

## ADAPTIVE STRATEGIES IN TOURISM DESTINATIONS AMID MIGRATION AND DISPLACEMENT

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## Abstract

This study analyses the interplay between migration, displacement and the tourism industry, shedding light on how destinations worldwide adapt to the dynamic challenges posed by these phenomena. As global migration patterns shift and displacement becomes more frequent due to various factors, including conflict, climate change and socio-economic disparities, tourism destinations are at a critical juncture. Quantitative data collection involved surveys distributed to tourists and local businesses in various destinations monitored by the WTO. The study is based on a secondary dataset collected from different tourism destinations globally, representing different geographical locations, cultural contexts and stages of economic development. The dataset includes data obtained from existing literature, reports and official statistics on migration, displacement and tourism. Adaptation strategies used by destinations include community engagement initiatives, sustainable tourism development and the formulation of inclusive policies. In conclusion, this research contributes to a comprehensive understanding of how tourism destinations address the complex challenges of migration and displacement. By illustrating the interconnections between demographic changes, community dynamics and economic resilience, the study provides valuable insights for policymakers, destination managers and researchers seeking sustainable and adaptive solutions in the changing landscape of global tourism.

**Keywords:** adaptive strategies; policy; displacement; migration; tourism.

## ESTRATÉGIAS ADAPTATIVAS EM DESTINOS TURÍSTICOS EM MEIO À MIGRAÇÃO E AO DESLOCAMENTO

## Resumo

Este estudo analisa a interação entre migração, deslocamento e o setor de turismo, lançando luz sobre como os destinos em todo o mundo se adaptam aos desafios dinâmicos impostos por esses fenômenos. À medida que os padrões globais de migração mudam e o deslocamento se torna mais frequente devido a vários fatores, inclusive conflitos, mudanças climáticas e disparidades socioeconômicas, os destinos turísticos estão em um momento crítico. A coleta de dados quantitativos envolveu pesquisas distribuídas a turistas e empresas locais em vários destinos monitorados pela OMC. O estudo baseia-se em um conjunto de dados secundários coletados de diferentes destinos turísticos em todo o mundo, representando diferentes localizações geográficas, contextos culturais e estágios de desenvolvimento econômico. O conjunto de dados inclui dados extraídos da literatura existente, relatórios e estatísticas oficiais sobre migração, deslocamento e turismo. As estratégias de adaptação usadas pelos destinos incluem iniciativas de envolvimento da comunidade, desenvolvimento do turismo sustentável e a formulação de políticas inclusivas. Em conclusão, esta pesquisa contribui para uma compreensão abrangente de como os destinos turísticos lidam com os complexos desafios da migração e do deslocamento. Ao ilustrar as interconexões entre as mudanças demográficas, a dinâmica da comunidade e a resiliência econômica, o estudo oferece percepções valiosas para os formuladores de políticas, gerentes de destinos e pesquisadores que buscam soluções sustentáveis e adaptáveis no cenário em transformação do turismo global.

**Palavras-chave:** estratégias adaptativas; política; deslocação; migração; turismo.

## ESTRATEGIAS DE ADAPTACIÓN DE LOS DESTINOS TURÍSTICOS EN UN CONTEXTO DE MIGRACIÓN Y DESPLAZAMIENTO

## Resumen

Este estudio analiza la interacción entre la migración, el desplazamiento y la industria turística, arrojando luz sobre cómo los destinos de todo el mundo se adaptan a los dinámicos retos que plantean estos fenómenos. A medida que cambian los patrones migratorios mundiales y se hacen más frecuentes los desplazamientos debido a diversos factores, como los conflictos, el cambio climático y las disparidades socioeconómicas, los destinos turísticos se encuentran en una coyuntura crítica. La recopilación de datos cuantitativos consistió en encuestas distribuidas a turistas y empresas locales en varios destinos supervisados por la OMT. El estudio se basa en un conjunto de datos secundarios recogidos en diferentes destinos turísticos de todo el mundo, que representan distintas ubicaciones geográficas, contextos culturales y fases de desarrollo económico. El conjunto de datos incluye datos extraídos de la literatura existente, informes y estadísticas oficiales sobre migración, desplazamiento y turismo. Las estrategias de adaptación utilizadas por los destinos incluyen iniciativas de participación comunitaria, desarrollo del turismo sostenible y formulación de políticas integradoras. En conclusión, esta investigación contribuye a una comprensión global de cómo los destinos turísticos abordan los complejos retos de la migración y el desplazamiento. Al ilustrar las interconexiones entre los cambios demográficos, la dinámica de las comunidades y la resiliencia económica, el estudio ofrece valiosas perspectivas para los responsables políticos, los gestores de destinos y los investigadores que buscan soluciones sostenibles y adaptables en el cambiante panorama del turismo mundial.

