

Residents Perceptions of Tourism Impact and Their Support for Tourism Development In Davao City

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ABSTRACT. This study aimed to evaluate the residents' perception on tourism impacts and their support for tourism development in Davao City. Residents' involvement is essential for the success of tourism development at local locations. This study looks at aspects like engagement, community attachment, economic dependency, perceived positive impacts, perceived negative impacts, and attitude toward tourism development to determine how locals' involvement in tourism development influences their support for it at the local level. It was discovered that locals' participation in tourism development had a substantial impact on their attitudes about development. Locals' involvement affects their attitudes toward tourism development directly and indirectly by improving their perception of it. Empirical research demonstrates that local involvement, especially for sites at the local scale, is crucial for tourism growth. The study design, research subjects, research tools, data collection methods, and statistical analysis of the data will all be covered in this chapter. An adopted survey questionnaire will be utilized to collect the data for this investigation where 300 respondents are being surveyed. Data on Davao City residents' opinions of the impacts of tourism and their support for the sector's expansion are collected using the quantitative technique. This method systematically interviews a large number of people and analyzes statistical data to find every pattern. This study makes an effort to add to the body of literature on local citizens' perceptions of tourism impacts, assessments of those impacts, and support for tourism growth. The findings demonstrate that when residents agree that the advantages of tourism—regardless of whether they are economic, sociocultural, or environmental advantages—are likely to be greater than the drawbacks, they are more likely to accept the exchange and, as a result, support its growth in their community.

Keywords: *Resident Perception, Tourism Impact, Support, Tourism development*

INTRODUCTION

Understanding residents' perceptions of the impact of tourism is essential for its effective expansion, local support for its development, and the happiness of host communities (Vodeb 2021). Researching how developing overtourism and smart tourism influence local perceptions and responses to tourist impacts is advised by (Rasoolimanesh and Seyfi 2021). They also demanded that resident perceptions and attitudes' antecedents be properly conceptualized, leading to a cohesive model with clear construct assessments (Rasoolimanesh & Seyfi, 2021). Recently, In order to understand how locals see the effects of tourism and support for tourist development, (Gursoy 2019) studied the assumptions of the social exchange theory. They evaluated the most frequently proposed linkages using the meta-analysis method and came to the conclusion that social exchange theory provides a solid and reliable theoretical framework for tourism.

Gursoy (2019) agree that citizens' opinions vary when assessing whether tourism benefits their own financial situations, from which they individually benefit, or the local economy, from which they collectively benefit as members of the community. Additionally, they recommend carefully researching the mechanisms through which resident views of both the positive and negative consequences of tourism are influenced by various factors. Locals must support tourism and feel empowered to

participate in order for it to flourish successfully and sustainably. Additionally, their involvement in the tourism planning process and understanding of it serve as crucial guides for tourism management and a variety of appropriate developmental patterns. (Yeh 2019) presents evidence that taking part in tourism positively boosts corporate commitment. (Yao, Qiu, and Wei 2019) claim that both involvement in tourism and organizational commitment have a favorable impact on organizational citizenship behavior. The opinions of locals on the effects of tourism and their involvement in planning processes may provide in-depth insight into their support and serve as a strong foundation for ongoing tourist growth.

Erul (2020) caution that residents are crucial participants in developing wealthy, sustainable tourism destinations. They investigated emotional solidarity as a predictor of support for tourism development as a result, and they found that the level of support for future tourism is based on how much people comprehend its significance and the effects it will have on their lives. In fact, a citizen's level of solidarity, their sympathies toward tourists, and their personal experiences with tourists might affect their sentiments about tourism and its expansion. In 2019, Wang acknowledged the necessity for a more methodical approach to the study of community connection and accepted the construct's multidimensionality. These researchers demonstrated a significant and direct correlation between the perceived favorable consequences of tourism and support for tourism and the complex construct of community connectedness. More crucially, research has demonstrated that some aspects of the relationship between people and places influence how locals view and respond to tourism (Segota 2022).

