CHAPTER VI

CONCLUSIONS

6.1. INTRODUCTION

As its name suggests, community-based tourism aspires to benefit local communities, many of which are rural, poor and marginalized. To be characterized as community-based, tourism Development should be managed and owned by the community and at least part of the income should go to projects that are beneficial for the community as a whole. At the individual level, community members make a living by selling handicrafts, cooking, cleaning, guiding or providing other services for tourists. “Community-based tourism is the perfect two-way street because it both provides local employment and income for education, development and conservation initiatives, while at the same time giving the tourist a unique opportunity for cultural exchange and interaction with members of a remote tribe or community.

Eco-tourism can help ensure long-term sustainability of natural resources and promote local livelihoods. When communities play an active role in developing tourism initiatives, they gain incentives to become stewards of the resources around them and learn new ways to sustainably generate income. Involving the community in the development of tourism improves the practicality of plans and helps equip local people with the skills to implement and maintain the projects. This study explains and assess plan for community-based tourism activities within the selected market context. It focuses on participatory planning approaches that actively involve local communities in tourism development. According to this study, community members will become aware of the value of their natural environment and cultural heritage if their income depends on it. This, in turn, encourages the community to become actively involved in the conservation of these resources.
6.2. LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

Community-based tourism is often recognized as a perfect example of sustainable tourism development. The reason for this is mainly that local community participation in the development and practice of these projects is supposed to be high, and that the whole community benefits from the projects. Some of the limitations of the study are:

- Because the local population is in control, they decide which cultural traits they share with their guests.
- Politicians and their close associates or major supporters have commercial interests in tourism.
- Communities are not cooperating with the concept of community based tourism.
- There is a gap between community leaders and local people.
- Protection of natural resources is of least concern to community and their members.

6.3. CONTRIBUTIONS OF THIS RESEARCH.

Tourism has been viewed universally by many countries in the world as a vehicle of development since it’s started in 1960s. The countries especially, the developing and under developed ones including islands have started to concentrate in their efforts to promote tourism industry. Tourism acts as a tool to enhance local economies and it provides employment opportunity, increase revenues and tax receipts, improve foreign exchange benefits and enhance community infrastructure that will in turn, attract other industries.

Community-based tourism is taking its place in the world as an alternative to traditional tourist destinations, especially in developing countries. Tourism allows for greater contact with the local community and for the tourist can experience new sensation while enabling the economic and social development of the geographic area. Community participation is also important in educating local community to be alert of their surroundings and being more responsive to the rights that they posses. Besides that, community participation can benefit the local community through ensuring the economic benefits from tourism stay among the residents as they are the tourism dependent communities. Tourism is a dynamic and pervasive industry that provides a range of benefits and value to organisations, communities and regions that participate.
in the industry. Tourism can provide value for a destination in a number of ways: This research aims to find out different opportunities in the following areas.

- **promote -Economic** – To increase and diversify economic activity; economic benefits through a community; and stimulus for economic development and investment;
- **Increase- Social / Cultural** – enhanced quality of life, community development, employment and income, conservation of cultural heritage, increased amenity, community pride; Leadership and other related things.
- **promote- Environmental** – awareness of environmental significance, conservation of natural resources within the environment, and to implement sustainable practices.

Many destinations have previously focused only on the economic value of tourism. By integrating both economic and non-economic impacts it provides a more holistic view of tourism and informs management decisions. Research also aims at understanding and communicating the value of tourism within a community is important in order to:

- To Engage stakeholders, including governments, investors, business and the community,
- To understand and recognise the importance of tourism within the community;
- To Ensure stakeholder commitment to tourism and destination management;
- To Link economic and community development to sound and sustainable tourism practice;
- Engaging social, political and cultural capital to enhance the value of tourism in a destination.

### 6.4. FUTURE SCOPE OF STUDY

The tourism industry often serves as a network of economic, political agents, processes and resources. And the interactions among these elements can determine the level of positive or negative impacts tourism may have on the destination. Community-based tourism has, for over last three decades, tourism has been promoted as a means of development through which the social, environmental and economic needs of the local communities are met through a system of offering in tourism product. Ecotourism is a form of tourism involving if interested, visits to fragile, pristine, and usually
protected areas, known as a low-impact and often very small scale alternative to standard commercial (mass) tourism. Community development through eco tourism can generate employment opportunities among under privileged sector in the communities through a self sustainable eco friendly manner by using local rural resources for a better tomorrow.  

**Future Scope for Community based Tourism are..**

1) New investment in new and existing tourism products,  
2) To promote tour attractions and destinations to international and domestic Markets  
3) Preparing a knowledgeable and skilled workforce to deliver the promised Experiences (e.g. - products).  
4) To improve Conservation initiatives with community and collective benefits  
5) To get help from Private sector development within a community owned reserve  

In short, these functions can be referenced as

- Product development  
- Market development  
- Human resource development.
6.5. CONCLUSION

Communities have to encourage youth community to take interest in tourism activities. Majority of the respondents from Ernakulam, Kottayam and Thirssur are of the same opinion that providing job opportunities for the youth will help them to take interest in the tourism activites. Secondly giving them a start up support can also help the youth. Community capacity building helps individuals, Organizations and communities to find out unused and undeveloped skills, unused resources and geographic advantages that enable to reconsider strengths and opportunities of the abilities of community capacity in tourism development. The success of tourism development requires that all stakeholders understand that investments in community capacities are necessary for development. Without community capacity building, tourism development processes could not operate. Where there is sufficient community capacity to support tourism development processes, these processes will also generate community development. Participation is crucial to the formation of CBT initiatives. A healthy small business community is good for the economy and is dedicated to improving local quality of life, and this recognizes the importance of a healthy environment, the three main concerns for communities.
BIBLIOGRAPHY


