

Sustainable Development and Tourism: Case Study

The purpose of this unit is to have you consider and recognize the impacts that traditional tourism, and the development that follows, has on the people and environment in developing countries.

These impacts can be social, cultural, economic, and environmental in nature. As responsible global citizens, we should consider travel that is sustainable and is sensitive to the needs of the traveler and to the host peoples.

Your next task is to select a project that allows you to demonstrate your knowledge of sustainable tourism and development, while allowing you to research a topic of interest to you.

Part A: Select a Topic

You may select one of the following topics or gain approval from your teacher for another topic:

- Coral Reefs and Tourism
- Visiting Indigenous People: Amazon, Papua New Guinea, Serengeti (Energy, Arts and Culture SHSM) *
- Major Tourism Destinations and impact of tourism: Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Bali (Energy SHSM)*
- Cultural Destinations: Nepal, Machu Pichu,
- Small-scale Energy Projects in Developing Countries and Tourism (Energy SHSM)*
Small-scale Health Projects in Developing Countries and Tourism Culture and Custom: A guide for travelers outlining what to DO and NOT DO in various countries. (Arts and Culture SHSM)
- Homestays: An opportunity to experience the culture of a people (Arts and Culture SHSM)*
- Design a trip: Focus on a Client with specific interests: ie. Music, Art, Dance of Indigenous people (Arts and Culture SHSM)*
- Sport Fishing in the Caribbean

** for SHSM in Arts and Culture or Energy, please open the appropriate supplementary files for your major. (#'s 8, 9, 10, and 11 in folder)

Part B: Select the form of your Presentation

You are encouraged to select a form of presentation that is most appropriate or relevant to your topic. For example, you may decide to create a: PowerPoint Presentation, Prezi Presentation, Brochure, Website, or other Technology-based form.

Part C: Key Components

It is difficult to list all of the requirements for each project. You have some degree of freedom in picking your topic. Your finished product should be able to demonstrate your understanding of some or all the following expectations:

- evaluate the influence of human systems on patterns of travel and tourism and, conversely, influence of travel and tourism on human systems
- analyse the impact of different types of travel and tourism on the natural environment
- explain the social, environmental, cultural, economic, and political effects of travel and tourism on various destination regions
- It must satisfy the requirements of “sustainable tourism”:
 - Using efficient local transportation where possible, which also provides more interaction with local people.
 - Staying at locally owned accommodations and supporting local businesses, so that the money you spend stays within the families and individuals you encounter along the way, enabling them to grow their community.
 - Encourage the preservation of cultural heritage by appreciating, but not altering, archaeological sites, sampling local cuisine, and learning about traditional customs and belief systems.
 - Visiting local community projects. This will give you a greater understanding of the issues facing local people and learn how individuals are working to strengthen the health and viability of their communities. You may also have a chance to volunteer and give back during your visit.
 - Support fair trade by purchasing goods directly from the individuals who have made them.

Please consider:

- the type of tourist that is attracted to this location: party'ers, seniors, families, academics, artists, environmentalists...
- focus on one location or small region and one culture of people
- identify an issue facing the local people
- You may “Cut and Paste” photos, short excerpts, diagrams, maps as long as you provide the URL for each as a source.
- You must complete the form, “What I Know; What I Need to Know” one week prior to the due date.

- You must complete the “Reflection Page” based on your learning while doing this project.