

Sustainable Tourism as an Economic Development Model in Evaluation and Prospects of Priority Tourism Destination Development Policy in Indonesia

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ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini mengevaluasi dampak kebijakan dalam mengembangkan destinasi pariwisata prioritas di Indonesia, dengan fokus pada keberlanjutan dalam industri pariwisata. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menilai efektivitas kebijakan, pengaruhnya terhadap pertumbuhan ekonomi lokal, dan potensi pengembangan pariwisata berkelanjutan di Indonesia. Metodologi kualitatif dan perangkat lunak QDAS digunakan untuk menganalisis data, mengevaluasi inisiatif masa lalu untuk memahami pencapaian dan kekurangannya. Temuan studi menunjukkan bahwa menilai efektivitas kebijakan yang bertujuan untuk mengembangkan tujuan pariwisata prioritas dapat mengungkapkan pencapaian dan kekurangan dari inisiatif masa lalu. Selain itu, evaluasi ini dapat meningkatkan pemahaman kita tentang bagaimana pariwisata dapat secara efektif berkontribusi terhadap kemajuan ekonomi masyarakat lokal. Studi ini memberikan panduan yang berharga bagi para pembuat kebijakan di Indonesia untuk menciptakan strategi pengembangan pariwisata yang lebih efisien dan tahan lama, dengan menekankan pariwisata berkelanjutan sebagai pendorong utama pertumbuhan ekonomi.

ABSTRACT

The research evaluates the impact of policies on developing priority tourism destinations in Indonesia, focusing on sustainability within the tourism industry. The study aims to assess policy effectiveness, influence on local economic growth, and potential for sustainable tourism development in Indonesia. Qualitative methodology and QDAS software were used to analyze data, evaluating past initiatives to understand achievements and shortcomings. The study's findings demonstrate that assessing the effectiveness of policies aimed at developing priority tourism destinations can reveal both the accomplishments and shortcomings of past initiatives. Additionally, this evaluation can enhance our comprehension of how tourism can effectively contribute to the economic advancement of local communities. The study provides valuable guidance for policymakers in Indonesia to create more efficient and enduring tourist development strategies, emphasizing sustainable tourism as a key driver of economic growth.

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INTRODUCTION

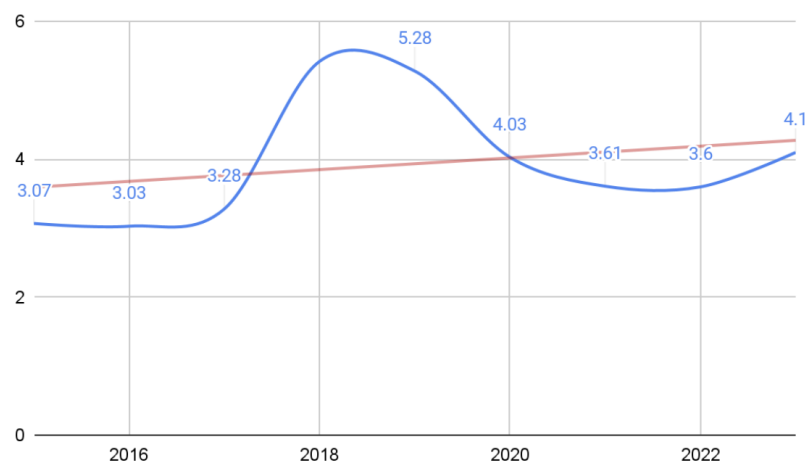
Tourism has been recognized as one economic sector with great potential to support a country's economic development (Fadli et al., 2022). In Indonesia, with its incredible natural wealth, culture, and ethnic diversity, tourism has become one of the most important sectors in driving economic growth and poverty alleviation (Ikhtiangung & Radyanto, 2020). The Indonesian government has identified tourism as a sector with great potential to increase national income, create jobs, and improve people's welfare (Hall, 2021). However, in developing the tourism industry, it is important to consider sustainability aspects, both from an environmental and social perspective.

In recent decades, sustainable tourism has become increasingly important in response to crucial environmental and social issues (Saarinen, 2019). Sustainable tourism purposes to ensure that

tourism activities not only provide significant economic benefits but also pay attention to environmental sustainability, maintain cultural heritage, and improve the welfare of local communities (Lee et al., 2021; Nadalipour et al., 2019; Wang et al., 2020). In Indonesia, with its beautiful nature and great cultural diversity, sustainable tourism has great potential to become an inclusive and sustainable economic development model (Priatmoko et al., 2021).

Tourism is a crucial factor in driving Indonesia's economic expansion, making a large contribution to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Tourism plays a crucial role in boosting the national economy by generating revenue from both foreign and domestic tourists, investing in tourism infrastructure, and stimulating growth in related sectors like hospitality, transportation, and creative industries (Gasparini & Mariotti, 2023; Marpaung et al., 2021). The expanding tourism sector in Indonesia, characterized by an increase in both visitor arrivals and spending, is playing an increasingly significant role in contributing to the country's Gross Domestic Product. This highlights the considerable potential of tourism as a reliable and long-lasting source of income for Indonesia.

