

Women Empowerment in Marginalized Villages via Tourism: A Case of Aswan Governorate, Egypt

Sally Khalil

Faculty of Tourism and Hotels, Fayoum University, Egypt

Abstract

Literature emphasized that women empowerment represents a hot issue in today's world as long as governments, international organizations, and local communities are concerned. A nutshell, women in various communities need to get empowered economically, socially, and politically. In 2008, the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) implemented an action plan for empowering women through tourism since tourism can achieve woman empowerment by offering job opportunities and generating income. In this context, the present study explores the ways in which women from marginalized communities in Aswan governorate might do as tourism activities to alleviate poverty, thus contributing to the well-being of themselves and their communities. Survey data was collected using focus group discussions, in depth interview, and by means of physical visits. Secondary data was also combined through literature review of previous studies to provide an overview of the potential of tourism in contributing to women's empowerment, tensions and complexities in the environment facing women and offered tentative recommendations for better benefits for women. Women in Aswan can be empowered via tourism by utilizing the unique Nubian way of life, culture, traditions and customs, existing heritage sites, nature and hospitality, and handicrafts. The main services women can possibly offer in tourism activities are: Tour guiding and catering. However, they should be trained first to acquire skills and knowledge. This paper concludes some of the issues that need to be considered for better women empowerment through tourism in marginalized Aswan villages. It also suggests a tourist route that demonstrates the potential for tourism activities in these villages and ways to develop women's role and income generation.

Key Words: Women Empowerment, Tourism, Aswan, Marginalized Villages.

Introduction

Women empowerment is regarded one of the most important global issues since 1990s (Rizal & Asokan, 2013). No doubt that socio-economic empowerment is indispensable for raising women status in isolated and marginalized societies where women suffer from limited access to urban centres, male domination, limited access to formal employment or financial and technical support for self-employment and entrepreneurship, and traditional social structure where women remain only at the service of their families (Augustin *et al.*, 2012). This 'gender gap' or the unequal access to women's basic rights, especially in marginalized regions is a leading poverty factor that significantly reduces community resilience against rapidly moving market forces.

In this regard, the present global economy emphasizes that tourism is a crucial means of empowering women as many new employment opportunities exist for them in both formal and informal sectors (Sharma, 2004). Therefore, tourism plays an important role as an economic driver in many countries especially as a tool to promote sustainable community development, gender equality, and poverty alleviation. In terms of women empowerment, tourism acts as a platform for women to access education and get appropriate training, creates job opportunities, enhances income, reinforces engaging and independent source of revenue, and allows women's entry into the formal economy (Lee, 2018).

However, tourism not only communicates opportunities but also challenges when gender equality and women empowerment are concerned. This is evident in the 'Global Report on Women in Tourism 2010' which is considered the first attempt to develop a framework for monitoring the status of women working in tourism across the globe. It puts great emphasis on those in developing countries. Among the challenges of women empowerment in tourism: low status and low paid jobs, gender discrimination as women perform jobs such as cooking and cleaning, seasonality due to the unstable nature of tourism, and exposure to sexual abuse (UNWTO & UN Women, 2011).

Aswan is the southern-most governorate of Egypt on the borders with Sudan. It is considered a key mass tourism destination in Egypt, renowned for the awesome part of the Nile, Abu Simbel temples, the Nubian communities' rich culture of handicraft and arts. The Nubians have been relocated after the construction of the High Dam and the formation of Naser Lake in resettlement villages that were created for them. Although, the potential of tourism in Aswan governorate with its rural tranquillity, mysterious River Nile with its granite rock formations, typical Nubian villages and diverse cultural heritage sites that reflect the passage of great civilizations, is very high, the socio-economic benefits of the local communities in the Nubian villages - especially women - via tourism is minimal. The governorate is concerned to address this issue of these marginalized communities along with the associated private sector, NGOs and other related stakeholders. In this regard, the present paper examines the contribution of tourism in women empowerment in Aswan marginalized villages.

Among 44 Nubian villages exist in Aswan governorate, four villages were investigated including: Al Kobaneya (West Aswan), El Ghalaleb (West Aswan), New Kalabsha (Naser Lake), and Bashayer Al Kheir (Naser Lake) (Fig.1).

