

Enhancing Sustainable Ecotourism in Banyuwangi - Indonesia: Lessons from Global Best Practices in Asia, Africa, and Latin America

Sri Widowati ^{1, 2, *}, Lulus Triyaningsih ², Sigit Mustiko ³, Heru Tri Ahmanto ⁴, Bursamin ³, Mardianus W. M. Koten ³, Jetli Satrio ², Saroni ², Desi R. Rahmawati ², Ida B. P. Widyanta ⁴, Lucky Firmansyah ³, Anis Wulandari ³, Rosita W. Putri ³, Diah Wahyuni ², Shinta R, Q. Savitri ³ and Hamong Suharsono ^{2, 5}

¹ Faculty of Tourism Udayana University, Denpasar – Bali Indonesia. Jl. PB Sudirman Denpasar Bali – Indonesia.

² Accounting Study Program, Mitra Global Polytechnique, Jl. Hasanudin 8 Cluring, Banyuwangi, East Java Province – Indonesia.

³ Agribusiness Management Study Program, Mitra Global Polytechnique, Jl. Hasanudin 8 Cluring, Banyuwangi, East Java Province – Indonesia.

⁴ Informatics Technique Study Program, Mitra Global Polytechnique, Jl. Hasanudin 8 Cluring, Banyuwangi, East Java Province – Indonesia.

⁵ The Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Udayana University Denpasar-Bali, Indonesia.

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Abstract

Ecotourism in Banyuwangi, Indonesia, has emerged as a potential vital tool for promoting sustainable development by balancing economic growth, cultural preservation, and environmental conservation. While ecotourism in this area is yet in its infancy, drawing lessons from successful ecotourism models in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, could bring key strategies to pave the way to enhance ecotourism in Banyuwangi. Community-Based Tourism (CBT) models from Kenya, Thailand, and Ghana emphasize the importance of local community empowerment, equitable revenue-sharing, and participatory tourism governance. Visitor management practices inspired Swat River Basin highlight the need for tourist caps, online ticketing, and scheduled visits to prevent overcrowding and protect fragile ecosystems like Ijen Crater and Alas Purwo National Park. Revenue-sharing frameworks used in African safari parks provide a blueprint for redistributing tourism proceeds to support conservation, education, and community development in Banyuwangi. Lessons on sustainable infrastructure from Ethiopia and Pakistan stress the value of eco-friendly accommodations, electric transport, and green infrastructure. Finally, the role of digital marketing and storytelling, as seen in Thailand's "Sea of Mist" campaign, highlights how media can drive global visibility for Banyuwangi's iconic sites, such as the Ijen Crater "Blue Fire" and Osing Cultural Village. By integrating these global best practices, Banyuwangi can achieve sustainable ecotourism development that benefits local communities, protects biodiversity, and positions itself as a premier ecotourism destination in Southeast Asia.

Keywords: Banyuwangi; Sustainable Ecotourism; Community-Based Tourism; Environmental Conservation; Visitor Management; Cultural Preservation

1 Introduction

Global ecotourism has witnessed significant growth in recent years, driven by increasing environmental awareness, demand for sustainable travel, and the desire for authentic, nature-based experiences. This trend emphasizes responsible travel to natural areas, aiming to minimize environmental impact, support conservation, and benefit local communities (United Nations World Tourism Organization <https://www.unwto.org/sustainable-development>).

* Corresponding author: Dr. Sri Widowati; Email: sriwidowatipar@gmail.com

Ecotourism contributes to economic development in rural and indigenous areas by creating jobs and promoting local crafts and services (Gultekin, 2022; Hafezi et al., 2023). However, it also poses challenges, such as the risk of over-tourism, habitat disruption, and increased carbon footprints from international travel (Sahoo et al., 2024). Proper management, eco-certification, and community-based tourism models are essential to mitigate these challenges and ensure long-term sustainability in the ecotourism sector (Dodilova et al., 2024). Additionally, comparative studies suggest that successful ecotourism models rely on adaptive marketing strategies tailored to specific regional contexts, such as those implemented in Thailand, Malaysia, and Singapore (Fauzi et al., 2024).

