

Community-based Tourism in Sustainable Tourism: Towards a Conceptual Framework

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ABSTRACT

Community-based tourism, as an organizational approach with enhanced ethical attributes, is dedicated to facilitating the sustainable development of both the community and tourism. This research zeroes in on the key consensus of CBT within the context of sustainable development. By conducting a comprehensive review and analysis of relevant CBT literature and leveraging the analysis of community development, this paper endeavors to establish a CBT conceptual framework oriented towards the goal of sustainable tourism. This framework aims to thoroughly investigate the key dimensions of CBT and its multifarious impacts on sustainable tourism. Theoretically, the framework contributes to integrating and extending the contents associated with community participation and sustainable development within existing theories. Practically, it offers guidance to communities and tourism developers in project planning, benefit balancing, damage prevention, sustainable development achievement, as well as the formulation of rational community participation strategies and mechanisms. Consequently, it promotes the harmonious coexistence of tourism and the community. Future research can further examine the applicability of this framework in the sustainability of community development and rural tourism development.

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Contribution/Originality: This article contributes by constructing a comprehensive framework and exploring the core connection between CBT and sustainable development. By constructing a targeted and systematic CBT conceptual framework, it promotes the implementation of sustainable CBT development strategies in tourist destination communities and realizes the common prosperity of community and tourism development.

1. Introduction

Community - based tourism (CBT) constitutes an alternative developmental paradigm as opposed to mass tourism. It endeavors to actualize the sustainable development of the local social environment and the community through the provision of local tourism products (Ruiz-Ballesteros, 2023). Towards the end of the 20th century, the “Agenda 21 for the Travel and Tourism Industry” was released (Andersen, Blichfeldt & Liburd, 2018). This document is acknowledged as the action plan and strategic guideline for the development of the global tourism industry, symbolizing the commencement of the formal implementation of the sustainable development strategy within the global tourism sector (Xu, Jiang, Wall & Wang, 2019).

The sustainable tourism development espoused in this document distinctly stipulates the requirement of centering on residents and accentuates that the participation of local community residents is a vital and indispensable component in tourism development (Krittayaruangroj, Suriyankietkaew & Hallinger, 2023). Since then, within the academic community, research interests and contents in the CBT field have been continuously burgeoning and have progressively evolved into a significant instrument for underdeveloped regions and remote rural areas to achieve economic development by harnessing local ecological resources, traditional cultures, and community resources (Kumar, Agarwala & Kumar, 2023).

Through the implementation of CBT strategies, effective community participation can alleviate local residents' resistance towards tourism development, thereby diminishing conflicts and misunderstandings among diverse stakeholders including local communities, authorities, and tourists (Salazar, 2012). CBT also facilitates the enhancement of residents' quality of life, particularly in the domain of social public services (Kokkhangplu, Kim & Kaewnuch, 2024). Economically speaking, CBT propels the economic development of local communities to transform from a mere reliance on agriculture to a diversified pattern with tourism at its core (Quang et al., 2023). This, in turn, contributes to maximizing the sustainable livelihoods of community residents (Jamal & Stronza, 2009). Specifically, it is instrumental in generating employment opportunities in underdeveloped regions, thereby augmenting income levels (Gupta et al., 2023). Environmentally, CBT projects are beneficial for elevating the environmental consciousness of community residents. Through self - governance, the environmental stress induced by tourism development on local areas can be effectively mitigated, thereby effectively facilitating environmental protection (Quang et al., 2023).

The advancement of Community-Based Tourism (CBT) contributes to the growth and progress of communities. While the growth of Community-Based Tourism (CBT) supports community progress and promotes the realization of sustainability objectives, some scholars have also cast doubts on whether tourism can always be an expected socio - economic activity. This is due to the fact that, during the implementation of CBT strategies in local areas, the community, as a crucial institution in community participation, can make decisions to restrict tourism activities in accordance with its own volition (Ruiz-Ballesteros & González-Portillo, 2024). In some regions, CBT may present a latent menace to the environment, thereby exerting a negative impact on local communities (Ertuna & Kirbas, 2012). Currently, CBT exhibits profound normativity and thus idealized characteristics (Mayaka, Croy & Cox, 2019). In some areas, CBT is nothing more than a tool for economic development or a marketing gimmick, and actually, it has

long deviated from the essence of CBT (Prakoso, Pradipto, Roychansyah & Nugraha, 2020). Such a CBT model is naïve and impractical (Blackstock, 2005).

