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A comparative study of ecotourism development between Indonesia and Madagascar Case studies: mount ciremai and andasibe mantadia national parks

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Abstract

It is increasingly recognized that large-scale of tourism is increasing nowadays, and has significant negative impacts on the natural environment or the community of the target tourist regions. Related to this problem, ecotourism is one of alternative that often proposed. This study compares two National Parks of two different countries, Mount Ciremai National Park for Indonesia and Andasibe Mantadia Park for Madagascar, to find out how the results of the application of ecotourism. The results showed that the two parks are Eco touristic even in the case of the Mount Ciremai National Park which is not yet certified as an ecotourism.

Keywords: comparison, ecotourism, national park, Indonesia, Madagascar

UN estudio comparativo Del desarrollo Del ecoturismo entre Indonesia y Madagascar Estudios de caso: parques nacionales de Mount Ciremai y Andasibe Mantadia

Resumen

Se reconoce cada vez más que el turismo a gran escala está aumentando en la actualidad y tiene importantes impactos negativos en el medio ambiente natural o en la comunidad de las regiones turísticas objetivo. Relacionado con este problema, el ecoturismo es una de las alternativas que a menudo se propone. Este estudio compara dos Parques Nacionales de dos países diferentes, el Parque Nacional Mount Ciremai para Indonesia y el Parque Andasibe Mantadia para Madagascar, para descubrir cómo funcionan los resultados de la aplicación del ecoturismo. Los resultados mostraron que los dos parques son ecoturísticos incluso en el caso del Parque Nacional Mount Ciremai, que aún no está certificado como ecoturismo.

Palabras clave: comparación, ecoturismo, parque nacional, Indonesia, Madagascar

1. INTRODUCTION

Ecotourism, whose term appeared for the first time in the early years eighty belongs to the tertiary sector, which has developed a great deal over the past two decades on the world stage, especially in the developing countries. According to Ceballos – Lascrain (1988), "Ecotourism is a form of tourism that involves visiting relatively untouched or relatively undisturbed natural areas for the purpose of

studying and admiring the landscape and wild plants and animals that it shelters, as well as any cultural event (past and present), observable in these zones". According to this definition, the origin of the concept is an access visit on nature.

In this study, the ecotourism development of Indonesia and Madagascar will be compared. They are both recognized around the world as an ecotourism destination with an inestimable ecological wealth. As for Indonesia which is known for its mega-diversity, the country promotes ecotourism with the high hope that ecotourism will provide alternative ways to use such diversities sustainably and economically, and to improve the living standards of Indonesia's people (Ministry of Forest of Indonesia, 2015). Famous for being a country where the endemism of fauna and flora is about 80% high and secondly for alarming poverty and a strong dependence on natural resources, ecotourism in Madagascar, which knows a large scale so far is now one of the strategies to reduce poverty in a sustainable way, especially in rural areas (World Bank, 2013).

These great potentials offer both countries the opportunity to position themselves well in relation to the ecotourism market. Every year, the number of tourists visiting the Parks continues to increase, especially in the case of Mount Ciremai (Mount Ciremai National Park Agency, 2019) and Andasibe Mantadia National Parks (Christie & Crompton, 2003; Tribune Madagascar, 2019). In order to satisfy the customers, different circuits have been created and new infrastructures have been installed.

It is in the vision of the Mount Ciremai and Andasibe Mantadia National Parks that our research will be carried out as a witness to the Indonesian and Malagasy biodiversity, and an opportunity for sustainable development. The importance of their fauna and flora - marked by a very high endemism rate and by the existence of species unique in the world, even rare species endangered and its international reputation have Mount Ciremai and Andasibe Mantadia National Parks a witness to Indonesian and Malagasy biodiversity. It goes without saying that the interest of our subject lies in the need to develop ecotourism in these two national parks, because of the benefits it provides to its local, regional and national environment which happens to be the most accessible and visited park by many visitors.

This rises the problem of this study: what are the characteristics of ecotourism and how is the development of ecotourism in the two national parks? To answer this question, this study will focus on the analysis of quality of factors existed in and related to the function of the parks. The objective of this research is to compare the ecotourism development in Indonesia and Madagascar, in order to improve the tourism potential in each country. The results of this research will be generated recommendations that can be used by the stakeholders involved, as an effort to realize the area of the tourist destinations.

Ecotourism is ecological tourism whose main objective is to protect nature, or approaching particular species (fauna and flora) (Ceballos-Lascurain, 1996). Ecotourism, which is a model of responsible tourism development (Charbonneau, 2008) in unspoiled areas or areas that are managed in a natural way to enjoy and

appreciate nature (and all accompanying cultural forms) that support conservation, involve elements of education and understanding, have low impact and active socio-economic involvement of the local community. Ecotourism also means that tourism activities carried out without disrupting natural conditions increase the positive side and minimize negative activities that can damage nature or the environment (Neto, 2003). This tourist activity means enjoying the flora and fauna found in tourist sites.

