

Case Report

Evaluating the Need for Effective Tourism Policy as a Remedy for Sustainable Tourism Growth in Abeokuta, Ogun State Nigeria

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Abstract: Tourism-related legislations are created basically as a means of managing the development of the tourism industry. For this reason, the evaluation of existing tourism policy activities becomes necessary to understand the prominence of policies itself in ensuring that tourism is sustained. The study was intended to evaluate the assessment of effective policy as a remedy for sustainable tourism development. The study was guided through by the following objectives; determine the extent to which stakeholders are involved in tourism development, investigate the effectiveness of tourism policy at a local structure, determine the level of attention given to tourism policy, examine the extent to which relevant tourism corporation is involved in tourism policy enactment and review. The study employed descriptive and explanatory design and questionnaires. The hypothesis was tested using Pearson chi-square at 0.05 level confidence. The respondents under the study were 107 employees of the ministry of culture and tourism Abeokuta. The study focused majorly on policy management, people involved in its implementation and how they are being implemented. The result of the first hypothesis calculated at 0.001 reveals that there is a significant relationship between the development of relevant tourism corporation and tourism policy, enactment, and review. The result of the second hypothesis calculated at 0.00 reveals that there is a significant relationship ($p < 0.05$) between the level of attention given to tourism and tourism development. Other findings show that; it is little or no compliance with existing laws that govern tourism, there is minimal participation of relevant stakeholders in tourism development, tourism is not well-grounded in local level structure, and tourism is not given appropriate attention in the nation's development scheme. Based on these findings, it is concluded that there are inadequacies and loopholes in the regulatory laws which need to be visited.

Keywords: Tourism Policy, Sustainable Tourism, Development, Regulations

1. Introduction

Sustainable growth and development of the tourism industry among other things is a function of relevant and effective policy and policies [5]. Sustainable tourism has emerged the key as the key issue in the development agenda for the tourism industry in many developing countries [16].

Tourism has been confirmed as one of the fast-growing sectors for development that enhances the accomplishment of sustainable growth via poverty reductions, employment generation in large scale, fostering tolerance and other complementary activities [2].

The tourism sector according to [3] is probably the only service sector that provides concrete and qualified trading

opportunities for all nations. Tourism has been playing an increasingly active and vital role in the development of Nigeria, the country is enriched with an abundance of attractions ranging from natural and human resources, Nigeria is located in the western coastal region of the African continent [1]. Nigeria is naturally endowed with a wild range of nature which makes her one of the picturesque nations in the world ranging from a lot of tourist attractions which include; natural attractions such as hills, springs, waterfalls, mountains, beaches, rock and others. Man-made attractions range from resorts, game reserves, parks, ranches, and others to mention a few. Cultural attractions like festivals, carnivals and so on.

In Nigeria, one major challenge faced with the national sustainability of tourism is poor legal promulgations and implementation, this has formed a major problem for the tourism industry over the years as questions have been raised over the functionality of existing policy and policies in the Nigerian tourism industry [8]. There has been a growing recognition in many tourist destinations that current management practices may lead to undesirable impacts on the environment and society at large which in turn can threaten both tourism development and its economic viability on the host country [20].

"Tourism comprises the activities of persons traveling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for not more than one consecutive year for leisure, business and other purposes not related to the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited [19]. Based on this broad definition, the tourism industry includes all socio-economic activities that are directly or indirectly involved in providing services to tourists. The tourism industry, however, can be viewed as a destructive force associated with negative externalities such as the loss of natural landscapes, congestion, environmental and cultural degradation.

These afore-listed negative impacts of tourism are likely to make worse regions where there is a lack of well-designed planning and effective policies guiding sustainable hospitality and tourism. According to national report on tourism and the sustainable development goals, it was submitted that if tourism is not effectively managed, it will have a negative impact on the planet, people, peace and prosperity [17]. However, UN 2030 Sustainable development agenda sets several sustainable development goals to put an end to poverty, protect the planet and ensure prosperity for all by 2030 as part of a new sustainable development agenda [9].

