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## Sustainable development of eco-tourism and the rule of law

Jingmei Lu

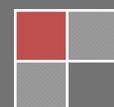
School of Economics and Law, University of Science and Technology Liaoning,  
Anshan, Liaoning, 114051, (CHINA)  
E-mail : ljm7844@sina.com

### ABSTRACT

Ecotourism in China exposed many issues, including the contradiction between economic development and ecological protection, the contradiction between national culture and foreign culture, the contradiction between the rapid development of eco-tourism and eco-tourism legislation insufficiency. Solutions to these problems require a multi-pronged, but the most important thing is to adhere to the rule of law. Only to comply with the rule of law, in order to fundamentally solve a series of problems encountered in sustainable development.

### KEYWORDS

Eco-tourism, Sustainable development, THE rule of law.



## INTRODUCTION

### Eco-tourism

Eco-tourism was first proposed in 1983 by Ceballas-Laskurain who was Special Adviser of the International Union for Conservation of Nature. 1990 CeInternational Ekotourism Society defined it as: the protection of the natural environment in certain areas and to improve the behavior of a tour of local residents' welfare<sup>[1]</sup>.

Eco-tourism is now generally considered to be the responsibility of the travel behavior refers to some natural geographic conducted. In the case of such behavior should not interfere with the natural area, protect the environment, reduce the negative impact of tourism and provide beneficial social and economic activities for the local population to the next<sup>[1]</sup>.

### Sustainable development

In 1987 World Commission on Environment and Development published a report, "Our Common Future." This report uses the concept of sustainable development official. In the report, sustainable development is defined as: "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."<sup>[2,3]</sup>

### The rule of law

The rule of law with respect to the rule of man is concerned, generally considered the rule of law refers to the law as a tool of social control supremacy in social life, and concerned that democracy, human rights and freedom-value targets<sup>[4]</sup>.

## THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ECO-TOURISM, SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND THE RULE OF LAW

As can be seen from concepts, sustainable development, eco-tourism and the rule of law are closely related. Ecotourism is responsible travel refers to a behavior. In this regard the government, tourism operators and service providers and visitors should take responsibility. The purpose of Eco-tourism is to protect the environment and to prevent damage to the ecological environment. The parties responsible for compliance with the laws and regulations of eco-tourism and ecological tourism contracts, cultural tourism are basic requirements. In this one, to comply with the rule of law is the fundamental guarantee.

## THE MAIN PROBLEMS FACING THE ECOLOGICALLY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM

### Contradiction between economic development of eco-tourism and the protection of ecological resources

Total eco-tourism resources are always limited. Once Eco-tourism resources are destroyed by tourists, vandalism operators, the entire ecosystem could lose balance. Ecotourism Resource own repair function is quite fragile. So since the deterioration of the ecological environment is even more grim. In practice, however, the face of the huge demand for eco-tourism, some eco-tourism destinations put it simply to be treated as economic industry. They sided pursuit of economic efficiency, over-exploitation of ecological resources. They yield to unreasonable demands of investors, the relevant provisions set national and regional eco-tourism master plan expense. Some deviation from the nature and purpose, massive construction projects in eco-tourism attractions. A variety of hotels, guest houses, nursing homes and other tourist facilities and a wide variety of playgrounds have appeared, causing irrational disorder ecotourism product development and high-quality and low ecological resources development. These practices bring tourism market turmoil has seriously affected the healthy development of eco-tourism.

### Contradictory between national culture and foreign culture

National culture with distinct characteristics, is an important part of eco-tourism resources. But the current situation it seems, in the huge impact of foreign and modern culture, some of the development of eco-tourism often abandon the precious cultural characteristics, ignoring their own unique cultural values, the lack of effective protection of traditional culture and inheritance, so that some precious cultural tourism resources facing degradation and danger of disappearing. Some eco-tourism to the ancient customs, solemn ritual packaging vulgar commercial performances, the original cultural values are replaced by commercial value, tourists face of such tourism products feel useful education and edification. Meanwhile, the development of eco-tourism so that local residents recognize the existence of differences in local cultures and tourists bring foreign culture. Their lifestyle habits will be the assimilation of foreign culture. Some of their traditional practices to some extent by the impact of the bad behavior of some tourists.

