

## TOURISM HIGHER EDUCATION IN EGYPT: STRUCTURE, RESEARCH AND CHALLENGES

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### Abstract

The different aspects of tourism higher education have gained the attention of several researchers. Egypt is no exception and the subject has been faintly dealt. Therefore, this research aims to demonstrate the history of tourism higher education and its structure comparing with other countries. The challenges facing tourism higher education and research are also investigated.

The research methodology is based on the literature readings, analyzing the relevant crees and official documents. Personal Interviews (with professionals and academics) were conducted to identify the real challenges facing the academia – industry linkage. A Sample of the students was involved to address the perception and attitudes towards the education process.

The results clearly elucidated that tourism education in Egypt started earlier than the UK and China. The tourism education in Egypt is offered by schools, higher institutes and university colleges. The degrees offered are technical diploma, intermediate diploma, B.Sc., M.Sc., and Ph.D. and are delivered by private or public schools or colleges. The academic-industry linkage has witnessed an improvement in the recent years but has not reached the mature stage. The identified challenges were enormous including students recruiting system, quality of education facilitates, internship and others. The research topics do not reflect the actual needs of the industry and community.

Key words: Tourism Education, History, Structure, Challenges, Egypt

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