic situation of individuals with the general living standards of the society in which they live, is also important (Newman, 2016; Giddens & Sutton, 2018).

The methods of combating poverty are also very diverse. It has an important place in tourism among these methods of struggle. In addition, tourism is kept at the forefront in the fight against poverty by most development economists and governments. This idea is not surprising because of the economic contributions of tourism. In addition, it is seen as an attractive opportunity in undeveloped regions, since the main resource in the development of tourism is environmental factors. In terms of developing regions, tourism is seen as an opportunity and supported in order to achieve the desired economic growth. Although supporting tourism is important in these respects, the criticism that it

reduces poverty continues. As a matter of fact, a pro-poor tourism approach was developed in 1999 and it was aimed to increase the net benefits of tourism for the poor. Pro-Poor Tourism (PPT) is not exactly a tourism product but rather an approach to reduce poverty in economically depressed regions (Singh, 2001). Harrison (2008) acknowledged that PPT was based on a worthwhile injunction to help the poor.

The pro-poor tourism approach has likewise been criticized (Schilcher, 2007; Spenceley & Goodwin, 2007; Zapata *et al.*, 2011). Similarly, there is the opinion that the pro-poor tourism approach does not provide a complete solution to poverty. For this reason, the aim of the study is to reveal the relationship between tourism and poverty and to examine whether tourism can be a cure for poverty. In this context, the research question is "Does tourism have a poverty reducing effect?" has been determined. A theoretical analysis was carried out in order to reach the aim of the research and to answer the research question. In this context, the secondary data obtained and the literature review and the research question were discussed. At the end of the study, the research question was answered and the necessary measures to make tourism pro-poor were discussed.

While poverty keeps being a global issue, current literature in tourism still discusses how to engage poverty via tourism activities. This paper offers an insight through pro-poor tourism and its effect on poverty. On this perspective,

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Research paper



the paper is considered to be important by investigating the relationship between poverty and pro-poor tourism approach.

2. Conceptual Framework

An Evaluation on Poverty

Evaluations regarding the concept of poverty have been used in different meanings over time (Atkinson, 1987, p.763). Before the industrial revolution and the globalization process, poverty emerged as a result of wars or a natural disaster. The poverty that emerged in these periods had a quality that manifested itself with famine, was specific to a certain region, and could be resolved with the help of wealthy people in the state or society (Bozan, 2017, p.391). However, with the effect of globalization and industrial revolution, the perspective on poverty has also changed. Before the 1970s, poverty reflected segments such as the unemployed and retirees who did not have a certain income. However, after the 1970s, the improvement in the number of working people started to be mentioned (Yücel, 2017, p.117). As a matter of fact, this situation showed itself in the policies of the World Bank on poverty. While the World Bank gave importance to rural development in the 1970s, it struggled with macroeconomic problems in the 1980s and brought the fight against poverty back to the main focus in the 1990s due to international economic conditions. In this period, the main problem was the decline in employment despite economic growth and the transformation of poverty into a serious danger (Şenses, 2017, p.18; Uzun, 2001, p.159-160).

Although poverty is expressed as the inability to meet the basic needs of people in its most general definition, this definition is not sufficient (Aşkın & Aşkın, 2017, p.19). As Karadağ (2018, p.488) states, not having minimum living standards does not mean poverty by itself. Poverty is also a physical, mental and social obstacle (Öztürk & Çetin, 2009). On the other hand, there are opinions that inequality is the basis of poverty (Şantaş, 2017, p.24). In studies published by the World Bank, which have an important role in the subject, poverty has been associated with the concept of welfare. Similar to the studies in the literature, it has been emphasized that poverty can be explained with the concept of consumption, but the most general approach to poverty is possible with the ability of the individual to function in society (Haughton & Khandker, 2009, p.1). In the definitions made, it is seen that the inability to meet the basic needs, which are at the base of Maslow's hierarchy of needs, does not explain poverty by itself. Especially in the globalizing world, people need more. For this reason, the perspective on poverty has also changed.

Poverty does not develop on its own. There are some reasons for the emergence of poverty. These are (Morduch, 1994, p.221; Ingham, 2004, p.27);

- High unemployment rates, especially among the low-quality workforce,
- Unpaid wages,
- Decrease in the value of social assistance payments,
- Structural change (especially the decline of heavy industry and agriculture, regional inequalities with the increase in per capita income),
- Deterioration in quantity and quality of goods and services provided by the public, decrease in social wages.

