



**ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL THROUGH
URBAN PLANNING**
**Development of Tourist & Recreation Coastal Zones
of the Mediterranean Sea**

Thesis Submitted For Examination for
The Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

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DEDICATION

To my dear Mother and Father

*To my Cherished Husband
And my precious Mirna*

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INTRODUCTION

Background

The Mediterranean coasts are endowed with special beauty, abundance of natural resources and a rich cultural heritage. However, a dichotomy exists between the need to exploit the coast for economic development; and the need to protect the environment along the coast for sustainable use.

Tourism is a multifaceted human and socio economic phenomenon. It has special economic importance. It is often seen as a means of counteracting the economic difficulties that would face both developing and developed countries.

Tourism development, along the Mediterranean coasts, is mainly dependent on the natural environment because it is its resource base. At the same time, environmental degradation, along the Mediterranean is threatening its nature. Tourism in terms is not responsible of such degradation, but in fact there are enough evidence that show that tourism could enhance the scenic beauty, preserve the existing archeological and historic areas, protect the socio-cultural heritage and contribute to achieve an environmentally sustainable development.

Therefore, this research postulates that despite the fact that tourism could damage the natural environment along coastal areas, it could be a catalyst for preservation, conservation and enhancement of the nature environment. Accordingly, it is important to explore causes that prohibit the environmental improvement through planning process in order to achieve sustainability.

Aims of research

This research attempts, therefore, to derive causes of failure of environmental improvement through tourism development on coasts, then, to instigate a methodology to prevent tourism development along the Northwest coast of Egypt from having a negative impact on the natural environment.

Accordingly, this research discusses the major forms of tourism development, and the failures that threaten sustainability of such development.

Methodology of the research

In order to derive the suitable methodology to develop tourism along the Northwest coast of Egypt, it is important to follow several ways to explore positive and negative factors affecting planning process in order to prevent weak points, to achieve sustainability.

The research methodology advances in two parallel axes.

The first axe depends on the comparison of the NWC experience in tourism development with other cases of development along the Mediterranean coast. These cases are either successful case as the Case of Languedoc-Roussillon de France or critical case as tourism development along the Spanish coast. These comparisons serve in defining the place of the Egyptian experience between fails and success, i.e., in evaluating the Egyptian experience and in the prediction of its future environmental situation.

This prediction can explain the problem that has not yet appeared at present. The environmental forecast can be ensured through the analysis of the existing tourism development on the Delta Coast of Egypt, its growth, expansions and relative environmental situation and the relative demand changes'.

Through that axe, positive and negative factors affecting tourism growth in the Northwest coast are defined.

Through the second axe, the research attempts to evaluate different step in the tourism development procedure that are divided mainly into planning process and implementation process.

The evaluation of their efficiency in providing environmental improvement is based on the analysis of the environmental slightness or weight in each step. It examines the influence other factors such as the economical or political factors in making decisions that can negatively affects the environmental aims.

Such evaluation goes through either existing experiences using that process or by analyzing criticism revealed in other literatures.

This axe serves in identifying positive and negative aspects that affect the environmental goals attainment.

In the light of the local conditions, the instigation of the proposed approach, suitable for the NWC in based on the prevention of negative factors derived through the two axes and the stress on the positive factors.

The Structure of the research

The study attempts, in its three parts, to show, with reference to the NWC region, the reasons that transform tourism from being an activity enhancing the natural environment into being a major source of degradation.

Through the descriptive part of the research, where multiple cases study are analyzed, the forms of development along Mediterranean will be defined and

evaluated, with the highlight on the economic significance of tourism development in both developing and developed countries. This part of research serves in defining the economical factors affecting in tourism development.

Accordingly, in the first part, that is an introductory part, the study focuses on the common feature, natural and man made resources that are characterizing this region. To identify the tourism image, forms of tourism developments and its expansions in the Mediterranean region are analyzed. In The second chapter, the economic significance of tourism development as a dominant activity is explained to recognize the tourism importance for both developed and developing countries.