The trend of ecotourism in Indonesia has experienced steady growth, fuelled by an increased awareness of sustainable tourism and the environmental impact of mass tourism. Ecotourism initiatives have also played a significant role in fostering community development in areas like Gunung Gede Pangrango National Park, where tourism has provided economic benefits and promoted conservation efforts (Kristanto and Hulu, 2024). Furthermore, Indonesia's adaptation of global tourism strategies, as seen in comparative studies of Southeast Asian countries, underscores the nation's potential to enhance its ecotourism sector (Fauzi et al., 2024). These efforts are bolstered by the utilization of digital platforms and creative industry support, enabling the sector to remain competitive and sustainable (Amri et al., 2022). As a result, ecotourism in Indonesia not only contributes to environmental preservation but also strengthens community-based tourism, promotes local economies, and encourages global competitiveness.

Banyuwangi possesses significant potential for ecotourism development due to its diverse ecosystems, including forests, beaches, mountains, and unique local culture. Key ecotourism destinations include Alas Purwo National Park, known for its rich biodiversity and world-class surfing spot at G-Land (Yuanjaya, 2020); Ijen Crater, famous for its rare "Blue Fire" phenomenon and Sulphur mining (Prasetyo & Wahyudi, 2019); Red Island Beach, a popular surfing destination (Setiawan & Nugroho, 2021); and the Osing Cultural Village, which offers an immersive experience of the indigenous Osing community's lifestyle (Putra et al., 2022). Banyuwangi's ecotourism is driven by its biodiversity, educational and conservation tourism, and a growing environmental awareness among local communities (Hidayat et al., 2021). The development of ecotourism has created economic opportunities for local communities through jobs in guiding, homestays, local cuisine, and souvenir production (Widodo et al., 2022). However, the sector faces challenges such as environmental degradation, the need for better infrastructure, and waste management issues (Fauzi & Rahmawati, 2020). Strategies to address these challenges include promoting community-based tourism, enhancing the use of local resources, and implementing sustainable tourism management that prioritizes environmental conservation and local culture preservation (Kusuma & Santoso, 2021).

The ecotourism in Banyuwangi is still in its infancy. The government and stakeholders should learn on the impact ecotourism in other areas in the world. This review focuses on lessons from Global Best Practices in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. The lessons will provide good base to pave the way toward to enhancing ecotourism in Banyuwangi.

2 Cases in Asia

2.1 Case 1. Ecotourism Promotion Through Media in Thailand (Suansaen et. al, 2023)

The case study focuses on how media tools, specifically video production, influence ecotourism in the region. This study highlights the importance of visual media in promoting ecotourism by attracting tourists to natural destinations like Gunung Silipat's "Sea of Mist" viewpoint. By increasing visibility and awareness of the scenic beauty of the site, ecotourism becomes a driver for regional development. The report also highlights the socio-economic benefits for local communities, as increased tourism demand can lead to more employment opportunities and growth in the local economy. However, the study also warns of the need for sustainable tourism management to prevent environmental degradation caused by over-tourism.

2.2 Case 2. Linking Ancient Water Harvesting Systems with Ecotourism in India (Jain et. al., 2024)

The report explores how the preservation of ancient water harvesting systems in India intersects with ecotourism initiatives. The authors argue that tourism centered around these heritage systems can act as a tool for environmental conservation and sustainable development. By showcasing traditional water management techniques to tourists, ecotourism not only raises awareness about ancient practices but also contributes to the funding needed for system maintenance. The case study highlights a holistic approach to climate adaptation, as ecotourism plays a crucial role in preserving cultural heritage while simultaneously promoting sustainable development.

2.3 Case 3. Ecotourism's Impact on Indigenous Communities in Pakistan (Ali et al., 2024)

The case report focuses on the environmental and social impact of ecotourism on indigenous communities in Dir Valley, Pakistan. This report addresses how ecotourism can support sustainable development by fostering local economic growth, employment, and community welfare. The authors emphasize the delicate balance between promoting tourism and protecting indigenous cultures. While ecotourism provides financial support to local communities, it may also threaten their traditional way of life. This duality necessitates policies that ensure that indigenous people are stakeholders and beneficiaries of tourism-related development.