Another important point that changes our perspective on the concept of poverty is the globalization process. Economic development has accelerated with the disappearance of borders with globalization and the increasing openness of countries. However, the increase in vulnerability due to the fact that countries are open to external influences had negative effects on poverty (Yanar & Şahbaz, 2013, p.56). With the change in the circulation of money in the global economic system, inequality has increased and the rich have become richer and the poor have become poorer (Bozan, 2017, p.400). The most striking example of this is that more than 1,5 billion people in the world live on less than 1 dollar, also an average person in Africa approximately dies 21 years earlier than anyone in Europe. On the other hand, research has emphasized that poverty negatively affects people's psychology and causes stress (Haushofer & Fehr, 2014, p.862). In addition, poverty increases crime rates and reduces access to public services such as education, health and social security (Abay & Sezgin, 2018, p.98). What is really emphasized here is the necessity of taking poverty and inequality together (Carr *et al.*, 2014, p.21; Uzun, 2001, p.165; Şahin & Coşkun, 2009, p.75). Because in a world without inequality, the concept of poverty will disappear.

Taking steps to combat poverty is as important as the consequences of poverty. Various suggestions have been made by researchers on the fight against poverty. Şantaş (2017, p.40) emphasized that steps should be taken in terms of education policies and health expenditures within the scope of fighting against poverty. Beside these, Uzun (2001, p.167) stated that; financial, technical and technological development is important in reducing poverty. The World Bank and IMF, on the other hand, suggest a three-step strategy regarding poverty (Yücel, 2017, p.1119).

1. Creating employment and new opportunities for poor people,
2. Empowering poor people by ensuring their participation in political processes and local decision-making mechanisms,
3. Increasing the security of poor people in order to avoid negative situations such as crises, health problems and exposure to violence.

As can be seen from the anti-poverty articles, the main issue is the effort to integrate poor people into society. It is

in the basic expectations of people to have a job, not to be disconnected from the basic institutions of the society, and to integrate with the society (Lewis, 1966, p.19). As a result, governments and non-governmental organizations that want to fight against poverty should be aware of these expectations and produce strategies accordingly.

Relationship Between Tourism and Poverty

In the late 1990s, as a result of the joint research of the Pro-Poor Tourism Partnership, the International Center for Responsible Tourism, the International Institute for Environment and Development and the Overseas Development Institute, it was decided to explore what is needed to utilize tourism for poverty reduction (Zhao & Ritchie, 2007). In 1997, it was reflected in the initiatives of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) that tourism could be used as a tool to fight poverty (Spenceley & Goodwin, 2007). In addition, the United Nations emphasized that tourism can be used as a vector for poverty reduction in sustainable development goals and that the main mission of the global agenda is poverty reduction (Croes, 2014; Anderson, 2015; Garidzirai & Matiza, 2020). It is not easy to measure whether tourism is a barrier to poverty. However, studies on this subject can provide a perspective. For this reason, the relationship between tourism and poverty has been examined from different perspectives in the chapter.

Studies on poverty in the literature have focused on the conceptualization and measurement of poverty and how it should be dealt (Karacaer *et al.*, 2017). Researchers have emphasized that there are difficulties in the analysis of the role of tourism (Sedgley *et al.*, 2012). This is not surprising when the environmental characteristics of tourism are considered. Tourism is an industry that causes not only economic but also social and physical effects on people's lives. This multidimensionality of tourism is also valid for poverty. As Zhao and Ritchie (2007, p.121) states, "Due to the multidimensional nature of poverty, it is always a challenge to understand any issue related to poverty as a wide variety of intertwined factors such as economic, sociopolitical and cultural forces must be taken into account". This statement is also valid for tourism and poverty related studies.

