

The Importance of the National Parks Model in the Development of International Ecotourism in New Uzbekistan

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Abstract: In the article, scientific and practical proposals and recommendations are developed on the importance of ecotourism resources in the development of international ecotourism in New Uzbekistan.

Keywords: Tourism, ecotourism, international ecotourism, park, state, private property, model, competition, excursion, resource, National park.

The concept of "Ecotourism" is widely used in the modern activities of reserve zones and natural parks. Ecotourism is an integral part of the infrastructure of natural tourism, it is not only an idea, but also a concrete type of general tourism, its impact on the environment can be different (negative, neutral and positive). The reason for the rapid growth of this type of tourism in the world is not only the deterioration of the environment, but also the increasing exploitation of popular recreation areas - mountain resorts, coasts of warm seas, plains and forests.

These data show that ecotourism makes a significant contribution to increasing the efficiency of tourist and recreational resources, preserving and protecting nature, and improving the well-being of the local population.

In the field of tourism, economists from Uzbekistan N. Tukhliev, I.S. Tukhliev, M.M. Mukhammedov, M.Q. Paradaev, D.Kh. Aslanova, M.A. Hoshimov, O.H. Hamidov, M.T. Alimova, A.Eshtaev, B.Sh.Safarov and R.Khaitbaev are engaged. In the works of these scientists, the general aspects of the development of the field of ecotourism were studied.

The importance and directions of use of ecotourism resources in the organization and development of international ecotourism in Uzbekistan have received little attention in the literature devoted to tourism. Because of this, we found it appropriate to give special importance to this issue.

According to the experience of developing ecotourism in the world, until today, the only models or methods that are directly suitable for the natural climatic conditions of each country, and are convenient for using their tourism resources, have not been developed. However, the use of national parks and state natural reserves in the development of ecotourism is well organized. If it is used in our republic, it will open up new opportunities in the field. From this point of view, there is a need to dwell on the concept, content and essence of National Parks. Because, in the development of ecotourism, National Parks are serving as a standard, benchmark. According to international experience, National Parks are natural landscape and its biological diversity, one

and several ecological systems that are protected from all sides, create and create opportunities for the recreation system of the population, and are used by many countries of the world in ecotourism and support each other. are natural complexes¹. Currently, there are 3.4 thousand national parks in the world². There are many methods, styles and models of using National Parks in the world. Such models are still being invented. In many cases, private financial support is promoted in the use of national parks in the world for ecotourism. In some cases, the idea that the use of National Parks in ecotourism should be based only on private property has been gaining ground. It should be recognized that the use of National Parks in ecotourism is implemented in 3 different ways in the world³:

1. National parks are state property.
2. National parks are state and private property.
3. National parks are in mixed ownership (state ownership, private ownership, public ownership).

It should be noted that the main goal of ecological tourism is to relax in nature and to leave funds for nature protection in the local budget, that is, to pay the entrance tax for visiting the corners of nature. According to the principles of ecotourism, an ecotourist rests and pays minimal taxes and fees for resting in the lap of nature. National parks developing on the basis of national funding sources live mainly at the expense of sponsors in their country (industrial enterprises, firms, concerns and individuals, city, state budget, etc.). Currently, the number of such countries in the world has increased to 30. Their annual income is 1 billion. exceeded the US dollar. Locally sourced revenue National Parks finance themselves mainly through profits from ecotourism. In the use of national parks in ecotourism, the Canadian state annually spends 250 million. US dollars, 870 mln. the dollar is profiting. Also, 316 mln. annually to Japan's National Parks. ecotourist visits. 252.8 million of them. Japanese, 6.2 mln. organizes foreign ecotourists. Currently, there are 5 models of National Parks. The separation of these models as separate models is based on their specific characteristics⁴:

1. American model
2. European model
3. Park reserve model
4. Asian model
5. Australian model.

The use of the mentioned models in the development of ecological tourism in our country will bring new economic opportunities to the sector.

Protected areas in the model of American National Parks are distinguished by their size and unique nature. For example, Greenland National Park - 70 mln. ha, the Central Kalahari Park in Africa - 5.2 mln. ha, Alaska National Park in the United States - 7.3 mln. ha, Bud-Buffalo in Canada - 4.4 mln. ha, Gobi National Park in Mongolia - 5 mln. ha, Kolyma National Park in Russia 3 mln. occupies an area of

¹Rahemtulla, Y. G.; Wellstead, A. M., (2001), "Ecotourism: Understanding competing expert and academic definitions". Northern Forestry Centre Information Report NOR-X-380, Canadian Forest Service

²GallonK., Griggs E., Shrestha A., Wang G. National parks best practices: Lessons from a century's worth of national parks management. International Journal of Geoheritage and Parks. Vol. 9, Issue 3. 2021, 335-346

³Боголюбов, В.С. Принципы планирования устойчивого развития туризма в регионе и их взаимосвязь / В.С. Боголюбов, С.А. Севастьянова // Вестник ИЖЭКОНа. Серия: Экономика. - 2006. - №4 (13). - С. 60-63.

⁴Храбовченко В. Экологический туризм. Учебно-методическое пособие. Москва. Финансы и статистика, 2003. 208с.