Figure 1.
Tourism contribution to national GDP (%) 2016-2023



Source: Statista Research Department, 2023

During the period 2015 to 2023, the tourist industry in Indonesia underwent varying levels of impact on the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The tourism sector experienced a substantial decrease in its contribution during the years 2020 and 2021, mostly due to the profound impact of the global Covid-19 outbreak. The implementation of travel restrictions, the closure of tourist attractions, and the prevailing uncertainty have resulted in a significant decrease in tourist visits, so adversely affecting the tourism sector (Cavalheiro et al., 2020). Consequently, the contribution of tourism to the national Gross Domestic Product (GDP) experienced a significant fall. Nevertheless, forecasts for the upcoming years indicate a positive outlook for the revival of the tourism industry (Higham & Miller, 2018). Projections indicate that the tourist sector will have substantial growth starting in 2023 and continuing. This forecast aligns with the anticipation of a worldwide economic rebound and the government's endeavors to revive the tourism sector (Băndoi et al., 2020).

This research studies the effectiveness of policies to develop priority tourism destinations in Indonesia, with a particular focus on sustainability in the tourism industry. Understanding the impact of these policies is crucial for sustainable economic development and community welfare in Indonesia. The Indonesian government seeks to revitalize the tourism sector as a catalyst for

economic expansion through the implementation of new adaptation measures, stricter health policies, and extensive tourism promotion activities (Warouw et al., 2023). This revival of the tourism industry is expected to drive a surge in the number of tourists, both local and foreign.

However, despite the huge potential of sustainable tourism, there are major challenges in its implementation (Font et al., 2023). One of the main challenges is the imbalance between rapid economic growth and environmental and cultural preservation (Dwyer, 2023; Tung, 2020). Many tourism destinations in Indonesia are facing increasing pressure from infrastructure development, increasing volumes of tourist arrivals, and associated socio-cultural changes (Sharpley, 2020). It is therefore important to evaluate existing priority tourism destination development policies to ensure that the economic growth achieved is inclusive, sustainable and considers the long-term interests of local communities and the environment.

This research is in the realm of tourism development and sustainable practices, which addresses the need for strategic policies to promote economic growth while conserving environmental and cultural resources. There are gaps in policy planning between stakeholders involved in tourism development, leading to inconsistencies, overlaps, and a lack of emphasis on sustainability aspects. This research advocates for an improved policy planning process that prioritizes sustainability, requires strong coordination between central and local governments, and emphasizes capacity building at the local level for effective implementation.

This research aims to examine the effects of Indonesia's priority tourism destination development strategy on sustainable tourism as a model for economic growth. This research considers the complexity of this challenge and draws on previous works ((Cavalheiro et al., 2020; Higham & Miller, 2018; Sharpley, 2020). This research aims to assess the effectiveness of policies that have been implemented, analyze their effects on local economic growth, and explore the potential for sustainable tourism development in the future. By improving policy coordination, focusing on sustainability, and building local capacity, this research aims to guide policymakers in creating more effective and sustainable tourism development strategies in Indonesia. This research intends to make a substantial contribution to the formation of better policies for sustainable tourism development in Indonesia through understanding the implementation of existing regulations, identifying problems faced, and recognizing opportunities available.

Literature Review

This research uncovers relevant novelty through a comprehensive literature analysis of previous research outcomes related to Economic Development, Sustainable Tourism, and Priority Tourism Destinations. Previous studies indicate a shift in focus in tourism education towards sustainability, with a growing emphasis on economic and social aspects over time. Common challenges in ecotourism development include the lack of government support, infrastructure, local knowledge, and specialized experts, while the positive impacts on economic, ecological, and sociological aspects remain significant. Sustainable tourism research emphasizes the need for increased customer satisfaction, awareness, and sustainable practices, while pointing out gaps in depth of analysis, methodology, and real-world application. Smart Tourism Destinations are increasingly explored for their impact on sustainable development, focusing on economic, social, and environmental aspects, as well as emerging areas such as green IT and waste management.

This research highlights the crucial links between economic development, sustainable tourism, and priority tourism destinations. The studies emphasize the need to integrate

economic prosperity with environmental, cultural, and social sustainability for long-term positive impacts on communities. Economic corridors, such as those in the One Belt One Road initiative, have been shown to open new economic opportunities and promote tourism, contributing to community well-being and quality of life. In addition, research has explored the causal relationship between tourism, economic growth, energy consumption, and environmental pollutants in developing countries such as Pakistan, emphasizing the importance of sustainable tourism practices to minimize environmental impacts and improve competitiveness. These findings collectively affirm the importance of sustainable tourism in driving economic development while ensuring environmental sustainability and community well-being.

