Eco-tourism & Community-Based Tourism: A sustainable tourism model for Timor-Leste

Mariana da Costa  
General Directorate of Tourism  
Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Industry
Contents:

- Country Profile
- Tourism Products
- Strategic Development Plan 2011 – 2030
- Tua Koin eco village case study
- Strategy & Actions
- Area: 15,410 km²
- Climate: dry & rainy season
- Population: 1,066,582 (2010)
- Languages:
  - Tetum, Portuguese, Bahasa Indonesia & English ±17 local dialects in 13 districts
- GDP: US$701m (2011)
- Major Exports: Coffee, oil and natural gas
- Potential sectors:
  - Oil and gas
  - Tourism
  - Agriculture
  - Fisheries
Tourism Products

Coastal & Marine Tourism
Cultural & Historical Tourism
Timor-Leste Carnaval

Dili, 17-18 Feb 2012

Alonga a Libertade e Pardelha

Carnaval
Visitor Arrivals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Arrivals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>12.980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>18.905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>26.162</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>28.824</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>36.643</td>
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Vision: Timor-Leste will have a modern diversified economy, with high quality infrastructure.

Subsistence agriculture will have been replaced by commercial, smallholder agriculture.

The petroleum sector including oil and gas production and downstream industries, will provide an industrial base to our economy.

Tourism, and in particular eco-tourism, will be a major contributor to the national economy.
Eco-Tourism Development in Timor-Leste
Case study: Tua Koin Eco-lodge in Atauro Island
Brief Info of Atauro Island

- **Location:** separated from mainland 35km south of Dili
- **Area:** 104km² and 25km long
- **Population:** ± 8,000 in 5 villages
- **Languages:** Indigenous local dialects
- **Religion:** Animism, Catholicism, Protestantism
- **Economy:** Tourism, Fisheries & Agriculture
Tua Koin Eco-lodge

- Established in 2002 and managed by NGO Roman Luan (Atauro owned)
- Project objectives to educate and raise awareness of tourists and locals on marine-based rehabilitation program e.g. coral reef education, good fishing practices (no explosive) replanting mangroves,
- Facilities of 8 thatched bamboo hut and 2 tents: renewable local materials,
+ Impacts:

- Provide jobs to 11 staff and 25 employees of the lodge
- Provide market access to community’s product (food supply, performers, arts, guides etc.)
- Received $\pm 6,000$ visitor since 2002
- Visitors 40 more countries has been registered with biggest market are Australia and Portugal
- Increase community’s income as well as a comparative study example to other district’s
Issues:

- Land & property (recently)
- Contract agreement between the land-owner and the NGO
- Mediation did not work
- Take the case to Ministry of Justice which result in case pending in court
- Affected tourism supply (fishermen, farmers, craftsmen, art & dance etc.)
- Jobless for the staff of the Eco lodge
- Impacts on tour operators’ business
Community-Based Tourism

Maubesse, Ainaro

Com, Lautem

Maubara, Liquica

Maubara, Liquica
Community-based tourism is tourism in which local residents (collectively or individually) in doing tourism businesses (often rural community), invite tourists to visit their communities with the provision of overnight accommodation or other related tourism services.
MTCI–DGT Supporting CBT in 2007

- Guest house programme in Com & Maubessi
Handicraft Market
CBT Programme started 2008

- 2008 – 2011
  - Promotion and advertisement;
  - Training (hospitality, culinary);
  - Tourism Awareness Campaign;
  - Monitor & reporting
Benefits

- Creating Job opportunities for local people;
- Preserve environment and local culture;
- Contribution to local economy;
- Promoting local products;
- Benefiting local market;
- Promoting sustainable tourism;
- Raising awareness.
CBT Constraints

- HRD
- Promotion and marketing;
- Lack of Coordination
- Market access
- Lack of cooperation among stakeholders
- Lack of availability of infrastructure
- Lack of tourism awareness
CBT Development Strategies

- Launch maps of CBT
- Good coordination of all stakeholders;
- Promoting CBT via website, brochures, CD, etc;
- Capacity building;
- Tourism awareness campaign.
Development 3 tourist zones
Improving Infrastructure
Human Resource and Institutional Strengthening
Eco-tourism map areas and establish CBT Network
Tourism Marketing

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