The principle of ecotourism established by The International Ecotourism Society/ TIES has been agreed to become a guide and in managing ecotourism development internationally (Wood, 2002). These ecotourism principles, among others, emphasize learning based on environmental and social use (Carrier MacLeod, 2005) such as long-term monitoring programs to assess and reduce impacts, strive to increase the economic benefits of state revenues, local entrepreneurs, and the people who are around the object of ecotourism, and guaranteeing in ecotourism development does not exceed the environmental and social threshold received as a result of research in collaboration with local communities (Tsaur & Lin, 2006; Campbell, 2009; Chen, et al, 2010).

The legalization of ecotourism depends fundamentally on the essential characteristics of ecotourism products (Drum, et al, 2004). It should be noted that there are policies and regulations governing some of these activities. Therefore, it is important to comply with the requirements of some policies of the competent and concerned authorities. The tourist organization (Drum, et al) must therefore

inquire with the competent authorities to know the policies and regulations that carry out to their activities. In fact the policies applied on an ecotourism site vary according to the characteristics of its products (Hazerbroucq, 2007).

On the other hand, according to an article in the Standardization Office of Quebec (BNQ) in 2003 on ecotourism products, there are requirements concerning all the activities of the tourist organization, including the activities they carry out outside the part of these ecotourism products. First, the quality of the ecotourism organization's services must meet the requirements of the industry standard for the amount of service delivery to the customer service of the main activity sector in which it operates. Secondly, the management of the environmental threats of the ecotourism organization must know the environmental threats affecting where the locality takes place or its activities; and also it should have an emergency plan to deal with environmental threats. Thirdly, for all activities planned in private territories, the access of the ecotourism organization must have the written permission of the persons in charge of the places. For all of its activities, the tourist organization must obtain the authorizations provided for in the laws and regulations in force according to the status of the territories concerned.

2. METHODOLOGY

The data collected firstly through direct observation in the field by recording and taking pictures in the parks. Secondly, spatial

mapping of the objects in the field by using survey guide map as a reference to know directly about the internal and external environment conditions that can provide general overview information about the potentials and problems of the parks. Thirdly, primary data collected through interviews. According to Esterberg (in Sugiyono, 2010), the interview conducted in this study is called a depth interview that helps to get information with the system of "questions and answers". In these interviews, the questions persist mainly on development policy in the two parks, ecotourism development and the problems encountered since the existence. The people qualified to be interviewed are the people who have qualifications and experiences that adheres to the field of the National Parks development, in Balai Taman Nasional Gunung Ciremai (Gunung Ciremai National Park Agency) for Indonesia and Madagascar National Park (MNP) for Madagascar.

Data analysis was performed using the qualitative comparative analysis (QCA) method. The QCA method is an analytical technique was developed by Ragin in 1987. This study was performed by comparing and analyzing a research theme of selected research objects with specific limits and objectives. This research was conducted to compare the similarities and differences of two or more facts and properties of the object examined based on a particular frame of mind.

In this research the comparative analysis of the attractions, accessibility and amenities, management and environmental policies applied in the parks, all information will be subject to criteria or determine the similarities and differences of the two parks. The criteria for similarities and differences are: the ecosystem, the exploitation of

nature, the environmental regulations, and ecotourism and the management structure. The result of this analysis will be highlighted in a table.

3. RESULTS and DISCUSSION

The location of this study is in two different places. The first location is in Mount Ciremai National Park (MCNP) which is addressed in Kuningan and Majalegka regencies, West Java, Indonesia. The second place is in Andasibe Mantadia National Park (AMNP) which is located in Moramanga district, Toamasina Province, Alaotra Mangoro, Madagascar.

The history of the Mount Ciremai National Park keeps the legend on the Ciremai Mountain itself. The largest mountain and the highest mountain in West Java, has a legend linked to its name "Cereme", derived from the word "Braking" which means "Negotiation or Deliberation" of the guards. The Mount Ciremai National Park (MCNP) is designated as a national park by Ministerial Decree in 2004. Another consideration of the determination as a national park is that the Mount Ciremai area has great biodiversity and is a watershed for the area below. But before becoming a national park, the Mount Ciremai was a production forest between the year 1978 to 2003 and a protected forest from 2003 to 2004 which was managed by the State Owned Company. The Mount Ciremai National Park area includes many historical relics that are: Legend of

Linggarjati, Legend of the Path of Ascension, Legend of Lingga Stone, Legend of Sangga Buana, Legend of Marble, and others. According to the Decree 2004, the area of the MCNP is covering $\pm 15,500$ Ha. The MNCP is located 200 kilometer from Jakarta, capital of Indonesia.