Thus, the novelty of this research lies in its attempt to bridge the gap between policy planning and implementation on the ground, as well as in advocating for improved planning processes that prioritize sustainability. The research also emphasizes the importance of strong coordination between central and local governments and capacity building at the local level to ensure that policies not only positively impact economic growth but also maintain ecological and social balance. Through in-depth analysis and critical assessment of existing policies, this research is expected to make a substantial contribution towards the formation of better policies for sustainable tourism development in Indonesia.

RESEARCH METHODS

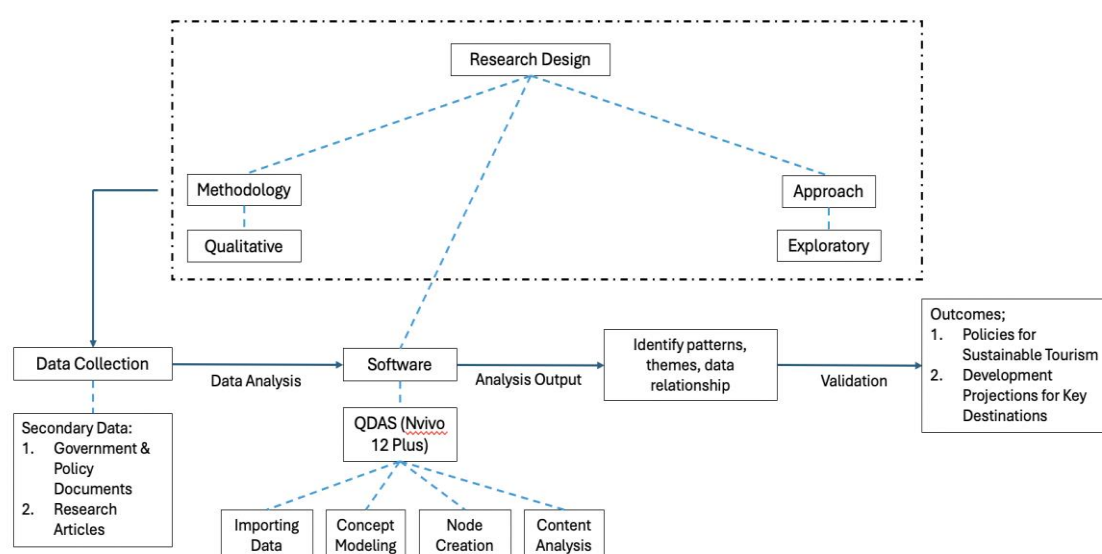
This study employs a qualitative methodology, utilizing QDAS (Qualitative Data Analytics Software) software, specifically *Nvivo 12 Plus*, to examine Sustainable Tourism as an Economic Development Model and assess the development policies of key tourism destinations in Indonesia. The research opted for a qualitative technique to provide comprehensive insights and contextual comprehension of the experiences, perceptions, and perspectives of many stakeholders involved in sustainable tourism. The research design employs an exploratory qualitative methodology, with a specific emphasis on conducting case studies of various prominent tourism locations in Indonesia. The study will utilize secondary data from many sources, such as government papers, policy documents, research articles, and academic publications about sustainable tourism.

Secondary data was collected from various publicly available sources, including online databases, government repositories, and related scientific literature. The data will consist of policy documents, project reports, tourism performance evaluations, and case studies of priority tourism destinations in Indonesia. Secondary data obtained from various sources will be imported into *Nvivo 12 Plus* software for data analysis. The use of *Nvivo 12 Plus* in this context is more focused on organizing and analyzing documents, allowing researchers to extract the meaning and important findings contained in the text. Once the data is imported, the researcher will use *Nvivo 12 Plus* features such as indexing, concept modeling, and node creation to identify patterns, themes, and relationships between concepts that emerge from the documents (Bazeley, 2019). The results of the analysis will help construct a narrative that supports the evaluation and prospects of priority tourism destination development policies in Indonesia.

Secondary data analysis was conducted using a content analysis approach, where findings and themes were identified through the extraction and categorization of information from the documents analyzed (Sadayi et al., 2022). This approach enabled the researcher to discover meanings and thematic patterns emerging from the documents, providing in-depth insights into the policies and development prospects of priority tourism destinations in Indonesia. To ensure the rigor and validity of the research, efforts were made to triangulate data sources by

combining analysis results from various documents and literature. The validity of the findings can also be strengthened by detailing and clarifying the findings through cross-referencing between documents and previous research (Schmieder, 2020). Through this approach, this research is expected to provide in-depth insights into the policies and development projections of priority tourism destinations in Indonesia, without requiring direct stakeholder participation. Secondary data analysis using QDAS, specifically Nvivo 12 Plus, provides advantages in terms of efficiency and accuracy of data analysis, resulting in relevant and valuable findings in supporting the understanding of sustainable tourism as an economic development model in Indonesia.