This study aims to explore in more depth, issues related to tourism and women empowerment in Aswan villages. The guided specific objectives were the following:

- Investigate whether the tourism potential can contribute to women empowerment in the targeted villages.
- Identify challenges facing women from harnessing the available tourism opportunities.
- Perform a SWOT Analysis of the main activities women can perform in tourism.
- Figure out how to improve/accelerate women benefit from tourism industry.

Literature Review

Gender equality and women empowerment have been highlighted in the United Nations Millennium Development Goal number 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls by 2030. Gender equality means that in each society women and men entertain the equal opportunities, outcomes, rights and responsibilities in all scopes of life (UNPF, 2018). One of the most critical aspects of encouraging gender equality is empowering women and giving them complete independence to manage their own lives (UNICEF, 2018). Therefore, women empowerment must be a crucial part of any sustainable development strategy to develop more inclusive economies and societies (OECD, 2018).

Literature revealed a great interest and advancement that has been made in the field of women empowerment, but women are still distant from entertaining the same elementary rights, privileges and benefits that men do. They earn less, perform much amount of home duties, and have less rights and social mobility, and partial access to resources. The World Bank confirms that women lag men in almost all measures of

economic opportunity worldwide especially in low-income countries (Sharpe & Swanson, 2016; WBG, 2017).

The UN Global Report on Women and Tourism 2010 published by World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and UN Women reported that tourism industry employs a higher ratio of women than any other economic sector (UNWTO, 2018). Thus, it has stronger potential to contribute to gender equality and women empowerment by providing them with more opportunities to participate in the workforce, entrepreneurship, and leadership voice in tourism governance (Ampumuza *et al.*, 2008; Dickson-Waiko, 2003; Lee, 2018). Tourism could help women to enhance their utilization over the natural resources; economic empowerment; educational empowerment and political empowerment (Mrema, 2015).

The report also emphasized that women are more likely reach top level managerial positions in tourism, for example, there are more female Tourism Ministers in the world than in any other field. However, the report also confirmed that in some countries, women earn the lowest payment, are given the lowest skilled sectors, and achieve a bulky amount of unpaid work in family tourism businesses (UNWTO, 2018).

In a nutshell, tourism as a socio-economic sector employs large percentages of women and paid comparatively high salaries. Consequently, tourism is a valuable tool for achieving women's socio-economic welfare (Rizal & Asokan, 2013; Ghodsee, 2003). Poverty alleviation for women in developing countries through tourism has become an issue over the last decade. Women can run their own businesses in many developing countries (Foly *et al.*, 2018). Although, there are several researches tackled the issue of tourism impact on poverty alleviation (Brohman, 1996; Clancy, 1999; Duffy, 2002; Erskine & Meyer, 2012; Higgins-Desbiolles, 2006; Scheyvens, 2007; Scheyvens & Russell, 2012; Schilcher, 2007; Snyman, 2012; Spenceley, 2003; Spenceley & Meyer, 2012; Tao & Wall, 2009), limited research specifically investigated women.

Some scholars argue that tourism may lead to the marginalized women disempowerment because of some undesirable consequences such as: excessive workload in addition to satisfying household duties (Gascón, 2012; Tucker & Boonabaana, 2011), sexual harassment, and undesired life style change (Gentry, 2007). Thus, tourism industry reform is essential to overcome these issues based upon research that reports daily practices in relation to women in the tourism industry.

Methodology

Primary data collected through a participatory qualitative research approach through three methods: focus group discussions, physical visits and in-depth interview.

Population

The targeted population is women villagers in the four villages under study. The total population of the four villages is around 27000 villagers in 2017; of which 50% are females. 20% of the women are housewives and 10% are working in service sector (table 1).

Table 1: Women population in the four villages in 2017

Villages	Total Population	Total women	Total household	Total service sector
Alkobania, El Ghalalab, New Kalabsha, Bashayer Elkheir	26,632	13,350	5,326	2,710

(Calculated from the annual report of Statistics Unit in Aswan Governorate, 2017)

Sampling

Considering the large population of women in the four villages – around 50% of the total population, their interest and motivation to participate in this research, the limited data availability, and the difficulty to access women in these communities, a small sample was considered for the focus group discussions and physical visits (130 participants from the four villages). Moreover, an interview with the head of Aswan Tourist Authority (ATA) was conducted after drafting the results of the group discussions.

