

ISSUES OF RATIONAL USE OF ECOLOGICAL TOURISM RESOURCES

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Annotation. The article examines the development of ecological tourism in present modern conditions. The problems of rational use of ecological tourism resources in the region have been studied. Furthermore, suggestions for assessing the prospects for the rational use of ecological tourism resources are provided.

Key words: Tourism, reserve, ecological tourism, region, tourism reserves, natural areas, nature reserve, park.

Within last years, particular attention is being paid to present a positive image of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of tourism through creating favorable conditions for the rapid development of the tourism as a strategic sector of the economy, providing more complete and effective use of the huge tourism potential of the regions, creating national tourism products and promoting them in world markets, as well as introducing advanced practices into our country. The Action Strategy for the five priority areas of the country in 2017-2021 years sets the task of accelerating the development of the tourism industry, increasing its role and share in the economy, diversifying tourism services, expanding and mobilizing the export potential of sectors of economy and regions.

Our country has the potential to develop ecological tourism as all types of tourism, and uniquely beautiful nature of our country, its specific landscape, a variety of phenomenal flora and fauna, rare, world-class archeological findings, paleontological remains, rare geological sections, and hundreds of natural monuments create the basis for the development of this type of tourism.

In his Address to the Oliy Majlis (2018), President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev noted, "The unique nature of our country, national reserves, and mountainous areas have great potential for tourism development. In particular, the development of medical tourism, pilgrimage tourism and ecotourism will give a great impetus not only to the development of the economy, but also the social sphere", and this fact is a clear evidence of our above points.

It should be noted that the development of eco-tourism requires a large amount and variety of resources. Identically this feature affects the organization of tourist activities, the formation of new tourist areas and their specialization.

Inventories are the factors that are used to produce economic convenience. From an economic point of view, all natural, human and man-made conveniences are included in the reserves, which are used for products and services. Thus, ecological tourism reserves can include material and spiritual cultural facilities that are inextricably linked with the surrounding natural environment.

In the current world practice, the inclusion of visits to historical and cultural sites in the program of ecological tours is becoming a modern trend. In this regard, Rudenko (2002) noted that ecological tourism reserves can include only the following historical and cultural sites, which should be located in or near specially protected natural areas and other interesting natural places, or should be popular in tourist areas.

Literally these specially protected natural areas are considered as the most valuable resources for ecotourism. At present, in accordance with the Concept of development of the system of specially protected natural areas of national importance for the development of ecological tourism in specially protected natural areas, the followings are being implemented:

December, 30th 2021

- development of a set of excursion programs for different categories of visitors, as well as the organization of demonstrations of wildlife in the natural environment;
- improvement of ecological corridors and tourist routes, viewing areas and places of observation of wild animals;
- creation and modernization of museums and information centers for visitors;
- identification of ways to minimize the negative impact of tourism development on natural ecosystems and assess the allowable high loads.

Both natural and cultural-historical exhibits have unique objects, and specially protected natural areas can be the basis for the formation of large tourist centers. Taking the world experience into account, the relevant tourist infrastructure (hotel complexes, etc.) should be located mainly in areas adjacent to specially protected natural areas as well as free from restrictions associated with the special protection regime established by law.

However, despite the large number of specially protected natural areas in the republic, there are a number of problems in the development of ecotourism, where the problems for nature reserves, nature parks and national parks differ.

Activities in the field of ecotourism in nature reserves of the country are not sharply developed. The largest reserves are visited by hundreds of visitors a year, and the smallest - by dozens a year. It should be noted that the main part of the visitors are vacationers who come to the surrounding resorts, as well as schoolchildren who visit nature museums. First of all, the knowledge of eco-tourism related to visiting specific ecological routes in protected areas is not developed in practice.

In our opinion, there are a number of problems for the development of ecotourism in the national parks of the republic:

- lack of infrastructure necessary for the development of tourism in the national parks;
- presence of forestry bodies that manage national parks and do not develop tourism in the controlled areas;
- the intricacy in procedures for issuing licenses and leases and presence of bureaucratic obstacles in the national parks.

Implementation of the above measures for state support of protected natural areas and development of ecological tourism in protected natural areas will bring consumer demand for ecological tourism in the republic to a new level, changes promote qualitative in the domestic market of inbound tourism, can help raise the environmental culture of the population.

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