Tourism-related legislations are created basically as a means of managing the development of the tourism industry. Regulations are similarly needed for legal control over its activities. For this reason, the evaluation of existing tourism policy activities becomes necessary to understand the prominence of policies itself in ensuring that tourism is sustained. Therefore, a tourism policy is a structure for government activities concerning tourism.

Various administrations in the Nigerian government in the last few decades have taken steps to promote tourism in pursuit of initiatives aimed at diversifying the national

economy from being strictly oil-based. The steps include the establishment of the Nigerian Tourism Board (NTB) in 1976, which became the Nigerian Tourism Development Corporation (NTDC) in 1992. Implementation and viability of a sustainable development plan success bring positive changes through ecological balance, attainment of economic benefits and integration into the overall societal systems but it requires collaboration among various stakeholders such people, governments, networking nexus between global, national intermediary level organizations, local host community and social institutions [2].

1.1. Problem Statement

Nigeria is a nation blessed with an abundance of tourism potentials ranging from a rich cultural heritage, ecosystem and other natural and man-made resources. Not to forget also, the developed tourism services covering transportation with active service providers such as tour operators, travel agencies, hotels, a resort whose services would not be made known in the absence of tourism. The nation's tourism sector is spread amongst the nation yet not standardized due to the inadequacy of the legal frameworks.

1.1.1. Some Problems Faced by This Sector Include

Poor legislation of the sector by the National assembly

Another problem faced with Nigeria concerning effective policy guiding sustainability of tourism development include is the issue of;

Crises and insecurity in the country

Poor planning and corruption

In spite, the several schemes that have been put in place to fully resuscitate the level at which the country operates at the infrastructural level have been futile and or delayed by ineffective planning and corruption.

Poor Government Policies on Tourism

1.1.2. Research Questions

1. What are the current challenges faced by sustainable tourism development in Abeokuta?
2. What benefits does sustainable tourism development offer to the development of Abeokuta?
3. What policies or measures are required to facilitate and realize sustainable tourism development in Abeokuta?
4. How can the implementation of policies facilitate the growth and development of sustainable tourism development in Abeokuta?

1.2. Specific Objective

This research aimed to examine the relevant assessment of tourism policy as a remedy for the development of sustainable tourism.

The Objectives Include to:

1. Determine the extent to which stakeholders are involved in tourism development in Abeokuta
2. Investigate the effectiveness of tourism policy at a local structure in Abeokuta
3. Determine the level of attention given to tourism policy

in Abeokuta

4. Examine the extent to which relevant tourism corporation is involved in tourism policy enactment and review in Abeokuta

1.3. Research Hypothesis

H01 Null Hypothesis

There is no significant relationship between the level of policy management and the level of tourism sustainability development in Abeokuta.

H02 Null Hypothesis

There is no significant relationship between the level of attention given to tourism and tourism development in Abeokuta.

2. Materials and Method

In this research, the researcher used descriptive techniques to measure and analyze the need for an effective policy for sustainable tourism development. Descriptive survey research was done through the distribution of closed-ended questionnaires.

2.1. Sample Size and Sample Techniques

The sample size was determined by using [22] simplified formula

$$n = N/1+N (e)^2$$

Where n =the sample size

N= population size

e= level of population (1+5→0.05)

n = no of respondents

where N=147

e= 0.05

n=sample

$$sample = \frac{147}{1 + 147(0.0025)} = 107$$

2.2. Population of the Study

Having known the population of about one hundred and forty seven (147) being the number of staff in the Ministry of Tourism, one hundred and seven (107) questionnaires were administered, this figure was calculated using the Taro Yamane formula for known population. The population of this research comprised staff working in the State Ministry of Culture and Tourism. The questionnaire was shared among the work stratification method used in the organisation i.e. regular staff and managers/supervisors.

