Xulosa va takliflar. O‘tkazilgan tadqiqot natijalariga ko‘ra, O‘zbekiston turizm industriyasi yuqori o‘sish sur’atlariga ega bo‘lib, «O‘zbekiston — 2030» strategiyasida belgilangan yillik 15–20 million nafar xorijiy sayyohni jalb qilish maqsadiga erishish uchun barcha zaruriy shart-sharoitlar shakllanmoqda. Sohaning raqobatbardoshligini yanada oshirish uchun quyidagi chora-tadbirlarni amalga oshirish maqsadga muvofiq:

Turizm mahsulotlarini diversifikatsiya qilish. An’anaviy madaniy sayohatlar bilan bir qatorda MICE (ishbilarmonlik), tibbiy, 408lectron408ic va ta’lim turizmi yo‘nalishlarini jadal rivojlantirish orqali mavsumiylik ta’sirini kamaytirish.

Raqamli ekotizimni kengaytirish. Turistik xizmatlarni onlayn band qilish, 408lectron chiptalar va virtual gid tizimlarini yagona milliy raqamli platformaga integratsiya qilish.

Kadrlar salohiyatini oshirish. Xalqaro standartlar asosida mehmondo‘stlik va servis menejmenti bo‘yicha o‘rta va oliy bo‘g‘in mutaxassislarini tayyorlash tizimini takomillashtirish.

Hududiy infratuzilmani rivojlantirish. Davlat-xususiy sheriklik asosida ekologik va tog‘ turizmi klasterlarida zamonaviy mehmonxonalar hamda transport-logistika markazlarini barpo etish.

Foydalanilgan adabiyotlar ro‘yxati:

1.O‘zbekiston Respublikasi Prezidentining 2023-yil 11-sentabrdagi «O‘zbekiston — 2030» strategiyasi to‘g‘risidagi PF-158-son Farmoni.

2.O‘zbekiston Respublikasi Prezidentining 2024-yil 12-yanvardagi «O‘zbekiston Respublikasida ziyorat va ekologik turizmni yanada rivojlantirish chora-tadbirlari to‘g‘risida»gi qarori.

3.Tuxliyev I.S., Hayitboyev R., Ibodullayev N.E., Amriddinova R.S. Turizm asoslari. Darslik. — Samarqand: SamISI, 2020. — 248 b.

4.O‘zbekiston Respublikasi Prezidenti huzuridagi Statistika agentligi rasmiy ma’lumotlari (2025–2026-yillar hisobotlari). — stat.uz

5.O‘zbekiston Respublikasi Turizm qo‘mitasi tahliliy axborotnomasi. — uzbektourism.uz

THE IMPACT OF NATURE-BASED TOURISM ON LOCAL COMMUNITIES (IN CASE OF THE AMANKUTAN AREA)

Tilyavova Sabina Baxodurovna
Student of Bachelor Degree, Tourism and Hospitality “Silk Road” International University of Tourism and Cultural Heritage +998915352720,
tilyavovasabina@gmail.com

Abstract: The growing popularity of Amankutan tract, which is located in the Urgut district of the Samarkand region, is a positive sign, however, the emergence of ecological risks and social instability can cause environmental problems, public tensions, as well as economic downturns, which completely contradicts the sustainable development of tourism. Therefore, the primary objective of this study

to determine the effects of the development of nature tourism on the local community, identifying key contradictions, as well as developing recommendations for sustainable management.

Key words: nature-based tourism, sustainable destination, community involvement, Amankutan tract, Amankutan national nature park.

Since ancient times, tourism in Uzbekistan has been viewed mainly as historical and cultural. The diversification of tourism products could expand the potential for tourism development in Uzbekistan. For example, our rich natural resources open up an excellent opportunity for the formation of natural tourism. The transition to improved tourism will accelerate the process of investing in the infrastructure of natural regions, but often poor coordination and control of the flow of visitors leads to the destruction of the ecosystem, as well as to socio-economic dilemmas within the local population. This is a particularly relevant issue in relation to the mountainous recreational areas of Uzbekistan, such as the territory of Amankutan.