Figure 2.
Research Method



Source: (data processed by Author, 2024)

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Evaluation of Priority Tourism Destination Development Policy

Tourism in Indonesia has significant potential to emerge as a primary catalyst for economic growth. The government has established a priority tourism destination development policy to maximize the economic advantages of the tourism sector (Rhama, 2020). Nevertheless, the policy's effective execution remains a topic of discussion and assessment. This analysis aims to assess the execution of priority tourism destination development strategies in Indonesia, with a specific focus on planning, implementation, and their effects on local economic growth (Lesmana & Sugiarto, 2021). According to the Ministry of Environment (1990) development (which is basically more economically orientated) can be measured for sustainability based on three criteria, there are: (1) There is no wasteful use of natural resources or depletion of natural resources; (2) There is no pollution and other environmental impacts; (3) The activity must be able to increase useable resources or replaceable resources. Table 1 displays the policies that promote the growth of priority tourism sites.

Table 1.
Priority Tourism Destination Development Policy

Policy	Destination	Target	Indicators of Success
Presidential Regulation No. 3/2016 on the Development of Priority Tourism Destinations	Improving the competitiveness of priority tourist destinations	Enhance the volume of both international and domestic tourist arrivals, augment the inflow of foreign currency from visitor visits, increase the tourism industry, generate employment opportunities within the tourism sector, and enhance the well-being of communities residing near tourist attractions.	The tourism sector has experienced a rise in the number of both foreign and domestic visits, increasing foreign exchange earnings. Additionally, there has been a growth in job opportunities within the tourism sector, leading to improved community welfare in areas surrounding tourist hotspots.
The Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy issued Regulation Number 14 of 2016, which provides guidelines for the development of priority tourism destinations.	Accelerate the development of priority tourist destinations	Improved quality of infrastructure and tourist services in priority destinations	Achievement of infrastructure development targets in tourist destinations, increasing the level of tourist satisfaction
The Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy has issued Decree No. 33/2017, which identifies and designates 10 priority tourism destinations.	Establish 10 priority tourist destinations	10 priority tourist destinations are well-developed	Preservation of nature and culture in tourist destinations
National Development Plan (RIPPNAS) 2025	Tourism Master reference in development of national tourism	Become a reference in the tourism sector to improve people's welfare, and preserve nature and culture	Increase the contribution of the tourism sector to national GDP, a rise in its contribution to the national GDP, leading to an improvement in community welfare. Additionally, efforts have been made to preserve the environment and cultural heritage.

Source: (data processed by Author, 2024)

The Indonesian government showed a strong dedication to formulating and executing policies aimed at fostering economic expansion via the tourism industry. Several significant policies, including Presidential Regulation No. 3/2016, Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy Regulation No. 14/2016, Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy Decree No. 33/2017, and the National Tourism Development Master Plan (RIPPNAS) 2011-2025, have been formulated with the shared aim of enhancing the tourism sector's contribution to Indonesia's economic growth (Ismanto et al., 2023).

Initially, these policies prioritize the significance of the tourist sector as a primary catalyst for economic expansion. The government aims to enhance the competitiveness of tourist locations, boost tourist arrivals, and generate employment opportunities in the tourism sector, to augment the tourism sector's contribution to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). These initiatives demonstrate an understanding of the significant economic opportunities presented by the tourism industry and a commitment to fully capitalize on them.

These programs also strive to attain economic fairness. The government aims to promote economic growth in remote or less developed areas by focusing on the development of key tourism locations. This includes enhancing infrastructure quality and tourist services, while also prioritizing the preservation of local ecology and culture. Through the utilization of the tourism industry, it is expected that economic disparities across different regions in Indonesia can be reduced. Nevertheless, challenges should not be ignored. To ensure the successful implementation of policies, it is imperative to overcome budget limits, enhance inter-agency collaboration, and tackle human resource shortages.

Policy Planning

The policy formulation for the development of major tourism sites in Indonesia has engaged multiple stakeholders, including the national government, regional governments, tourism sector stakeholders, and local people. Nevertheless, a thorough assessment of this policy planning uncovers various vulnerabilities (Purwanti, 2023). An issue that arises is the absence of uniformity and synchronization among different relevant stakeholders while devising strategies for the advancement of tourism (Marpaung et al., 2021). This leads to overlaps and inconsistencies between development plans made by the central and local governments. In addition, in many cases, policy planning still lacks attention to sustainability aspects, including environmental protection and local community participation. These factors are important to ensure that tourism destination development not only provides economic benefits but is also sustainable in the long term. Therefore, improvements are needed in the policy planning process to ensure that sustainability is a key consideration in formulating tourism development plans.

