

# Topic 2.3 Sustainable Tourism Development

GEOGRAPHY GCE ORDINARY LEVEL

# Sustainable Tourism Development

Sustainable tourism development is necessary for economies, communities and natural environments to continually benefit from tourism.

However, it is challenging to balance the different dimensions of sustainable development given the numerous stakeholders who are involved in tourism. The values, attitudes and needs of these stakeholders could differ or be in conflict.

There are many approaches to achieving sustainable tourism development, which strive for sustainable tourism production and consumption, ensuring the equitable distribution of tourism benefits.



# Debate Exercise

## Background Information:

The Republic of Mauritius is an island nation in the Indian Ocean, about 2,000 km off the southeastern coast of East Africa. The Republic comprises of Mauritius Island and several outlying islands. The total land area of the country is 2,040 km<sup>2</sup>.

Since independence from colonialism in 1968, Mauritius has developed from a low-income, agriculture-based economy to a high-income diversified economy, based on tourism, textiles, sugar, and financial services.

The growth of tourism and sugar plantations industries has impact on the biodiversity of the country. The country is home to some of the world's rarest plants and animals, but human habitation and the introduction of non-native species have threatened its indigenous flora and fauna. Mauritius has experienced significant ecological destruction, with its natural habitat being affected by activities such as the exploitation of ebony forests, the establishment of sugar plantations, and development of large scale holiday resorts.



# Debate Exercise

## **Topic: Mauritius - Is tourism the way to go?**

Tourism has and will continue to generate income, provides business and job opportunities for the local population. Thus, we should continue to invest and grow the tourism industry in Mauritius.

Proposition Teams: Team 1,2 and 3

Opposition Teams: Team 4,5 and 6