Verissimo (2020) claim that "overtourism" and "tourismphobia" have only lately become prominent expressions, mainly in the last three years, despite the fact that tourism excesses and conflicts have long been examined. The use of the terms may be seen by some as a "trend," but a careful investigation of the issues revealed how "old" concepts may evolve to address contemporary tourist issues (Verissimo 2020). Muler Gonzales, Coromina, and Gali (2018) also found that views toward greater tourism are unrelated to the perceived strength of the influence. Actually, there are more consensuses on how tourism affects conservation, even though its impact on the amount of space available for residents is dependent on other capacity indicators.

The aim of the study is to evaluate the residents perceptions of tourism impacts and their support for tourism development in Davao City; specifically, it sought to answer the following: What are the positive and negative impacts in terms of the following: Economic impacts, Socio-cultural Impacts, and environmental impacts? To assess the evaluation of residents perceptions of tourism impacts and the level of resident support for tourism development in Davao City, is there a significant relationship between tourism impacts and tourism development?

An active and growing tourism industry promotes social, environmental, and economic change in the region. The expansion of the tourism sector may negatively impact neighboring towns, as is widely documented (Mackenzie and Gannon 2019). Research to date suggests that when individuals expect positive consequences, they frequently support tourism growth in their neighborhood. If properly developed, focusing on tourism can help local populations achieve higher earnings, higher living standards, and a wider choice of employment possibilities (Gannon et al., 2020). In these circumstances, residents may be more likely to support tourist development if they believe it will lead to the positive community benefits listed above, whereas residents who believe it will have a negative impact on their town are frequently more likely to oppose it (Cisneros-Martinez et al., 2018; MacKenzie and Gannon, 2019).

Residents' sense of community attachment can manifest as a desire to maintain the status quo, safeguard historical resources from damage and degradation, and ensure that increasing tourism numbers do not undermine the sense of community that residents treasure while simultaneously providing a platform from which to develop tourism offerings (Cisneros-Martinez et al., 2018, MacKenzie and Gannon, 2019). Locals may feel a feeling of pride in their neighborhood and its cultural assets in this scenario, combined with concerns about the environmental repercussions of an increase in tourists and the subsequent dilution of the neighborhood's culture (Cisneros-Martinez et al., 2018). Although the prospect of economic benefit from tourism can motivate local support, the interplay between the factors influencing support for tourism development is once again made clear because long-term sustainable economic development may only be possible if the needs of both locals and visitors are met (Curran et al. 2018; MacKenzie and Gannon 2019).

Residents of tourist destinations play a part in the tourism industry in addition to participating in tourist activities. Residents' support for the growth of the tourism business affects their daily behavior and attitudes toward visitors. The sustainable development of destinations is also tied to local support for the tourism industry's expansion. Locals may be in favor of tourist development depending on how they see the effects of tourism (Li et al., 2019). However, other studies found that people thought that the expansion of tourism had a detrimental effect on the local economy and ecology (Camisani 2018). From a sociocultural standpoint, an increase in the quantity and caliber of leisure and entertainment options accessible to locals typically supports tourism development. Tourism development can help to sustain traditional arts and culture by showcasing cultural identity to a larger, frequently foreign audience. As was previously said, there are sometimes unfavorable sociocultural repercussions of tourism development because an increase in tourists can lead to crowding, traffic, crime, and litter, as well as commoditize local culture (Mackenzie and Gannon 2019).

Tourism can also affect local values, residents' attitudes, and their way of life and quality of life. By enhancing employment prospects, living conditions, and infrastructure, expanding access to recreation and entertainment options, and promoting and preserving local culture, tourism can have a positive impact on communities. These benefits are bolstered by the economic benefits brought about by an increase in visitors (Gannon et al., 2020). Visitors are expected to engage with locals and support small businesses, which will have a direct impact on how tourist attractions and historical sites are developed and how people behave. The growth of tourism can also lead to towns suffering greater living costs, higher pricing for goods and services, higher property prices and taxes, and less job prospects due to the perceived low skill levels of many tourism and hospitality jobs (Mackenzie and Gannon 2019). Aside from increasing air and water pollution, the expansion of the tourism sector may also have a detrimental environmental impact by destroying regional ecosystems and natural landmarks (Mackenzie and Gannon, 2019).