The United States of America was the first to establish a National Park in this model. The US government created the now world-famous Yellowstone National Park in 1872. The USA and Canada use this model, although human economic activity is increasing, they are expanding the areas of National Parks within their borders. So far, the Canadian government has expanded the area of National Parks by 12 percent. These national parks are owned by the state, sometimes leased to large corporations, but the state retains the right to control the nature of the national park. Funding of National Parks in this model requires a lot of money. Both state and federal funds are allocated to maintain national parks. In addition, private owners also contribute funds (half of recreation services in national parks are in the private sector). That is why the National Parks of the North American model are the richest National Parks in the world.

The first European National Park as a European model was established in 1909 in Sweden. The unique advantages of this model were developed in Great Britain. Work based on this model has been established in Western Europe and Japan and continues to develop. The main features of the model are the small size of the national parks and the high level of ecological knowledge and culture of the population. This model is funded by the state. That is why transport, road communications and ecotourism infrastructures are organized at very high levels.

Another characteristic of European model National Parks is that almost 50% of National Parks are owned by the private sector. The main motto of national parks is to restore the health of the country's population and create recreation conditions. That is why the study of domestic ecotourists is very large, including the study of external ecotourism.

Considering the environment and conditions of the establishment of National Parks in European countries, it is necessary to pay attention to the fact that Europeans are people who have advanced far ahead of other nations in terms of socio-economic development. Firstly, the fact that they live in the most densely populated continent and that science and technology are developing; secondly, the socio-political consciousness and culture of the peoples living in these countries were very high, and they boldly put nature protection before the leadership of their countries, and they also realized in time that global environmental problems are getting worse.

The concept of the development of the reserve-park model is completely different - it is not the financing of the National Parks at the expense of the state, but rather the support of the state. The main principle of operation of national parks is the idea of self-reliance, self-sufficiency. This model was formed in the middle of the 20th century and is now widespread in developing countries. Due to the very low entrance fee to the national park, the number of domestic and foreign tourists is very high.

The most important factor in the reserve-park model is determined by the very high level of ecological awareness and ecological culture of Europeans. This makes a lot of sense in the operation of the National Park System, which means that it has been several decades since Europeans adopted the slogan "keep your own house clean".

The Asian model is currently in the formative stage. The operation of National Parks in this model is mainly under state management. Asian countries have not seriously begun to create or research the system of using National parks and specially protected areas in the development of ecological tourism, which is developing at the international level in its domestic tourism, and in the development of ecological tourism, which provides important perspectives in nature protection and the socio-economic life of the local population. As we noted above, the Asian model of ecological tourism development is still developing. Among the countries in Asia, India, Thailand, South Korea and Japan are among the countries that have been developing ecological tourism for many years.⁵

⁵Murphy, A.; Williams, P. W., (1999). "Attracting Japanese tourists into the rural hinterland: Implications for rural development and planning". *Tourism Management*, 20(4): 487-499.

Based on the Australian model, Australia is a leading country in the development of this sector in the world, relying on its principles of ecological tourism. When this state organizes eco-tourism in the territories of its state, it develops state programs of socio-economic development of the regions and studies the possibilities of development of eco-tourism, taking into account the natural resources of the region.

The most important thing is that, based on their experience, when organizing ecotourism, first of all, the socio-economic interests of local indigenous people are taken into account, and the implementation of ecotourism services is completely entrusted to them. Secondly, it fully takes into account the proposals and recommendations of the administration in the country. Naturalists, ecologists and biologists in the country are well aware of the arrival of tourists with financial means to Australia, which is considered the land of marsupials. One of the most important factors for the success of the Australian model is that the ecotourism services organized in all regions are served only by the local population of that region. Working in this way will solve the employment of the local population and help solve the socio-economic problems of the local villages in a timely manner.

According to the world experience, the Galapagos Islands, as one of the first developed places for ecotourism, require a special analysis.

The Galapagos Islands are cited by most scientists as the birthplace of ecotourism. Europeans first visited these islands 150 years ago. This archipelago is one of the most unusual and unique ecosystems on earth. 50 percent of the birds living in this area, 50 percent of the insects, one third of the plants and Almost all reptiles are unique to Galapagos and are not found anywhere else⁶.

Scientific research starting in the 60s of the 20th century made it possible to develop effective methods for protecting the nature of the Galapagos. But since the late 1980s, the Galapagos Islands have had to deal with ecotourism and the various complex issues that have arisen since - migrants, introduced species, industrial shocks, unemployment, and conflicts between development interests and park management. Despite the adoption of a special law for the Galapagos in 1998, environmental legislation has been controversial for years, the number of people living in the Galapagos and tourist visits have doubled in the past decade.