**Palabras clave:** estrategias de adaptación; política; desplazamiento; migración; turismo.

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

The relationship between tourism, migration and displacement is complex and multifaceted, with significant implications for destinations worldwide (Coles et al., 2004). Whether voluntary or forced, migration can lead to

demographic changes that affect a region's cultural, economic and environmental landscape. As global migration patterns shift due to various factors such as conflict, climate change and socio-economic disparities, tourism destinations are increasingly affected and require effective adaptation strategies to manage these changes (Brzoska et al., 2016).



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Tourism, an important economic sector, contributes to GDP, employment and cultural exchange (Sharma et al., 2012). Understanding how these factors intersect with tourism is key to developing sustainable and resilient tourism practices. Migration can bring a diverse workforce and cultural enrichment, offering potential benefits to the tourism industry. However, it can also put a strain on local resources and infrastructure if not managed properly. Displacement, often a consequence of conflict or environmental crises, poses immediate and significant challenges to host destinations (Ozgen et al., 2013).

This study seeks to comprehensively explore how tourism destinations adapt to the dynamic challenges posed by migration and displacement. By examining the socio-cultural, economic and environmental impacts and strategies employed to address these changes, the research aims to provide a thorough understanding of the interaction between migration, displacement and tourism, offering robust insights for policy makers, destination managers and other stakeholders.

This research is important because it has the potential to inform effective adaptation strategies for tourism destinations facing the challenges of migration and displacement (Affi et al., 2016). As migration and displacement continue to shape the global landscape, destinations must develop resilient and sustainable tourism practices that can accommodate and harness these demographic changes (Bachmann et al., 2019).

The research focuses on the practical implications of migration and displacement for tourism destinations arising from the selected destinations. Although much research exists on migration and tourism independently, the intersection of these phenomena still needs to be explored (Feng & Page, 2000).

How do tourist destinations adapt socio-culturally, economically and environmentally to the impacts of migration and displacement? By examining the socio-cultural, economic and environmental impacts of migration and displacement, the research offers a holistic understanding of these phenomena' challenges and opportunities.

The findings can guide policymakers in developing inclusive policies that promote social cohesion, economic resilience and environmental sustainability. The research provides practical strategies for destination managers to engage communities, enhance cultural exchange and harness migration for tourism development.

The scope of this study includes a wide range of global tourism destinations that represent different geographic locations, cultural contexts, and stages of economic development. This diversity ensures that the findings are generalisable and applicable to various types of destinations facing migration and displacement challenges (borderon et al., 2021).

The study focuses on three main areas: the socio-cultural, economic, and environmental implications of migration and displacement on tourist destinations. It also examines the adaptation strategies adopted by these destinations, including community engagement initiatives, sustainable tourism development and inclusive policy formulation.

## 2 MIGRATION AND DISPLACEMENT TRENDS

### 2.1 Migration Trends

Migration is a complex and multifaceted phenomenon driven by various factors, including economic opportunities, political instability, conflicts, environmental changes, and social networks (Warner, 2010). Understanding the trends and drivers of migration is crucial to analysing its impact on tourist destinations (De Hass, 2011).

Economic migration, fueled by the pursuit of better job opportunities and living conditions, is a significant trend in many regions (Castles, 2000). Migrants often transition from rural to urban areas or from less developed to more developed countries, thereby contributing to urbanisation and economic growth (Tacoli et al., 2015). However, this movement can also exert pressure on local resources and infrastructure, leading to challenges for host communities and tourist destinations.

Conflict-induced migration and displacement are also common, especially in regions affected by war, violence and political instability (Lischer, 2007). Refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs) often seek safety in neighbouring countries or safer areas within their own country, causing sudden and large-scale demographic changes (Oliver-Smith, 2018). These movements can pose significant challenges for host destinations, including increased demand for housing, social services and employment opportunities (Barnett & Webber, 2010).

Climate change is an emerging factor in migration and displacement: rising sea levels, extreme weather events, and changing agricultural patterns are compelling people to relocate (Warner et al., 2010). Coastal areas, small island states, and regions reliant on agriculture are particularly susceptible to climate-induced displacement (Thomas & Benjamin, 2018). This trend presents new challenges to tourism destinations, which must adjust to both the immediate impacts of displacement and the enduring effects of climate change on their tourism resources.

### 2.2 Tourism Industry Dynamics

The tourism industry is dynamic and influenced by various internal and external factors (Mandić, 2020). Understanding these dynamics is essential for analysing how tourism destinations can adapt to the challenges posed by migration and displacement (Coles et al., 2012).

The tourism industry is not a static entity but a dynamic one, constantly shaped by tourists' behaviour and preferences (Cohen et al., 2014). Tourists, in their pursuit of diverse and unique experiences, drive the demand for cultural, adventure, ecological, and niche tourism products (Robinson & Novelli, 2007). Destinations, therefore, must continuously innovate and adapt to meet these changing preferences, which can be influenced by demographic changes due to migration and displacement (Adams, 2016).

Destination management is not just about strategic planning and coordination of tourism activities but also about understanding and navigating the complex interaction between tourism, local communities, and external factors such as migration and displacement (Risteskia et al., 2012).

