

Infrastructure for Sustainable “Community – Based Tourism”

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Opinion Article

For anyone who has ever encountered a rural area, I doubt beauty or nobility was the first thing to come to mind. Most tourists want to visit a natural and beautiful setting. The dictionary describes infrastructure as the basic physical and organizational structures and facilities (roads, power supplies and buildings) needed for the operation of a society. The lack of infrastructure and technology (water, power supply, transportation, computer usage and communication) in an area can be devastating for the tourists. Communities should play a major role in the development of tourism by having a good story to share about the area and develop lasting friendships with the tourists. In Community

Based Tourism the locals are trying to lure tourists to rural areas and sometimes less fortunate conditions. The advantage of the traveler visiting these areas is being exposed to and understanding local traditions, eco-systems, ecotourism, cultural activities and untouched land. Many fishermen, farmers and artisans occupy these preserved rural areas. Tourists are natural explorers, inquisitive and must appreciate all aspects of tourism. Whatever your reason for traveling, proper planning is important and ensures a better traveling experience. As a community, we must promote tourism because we may never get a second chance to make a first impression.