Policy Implementation

Furthermore, in terms of policy implementation, the evaluation shows that there are a few challenges faced. One of them is the lack of capacity and adequate human resources at the local government level to implement tourism development policies. This results in slow policy implementation and uncertainty in the fulfillment of set targets. Another challenge is the existence of administrative and regulatory barriers that hinder tourism investment and development. For example, complicated and bureaucratic licensing processes can slow down tourism infrastructure development projects, while unclear environmental regulations can create uncertainty for investors (Benu et al., 2020; Dalimunthe et al., 2020). Therefore, reforms in policies and regulations are needed to create a conducive environment for tourism investment and development.

Impact on Local Economic Growth

The importance of evaluating priority tourism destination development policies is also reflected in their impact on local economic growth. Although the main objective of the policy is to increase income and employment in tourism destinations, the evaluation shows that the impact is still varied across destinations. On the one hand, some priority tourism destinations have managed to achieve significant economic growth, with increased tourist arrivals and tourism investment resulting in positive impacts on local community incomes (Arintoko et al., 2020; Hadi et al., 2021; Rhama, 2020). However, on the other hand, some destinations are still experiencing difficulties in attracting new investments and tourists, resulting in slow economic growth. This suggests the need for a more differentiated approach in the implementation of priority tourism destination development policies. Each destination has unique characteristics and challenges that require a customized approach to achieve sustainable economic growth.

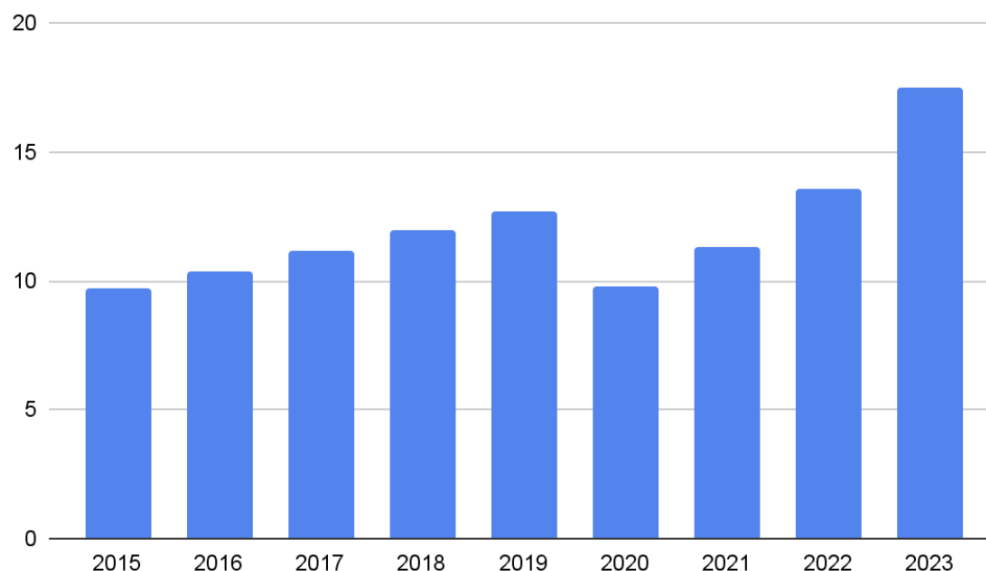
Overall, the evaluation of Indonesia's priority tourism destination development policy reveals a few challenges and weaknesses in planning, implementation, and impact on local economic growth. To improve the effectiveness of this policy, further efforts are needed to improve coordination between central and local governments, strengthen capacity and human resources at the local level, and create a conducive environment for tourism investment. Thus, the potential of tourism as the main motor of economic growth can be maximally utilized to encourage sustainable economic development in Indonesia.

The Impact of Sustainable Tourism on Economic Development

Sustainable tourism not only affects the tourism industry but also has a substantial influence on other sectors within a country's economy. The beneficial effects of sustainable tourism on economic growth are evident from various perspectives, resulting in advantages for both local communities and the entire country (Yamin et al., 2021). Firstly, the notable consequence is the augmentation of local revenue, which is a favorable outcome. Expenditure by tourists on lodging, meals, transportation, and recreational activities not only supports the tourism industry but also enhances the earnings of local individuals employed in this field (Kişi, 2019). This not only enhances the quality of life for the local population but also has the potential to alleviate poverty.

In addition, the growth of the tourism sector can create new jobs in various related sectors such as hotels, restaurants, souvenir shops, and tour guides (Pan et al., 2018). With increased employment, unemployment can be reduced, and the overall welfare of local communities can be improved (Martínez et al., 2019). Moreover, the augmentation of local income through taxes and levies from the tourism industry also has a good impact on the advancement of infrastructure and public services. Consequently, this can enhance the standard of living for local populations and stimulate local economic expansion.