2.4 Case 4. Ecotourism and Land Use Changes in Swat River Basin, Pakistan (Rahman et al., 2024)

The study investigates how ecotourism influences land use and land cover changes in the Swat River Basin. This area, known for its scenic beauty, is also highly vulnerable to flooding. The case study employs remote sensing and GIS techniques to monitor and visualize land use changes caused by the growing tourism sector. Ecotourism, while economically beneficial, has led to the conversion of forested areas into commercial spaces such as hotels and resorts, which poses challenges for flood management. The authors stress the need for strict zoning regulations and sustainable tourism strategies to protect the region's natural resources.

2.5 Case 5. Elephant-Based Tourism in Nepal (Szydlowski, 2024)

The report highlights the complexities surrounding the use of elephants in ecotourism, particularly in Nepal's Chitwan National Park. The authors examine the ethical, health, and welfare challenges related to elephant tourism. While elephant rides have become a popular tourist attraction, the authors reveal that these activities often compromise animal welfare. The study provides a historical overview of elephant tourism, outlining shifts in policies, as well as present-day health and welfare challenges. Future directions for sustainable elephant tourism are proposed, such as the establishment of ethical tourism practices, greater accountability, and stricter animal welfare standards.

2.6 Case 6. The Role of Public Universities in Ecotourism Development in Malaysia (Yamoah, F. A. and Haque, A. U. 2023)

The book chapter "*Corporate Management Ecosystem in Emerging Economies*" provides an unconventional perspective on ecotourism in Malaysia. While the focus of the chapter is on corporate ecosystems, it also highlights the role that public universities play in promoting ecotourism. Malaysian universities, as hubs for research, education, and training, play an active role in facilitating knowledge transfer to local tourism management organizations. This includes creating tourism curricula, supporting ecotourism-related research, and encouraging educational tourism. By supporting knowledge exchange and developing local capacities, universities help enhance sustainable ecotourism practices.

3 Cases in Africa

3.1 Case 1. Promoting Sustainable Tourism in Central Africa (Kimbu, 2010)

The study focuses on the tourism industry's role in Central Africa, specifically Cameroon. This case highlights the underdeveloped ecotourism sector in the region, despite its rich natural heritage. The report identifies how the lack of stakeholder engagement, inadequate policy support, and minimal investment have hindered the potential growth of ecotourism. It stresses the need for strategic planning, community participation, and policy reform to unlock the benefits of ecotourism. If prioritized, ecotourism in Central Africa could significantly contribute to local economic development, job creation, and environmental conservation.

3.2 Case 2. Safari Tourism in Kenya, Tanzania, and South Africa (Bobir, 2024)

The report examines the role of safari-based ecotourism in Kenya, Tanzania, and South Africa. Safari tourism is one of the most iconic and lucrative forms of ecotourism in Africa, attracting international tourists interested in wildlife viewing. The case study highlights how safari tours contribute to conservation funding, community development, and foreign exchange earnings. By showcasing the positive experiences from Kenya, Tanzania, and South Africa, this report serves as a blueprint for other emerging markets looking to develop safari tourism. The study emphasizes sustainable practices, such as limiting visitor numbers and using eco-friendly facilities to minimize the environmental impact of tourism.

3.3 Case 3. Land Use and Cover Change in Ethiopia (Tadesse et al., 2024)

In Ethiopia's Gena District, ecotourism has been linked to changes in land use and land cover. The case study "*Impacts of Land Use and Cover Changes on Ecosystem Service Values from 1992 to 2052 in Gena District, Southwest Ethiopia*"

analyses how ecotourism and development have influenced land use patterns. The study uses remote sensing and GIS tools to track land changes over three decades and projects these changes into the future. Findings reveal that ecotourism has encouraged forest clearance for tourist facilities and infrastructure development. The report calls for a more balanced approach, recommending that payment for ecosystem services (PES) be included in tourism fees to protect natural habitats.

3.4 Case 4. Climate Change and Human-Wildlife Conflict in Southern Africa (Kupika et al., 2024)

The case study highlights the effects of climate change on wildlife behavior and the resulting increase in human-wildlife conflict. Ecotourism in Southern Africa's protected areas relies on wildlife as a key attraction. However, climate change-induced habitat shifts have driven wildlife into closer contact with human settlements. This interaction has led to increased crop damage, livestock predation, and, in some cases, human casualties. The authors argue that sustainable tourism can help mitigate these risks. By involving local communities in conservation and ecotourism initiatives, human-wildlife conflicts can be reduced, and tourism revenues can be redirected to support protective measures like wildlife corridors and better fencing.