To sum up, it can be observed that in practice, CBT objectively deviates from the achievement of its objectives, and there is a lack of unified comprehension regarding CBT. The root cause of this issue lies in the insufficient understanding of the concept and core principles of CBT (Kumar, Agarwala & Kumar, 2023). Currently, research on CBT primarily concentrates on community participation, local empowerment, influencing factors, and the analysis of the impact on the local economy (Ruiz -Ballesteros, 2023). However, there is relatively scant research on how to construct a CBT framework within the context of sustainable development goals. Meticulous planning and management, nevertheless, can contribute to minimizing the negative impacts of CBT and attaining a balance among ecological, social, and economic objectives.

Consequently, this study endeavors to conduct a comprehensive analysis of previous CBT - related literature, extract and analyze key information. Based on the research of sustainable development goals, it aims to establish a conceptual framework that holds both theoretical and practical significance. This framework will facilitate the understanding of the nature and attributes of CBT, as well as its impact on sustainable development. Given that the literature analysis in this paper relies on secondary sources and the qualitative analysis is performed by organizing the concept of CBT to provide a foundation for the proposed conceptual framework, this paper is a conceptual one.

2. Literature Review

2.1. Concept of CBT

In light of the previously mentioned lack of a unified understanding of the CBT concept, this analysis initiates with the definition of CBT. This is because the clarification of the definition is instrumental in elucidating the essence and significance of this specific tourism modality. Moreover, the definition constitutes the origin for the evolution of concepts and theories (Mtapuri, & Giampiccoli, 2019). Even the assessment of the success of CBT projects hinges on the degree to which CBT is comprehended (Giampiccoli & Saayman, 2016).

2.1.1. Definition of CBT

In the 1970s, in response to the negative impacts of mass tourism, CBT emerged as an alternative developmental approach within the research domain and gradually found application in developing countries. Its principal aim is to empower local communities and alleviate poverty through tourism - driven development (Giampiccoli & Mtapuri, 2012). Subsequently, scholars have conducted extensive research into the nature and concept of CBT (Prakoso et al., 2020; Blackstock, 2005; Ruiz -Ballesteros, 2023). Table 1 primarily dissects the diverse definitions of CBT during different time periods.

Through the aforementioned analysis of CBT definitions, it becomes evident that various authors emphasize different aspects within their definitions. In general, two different perspectives have emerged regarding the connection between the community and tourism development. The first viewpoint contends that CBT should act as a driver for community development via tourism - driven impetus. Citing examples, Honggang et al. (2009), Goodwin and Santilli (2009), ASEAN (2016), Mtapuri and Giampiccoli (2019)

subscribe to this notion. The crux of this perspective lies in the recognition of CBT as an instrumental vehicle for community development. Beyond economic expansion, the implementation of CBT places greater emphasis on concepts such as community equity and empowerment. The second viewpoint asserts that by leveraging community resources and participation, tourism development can be ultimately fostered. Illustrative of this are the works of [Liu \(2000\)](#), [Dangi and Jamal \(2016\)](#). This viewpoint emanates from liberalism and neoliberalism; however, it falls short of achieving the intended transformative objectives within community development, as noted by [Blackstock \(2005\)](#).

Table 1: Definitions and Key Points of CBT in Different Periods

| | Author | Definition | Key words |
|---|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Murphy (1985) | Tourism activities are developed by relying on the unique material and non - material resources within the local community. These resources constitute the sources of local tourism attractions, and the demands of local residents should be incorporated into tourism planning considerations. | The first one emphasizes the importance of the community in tourism planning. |
| 2 | Liu (2000) | CBT refers to involving the community as the main body of tourism development in the decision - making and implementation systems regarding significant tourism - related development matters such as tourism planning and tourism development. Community - involved tourism development constitutes an important content and evaluation criterion for the sustainable development of tourism. | Sustainable development, with a focus on tourism. |
| 3 | Suansri (2003) | CBT is a tourism modality centered on the sustainability of environment, society, and culture. This form of tourism is both managed and owned by the community, which also serves as the recipient of its services. Its objective is to facilitate tourists' deeper recognition and understanding of the community as well as the local lifestyle. | Sustainability, community - managed and - owned. |
| 4 | Simpson (2008) | CBTIs endeavors to enable the community to reap profits through tourism development. Merely ensuring the community's profit - gaining is sufficient, although in an ideal scenario, it implies a certain level of the community's control over ownership and participation. | Focus on tourism and community benefits, and to some extent, control over rights and participation. |
| 5 | Honggang, Sofield, & Jigang (2009) | Communities Benefiting through Tourism, an alternative name for CBT, denotes that community members, by virtue of local resources, engage in local tourism operations either by offering labor services to existing enterprises or through interactions with tourists. Moreover, the resultant tourism activities within this context may take the form of mass tourism. | Focus on the community, and it can be mass tourism. |
| 6 | Goodwin & | CBT is designed to confer benefits upon a | Focus on community, |

| | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | Santilli (2009) | more extensive group, namely the entire community, rather than being confined solely to those individuals employed within tourism - related initiatives. The role of the community within the tourism context can manifest as a combination of ownership and management rights, or alternatively, as either one of these elements independently. | own and management. |
| 7 | Dangi & Jamal (2016) | CBT entails that the operation of the tourism industry necessitates the equal participation of local people throughout all phases, including planning, implementation, and decision - making. This comprehensive involvement is aimed at augmenting income sources and thereby attaining the sustainable development of tourism. | Focus on community, control and participation. |
| 8 | The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN, 2016) | CBT is characterized by the community's engagement in the development and preservation of cultural resources and traditions, along with the community's ownership, operation, and management of tourism activities. The ultimate objective of this model is to realize community well - being and sustainable livelihoods. | Focus on community, culture resource, own and management, sustainable development. |
| 9 | Mtapuri & Giampiccoli (2019) | CBT refers to tourism activities that are both owned and managed by the community, with the primary goal of fostering sustainable development and promoting social equity and justice. | Focus on community, own and management, sustainable development. |
| 10 | Ruiz-Ballesteros (2023) | CBT is a tourism development concept that offers an alternative to traditional tourism organizational approaches. It provides tourists with tourism products based on local features, aiming to foster the sustainable development of the local society and environment. It is characterized by local control of and participation in tourism development, as well as the collective sharing of the benefits of tourism development, or at least a part of them. | Focus on community, own and management, sustainable development. |

Among the core concepts under discussion of CBT, control and participation are the most crucial components. Nevertheless, scholars' opinions on the degree of realization of control and participation vary. Although the CBT in an ideal state encompasses a certain level of community control over ownership and participation, some scholars claim that this is not essential because it suffices for the community to reap benefits ([Simpson, 2008](#)). There are also scholars who hold that CBT should be managed and owned by the community ([Suansri, 2003](#)). Moreover, some scholars have a reconciliatory view on control and management. They define CBT as ownership and/or management, indicating that the community doesn't necessarily own tourism enterprises ([Goodwin & Santilli, 2009](#)).

Despite the differences in scholars' viewpoints regarding the definition of CBT, there remain some key concepts commonly referred to by them. These aspects encompass the

local resources upon which CBT relies, the methods through which it is implemented, such as control and participation, and its ultimate goal, which is the sustainable development of either the community or tourism.

2.1.2. Dimensions of CBT

CBT emerged with the objective of surmounting the negative influences of traditional tourism or mass tourism. As a result, it has surfaced as a solution for tourism development or a social - organization strategy within local communities (Oka, Murni & Mecha, 2021). Specifically, as a community - development approach for self - reliance in under - developed areas, the adoption of the CBT development model is considered one of the more morally - sound ways for the community (Giampiccoli & Mtapuri, 2012). The question then arises as to how this community - development approach can be actualized. To conduct an analysis of the dimensions encompassed by CBT, Table 2 primarily explores the diverse viewpoints regarding the CBT attributes during different time periods.