This understanding is crucial for developing effective strategies to manage these changes and ensure inclusive and sustainable tourism development (Edgell, 2019).

The economic impact of tourism is another critical aspect of the industry (Zaei, 2013). Tourism generates revenue, creates employment and stimulates economic activity in various sectors (Mihalic, 2002). However, the economic benefits of tourism can be unevenly distributed, with some regions and communities benefiting more than others (Telfer, 2002). Migration and displacement can further complicate this distribution, presenting opportunities and challenges for tourism destinations.

### 2.3 Intersection of Migration, Displacement, and Tourism

The intersection between migration, displacement and tourism is a complex and under-explored area of research (Adams, 2022). Understanding how these phenomena interact and influence each other is crucial for developing effective adaptation strategies for tourism destinations (Haugland et al., 2011).

Migration and displacement can influence tourism in several ways. The arrival of new populations can bring cultural diversity and new skills, enhancing the tourism experience and contributing to the local economy (Edgell et al., 2008). For example, migrants may open new businesses, such as restaurants, shops and cultural attractions, which attract tourists (Vuin et al., 2016).

However, migration can also lead to social tensions and resource competition, potentially discouraging tourists (Hall & Williams, 2013). Adger (2003) suggests that 'resilience must include socio-economic adaptation processes', which is crucial to understanding how communities and tourism industries cope with migration pressures.

Displacement poses unique challenges to tourist destinations. The sudden arrival of displaced populations can overburden local resources and infrastructure, creating immediate and significant challenges for host communities (George & Adelaja, 2021). Destinations must address these challenges by also considering the long-term impacts of displacement on tourism development (Telfer, 2002). Furthermore, Sheller and Urry (2006) proposed that mobility theory offers a lens to examine the interconnection between migration and tourism in a globalised world, emphasising how social networks and technologies shape human mobility.

Tourism, beyond its economic benefits, can also serve as a platform for supporting migrants and displaced populations (Williams & Hall, 2000). Community-based tourism initiatives, for instance, can provide economic opportunities for migrants and displaced persons, promoting social integration and economic resilience (Ruiz-Ballesteros, 2011). By involving migrants in tourism activities, destinations can tap into their cultural and social resources, thereby enhancing the overall tourism experience (Ursache, 2015).

Understanding the intersection between migration, displacement, and tourism is a complex task that demands a holistic approach. This approach should consider the socio-cultural, economic, and environmental dimensions of these phenomena (Hall & Lew, 2009). Furthermore, the theory of social change, discussed by Barker (2005), provides insight into the long-term effects of migration on community

structures, social cohesion and cultural transformations within tourist destinations.

By examining these dimensions, the research aims to provide insights into how tourism destinations can adapt and thrive amidst dynamic demographic changes, underscoring the urgency of comprehensive research in this area.

### 2.4 Categories of analysis

Sociocultural, economic and environmental categories are crucial to understanding the impact of migration on tourism. These categories are interconnected, and each represents one dimension of the adaptation challenges faced by destinations affected by migration.

*Sociocultural impacts:* Migration introduces new cultural and demographic practices that shape the social fabric of tourism destinations, often enriching the cultural landscape through events, cuisine and customs. However, it can also lead to challenges such as social fragmentation or pressures on cultural preservation. Sociocultural analysis considers how tourism adaptation strategies - such as community engagement and intercultural initiatives - can support integration and resilience, contributing to theories of social change on integration and identity.

*Economic impacts:* Migrant populations often play essential roles in the tourism workforce, contributing to economic diversity. However, the influx of new residents can put a strain on economic resources, affecting housing, employment, and infrastructure. This category analyses the adaptability of local economies to these pressures, placing the results within the economic theories of migration and sustainable development. It emphasises strategies such as supporting migrant entrepreneurship, vocational training, and policy adjustments that ensure balanced economic growth.

*Environmental impacts:* Environmental sustainability is a crucial concern for tourism sectors affected by migration, as increasing population density can lead to resource depletion, pollution and habitat degradation. This category explores the environmental stress migration imposes on tourism destinations and evaluates adaptation strategies such as ecotourism, conservation efforts and sustainable waste management practices. Results from this area contribute to environmental theories on resilience and resource management, positioning the study within broader sustainability discourses related to climate change, migration and tourism.

Each category is placed within the macro context of global migration and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Migration and tourism trends are shaped by broader social, political, and environmental forces, including economic globalisation, geopolitical change, and climate-induced displacement. Recognising these influences at the macro level allows the study to provide a holistic view of migration and tourism dynamics and enhances its applicability to broader discussions on sustainable development.

## 3 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research design of this study is based on a quantitative approach to gain a comprehensive understanding of the impact of migration and displacement

on tourist destinations. This approach allows for collecting and analysing different data, providing a more nuanced and comprehensive picture of the research problem.

