

An Integrated Planning Framework for Sustainable Tourism: Case Study of Tunisia

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Abstract : Tourism sector in Tunisia faces several problems that range from economic challenges to environmental degradation and social instability. These problems have been intensified because of the increased competition in the tourism market, the political instability, financial crises, and recently terrorism problems have aggravated the situation. As a consequence, a new framework that promotes sustainable tourism in the country and increases its competitiveness is urgently needed. Planning for sustainable tourism sector requires the integration of complex interactions between economic, social and environmental aspects. Sustainable tourism principles can be implemented with the help of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) process, which ensures the full integration of economic, social and environmental considerations while planning for the tourism sector in Tunisia. Results of the paper have broad implications for policy makers and tourism professionals.

Keywords : sustainable tourism, strategic environmental assessment, tourism planning, policy

Conference Title : ICHTMM 2016 : International Conference on Hospitality, Tourism Marketing and Management

Conference Location : Bangkok, Thailand

Conference Dates : December 12-13, 2016