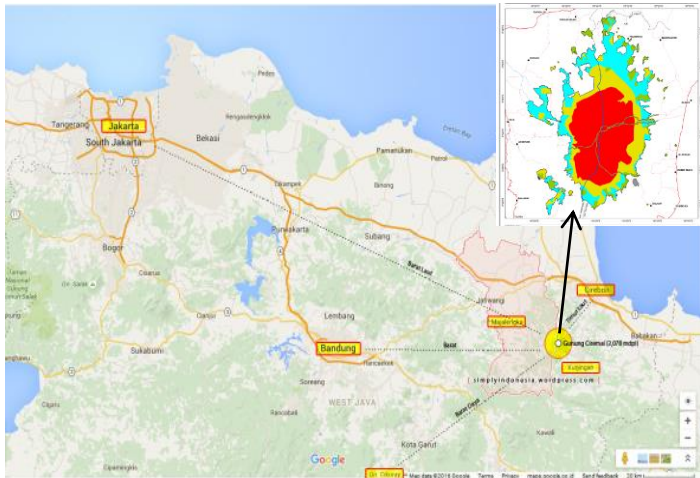


Figure 1: Location of Mount Ciremai National Park (Balai Taman Nasional Gunung Ciremai (Mount Ciremai National Park Agency), 2019)

Andasibe was once a camping area. The word "Andasibe" comes from the two words "Lasy" and "Be" which means respectively "Camp" and "Grand". It is one of the protected areas managed by the Madagascar National Parks or MNP. The AMNP is composed of two protected areas which are "Analamazaotra" and the "Mantadia", created in 1970 and 1989. The Analamazaotra National Park: formerly known as the Analamazaotra Special Reserve with an area of 874 ha,

as the Protected Area (PA) was declared National Park on 2015. The Mantadia National Park: with an area of 15,480 ha, the Protected Area (PA) was delimited and declared a National Park in 1989, a delimitation has been modified, in accordance with Decree in 2002. Previously under the supervision of the State by the Moramanga Water & Forest Service, the two PAs have been under the management of Madagascar National Parks (MNP, formerly ANGAP) since 1992. From the capital Antananarivo to Moramanga it is about 135 km, and Moramanga to AMNP is about 44 km.

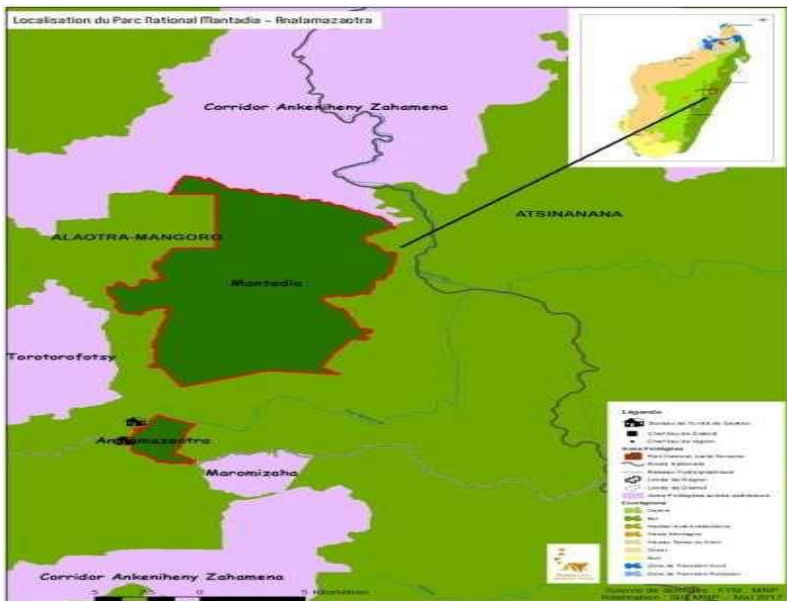


Figure 2: Location of Andasibe Mantadia National Park
(Madagascar National Park, 2019)

In the comparative analysis of the two parks, the greatest discovery made is the similarity of the ecotourism potential of the two national parks. The MCNP and the AMNP, which have almost the same area, are also two landmarks, two ecosystems, protected areas, and both are conservation areas. Both of them all have a very specific biodiversity and many biological and authentic assets both. The attractions in both parks are excellent and attract many visitors as the source of operation of these two parks are their natural wealth as a tourist attraction.