Drawing the pollution image on the Mediterranean coasts identifying the most and the least polluted zones, by surveys and reports in the second part of the research. Comparing them with arrivals and receipts of zones of tourism development along coast will verify the relationship between the set back of tourism and environmental degradations.

Then the study discusses and analyzes the tourism development responsibility of such degradation by the application of Models of tourist product life cycle on the Spanish case that can explain causes of tourism failures in environmental improvement. The focus on the most affected cases shows the problem facing the region.

By comparing the environmental impacts of tourism development in the French case that considered the most successful representing example of developed countries case and the Egyptian case, factors affecting tourism development can be derived. The two experiences are compared according to the environmental results of development. This evaluation qualifies the existing development of the

north west coast of Egypt in order to determine point of failure and then available solutions.

The third part of the study attempts to explore causes and conditions of failure or success in different cases of Coastal developments. Both management and measurement of tourism development regulations will be examined with focus on their efficiency in respecting environment through multiple cases study in the worldwide, in order to explore factors contributing to reach the sustainable development in coastal areas. This is carried out by evaluating different approaches to an environmentally sensitive tourism development, in several case studies in Egypt and abroad. Such evaluation includes not only the environmental regulations that had been applied, but also environmental measures currently used and planning methodologies, in order to evaluate their effectiveness in providing environmental improvement. Different approaches are compared and analyzed in order to deduce a suitable approach towards sustainable tourism in the north west coast of Egypt.

Accordingly, the study, proposes the appropriate approach toward sustainable tourism development in the Northwest Coast that enrich its environmental conditions after exploiting causes of failures that prevent tourism development from realizing its objectives.

ONE

PART ONE: THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION'S RESOURCES TOURISM POTENTIALS, FORMS AND ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE

Introduction

Most the Mediterranean countries share not only the sea but also the environmental problems.

Some problems are common or private; some common problems are shared by two or more countries in the region and require collective action. Some of them occur separately in several countries and may be addressed on a country basis; but the solution to them may be transferable.

The research will focus in this part on the common feature characterizing this region. A defining study for the tourist natural and man made resources will be shown. The economic significance of tourism development as a dominant activity will be explained in the following chapter to recognize the importance of tourism for both developed and developing countries.

Forms of tourism developments in the Mediterranean region will be analyzed in order to derive the relationship between forms and tourism development and the environmental degradation shown in the next part.

TWO

PART TWO THE ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION TOURISM IMPACTS AND INFLUENCES

Introduction

This part of the study attempt to explain the significance of the environmental degradation in the Mediterranean region, and its influence on the tourism development along its coasts. It will focus on the most critical cases to show the wider impact of the problems facing the region.

Then, in chapter four, the study examines and analyzes the impact of tourism development on the environmental degradation by analyzing different case studies of tourism development projects along the Mediterranean coasts. Tourism growth and its relevant impacts on the environmental degradation will be discussed.

In chapter five, the study evaluates the Egyptian experience of tourism development in the north west coast of Egypt, while comparing it to the French experience.

The experiences of both countries will be compared against framework of environmentally sustainable development.

This evaluation is important to appraise the existing development of the north west coast of Egypt in order to determine the weaknesses and failures and then propose the appropriate solutions.

Accordingly, this part attempts to determine the relationship between tourism and the environment and to highlight conditions of failure and success.

THREE

PART THREE SUSTAINABLE TOURISM MANAGEMENT & APPROACHES

Introduction

The previous chapters have argued for, the need for an approach for tourism development, which aims at not only controlling the environment but also protecting and conserving it for the future. Despite the scarce financial resources and political constraints, many countries have started to initiate programs for environmental protection.

The United Nations Conference for Environment and Development, (UNCED), 1989 established working groups to produce action plans for protecting the environment and promoting development, "Agenda 21". This Agenda had set guidelines for countries of different situations and conditions to achieve sustainable development.

In this part of the study, different approaches towards sustainable tourism will be compared and analyzed in order to deduce a suitable approach towards sustainable tourism in the north west coast of Egypt.

Accordingly, Coastal management processes and legislative framework that aim to regulate coastal development in the Mediterranean region will be discussed being the most important factors contributing to achieve the sustainable development in coastal areas.