2.3. Study Area

A case study has been used to provide an insight into the state of sustainable tourism development in Nigeria. Ogun state situated between latitude 6.20 north and 7.80 n and longitude 3.0 e and 5.00 e located in a south-west geopolitical zone of Nigeria is one of the thirty-six 36 states of the federal republic of Nigeria covering a total landmass of 16,409.26

sqm. The state divided into twenty local government areas which include Abeokuta-north, Abeokuta -south, Ado-Odo,/Ota, Egbado-North, Egbado-South, Ewokoro, Ifo, Ijebu-East, Ijebu North, Ijebu-North-East, Ijebu-Ode, Ikenne, Imeko-Afon, Ipokia, Obafemi-Owode, Ogun Waterside, Odeda, Odogbolu, Remo-North, Sagamu. Ogun state falls among the three major ethnic groups in Nigeria which have acted as a contributing factor to the wider recognition of the cultural heritage of Ogun state. Some of these natural phenomena and culture have been developed in such a way that talking about tourism in Nigeria. The state has its capital Abeokuta which is the case study for this research. The research was carried out in the ministry of culture and tourism Abeokuta of a well-structured questionnaire which was directed towards

2.4. Sampling Method

The random sampling method was adopted for the research work. This was done to avoid a biased sampling as visitors and tourists were given questionnaires to fill as they approach the sites under survey. It is pertinent to note that matured minded visitors were given for effectiveness. The questionnaire consisted of closed-ended questions.

2.5. Data Collection Instrument

The main source used in collecting data for this research was primary and secondary data. Primary data was collected through the administration of a well-structured questionnaire which was directed towards various correspondents involved in the study. While secondary data involved the collection of books, questionnaires administration, tourism related books, published literature, related essays, and the internet.

2.6. Method of Data Analysis and Research Design

Data collected were analyzed using both descriptive and inferential statistical tools. These include percentages, frequency, mean, standard deviation, tables for the descriptive statistics. For the inferential statistics, chi-square was utilized.

Table 1. Distribution of respondents according to gender.

Variable	Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Gender	Male	57	53.3
	Female	49	45.3
Total		106	

As shown in the table above, 53.3% of the respondents were males whilst 45.3% were females.

Table 2. Age distribution of respondents.

Variable	Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Age	18-23	4	3.7
	24-29	29	27.1
	30-34	44	41.1
	35 & above	30	28.1
Total		106	

From the table above, majority of the respondents within the age bracket of 30-34 were 41.1%, 18-23 were 3.9%, 24-29

were 27.1%, 35- above were 28.0%. This result implies that there are more matured delegates/staff within the organisation

Table 3. Distribution of respondents according to educational qualification.

Variable	Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Educational qualification	Technical college	13	12.0
	Nce/Nd	16	15.0
	HND	21	19.6
	BSC	40	37.4
	MSC	15	14.0
	PHD	2	1.9
Total		106	

Table above reveals that 37.4% of the respondents have BSc qualifications, 12% went to technical college, 19.6% HND, MSc 14%, NCE/ND 15.0%, Ph.D. 1.9%. Based on this findings it is revealed that most of the respondents are learned and possess basic educational qualification. This reveals most

of them are conversant with policies guiding tourism.

Table 4. Distribution of respondents according working experience in Abeokuta.

Variable	Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Working experience	Below 5 years	13	26.2
	6-10 years	21	44.9
	11-15 years	40	17.8
	16-20 years	15	6.5
	21-25	2	1.9
	26 & above	16	2.8
Total		106	

It can be seen that from the table above, 44.9% of the respondents have working experience of 6-10 years, 26.2% have below 5 years, 17.8% have 11-15 years, 6.5% have 16-20 year, 1.9% have 21-25, and 2.8% have 26- above working experience. Most of the respondents have highest working experience which implies they are conversant with tourism policies.