The first view on the subject is the same from the perspective of organizations. Tourism can be effective in reducing poverty due to the positive effects it provides and therefore it should be encouraged. It has been emphasized that tourism should be promoted especially in underdeveloped and developing countries in terms of fighting and reducing poverty, revealing opportunities for vulnerable groups and increasing welfare (Chok *et al.*, 2007; Vanegas, 2012; Muchapondwa & Stage, 2013; Croes, 2014; Koens & Thomas, 2016). On the other hand, in a study conducted by Mitchell and others (2007), it was emphasized that tourism affects the poor in three different ways. These are; direct impact through the provision of

financial income from tourism-oriented businesses, secondary impacts from non-tourism sectors, and dynamic impacts due to impacts on entrepreneurship, factor markets, other export sectors and the natural environment. On the other hand, the positive effects of tourism were also highlighted in the opinions about the reduction of poverty by tourism. It has been emphasized that tourism contributes to other environmental factors, especially the economic aspect of the poor. The positive effects of tourism in terms of reducing poverty are as follows (UNWTO, 2004; Mitchell & Ashley, 2007; Çetin, 2012; Medina-Muñoz *et al.*, 2016);

- Tourism contributes to increase employment,
- Tourism is very diverse in terms of its structure and has the potential to support other economic activities,
- Tourism is a labor-intensive industry. Therefore, it allows many people to have jobs,
- It enables local entrepreneurs to earn a livelihood,
- Providing opportunities for a large number of women, young individuals who represent a high percentage of the poor,
- Recognizing the value of the environment in terms of social, physical and economic aspects and increasing the sense of ownership,
- By creating the infrastructure and superstructure areas required for the realization of tourism, it creates the opportunity for the poor people to find solutions to various needs.

As stated, these contributions of tourism provide advantages in terms of reducing poverty. As a matter of fact, what is stated in the studies has also been proven by empirical findings. Studies have shown that growth in the tourism industry directly reduces poverty (Vanegas, 2012), tourism development improves accessibility, prices of goods and services, employment and income-generating issues (Karmilah *et al.*, 2014), and social advances such as access to education and health facilities (Anderson, 2015) and its development in rural areas provides many advantages (Aylan, Gök Sarı, & Şalvarcı, 2019; Doğan & Bilici, 2020). As can be seen from the researches, it can be said that tourism development reduces poverty and causes improvements.

The second opinion on the subject, contrary to the first opinion, is that tourism development does not reduce poverty, on the contrary, this situation causes negative effects. The first of these reasons is not only the economic dimension of poverty, but the necessity of highlighting its social and human dimensions (Serin Karacaer *et al.*, 2017). Living standards of poverty, social exclusion, education, access to health services, etc. It creates difficulty in analyzing the effects of tourism due to its dimensions that can be measured. Second, it limits the commercial opportunities brought about by the unequal distribution of power among the stakeholders (Koens & Thomas, 2016). In addition, it is the isolation of tourists from the local people in some types of tourism in social life. In this case,

it is likely to reduce the gains of the local people. Third, there are problems caused by the labor-intensive nature of tourism, the length of working hours and low wages, and the unequal distribution of benefits arising from tourism (Oviedo-García *et al.*, 2019). In addition, tourism creates an economic cost in the region. Especially with the presence of foreign businesses in the region, it may cause more impoverishment of the local people who do not have the cost gain.

Table 1. Pros and Cons of Tourism on Poverty

Positive Impact	Negative Impact
Directly reduces poverty	Increasing costs of social services such as education, healthcare etc.
Improving accessibility to goods and services	Unequal distribution of investment power
Improving employment rates	Might isolate locals from tourists according to tourism type
Social advances such as education and healthcare	Might cause heavy work conditions with long hours and low wages

Source: Interpreted by authors according to literature above

The above reasons are supported by empirical findings. Tourism does not increase international welfare and has a low ability to solve poverty problems (Dimitrov *et al.*, 2018), Tourism will not change the livelihood of local people other than the basic means of livelihood (Kebede & Bayeh, 2017), lack of adequate infrastructure poses difficulties in developing tourism (Chok *et al.*, 2007) and it has been emphasized that tourism has little tangible impact for people living in rural areas (Spenceley & Goodwin, 2007).

As can be seen, there is no consensus on the relationship between tourism and poverty. This is also the case in terms of empirical findings. In studies conducted in different destinations, it has been stated that tourism has positive and negative advantages in terms of poverty. However, no consensus has been reached on this issue. The main reason for this is the lack of empirical evidence (Winters, Corral & Mora, 2013). Even if some regional analyzes are carried out, they are not enough. As stated by Mitchell and Ashley (2007), these analyzes cannot determine the nature, scale, and determinants of the tourism industry's effects on poverty.