Table 1: Similarities and differences between the two National Parks

Criteria	MCNP	AMNP
Similarities		
● Ecosystem	The MCNP has a large forest area that surrounds Mount Ciremai with a thousand species of flora such as: "Aceraceae", "Actinidae", "Anacardiaceae", and many wild species that live as "Python Molurus", species of monkeys such as "Suruli" and about twenty species of birds	90% of the territory of the AMNP is a thick forest area is different species of large trees, 120 species of orchids such as "epiphytes", 14 species of lemurs, the best known is the Indri-Indri the emblem of the park and 51 species of reptiles
● Natural exploitation	The MCNP uses its nature for tourism exploitation as many of its attractions present in the park. The main source of attractiveness is nature, like Cigugur.	The AMNP relies on nature. The circuits proposed by the park are based on the exploration of the dense forest and the discovery of

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Environmental policy 	<p>The State of Indonesia has decreed that the MCNP is one of the protected areas of the country, governed by environmental conservation rules due to its biodiversity.</p>	<p>The AMNP is recognized by the State of Madagascar as one of the largest and most important of ecosystems in Madagascar.</p> <p>Recognized as a protected area, the AMNP is governed</p>
Differences		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ecotourism 	<p>The MCNP applies many forms of tourism such as agro tourism and among others but it is not certified as being an ecotourism park yet. However, ecotourism features and principles are</p>	<p>The AMNP is certified as an ecotourism park applying all ecotourism principles and adopting all ecotourism objectives in the context of</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Management structure 	<p>The management of the MCNP is internally managed by many government agents whose roles are different but complementary, directed and supervised by the park director and in cooperation with the local population.</p>	<p>The AMNP is internally managed by an internal structure from the park manager to the housekeeper, but directly assisted by the MNP, who is directly involved in the management and enforcement of the</p>

The similarity does not cease to surprise because even the accessibility of the two parks are similar since the duration of the trip from the city of each country to the respective park is plus or minus 6 hours. Both parks are accessible and means of transport are diversified and available at any time. On the other hand, the amenities of each are different and special even if some are similar, each park has its own

infrastructure, consistent and adequate attractions that both offer to visitors. The attractions, accessibility and amenities of national parks are both an ecotourism quality. But all of these similarities are in majority because both parks are natural sites. Therefore, the two parks are Eco touristic even if in the case of the MCNP which is not yet certified as an ecotourism park because in both cases, the exercise of the ecotourism, the characteristics, the principles and the objectives of ecotourism are present and applied. The two parks which are focused on the rich and advantageous nature they have, receive a growing number of ecotourism visitors and must therefore manage the impacts caused by this mass tourism or if they do not have the means to associate themselves with environmental degradation, since the two developing countries of both parks have medium technical and financial capacities. But in response to this threat, the two national parks have their way to address this threat by applying the principle of natural resource conservation, but also by applying a strategic and localized management of each area of the respective parks that comply with the policies and ecosystem conservation. Thus, in the analysis made on many tourist aspects of the two parks that are not only rich in natural but also well-organized with a distinct, efficient and disciplined operating chain.

4. CONCLUSION

The purpose of this research was to compare the development of ecotourism in Indonesia and Madagascar by asking whether the

cooperation in the tourism sector and cultural exchanges require an understanding of the regulations and policies of each country, Indonesia and Madagascar, to improve the tourism potential of each country in the future. Through analysis, ecotourism potentials or natural resources and the ecosystem of each park were identified. This ecotourism presence, which is the prerequisite for the development of ecotourism that is said to be happening, is the cooperation of the tourism sector and the cultural exchange. Knowing that ecotourism is axed to nature, i.e. natural resources and the ecosystem are the sources of exploitation of the latter. This analysis reveals the direct interaction of the government in the case of the MCNP because the main leaders of the park are government agents who ensure the respect of politics in each activity; and the existence of an organization called MNP, approved by the state of Madagascar, which interacts directly with the AMNP to ensure the respect of government policies during tourism activities in the park. Thus, it has been proved that cooperation in the tourism sector and cultural exchanges that in the case of this research is ecotourism requires an understanding of the regulations or the policy of each country.

The analysis of the management of each park has made it possible to identify the different hierarchical structures specific to the sites contributing to the management of the park by complying and applying the policies for the development of ecotourism. The development of ecotourism in each country therefore depends on the good management of the activities in each park by complying with the

rules and preserving the authenticity of the ecosystem of the respective sites, by developing and protecting the latter.

RECOMMENDATION

Through research conducted in this study, ecotourism must be adopted in countries rich in biodiversity, but first of all it must be understood in all these aspects in other words, park stakeholders must understand the importance of the application ecotourism by adopting the principles of ecotourism while complying with the rules and conservation of their ecosystems. The park management must therefore be effective and strategic in carrying out activities in the parks while complying with policies for ecosystem conservation and development. Without forgetting to ensure that the local community sites cooperate for the development, and conservation for the perturbation of the authenticity of the sites but also that they are beneficiaries of the profits generated by the respective parks.

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