Methods

Focus group discussions

Focus group discussions comprising of 10-13 respondents were used as the primary source to collect in-depth data from women. The discussed issues included benefits realized by women from conducting and participating in tourism activities, women barriers to access benefits from tourism and suggestions to increase socio-economic benefits. A total of three group discussions were planned and carried out in each village. The table below summarizes the composition and number of group discussions with the village population:

Table 2: Distribution of the Group Discussions

Villages	Target Groups	No. of group discussion	No. of participants
Alkobania	Females who produce typical Nubian handicrafts	3	32
ElGhalalab	Females who produce typical Nubian handicrafts	3	34
New Kalabsha	Females (farmworkers)	3	33
Bashayer Elkheir	Females (farmworkers)	3	31
Total		12	130

Physical visits

Visits to the four villages in the study area were conducted with the intention of physically figuring out the major attractions that can be utilized in the villages or in their vicinity. The visits also enabled the researcher to personally view various socio-economic activities initiated by woman in the area and provided better understanding of what happens on the ground in relation to tourism entrepreneurships.

In-depth Interview of the head of Aswan Tourist Authority

An interview with the head of ATA was conducted to discuss the major emerged issues facing women empowerment via tourism in Aswan villages after concluding the results of the group discussions and observing tourism resources during Physical visits.

Data Collection and Analysis

The group discussions and interviews were recorded in Arabic during the months of January and February 2018. Then transcripts and tabulation of the content were done from the original text in Arabic and later translated into English. Main themes were then captured, and the implications were summarized from the transcript to obtain results.

Results and discussion

The potential of tourism in Aswan villages

Physical visits allowed the researcher to identify the major features of each village, what can be used as a tourism asset, and the main features of the community. The locations of and the access to the four villages (fig.1) are breathtaking and can be used as an asset for tourism utilization. The villages were visited from north to south.

The first in the north was El kobaneya village (West Aswan). It can be reached from Aswan via Aswan Bridge (10 km north of Aswan Train Station). On the way to the bridge, a wonderful lush area of Mango trees and other fruits - called Baharif (Bahaa ElRif), the virgin Nile western bank with scattered small bluish Nubian villages on the west, and El Gamea El Kebir Mosque, can be seen and suitably explained by guides comparing to other similar sites. The uniquely designed Aswan bridge facilitated the Nubians' accessibility to their villages.

Figure 1: Map of Aswan Governorate showing locations of the four studied villages



1. Elkobaneya (West Aswan)
2. ElGhalaleb (West Aswan)
3. New Kalabsha (Naser Lake)
4. Bashayer AlKheir (Naser Lake)

Turning right northwards after the bridge towards El Kobaneya village. Like all Nubian villages, the atmosphere seems breathtaking. The River is down to the right and desert escarpments are to the left and in between, the main asphalt road and the thin agricultural crust exist.

El Ghalalab village (West Aswan) is located 25 km south of El Kobaneyya on the same asphalt road in the west of Aswan. It entertains the same features of a Nubian village. It has an association that helps women produce Nubian handicrafts and market them in Cairo and sell them also to visitors. The village is close to major natural and cultural heritage places. Directly to its south, the famous Qubet El Hawa Pharaonic tombs are located. The opposite of Qubet El Hawa, Elephantine Island exists in the Nile where Aswan Museum located.

The villages on Lake Naser were designed and built for agriculture purposes. New Kalabsha village is located 135 km south of Aswan town to the west of Lake Naser. It can be reached via Aswan-Abu Simbel road then turn left towards the village. The village is fed by a 5 km canal from Lake Naser. The government designed the village to contain the basic needs of any rural community; school, bakery, small clinic, houses, small playground for kids, and land for reclamation. Each family has got 5 acres to reclaim but villagers are poor and very isolated.

45 km south of New Kalabsha, Bashayer El Khair village on Naser Lake can be reached. Its design and contents are the same as those of New Kalabsha. However, it entertains extraordinary location close to huge mountains on Lake Naser and to a fishermen community. Villagers reclaim the land given to them by the government and use their location on Naser Lake to fish and receive a few visitors who watch/or hunt wild birds. They use also a special lodge (Madyafah) for the visitors to spend over night.

