

sites such as forests, game reserves, museums, historic sites, relics, monuments, etc. are all or mainly owned by the communities. Eco-tourism on the other hand, enhances rural economy and provides revenue for indigenes and also facilitates development as it encourages investment;

3. Development of tourism infrastructures: the government can encourage tourism development by provision of infrastructures like roads, rail transport system, communication, stability, legalization, etc. Of course it is not the sole responsibility of the government to provide these infrastructures but they can partner with interested investors and stakeholders in the sector to make these facilities available;

4. Partnerships and agreements: the Nigerian government can enter into agreements with other governments on issues relating to immigration, tariffs, duties, etc. Government can also legislate on land use, forest reservations, games, beaches, museums, monuments, etc.

5. Security: Government can also facilitate the development of the tourism sector by ensuring the security forces are provided with new and effective means to protecting both citizens and tourists against robberies, religious/ethnic fanatics, rioters, assassins and kidnappers. The government can beef up security by equipping the police and the military to face the challenges of the current situation in the country;

6. Image laundering: owing to the activities of some Nigerian leaders and citizens, the country has been portrayed in bad light as corrupt and dubious. To launder the image of the country, the Ministries of Information, Culture and Tourism, National Orientation Agency and External Affairs need to embark on serious image laundering both home and abroad. Consequently, these ministries should help in advertising the rich tourism potentials of Nigeria internationally as is presently practiced in all Nigerian diplomatic missions abroad;

7. Ease in obtaining visas and waiver for some selected countries: the Immigration department should encourage international tourism by relaxing it's measures in obtaining visas and also grant visa waivers to some neighboring countries as a means of encouraging and attracting international tourism which will in turn contribute to the economy of Nigeria; and

8. Clean Environment: a clean environment is a pre-requisite for tourism. The Ministry of Environment needs to put in place measures that will ensure cities and destinations are clean and attractive. Also based on poor performance of publicly owned tourist destinations, it is recommended that only professionals in tourism with adequate education and experience be appointed to manage tourist sites.

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STATE POLICY OF INTERNATIONAL TOURISM DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA

The tourism industry is a powerful driver of the economic engine of nations. The important roles of the tourism sector as the main instrument in socioeconomic development of any nation cannot be overstated. After years of neglect, the Nigerian government has finally realised the importance of travel and tourism as a strategic sector in the national economy. Through the Nigeria Tourism Development Corporation (NTDC), it has recently created a new brand, Fascinating Nigeria, with the aim of revitalising the struggling industry as well as developing its value chain. This move aims to make travel and tourism a major contributor to the nation's GDP and to boost non-oil revenues as

Nigeria continues on its mission to diversify its economy out from its current reliance on oil exports. Other recent initiatives by the NTDC to further boost growth in travel and tourism include joining the International Coalition of Tourism Partners (ICTP), forming alliances with emerging global travel and tourism giants such as South Africa and participating in international tourism trade fairs such as WTM London and ITB Berlin. Although some of the tourist Centers' in Nigeria is not well developed to promote socioeconomic development The industry generates over US\$ 1 Trillion per annum in direct earnings (indirect earnings being as high as threefold those of direct earnings). However, the only way to realize the important roles of tourism is through a well-developed packaged and promoted tourism attraction. Nigeria's tourism sector is still operating below capacity even as tourism becomes the fastest growth industry globally. More to the point, the lack of adequate empirical data has hindered policy makers and other stakeholders on the viability of most of the existing tourism destinations in Nigeria. The tourism industry offers the opportunity to lessen the country's dependence on oil revenue, if properly harnessed. At the present level, the industry annual revenue from the sector is about N80 billion.

Nigeria has been exploiting new technologies in order to facilitate growth in its travel and tourism industry. It recently launched a new tourist Visa card so as to ease the burden of visitors carrying cash while in the country. In addition, a biometric registration system for workers in the industry was also created with the aim of reducing fraudulent activities, especially in the hospitality sector. These innovative tourist products will not only boost travel and tourism development, but will also reposition the industry in Nigeria with global standards and best practices. Nigeria has become the new frontline in the battle between the international hotel chains looking to tap into the growth potential presented by Africa's booming economies. Due to its oil-rich economy and growing demand for inbound and domestic tourism, top international hotel brands such as Sheraton, Radisson Blu, Hilton, Marriott and Best Western have already established footholds in the country and are planning to expand their property portfolios in the country with Africa's second largest economy. Nigeria is well known for its hospitality and as a mega-city Lagos has long been an attractive destination for hotel investors. The city has been the hub of hotel construction in Nigeria due to the fact that much of the nation's wealth and economic activity are concentrated there. It is also the most populous city in Nigeria as well as one of the largest in Africa and among the largest cities in the world.

