

## **Social tourism in Egypt**

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### **Abstract**

Social tourism refers to facilitating access to tourism for low income groups and/or the use of tourism as a regeneration and economic stimulation strategy. Although social tourism has its roots in the early 20th Century and is still a major component of the tourism sector in a range of countries, the concept has received relatively little research attention until recently.

Inward social tourism as a new trend plays a vital role in economic growth and development in developing and emerging countries. In addition, in developing and transition countries including Egypt, the tourism sector represents a promising path towards economic and social development. Further development of the tourism sector in these countries is in need of development new trends in tourism.

This current study aims to reveal the concepts of social tourism in Egypt; and evaluating its current status and dimensions.

The research depends on the descriptive approach, deep-structured interviews accompanied with open-ended and open-closed questionnaire directed to responsible and experts of tourism in Egypt. Field data are analysed by SPSS program.

### **the importance of the study:**

The importance of study by considering the following points:

1. economic importance for social tourism.
2. standing over the importance of social tourism in Egypt especially in crises.
3. conduct a study to determine the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of social tourism in Egypt.
4. The research recommendations which can contribute to increase Egypt's share of social tourism.

### **Objectives of the study :**

The study aims:

- Assessment of the current situation of social tourism in Egypt.
- Assess the potential and the resources available for social tourism.
- Identify obstacles to social tourism in terms of:  
marketing and organization - infrastructure - human and technical cadres - legislation and customs transactions, etc.

### **The hypotheses of the study :**

The study aims to test the validity of the following hypotheses:

- lack of marketing efforts to Egypt as a destination for social tourism.
- the lack of possibilities of natural resources for social tourism.
- Poor infrastructure in areas of tourist attractions.
- lack of human and technical cadres.
- lack of coordination between government agencies.

### **Key words:**

Social tourism, Egypt, tourism, New trends, Economics.