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Abstract

The importance of considering the potential of a location that will be used as an ecotourism destination is carried out in an effort to ensure the sustainability of the ecotourism destination in the future. This study aims to examine the potential for developing a forest- and community-based ecotourism destination in Aranya Forest in Bogor Regency, with a focus on social and environmental sustainability. The research method is descriptive qualitative with data collection through observation, interviews and triangulation. Data analysis was conducted using NVIVO 12 Pro software. The results of the study indicate that Aranya Forest has great potential to be developed as a sustainable ecotourism destination. The potential wealth of natural resources, the enthusiasm of the management, and the active participation of stakeholders including the local community. There are several obstacles such as limited infrastructure, ineffective promotion, and a lack of human resources. This study concludes that Aranya Forest is capable of becoming a leading destination that offers a pleasant tourism experience, while contributing to local economic empowerment and sustainable environmental conservation.

Keywords: Ecotourism Potential, Aranya Forest, Social Sustainability, Environmental Sustainability, Destination Development, Community Participation.

INTRODUCTION

Developing sustainable ecotourism destinations is a strategic step to promote tourism that prioritizes not only economic benefits but also environmental aspects and community empowerment. One emerging concept in ecotourism is forest-based destinations, which combine the values of nature conservation with the active participation of local communities. Aranya Forest, located in Bogor Regency, offers great potential as a sustainable ecotourism destination, thanks to its natural beauty of pine forests and rich local culture. As a highly biodiverse area, Aranya Forest not only attracts tourists to enjoy its natural scenery but also provides an opportunity to learn about the importance of forest conservation and the benefits of ecosystems for life. In its development, Aranya Forest embraces a concept that involves the surrounding community as managers and key partners, thus positively impacting the local economy and raising environmental awareness. This research aims to assess the potential for developing a forest- and community-based ecotourism destination in Aranya Forest, with a focus on social and environmental sustainability. It will also identify the challenges facing sustainable ecotourism and the steps needed to optimize the area's management as an environmentally friendly tourist destination that provides long-term benefits to the surrounding community.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The word 'tourism' is derived from the term 'travel', which refers to the activity of traveling for recreational purposes. Tourism encompasses a variety of entertainment activities supported by facilities and services provided by individuals, companies, and both central and regional governments. According to Law Number 10 of 2009, tourism is defined as a series of recreational activities that include various facilities and services provided by entrepreneurs, communities, and regional governments. According to Murdana et al. (2023), tourism is an activity that moves people temporarily to locations outside their place of residence and work, engages in activities while at that destination, and provides facilities to meet their needs. Tourism has a significant economic impact.

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A. Sustainable Tourism

The Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy defines sustainable tourism as the development of the tourism sector that has long-term positive impacts on the environment, society, culture, and economy, both now and in the future. This impact is felt by both local communities and tourists. According to Putri et al. (2023), sustainable tourism plays a crucial role in preserving culture and the environment. Key steps that must be taken to support sustainable tourism in Indonesia include environmental conservation, waste management, preservation of cultural sites, and empowerment of local communities to increase tourism revenues.

B. Ecotourism

Ecotourism is a tourism concept that focuses on preserving nature and culture. According to Rainanto et al. (2024), ecotourism emphasizes sustainability by wisely managing natural resources, educating tourists, and encouraging the active participation of local communities. Ecotourism contributes to environmental preservation and provides economic benefits to local communities.

C. Stakeholders

According to Pauna et al. (2023), stakeholders are all parties who can influence or be influenced by existing policies, both internal and external. Successful tourism destination development requires a thorough understanding of the characteristics of relevant stakeholders. All parties involved in tourism development must feel the benefits. Collaboration between stakeholders is essential to support the development of a region's tourism potential. Rainanto (2024) also stated that collaboration between stakeholders opens up opportunities for risk sharing and leveraging synergies from diverse expertise, which can accelerate innovation and improve efficiency in project implementation.

D. Tourism Potential

Potential is an ability that can be further developed. Zulfa and Arif (2020) state that potential is a resource that can be enhanced through planned efforts and sound strategies to achieve optimal results. Local potential includes natural resources, cultural diversity, and the local community. Natural potential is influenced by a region's location, climate, and landscape. Each region has unique local potential, influenced by different natural conditions. This interconnected triangle involves natural factors, culture, community behavior, and their well-being (Kusuma 2022).

E. Tourism Constraints

A constraint is an obstacle that can prevent the achievement of a goal or the implementation of an activity. The tourism industry can face various challenges that can impact the sector's growth, development, and sustainability. Furthermore, the development of cultural tourism in a region can also face obstacles that take a long time and often encounter challenges that prevent its implementation from going according to plan.