It is important to examine the bidirectional relationship between tourism and the poor. Because in this way, the advantages and disadvantages of tourism's effect on the poor can be grasped (Çetin, 2012). As expressed in the sustainability tourism approach, it is necessary to minimize the negative effects of tourism and maximize the positive effects. This view is also important in terms of reducing the poverty of tourism. For this reason, there are some moves that need to be made in order to realize the poverty reduction potential of tourism. These moves are as in Table 2.

Table 2. Actions for Tourism to Decrease Poverty

Direct encounter among local enterprises and tourists	Ensuring poor access to markets
Developing government programs to decrease poverty	Determining the main role that tourism will play in basic development points such as infrastructure and health services
Developing financial aid support for poorer to join into tourism economics	Building the capacity of governments and non-governmental organizations to respond to opportunities
Increasing ability of reaching tourism benefits for poorer	Development of infrastructure to meet the needs of the tourism industry
Integrating politics for poorer to benefit from tourism and implementing them into governmental strategies.	Multi-method approaches for understanding the connection between tourism and poor people.
Developing employment opportunities for poorer.	Governments should encourage investment that provides jobs for the poor
Ensuring and strengthening cooperation between the private sector and the poor	Considering the negative social and environmental impacts of tourism
Filling the skills gap for the realization of tourism	

Source: WTO, 2002; Jamieson *et al.*, 2004; Özkök, 2006; Mitchell & Ashley, 2007; Oviedo-García *et al.*, 2019. Compiled by authors within sources.

As can be seen from the table, what needs to be done for tourism to reduce poverty is to prevent unplanned development. Especially with the planned tourism development, the factors mentioned above should be taken into account. In this way, it can be said that it is possible for tourism to reduce poverty. The number of people participating in tourism is increasing day by day and participation in tourism is becoming a necessity. For this reason, it is necessary to prevent tourism from being an industry that only some segments can access (Sedgley, Pritchard & Morgan, 2012).

3. Pro-Poor Tourism

The United Nations emphasizes the need to maximize the potential of tourism in reducing poverty. Therefore, in 1999, Pro-Poor Tourism was first introduced into the tourism literature as a poverty reduction strategy. Pro-poor tourism is defined as tourism that provides net benefits for the poor (Roe & Urquhart, 2001). This approach strengthens the benefits brought by the tourism industry and the bond between stakeholders and the poor (Çetin, 2012). In particular, development economists and policy makers use pro-poor tourism to distinguish between economic development and forms of economic development that positively impact poor people's lives and lead to their salvation (Jamieson *et al.*, 2004). Thanks to the approach, it is aimed to activate the tourism potential in reducing and development of poverty, especially in underdeveloped regions, how and what kinds of opportunities can be created for the poor, and to distribute the benefits obtained (International Labour Organization, 2005; Karacaer, Sert & Öztürk, 2017; Doğan & Bilici, 2020). There are certain principles of the pro-poor tourism approach. These are as in Table 3 below.

Table 3. Pro-Poor Tourism Principles

Principle	Explanation
Participation	Poor people need to participate in decisions so that their livelihood priorities are reflected in the development of tourism.
Holistic Perspective	The economic, social and environmental livelihood concerns of the poor need to be defined in the short and long term.
Balanced Approach	The diversity of actions required at both the micro and macro level must be provided.
Well Established Practice	Although these principles are valid for any tourism segment, they may differ between strategies.
Distribution	Analyzes of the distribution of both benefits and costs should be performed.
Flexibility	A flexible approach to different situations that may be encountered in the development of tourism is required.
Commercial Reality	Strategies should be implemented within the constraints of commercial viability.
Learning Between Diciplines	Pro-poor tourism also requires knowledge of poverty analysis, environmental management, good governance and small business development.

Source: DFID (1991, s.1) quoted by Chok et al., 2007.