Table 2: Attributes of CBT

| Sequence number | Author | Attributes |
|-----------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Suansri (2003) | Economy (income, job opportunities, capital), society (quality of life, sense of pride, fair distribution of benefits), culture (value of tourism resources, local characteristic culture, cultural influence), environment (environmental carrying capacity, waste management, protection awareness), politics (local participation, increase in local rights, rights in natural resource management) |
| 2 | Kayat (2014) | Community participation, empowerment and leadership; benefits to the community; collaboration and networking; marketing and promotion; conservation. |
| 3 | Mayaka et al. (2019) | Community's participation in tourism development, rights and control, expected outcomes (community benefits and tourist experiences) |
| 4 | Mtapuri & Giampiccoli (2019) | Control, social justice or redistribution, local participation or benefits, cultural or social sustainability, environmental sustainability, psychological sustainability |
| 5 | Prakoso et al. (2020) | Social capital (participation, empowerment, ownership, social structure) and cultural capital |
| 6 | Islam (2021) | Economy (employment opportunities, community income, funds required for community development); society (quality of life, social status, community pride and community management organizations); culture (cultural awareness, cultural exchange); politics (community participation, empowerment); environmental factors (resource protection, waste management) |
| 7 | Ngo & Creutz (2022) | Economy (income and distribution), culture and society (value preservation and quality of life), environment (environmental impact, environmental awareness), community (community support, community development policies) |
| 8 | Fan, Ng & | Sustainability, local participation and maximization of |

| | | |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9 | Bayrak(2023) Ruiz-Ballesteros (2023) | community benefits Control and participation, specifically including ownership of tourism resources and infrastructure, tourism decision - making and management of tourism operations, and benefits - gaining |
| 10 | Quang et al. (2023) | High - level participation in tourism projects and development, control of the development process, and direct benefits to the community |

In the analysis of the constituent dimensions of CBT, scholars have engaged in diverse discussions. It can be observed that the majority of scholars formulate dimensions predicated on the notion that CBT constitutes a community development strategy. From the vantage point of community development, analyses predominantly focus on how CBT functions as a tool for such development. Consequently, this encompasses a comprehensive examination of community development, with society, economy, culture, environment, and politics being regarded as distinct elements within CBT development. Moreover, certain scholars have identified the dimension of psychological sustainability ([Mtapuri & Giampiccoli, 2019](#)). Local natural and cultural resources represent the potential for CBT's progression, and the community ought to possess ownership of resources and facilities ([Ruiz-Ballesteros, 2023](#)). Sustainable development has emerged as the objective of CBT's evolution ([Fan et al., 2023](#)). Control, participation, and anticipated outcomes are recognized as the most salient attribute characteristics of CBT ([Ruiz-Ballesteros, 2023](#)). However, the community exhibits varying degrees of participation, control, and benefit within these three dimensions. In light of this, distinct terms should be employed to describe different manifestations of CBT. The original CBT concept, which encompasses community empowerment and self - reliance, represents the optimal state of CBT. High - level empowerment stimulates the community's spontaneous participation. In contrast, Community Tourism manifests an exploitative form of community involvement, while Community - based partnership occupies an intermediate position. The specific outcomes of its development hinge upon the degree of negotiation between the community and external partners ([Giampiccoli & Mtapuri, 2012](#)).

2.2. Community and Community Development

A principal factor contributing to the difficulty in sustaining CBT projects in practice is the misapprehension or oversimplification of the community ([Fan et al., 2023](#)). The community serves as both the origin and the focal point of CBT development, functioning as the foundation as well as the objective ([Ruiz-Ballesteros, 2023](#)). The community plays a vital role in the sustainable development of the destination, since it constitutes the primary focus of local tourism development ([Quang et al., 2023](#)). The analysis of the core concepts of CBT is inextricably linked to the analysis of the concept of the community and community development.

2.2.1. Community and Development

Community is a core concept in social anthropology ([Durkheim, 1997](#); [Tönnies, 1955](#)), and it is also a term frequently utilized by tourism practitioners and the academic community ([Fan et al., 2023](#)). Although the term “community” is frequently used, there is currently no unified view regarding the definition of community ([Dunham, Freeman & Liedtk, 2006](#); [Hillery, 1955](#)).

Scholars have engaged in extensive discussions regarding the nature of a community. Generally, two viewpoints have emerged (Ruiz-Ballesteros, 2023). The first viewpoint employs a structural approach to understanding the community. Specifically, a community is regarded as a relatively independent and invariant entity with distinctive features and clear - cut objectives (Harper, 1989). Consequently, a community can be perceived as an entity with well - defined geographical boundaries, which naturally encompasses the local residents. The second viewpoint, on the other hand, adopts a symbolic approach. It holds that a community is a symbolic or abstract concept, and the concept of a community is constructed upon common values or interests (Lee & Newby, 1983). Although this symbolic approach has increasingly gained more acceptance among scholars, the understanding of a community should be analyzed within specific contexts, taking into account various development backgrounds (Fan et al., 2023).

