

Utilization of Tebet Eco Park as a Sustainable Tourism Destination

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the potential utilization of Tebet Eco Park as a sustainable tourism destination. The research was conducted using qualitative methods, using descriptive qualitative analysis and SWOC analysis. The data collection method was carried out by non-participatory field observations, interviews with 10 resource persons, and literature studies. The results showed that ecologically, Tebet Eco Park has a well-maintained biodiversity of flora and fauna. In addition, tourist visits contribute to increasing the turnover of street vendors by up to 30%. Therefore, economic potential can be maximized with several strategies such as management cooperation with cooperatives or community groups. From the cultural aspect, efforts to preserve Betawi culture in the national park are still lacking, so it needs to be improved through festivals and participation of local artists. Meanwhile, various environmentally friendly initiatives have reached 60% of this potential, so they need to be developed by utilizing environmentally friendly technology. In conclusion, Tebet Eco Park is ideal for development as a sustainable tourist destination by integrating economy and culture.

Keywords: Destination Culture, Economy, Sustainable Tourism, Tebet Eco Park, Utilization

1. INTRODUCTION

Rapid population growth and urbanization have led to shrinking green open spaces in urban areas [1]. City parks are very vital as the lungs of the city and water catchment areas to maintain the quality of the environment and urban ecosystems in the midst of incessant development activities [2]. In Jakarta, the area of green open space has only reached 9.8% of the total area. This figure is still far from the minimum standard of 30% based on Law No. 26 of 2007 concerning Spatial Planning [3]. Therefore, every city park in Jakarta has an important role in maintaining air quality and microclimate in the city.

One of the largest metropolitan parks in Jakarta is Tebet Eco Park, which covers an area of 7.3 hectares. The park was originally built in 1992 as a temporary container for Putra Permata Tin mining waste. Then in 2012, the former mining land was reclaimed into a city park by the DKI Jakarta Provincial Government [4]. So far, Tebet Eco Park is better known as a green open public space for Jakarta residents for recreation, sports, unwinding in the midst of urban routines. In fact, the park located in East Tebet Village actually has great potential to be used as an ecology-based natural tourism area and education for city residents.

The development of urban park areas as natural tourism destinations is considered very strategic, in addition to being beneficial for environmental conservation, biodiversity, and urban ecosystems, urban park tourism also has a great opportunity to improve the economic welfare of the surrounding community [5]. Sustainable tourism is in the spotlight in an effort to maintain a balance of economic growth, environmental protection, and social empowerment in tourist destinations [6].

The importance of sustainable use of Tebet Eco Park not only preserves the environment, but also can improve the quality of life of the surrounding population and support local economic development [7]. With proper management, these urban parks can be a valuable resource for surrounding communities, and can provide visitors with meaningful tourist experiences [8].

Unfortunately, the potential of Tebet Eco Park as a sustainable natural tourism destination has not been studied and utilized optimally. Most previous research has gone into more general terms about the role of urban parks or visitor preferences [9]. There is still very little research on the prospects of urban parks as sustainable natural tourism areas.

From the statement above, this research is needed to find out more about the potential use of Tebet Eco Park as a sustainable tourism destination in terms of economy, culture, and environment to fill the research gap in this field. The results of the study are expected to provide recommendations for planning and managing Tebet Eco Park as an integrated and environmentally friendly tourism destination.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 *Tourist Destinations*

According to [10], a tourist destination consists of various components and attractions that are interrelated to create a tourist experience for visitors. The main components of tourist destinations according to Mill are:

1. Attractions

Tourist attractions are the core of a destination and the main reason tourists visit. Tourist attractions are divided into 3 types, namely:

- a) Natural attractions such as natural scenery, climate, flora/fauna.
- b) Cultural attractions such as customs, arts and culture, historical sites.
- c) Man-made attractions such as amusement parks, malls, resorts.

Tourist attractions must be managed properly in order to maintain their authenticity and sustainability.

2. Accommodations

Accommodation is a lodging facility for tourists while visiting tourist destinations, such as hotels, motels, resorts, guest houses. Accommodation must be representative, comfortable, clean, and strategically located.

3. Amenities

Amenity is a facility that supports tourist activities while in the destination, such as restaurants, shopping centers, entertainment venues. Amenity complements the needs of tourists in addition to accommodation.

4. Accessibility

Accessibility relates to the affordability and ease of getting to and while in a tourist destination, such as airports, roads, public transport, and local transportation systems.

5. Ancillary services

Consists of local government agencies, DMOs (destination management organizations), travel agencies, tour guides, who manage tourism operations in the destination.