3.5 Case 5. Wildlife Tourism in Botswana, Namibia, and South Africa (Mwakiwa, 2024).

The study focuses on non-consumptive forms of wildlife tourism, such as wildlife safaris and photographic tours. Unlike hunting-based tourism, which requires the killing of animals, non-consumptive wildlife tourism allows for the sustainable use of natural resources. This form of ecotourism is prevalent in Botswana, Namibia, and South Africa. By allowing tourists to observe animals in their natural habitats, this approach supports conservation goals while generating economic returns. The report highlights best practices for enhancing the benefits of non-consumptive tourism, including setting limits on tourist numbers and ensuring revenue-sharing mechanisms with local communities.

3.6 Case 6. Wetland Tourism in South Africa (Laan et al., 2024)

Wetland ecotourism, which includes guided tours of wetland ecosystems, has been analyzed in the context of South Africa's Vaal River Basin. The report *"Ecosystem Services of Irrigated and Controlled Drainage Agricultural Systems: A Contemporary Global Perspective"* reveals how ecotourism initiatives have contributed to the conservation of this wetland system. The report explains that local communities depend on wetlands for farming, fishing, and other livelihoods. By promoting ecotourism in wetlands, local governments have been able to generate funds for conservation and raise awareness about the importance of wetland protection. The case emphasizes the need for sustainable tourism strategies that do not undermine the ecological integrity of wetlands.

3.7 Case 7. Marine Ecotourism in South Africa (Lucrezi and D'Agnessa, 2024)

Marine ecotourism is growing in South Africa, particularly in the form of marine citizen science, where tourists are actively involved in data collection on marine life. The report *"Tourists' Behavioral Intention to Participate in Marine Citizen Science: A South African Case Study"* explores the motivations of tourists to participate in MCS. Using surveys and interviews, the study finds that tourists are more likely to join MCS activities if they perceive a clear conservation benefit. The findings suggest that marine ecotourism can be enhanced by creating participatory, hands-on experiences that connect tourists with marine conservation efforts.

3.8 Case 8. Community Impacts of Ecotourism in Ghana (Dayour et al., 2024)

The study reviews the effects of ecotourism on local communities in Ghana. While ecotourism has generated jobs and contributed to community development, it has also led to cultural commodification, where local customs and traditions are adapted to meet tourist demands. The report calls for community-driven approaches to ecotourism that prioritize local interests over commercial gains. By ensuring that communities are key stakeholders in ecotourism planning, issues such as exploitation and loss of cultural identity can be minimized.

3.9 Case 9. Wildlife and Mining Conflicts in Namibia (Latarge et al., 2024)

The report highlights the conflict between mining and ecotourism in Namibia's Gondwana Geopark. While mining provides economic benefits, it also threatens the scenic beauty and ecological integrity of the geopark, which attracts ecotourists. The study calls for stricter regulations to prevent mining activities from encroaching on ecotourism zones.

3.10 Case 10. COVID-19 and Ecotourism in Africa (Chihwai, 2024)

The COVID-19 pandemic had a profound impact on ecotourism in Africa, leading to significant revenue losses and employment declines. The report analyzes the effects of the pandemic on Africa's tourism industry and highlights

ecotourism as a potential tool for recovery. It recommends diversifying tourism offerings and integrating ecotourism into broader economic recovery strategies. By promoting ecotourism post-pandemic, African countries can not only rebuild their economies but also strengthen the resilience of communities dependent on tourism.

4 Cases in South America

4.1 Case 1. Environmental Impacts of Ecotourism in the Río de la Plata Estuary (Venturini et al., 2024)

The Río de la Plata Estuary is a vital ecological area in South America known for its rich biodiversity and crucial role in local livelihoods. The study by Venturini et al. (2024) highlights the dual impact of ecotourism on the estuary's environment. While ecotourism has raised awareness of conservation issues, it has also led to increased human activity, which in turn affects water quality and degrades cultural ecosystem services. Tourists engaging in recreational water activities contribute to water pollution, posing a threat to aquatic life and local fishing communities. The authors argue that without proper management and policy interventions, the ecological health of the estuary could be compromised. Recommendations include the introduction of stakeholder participation in ecotourism planning and stricter regulations on tourist behavior in the area.