In a nutshell, the villages entertain: unique location and easy accessibility; rich Nubian history and culture; outstanding nature by the Nile or Lake Naser, closeness to major heritage sites such as Qubet El Hawa, Elephantine and Abu Simbel; communities who can offer services (i.e. accommodation and catering), handicrafts, and agricultural products. Therefore, tourism is the most appropriate service that can utilize the local economies of women in the investigated villages in Aswan. Tourists can practice the villagers' way of life, learn about Nubian culture, explore heritage sites, enjoy nature and hospitality, buy special handicrafts, and practice many other activities including birdwatching. Therefore, tourism can be the main source of income in these villages if local women get trained and enlightened. This copes with the emphasis on the women success in the field of tourism in the literature part by Foly *et al.* (2018); Sharpe & Swanson (2016); WBG (2017).

Also based on the physical visits, the villages can be classified into two different categories:

1. Indigenous villages: these would focus on the traditions of the local community, such as the Nubian heritage in Aswan. These villages have a strong added value and can create a competitive edge if well marketing can offer international and Egyptian tourists new cultural experience. This applies to the two villages: Al Kobaneyya, Ghalaleb.

2. New villages: the reclaimed lands and their resettlement village are comprised of a mix of residents from all over Egypt. Many of them come from neighboring governorates and are seeking land and housing as they have very limited economic opportunities. This applies to the two villages: New Kalabsha, Bashayer Al Kheir.

Appropriate types of tourism

Results concluded that 'solidarity tourism' can be promoted as the most appropriate type of tourism for the first category (the indigenous villages) as women participants accepted the idea of building a network of accommodations and designing an itinerary shows the typical features of people's way of life. They also emphasized that this will

be accepted by the husbands too. Moreover, evidence show the natural and cultural richness of these villages, opens new economic opportunities to women who can prepare food, suitable clean room, typical handicrafts, household animals and birds, etc. These services will generate good income for the women through utilizing what they are already practicing in their ordinary life. The same idea was highlighted by Erskine & Meyer (2012); Scheyvens & Russell (2012); Snyman (2012); Spenceley & Meyer (2012); and Tao & Wall (2009).

For the second category villages, 'ecotourism'based activities are appropriate for it. These villages are isolated undisturbed destinations that exist in extremely unique areas with extraordinary natural beauty which is appropriate for conducting ecotourism activities. Although, inhabitants refused the idea of foreigners staying at home - because of cultural issues - they welcome tourism and willing to be part of a program development and stay in El Madyafah. Moreover, some of them already presented tourist services (i.e. preparing food for foreign hunters and fishermen in New Kalabsha village).

Current status of women empowerment via tourism

Group discussions showed that women were able to list some cultural and natural heritage sites near their villages, but they knew very little about their significance and value. They welcomed the idea of working together on one tourism route, but the implementation of this group work is an issue.

The resulted tourism activities should be scientifically arranged into a coherent tourist route that combines way-of-life activities such as: animal raising and agriculture, food processing, handicrafts production and other services, such as traditional activities (hand drawing by henna and *Haffafa* (hairdresser), and the nearby cultural and/or natural heritage sites. It is recommended that tourism activities built on breeding and fattening livestock and poultry and handicrafts be practices in category I (indigenous villages) and those built on agriculture activities be practiced in category II (the new villages). While those tourism activities built on food and beverage be practiced in both categories. Tourists should be accompanied by a knowledgeable tour guide who facilitates the delivery of information from local people to tourists through translation and answering questions.

In terms of tourism operation in the targeted villages, women participants listed the related stakeholders including: ATA who monitor tourism activities and give licences, Tourism Police who guarantee the safety of tourists and tour guides who handle the tour itself and interpret sites to tourists. Women emphasized that, in general, the relationship between them and any of those stakeholders doesn't exist.

However, the head of ATA confirmed that a good collaboration with Nubians of some villages in the west of Aswan such as West of Sohail village. Regarding police escort, he emphasized that Aswan people do have no problems at all with the police.

Although most women welcomed the idea of collaborating on pre-established tourism routes, the implementation of this group work is challenging, and there is no knowledge on how to receive permits for accommodating tourists from ATA and the tourism police.

In relation to tour guiding, women expressed that tours may be unfairly remunerated, with guides taking a high profit share. This would therefore require trainings to guides on the values of solidarity tourism, and ways for the guides to enhance the economic activities of the women and highlight their products and services. Women who can act as local guides and facilitate the local tours, are lacking skills to meet and hosts tourists due to language barriers.