In the context of CBT, a community ought to be construed as an interest - alliance constituted by a cohort of individuals sharing a common interest in tourism within the same geographical expanse. These individuals are capable of mutual assistance and are interconnected (Giampiccoli, & Mtapuri, 2012). The comprehension of the community within the CBT framework should be of a geographical essence and, in the majority of instances, closely associated with rural areas (Mtapuri & Giampiccoli, 2019). Nevertheless, the communication within the community is not absolutely confined to a particular geographical space. The geographical - spatial approach is not entirely apt for CBT, and the CBT community is not purely an aggregation of symbolic relations either. Given that CBT transpires within a specific territorial space, the community is a flexible and dynamically evolving concept. It should be identified through the behaviors of the members involved in CBT rather than by predetermining a rigid concept. The two dimensions for identifying the community are collective action and reciprocity (Ruiz-Ballesteros, 2023).

2.2.2. Community Development and Value

As previously expounded, CBT serves as a strategic instrument designed to foster community development. Consequently, during the analysis of CBT circumstances, CBT ought to be analyzed within the comprehensive perspective of the community.

The concept of development encompasses a multitude of aspects, involving economic growth, social well - being of humans, self - reliance, and community empowerment at the political stratum, and invariably adheres to the people - centered tenet (Giampiccoli & Mtapuri, 2012). The objective of community development lies in the establishment of sustainable communities, thereby attaining social justice and mutual respect within the community (Gilchrist, 2003). During the development process, an understanding of the realization of the community's intrinsic value is requisite, which primarily encompasses participation, empowerment, ownership, as well as social and institutional capital (Veriasa & Waite, 2017). According to the research findings of Suansri (2003), CBT has exerted beneficial impetus on community development in five dimensions, namely the social, economic, cultural, political, and environmental aspects. Consequently, based on the holistic perspective analysis of community development, when scholars deliberate on whether CBT follows the trajectory of tourism or that of the community, the answer has already been obtained. Concerning the issue of varying degrees of community participation and control, as a tool for community development, the community should possess absolute ownership and control over tourism development, albeit this

represents an ideal situation. The subsequent section of this paper undertakes an analysis of the realization of CBT in the context of sustainable tourism development.

2.3. Sustainable Development and Sustainable Tourism

2.3.1. Sustainable Development

In 1987, the United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development (UNWECD, 1987) pioneeringly introduced the concept of sustainable development (SD) in "Our Common Future", regarding SD as "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs". This concept demands an emphasis on both inter - generational and intra - generational balances in the course of development, as well as the balance between developed and under - developed regions on a global scale. It has thereby elicited global attention towards issues concerning resource conservation and utilization, along with social development (Dangi & Jamal, 2016). Nevertheless, during this period, tourism was not integrated into the concept of sustainable development, given that the Brundtland Report scarcely made any reference to tourism (Hall, Gössling & Scott, 2015).

2.3.2. Sustainable Tourism

During the 1990s, tourism, as a branch of sustainable development, gradually garnered attention (Dangi & Jamal, 2016), giving rise to the concept of sustainable tourism. In 1994, the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO, 1994) provided a clear elaboration of sustainable tourism: "Sustainable tourism development endeavors to fulfill the requirements of current tourists and host regions, while simultaneously safeguarding and augmenting future opportunities. It is perceived to entail the management of all resources in such a manner that economic, social, and aesthetic demands are satisfied, along with the preservation of cultural integrity, crucial ecological processes, biodiversity, and life - support systems."

Bramwell and Lane were pioneers in framing "sustainable tourism" as an economic growth model. The central aim of this model is to catalyze a significant improvement in the quality of life within local communities, to intensify the unique experiential value offered by tourist destinations, and to protect the natural and cultural environments of tourist attractions (Lane, 1994).