4.2 Case 2. Zoonotic Disease and Ecotourism in Colombia (Lieberthal et al., 2024)

Tourism's interaction with natural ecosystems has the potential to trigger health-related challenges, as shown in the case of Zika virus outbreaks in Colombia. The study by Lieberthal et al. (2024) reveals that ecotourism activities, particularly those involving human mobility in mosquito-infested areas, can exacerbate the transmission of vector-borne diseases like Zika. Human movement into ecological hotspots increases mosquito-human contact, especially during high tourist seasons. This dynamic has health implications for both tourists and local residents. The report calls for better integration of public health measures into ecotourism planning. Strategies such as enhanced mosquito control, tourist education, and public health interventions are proposed to reduce the risk of disease outbreaks associated with tourism activities.

4.3 Case 3. Promoting Sustainability through Gastronomic Ecotourism (Guerrero et al. 2024)

The intersection of gastronomy and ecotourism is explored in a report on Latin American culinary tourism by Guerrero and Cayo-Velásquez (2024). This case highlights how gastronomic tourism promotes sustainable development by fostering "farm-to-table" culinary experiences. Local communities that produce organic crops and traditional cuisine play a central role in the ecotourism value chain. In Peru, for instance, gastronomic tourism has become a major economic driver as tourists seek out authentic culinary experiences linked to the natural environment. The authors suggest that sustainable gastronomic tourism can create a mutually beneficial relationship between tourists and local communities, generating economic benefits while promoting conservation-friendly farming. Key recommendations include supporting local producers, ensuring fair trade certification, and marketing local cuisine as an integral part of the ecotourism experience.

4.4 Case 4. Digital Innovations in Ecotourism Systems (Balbaa et al., 2025)

With the rapid advancement of technology, virtual tourism has emerged as an alternative to physical travel. The study by Balbaa et al. (2025) examines how virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) can be used to enhance ecotourism experiences. The authors demonstrate how tourists can explore nature-based attractions remotely using immersive digital tools, thereby reducing human impact on fragile ecosystems. This approach is especially relevant in areas like the Amazon rainforest, where human foot traffic can damage biodiversity. Virtual tours not only promote sustainable tourism but also broaden access to ecotourism experiences for people with limited mobility. The study calls for investments in VR infrastructure and partnerships with ecotourism operators to create interactive online tours of iconic natural sites.

5 Discussion

As presented in Figure 1, there are eight strategies toward Banyuwangi's Sustainable Ecotourism as lessons learned from ecotourism in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. These strategies might also valid for other areas in Indonesia with area based slight modifications.

5.1 Community Involvement and Empowerment

A key lesson from Asia, Africa, and Latin America is the critical role of community-based tourism (CBT) in fostering sustainable ecotourism. Countries like Thailand, Kenya, and Ghana have successfully involved local communities in tourism management. In Kenya, community-run conservancies give locals a stake in the tourism industry, leading to job creation and poverty reduction. Similarly, community participation in Asia, particularly in indigenous regions of India and Indonesia, ensures that tourism benefits flow directly to local people. This approach strengthens local economies and promotes cultural preservation.

Banyuwangi already has community-driven ecotourism initiatives, such as the Osing Cultural Village, where tourists experience the indigenous Osing community's culture. Building on this, Banyuwangi can enhance community participation by providing formal training in guiding, hospitality, and eco-friendly craft production. By forming local cooperatives to manage tourism activities, Banyuwangi can ensure a more equitable distribution of tourism income and reduce the risk of exploitation by larger external tour operators.