In terms of the importance of training, women are receptive to learning new skills and incorporating tourism activities as an additional income generation activity. Women are seeking training opportunities to develop their business through practical experience. Community Development Associations (CDAs) in the villages can play an important role in developing women skills by providing training centres, and Training of Training could develop the skills of lead women to manage informal groups.

Most employment opportunities available to women in Aswan villages are linked to agriculture - such as farm work, wage labour or other self-employment in subsistence production with few opportunities of paid work in non-farm activities. Generally, women accept low daily wages and seasonal work to ensure a sustained income for their households.

One of the major barriers against women involvement in tourism activities is the gender issue. It is difficult to assure the future implementation of tours, as men determined whether tourists can possibly stay overnight at home or not. Also, the delivery of income from tourism activities may be the responsibility of men although women will do all required tasks for the success of the tour from preparing food to cleaning accommodation rooms to producing handicrafts. It is therefore important to ensure and promote strong links and clear clusters among women in the villages. It is recommended also to increase the overall community's awareness (women) on the collaborative benefits of tourism and provide them with practical trainings and tools to operate and promote their local cultural and natural assets.

SWOT Analysis of the main services women can offer in tourism-related activities

The discussions with women revealed important demonstration on the main services they can possibly offer regarding tourism:

- **Tour guiding:** As a vital activity of solidarity tourism, women should be able to act as local guides and exchange and communicate knowledge with visitors on the community's way of life, traditions and customs, main economic and social activities, etc. They can be helped by professional guides who accompany tourists throughout the tour. However, to create tour guiding as an economic income generating activity for women, a structure and capacity building program is needed.

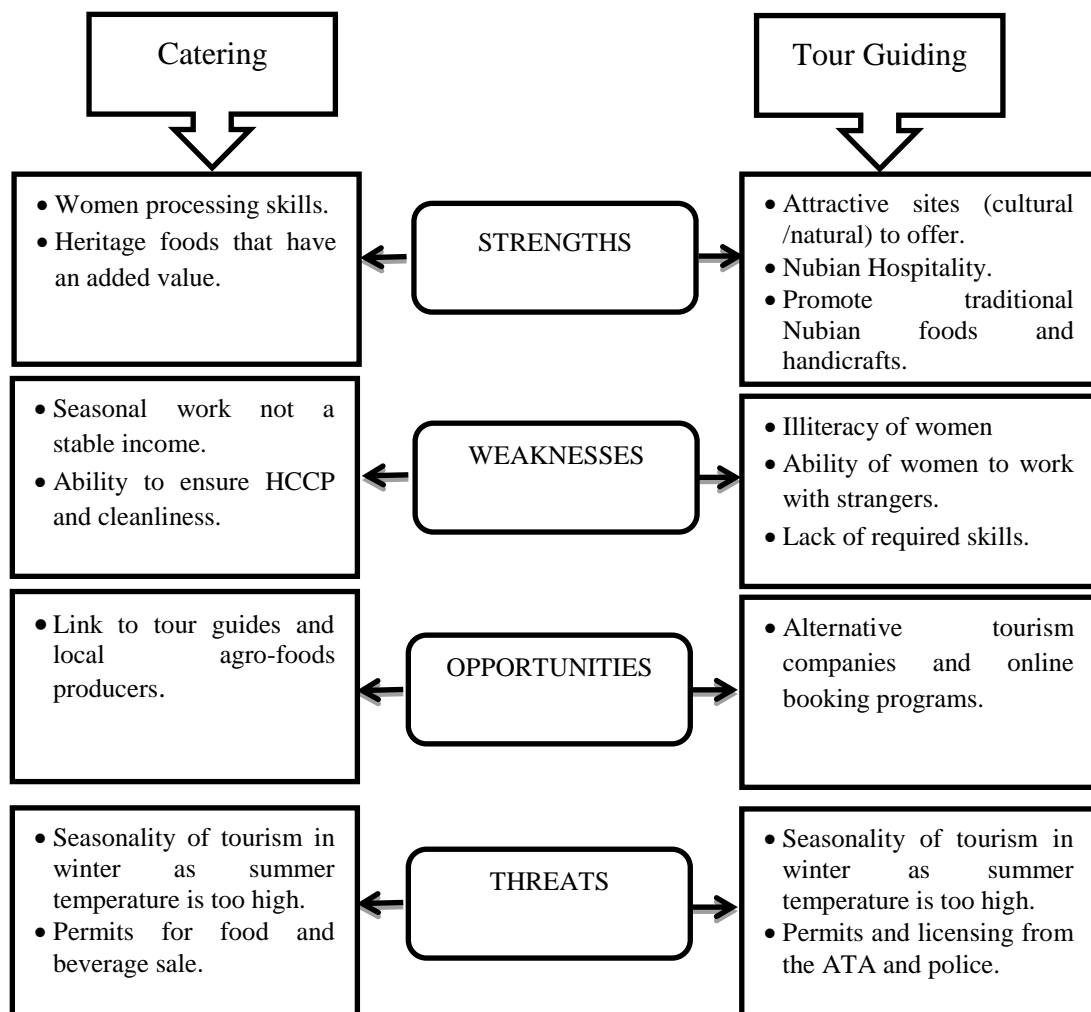
Women must be able to also run basic operational tracks as well as management of the service such as booking, invoicing and marketing. There is also a need to engage women in tour development and be able to tailor tours based on their consumer needs and pricing tours accordingly to group requests.