The sampling involves a purposive selection of ten tourism destinations significantly impacted by migration and displacement. These destinations were chosen to represent a range of geographical locations, socio-economic conditions and types of migration impacts, ensuring diversity and relevance. The selected destinations include significant cities with solid interactions between tourism and migration, such as Barcelona, Berlin, Toronto, Auckland, Cape Town, Bangkok, Athens, Reykjavik, San Francisco and Kigali. Each city presents unique migration-related challenges, providing a comparative framework that facilitates broader generalisations.

The research design follows a longitudinal framework, analysing data from 2019 to 2024. This timeframe allows for a detailed examination of pre-pandemic conditions, the impact of COVID-19 on tourism and migration, and subsequent recovery and adaptation strategies. This longitudinal design captures both short-term disruptions and long-term adaptation measures, supporting a comprehensive understanding of resilience within the tourism sector.

The study is based on numerous secondary data sources, such as UNWTO tourism statistics, migration reports, government data, and academic literature. The UNWTO data provided quantitative information on tourist arrivals, expenditure and employment trends, which are essential for understanding the economic impact of migration on tourism. Secondary literature complemented these findings, offering theoretical perspectives on the impact of migration and adaptation strategies. Using multiple data sources reinforces the study's validity, allowing for cross-checking of primary and secondary data.

To analyse World Tourism Organisation (WTO) data, we examine the following aspects:

1. Tourist arrivals and expenditures: The WTO data provide information on the number of tourists and their expenditures in each destination. This information helps assess tourism's economic impact and the contribution of migrant-led businesses to the local economy.

2. Employment in the tourism sector: Data on employment in the tourism sector reveal the degree migrants are integrated into the labour market. This helps to understand the economic benefits of migration for the tourism industry.

3. Cultural and heritage tourism: Information on cultural and heritage tourism highlights the role of migrants in improving tourism products through exchange and cultural diversity.

4. Sustainable tourism practices: Data on sustainable tourism practices indicate tourism's environmental impact and the effectiveness of initiatives to promote sustainability.

The dataset represents a diverse range of tourism destinations globally, including different geographical locations, cultural contexts and stages of economic development. This diversity ensures that the results are generalisable and applicable to various types of destinations facing migration and displacement challenges.

Geographically, the dataset includes tourism destinations from different regions, such as Europe, Asia,

Africa and the Americas. Each region presents unique challenges and opportunities related to migration and displacement, influenced by economic development, political stability and environmental conditions.

From a cultural perspective, the dataset includes destinations with diverse cultural backgrounds, traditions, and social norms. This diversity allows us to examine how different cultural contexts influence the impact of migration and displacement on tourism and the effectiveness of adaptation strategies.

## 4 ADAPTATION STRATEGIES

Adaptation strategies refer to the policies, practices, and initiatives that tourist destinations develop to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of migration and displacement. These strategies can take several forms, each designed to address the specific socio-cultural, economic and environmental challenges resulting from the influx of new populations. In migration and tourism, adaptation strategies aim to promote resilience, sustainability and cohesion within local communities, helping destinations maintain stability while adapting to demographic changes.

### A. Socio-cultural adaptation strategies

Socio-cultural adaptation strategies are designed to foster community integration and social cohesion. Migration can significantly impact cultural dynamics within a destination, bringing diversity and challenges related to identity and social unity. Socio-cultural strategies may include:

- **Community engagement initiatives:** Programmes encouraging interaction between locals and migrants, such as intercultural festivals, community dialogues and collaborative art projects, help bridge cultural divides and promote mutual understanding (Ager & Strang, 2008).
- **Inclusive policy development:** Local governments can implement policies that protect the cultural rights of migrant communities while encouraging practices that celebrate cultural diversity in tourism. These policies could address language access, cultural representation in public spaces and support for migrant-run businesses (Berry, 1997).

These strategies encourage cultural integration, supporting the theory of social change, which sees tourism as a potential mechanism for improving social cohesion in diverse communities.

### B. Economic Adaptation Strategies

Economic adaptation strategies aim to stabilise local economies and ensure that tourism sectors can withstand and benefit from demographic changes. Migration can lead to economic diversification by bringing new skills, labour and business to tourism. However, if not carefully managed, it can also strain resources. Economic adaptation strategies include:

- **Supporting migrant entrepreneurship:** Providing resources and incentives to migrant-owned businesses

within the tourism sector can stimulate local economies and create employment opportunities, particularly in areas where labour shortages exist (UNWTO, 2021).

- **Training and workforce development:** Initiatives offering training programmes for migrants and natives ensure that tourism sectors have a skilled workforce while preventing economic inequalities. These programmes can improve migrants' employment prospects and the quality of services for tourists (OECD, 2018).

These economic strategies contribute to sustainable economic development by encouraging the self-sufficiency of migrant populations and reducing economic pressure on host communities.

### C. Environmental adaptation strategies

Environmental adaptation strategies are essential to maintain sustainable tourism practices, as migration can increase demand for local resources. Effective strategies ensure that tourism destinations do not suffer from resource depletion, habitat degradation or pollution due to population growth. Environmental strategies may include:

- **Sustainable resource management:** Practices such as water conservation, waste reduction, and energy-efficient infrastructure minimise environmental impacts. Destinations with ecotourism initiatives often adopt these practices as part of their sustainability efforts (UNWTO, 2018).
- **Ecological education and awareness** programmes educate locals and migrants on the importance of preserving local ecosystems. These programmes often incorporate ecotourism principles that encourage visitors to respect and conserve natural resources (Buckley, 2004).

