### Introduction: Theory

The tourism industry is affected by several factors that can impact the global economy of the world. Some of these factors include:

- Economic conditions: The state of the global economy can have a significant impact on the tourism industry. If people have less disposable income, they may cut back on travel expenses, which can lead to a decrease in tourism.
- Natural disasters: Natural disasters, such as hurricanes or earthquakes, can disrupt the tourism industry by damaging tourist attractions, transportation systems, and accommodations.
- Political instability: Political instability in a country or region can lead to a decrease in tourism as people may feel unsafe or uncertain about traveling to that area.

 Health pandemics: Health pandemics, such as COVID-19, can have a significant impact on the tourism industry by causing widespread travel restrictions, cancellations, and closures.

Tourism industry plays a vital role in the country's economy. It is important to have a lot of tourist attractions like beautiful beaches, mountains or some historical buildings. These are primary tourism resources. It is also important to develop communication networks, accommodation, gastronomy and secondary tourism resources. Based on this, some particular types of tourism start to develop. One example of tourism is Dark tourism. Dark tourism refers to a type of tourism that involves visiting places that are associated with death, tragedy, or suffering. These places could be sites of historical events such as war zones, prisons, concentration camps, or places of natural disasters like sites of earthquakes or volcanic eruptions.

The condition of ship after disaster (2002) Photo taken from south east coast of the the Aral Sea





#### Introduction (cont.)

More recently, it was suggested that the concept should also include reasons tourists visit that site, since the site's attributes alone may not make a visitor a "dark tourist". It also includes some sites of Natural disaster. In the context of tourism, a natural disaster refers to an unexpected event caused by natural forces that can disrupt or impact the travel industry. Examples of natural disasters that can affect tourism include hurricanes, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, and wildfires. These events can lead to the closure of popular tourist destinations, transportation disruptions, and damage to tourism infrastructure such as hotels, airports, and tourist attractions. The aftermath of a natural disaster can also affect the local economy and livelihoods of those working in the tourism industry. As a result, tourism authorities and businesses often have contingency plans in place to manage the impacts of natural disasters on the tourism sector.

### The map of the Aral Sea between Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan



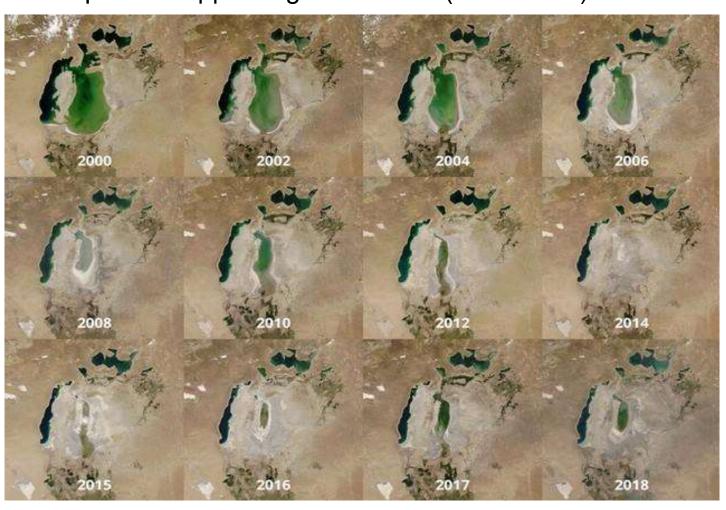
# Area of study

The Aral Sea is an example of human-induced environmental disaster that has attracted the attention of tourists who are interested in learning about the causes and consequences of environmental destruction. Despite the environmental damage caused by human activities such as diverting the rivers that fed the sea for irrigation purposes, the Aral Sea has become a tourist attraction due to its unique and eerie landscape. Tourists who visit the Aral Sea can witness the impact of human activities on the environment and learn about the consequences of unsustainable practices such as water overuse and pollution. By recognizing the reasons for the environmental degradation of the Aral Sea, tourists can raise awareness and promote sustainable tourism practices that aim to minimize negative impacts on the environment and local communities.

Visiting the Aral Sea can be a powerful educational experience for tourists who want to learn about the impacts of human activities on the environment. The shrinking of the sea has caused significant environmental damage, including the loss of fish species and wetlands, the increase in desertification, and the contamination of soil and water with toxic chemicals. The social and economic consequences of the shrinking of the sea have also been severe, leading to the displacement of communities and the decline of the local fishing and agriculture industries.