Since the 21st century, sustainable tourism development has explicitly incorporated local communities as a vital and indispensable element within the context of sustainable tourism (UNWTO, 2005). Additionally, equity and cultural recognition have also been integrated into the ambit of sustainable tourism. Furthermore, the WTO has indicated that sustainable tourism is not a specialized form of tourism development; rather, all forms of tourism should be dedicated to sustainable development objectives (Sharpley, 2020).

Consequently, it can be observed that CBT has not only emerged as a crucial component of community sustainable development, achieving community progress through the continuous enhancement of economic, cultural, and social benefits, but also, as a type of tourism development, represents the developmental approach demanded by sustainable tourism.

The achievement of sustainable tourism is customarily predicated upon three pillars, namely the environmental, economic, and social aspects. Collectively, these pillars furnish a framework for the growth of sustainable tourism, guaranteeing that tourism - related activities fulfill present - day requirements without undermining the availability of resources in the future (Streimikiene, Svagzdiene, Jasinskas & Simanavicius, 2021).

Each of these three pillars imposes distinct demands on the development of CBT at different hierarchical levels. On the social level, the focus lies in the community - based development of CBT, encompassing elements such as cultural value, empowerment, participation, and the enhancement of community living quality as previously described. In the economic dimension, the emphasis is placed on the amelioration of local livelihoods and the fair distribution of benefits. With regard to the environmental aspect, attention is directed towards the requisites of CBT development concerning natural resources and environmental conservation.

Consequently, an appropriate equilibrium must be sought between the objectives of sustainable development and the modus operandi of CBT development, in order to guarantee the lasting sustainability of both community and tourism development.

3. Methods

This research focuses on the sustainable development of Community-based tourism and conducts a systematic analysis of relevant research materials. The author employs the China National Knowledge Infrastructure (CNKI) and the Web of Science (WoS) databases, using "Community-based tourism" and "sustainable development" as keywords to conduct an extensive search of the literature up to October 2024. After rigorously screening and excluding off-topic entries, a batch of key literatures is selected as the basis for constructing the conceptual framework.

This article first comprehensively reviews the literature related to CBT, analyzing it from the aspects of definition and dimension. Secondly, it deeply studies the literatures related to community and community development as well as sustainable tourism. Finally, in the concept refinement stage, the concepts are classified into different categories according to the core genus of CBT, and each category and concept reflects a certain important aspect of CBT. Eventually, based on the CBT theory and sustainable development theory, the conceptual framework of this thesis is constructed, with an in-depth analysis from three dimensions: social, economic, and environmental.

4. Towards a Conceptual Framework

Through an extensive review and in - depth analysis of relevant literature, this paper proposes a conceptual framework of CBT oriented towards sustainable development. This framework encompasses the three crucial pillars of sustainable tourism, namely the social, economic, and environmental dimensions. By doing so, it establishes the groundwork for a comprehensive analysis of CBT. The overarching objective is to facilitate the effective implementation of CBT strategies at the community level by proffering systematic, integrated, and elaborate solutions (see Table 3).

Table 3: Principles of Sustainable Community-based tourism

| Author(year) | Social | | | Economic | | Environmental | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| | culture resource | community participation | community welfare | management | economic income | income distribution | nature resource | environmental protection |
| Suyatna et al. (2024) | | √ | √ | √ | | | | |
| Zhu & Rahmanita (2023) | √ | | | √ | | | | |
| Quang et al. (2023) | | √ | | √ | √ | √ | | |
| Nugroho & Numata (2022) | | √ | | √ | | √ | √ | |
| Moayerian et al. (2022) | √ | √ | | | √ | | | |
| Chan, Marzuki & Mohtar (2021) | | √ | | | | | √ | √ |
| Giampiccoliet al. (2021) | | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | | |
| Islam (2021) | √ | √ | √ | √ | | √ | √ | √ |
| Eshun & Tichaawa (2020) | | | | | √ | | √ | √ |
| Carius & Job(2021) | | √ | √ | √ | | √ | √ | |
| Mayaka et al. (2019) | | √ | | √ | | | | |
| Kayat (2014) | √ | √ | √ | √ | | | √ | √ |
| Giampiccoli & Mtapuri (2012) | | √ | | √ | | | | |
| Mtapuri & Giampiccoli (2019) | √ | √ | √ | √ | | √ | | √ |