In addition, in order to realize pro-poor tourism, it was emphasized that the way of organizing tourism should be realized from the lowest level of the society, local values should be brought to the forefront and the necessity of establishing relations with a wide variety of stakeholders was emphasized (WTO, 2002; Harrison & Schipani, 2007; Zapata, Hall, Lindo & Vanderschaeghe, 2011). As can be seen in the principles, pro-poor tourism is aimed to increase the benefits for the poor. In particular, the debates about the relationship between tourism and poverty continue at this point. Ashley, Goodwin and Roe (2001) emphasized in their case study that tourism creates new opportunities and benefits for the poor when the participation of the poor is increased. On the other hand, pro-poor tourism has some positive and negative effects. These effects are as in Table 4.

As can be seen from the table, this approach also has negative effects. Especially while trying to increase the positive effects of tourism, pressure may occur on the local people. As a matter of fact, criticisms of this approach

support this view. The first criticism is aimed at reducing the inequality that limits the increase of benefits for the poor within the approach (Schilcher, 2007). In particular, the lack of financial support and the exclusion of the poor from community structures create problems in the development of this approach (Zapata et al., 2011). On the other hand, it was also stated that the situation should be considered from a broad perspective while deciding on initiatives due to its positive and negative effects on the poor (Spenceley & Goodwin, 2007).

Another point to be considered is the provision of sustainable tourism and increasing the benefits of the local people. Even if the aim of pro-poor tourism is to reduce poverty, it is seen that local people migrate due to excessive tourism in some destinations. Negative environmental impacts cause inequality in such destinations (Chok et al., 2007). The increase in the demand for products and services, together with the overcrowding, brings along price increases and difficulties in use, that is, increases the cost of living. Especially after this difficult process faced by local people and tourism workers living in popular destinations, some reactions occur. The first of these reactions is to make tourists feel uncomfortable. However, the local people, whose expectations are not fulfilled despite showing this discomfort, have a more negative view of tourists. A second type of reaction is the abandonment of the inhabited area. This is the case for Venice, which is one of the destinations affected by over-tourism. As a result of the researches, it was stated that there will not be a Venetian person in the population of Venice in 2050. As can be seen, pro-poor tourism is not a solution on its own. In order to increase the benefits of tourism in any way, it is necessary to develop a tourism based on sustainable tourism and the priority of local people.

Poverty continues to be one of the most important problems of our time. In particular, the fact that people continue their lives under unequal conditions brings serious psychological, social and physical problems. For this reason, international organizations and countries are

Table 4. Effects of Pro-Poor tourism

Positive Economical Effects	Negative Economical Effects
Providing employment, income and job opportunities to SMEs	Pressure on services and facilities requiring increased investment
Direct employment of the poor	Increased cost of living for local people
User fees from visits	
Economic donations of tourists and tourism enterprises	
Positive Social Effects	Negative Social Effects
Opportunities for education and learning	The metamorphosis of culture
Increase in health, education and other welfare	Negative impact on local traditions and lifestyles
Improving social confidence and status by the acknowledging of the society	Local people leaving their place of residence
Differentiating income sources	Increased crime rate
Positive Environmental Effects	Negative Environmental Effects
Clear positive impacts on poor	Increasing pollution
	Environmental degradation

Source: Jamieson et al., (2004)

Table 5. Statistics of Tourism in Poorest Countries

Region	Country	Purchasing Power (\$) (Lowest)	Incoming Tourists Number	Tourism Income (\$)
Africa	Burundi	784.9	---	4 million (2018)
Africa	Central African Republic	986.7	---	---
Africa	Malavi	1,106.6	871.000 (2018)	42 million
Africa	South Sudan	1,234.7	836.000 (2018)	
Africa	Nijer	1,278.7	192.000	
Africa	Mozambique	1,338.1	2,019 milyon	252 million
Africa	Liberia	1,491.0	---	---
Africa	Democratic Republic of Congo	1,146.5	156.000 (2018)	---
Africa	Eritre	1,625.5	---	---
Africa	Togo	1,667.3	876.000	153 million (2018)
Africa	Madagascar	1,719.9	376.000	193 million
Africa	Sierra Leone	1,794.3	57.000 (2018)	39 milyon (2018)
Africa	Gine-Bissau	2,077.4	52.000	20 million (2018)
Asia-Pacific	Afghanistan	2,156.4	---	72 million
Africa	Uganda	2,284.3	1,850.000 (2018)	1,463 billion
Africa	Rwanda	2,325.4	---	---
Africa	Ethiopia	2,319.7	812.000	778 million
Africa	Mali	2,424.3	217.000	227 million (2018)
Africa	Burkina Faso	2,274.7	143.000	121 million (2018)
Ocenia	Kiribati	2,372.5	---	---