Figure 3.
Number of jobs absorbed (million people/year) in the tourism sector 2015-2023.



Source: Central Bureau of Statistics (2024)

Figure 3 shows an increasing trend in the number of employees in Indonesia's tourist industry from 2015 to 2019. The COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021 had a substantial impact, leading to a decline in the workforce within the sector. The implementation of travel restrictions, the shutdown of tourist attractions, and the enforcement of different social distancing measures to contain the spread of the virus have severely impacted the tourism business. Nevertheless, by 2022, there were indications of a resurgence as employment in the tourism sector started to rebound.

Tourism also catalyzes promoting the region and enticing both local and international visitors. By intensifying regional promotion efforts, the region can attract investment and enhance its overall competitiveness. However, these positive impacts are also accompanied by negative impacts that need to be considered. Price increases due to increased demand for goods and services and economic imbalances between regions that have tourist destinations and those that do not are negative impacts that can occur (Lasso & Dahles, 2018; Lee et al., 2021; Saarinen, 2019). Furthermore, an increase in tourist numbers can lead to detrimental environmental consequences, including water contamination and the accumulation of waste, posing risks to the well-being of residents and the deterioration of tourist destinations. Nevertheless, notwithstanding these adverse effects, tourism continues to exert a substantial beneficial influence on the overall economic growth of a nation. The tourist industry is a significant driver of Indonesia's GDP, and its expansion has the potential to further enhance its contribution to the country's economic growth.

The tourist sector in Indonesia is a significant contributor to the country's economy. In 2023, the Central Bureau of Statistics (*Badan Pusat Statistik-BPS*) reported that the tourist sector had contributed around 4.26% to Indonesia's GDP by 2022. According to projections undertaken by BPS, the tourist sector's contribution to Indonesia's GDP is anticipated to steadily rise and reach 5.6% by 2030. Despite the tourist sector's current contribution to Indonesia's GDP being below the worldwide average, the anticipated expansion indicates significant potential for the sector to have a more substantial impact on the country's economy (Calero & Turner, 2020; Eslami et al., 2019; Goffi et al., 2019). In addition, foreign tourist spending is also an important source of foreign exchange. Increased foreign exchange can help finance development and improve national economic resilience. In addition, tourism can also help increase national competitiveness by attracting tourists and investment, which in turn can help increase national economic growth.

Sustainable tourism has the potential to greatly contribute to the growth of local and national economies. However, to maximize economic benefits and minimize negative impacts, it is important to develop and implement sustainable tourism strategies (Dunets et al., 2019). Several strategies that might be employed include creating sustainable tourism destinations by prioritizing the preservation of natural and cultural resources, empowering local communities in the planning and management of tourism activities, and encouraging responsible tourism among visitors. By implementing the right strategies, sustainable tourism can be an effective tool to drive local and national economic growth.

Prospects for Sustainable Tourism Development

In the context of increasing global demand for sustainable tourism, Super-Priority Tourism destinations have significant opportunities to develop an environmentally and socially responsible tourism sector (Ollivaud & Haxton, 2019; Streimikiene et al., 2021). The phenomenon of increasing tourist interest in sustainability-conscious destinations provides a strong foundation for capitalizing on the region's sustainable tourism potential. Consistent support from the Indonesian government is a key factor in realizing this development. Its

commitment to sustainable tourism development is seen through policies such as Presidential Regulation No. 50/2011 on the National Tourism Development Master Plan (RIPPNAS) and the National Strategy Policy (Jakstranas) on Sustainable Tourism 2011-2025. The Tourism Awareness Program (Sapta Pesona) serves as a tangible manifestation of the government's endeavors to enhance public understanding of the significance of sustainable tourism in Indonesia. These initiatives establish a structure that promotes the growth of tourism with an emphasis on sustainability.

The biological and cultural diversity of Super-Priority Tourism destinations is a valuable asset that can be a major attraction for tourists seeking authentic and sustainable experiences (Cavalheiro et al., 2020). Directly engaging local people in the process of planning and developing tourism is a crucial component. Through active engagement, tourism has the potential to generate substantial economic and social advantages for local communities, while simultaneously safeguarding cultural and natural values. By amalgamating these elements, the DPSP can establish a robust groundwork for the advancement of sustainable tourism that has a positive effect on the economy and the welfare of local communities. DPSP has the potential to emerge as a prominent sustainable tourist destination in Indonesia due to rising global demand, robust government backing, abundant natural and cultural resources, and active involvement of local communities.