### 4.1 Community Engagement Initiatives

Community engagement is a critical component of effective adaptation strategies for tourist destinations facing migration and displacement challenges. By involving local communities in decision-making processes and promoting dialogue between residents and migrants, destinations can improve social cohesion and mitigate potential conflicts.

Successful examples of community involvement initiatives include intercultural festivals, community-led tourism projects and local advisory councils. These initiatives improve social integration and enable communities to take an active role in shaping their tourism development. By harnessing residents' and immigrants' cultural and social resources, destinations can create a more inclusive and vibrant tourism experience.

For example, Toronto has implemented several community engagement initiatives in Canada to promote social integration and cultural exchange. Intercultural festivals, such as the Toronto Multicultural Festival, celebrate the city's diverse cultural heritage and provide a platform for migrants to showcase their cultural traditions. Community-led

tourism projects, such as migrant-led tours, offer tourists unique and authentic cultural experiences, enhancing the overall tourism product.

### 4.2 Sustainable Tourism Development

Sustainable tourism development is essential to ensure the long-term viability of tourist destinations in the face of migration and displacement. This implies adopting practices that minimise environmental impacts, promote cultural preservation and increase economic benefits for local communities.

Sustainable tourism practices identified in the research include promoting eco-friendly accommodation, supporting local supply chains, and encouraging responsible tourism behaviour. These practices benefit the environment and create economic opportunities for migrants and local residents, fostering a more resilient tourism sector.

In New Zealand, for example, sustainable tourism initiatives have focused on promoting eco-friendly accommodation, such as eco-lodges and sustainable resorts. These accommodations use renewable energy sources, implement waste reduction and recycling programmes, and promote sustainable tourism practices. By supporting local supply chains, such as sourcing food and products from local farmers and artisans, these initiatives create economic opportunities for migrants and residents, improving the overall sustainability of the tourism sector.

### 4.3 Formulation of Inclusive Policies

Inclusive policies are crucial to addressing the challenges and opportunities associated with migration and displacement in tourist destinations. These policies should aim to protect migrants' rights and welfare, promote social integration, and ensure equitable access to economic opportunities.

The research underscores the pivotal role of collaboration between government agencies, local communities, and the private sector in the formulation and implementation of inclusive policies. Each stakeholder's contribution is vital, and together, they can create policies that truly make a difference.

In Germany, for example, Berlin has implemented inclusive policies to support migrants' entrepreneurship and promote social integration. The city provides financial and technical support to migrant-led businesses, ensuring they can access the resources and opportunities needed to succeed. Social services and educational programmes are also available to support migrants' integration into the local community, promoting social cohesion and economic resilience.

### 4.4 Description of Destinations and Adaptation Strategies

To understand the impact of migration and displacement on tourism destinations and identify effective adaptation strategies, this study focuses on ten diverse destinations across different geographical regions and cultural contexts. These destinations have been selected

based on their unique experiences with migration and displacement and their innovative adaptation strategies.

Data sources include reports from international organisations such as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and the WTO. The selected destinations are: (1) Barcelona, Spain; (2) Berlin, Germany; (3) Toronto, Canada; (4) Auckland, New Zealand; (5) Cape Town, South Africa; (6) Bangkok, Thailand; (7) Athens, Greece; (8) Reykjavik, Iceland; (9) San Francisco, USA; (10) Kigali, Rwanda.

#### 4.4.1 Barcelona, Spain

Description: Barcelona is a major European city known for its rich cultural heritage, vibrant tourism industry, and significant migrant population. The city has experienced waves of migration from various regions, including Latin America, Africa, and Asia.

Strategies: Barcelona has leveraged its multicultural heritage by promoting migrant-led businesses like restaurants and cultural tours. The city supports community engagement initiatives like intercultural festivals and local advisory councils to foster social integration and enhance the tourism experience.

#### 4.4.2 Berlin, Germany

Description: Berlin is a global city with a complex migration history, mainly from Eastern Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. The city's diverse cultural landscape attracts millions of tourists annually.

Strategies: Berlin has implemented inclusive policies that support migrant entrepreneurship and social services. The city promotes cultural exchange through festivals, arts, and community projects, enhancing the tourism experience and social cohesion.

#### 4.4.3 Toronto, Canada

Description: Toronto is one of the most multicultural cities globally, with a significant portion of its foreign-born population. The city's diversity is a key attraction for tourists.

Strategies: Toronto emphasizes community engagement and cultural exchange. The city hosts numerous intercultural festivals and supports community-led tourism projects. Policies that support migrant businesses and provide social services enhance economic resilience and social integration.

#### 4.4.4 Auckland, New Zealand

Description: Auckland is New Zealand's largest city, known for its cultural diversity and significant migrant population, particularly from the Pacific Islands and Asia.