4.1. Cultural Resources

In the grand context of global sustainable development, the attainment of cultural sustainable development constitutes a critical objective (Zhu & Rahmanita, 2023). Community - Based Tourism (CBT) typically emphasizes the presentation of authentic lifestyles and cultures (Zielinski et al., 2020). Consequently, cultural resources have emerged as a significant constituent within both sustainable development and CBT. Local communities, by virtue of their unique cultural capital, particularly the genuine and distinctive traditions and lifestyles (Prakoso et al., 2020), can forge a unique community cultural identity through the integration of cultural entrepreneurship and community tourism. Through a diverse array of cultural performances and cultural experience activities, tourists can obtain rich and immersive cultural experiences (Moayerian et al., 2022; Mtapuri & Giampiccoli, 2019). This particular kind of experience emanates from tourists' aspiration for cultural authenticity (Zielinski et al., 2020).

4.2. Community Participation

The community plays a crucial and indispensable role in the sustainable development of destinations and frequently constitutes the focal point within the ambit of tourism development (Budhiasa, Kencana & Darmayanti, 2016). The community's participatory capability represents a pivotal element that can drive the tourism industry towards sustainable development (Moayerian et al., 2022). Moreover, community participation serves as the linchpin for endowing tourism development with enhanced ethicality (Salazar, 2012). Among various factors, community participation exerts the most significant influence on the extent to which local residents support tourism development (Nugroho & Numata, 2022). Specifically, community participation entails involvement in the tourism decision - making process as well as the management of tourism enterprises (Ruiz-Ballesteros, 2023). Indeed, sustainability fundamentally originates from the local community's active engagement in both the planning and implementation of tourism development initiatives (Dangi & Jamal, 2016).

4.3. Community Welfare

Community welfare constitutes one of the common aspects of sustainable tourism and CBT, and it holds a vital position in both (Dangi & Jamal, 2016). Tourism has the potential to facilitate the enhancement of local residents' welfare, and community welfare also ranks among the significant objectives for CBT in attaining sustainable development (Prakoso et al., 2020). Community welfare has been integrated into the sustainability assessment indicators of CBT, encompassing the elevation of residents' quality of life and security, as well as the augmentation of community pride, among others (Ngo & Creutz, 2022). The World Tourism Organization (WTO) has underlined that sustainable tourism development should be characterized by morality and equity at the social level. By allocating a portion of the profits to the development and construction within the community and facilitating the realization of community welfare through infrastructure improvement, this represents the ideal objective of both CBT and sustainable development (Havadi & Espinosa, 2020).

4.4. Management

CBT represents a structure constituted by an entire community or a specific group of people, such as cooperatives or other organizational forms (Giampiccoli & Mtapuri, 2012). The crucial factors contributing to the success of such an entity encompass the establishment of management institutions, the implementation of effective management measures, the formulation of specific management and guidance plans, as well as the presence of leadership, among others (Van der Walt, 2008).

In the context of effective CBT management, it involves the reinforcement of the community's organizational structure and the development of relevant institutions, which are essential for ensuring the long - term efficacy of the self - management of CBT projects. The establishment of a tourism development committee or other analogous institutions in collaboration with external stakeholders can effectively construct a negotiation platform with partners, thereby facilitating the effective management of local CBT (Zielinski et al., 2020). Effective community management has the capacity to maximize the tourism potential by capitalizing on the community's strengths and advantages, while simultaneously minimizing the negative impacts resulting from the community's weaknesses and challenges (Oka et al., 2021).

4.5. Economic Income

CBT is explicitly formulated with the disadvantaged groups in focus (Tasci, Semrad, & Yilmaz, 2013). When applying the CBT methodology to develop marginalized communities where the disadvantaged are concentrated, the primary consideration lies in providing aid and support to address their economic hardships (Zhao & Ritchie, 2007). Consequently, for communities with limited other economic activities, generating economic revenue through tourism development has emerged as the fundamental objective of CBT, facilitating the economic resurgence of these remote rural areas (Zielinski et al., 2020). Thus, economic income constitutes a significant element within CBT within the context of sustainable development. Based on the development of traditional agriculture, a transition to tourism development has led to an augmentation of sustainable livelihoods (Quang et al., 2023).