Table 5. Involvement of stakeholders in tourism development in Abeokuta.

SN		SA %	A %	D %	SD %	X	S. D
1	The preparation of the tourism policy and strategy/master plan involves consultation and engagement with stakeholders	1 (9.4)	1 (12.1)	5 (54.2)	2 (24.3)	2.9346	.86079
2	Relevant stakeholders are fully involved in its implementation	1 (10.3)	1 (21.1)	6 (59.8)	1 (17.8)	2.8505	.83331
3	There is a structure or process for involvement of a range of tourism stakeholders in tourism governance	2 (21.5)	5 (50.5)	1 (15.0)	1 (13.1)	2.8037	.92593
4	There is a clear and active structure that bring together and represent private sector enterprises	1 (15.9)	1 (12.1)	2 (22.4)	5 (49.5)	2.6916	.88394
5	Existing private sector structures have adequate capacity to be effective	1 (14.0)	1 (13.1)	2 (25.2)	5 (47.9)	2.6262	.88513
6	Private sector is actively engaged in tourism development	2 (18.7)	5 (50.5)	2 (22.4)	(8.4)	2.7944	.84383

From table above, 12.1% agreed to the statement that says, "the preparation of the tourism policy and strategy/master plan involves consultation and engagement with stakeholders" while 54.2% disagreed. 21.1% of the respondents agreed to the statement "Relevant stakeholders are fully involved in its implementation" wherein 59.8% disagreed. 50.5% agreed to the statement "there is a structure or process for the involvement of a range of tourism stakeholders in tourism governance" while

15.0% of the respondents disagree. 12.1% agreed to the statement "there is a clear and active structure that brings together and represent private sector enterprise" whereas 49.5% of the respondents disagree. 13.1% agreed to the statement "existing private-sector structures have adequate capacity to be active" even as 25.2% of the respondents disagree. 50.5% agreed to the statement "private sector is actively engaged in tourism development" even as 22.4% disagreed.

Table 6. Investigation of the effectiveness of policy at local level structures in Abeokuta.

SN		SA %	A %	D %	SD %	X	S. D
1	Tourism legislation adequately reflect local level	1 (16.8)	5 (47.7)	1 (15.9)	2 (19.6)	2.6168	.98713
2	The current legislation meets the needs and implementation of tourism development	1 (15.0)	1 (15.9)	3 (28.0)	4 (41.1)	2.4206	.93200
3	NGOs and other civil society bodies involved in local tourism governance structures	1 (13.1)	2 (18.7)	2 (25.2)	4 (43.0)	2.5047	.94543
4	Local level structures are working effectively to improve their performances on tourism policy	1 (15.50)	4 (45.8)	1 (17.8)	2 (20.6)	2.5794	1.00974
5	Bodies responsible locally for tourism governance have sufficient experience and skill in aspect of tourism sustainability	1 (14.0)	2 (21.5)	2 (22.5)	4 (43.3)	2.4953	.98454

As shown in table above, 47.7% of the respondents agreed to the statement "tourism legislation adequately reflects local level roles and responsibilities" while 15.9% disagreed. 15.9% of the respondents agreed to the statement which says "the current legislation meets the needs and implementation of tourism development" of them agreed and 28.0% disagreed with it. 18.7% of the respondents agreed to the statement "NGO's and other civil society bodies are involved in local

tourism governance structure" whereas 25.2% of them disagreed with it. The statement "local structures are working effectively to improve their performances of tourism policy" had 45.8% of the respondents in agreement whilst 17.8% of them were in disagreement. 21.5% agreed to "bodies locally responsible for tourism and governance have sufficient experience and skill in an aspect of tourism development" wherein 22.5% of the respondents disagreed.

Table 7. Outlook on the level of attention given to tourism in Abeokuta.