### Contradiction between the rapid development of eco-tourism and eco-tourism legislation insufficiency

On the development in terms of scale, China's eco-tourism potential was rapidly expanding. Most eco-tourism destination are in a high-load operating condition. Increasing pressure on the ecological environment, which makes development of ecotourism would like standardization, quality, benefit changes. But at this stage of eco-tourism legislation is not perfect and the application of environmental management technology is at a low level, inefficient state. Many tourist attractions are lack of environmental monitoring systems and protection facilities. Sewage and waste disposal are still using primitive methods nearest emissions. These practices result in ecological pollution, landscape degradation, threatening the survival of rare species.

## THE RULE OF LAW IN CHINA TO PROTECT THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF ECO-TOURISM

For the development of eco-tourism is concerned, to resolve conflicts and problems to be faced now, in addition to the establishment of a scientific concept of tourism, strengthen publicity and education work of eco-tourism, the rule of law is fundamental. To this end, the following aspects should take measures.

### Establish and improve the eco-tourism laws and regulations.

Countries worldwide ecotourism is done well, such as the United States, Australia, Costa Rica, have enacted strict laws to regulate eco-tourism, and to oversee the implementation of the specialized agencies, formed a relatively sound legal system to protect tourism resources<sup>[5]</sup>.

Costa Rica is a country in Central America ecotourism quite effective, in order to ensure the integrity of the ecosystem, sustainability, eco-tourism activities to carry out stringent regulations formulated and set up a special agency, which was established by the 1970 National Parks Board to oversee the implementation of these regulations.<sup>[6,7]</sup>

U.S. legislation on the protection of tourism resources are very seriously. In its "National Environmental Policy Act," specifically provisions concerning the protection of tourism resources. Basic American tourist "National Tourism Policy Act," the first series, and it provides for the rights of American tourism generations of people. Specific demands of sustainable tourism objectives. Part II is in the great majority of content on the protection of tourism resources. In addition, the United States has also developed the "field trip Ordinance," "original Scenic River Ordinance" and other individual tourism resources protection laws.<sup>[5,6]</sup>

Because of different economic development, culture, history and other factors, the legal system of ecological tourism in these countries show different characteristics. But overall still have the following in common: a sound eco-tourism law, legislation embodies the concept of sustainable development principles; establishment of eco-tourism management and efficient; emphasis on eco-tourism planning; promoting community participation in ecotourism system; focusing on eco-tourism Environmental Education System and so on. China should learn from the successful experience of developed countries

On April 25, 2013 China promulgated the "People's Republic of China Tourism Law", in which the contents of ecologically sustainable development of tourism on the main article is the first 4,5,6,13,21,45. But these provisions are not specifically prescribed first eco-tourism, followed by the need to develop specific implementation of many implementation details. We should accelerate the development of eco-tourism law and related implementing rules, eco-tourism area quality grade standards and implementing rules, eco-tourism area planning General and resource management regulations.

### The law must be prosecuted in accordance with strictly enforced

The rule of law is not only the law, more important is strict enforcement. With scientifically sound legislation, but not obey, it is not the rule of law, or the rule of man. For eco-tourism, the most important one is the government, tour operators, tourism service personnel, visitors must abide by the law.

Government should not disregard the interests of future generations and blind development and construction. Government should strictly abide by the laws and regulations of eco-tourism for sustainable development. Government should take ecological protection and sustainable development as the first purpose. Existing eco-tourism led to ecological problems breaking change, the government needs to bear the primary responsibility. To change this situation, the government must focus on environmental protection and sustainable development. Government should strictly abide by the laws and regulations on environmental protection and eco-tourism. Government should do the planning, focusing on long-term development, to minimize human impact on the environment. Meanwhile the government should do publicity for eco-tourism publicity and education work. Government should guide tourism operators, service personnel and visitors care for the environment, protect the ecological. The destruction of the ecological environment of behavior must be resolutely stopped. Otherwise, the government should bear the legal and political responsibility.

## SUMMARY

In short, eco-tourism and sustainable development requirements of the government, tour operators, tourism service personnel, visitors have to have a sense of responsibility to protect the ecology. The rule of law is the best way to develop a sense of responsibility. Responsibility of the government and citizenship emphasized by the rule of law will provide adequate protection of ecologically sustainable development of tourism.

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