



**BUSITEMA
UNIVERSITY**
Pursuing Excellence

P.O. Box 236, Tororo, Uganda
Gen: +256 - 45 444 8838
Fax: +256 - 45 4436517
Email: info@adm.busitema.ac.ug

www.busitema.ac.ug

**ECO-TOURISM AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES
IN UGANDA: A CASE STUDY OF KIDEPO VALLEY NATIONAL PARK**

BY

NAME: OYURU BRAYAN

REG NO: 1800403059

**A RESEARCH REPORT SUBMITTED TO BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY FOR THE
STUDY LEADING TO A PROJECT REPORT IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF
THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE
OF BACHELOR OF TOURISM AND TRAVEL MANAGEMENT
OF BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY**

MARCH,2023

DECLARATION

DECLARATION

I, **Oyuru Brayan** hereby declare that this research was produced out of my own effort with the guidance of my supervisor and has never been submitted to any other institution for any award.

Signature:  Date: 01/02/2024


APPROVAL

APPROVAL

This research has been supervised and approved by me and is therefore ready for submission to the faculty of Management Sciences at Busitema University.

Signature: Date: 01/02/2024

MR. WAMPANDE JOWALIE AHMED

(Academic Supervisor)

DEDICATION

I dedicate this research to my parents for the supportive hand and courage they have given me, dear friends who advised, supported and mentored me throughout my education up to university level. Above all, I thank the Almighty God for guidance and provision towards completion of this research.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION.....	i
APPROVAL	ii
DEDICATION.....	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	iv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....	vii
CHAPTER ONE	1
INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.0 Introductions	1
1.2 Background of the study	1
1.2 Problem statement.....	3
1.3 Purpose of the study.....	3
1.4 Objectives of the study	4
1.6 Objective questions	4
1.7 Scope of the study.....	4
1.7.1 Content scope	4
1.7.2 Geographical scope	4
1.7.3 Time scope	5
1.8 Significance of the study	5
1.9 Conceptual framework.....	6
CHAPTER TWO:.....	8
LITERATURE REVIEW	8
2.0 Introduction.....	8
2.1 Theoretical review.....	8
2.2 Ecotourism	8
2.3 Sustainable development	8
2.4 The influence of ecotourism on job creation.....	9
2.5 The influence of ecotourism on environmental conservation.....	11
2.6 The role of ecotourism in promoting investment	14
CHAPTER THREE:.....	17

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	17
3.0 Introduction:	17
3.1 Research Design	17
3.2 Study Population	17
3.3 Sample Size	17
Table 3.1: shows a sampling frame	18
3.4 Sampling method	18
3.5 Type of data	18
3.5.1 Primary source	18
3.5.2 Secondary source	18
3.6 Data Collection methods.....	19
3.7 Data collection procedure.....	19
3.8 Reliability and validity	19
3.8.1 Validity.....	19
3.8.2 Reliability.....	19
3.9 Data analysis.....	20
3.10 Ethical consideration	20
CHAPTER FOUR:	21
DATA ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION OF FINDINGS.....	21
4.0 Introduction.....	21
4.1 Response Rate.....	21
4.2 Demographic Information.....	21
4.2.1 Gender of Respondents.....	21
4.2.2 Age bracket.....	22
4.2.3 Years served in the organization	23
4.2.4 Education background	23
4.3.1 Descriptive findings of the influence of ecotourism on job creation.....	24
4.4.1 Descriptive findings of the influence of ecotourism on environmental conservation around Kidepo Valley national park.....	25
4.3.1 Descriptive findings of the role of ecotourism in promoting investment	26
4.5.1 Spearman’s Correlation Analysis.....	27
4.5.1 Direct effects of ecotourism on the eco-tourism and sustainable development of local community Kidepo Valley national park.	28

4.5.2 Indirect effects of eco-tourism on sustainable development of local community Kidepo Valley national park.	28
4.5.3 Induced impacts of eco-tourism on sustainable development on local community Kidepo Valley national park.	28
4.5.2 Regression analysis.	28
4.5.2 Regression analysis of direct impacts on sustainable development of local community.....	29
4.5.3 Regression analysis of indirect effects on sustainable development of local community	29
4.5.3 Regression analysis of Induced impacts on sustainable development of local community	30
5.0 Introduction.....	32
5.1.1 To examine the direct effects of eco-tourism on poverty reduction of the local community around Kidepo Valley national park.....	32
5.1.2 To examine the influence of ecotourism on environmental conservation around Kidepo Valley national park.	33
5.1.3. To examine the contribution of ecotourism on employment creation around Kidepo Valley national park.....	33
5.2 Summary of the Findings	33
5.3 Conclusion.....	34
5.4.1 Recommendations	35
5.4.2 Policy recommendations	35
5.4.2 Recommendations for further studies	36
5.5 Limitation	36
REFERENCES	37
APPENDICES	39
Appendix 1: Questionnaire	39
Appendix iii: Work Plan	44

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I acknowledge the almighty God who has given me the strength and will to pursue this study.