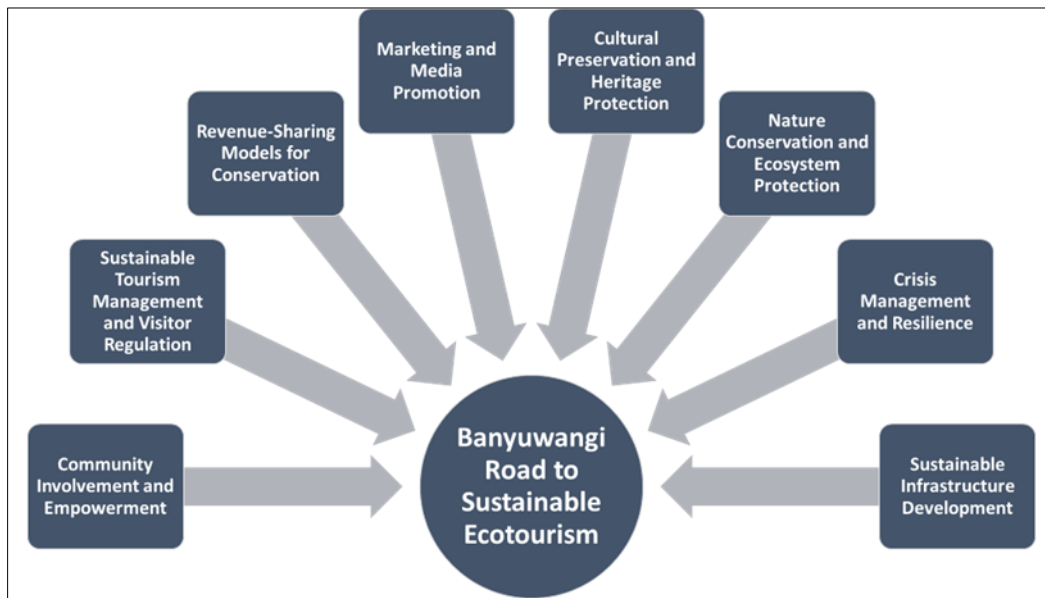


Figure 1 Infographic of Lessons Learned from Ecotourism in Asia, Africa, and Latin America for Application in Banyuwangi, Indonesia toward Banyuwangi’s Sustainable Ecotourism

5.2 Sustainable Tourism Management and Visitor Regulation

One of the most significant lessons from the Swat River Basin in Pakistan is the importance of visitor management to prevent over-tourism and habitat degradation. Zoning regulations in the Swat River Basin help control land use changes caused by tourism infrastructure development. Limiting tourist numbers has been shown to reduce the impact on biodiversity while maintaining a high-quality visitor experience.

Banyuwangi can apply this approach at key natural sites such as Alas Purwo National Park and Ijen Crater, which are at risk of over-tourism. Introducing visitor caps, ticketing systems, and pre-scheduled visitation times would protect sensitive environments from overcrowding. Sustainable tourism zones can be established in critical ecosystems, and fees from ticket sales can be reinvested in conservation and infrastructure development. This strategy can also be paired with “green certification” for tourism operators, encouraging eco-friendly business practices.

5.3 Revenue-Sharing Models for Conservation

Lessons from African ecotourism models, especially safari-based ecotourism in Kenya, Tanzania, and South Africa, emphasize the importance of revenue-sharing mechanisms. In these countries, a portion of the fees from safari tourists is allocated to conservation efforts and community development. For example, revenue from entrance fees and tourist activities is used to support anti-poaching initiatives, wildlife corridors, and community development projects like schools and health clinics. This model ensures that ecotourism not only supports conservation but also creates tangible benefits for the local community.

Banyuwangi can implement a similar revenue-sharing model by allocating a portion of entrance fees from Ijen Crater, Red Island Beach, and Alas Purwo National Park for conservation and community support. These funds could be used to finance habitat restoration, waste management systems, and environmental education campaigns. This approach would also strengthen the public perception of ecotourism as a means to protect nature, thereby attracting more eco-conscious travelers.

5.4 Marketing and Media Promotion

The Thai approach to ecotourism promotion highlights the power of media, especially video content, to market natural destinations. In Thailand, promotional videos of destinations like the "Sea of Mist" have been successful in attracting international visitors. This visual storytelling approach creates an emotional connection with tourists, driving demand for ecotourism experiences. The use of creative storytelling also plays a role in Latin American gastronomic tourism, where culinary tours are marketed using vibrant video content and social media campaigns.

Banyuwangi has stunning natural sites such as the Ijen Crater "Blue Fire" phenomenon, the pristine beaches of Red Island, and the dense biodiversity of Alas Purwo National Park. The government and tourism stakeholders can create short promotional videos showcasing these unique attractions. Partnering with social media influencers, travel vloggers, and nature documentaries can increase global visibility. Visual storytelling can also be used to highlight the Osing community's cultural traditions, creating a richer tourism experience for international visitors.

