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PRESPECTIVE OF TOURISM DEVELOPMENT IN BIJAGOS ISLAND (GUINEA-BISSAU) AS WELL AS COMMUNITY ECONOMIC GROWTH

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Abstract:

Tourism is one of the drivers of the economic progress of the community and increases government income. Through tourism, it can create jobs and thus reduce unemployment. However, if tourism is not managed properly, it will not increase or boost the economy. This is the case in small Islands in Guinea-Bissau. Guinea-Bissau has very beautiful islands, blue sea, very white sand, birds, sea hippos and a very beautiful culture. However, this is not managed and even there is no promotion or even no assistance from the tourism office. So that it results in very small community income and very low tourism office income.

Keywords: *Tourism Development, Economic Growth, Community, Guinea-Bissau*

1. INTRODUCTION

Tourism is a big driver for the economies of many countries around the world, in 2018 tourism contributed USD 1.7 trillion of global GDP (Bandoi et al, 2020). Many countries depend heavily on tourism for a large part of their income, for example Indonesia. According to the Ministry of Tourism's Pocket Book (2016), the contribution of the tourism sector to the national Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2014 has reached 9% or Rp. 946.09 trillion. Meanwhile, foreign exchange from the tourism sector in 2014 reached IDR 120 trillion and contributed 11 million people to employment opportunities. Through the mechanism of attraction and push towards other economic sectors related to the tourism sector, such as hotels and restaurants, transportation, the handicraft industry and others. Through its multiplier effect, tourism can and is able to accelerate economic growth and job creation. That is why, accelerating economic growth and creating wider employment opportunities can be done by promoting tourism development.

Guinea-Bissau is one of the 10 poorest countries in the world with two thirds of the population living below the poverty line (World Bank, 2020). Income has traditionally been independent of tourism, with 90% of its GDP coming from agriculture, mainly cashew nuts and cashew nut products. However, before the Covid-19 outbreak, tourism was a growing industry in a country with tourism revenues of USD 20 million in 2017

(World Bank, 2020), besides that the level of tourist visits in Guinea-Bissau in recent years has also experienced an increase and decrease which shows how tourism flows are developing in the country.

Figure 1. Recapitulation of Tourist Visit Rates 2010-2016



Source; (tourism agency, Guinea-Bissau, 2017)

One of the main areas that attract both national and international tourism is the Bijagos Islands, an archipelago of 88 islands off the coast of the mainland. People visit Bijagos Island (Guinea-Bissau) for beautiful adventures and a magical and unique world of indigenous tribal traditions and unusual wildlife, they also focus on its stunning coastline, consisting of islands and lagoons, wetlands and forests mangroves in search of scarce salt water. hippos, watching turtles lay their eggs on the beach and learning about the customs of the local people, visit the village of Okinawa Pampa, a matriarchal society. This article hopes to investigate the correlation of increasing tourism development in Bijagos and the economic growth of the community. Is a community-led development plan a sustainable and viable option for Bijagos and what are its drawbacks?

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Tourism

According to Law No. 10 of 2009, tourism is a variety of tourism activities and is supported by various facilities and services provided by the community, businessmen, government and local governments.

Tourism Development

According to Tikson in (Widyawati & Wayan, 2017) defines development as a deliberate economic, social and cultural transformation through policies and strategies towards the desired direction. According to Muljadi who was quoted by (Aryani et al., 2017) tourism development is an effort to develop and take advantage of tourist attractions, which are manifested in the form of beautiful natural wealth, diversity of flora and fauna, diversity of traditions and cultural arts as well as historical and ancient relics.

Economic growth

According to Todaro in (YAKUP, 2019) The economic progress of a region shows the success of a development although it is not the only indicator of development success.

Research (relevant)

Table 1. Relevant Previous Research

Name	Title	Result
(Widyawati & Wayan, 2017)	Tourism Development Strategy through the Synergy of the Tourism Office with Traditional Villages (Case Study on the Management of Labuan Sait Beach Tourism Objects in Increasing Local Levies in Badung Regency)	The results of the research showed that the development strategy of tourism through the synergy with the customary village Tourism Office on the management of Beach Tourism Labuan Sait in improving regional levies in Badung Regency are still insufficient. That is because is still lacking from the indicator monitoring and implementation and evaluation of the impact against the decline of levy of admission attractions Labuan Sait in the 2017.
(YAKUP, 2019)	The influence of the tourism sector on economic growth in Indonesia	The results of this study indicate that tourism has a positive effect on tourism.
(Aryani et al., 2017)	Analysis of the impact of tourism development on the economic and socio-cultural aspects of the community (Case Study in Bejiharjo Tourism Village, Karangmojo District, Gunungkidul Regency, D.I.Yogyakarta)	The tourism development carried out has an impact on the economic and socio-cultural aspects of the community, this impact is in the form of positive impacts as well as negative impacts.