My special appreciation to my supervisor and other Lecturers in the department of Tourism and Travel management who took effort to guide and advise me during the entire period of my proposal report writing.

I am also indebted to my parents for all their invaluable support and encouragement financially towards printing a research proposal.

Finally, I thank all the class mates who encouraged and assisted me in writing this research proposal, for their time which they spared to enable me accomplish this task.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introductions

This chapter comprises of the background of research project, statement of the problem, general objective and specific objectives, research questions, scope of the study and significance of the study.

1.2 Background of the study

The concept of sustainability first appeared in the public scene in the report put out by the World Commission on Environment and Development (Brundtland Commission) in 1987. The commission report advances the idea of sustainable development by noting that economic growth and environmental conservation are not only compatible but they are necessary partners. One cannot exist without the other (Harris et al., 2002). Sustainable development is high potential for any community within economic, social, cultural, ecologic and physical constraints (Bhuiyan et al., 2012).

Ecotourism is a form of tourism involving responsible travel (using sustainable transport) to natural areas, conserving the environment, and improving the well-being of the local people. Its purpose may be to educate the traveler, to provide funds for ecological conservation, to directly benefit the economic development and political empowerment of local communities, or to foster respect for different cultures and for human rights. Since the 1980s, ecotourism has been considered a critical endeavor by environmentalists, so that future generations may experience destinations relatively untouched by human intervention. Ecotourism may focus on educating travelers on local environments and natural surroundings with an eye to ecological conservation. Some include in the definition of ecotourism the effort to produce economic opportunities that make conservation of natural resources financially possible.

Generally, ecotourism deals with interaction with biotic components of the natural environments. Ecotourism focuses on socially responsible travel, personal growth, and environmental sustainability. Ecotourism typically involves travel to destinations where flora, fauna, and cultural heritage are the primary attractions. Ecotourism is intended to

REFERENCES

- Carl Bonham and James Mark, (2012). The impact of the hotel room tax: an interrupted time series approach. *The National Tax Journal*,
- Dimitrios Kyrkilis, Taxiarchis Delis & Pantelis Pantelidis (2016) Foreign direct investment and the tourism industry.
- Björk, P. (2000). Ecotourism from a conceptual perspective, an extended definition of a unique tourism form. *International Journal of Tourism Research*
- Boo, E. (1995). Ecotourism planning for protected areas.
- Lindberg, & D. E. Hawkins (Eds.), *Ecotourism: A guide for planners and managers*. North Bennington: The Ecotourism Society
- Bottrill, C., & Pearce, D. (1995). Ecotourism: Towards a key elements approach to operationalizing the concept. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*,
- Bramwell, B. (1990). Green tourism in the countryside. *Tourism Management*
- Bramwell, B., Henry, I., Jackson, G., & Van der Straaten. J. (1996). A framework for understanding sustainable tourism management.
- Bramwell, I. Henry, G., Jackson, A. G. Prat, G. Richards, & J. Van der Straaten, (Eds.), *Sustainable tourism management: Principles and practices* Tilburg, NL: Tilburg University Press
- Buckley, R. (2009). Evaluating the net effects of ecotourism on the environment: a framework, first assessment and future research. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 17(6),
- Butler, R. (1992). *Alternative Tourism: The Thin Edge of the Wedge*.
- Smith, and W. R. Eadington, (2017) *Tourism Alternatives* (pp. 31-46). Philadelphia, PA: University of Pennsylvania Press
- Butler, R. (2013). Interview with Richard Butler. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*
- Carreiro, H. (2014, March, 8). Sustainable tourism in India. *USA Today*.

Cater, E. (1994). Ecotourism in the third world – Problems and prospects for sustainability and the environment.

Cater & G. Lowman (Eds.), Ecotourism: A sustainable option?