ABSTRACT

Ghada Farouk Hassan
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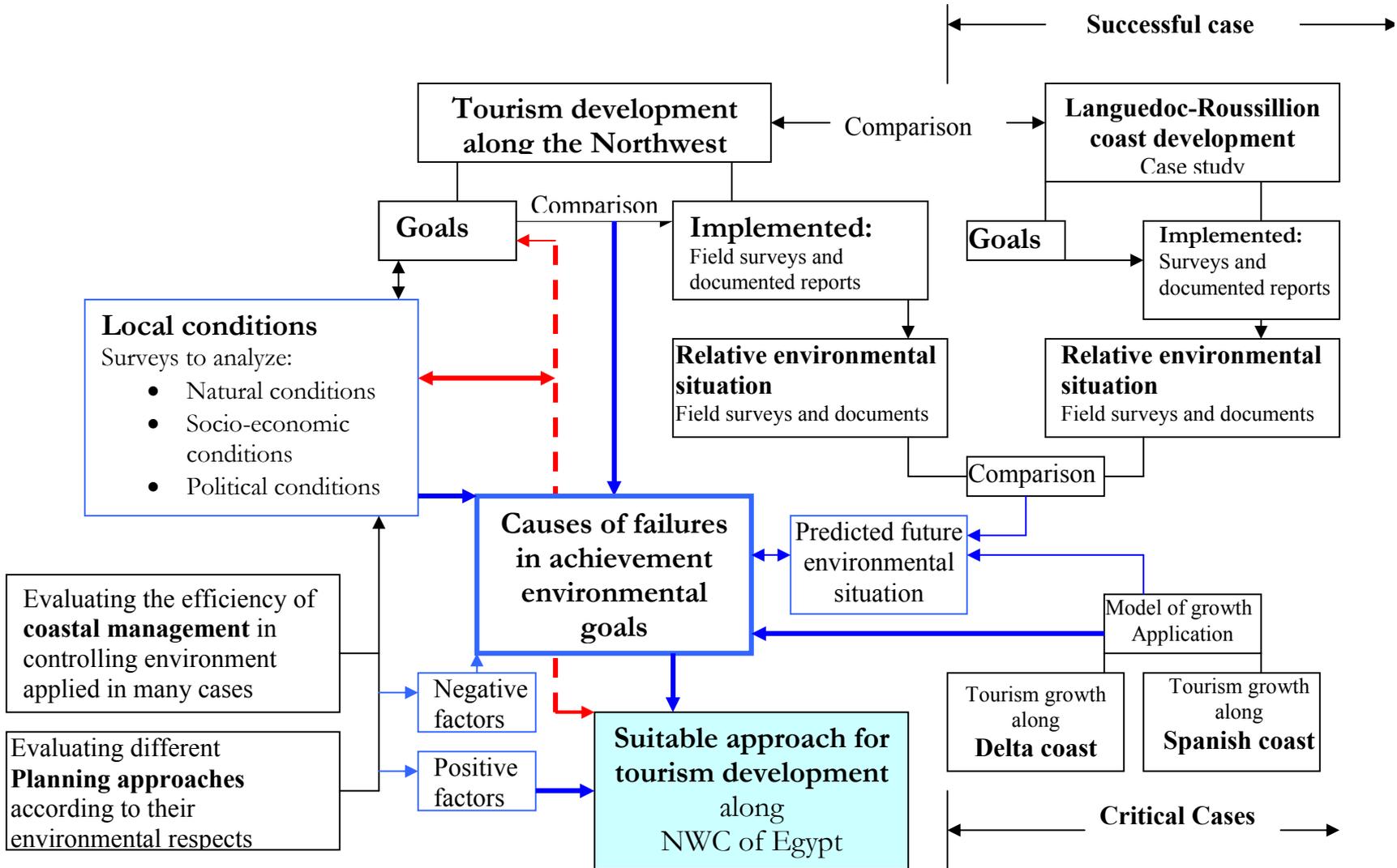
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Keywords:

Environment – Tourism - Coast

Methodology Framework



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