Strategies: Auckland promotes sustainable tourism practices and supports migrant-led businesses. The city focuses on community-based tourism initiatives and eco-tourism, integrating migrants into conservation and cultural projects.

#### 4.4.5 Cape Town, South Africa

Description: Cape Town is a major tourist destination in Africa, but it faces challenges related to migration from neighboring countries and internal displacement due to socio-economic factors.

Strategies: Cape Town has implemented community engagement initiatives and sustainable tourism development. The city supports migrant businesses and promotes cultural tourism, highlighting its population's diverse heritage.

#### 4.4.6 Bangkok, Thailand

Description: Bangkok is a major hub for international tourism in Southeast Asia, and it experiences significant migration from neighboring countries and rural areas.

Strategies: Bangkok focuses on integrating migrants into the tourism sector through employment and entrepreneurship opportunities. The city promotes cultural festivals and supports community-based tourism initiatives that engage migrant populations.

#### 4.4.7 Athens, Greece

Description: Athens has been significantly affected by the recent refugee crisis, which has resulted in a large influx of migrants from the Middle East and Africa.

Strategies: Athens has implemented policies to support the integration of refugees into the local economy. The city promotes cultural exchange through festivals and arts and supports migrant-led businesses to enhance the tourism experience.

#### 4.4.8 Reykjavik, Iceland

Description: Reykjavik, a popular destination for nature and adventure tourism, has seen increasing migration, mainly from Eastern Europe.

Strategies: Reykjavik promotes sustainable tourism practices and supports migrant entrepreneurship. The city emphasizes community engagement and cultural exchange to integrate migrants into the local tourism industry.

#### 4.4.9 San Francisco, USA

Description: San Francisco is a major tourist destination with a diverse population, including significant numbers of immigrants from Asia and Latin America.

Strategies: San Francisco supports inclusive policies for migrant entrepreneurship and social services. It promotes cultural tourism and community engagement initiatives to enhance social integration and the tourism experience.

#### 4.4.10 Kigali, Rwanda

Description: Kigali is emerging as a tourism destination in Africa. Due to socio-economic factors, it is experiencing internal migration and regional displacement.

Strategies: Kigali focuses on sustainable tourism development and community-based tourism. The city supports migrant-led businesses and promotes cultural tourism to highlight its population's diverse heritage.

**Table 1.** Adaptation strategies comparison

Destination	Migration Trends	Adaptation Strategies	Socio-Cultural Impact	Economic Impact	Environmental Impact
Barcelona	Diverse migrant origins (Latin America, Africa, Asia)	Promotes migrant-led businesses, intercultural festivals	Enhances multicultural tourism experience	Economic diversification through migrant businesses	Limited impact, focus on cultural preservation
Berlin	Eastern Europe, Middle East, Africa	Supports migrant entrepreneurship, cultural exchange	Strengthens social cohesion	Economic resilience through inclusive policies	Focus on sustainable urban development
Toronto	Highly multicultural (foreign-born population)	Community engagement, intercultural festivals	Promotes cultural exchange and social integration	Economic resilience through migrant support	Sustainable urban practices
Auckland	Pacific Islands, Asia	Sustainable tourism, migrant-led businesses	Integrates migrants into cultural projects	Economic benefits from eco-tourism	Promotes environmental conservation
Cape Town	Neighboring countries, internal displacement	Community engagement, sustainable tourism	Highlights diverse heritage	Economic benefits from cultural tourism	Focus on sustainable practices
Bangkok	Neighboring countries, rural areas	Migrant employment, community-based tourism	Enhances cultural festivals	Economic benefits from migrant participation	Limited focus on environmental impact
Athens	Middle East, Africa (refugee crisis)	Supports refugee integration, cultural exchange	Promotes social integration	Economic support for migrant businesses	Urban sustainability challenges
Reykjavik	Eastern Europe	Sustainable tourism, migrant entrepreneurship	Enhances cultural tourism	Economic diversification through migrant support	Promotes eco-friendly tourism
San Francisco	Asia, Latin America	Inclusive policies, cultural tourism	Strengthens social integration	Economic resilience through diverse tourism products	Focus on urban sustainability
Kigali	Internal migration, regional displacement	Sustainable tourism, community-based projects	Highlights cultural diversity	Economic benefits from migrant-led tourism	Promotes environmental stewardship

Source: own elaboration based on WTO, 2023.

The analysis uses data from the UNWTO to compare international tourist arrivals and receipts over five years (2019-2023) for ten selected countries. This includes Spain, Greece, Italy, Turkey, Germany, the USA, Canada, Australia, Japan, and South Africa. The following tables and visualizations provide insights into the trends and strategies that these countries have implemented to adapt to migration and displacement.

Both Spain and Greece showed substantial recoveries in tourist arrivals and receipts post-pandemic. Spain reached 90% and Greece 85% of their 2019 levels by 2023. Their adaptation strategies, including cultural festivals and infrastructure improvements, effectively attracted tourists and supported local communities.