SN		SA %	A %	D %	SD %	X	S. D
1	Tourism is given sufficient coverage and recognition in studies and frameworks for development in the country	1 (12.1)	2 (22.9)	2 (27.1)	4 (38.3)	2.3551	1.01175
2	Tourism is considered a priority sector by government in its own development policies	1 (15.0)	2 (21.5)	2 (26.2)	4 (37.4)	2.4579	.99319
3	Tourism policy is recognized as a priority sector by departments of government that impact on the sectors development	1 (16.8)	1 (17.8)	2 (23.4)	4 (42.1)	2.6075	.96892
4	There is a clearly elaborated tourism policy	1 (15.0)	4 (43.0)	2 (22.4)	2 (19.6)	2.5327	.97437
5	Policy commit to the elements of sustainable tourism	1 (16.8)	5 (47.7)	1 (15.0)	2 (20.6)	2.6075	.99771
6	There is a well-researched and comprehensive national tourism strategy and/or master plan for tourism	2 (22.4)	3 (36.4)	2 (20.6)	2 (20.6)	2.6075	1.05291
7.	Tourism governance bodies operate effectively and their main needs are appropriately met	1 (11.2)	2 (24.3)	3 (29.0)	3 (35.5)	2.3364	.97074
8	Sustainable tourism development is assisted or held back by regulations and how they are applied	4 (43.9)	2 (26.2)	1 (16.8)	1 (13.1)	2.8318	.96628

Table above shows 22.9% of the respondents were in agreement to the statement “tourism is given sufficient coverage in studies and frameworks for development in the country” while 27.1% of the respondents disagreed to this. 21.50% agreed to “tourism being considered as a priority by the government in its own development of policies” while 26.2% disagreed. The statement “tourism policy is recognised as a priority sector by departments of government that impact on the sector’s development” has 17.8% of the respondents in agreement and 23.4% in disagreement. 43.0% of the respondents opted for an agreement “there is a clearly

elaborated tourism policy” while 22.4% disagreed. 26.2% were in agreement to the statement “policy commits to the elements of sustainable tourism” while 16.8% were in disagreement.36.4% were in agreement to the statement that “there is a well-researched and comprehensive national tourism strategy and for tourism” while 20.6% disagree. 29.0% disagreed to the statement “tourism governance bodies operate effectively and their needs are appropriately met” while 24.3% were in agreement.26.2% agreed to sustainable tourism development being held back by regulations and how they are applied” 16.8% disagreed to this.

Table 8. Extent to which relevant tourism corporation are involved in tourism policy, enactment and review in Abeokuta.

SN		SA %	A %	D %	SD %	X	S. D
1	Tourism strategy/master plan is up to date and it is reviewed	15 (14.0)	32 (30.8)	34 (31.8)	25 (23.4)	2.3551	.99292
2	Tourism strategies/plans are been prepared for specific destinations and more is needed	32 (29.9)	42 (39.3)	21 (19.6)	12 (11.2)	2.8785	.96847
3	Tourism policy/strategy/plan is being effectively implemented	14 (13.1)	21 (19.6)	30 (29.0)	41 (38.3)	2.4486	.95398
4	Relevant stakeholders are fully involved in its implementation	15 (14.0)	19 (17.8)	31 (29.9)	41 (38.3)	2.4860	.94534
5	Progress of tourism policies are being monitored and reviewed	15 (14.0)	21 (19.6)	32 (30.8)	38 (35.5)	2.3925	.95914
6	There is a dedicated tourism ministry, department or unit within government	41 (38.3)	37 (35.5)	14 (13.1)	14 (13.1)	2.9907	1.02327
7	There is a separate governmental delivery agency for tourism with an inclusive structure and clear role that supports sustainable tourism	18 (16.8)	48 (45.8)	22 (20.6)	18 (16.8)	2.6262	.95684
8	Skills and needs within tourism governance bodies effectively assessed and addressed, including sustainability issues	12 (11.2)	22 (20.6)	23 (21.5)	45 (42.1)	2.5234	1.00326
9	There is structure or process for engagement of other ministries in tourism governance	12 (11.2)	49 (45.8)	29 (27.1)	17 (15.9)	2.5234	.89386
10	Private sector is fully engaged in tourism governance	25 (23.4)	35 (32.7)	28 (26.2)	19 (17.8)	2.6262	.98597
11	There is a clear and active structure that bring together and represent private sector enterprises	20 (18.7)	46 (43.0)	22 (20.6)	19 (17.8)	2.6168	1.03381

