

Review of: "Agritourism: a source for socio-economic transformation in developing economies"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

A very interesting paper dealing with an important issue. Unfortunately, I could not find the linkages between the conceptual framework presented and the description of the cases as provided in the paper.

More concretely, how each of the countries presented as cases, "perform" in the 6 factors/criteria mentioned by the authors i.e. location, funding, product quality, marketing techniques, infrastructure and legislative support. Could the "successes" or "failures" of the various cases be attributed to differences in their "performace" in any of these factors? Maybe a more systematic presentation of the countries/cases could be useful.

Some specific comments:

Page 2: "India's agritourism is also experiencing a steady growth rate of 20% per year contributing 13.5% to the GDP (https://www.nicheagriculture.com/agritourism-backbone-of-indias-gdp/)"

Are the authors certain about the figures, that is: Does 13.5% of India's GDP come from agritourism?

Pages 2-3: "In South Africa, the tourism industry accounted for 2.9% of the GDP (and indirectly, 8.6%), whereas the agriculture industry's contribution was 1.88% of the country's GDP in 2019. Therefore, both sectors are important (Grillini, 2021). Agriculture in Morocco has contributed to around 33% of all jobs and approximately 12% of the country's GDP (European Training Foundation, 2021). A study conducted by Nyova (2023) in Tanzania reveals that the poverty observed in farming communities and their surrounding areas can be attributed to the impact of COVID-19, specifically the constraints imposed on transporting agricultural goods to markets. This underscores the crucial role of agritourism in sustaining livelihoods."

I fail to understand how the last sentence is derived by the above paragraph.

Pages 3-4: "In Taiwan, Japan, and South Korea, the contributions of smallholder farmers to agriculture are decreasing, which has an effect on the contribution of agritourism to economic growth. The potential for agritourism has emerged in each of the three nations as a result of consumers' increasing demand for leisure time and declining pricing for agricultural goods."

The argument/statement is not clear to me.