METHOD

This study uses a descriptive qualitative approach where data is obtained through interviews, observations and triangulation to test the validity of the data. Data analysis was carried out using NVIVO 12 Pro software. Informants in this study were: Owner and Manager of Aranya Forest, Head of the Tapos TNGGP Resort Center, Deputy Head of PHRI Bogor Regency, Head of Pancawati Village, Head of the DISBUDPAR Tourism Attraction Team, Local Community.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on a direct survey conducted at the Aranya Forest location, there are various potentials that can be developed to increase tourist attractions, including:

A. Conservation Activities

Nature conservation is one aspect that could be further strengthened at Aranya Forest. Activities include tree planting, conservation education, waste management, and recycling programs.

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B. Infiltration wells

The construction of infiltration wells aims to manage rainwater and increase groundwater availability. The infiltration wells are expected to reduce the risk of flooding, improve soil absorption, maintain natural balance, and support agriculture in the surrounding area.

C. Glamping

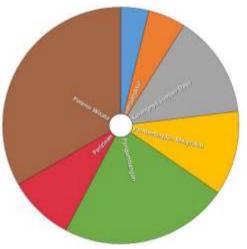
Glamping can be a new attraction for travelers seeking a comfortable outdoor experience. Furthermore, glamping offers a safe and comfortable accommodation option for travelers traveling at night.

D. Bicycle Path

The development of bicycle paths could attract tourists who enjoy sports and outdoor adventures. Routes could range in difficulty from easy to more challenging, with a focus on safety and environmental sustainability.

E. Tour Packages

Tour packages will be developed to attract more visitors and extend the duration of visits to Aranya Forest. Several types of packages, such as educational tours, trekking, and cycling, will be offered at a price that includes these activities.



Hierarchy Chart, source NVIVO 2025

Based on data analysis conducted through interviews using Nvivo 12 Pro software, the Hierarchy Chart, Word Cloud, and Project Map features were utilized to present the research results in the form of diagrams and data sets. The results show four main themes: Theme 1 (the role of managers) with subthemes (community empowerment, sustainability, and development); Theme 2 (the role of stakeholders) with subthemes (permits, support, cooperation, and guidance); Theme 3 (tourism potential) with subthemes (conservation, ecotourism, and MSMEs); and Theme 4 (constraints) with subthemes (infrastructure and resource shortages). The Hierarchy Chart feature was used to organize and group data in a structured manner according to predetermined themes and subthemes. Presenting data using this feature makes it easier to visualize the relationships between the main themes and subthemes, which in turn helps clarify understanding of the data structure and focus of the discussion. Based on the results displayed in the Hierarchy Chart, the number of references identified through the diagram above is:

Subtheme	Number of
	References
Role of Manager – Development	18
Role of Management – Community	9
Empowerment	7
Stakeholder Role – Licensing	6
Tourism Potential	3
Constraints – Lack of Resources	4
Constraints – Infrastructure	

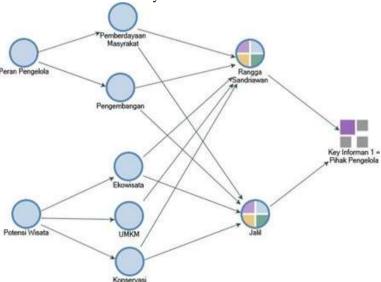
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Based on the Word Cloud analysis below, the most frequently occurring words in interviews with informants were 'Tourism' (4.29%) and 'Development' (3.23%). These two words were dominant, indicating that the main focus of the analysis was related to Coffee & Aranya Forest. The word 'Community' (2.15%) highlighted the importance of community empowerment in tourism development. Meanwhile, the word 'Ecotourism' (1.56%) indicated that this study focused on ecotourism. Thus, it can be concluded that tourism development is the main topic in this study.



Word Cloud, source NVIVO 2025

The following will show the results of NVIVO analysis of the results of interviews with informants.



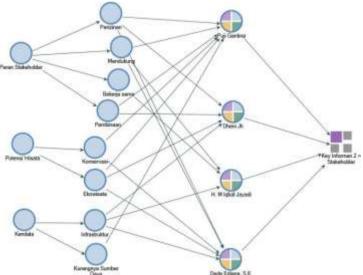
Aranya Management Analysis Map – source NVIVO 2025

The Aranya Manager's explanation points can be seen in the following table.