The Amankutan tract is located in the Urgut district, which is 40 kilometers south of Samarkand (National Committee on Ecology and Climate Change of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2025). The place of strategic importance served as the territory of the shortest route connecting ancient Sogd with Bactria, and Samarkand with Kesh. According to the People Travel (2025) in different eras, this road was used by the armies of Alexander the Great, Persian troops, Arab and Mongol conquerors, and later by Russian garrisons. Most of the surrounding areas (1,500 hectares) are part of the Amankutan National Nature Park, which was established in 2022 (Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 2022). Since the Urgut district is located in a mountainous area, the park is biologically diverse. The area is characterized by abundant flora and fauna. There are more than 1,300 plant species including 60 medicinal plants such as oats, mountain basil, rhubarb, immortelle, elecampane and others. Moreover, 8 species of reptiles, including cobra, gyurza, rattlesnake, boa constrictor, yellow snake, and lizard have been identified, as well as 9 species of rare animals and birds listed in the “Red Book” of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the “Red List” of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (State Committee for Ecology and Environmental Protection, 2019; IUCN, 2026). It is also worth noting the historical monuments, such as the Amankutan Cave, also known as the Lion Cave after the name of its first explorer, the archaeologist D. N. Lev (Zarnews.uz, 2026), where archaeological excavations in 1947 revealed evidence of neanderthals habitation and uncovered numerous prehistoric stone tools.

Nature-based tourism can cause both beneficial and detrimental consequences to local communities (Badola, 2018). Beneficial consequences of socioeconomic impacts include economic benefits, conservation of cultural heritage, renewal of cultural pride, cross-cultural exchange, while drawbacks are lack of system approach in tourism planning, loss of potential economic benefits, economic and employment distortions, overcrowding and loss of amenities for residents (Inskeep, 1991).