Table 2:
Prospects for Sustainable Tourism Development in 10 Super Priority Tourism Destinations

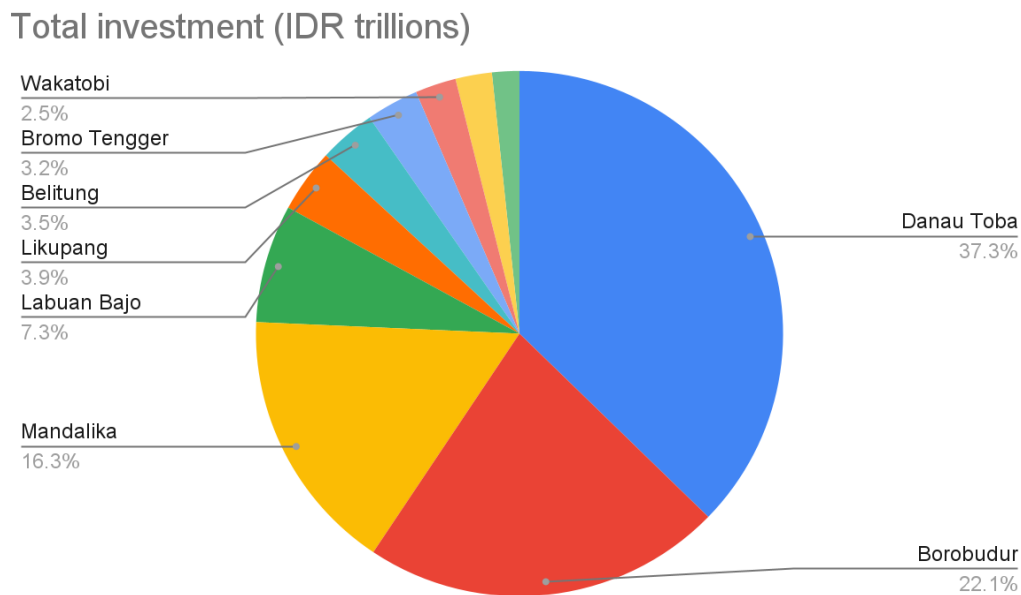
Destinations	Main Attraction	Tourist Potential	Development Data
Lake Toba	The world's largest volcanic lake, Batak culture	2.5 million tourists (2023)	Construction of Kuala Tanjung-Parapat Toll Road (2020-2024) Muara Harbor Area Arrangement (2021-2023) Development of Lake Toba Tourism Hub Area (2022-2024) Homestay Development in Tourism Villages (2022-2023)
Borobudur	World's largest Buddhist temple, UNESCO world heritage site	5 million tourists (2023)	Development of Borobudur Temple Tourism Park (TWCB) (2020-2024) Manohara Area Arrangement (2021-2023) Construction of Joglo Agung (2022-2023) Thematic Tourism Village Development (2022-2023)
Mandalika	Beautiful beaches, MotoGP circuit	1.5 million tourists (2023)	Mandalika Circuit Construction (2017-2021) Mandalika Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Development (2017-2024) Hotel and Resort Development (2022-2024) Tourist Amenity Development (2022-2023)
Labuan Bajo	Gateway to Komodo National Park	350,000 travelers (2023)	Komodo Airport Development (2019-2021) Marina Waterfront Area Arrangement (2021-2023) Labuan Bajo Pier Construction (2022-2023) Tourism Village Development (2022-2023)
Likupang	Beautiful beaches, underwater beauty	150,000 travelers (2023)	Construction of Manado-Bitung Toll Road (2020-2024) Likupang Beach Area Arrangement (2021-2023) Hotel and Resort Development (2022-2024) Tourist Amenity Development (2022-2023)

Destinations	Main Attraction	Tourist Potential	Development Data
Belitung	White sandy beaches, giant granite boulders, tropical forests	600,000 travelers (2023)	Construction of HAS Hanandjoeddin International Airport (2019-2021) Tanjung Tinggi Beach Area Arrangement (2021-2023) Belitung Geopark Development (2022-2024) Homestay Development in Tourism Villages (2022-2023)
Bromo Tengger Semeru	An active volcano with beautiful sunrise views	6 million tourists (2023)	Construction of Pasuruan-Probolinggo Toll Road (2020-2024) Bromo Tengger Semeru National Park (TNBTS) Area Management (2021-2023) Thematic Tourism Village Development (2022-2023) Tourist Amenity Development (2022-2023)
Wakatobi	Unspoiled underwater beauty	50,000 travelers (2023)	Matahora Airport Development (2021-2023) Wakatobi National Park (WNP) Area Arrangement (2022-2024) Homestay Development in Tourism Villages (2022-2023) Construction of Coral Reef Conservation Center (2022-2023)
Raja Ampat	Incredible marine biodiversity	200,000 travelers (2023)	Marinda Airport Development (2020-2022) Raja Ampat National Park (TNRA) Area Management (2021-2023) Homestay Development in Tourism Villages (2022-2023) Construction of Marine Research and Development Center (2022-2023)
Morotai	World War II history, natural beauty	30,000 travelers (2023)	Pitu Airport Development (2021-2023) Morotai Beach Area Arrangement (2022-2024) Construction of Morotai Jetty (2022-2023) Tourism Village Development (2022-2023)