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Tema	Subtema	Jawaban	
		Rangga Sandriawan (Owner Aranya Coffee & Forest)	Jalii (Manager Aranya Coffee & Forest)
Peran Stakeholder	Perizinan	dilakukan nantinya menjadi sebuah destinasi wisata	Untuk mengembangkan Aranya ini sebagai pariwisata berkelanjutan, mangkin strategi yang diterapkan barus berfokus pada keberlanjutan lingkungan, pemberdayaan masyarakat, dan pengalaman wisata yang unik.
	Mendukung	pemberdayaan masyarakat yang memiliki motivasi	Motivasi kami untuk mengembangkan wisata di aranya yaitu melalui media sosial motivasi nya ya berupa ajakan untuk main ke wisata di aranya ini. Dimana konsep pengembangan ini akan adanya atraksi wisata bagi wisatawan yang akan berkunjung.
	Bekerja sama		Menjadi destinasi ekowisata yang memberikan dampak positif bagi lingkungun, ekonomi, dan masyarakat lokal. Upaya agar ekowisata ini menjadi berkelanjutan adalah pempertahan kan pengelola yang jujur dan eekatan, menjadikan ekowisata ini sumber penghasilan yang sehari hari.
Potensi Wisata	UMKM	konservasi atau UMKM karna ada korelasinya dengan	Untuk mengembangkan Aranya ini sebagai pariwisata berkelanjutan, mangkin strategi yang diterapkan harus berfokus pada keberlanjutan lingkungan, pemberdayaan masyarakat, pengalaman wisata yang unik dan mendukung UMKM.
	Konservasi	- I N 18 18 C. H. H. N. S. S. B. B. S.	Ada beberapa macam contohnya pengenalan tentang konservasi air atau sumur serapan, lorak, penanaman pohon, banyak nya jenis pepohonan, caffe di tengah hutan, dan bunyak lagi yang lainnya.





Stakeholder Analysis Map – Source NVIVO 2025

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The explanation points of the Stakeholders, Head of the Tapos TNGGP Center and Head of the DISBUDPAR Tourism Attraction Team can be seen in the following table:

Tema	Subtema	Jawaban	
		Puji Gantina (Kepala halai besar Resort Tapos TNGGP)	Dhesi Jh (Ketua team daya tarik wisata DISBUDPAR)
Peran. Stakeholder	Pertana	Karena Aranya ini berdampingan dengan kawasan Taman Nasional tentunya ada satu perizinan yang memang menjadi support apa itu pelayanan, aalah satunya ada izin jasa, ada dua jasa yang memang ca66 aranya ini berjalan. Satu namanya izin jasa perjalamat wisata, kedua izin jasa makanan dan minuman.	untuk perizinan itu ada SPPL atau AMDAL, sebenarnya dalam perizinan itu sudah terikat untuk kepastian termasuk poli
	Mendukung	Schiin itu ada support pengembungan program di Aranya Coffee & Focest seperti pendunyinga n teknis dan pelatihan kapasitas bagi para pelaku usahu lokal.	
	Pembinum	Peran kami mangkin salah satunya bisa disebut Pembira untuk lokasi yang masuk kawasan, kalo Aranya itu mitra kita untuk pengembangan yang kami inginkan banyak tujuan-tujuan yang memang memiliki kesinambungan dengan program kami.	karena memang ranah nya tuh poesi kami ada kewenangan nya
Potensi Wisata	Komervasi	ada program penamman selain itu ada sumber resapan, inikan konservasi lingkungan juga mereka mimikirkan lingkungan juga.	
	Ekowisata	salah satunya kita bikin event saraschan itu membuka peluang untuk pengembangan berbasis ekowisata berkelanjutan, Selain itu kami berkomunikasi terus dengan pemiliknya terkait dengan pengambangannya.	sebetulnya kami dari beberapa tahun sebelumnya lebih
Kendala	Infrastruktur	Kendula lain mungkin terbataanya infrastruktur serta ada tempat usaha lain menjadi kompotitor, ada salah satu lagi yang terkait wisata alam karena kadang alam kan tidak bisa di peediksi atau kadang alam ini incestasinya harus besar.	jalan rusak atau kemacetan kan pariwisata juga yang harus
	Kurangnya Sumber Daya	Biasanya dengan SDM masyarakat karena ferkadang mungkin orang tua dulu ada sedikit omongan "dasar orang hutar, orang leuweng" intah yang menuang hurus kita bulikan nih. Artinya SDM itu rendah nah sekarang lah kita salah satu forum untuk merabah mindset itu.	kurang berperan aktif, intinya harus keliatan dulu nih ad uangnya gitu gabisa yang ayo kita mulai dari nol.

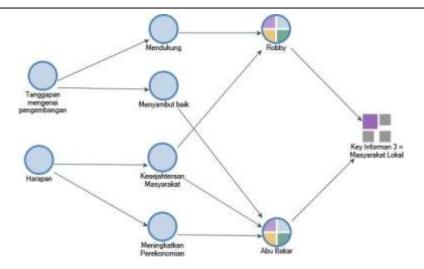
Source: NVIVO 2025

The explanation points of stakeholders from the Deputy Chair of PHRI Bogor Regency and the Head of Pancawati Village can be seen in the following table.