6. Tourist activities (activities)

Tourism activities that visitors can do while in the destination, such as swimming, hiking, shopping, visiting museums. Tourism activities enrich the tourism experience.

2.2 *Ecotourism*

Ecotourism is a form of responsible tourism that provides education and encourages environmental conservation and empowerment of local communities. Some principles of ecotourism according to [11] :

- a. Minimize impact on nature and local culture
- b. Provide income and empowerment for local communities
- c. Increase tourists' awareness and appreciation of nature and culture
- d. Implementing sustainable practices in tourist destinations

Ecotourism plays a role in community empowerment and environmental conservation efforts in tourist destinations [12]. However, ecotourism also has potential negative impacts such as cultural commodification and economic dependence if not managed properly [13]. Therefore, ecotourism development requires responsive planning by involving local communities and stakeholders in order to provide optimal benefits for nature conservation and community empowerment. Thus, the principle of ecotourism is very relevant to be applied to urban parks such as Taman Tebet Eco Park so that tourism developed is environmentally friendly and empowers the local community.

2.3 *Sustainable Tourism*

According to [14], sustainable tourism is tourism that is developed with attention to the balance between environmental, economic, and socio-cultural aspects in a tourist destination.

- a. Environmental aspects include optimal utilization of natural resources such as natural scenery, forests, rivers, lakes, beaches, as well as preserving ecosystems and biodiversity of flora and fauna, maintaining environmental quality, preventing pollution and natural damage, minimizing carbon footprint and the impact of climate change, and applying environmentally friendly technology and design.
- b. Economic aspects include long-term sustainable economic benefits for local communities such as equitable employment and entrepreneurial opportunities, improved living standards and poverty alleviation, equitable distribution of income among stakeholders, and promotion of local products and services.
- c. Socio-cultural aspects include respecting local customs, traditions, cultural values, preserving cultural heritage and historic sites, maintaining the uniqueness of traditional architecture and urban planning, empowering and involving local communities, and enhancing cross-cultural understanding.

According to UNWTO (1992), sustainable tourism aims to meet the needs of tourists, the tourism industry, the environment, and local communities by taking into account current and future economic, social, and environmental impacts. Its development requires stakeholder involvement, strong political leadership, and continuous monitoring and evaluation.

3. METHODS

This research uses qualitative methods to explore in-depth information related to the potential use of Tebet Eco Park as a sustainable tourist destination [15]. Data collection is carried out through:

1. Non-participatory field observation at Tebet Eco Park to observe the existing park conditions.
2. In-depth interviews with park managers, relevant agencies, academics, and tourists to obtain information related to park management and development expectations.
3. Study the literature of journals, books, and related documents to obtain a theoretical and policy foundation related to the research topic.

The analysis method used is descriptive qualitative, which is to describe a phenomenon in detail and clearly. The resource persons for the interview amounted to 10 people consisting of park managers, related agencies, tourism academics, and tourists [16]. The research location is Tebet Eco Park, South Jakarta.

This research also uses SWOC analysis to identify strengths and weaknesses, as well as opportunities and challenges faced by Tebet Eco Park, so as to determine effective strategies to overcome the weaknesses and challenges faced by Tebet Eco Park [17].

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Tebet Eco Park

Curug Leuwi Hejo is one of the tourist areas located in Cibadak Village, Sukamakmur District, Bogor Regency. Curug with an area of 14 Ha was first opened to the public in 2014. Currently, the destination is owned by Perhutani KPH Bogor and LMDH Wana Sejahtera and LMDH

Based on the results of in-depth interviews with the manager of Tebet Eco Park, it is known that this city park located in South Jakarta has the potential to be developed as a sustainable natural tourist destination.



Figure 1. Tebet Eco Park

Source: <https://travel.kompas.com/read/2022/04/25/153100927/tebet-eco-park-resmi-dibuka-ini-area-dan-fasilitasnya?page=all>

According to the theory of tourist destinations from [6], there are several main components that need to be considered carefully in planning and developing a location into a tourist destination, including:

1. Attraction

Tourist attraction are the main attraction that is the reason tourists visit a destination. Tourism attractions at Taman Tebet Eco Park that can be developed are natural beauty in the form of a vast expanse of green grass, shady trees, artificial lakes, and the diversity of plants and wildlife that are still maintained. In addition, some interesting architectural spots such as gazebos and

bridges also have the potential to become tourist attractions. In order for this tourist attraction to maintain its attractiveness, it is necessary to carry out routine maintenance, intensive care, and innovation of tourist attractions on an ongoing basis by the manager.