By visiting the Aral Sea, tourists can witness firsthand the scale of the environmental disaster and the consequences for the local communities. They can also learn about the efforts to restore the sea and the surrounding ecosystems, such as the construction of dams and the implementation of water conservation measures. Through sustainable tourism practices, tourists can support the local communities and promote the restoration of the environment.

### Maps of disappearing of Aral Sea (2000-2018)



# Aim of study

#### 3. Aim of study

Does the Aral Sea could be a tourism destination?

- 1. There is a huge educational value as a result of bad mismanagement.
- 2. Tourism infrastructure is not developed (lack of transportation, lack of accommodation).
- 3. There are the solutions for development of Aral Sea area.

#### Answer to 1st hyp

Learning from the negative consequences of mismanagement of the Aral Sea presents a significant opportunity for education. The drastic reduction of the sea's size due to the diversion of rivers for irrigation is a powerful example of how human actions can harm the environment and communities dependent on it. However, examining this case can yield significant educational benefits.

For example, it serves as a warning of the risks of short-term thinking in development and highlights the need for sustainable resource management. Additionally, the Aral Sea crisis has sparked innovation and research in water management, environmental conservation, and public health.

Furthermore, it has raised public awareness of the importance of collective action on environmental issues. Numerous sources have explored the educational potential of studying the Aral Sea crisis. They emphasize the opportunities to learn about environmental science, geography, economics, social studies, sustainability, global interdependence, and environmental ethics. By understanding the mistakes made in the past and the challenges faced by communities affected by the Aral Sea crisis, we can work towards a more sustainable and equitable future. Learning from mistakes can teach us valuable lessons. One such mistake was the mismanagement of the Aral Sea. This large body of water once supported many communities and wildlife, but its size drastically decreased due to human actions.

#### The view of the Aral Sea between 1996-2020



#### Answer to 2nd hyp

It is difficult to travel to the Aral Sea because there is not enough tourist infrastructure in the area. This means that transportation and accommodation options are limited, which can make it challenging for visitors to explore the region. Without adequate transportation, tourists may find it hard to get to the Aral Sea, and once they arrive, they may struggle to move around the area. Moreover, there are not enough places to stay nearby, making it difficult for travelers to plan their trips and find comfortable accommodations. To encourage more tourism in the area, it may be necessary to develop the necessary infrastructure. This could include building more hotels or guesthouses, improving roadways or creating new transportation options, and promoting the region as a travel destination.

This could include building more hotels or guesthouses, improving roadways or creating new transportation options, and promoting the region as a travel destination. By investing in tourism infrastructure, the Aral Sea region may be able to attract more visitors and provide them with a better experience.

The lack of tourism infrastructure in the Aral Sea region can have a significant impact on the local economy. Without enough tourists visiting the area, businesses may struggle to generate income and support themselves. This, in turn, can lead to a lack of investment in the region, which can perpetuate the cycle of underdevelopment. To address the lack of tourism infrastructure, it may be necessary to work with local governments, businesses, and communities to develop a comprehensive plan for tourism development.

#### Shrinking disaster Live Motion of the Aral Sea (1960-2014)



### Answer to 3rd hyp

The development of the Aral Sea region is essential to promote economic growth, preserve the area's natural and cultural heritage, and improve the quality of life for local communities. Here are some possible solutions for the development of the Aral Sea area:

- Investing in tourism infrastructure: The lack of tourism infrastructure in the Aral Sea region is a significant barrier to economic growth. To attract more visitors to the area, it may be necessary to develop new transportation options, build more accommodations, and promote the region as a travel destination.
- Diversifying the local economy: The Aral Sea region has traditionally relied on agriculture, but this sector has been severely impacted by the shrinking of the sea. Diversifying the local economy by promoting alternative industries, such as ecotourism, fishing, and renewable energy, could help support economic growth and provide new job opportunities

- Improving water management: The diversion of rivers for irrigation is one of the main reasons for the Aral Sea's decline. Improved water management practices, such as water recycling, drip irrigation, and the use of drought-resistant crops, could help reduce water usage and preserve the region's limited water resources.
- Promoting education and research: Education and research can play a vital role in the development of the Aral Sea region. By supporting local schools and universities, promoting environmental and social research, and providing training opportunities, the region can build a skilled workforce and foster innovation and development.
- Supporting local communities: Finally, supporting local communities is essential for the sustainable development of the Aral Sea region. This could involve investing in social services, providing job training and education opportunities, and promoting community involvement in decision-making processes. By supporting local communities, the Aral Sea region can build a strong foundation for sustainable development.