- **Catering:** Typical food and beverage can also be offered by women to visitors especially that ingredients are all there as they primarily work in animals raising and agriculture – this can also include overnight stays.

Women have strong food production skills; they inherit traditional foods recipes, feed their family and oversee nutrition of their families. Not only can women cater for regular meals during visits, but they can also prepare special meals that are specific to a certain season or occasion, and this way the meal become the central part of the visit. Traditional Nubian foods can enhance the quality of a tour in Aswan, allowing visitors to try foods usually unavailable. In this sense, catering can be a way to preserve and promote local food heritage.

The following figure (2) summarizes a SWOT analysis to the potential activities could be done by women in tourism context:

Figure 2: SWOT analysis of the main activities women can perform in tourism



Challenges

Women surveyed have products and services with high market potential, but there are underlying barriers to their development beyond gender issues as highlighted previously by the UNWTO report (2010). Because women are less prepared for to engage in risk or abide to requirement of legal markets, this can further fix gender-based labour segregation whereby new economic opportunities are readily seized by men. Furthermore, developing tourism routes can also be dominated by men, as women have restricted mobility and interactions with strangers. These challenges are apparent at three different levels, summarized below:

Community level challenges

- Presence and potential control of men over women activities, and their role in the supply chain.
- Transparency regarding market outlets for fear of competition and decreased profits.
- Lack of group work due to poor communication, conflict resolution and business management skills.
- Awareness regarding successful business and business growth.
- Access to trustworthy information to business growth through collaboration.

Sector level challenges

- Instable profit margins due to fluctuations of prices, and the recent floating of the Egyptian Pound.
- No industry standards to follow for agro-foods products and alternative tourism registration.
- Difficulty to navigate the legal systems for business registration, food product labelling, and access sector specific market data.
- No legally binding contractual agreement methods to guarantee market sales.

Policy level challenges

- Need for advocacy on fair trade, payment methods suited for women artisans, farms and food processors.
- No government led support of the industries sector – at the governorate and national level promotion for the women activities benefits to society.
- Lack of quality raw materials due to dying industries being replaced by imported production inputs now used in traditional products and services.
- Loss of identity visible in women products and services, adoption of Western styles and disappearing of cultural heritage seen in handicrafts and food production.

Conclusion

Women in Aswan can be empowered via tourism by utilizing the unique Nubian way of life, culture, traditions and customs, existing heritage sites, nature and hospitality, and handicrafts. Therefore, tourism can be the main source of income and a means to overcome unemployment in these villages. Solidarity tourism and ecotourism are the most appropriate types of tourism that can be strategically implemented beside the already existing cultural tourism in Aswan.

The major issue facing women involvement in tourism activities is the gender issue as only men have the real say in economic business, and the delivery of income from tourism activities.

The main services women can possibly offer in tourism activities are: Tour guiding and catering. However, they should be trained first to acquire skills and knowledge. They should also be engaged in tour development from the very beginning to the end to acquire holistic view about tourism as a business.