2. Accommodation

Accommodation facilities such as hotels or inns are very important to provide comfort for tourists while visiting a tourist destination. Currently, there is no accommodation in the Tebet Eco Park area. However, there are several three-star to five-star hotels around the park that can be utilized for overnight stays by tourists. In the future, it can be considered to provide simple accommodation with the concept of eco-lodge or glamping (glamorous camping) within the park area so that tourists can enjoy the natural atmosphere more closely.

3. Amenities

Amenity is a facility to support tourist activities while in tourist destinations. Some amenities such as toilets, prayer rooms, children's playgrounds, and food courts are already well available at Tebet Eco Park. However, it is necessary to add other supporting amenities such as a visitor center equipped with tourism information, bicycle rental and other outdoor activities equipment, as well as the provision of a souvenir center so that tourists can buy typical souvenirs from this park.



Figure 2. Facilities at Tebet Eco Park

Source: <https://momopururu.com/traveling/tebet-eco-park/>

4. Accessibility

Accessibility is related to the ease with which tourists can reach the location of tourist destinations. In general, access to Taman Tebet Eco Park is quite easy because located in the middle of residential areas and passed by public transportation. However, there is a need for improved signage and clearer direction boards to the location of the park from various points in the vicinity, making it easier for tourists to get to the park.

5. Ancillary Services

Supporting institutions are related agencies that manage tourism operations in a tourist destination. Based on the interview results, the management of Tebet Eco Park is currently fully carried out by the DKI Jakarta Provincial Government through the Parks Agency. In the future, it is necessary to strengthen supporting institutions by forming a special tourism management agency that is responsible for developing and managing Tebet Eco Park as a sustainable nature tourism destination. In addition, it is also necessary to involve various relevant stakeholders such as academics, environmentalist communities, tourism industry players, and local communities. Good cooperation between these various supporting institutions is needed so that tourism development in Tebet Eco Park can run optimally and sustainably.

6. Tourism Activities

Tourism activities are recreational activities that tourists can do to enrich their travel experience. Tourist activities that can already be done at this time include leisurely walks enjoying the fresh air, light exercise such as morning runs and gymnastics, looking at the natural scenery of the park, and visiting the mini Zoo animals. In the future, these tourism activities need to be continuously developed by utilizing the park's potential, such as adding tracks for birdwatching,

building an ecotrail across the lake, providing educational games, and holding environmental-themed art and culinary festivals.



Figure 3. One of Tourism Activities in Tebet Eco Park
Source: <https://aniesbaswedan.com/rekam-jejak/tebet-eco-park/>

4.2 Ecotourism

Tebet Eco Park has the potential to be developed as an ecotourism destination. Ecotourism is a form of responsible tourism that provides education and encourages environmental conservation and empowerment of local communities. Some ecotourism principles that can be applied at Tebet Eco Park:

1. Minimize impact on nature and local culture

Based on the results of interviews with managers, various efforts have been made to minimize the negative impact of visitors on the environment, such as the installation of rules prohibiting smoking and littering. Violators are dealt with by security officers. The development of tourist facilities is also carried out with due regard to the carrying capacity of the environment.

2. Provide income and empowerment for local communities

Currently, there is no direct involvement of the community in the management of the park. However, it is possible to be involved through cooperatives or stall rentals. Revenue can be used for economic empowerment and preservation of Betawi culture.

3. Increase traveler awareness and appreciation

Efforts have been made to increase visitor awareness through interactive educational media such as plant barcodes and tour guides. This program can continue to be developed by utilizing local culture and values.

4. Implement sustainable practices

Planting and periodic maintenance of plants by janitors. Infrastructure is built to be environmentally friendly. Manager support for environmental conservation agenda.



Figure 4. Ecotourism

Source: <https://news.detik.com/berita/d-6111331/tebet-eco-park-jadi-lokasi-peringatan-hari-lingkungan-hidup-di-jakarta>

4.3 Sustainable Tourism at Tebet Eco Park

Tebet Eco Park is one of the important green open spaces in the midst of Jakarta's urban development. Its location in the urban area makes this park has the potential to be developed not only as an ordinary green open space, but also as an environmentally friendly tourist location. This research will discuss the potential utilization of Tebet Eco Park as a sustainable tourist destination. There are three main aspects that will be discussed, namely economic, cultural and environmental aspects:

1. Economic Aspects

The management of Tebet Eco Park is currently fully carried out by the DKI Jakarta Provincial Government. There has been no direct community involvement in the management or utilization of the park's economic potential. However, the existence of the park contributes indirectly to the regional economy through demand for transportation (30%), restaurants (20%), and souvenirs (10%). Some recommendations to increase economic potential:

- a) Management cooperation with cooperatives/community groups in the provision of facilities in the park.
- b) Provide opportunities for the community to open kiosks or stalls selling around the park
- c) Work with local tour operators to develop tour packages
- d) Organize events/festivals involving MSMEs

2. Cultural Aspects

Efforts to preserve Betawi culture in the park are still minimal (30%). Some recommended programs:

- a) Organize Betawi cultural festivals on a regular basis
- b) Provides traditional Betawi architecture spots
- c) Involving Betawi artists and cultural experts
- d) Organize competitions related to Betawi culture
- e) Empowering the Betawi culture lovers community

3. Environmental Aspects

Various environmentally friendly efforts have been made, reaching 60% of the potential.

Upgrade recommendation:

- a) Increase ecological education to visitors
- b) Greening around the park
- c) Utilize community and neighborhood community participation
- d) Implementation of IoT-based intelligent systems
- e) Considering eco-label certification

4.4 SWOC Analysis

Strength

- a. Ecologically has preserved flora and fauna biodiversity (more than 50 native tree species and 30 bird species)
- b. Contributes to an increase in street vendors' turnover of up to 30% (economic aspect)
- c. Supported by the local government
- d. Has a large land area and is located in the city center
- e. Various environmentally friendly efforts have been made (reaching 60% of the potential)

Weakness

- a. Lack of community involvement in national park management
- b. Efforts to preserve local culture have only reached 30%.
- c. Not optimal utilization of the economic potential of national parks
- d. Facilities and infrastructure supporting tourism are still limited
- e. Unavailability of integrated tourism masterplan

Opportunity

- a. Environmental and educational tourism trends
- b. Increased demand green open space in urban area
- c. Potential to improve the economic welfare of the surrounding community
- d. Cooperation opportunities with various parties related to tourism development
- e. Support government policies

Challenges

- a. Potential environmental damage due to poorly managed mass tourism
- b. Competition with other more popular city parks
- c. Economic crisis that impacts the tourism sector
- d. Changes in tourist tastes along with technological developments and trends
- e. Limited budget for facilities and infrastructure development

CONCLUSION

Tebet Eco Park has the potential to be developed as a sustainable tourist destination because ecologically it has a maintained biodiversity of flora and fauna, such as more than 50 species of native trees and 30 species of birds. Socio-economically, tourist visits to the park contribute to an increase in street vendors' turnover of up to 30%. From the economic aspects, the existence of the park contributes indirectly to the regional economy, about 30% through demand for transportation, restaurants, and souvenirs. Economic potential can be maximized by, management cooperation with cooperatives or community groups in providing facilities in the park, provide opportunities for the community to open kiosks or stalls around the park, work with local tour operators to develop tour packages, and organize events or festivals involving MSMEs. From the cultural aspects, efforts to preserve Betawi culture in the park are still minimal, only about 30%. Some programs that can be done are, organize Betawi cultural festivals on a regular basis, provides traditional Betawi architecture spots, involving Betawi artists and cultural experts, organize competitions related to Betawi culture, and empowering the Betawi culture lovers community. While from the environmental aspects, various environmentally friendly efforts have been made to reach 60% of potential, such as reforestation, waste treatment, and education. Recommendations for improving environmental aspects at Tebet Eco Park are by, increase ecological education to visitors, greening around the park, utilize community and neighborhood community participation, implementation of intelligent systems based on IoT (Internet of Things), and consider eco-label certification. The development of Tebet Eco Park as a sustainable tourist destination requires a comprehensive tourism

master plan involving at least 3 relevant stakeholders, as well as monitoring and evaluation every 3 months.

There is a need for an integrated and comprehensive tourism masterplan for the development of Tebet Eco Park as a sustainable tourism destination. The masterplan should involve various relevant stakeholders. Periodic monitoring and evaluation needs to be carried out to ensure the implementation of sustainable tourism development in accordance with the masterplan and plan. Increase socialization and education to the community regarding the concept of sustainable tourism and the importance of preserving the environment. Conduct feasibility studies and environmental impact assessments before building new tourist support facilities in the park. Strengthen cooperation with relevant stakeholders such as academics, environmentalist communities, and tourism industry players. Suggestions for further research include conducting a more detailed analysis of tourist carrying capacity and economic analysis related to the development of Tebet Eco Park.

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