Ecotourism, in turn, has created a complex set of interactions. Ecotourism revenues can support conservation, scientific research and park management. Through ecotourism, tourists receive useful information about the importance of the archipelago. The income from ecotourism is used to develop the Galapagos economy and protect the environment. But at the same time, as a result of ecotourism, the flow of foreign immigrants to these islands has increased and endangered the environment, which

it is said to cause it to lose its reputation as a world ecotourism destination. It is known that in 1859, Darwin presented his theory of evolution by natural selection - based on observations made in the Galapagos, it was concluded that all living things adapt to their environment and develop. Charles Darwin's research led to the mapping of the Galapagos Islands. According to Kurt Vonnegut, "Darwin did not change the Galapagos Islands, but he changed the way people thought about this island"⁷.

Even before Darwin's arrival, human-induced damage to nature was increasing on the island. For example, many species of flora and fauna have become endangered as a result of overfishing by humans and grazing of plants by livestock. In particular, this island attracted people as a hunting ground for giant tortoises. Because of this, the Floreana species of turtles disappeared by the beginning of the 20th century.

⁶Zeppel, H. (2006)., "Indigenous Tourism: Sustainable development and management", Ecotourism series. Wallingford, UK: CABI Publishing

⁷Honey M. Ecotourism and Sustainable Development. Who owns paradise? Island Press. 2008. Pp.328

The world's leading industry experts, with extensive experience in this direction, recognize Costa Rica as another center of ecotourism. Since the mid-1980s, this small Central American country has turned from a testing ground for the US's covert war against Nicaragua and USAID's free trade and privatization policies to a "green" tourism laboratory. In particular, President Oscar Arias Sánchez receiving the Nobel Peace Prize in 1987 brought Costa Rica to the world stage, cemented its reputation as a peaceful country, and marked the beginning of the development of ecotourism.

In the 1990s, Costa Rica took first place in ecotourism, ahead of older tourist destinations such as the Galapagos Islands, Kenya and Nepal. In 1992, the American Adventure Travel Association named Costa Rica "the number one ecotourism destination in the world." A survey by the Costa Rican government found that the majority of tourists came to Costa Rica for reasons related to ecotourism. According to statistics, Costa Rica's natural wonders contain 5% of the world's biodiversity in just 0.035% of the earth's surface.

Costa Rica has a high standard of living and literacy compared to other Latin American countries. Well-known scientists and conservation groups work in the country, and more than a hundred local and international environmental NGOs have their branches.

Costa Rica is a very compact country with a developed infrastructure. Quality organized ecotourism continues to attract people to Costa Rica. In 2005, 61% of tourists visited national parks, 66% observed nature and wildlife, and more than 77% went to the beach. Other activities include going to volcanoes (50 percent), zip lines (41 percent), scuba diving (23 percent), rafting (9 percent), and swimming (18 percent).

In the 1960s and 70s, Costa Rican businessmen began to build hotels and resorts for the middle and upper classes. Since 1980, special attention has been paid to the development of ecotourism infrastructure. During this period, the number of tourists from North America and Europe increased. Domestic tourism and the share of visitors from other Central American countries decreased.

In 1984, the Costa Rican government passed a law to encourage investment in hotels, air and sea transportation companies, car rental agencies, and travel agencies. Since the mid-1940s, most of the shares in LACSA, Costa Rica's national airline, have been gradually sold to Japanese and Salvadoran investors, and the government's stake has dwindled to 3 percent. After the 1985 Law on the Promotion of Tourism Development, tourism projects became eligible for incentives and tax credits.

President José María Figueres (1994–1998) declared ecotourism one of the best business opportunities in Costa Rica. He offered a variety of incentives to tourism investors, starting a \$15 million advertising company to attract US and Canadian eco-tourists. But despite his lofty environmental agenda, Figueres decided in mid-1995 to give the green light to Papagayo, a \$3 billion mega-resort project—the largest in Central America—the antithesis of "green" development. Papagayo is a huge traditional resort complex of luxury hotels, vacation homes, shopping malls, restaurants, golf courses, called the Cancun of Costa Rica. It is one of the countries in the world that requires special study of ecotourism.

Conclusions and suggestions: The directions in which the economy of our republic can use the experience of foreign countries in providing ecotourism services described above are the following:

first, based on international experience, it is necessary to form the model of Uzbekistan for national parks, which ensures the development of ecological tourism in the development of the system of national parks;

secondly, the experience of Costa Rica is very important for our republic. Because the work done on the development of ecotourism brought the poor country to the level of a leading

country in ecotourism. Based on the conditions and opportunities of Uzbekistan, there is an opportunity to bring Uzbekistan to the ranks of the leading country in ecotourism among the world community under the leadership of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh. Mirziyoyev;

thirdly, the experience of Tanzania is a country of great experience and opportunity for us. If the experience of ecological tourism development is used in it, a new opportunity for the economy of our country will be formed. It is also important for us that 15 percent of the economy of the country of Tanzania corresponds to the income coming from ecotourism, and the fact that the experience of this country is included in the list of World Heritage by the UN as a "great universal value";

fourthly, it should be noted that in the world experience of ecotourism development, the attention of many countries to the development of ecotourism is creating an opportunity for developing countries to take a place among the developed countries of the world. The application of this experience indicates that the development of ecotourism based on internal potential and opportunities in our republic has the possibility of new economic development.

In general, for the development of ecotourism at the national and local levels, it is desirable to study foreign experiences, analyze them and adapt them to local conditions.

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