3. RESEARCH METHODS

This type of research uses a qualitative descriptive method with a descriptive approach. The sampling procedure can be classified into probability sampling. The informants in this study, the authors were determined by purposive sampling method. The location of this research is Bijagos Island. Samples include; tourism office with key informants Director of the Office of Studies, Planning and International Relations of Bijagos (Bissagos) Mr. Victor Monteiro This research looks at tourism development: Promotion, Investors, Access, Accommodation, Attractions, Activities, Amenities, Infrastructure and Economic Growth, Community Income, Impact / income for the tourism industry. Quality of life (education, health, and others) in the Bijagos Islands (Bissagos).

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Tourism Conditions in Guinea Bissau

Guinea Bissau is a country located on the continent of West Africa. Territorially, Guinea-Bissau includes the Bijagos Islands (Bissagos) and other adjacent islands in the Atlantic Ocean. The capital of this country is Bissau which is also the largest city. On its official website, Guinea-Bissau is a small coastal country in the south of Senegal, where most of the people speak the local language, Creole, Portuguese and a little French. In addition, Guinea-Bissau is considered a good route for foreign tourists. In 1998-1999 there was a civil war that destroyed the economy of Guinea-Bissau, but the government guaranteed that tourism facilities and infrastructure were maintained. However, in general, the facilities and infrastructure are still very limited, but they are trying to make the area which they call the "hidden gem of West Africa" be discovered by visitors from various countries. Despite having a relatively small territory, Guinea-Bissau takes pride in its extraordinary beaches and wildlife. In addition, Guinea-Bissau also still has a rather thick West African tradition in some of its areas, as well as remnants of Portuguese colonialism which they want to make as an attraction for tourists.

Table 2. Some of the famous tourist attractions in Guinea Bissau

The place	Information
Bissau Central market (Bandim)	Step into the place of African culture where Bissau's main market is busy. Browse the numerous small shops and vendors selling everything from fresh food and local cooked food to textiles and clothing. Many artisans make jewelry, home decorations, hand-woven tablecloths and wax products. A day spent here allows you to learn about the lifestyle of the locals and have the opportunity to buy some unforgettable gifts and souvenirs.
Presidential palace	The Presidential Palace is the residence of the President of Guinea-Bissau, located in the capital Bissau. Its height is one of the strongest buildings in the city, but it was destroyed and bombed during the 1998-99 Guinea-Bissau civil war. As of 2012, the old palace still stands, but has been abandoned and overgrown with bats. In 2013, the new Presidential Palace invested by China opened as part of several large-scale construction projects in the city, including a 20,000-seat stadium and a new capitol.
Bissau Cathedral	Bissau Cathedral (Portuguese: Catedral de Bissau), also known as Sé Catedral de Nossa Senhora da Candelária (Cathedral of Our Lady of Candelaria), is a Catholic cathedral in Bissau, Guinea-Bissau. It is the center of the Catholic Church in Guinea-Bissau. The cathedral is the seat of the diocese of Bissau, which was founded in 1977. It is located in the center of Bissau and is known for its lighthouse function. Services are provided in Portuguese. The original church was built in a medieval architectural style in 1935. Built on the same site, the current cathedral replaced the original church. The current architects of the cathedral are João Simões and Galhardo Zilhão. Construction began in 1945 and was completed in 1950. The subsequent renovation is attributed to the architect Lucínio Cruz. Many inauguration ceremonies were held in the cathedral. On January 27, 1990, Pope John Paul II

The place	Information
	visited. On August 9, 1998, Bishop Settimio Ferrazzetta delivered an important speech at the cathedral, condemning the violence in the country. After his death the following year, he was buried in the cathedral.

Based on the results and discussions of several informants, as follows:

Table 3: Discussion of research results

No	Discussion	Indicator	Keterangan
1	Guinea-Bissau tourism development	Promotion	Current promotions are through social media, websites, videos and photos. The promotional links are as follows: http://www.guinebissaurepublic.com https://www.africatouoperators.org/guinea-bissau https://www.responsibletravel.com/holidays/guinea-bissau/travel-guide YouTube : https://youtu.be/8K5X8b_PqvU https://youtu.be/bMANGNM02nw
		Investors	Until now, not one single investor knows about and invests in Tourism Guinea-Bissau, but it is possible that in the future they will accept investors.
		Access	Access to tourist attractions is currently very good. Transportation uses sea transportation which is the private property of Guinean-Bissau citizens and some of the government. For access to islands or tourist attractions, there are boats with a capacity of 200 seats, which travel weekly to Bubaque. Regular departures for Bubaque take place on Fridays at 12:00 and return on Sundays in the evening. These times vary as they are subject to the highs and lows. There are also canoes which have the same connection to other islands and destinations with different routes, duration and frequency. If you are in a group you can rent a private boat that is available, boats with up to 10 seats. The price is agreed upon with the boat owner, depending on the day of the rental. All ships have crew, radio controllers and life jackets for all passengers.
		Accommodation	Accommodation on the island of Bijagos is equipped with hotels, apartments, restaurants and discotheques. Hotel Calipso and Orango Park Hotel. Aparthotel, Aparthotel Carangues, Aparthotel Le Tyteline, Aparthotel Raoul, Aparthotel Rucas. Apartment; Acaja Club Apartments, Joao Vieira Apartments, Bahtera Nuh Apartments, Kasa Africana Apartments, Balafon Apartments, Apartamento Maiana Village, Cadjoco Apartments, Apartamento Mine –Vague, Canoa Apartments, Tubaron Club Apartments, Chez Denis Apartments, Apartamento Cruz Ponte, Dauphins Apartments,