The term "economic impacts of tourism" refers to any type of monetary gain or loss that local governments and residents go through as a result of the growth of tourism. The positive implications of this influence include more employment opportunities, increased economic growth, and higher income levels for local residents (Charag et al., 2019). Even though tourism can have a negative impact on the economy through factors like inflation, the public sector frequently views positive economic impacts as the primary effects of the industry and prefers to choose this approach to development over other industrial options, especially for rural area development (Chang et al., 2018). However, given the global importance of tourism, which produced US\$2.3 trillion and 109 million jobs, we can estimate that it contributed US\$7.6 trillion to the

global economy and 292 million jobs, or 10.2% of the global GDP and roughly 1 in 10 jobs, if we take into account the sector's indirect and induced effects (He et al., 2019).

Sociocultural changes in traditional values, customs, and identities are a focus of the sociocultural "human impacts" of the tourism industry, as are adjustments in the level of life of residents in well-known tourist destinations. These impacts are difficult to quantify and calculate, because they develop gradually and covertly over time. A society's values, beliefs, and cultural practices can change over time and gradually, even though values can be observed right away (Zhuang et al., 2019). According to Joo et al. (2019), some of the positive social effects of tourism include improved community pride and value, cultural exchanges, community participation, and the sharing of cultural information. The growth of tourism has a detrimental sociocultural impact on neighboring towns, putting citizens' quality of life in jeopardy. Some of these repercussions include racial discrimination, enclave tourism, relocation of traditional communities, breakdown of conventional family structures and relationships, as well as an increase in crime and prostitution (Woosnam et al., 2018). Since tourist development has a direct impact on the neighborhood (Iazzi et al., 2020), it's critical to investigate any mechanisms that might exist that connect residents' perceived social consequences to their overall wellbeing and quality of life.

Concern over climate change brought on by global warming has existed for a long time. The primary causes of global warming, according to carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gas emissions (Xu et al., 2022), are widely known. Recent decades have seen a tremendous increase in travel and tourism, which has had a profound effect on the economy, social issues, and resource use. To understand the complicated link that exists between tourism and the environment, one must first understand the complexity of tourism. The concept of tourism could seem simple (Giorgi et al., 2020). The viability and expansion of the tourism sector are significantly influenced by environmental preservation. Although not usually, Energy tourism may play a vital role in improving people's energy literacy and changing their energy-use patterns, which will result in more sustainable energy citizens as well as travel destinations, even though it does not usually imply safeguarding the environment. Energy facilities that are involved in the extraction and processing of energy resources can have a negative impact on the personality and functionality of many energy landscapes. At these locations, environmental degradation and a bad sense of the landscape may send visitors away (Wu et al., 2023).

The primary idea driving this study is how locals view the effects of tourism and how supportive they are of its growth. Residents of the area are aware of the effects of tourism, have a thorough understanding of the industry, and support the growth of the tourism industry based on sociodemographic factors. Support for tourist development is based on sociodemographic resident characteristics, their view of the impact of tourism, and a thorough assessment of the impact. This idea contends that the principle of social exchange explains how locals view how effecting and encouraging tourism development. Tourism growth has a greater negative effect when locals are aware of its benefits. They frequently participate in discussions and encourage the growth of local tourism.

METHOD

This study determined the residents' perceptions of tourism impacts and their support for tourism development in Davao City. The descriptive-quantitative method was used in this study. According to (Siedlecki 2020), it helped the researchers test the hypothesis by gathering and analyzing the proper data about the topic. It was helpful to gain knowledge about the impacts of tourism and their support for tourism

development in Davao City. The descriptive correlation method was an appropriate research design that was employed for the study, which tries to determine the perception of the residents in Davao City. This approach aimed to determine the factors influencing the two variables through the statistical method of tourism impact and tourism development. As a result, this method has evaluated the link between the resident's perception of tourism's impact and their support for tourism development in Davao City using Google Forms and a face-to-face survey.