Source: Prepared via information from WorldBank (2021) and UNWTO (2020).

making moves in their economies to solve poverty. One of these moves is tourism. In this study, the poverty reduction potential of tourism was examined. As a result of the examinations carried out, it was concluded that the discussions on the potential of tourism continue in the studies in the literature. Two different views emerged in the studies. While the first view is that tourism creates an advantage for the poor due to the economic, social and environmental advantages it brings, the second view is that tourism does not have an impact as claimed. For this reason, a pro-poor tourism approach has been developed in order to increase the effects of tourism on the poor. However, it has not been possible to clearly reveal the effects of the pro-poor tourism approach. At this point, there is a problem especially due to the difficulty of measuring the net benefit of tourism and the lack of empirical evidence. In particular, more research is needed to see this net benefit. On the other hand, the impact of tourism on the poorest countries is another important point. According to the World Bank data, 20 countries in purchasing power parity and their gains from tourism are as in Table 5.

As can be seen from the table, the region most affected by poverty is Africa. 18 of the 20 poorest countries in the world are located in the African region. In general, statistics show that the African region has only 3% of tourism arrivals, a total of 70 million tourists came to this region in 2019 and 34.3 billion revenues were obtained (UNWTO, 2020). As can be seen from both the statistics and the table, it cannot be said that tourism has a significant contribution to the poorest 20 countries. Although countries such as Uganda, Mali, Togo and Mozambique earn income from tourism, this figure is very low when compared to developed countries. In particular, poor countries do not have tourism infrastructure, do not have power in terms of promotion or are disadvantaged in terms

of touristic attraction or political reasons may be the reasons for this. However, if it is desired to increase the net benefit of tourism to the poor and to apply a pro-poor tourism approach, these regions should be brought into tourism.

Among the studies in the literature, it has been determined that tourism reduces poverty in some regions. It is normal for tourism to make an economic contribution, especially at the point where it exists. However, when we look at poverty from a broad perspective rather than at the regional level, it can be said that this effect is weakened. In addition, in some regions, it has been seen that tourism increases poverty instead of reducing it and causes problems in terms of sustainable tourism development.

As a result of the study, some suggestions have been developed so that tourism can reduce poverty and be pro-poor:

- Tourism's potential to reduce poverty should be addressed with a holistic approach, not just at the regional level.
- There is a need to develop methods in order to see the net benefits of tourism for the poor.
- Sustainability approach should not be forgotten during the development of tourism, especially in countries where growth is at the forefront.
- Sustainability should be at the forefront in the development of pro-poor tourism.
- An approach in which the local people are at the forefront and participate in the decisions should be exhibited while the development of tourism is carried out.
- Tourism should increase the gains of local people and reduce their costs. A tourism that increases the cost of living is also less likely to be pro-poor.

- The benefits of tourism should be reflected not only on economic but also on other environmental factors.
- Planning studies in which all stakeholders participate in tourism development should be carried out.

This study analyzed the relationship between tourism and poverty with the help of secondary data. However, as previously emphasized, more studies are needed to see the net benefits of tourism to the poor. In particular, it is important to present empirical evidence in this regard.

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Engaging poverty with tourism: Pro-poor tourism perspective

Abstract

Poverty continues to be one of the most important problems of our time. However, even if different economic measures have been taken to solve poverty, a solution has not been found yet. One of these measures is to ensure the development of tourism in poor regions. The aim of this study is to reveal the relationship between tourism and poverty and to examine whether tourism can be a cure for poverty. In order to reach the aim of the research, a theoretical analysis was carried out. As a result of the research, it was concluded that there is no consensus in the literature on the relationship between tourism and poverty. It has been concluded that there are two different approaches in the literature that tourism reduces poverty and, on the contrary, it does not.

Keywords: Tourism, Poverty, Pro-poor tourism, Effects of tourism

Authors

Full Name	Author contribution roles	Contribution rate
Oğuz Çolak:	Conceptualism, Methodology, Investigation, Data Curation	40%
Vahit Oğuz Kiper:	Conceptualism, Writing - Original Draft, Visualization	40%
Said Kınır:	Supervision	20%

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