

Prospects for Ecotourism Development in Uzbekistan

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ABSTRACT: This article focuses on the opportunities for ecotourism development in Namangan and the specifics of their effective use. Suggestions for overcoming specific problems and difficulties are also made in this area.

KEYWORD: ecotourism, ecotourism resource, ecological types, operating ecotourism facilities in Namangan.

Introduction

In recent years, many national programmes and projects have been implemented specifically aimed at preserving and multiplying this potential in our country, which is rich in natural resources and has unique flora and fauna "...by developing the economy and creating new jobs, the development of ecotourism helps to keep the environment clean and tidy and to reduce the incidence of disease among the population". [1]. In this connection processes of development of ecotourism, its scientific-theoretical bases and economic, social, natural and geographical aspects, identification and analysis of ecotourism opportunities of the nature of Uzbekistan on the basis of the saved up historical experience are considered, and ways of their rational use are shown.

In the world practice the priority is given to nature monuments, specially protected natural territories, protection of ecosystems, rational use of natural resources in development of ecotourism. Also special attention is paid to expansion of ecotourism cycle, improvement of its territorial structure, identification of possibilities of complexity and increase of its efficiency.

In our republic measures are taken to form the types of services in tourism and its (eco, agro, historical and religious, extreme) sectors, to increase the number of travel agencies and improve their specialization and territorial composition taking into account the possibility of regions. The Strategy of actions on five priority directions of development of the Republic of Uzbekistan defines the important tasks in a context of "*fast development of the tourism industry, increase of its role and share in economy, diversification and improvement of quality of tourist services, expansion of tourist infrastructure*" and "*maintenance of people living in ecologically safe environment*". [2]. In this connection, it is important to study the peculiarities of regionalism, periodicity and complexity of ecotourism in Namangan province, which has different natural conditions and ecosystems.

Tourist routes in the region are enhanced by the inclusion of Mullah Bozor Okhun and Mullah Kyrgyz madrassahs in Namangan city, historical monuments Munchogtepa in Pop district, Buonamozor in Chust

district, historical monuments Aksikent in Torakorgan district and a spring of Soroka maiden tears in Chortok district. . We all know the uniqueness, charm and diversity of nature of Namangan province. This ecotourism region has great potential and opportunities for development of all kinds of tourism, including ecotourism. In recent years, the region has developed comprehensive measures to develop tourism, which is becoming an important link in the economy along with other sectors, and the number of sectors in this area is increasing. In particular, the annual increase in the number of tourists visiting the banks of the Gova, Syrdarya and Norin rivers, Nanai, Rezaksoy and other ecotourism sites in the Chust district can be explained by the growing prospects of the ecotourism network.

Domestic tourism in the region, mainly coming from Andijan, Ferghana, Tashkent, Samarkand and other regions, has blossomed in tourism development. Foreign tourists also visit the region to study archaeological finds. It is important to justify trust of foreign tourists, guarantee their safety and correctly interpret political situation directly in growth and development of international tourism. Determining the prospect of ecotourism network in the region, increasing tourism in the future and increasing the flow of tourists depends on various conditions, internal and external situation. In order to develop the tourism industry of Namangan region, the Resolution of the Akim of the region from February 16, 2016 No. 66 *"On the programme of development of tourism industry of Namangan region for 2016-2017"*[3] was adopted, and the tourists coming to the region are provided with living and cultural conditions corresponding to the world standards, in connection with its creation a number of positive works are carried out.

During a visit to the region in 2019, Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev said he would open doors to additional opportunities. for the development of medical tourism and eco-tourism in the region, based on the objectives of creating new businesses and creating jobs, taking into account the characteristics and opportunities of each region. Shavkat Mirziyoyev also gave instructions on the development of tourism and the creation of an eco-city in Chortok, having familiarised himself with the Chortok health resort complex under construction in Chartok district[4]. Here it was emphasised that the centre of Chortok should be reconstructed as part of a project to develop the infrastructure of medium-sized towns in cooperation with the World Bank, in order to turn Chortok into an eco-city.

Studies show that the eco-tourism facilities in the region are characterized by convenience due to the landscape and natural conditions. In addition, the inconvenience of transport roads leading to ecotourism sites, and underdeveloped ecotourism infrastructure have a negative impact on tourist arrivals. To solve such problems it is important to carry out surveys of the population living in rural areas, to study their wishes and aspirations. One of the major problems facing ecotourism is the organization of short-term tourism. The need of people for rest arises as a result of physical and mental work. Therefore, increase of working capacity of the population, spiritual rejuvenation first of all are connected with how much travel and tourist services are organized.

On the basis of the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan *"On measures on ecotourism development and improvement of order of land allocation within water protection zones of water reservoirs"* water reservoirs "Eskier" of Yangigorgan district, "Rezaksoy" of Chust district, "Chortok" of Chertok district are given land plots within the water protection zones for ecotourism [5].

Attraction of foreign tourists is possible by organization of information on existing objects of ecotourism in Namangan area in different languages in foreign countries. It is important to study the tourism situation of the regions in promoting tourism, especially ecotourism in Namangan oblast, and implement existing problems in cooperation with the oblast administration and the Ministry of Tourism and Cultural Heritage, covering structural aspects of all problems. In particular, a resolution of the Akim of Namangan oblast on measures to further develop tourism and ecotourism in Yangikurgan district has been adopted [6]. According to him, the village of Nanai will become a centre for ecotourism. This decision, aimed at improving the tourist potential

of the village Nanai in Yangikurgan district, on the basis of many abandoned recreation centers in the area will be created modern tourist facilities, and the village will be turned into a centre of ecotourism. Local and foreign investors have been attracted to the eco-tourism centre established in Nanai village with the aim of creating modern recreation facilities such as campsites, recreation areas and guest houses. As a result of these activities, a large number of young people will be employed in the region. The Chust district also has high eco-tourism potential, and there are currently eco-tourism routes in the Chust district: 1. Chust-Govasoy. 2. Chust-Buonamozor. 3. Maulana Lutfi Recreation Park. 4. Carried out along the Tashkurgan-Meshkhed routes [7].

In order to establish ecotourism sites and start their activities, the State Committee for Ecology and Environmental Protection has conducted a study of the ecological-landscape areas of the province and selected around 10 locations for ecotourism sites [8]. In addition to being suitable sites for the development of ecotourism, covering all districts of the region, these areas will be an important factor in the economic recovery of the region, creating new jobs, organizing recreation and restoring the health of the population. At the moment, measures are being developed to create ecotourism destinations taking into account modern requirements and to create the necessary infrastructure in these areas.

A unique tradition of Namangan residents, the 'Festival of Flowers' plays an important role in the development of domestic and international tourism in the region. Flower Day has been celebrated since 1961, and in 2018 it received international status. Based on the Resolution No. 831 of October 16, 2017 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On measures for further development of flower growing in Namangan province", holding the "Flower Festival" at a high level in the province attracts local and foreign tourists, it has become a tradition to mass construction, beautification, landscaping works in villages and micro-districts, parks and avenues [9]. This year, the 61st International Flower Festival was held in Namangan, the flower capital of Uzbekistan, from 22 May to 5 June. The 61st International Flower Festival was visited not only by local but also by foreign tourists. This, in turn, testifies to the high tourist potential of the region.

Conclusion

The territorial development of ecotourism in Namangan province is an important factor in ensuring economic benefits for society, a long life for people and ensuring that future generations have a free and prosperous, free homeland. The development of tourism plays an important role in the further development of the country's economy and culture, in the preservation of its natural attractions, historical monuments and national traditions, and in the further development of its economy.

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