By conducting a face-to-face survey, researchers can better understand the context of the respondents and go further into the responses to analyze their opinions. The responses gathered by researchers using this type of data gathering are frequently accurate and precise, despite the expenses and time required in the process. One of the finest ways to get exact, tangible, and concentrated information about quantitative data, as well as the preferences and tastes of our respondents, is through a face-to-face survey.

A questionnaire created specifically for this study was the major tool employed. There was created a checklist for the respondents. The respondents' assessments of the effects of tourism and their support for the growth of tourism in Davao City were included on the questionnaire-checklist.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Residents' Perception in Tourism Impact

As displayed on the following page, Table 1 shows the level of residents' perception of tourism impacts in Davao City. The table depicts that the overall level of residents' perception is 3.87, with a standard deviation of 0.336 described as high. It was divided into three sections: the economic impact, which has a positive result of 4.39 and a negative result of 3.54, which resulted in an overall result of 3.96 with a standard deviation of 0.391; the socio-cultural impact, which has a positive result of 4.49 and a negative result of 2.97, which resulted in an overall result of 3.69 with a standard deviation of 0.478; and the environmental impact, which has a positive result of 4.46 and a negative 3.59, which resulted in an overall of 3.97 with a standard deviation of 0.383.

Table 1. *Level of residents' perception in tourism impacts in Davao City, n=301*

Indicators	Mean			SD	Descriptive level
	Positive	Negative	Overall		
Economic Impacts	4.39 (0.463)	3.54 (0.540)	3.96	0.391	high
Socio-cultural Impacts	4.49 (0.405)	2.97 (0.775)	3.69	0.478	high
Environmental Impacts	4.46 (0.497)	3.59 (0.509)	3.97	0.383	high
Overall			3.87	0.336	high

The social, economic, and environmental well-being of the local community can be impacted by the rise of the tourism industry in both positive and negative ways,

according to studies (Charag, 2020). Both the advantages and disadvantages of the economy are clearly understood. Impacts on conservation are likewise highly valued, even though there is uncertainty about other elements (Muler 2018). The economic advantages of increased tourism appear to have the backing of the residents, according to Charag et al. (2020). A more recent study in Jordan by Alrwajfah et al. (2019) indicated that residents had a positive perception of the economic advantages of tourism, which supports this conclusion. The development of tourism in any place is said to be significantly influenced by its beneficial economic impact (Brankov et al., 2019). The findings show that locals feel tourism development has a detrimental influence on the environment because they think it leads to an increase in pollution, especially in the areas of soil, noise, and air (Charag 2020). Research, however, indicates that locals are able to adjust to and manage the consequences of tourism.

Residents' Perception for Tourism Development

Table 2 shows the level of residents' perception of tourism development in Davao City based on the results of the study, which has two indicators: evaluation, which has a mean of 4.16 with a standard deviation of 0.663, and support, which has a mean of 4.50 with a standard deviation of 0.459, resulting in an overall score of 4.39 with a standard deviation of 0.442, which is very high. The very high level of results means that residents' perceptions of tourism development in Davao City were very well observed.

Table 2. *Level of residents' perception for tourism development in Davao City, n=301*

Indicators	\bar{x}	<u>SD</u>	<u>Descriptive level</u>
Evaluation	4.16	0.663	Very high
Support	4.50	0.459	Very high
Overall	4.39	0.442	Very high

According to the respondents, there was a high degree of favorable attitude among residents about the growth of the tourist industry, indicating that the overall reaction in terms of residents' view of the industry is satisfied. The respondents noted a very high degree of value orientation, demonstrating their strong agreement with the importance of value orientation in determining their desire to support sustainable tourism. Residents participate in the creation of the tourism product and can be considered the "first visitors" to a place because they use some of the infrastructure for the industry, participate in organized activities, and guard the primary resources there (Gajdok, Gajdoková, & Straanová, 2018; Olivar & Alcaraz, 2024). As a result, they help a place maintain and develop its tourism attractions. The importance of all community stakeholders' participation must be clearly understood by the locals.