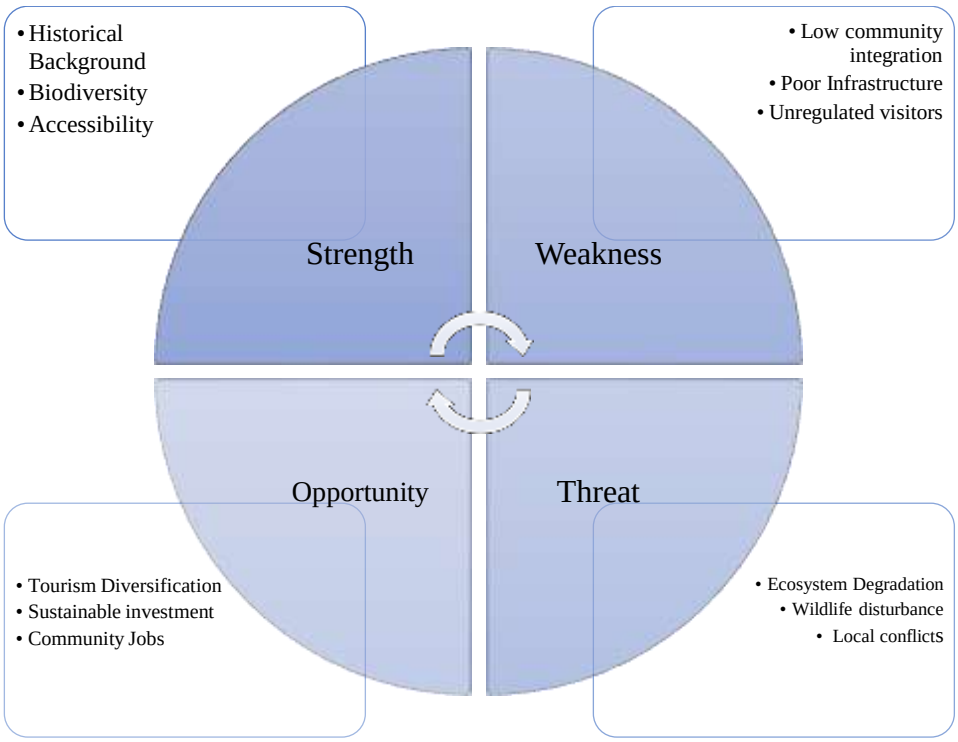


Figure 1. SWOT analysis of Nature-Based Tourism in Amankutan*
*Made by author

The SWOT analysis demonstrates that the sustainable development of nature-based tourism in Amankutan relies on the connection between internal and external factors (Figure 1). For instance, broad historical background, high biodiversity and strategic geographical access to Amankutan tract would lead to attracting sustainable investments for establishing eco-facilities in the area, which will encourage creation of jobs for locals and protection of environment. Moreover, the presence of distinct historical and natural resources allows to foster the following types of tourism: speleological (cave exploration), adventure and extreme (trekking, hiking), educational (botanical excursions, field trips), rural (village stays, handicraft workshops). At the same time, existing low community integration, limited infrastructure facilities and uncontrolled visitor flows cause social conflicts, damages to wildlife, water pollution and waste accumulation.

To address these threats and preserve the environment, several recommendations and suggestions should be implemented, such as setting up clearly marked trash bins for waste sorting at main park entrances, placing informative signs along hiking trails, setting reasonable limits on the number of daily visitors, introducing simple online booking tools to prevent overcrowding during peak seasons, providing practical training and support for local families to run guest houses, offer local cuisine, lead guided tours, and sell traditional crafts, ensuring that economic benefits stay within the community.

In summary, Amankutan district has an enormous potential to be a successful example of nature-based tourism in the Samarkand region. The wide historical background and unique biodiversity establish opportunities for diversification of tourism, such as speleotourism, adventure, extreme, educational, rural and others. By merging its distinctive natural resources and historical heritage with proper waste

management, visitor flow controls, and local community empowerment, the area could obtain not only permanent economic growth, but also environment conservation for future generations.

Reference:

1. Badola, R., Hussain, S. A., Dobriyal, P., Manral, U., Barthwal, S., Rastogi, A., & Gill, A. K. (2018). Institutional arrangements for managing tourism in the Indian Himalayan protected areas. Tourism Management [1–12] available at: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tourman.2017.10.020
2. Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan (2022). Resolutions on the establishment of the Amankutan National Nature Park Official Web-Portal of the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan: https://gov.uz
3. Inskeep, E (1991). Tourism planning: An integrated and sustainable development approach [1–508] available at: https://archive.org/details/tourismplanningi0000insk
4. National Committee on Ecology and Climate Change of the Republic of Uzbekistan (2025). Amankutan National Nature Park available at: https://gov.uz/en/eco/news/view/22812
5. People Travel (2025) Amankutan in Samarkand: History and Tourism sights available at: https://people-travels.com/sights/amankutan-in-samarkand
6. Zarnews.uz (2026) Amankutan – natural and man-made Samarkand Regional Media Portal retrieved from: https://zarnews.uz

THE ROLE OF TOURISM IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Abdurafikova Shaxnozabonu Shokirovna
student of Silk Road International university of tourism and cultural heritage,
rafikovashakhnoza14@gmail.com

Abstract. Tourism brings money, jobs and new services to the places people visit. But these benefits do not always reach the people who live there. This paper looks at how tourism affects the economic and social life of local communities, what helps residents gain from it, and what problems it can create. The paper is based on a review of research and on data from the World Travel & Tourism Council and UN Tourism. The main finding is simple: a community gains most from tourism when local people own businesses, when hotels and restaurants buy from local producers, and when residents have a say in decisions. Examples from Uzbekistan are used to illustrate these points.

Keywords: tourism, local community, socio-economic development, employment, income, leakage, residents' attitudes, Uzbekistan.

Introduction

Tourism is one of the largest sectors of the world economy. Travel and tourism contributed approximately $10.9 trillion to world GDP in 2024, representing