Italy and Turkey's focus on sustainable tourism and cultural integration led to a strong rebound in tourist receipts, with Italy at 88% and Turkey at 92% of pre-pandemic levels by 2023. These strategies balanced the needs of migrants and tourists, promoting economic stability.

Germany and the USA demonstrated a steady increase in tourism's contribution to GDP and employment in the tourism sector, reflecting the successful integration of migrants. Germany reached 95% and the USA 97% of pre-pandemic employment levels by 2023, indicating effective policies and inclusive tourism campaigns.

Canada and Australia also showed substantial recoveries, with tourist arrivals in Canada reaching 93% and Australia at 89% of pre-pandemic levels. Community-based tourism and support for migrant-owned businesses significantly contributed to this recovery.

Japan and South Africa's slower recovery rates (Japan at 82% and South Africa at 78% of pre-pandemic tourist

arrival levels by 2023) were offset by rising tourism receipts and employment in the tourism sector. Their focus on cultural tourism and social cohesion was crucial in adapting to demographic changes.

**Table 2.** International tourist arrivals (in billions USD)

Country	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Spain	83.5	19.4	32.7	60.8	75.2
Greece	31.3	7.4	13.6	25.3	26.6
Italy	64.5	25.3	39.6	55.2	56.9
Turkey	51.2	15.8	29.3	43.9	47.1
Germany	39.4	10.3	18.5	29.7	33.6
USA	79.3	21.0	41.2	63.8	71.1
Canada	22.1	4.3	10.2	16.5	20.5
Australia	9.4	2.6	6.1	8.3	8.9
Japan	31.9	4.1	10.7	23.2	26.1
South Africa	10.5	3.1	5.7	7.9	8.2

Source: WTO, 2023

**Table 3.** International tourist receipts (in billions USD)

Country	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Spain	92.3	23.1	37.8	67.5	78.9
Greece	18.2	4.9	9.2	15.7	17.8
Italy	44.6	16.1	27.2	37.1	39.2
Turkey	34.5	10.4	19.4	29.8	32.2
Germany	45.8	11.3	21.2	34.1	37.1
USA	199.0	52.0	82.1	127.3	145.7
Canada	25.3	6.4	13.9	21.3	24.3
Australia	31.4	7.2	15.4	25.3	27.2
Japan	41.1	5.6	15.3	33.6	36.8
South Africa	8.8	2.3	4.8	6.4	7.1

Source: WTO, 2023

This comparative analysis highlights the importance of inclusive policies, sustainable tourism practices, and community engagement in ensuring that tourism destinations can thrive amid dynamic demographic changes. Policymakers and tourism managers can leverage these insights to develop adaptive strategies that enhance their destinations' appeal and economic resilience.

#### 4.5 Results

The socio-cultural impacts of migration on tourism are multiple and affect local identity, community cohesion and cultural representation. Migration introduces diversity, which enriches the tourism experience by incorporating new cultural elements, such as cuisine, arts and customs. For example, Barcelona's tourism sector has incorporated cultural festivals and migrant-led culinary experiences, attracting tourists and fostering inclusion.

However, increased cultural diversity can also lead to social tensions or conflicts over cultural preservation, particularly in destinations where local communities may feel their traditions are at risk (Ager & Strang, 2008). A more detailed socio-cultural analysis could assess the effectiveness of adaptation strategies, such as community engagement initiatives and policies aimed at cultural preservation.

For example, examining the outcomes of cultural festivals, intercultural dialogues, and public campaigns for inclusiveness could reveal whether these efforts positively influenced social cohesion. In cities such as Berlin, initiatives such as neighbourhood intercultural events have been evaluated positively, with research showing an improvement in the perception of immigrants among locals (UNESCO, 2018).

Furthermore, monitoring indicators such as local participation in community events or changes in attitudes towards migration can provide quantitative support for qualitative findings on cultural adaptation.

Migration has significant economic implications for tourism, influencing labour markets, business ownership and visitor spending patterns. Migrants often play an essential role in tourism economies, filling labour shortages in hospitality and food services sectors, particularly in locations such as Toronto and San Francisco. In addition, migrant-owned businesses contribute to economic diversification by offering unique products and services that can attract niche tourism markets (OECD, 2018).

A more detailed economic analysis could look at the specific contributions of migrants to the various sub-sectors of tourism, such as retail, catering and accommodation. For example, assessing the performance of migrant-owned businesses in areas of high tourism density compared to local companies could illustrate the economic benefits of supporting migrant entrepreneurship.

Furthermore, examining wage data and employment rates in tourism-related sectors before and after significant migration flows would help to quantify the economic impact of migration on tourism. Economic indicators such as revenue growth in migrant-owned businesses, changes in tax revenues or changes in employment patterns can provide

empirical evidence of the economic impact of migration (UNWTO, 2021).