5.5 Cultural Preservation and Heritage Protection

Cultural preservation is a recurring theme in case reports from indigenous communities in Pakistan. The integration of local crafts, traditional music, and rituals into tourism packages has preserved the culture while also generating income for locals. However, commercialization of local culture can lead to "cultural commodification," where cultural practices are altered to satisfy tourist preferences. Pakistan's ecotourism efforts highlight the importance of safeguarding indigenous rights through participatory development, ensuring that indigenous voices are heard in tourism planning.

The Osing Cultural Village is an example of how Banyuwangi can preserve and showcase its indigenous heritage. To avoid cultural commodification, Banyuwangi can prioritize community-led cultural tourism, allowing the Osing community to decide how their cultural practices are presented to tourists. Interactive experiences, such as cooking local dishes, learning traditional dances, or creating traditional crafts, can enhance visitor experiences while maintaining cultural integrity. Training programs for Osing guides can help them better interpret and share their cultural knowledge with tourists, creating a richer experience for visitors.

5.6 Nature Conservation and Ecosystem Protection

Across all three regions—Asia, Africa, and Latin America—conservation of natural ecosystems is a major objective of ecotourism. India's water harvesting ecotourism model, the reforestation programs in Chile, and conservation-driven tourism in Africa demonstrate that tourism revenues can be used to support ecosystem protection. Marine ecotourism in South Africa further highlights how ecotourism can directly support biodiversity conservation through marine protected areas, participatory marine citizen science, and coral reef monitoring.

Banyuwangi's rich biodiversity, especially in areas like Alas Purwo and Ijen Crater, can benefit from nature conservation initiatives. Ecotourism revenues from park entrance fees and guided tours can be directed toward conservation programs like reforestation, wildlife protection, and coral reef restoration. Tourists can also be encouraged to participate in "citizen science" activities, such as birdwatching or biodiversity surveys, providing additional data for conservation research. Partnerships with universities and NGOs can further support research on local biodiversity and habitat restoration.

5.7 Crisis Management and Resilience

COVID-19 exposed the vulnerability of ecotourism-dependent economies in Africa and Latin America. The collapse of global travel resulted in significant revenue losses for tourist-dependent communities. However, some destinations, such as the South Africa also explored virtual tourism as a way to maintain visitor engagement. Digital tourism platforms and virtual ecotourism experiences provided an innovative way to maintain visitor interest while reducing reliance on physical visits.

Banyuwangi can adopt crisis management strategies by diversifying its ecotourism products. Virtual tours of Ijen Crater's "Blue Fire" or wildlife photography experiences in Alas Purwo could be offered as online paid experiences. This approach would create a new revenue stream and increase the resilience of the tourism sector during global crises.

Furthermore, diversifying income sources through the creative industry—like producing local crafts, culinary products, and souvenirs—can provide alternative sources of livelihood for local communities.

5.8 Sustainable Infrastructure Development

Reports from Asia and Africa highlight how ecotourism can be negatively impacted by poor infrastructure, such as unpaved roads, limited public transportation, and inadequate waste disposal systems. Infrastructure development in Pakistan's Dir Valley and Ethiopia's Gena District serves as an example of how proper infrastructure can boost ecotourism while preserving natural habitats. The use of green infrastructure, such as eco-friendly lodges and waste treatment plants, reduces tourism's environmental footprint.

Banyuwangi faces similar challenges, particularly at natural sites like Red Island Beach and Ijen Crater. To support sustainable ecotourism, investment in green infrastructure is essential. Priority projects could include eco-friendly accommodation, waste management systems, and electric-powered transportation options to reduce carbon emissions. Investments in clean energy and sustainable transport would make Banyuwangi a model of eco-friendly tourism in Indonesia.

6 Conclusion

The lessons from Asia, Africa, and Latin America provide a roadmap for Banyuwangi to develop sustainable ecotourism. By focusing on community empowerment, visitor regulation, conservation, cultural preservation, and sustainable infrastructure, Banyuwangi can ensure that ecotourism serves as a tool for both economic growth and environmental protection. Applying these global best practices will enable Banyuwangi to position itself as a leading ecotourism destination in Southeast Asia.

Compliance with ethical standards

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Disclosure of conflict of interest

No conflict of interest to be disclosed.

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