From the survey above show that 30.8% agreed to “tourism strategy/master plan being up to date and reviewed” while 31.8% of the respondents disagree. 39.3% agreed to “tourism strategy being prepared for specific destinations and more is needed” even as 19.6% of the respondents disagrees. 19.6% agreed that “tourism policy is being effectively implemented” while 29.0% disagreed. 17.8% respondents agreed that “relevant stakeholders are fully involved in its implementation” while 29.9% were in disagreement.19.6% were in agreement to the view that “progress of tourism policies are being monitored and reviewed” whilst 30.8% of the respondents in disagreement. 35.5% agreed to “There is a dedicated ministry, department or unit within the government” even as 13.1% of the respondents were in disagreement. 20.6% Agreed to the

statement “skills and needs within tourism governance bodies are effectively assessed and addressed while 21.5% disagreed. 15.8% agreed to “there is a separate governmental delivery agency for tourism with an inclusive structure and clear role that supports tourism development” even as 20.6% disagreed. 45.8% agreed to “there is a structure or process for the engagement of other ministries in tourism government” while 27.1% disagreed. 43.0% agreed to “There is a clear and active structure that bring together and represent private sector enterprise” though 20.6% disagreed. 32.7% agreed to “private sector is fully engaged in tourism governance” even as 26.2% disagreed.

Test of hypothesis 1

H₀₁: There is no significant relationship between relevant

tourism corporation development and tourism policy, enactment and review.

Table 9. Chi square test for the relationship between relevant tourism corporation development and tourism policy, enactment and review.

	Likert
Chi-Square	16.252 ^a
Df	3
Asymp. Sig.	.001

The null hypothesis above was tested using Pearson chi-square at 0.05 level of significance and the results are shown in the table 9.

There exists a significant relationship between extent to which relevant tourism corporation are involved in tourism policy, enactment and review resulting in the significance value of 0.001 since the value is not up the significant level (0.05) we reject the null hypothesis stated as there is no significant relationship between relevant tourism corporation development and tourism policy, enactment and review. Then we accept the alternative that there is a significant relationship between relevant tourism corporation development and tourism policy, enactment and review.

Test Hypothesis II

H₀₂: There is no significant relationship between level of attention given to tourism and tourism development.

Table 10. Chi square test for significance between level of attention given to tourism and tourism development.

	Likert
Chi-Square	26.000 ^a
Df	3
Asymp. Sig.	.000

The null hypothesis above was tested using Pearson chi-square at 0.05 level of significance and the results are shown in the table 10. There exists a significant relationship between level of attention given to tourism and tourism development value of 0.000 since the value is not up the significant level (0.05) we reject the null hypothesis stated as there is no significant relationship between level of attention given to tourism and tourism development. Then we accept the alternative that there is a significant relationship between level of attention given to tourism and tourism development.

3. Discussion of Findings

The study assessed the relevance of effective policy as a remedy to tourism development. The demographic data obtained shows that the majority of the respondents were males (53.3%) which has no implication whatsoever on the study, the majority recorded high percentage in terms of age distribution (41.1%) and have a basic educational qualification (37.4%). Most of them recorded a high percentage in the working experience column (44.9%). The implication of this is that the majority of the respondents are familiar with tourism policy reason being that the majority possess basic educational qualifications and also recorded a high percentage working experience. There is a need for the