Source;(Arintoko et al., 2020; Asmit et al., 2020; Benu et al., 2020; Hadi et al., 2021; Lesmana & Sugiarto, 2021; Marpaung et al., 2021)

The government has implemented a substantial number of measures to promote the advancement of the tourism sector in the 10 Super Priority Tourism Destinations. These actions include initiatives to develop tourism infrastructure and facilities, aiming to enhance the attractiveness of the destinations and spur economic growth in the region. Nonetheless, several obstacles have emerged along with tourism development projects in the DPSPs. One of the main obstacles faced is budget constraints. The development of tourism infrastructure and facilities requires substantial financial investment, and budget compliance is often a major hurdle in bringing such projects to fruition. Overcoming budget constraints is a top priority to ensure smooth and successful tourism development in the DPSP. In addition to budget constraints, the amount of targeted investment is still relatively low.

Figure 4.
Total Investment in 10 Super Priority Tourism Destinations in 2022



Source: Data processed by author (2024)

Figure 4. shows that the current level of investment in the Super Priority Tourism Destinations (DPSPs) is still at a low level when compared to the potential that can be utilized in the region. Lake Toba gets the largest share of total investment with 37.3%, indicating that this location is the focus for development or investment projects. Borobudur received 22.1% of total investment, which is also a significant, albeit low share. Likupang, Belitung, and Bromo Tengger earned 3.9%, 3.5%, and 3.2% of total investment respectively, indicating that they are locations with lower investment priority compared to the others. Meanwhile, Wakatobi gets the smallest portion with 2.5% of the total investment. From this analysis, we can conclude that there are significant differences in investment allocation among the locations, with Lake Toba, Borobudur, and Mandalika as the focus of investment. This reflects the prioritization of the government or private investors in the development of tourism, infrastructure, or other projects in these locations. Therefore, the role of the government is crucial to continue making maximum efforts to increase the amount of investment in DPSP.

Furthermore, the engagement of local communities is a pivotal concern in the realm of tourist advancement. To achieve sustainability and fair allocation of advantages, it is necessary to implement policies that guarantee the active engagement of local communities and ensure that they reap the benefits of tourism development. This engagement is anticipated to guarantee that the development of the local economy aligns with the interests of the local communities. Another issue that requires attention is the achievement of environmental sustainability. The growth of tourism in the DPSP should be guided by a thoughtful approach to conserving nature and the local environment. The primary objective should be to prioritize the adoption of eco-friendly methods and sustainable solutions to safeguard the inherent beauty and valuable resources of the DPSP.

The government, in this context, is expected to continue to address these challenges. Effective policy planning and implementation, prudent budget allocation, inclusive community engagement, and commitment to environmental sustainability are key to successful tourism

utilizing diverse media platforms such as websites, social media, and tourism exhibitions. This approach aims to heighten tourists' consciousness and enthusiasm towards sustainable tourism destinations (Guo et al., 2019; Streimikiene et al., 2021). In addition, fostering collaboration with many stakeholders is crucial for the advancement of sustainable tourism. Collaboration between the government, academics, and non-governmental groups is crucial to generate synergy in the execution of specified strategies and action plans. By implementing the suggestions, it is anticipated that DPSP can serve as an exemplar for sustainable tourist growth in Indonesia, offering sustainable economic advantages and safeguarding environmental sustainability for future generations.

CONCLUSION

Based on the conducted research, it can be concluded that sustainable tourism holds significant potential as an inclusive and sustainable economic development model in Indonesia. The tourist sector's substantial contribution to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) underscores its pivotal role in stimulating national economic expansion. Nevertheless, an assessment of policies aimed at developing key tourism destinations highlights difficulties in the areas of planning, execution, and their effect on local economic expansion. A comprehensive examination of the deficiencies in research regarding the assessment of priority tourism destination development strategies emphasizes the significance of a comprehensive comprehension of the effects of such policies. Engaging local communities as crucial participants in prioritizing tourism development is essential for guaranteeing environmental sustainability, safeguarding cultural heritage, and enhancing the well-being of the local community.

Strong coordination between central and local governments is considered an important step in addressing the challenges that arise. Improving capacity and human resources at the local level is also a priority to ensure effective policy implementation. In addition, creating an enabling environment for tourism investment could be key to maximizing the sector's potential as a sustainable engine of economic growth.

The evaluation of priority tourism destination development policies is not just a final review, but an important foundation for designing effective and sustainable tourism development strategies in the future. By involving various stakeholders, strengthening coordination, and increasing local capacity, Indonesia can optimize the potential of tourism as a pillar of sustainable economic growth and have a positive impact on the entire community.

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