Table 1

Tourism indicators by Nigeria

	International tourism, number of arrivals	International tourism, receipts (current US\$)	International tourism, receipts for passenger transport items (current US\$)	International tourism, expenditures (current US\$)	International tourism, expenditures for passenger transport items (current US\$)	International tourism, expenditures for travel items (current US\$)
1995	1,031,000.0	47,000,000.0	30,000,000.0	938,000,000.0	32,000,000.0	906,000,000.0
1996	1,230,000.0	58,000,000.0	23,000,000.0	1,318,000,000.0	14,000,000.0	1,304,000,000.0
1997	1,292,000.0	83,000,000.0	28,000,000.0	1,840,000,000.0	24,000,000.0	1,816,000,000.0
1998	1,357,000.0	81,000,000.0	34,000,000.0	1,589,000,000.0	22,000,000.0	1,567,000,000.0
1999	1,425,000.0	99,000,000.0	45,000,000.0	640,000,000.0	20,000,000.0	620,000,000.0
2000	1,492,000.0	186,000,000.0	85,000,000.0	610,000,000.0	19,000,000.0	591,000,000.0
2001	1,753,000.0	168,000,000.0	77,000,000.0	858,000,000.0	27,000,000.0	831,000,000.0
2002	2,046,000.0	256,000,000.0	117,000,000.0	910,000,000.0	29,000,000.0	881,000,000.0
2003	2,253,000.0	58,000,000.0	28,000,000.0	2,076,000,000.0	281,000,000.0	1,795,000,000.0
2004	2,646,000.0	49,000,000.0	28,000,000.0			
2005	2,778,000.0	139,000,000.0	85,000,000.0	501,000,000.0	261,000,000.0	240,000,000.0
2006	3,056,000.0	209,000,000.0	25,000,000.0	3,536,000,000.0	257,000,000.0	3,279,000,000.0
2007	5,239,000.0	337,000,000.0	124,000,000.0	6,664,000,000.0	1,075,000,000.0	5,589,000,000.0
2008	5,820,000.0	959,000,000.0	390,000,000.0	11,009,000,000.0	1,230,000,000.0	9,779,000,000.0
2009	6,053,000.0	791,000,000.0	189,000,000.0	6,236,000,000.0	1,224,000,000.0	5,012,000,000.0
2010	6,113,000.0	738,000,000.0	167,000,000.0	8,379,000,000.0	2,792,000,000.0	5,587,000,000.0
2011	3,765,000.0	688,000,000.0	65,000,000.0	9,534,000,000.0	2,935,000,000.0	6,599,000,000.0
	4,673,000.0	641,000,000.0	84,000,000.0	9,280,000,000.0	3,112,000,000.0	6,168,000,000.0

Source: [World Travel and Tourism Council].

The NTDC has prioritised the development of domestic travel and tourism in Nigeria in a bid to boost growth in the country's travel and tourism industry. Travel and tourism already generates high revenues and maintains strong growth potential in the country due to the fact that some 15% of Nigeria's total population travel domestically on an annual basis for business, leisure, cultural, religion reasons and sports events. In bid to promote domestic tourism activities, the NTDC has been mobilising stakeholders in the private sector and is also encouraging cultural activities as a base for the branding and packaging of domestic travel and tourism products. The NTDC also plans to create land and sea transportation hubs to allow local consumers to enjoy travelling around the country. Despite its huge growth potential, travel and tourism in Nigeria is yet to emerge fully due to various challenges such as limited promotional funds, inadequate infrastructure and constant security issues. However, as the country seeks to diversify its revenue streams beyond its current dependence on oil, emerging niche sectors such as the nation's thriving film industry, dubbed Nollywood, the third-largest national film production industry at global level, is likely to play a key role in terms of promoting the brand of Nigeria both at home and abroad. The accessibility of the country to a wider audience through Nollywood may help to improve stereotypes about Nigeria and attract more tourists. As a result, the Nigerian government now needs to tap into the positive image being fostered by the Nigerian film industry so as to strengthen its travel and tourism brand.

HENRY THOMPSON

DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE IN GHANA

Tourism is travel for recreation, leisure, religious, family or business purposes, usually for a limited duration. Tourism is commonly associated with international travel, but may also refer to travel to another place within the same country. The World Tourism Organization defines tourists as people "traveling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for not more than one consecutive year for leisure, business and other purposes.

Today, tourism is one of the largest and most dynamic sector in economic activity. The high rate of growth and development, large amounts of foreign exchange earnings, infrastructure development, management and new educational experience actively influence the various sectors that contribute to positive social and economic development.

The most developed Western countries, such as Switzerland, Austria and France have much wealth accumulated earnings and economic tourism.

According to recent statistics, tourism accounts for approximately 10% of global revenue and employs nearly one tenth of the global workforce. Real economic impact and potential of all of the above, tourism is spectacular. Many people focus on the positive aspects of tourism as a source of foreign exchange to foreign trade, the balance of "industry without smokestacks" – in short, manna from heaven.

But there are a number of other positive and negative aspects of the economic boom of tourism to the local communities that are not always considered tourism supporters point. Therefore, in this article, I will examine the major social and environmental impact of tourism on the national level.

These are positive and negative social and environmental impacts of tourism.

Socially tourism has a major impact on host societies. Tourism can be a source of friendship, peace and understanding and corrupting and also destroying indigenous cultures, the source of the destruction of the environment, the popular identity of the violence, dignity and authenticity.

Here are some positive effects of tourism:

- developing friendships;
- reducing negative perceptions and stereotypes;
- learning about each other's culture and customs;
- developing pride, appreciation, understanding, respect, and tolerance for each other's culture;
- developing positive attitudes towards each other.