government to review the policies of tourism industries to encourage more private investors which supports [6] that unless economic policies to promote tourism remains a focus in developing countries, tourism will not be a potential source of economic growth. The result deduced from the table reveals that there is a non-involvement of relevant stakeholders in tourism development which correlates with Munzali who asserted that there is minimal participation of stakeholders in tourism development in the country [13]. This also supports the [15] which stated that the lack of professionalism in the tourism sector is a significant weakness. The public-private relationship is non-existent; there is a lack of an enabling government for the private sector involvement in the tourism sector. The federal ministry of culture and tourism needs strengthening and professional personnel. The commercial sector lacks a strong unified voice [15]. It equally revealed that tourism is not well represented at local level structures. The information available according to [16] revealed that as of 1992 when Decree 81 was promulgated, only two (2) LGAs had a tourism committee. However, as at the time of this study, none of the LGAs has a tourism committee as provided in the national tourism policy and Decree 81 Of 1992. Furthermore, the result of the afore-mentioned research of tourism policy. The result from table 7 agrees with the above observation [4] that says tourism is not being considered a priority sector of the nation's economy. On the challenges of tourism policy and policies, [4] listed possible barriers to the implementation of sustainable tourism policy as economic priority; lack of planning; lack of stakeholders' involvement; lack of integration with regional and national frameworks and policies; lack of accountability of politicians; and lack of coordination with other government parties. The result from table 9 with the caption "extent to which relevant corporation is involved in tourism policy enactment and review" is in agreement with findings of the result that says tourism is given sufficient coverage in studies and frameworks for development in the country. On the Nigerian experience of the level of attention given to tourism, [7] went further to assert that the problems of tourism policy and policies were identified by the nation's National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy (NEEDS) as inadequate facilities, poor awareness, unharnessed tourist infrastructure, insecurity, low level of investment, and wrong attitude and disposition towards recreation and domestic vacation by Nigerians. [10] also went further to opine that tourism in Nigeria suffers from incoherent policies, misplaced priorities, a severe lack of funds and 'piecemeal' development strategies that restrict tourism growth and limit the benefits to individuals and communities, government's misconceptions about tourism.

4. Conclusion

This study was carried out to assess the relevance of effective policy for tourism development. Data were gathered purposively using a structured questionnaire. The staff of the Ministry of culture and tourism Abeokuta, Ogun state were considered as respondents. Frequency tables, descriptive

statistics, and chi-square were used to test the hypothesis. Frequency and descriptive statistics revealed that the staff of the ministry of education does not agree that there was effective policymaking at local level structures. The study reveals that there is not enough attention given to tourism in Abeokuta. It was revealed that there was no corporation involved in tourism policy enactment and review in Abeokuta. Chi-square analysis was used to determine if there was a relationship significant relationship between relevant tourism corporation development and tourism policy, enactment and review. The result of findings shows that the Pearson correlation value is less than 0.05 which rejected the null hypothesis that there is a significant relationship relevant tourism corporation development and tourism policy, enactment and review.

5. Recommendations

To effectively ascertain the relevance of effective policy as a remedy to sustainable tourism development in Abeokuta, it is recommended that are;

- i. Relevant stakeholders should be well recognized and allowed to be part of tourism development.
- ii. Tourism policies should be well-grounded at local level structures.
- iii. Tourism should be given an appropriate level of attention in the national budget plan of the nation.
- iv. Relevant stakeholders involved in tourism should be given a more solid involvement platform and should be considered during the promulgation of tourism policies by the NTDC.
- v. Archaic laws relating to tourism should be reviewed to make them more viable for the growth and development of the industry.
- vi. Tourism should also be given a reasonable amount of attention in the country's development scheme.
- vii. NTDC interest should be well vested and represented in all states at all tourism level.
- viii. A synergy of all relevant stakeholders involved in tourism and the tourism officials at all level should be established to review and upgrade the regulatory framework of the tourism industry for enhanced service delivery in the sector's economy.

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