Correlation Matrix of the between residents' perceptions in tourism impacts and tourism development in Davao City

The data outputs from the correlation tests between residents' perceptions of tourism impacts and tourism development in Davao City are shown in **Table 3**. The Pearson correlation showed a significant relationship of 0.624 with a p-value less than 0.05 between tourism impact and tourism development. Given that the p-value was lower

than the threshold value established for the study's level of significance, this correlation is considered significant.

Specifically, significant associations existed between tourism development indicators (evaluation and support) and tourism impacts indicators (economics, socio-cultural, and environmental). The correlation between evaluation and economics is 0.413 with a p-value less than 0.05; evaluation and socio-cultural is 0.431 with a p-value less than 0.05; evaluation and environmental is 0.388 with a p-value less than 0.05. The correlation between support and economics is 0.497 with a p-value less than 0.05; support and socio-cultural is 0.310 with a p-value less than 0.05; and support and environmental is 0.506 with a p-value less than 0.05.

Table 3. *Correlation Matrix of the between residents' perceptions in tourism impacts and tourism development in Davao City*

Tourism Development	Tourism Impacts			Overall
	Economic	Socio-Cultural	Environmental	
Evaluation	0.413*	0.431*	0.388*	0.512*
Support	0.497*	0.310*	0.506*	0.532*
Overall	0.551*	0.430*	0.545*	0.624*

* $p < 0.05$

Yasmine Yehia (2019) asserts that tourism is essential to the development of numerous economies all over the world. Tourism has several advantages for host locations. A country's infrastructure is developed, its revenue is increased, and a sense of cultural exchange between citizens and visitors is sown thanks to tourism. In numerous locations, tourism generates a sizable number of jobs. These positions may be found in the agricultural, communication, health, or educational sectors in addition to the tourism industry (Olivar, Ubaldo, Espinosa & Gutierrez, 2023).

CONCLUSION

This research includes the findings, analysis, and personal insights that the researchers learned while conducting a study on Davao City citizens' perspectives towards the effect of tourism and their support for the industry's growth. The foregoing result can be concluded.

In determining the level of resident's perception in tourism impacts in Davao City was found as high or agree. Local believe that the industry has many positive benefits for the nation citizens and that tourism has a favorable influence on the economy, socio-cultural factors, and environmental aspects. As the surveys, findings indicate, a high and moderate percentage of people also believed that tourism had a negative impact on all three categories. This indicates that both the positive and negative effects of tourism are recognized by locals

The level of resident's perception of tourism development was resulted a high degree of favorable attitude among residents about growing of the tourist industry and their participation and perception of tourism have an enormous impact on keeping the attraction and destination good and well equipped for tourist. It keeps the beauty's destination in it that the tourist wants and needs, by doing so; it gives the tourist immense satisfaction and pleasure. The correlation between the resident's perceptions in tourism impacts and tourism development has a very strong relationship or

significant. Lastly, the findings demonstrate that when residents agree that the advantages of tourism, regardless of whether they are economic, sociocultural, or environmental, result in development in Davao City,

RECOMMENDATION

Based on the findings and conclusions, the researchers suggest the following recommendations:

The study showed considerable findings that would help Davao City to minimize the negative impacts regarding with the tourism development. The researchers suggest the local Government Unit or Tourism Department should focus on the impacts that the tourism industry brought. They should evaluate the rules and regulations in every destination if it is implemented. In tourism development, local tourism enterprises and Governments should prioritize the development of sustainable tourism infrastructures that make their location accessible to local visitors. They should also examine community engagement in the destination's decision-making process to ensure that the cost of community participation is appropriate.

On the other hand, the local government should bolster security against local terrorist strikes. Additionally, tourist-related enterprises should maintain environmental improvements that provide visitors a sense of security when visiting an attraction or destination and offer sufficient amenities to meet visitor needs. In conclusion, regional authorities and tourism businesses must also consider external variables that affect travelers' choices.

Future researchers who want to conduct a study related to the present study are advised that this is limited to Davao City. Therefore, the researchers advise using a bigger sample size to assess the influence of tourists' sustainability attitudes and the extent of their sustainable consumption behavior. Additionally, to refine their findings and identify a dominant element, future researchers should make use of measures of sustainable consumption and belief patterns.

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