4.6. Income Distribution

CBT is inherently rooted in the community from its inception and explicitly demands a close nexus between social justice and distribution (Dangi & Jamal, 2016). While the significance of tourism development for economic progress is incontrovertible, the growth of tourism income does not necessarily lead to an effective reduction of social inequality; rather, it may even exacerbate such disparities. The adoption of specific CBT - based approaches, customized to local development characteristics, can foster the fairness and equality in the distribution of tourism income (Giampiccoli, Mtapuri & Nauright, 2021). This thereby underlines the criticality of income distribution within CBT and sustainable development. This is because, in contrast to other tourism forms that prioritize profit maximization, CBT places greater emphasis on the realization of the local community's interests (Abdul Razzaq et al., 2012).

4.7. Natural Resources

In the competitive landscape of tourist destinations, natural resources play a pivotal role. The effective utilization and conservation of natural resources are of utmost significance for the achievement of sustainable tourism development. Natural resources encompass landscapes, water resources, and biodiversity, along with unique natural landscapes, geoparks, and other natural marvels (Santangelo & Valente, 2020). When integrated with the cultural resources that are characteristic of tourist destinations, such as historical sites and cultural landscapes, the allure of tourist destinations is substantially augmented (Marczak & Borzyszkowski, 2020). Natural resources form the bedrock of CBT development, as they directly influence the attractiveness and competitiveness of destinations. Effective management of natural resources not only enhances the tourist experience but also bolsters the tourism - related performance of the community (Narančić & Bulatović, 2022).

4.8. Environmental Protection

A comprehensive comprehension of the impacts of tourism should incorporate the environmental ramifications brought about by tourism development, in addition to economic and cultural considerations. Although some scholars have suggested that CBT primarily focuses on the social and economic dimensions of tourism development, others have highlighted the pertinence of CBT to environmental issues. Suansri (2003) posited that CBT must take into account relevant environmental protection concerns. Several CBT manuals/handbooks explicitly indicate the connection between CBT and issues of sustainability and the environment. Although tourism development invariably exerts an impact on the environment, CBT can adopt effective measures to mitigate or prevent the occurrence of negative impacts. CBET, in fact, has been proposed in light of CBT's emphasis on environmental issues. Indeed, both CBT and other forms of tourism should consider the imperatives of sustainability and environmental protection (Giampiccoli, Mtapuri & Dłużewska, 2020). Based on this premise, CBT should be more widely promoted to establish it as a crucial principle that governs and influences tourism development (Saayman & Giampiccoli, 2016).

5. Conclusion

This paper commences with an exhaustive review of the existing research literature regarding CBT. The core of this analysis is centered on the in - depth exploration of the CBT concept and its pivotal dimensions. By embedding CBT within the context of community development and sustainable tourism, a conceptual framework for the progression of CBT towards sustainable tourism has been methodically constructed, leveraging previous research findings. This examination of CBT's sustainable development unfolds from three distinct vantage points: the social, economic, and environmental dimensions. Natural resources and cultural resources function as the bedrock of the CBT conceptual framework and concomitantly provide the foundation for tourism development. Community participation and management are of substantial significance as they represent the primary mechanisms for realizing community engagement within the CBT framework. Economic income, income distribution, community welfare, and environmental protection are the intended outcomes within the CBT purview, and these elements are appropriately classified under the corresponding sustainable development pillars.

The principal contribution of the conceptual framework proposed herein resides in the introduction of a framework that holds both theoretical significance and practical value. The construction of the CBT conceptual framework from the vantage point of sustainable tourism serves to integrate and extend the content related to community participation and sustainable development within existing theories, thereby furnishing a systematic analysis for the comprehension and assessment of CBT's development. From a practical perspective, this framework can provide novel viewpoints for the understanding and facilitation of community development and sustainable tourism development. Communities can utilize this framework to plan tourism projects, balance economic interests with social and environmental benefits, avert excessive development and destruction, ensure the long - term sustainable utilization of community tourism resources, and consequently achieve the stable development of the community tourism economy and the continuous elevation of residents' quality of life. Through the clearly - defined CBT conceptual framework, tourism developers and managers can formulate more scientifically - rational community participation strategies and mechanisms, thus promoting the harmonious and symbiotic development of tourism and the community. For future research, it is recommended to conduct further in - depth investigations based on this conceptual framework in order to examine the applicability of this research framework in determining the sustainability of community development and rural tourism development.

Ethics Approval and Consent to Participate

Not applicable.

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Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of Interest.

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