The environmental impacts of migration on tourism stem mainly from the increased demand for local resources, infrastructure and natural areas. Tourism-intensive regions, particularly eco-sensitive locations such as Reykjavik and Cape Town, face increasing pressures on water, energy and waste disposal systems due to population growth. Migration-related population growth may exacerbate these pressures, necessitating sustainable tourism practices to prevent environmental degradation.

A thorough environmental analysis could quantify the resource use and ecological pressure associated with population growth. Data on water and energy consumption, waste generation and land-use changes due to tourism and migration pressures can provide a more accurate picture of environmental impacts.

For example, studying water use in areas of high tourist and migration density could reveal specific overuse patterns, directing targeted conservation efforts. Furthermore, an analysis of the effectiveness of ecotourism practices, such as conservation areas or waste reduction programmes, would show whether current adaptation strategies sufficiently address environmental impacts.

#### 5 FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

This research provides a comprehensive understanding of how tourism destinations adapt to the dynamic challenges of migration and displacement. The findings highlight the intricate and varied ways migration and displacement impact tourism destinations, emphasizing the importance of socio-cultural, economic, and environmental factors in shaping these impacts.

The research identifies successful adaptation strategies, including community engagement initiatives, sustainable tourism development, and inclusive policy formulation. These strategies are crucial for ensuring the long-term viability of tourism destinations amid migration and displacement and for promoting social cohesion, economic resilience, and environmental sustainability.

A significant limitation is the need for empirical data, as the study relies on conceptual analysis rather than field research, which could help assess the proposed strategies' real-world applications and adaptations. Furthermore, the study needs to sufficiently explore how adaptation strategies may differ between regions with different economic resilience. For example, methods that are effective in wealthier urban areas may not work in economically constrained regions, which requires comparative studies to understand better how regions with fewer resources adapt to migration pressures in tourism.

The findings of this research have significant practical implications. Policymakers, destination managers, and other stakeholders can use these findings to develop and implement inclusive policies that promote social integration, protect the rights and well-being of migrants, and ensure equitable access to economic opportunities.

Community engagement initiatives and sustainable tourism practices are essential for fostering social cohesion and promoting environmental sustainability. By involving



local communities in decision-making processes and adopting eco-friendly practices, destinations can enhance the overall tourism experience and create a more resilient tourism sector.

From a practical perspective, the study offers policy recommendations, such as promoting cultural integration through community engagement initiatives and supporting migrant entrepreneurs to improve local economies. Tourism businesses are encouraged to adopt sustainable practices, such as ecotourism and culturally customised experiences, to address migration challenges.

In economically constrained regions, cost-effective and community-led adaptation strategies are proposed, including volunteer programmes and public-private partnerships. The article also raises critical questions for future research, such as how adaptation strategies can be applied in low-resilience regions and how climate-induced migration can affect long-term tourism resilience.

Finally, it suggests that future studies should integrate non-Western perspectives to enrich the theoretical framework and better understand local adaptation patterns in different cultural and socio-economic contexts. Addressing these limitations and implications will help refine and validate adaptation strategies for tourism destinations affected by migration, leading to more sustainable and inclusive approaches to demographic change.

Future research should continue to explore the complex and multifaceted relationship between migration, displacement, and tourism. Longitudinal studies are needed to examine the long-term impacts of migration and displacement on tourism destinations, providing insights into the effectiveness of adaptation strategies over time and inspiring further research in the field.

Additionally, research should focus on specific types of migration and displacement, such as climate-induced and conflict-induced migration, to understand their unique impacts on tourism destinations. By examining these specific contexts, future research can provide more targeted recommendations for policymakers and destination managers.

Overall, this research contributes to a comprehensive understanding of how tourism destinations address the complex challenges of migration and displacement. By illustrating the interconnections between demographic changes, community dynamics, and economic resilience, the study provides valuable insights for developing sustainable and adaptive solutions in the changing landscape of global tourism.

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Term	Definition	Author 1
Conceptualization	Ideas; formulation or evolution of overarching research goals and aims	x
Methodology	Development or design of methodology; creation of models	x
Software	Programming, software development; designing computer programs; implementation of the computer code and supporting algorithms; testing of existing code components	x
Validation	Verification, whether as a part of the activity or separate, of the overall replication/ reproducibility of results/experiments and other research outputs	x
Formal analysis	Application of statistical, mathematical, computational, or other formal techniques to analyze or synthesize study data	x
Investigation	Conducting a research and investigation process, specifically performing the experiments, or data/evidence collection	x
Resources	Provision of study materials, reagents, materials, patients, laboratory samples, animals, instrumentation, computing resources, or other analysis tools	x
Data Curation	Management activities to annotate (produce metadata), scrub data and maintain research data (including software code, where it is necessary for interpreting the data itself) for initial use and later reuse	x
Writing - Original Draft	Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically writing the initial draft (including substantive translation)	x
Writing - Review & Editing	Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work by those from the original research group, specifically critical review, commentary or revision – including pre-or post-publication stages	x
Visualization	Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically visualization/ data presentation	x
Supervision	Oversight and leadership responsibility for the research activity planning and execution, including mentorship external to the core team	
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