Tema	Subtema	Jawaban	
		Dede Ediana (Wakii ketua PHRI Kab.Bogor)	H.M Iqhal Jayadi (Kepula Desa Pancawati)
Peran Stakeholder	Perisinan	PHRI membantu untuk periziman serta mengarus legalitan unahu, sekaligua menjadi jamhatan antan pelaku bisanis dan penerintah agau proses regulasi lebih efisien dan mendakung pertumbahan industry puriwisata.	secara administrasi, intinya kami memberikan kemudahan apalagi kan pengusaha lokal adapur
	Mendukung	Kami dari PHRI mendukung Aranya untuk terus berinovasi, mengutarnakan kualitas pelayanan serta mengadopai praktik keberlanjutan agar dapat menjadi destinasi yang menarik.	jadi dari sekian resort atau cafe yang ada di Pancawati pemerintah desa mensupport secara penuh mengenai pengembangan wisata.
	Bekerja Sama	antara Aranya dengan sektor pariwisata, baik melabai	intinya kami memberikan keenudahan apalagi kan penguaha lokal adapun secura telanik pemasanan disitu kan punya marketing masing jadi sebetuhnya ketika kolaborasi kepadi desa dengan pengussaha baru itu ada pernyataan kerja sama gitu ketika mungkin ada permintaan untuk kerjasama pertimbangan nya kepada pimpiraan.
Potensi Wisuta	Konservasi	regulasi dan kebijakan yang mendukong ekowisata,	manyarukat lokal
	Ekowisata	Upaya yang sudah dilakukan mungkin penerapan regulasi dan kebijakan yang merahakang ekowisata, seperti pengembangan kawasan komservasi, zonasi wisata, serta insemif bagi pelaku usaba.	
Kendala	Infrastruktur	memodai menjadi faktor penghambat, apalagi ada	Hambatan yang paling krasial tentu saja udalah infrastruktur, terutama jalan. Oleh karens itu, dalam setiap kesempatan, kemi selalu mendorong pemerintah kobuputen untuk lebih memperhatikan hal mi.

Source: NVIVO 2025

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Local Community Analysis Map, Source: NVIVO 2025

The points of explanation for the local community can be seen in the following table:

Tema	Subtema	Jawaban	
Tema		Robby (Masyarakat Lokal)	Abu Bakar (Masyarakat Lokal)
Tanggapan mengenai Pengembagan	Mendukung dan Menyambut baik	Tentunya saya sebagai masyarakat lokal sangat mendukung pengembangan wisata di Aranya Coffee & Forest, karena saya sendiri melihat adanya potensi besar yang dimiliki kawasan ini untuk menjadi destinasi ekowisata berkelanjutan.	pengembangan wisata di Aranya Coffee & Forest karena memiliki potensi besar untul meningkatkan perekonomian daerah sekaligu
Harapan	Kesejahteraan Masyarakat dan Meningkatkan Perekonomian	masyarakat sekitar. Saya pribadi ingin melihat masyarakat disini lebih banyak dilibatkan,	sekaligus memperkenalkan keindahan alam dar

Source: NVIVO 2025

CONCLUSION

The role of managers and stakeholders is crucial in developing Aranya Forest as a sustainable ecotourism destination. Managers are directly involved in community empowerment with the goal of improving local economic well-being and strengthening community participation in tourism activities. They also contribute to the development of the area by adapting ecotourism management to prioritize environmental, social, and cultural aspects. Stakeholders, such as the government, national parks, and local communities, also play a role in providing regulations, infrastructure, and empowerment programs such as MSMEs and nature conservation. Collaboration between managers and stakeholders is crucial for maintaining tourism sustainability, enhancing destination appeal, and positively impacting local communities. Aranya Forest holds significant potential as a sustainable ecotourism destination, with its rich natural resources serving as a major draw for tourists interested in natural beauty and environmental conservation education. Glamping, trekking, and cycling can enhance the appeal for adventureseeking travelers. Furthermore, the development of infiltration wells as part of an environmental conservation effort also plays a crucial role in enhancing the area's sustainability. Wise and efficient natural resource management will be key to maintaining a balance between tourism and ecosystem sustainability. Challenges in the development of Aranya Forest include limited infrastructure and resources. Inadequate infrastructure can reduce tourist comfort and safety, impacting the number of visits. Limited resources, including financial, human, and technological, also pose obstacles to achieving sustainable ecotourism. Therefore, these issues require serious attention from managers and stakeholders to ensure successful tourism development in Aranya Forest and contribute to sustainable tourism.

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