No	Discussion	Indicator	Keterangan
			Hotels Pousada Chinda, Hotel Dalilan, Prodem Restoration, Cassumay and Tatumi Discotheque.
		Attractions	Tourist attraction on the island of Bijagos, Guinea-Bissau is very good, there are very beautiful beaches, blue sea and green plants, birds, turtles, sea hippos and small islands that have very nice views. However, until now there has been no management, so it is still natural. There is no water boom yet, but only a safari park, traditional clothing and musical instruments attract tourists.
		Activities	Tourism activities on the island of Bijagos Guinea-Bissau are cultural activities organized by operators and local communities in the form of carnivals. In addition, on the island tourists can camp and refresh.
		Amenities	The availability of accommodation facilities for overnight stays as well as restaurants or stalls for eating and drinking is very adequate as explained in point d.
		Infrastructure	In general, the infrastructure in Guinea-Bissau tourism is inadequate. For example, there is no good road for access to transportation so that there is a lack of access for economic needs, there is no five-star hotel, there is no mineral water so that it still uses well water, there is no public electricity so it still uses private generators, there is no waste management, and already exists. public hospitals from the government but the facilities used are lacking such as medicine and others.
2	Economic growth in Guinea-Bissau	Community income	The income of the people of Guinea-Bissau is still very low. Income is obtained from selling drinking water, food, alcoholic drinks, and very small hotels. Even people who are far from the shore do not have any income. Lack of tourist visits causes a lack of community income. Community income is only obtained if there are holidays such as Christmas. Even if the government takes a vacation to the island or the outskirts they don't pay. In addition, the government has not made any investment or cooperation with the community to build the community's economy through existing tourism development.
		Impacts / revenues for the Guinea-Bissau tourism industry	The impact / revenue for the tourism industry is very low. Revenue is only obtained from the use of several ferry boats as a means of government transportation and taxes from restaurants and small hotels on the island.
		The quality of life of the people (education, health, etc.) in Guinea-Bissau	The quality of education is very minimal, even tourism education in these small islands does not yet exist. The hospital is still very small and if you are seriously ill, you should be referred to the capital city because of the lack of facilities and inadequate equipment.

Source: Online interview with the Director of the Office for Studies, Planning and International Relations of Guinea-Bissau (Victor Monteiro, 2020)

Conclusion

Based on the results and discussion, it can be concluded that Bijagos Island is one of the most beautiful islands, the sand is very white, the animals and sea hippos are very good, the birds on the edge of the beach are very beautiful and the clothes and traditional music instruments are very unique that tourists can enjoy. Bijagos Island Tourism is promoted through social media, browsers and the tourism agency's web site. Apart from that, the infrastructure that is still lacking in education and health centers is still lacking, there are no star or luxury hotels. Lack of government attention in terms of tourism development on the island of Bijagos so that the existing tourism is still natural, there is no investment such as a water boom to attract tourists' attention so that the economic growth of the community is still very low. The community earns income only from the sale of drinking water, food, alcoholic drinks, fishing fishing, farming and hunting proceeds. Visitors or tourists do not pay anything when traveling, including entrance tickets unless using the existing Guest House. The lack of existing investors has made tourism development slightly hampered, this also has an effect on the economic growth of the surrounding community. Tourism development should raise existing local economies such as MSMEs (Nelson, 2003) (Hidayatullah & SBW, 2011), travel conscious group (Pokdarwis) (Hidayatullah et al., 2017) and raise the image of a tourist destination (Alvianna et al., 2020) (Hidayatullah et al., 2020) (Sandrio et al., 2020) which is the flagship and mainstay of Guinea-Bissau. Apart from this, tourism development also pays attention to massive promotions online (Amelia, 2020) (Eman et al., 2021) (Rachmawati et al., 2019), Furthermore, as stated in the discussion of human resources on tourism development, it is also still limited, even though good and excellent service is needed in creating tourist satisfaction. (Pratama et al., 2021) (Wibowo et al., 2021). Besides all that has been said, the role of a travel agency must also be considered, because the role of a travel agency is very large in attracting people to travel (Alvianna, 2017) (Hidayatullah et al., 2018) .

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