The SWOT analysis results must be taken into consideration when planning tourism activities in the villages. The ATA should put a strategic plan to reinforce strengths, minimize weaknesses, take opportunities and compete threats. As a result, women should be able to work as local guides, run basic operational routes, manage finance, and market themselves. They should also offer hygienic typical food and beverage to visitors and professionally utilize their strong food production skills.

Recommendations

To overcome the challenges facing women empowerment via tourism, the following strategic activities should be adopted by decision makers (ATA, Ministry of Tourism, local authorities, CDAs, etc):

- Clarify licensing processed if needed and ways to formalize relationships between tourists and local women/people – this is crucial for sustainability.
- Adopt an approach for tourism development in Aswan villages that includes key stakeholders to build the capacity of women to work with visitors.
- Organize regular festivals and events highlighting women productions (handicraft and agro-food) .

- Use Online marketing tools to increase links of customers directly to women and the developed tours.
- Conduct tour guiding training, including soft skills and communication skills as well as increasing awareness of alternative tourism types.
- Train women on operation (how they receive tourists? what are the tourists needs at their homes? how they link their villages to the nearby cultural and natural heritage sites in Aswan governorate and cleanliness, hygiene and sanitation, etc).
- Train women on the whole value chain including how they present and utilize their heritage and current economic activities classified before and quotation and marketing.
- Conduct catering services training, such as menu development, basic hygiene and presentation skills.
- Map and develop solidarity tourism strategies and how to implement and follow up on action plans.
- Build clusters and coordination mechanisms and tools that facilitate multi-stakeholder communication for tour routes.

The following tourism route is recommended to put the previous results into operation and provide a sample for tour operators.

Table 3: The recommended tourist route in Aswan villages (5days/4nights)

Day	Village	Activities
1	AlKobaneya	Arrival: by train or plane. tourists take the local ferry (maadyah) to the western bank of Aswan towards AlKobaneya village. Typical local breakfast at one of the houses. walk around the village and see how women produce local handicrafts and may purchase some products from them (three different handicrafts in three different houses are ok). typical lunch in the field of a local family. learn about how local women bread and fat livestock and poultry (three different examples in three different houses are ok). Departure to Ghalaleb village. Check in at one of the Nubian houses - dinner and overnight.
2	Ghalaleb	Early morning: typical local breakfast. An introduction to the design of Nubian house they are in and the who are Nubians and their traditions and customs. Camel trekking tour to visit Qubet ElHawa Pharaonic tombs (they already have camels). Typical lunch in the house of a local family. Departure to visit the Nubian Museum where tourists can understand more about Nubian way of life such as wedding ceremonies. back to the Ghalaleb village, dinner and overnight
3	the Nile in Aswan town	Early morning: typical local breakfast. Departure to Aswan and visit the Unfinished Obelisk, the Nile Museum, the High Dam. Lunch at the Old Market (Fish is recommended). Take the boat to visit Phila Temple at night (sound and light project). back to the association at Ghalaleb village where Nubians play some typical music and dance. Dinner and overnight

4	New Kalabsha and Bashayer AlKheir	<p>Early morning: typical local breakfast.</p> <p>Departure to Lake Naser newly-established villages.</p> <p>Arrival New Kalabsha village.</p> <p>Learn about the establishment of this new community, village components, major activities, irrigation system.</p> <p>Visit some selected fields and gardens where tourists can have typical lunch and eat fruits from the trees.</p> <p>Departure to Bashayer AlKheir village and see Lake Nasser and learn about crocodile's life in Lake Nasser and its history and fishermen life.</p> <p>Birdwatching around lake Nasser.</p> <p>Enjoy grilled fish dinner in one of the village houses.</p> <p>Overnight in a separate house prepared for visitors and owned by one of the villagers.</p>
5	Bashayer AlKheir	<p>Early morning: typical local breakfast.</p> <p>Departure to the Airport/train station.</p>

References

Ampumuza, C. et al. (2008). Women empowerment through tourism, Project Report, Wageningen University, Netherlands.

Aswan Governorate. (2017). Statistics Unit annual report.

Augustin, E. et al. (2012). Women Empowerment for Improved Research in Agricultural Development, Innovation and Knowledge Transfer in the West Asia/ North Africa Region. Association of Agricultural Research Institutions in the Near East and North Africa (AARINENA).

Brohman, J. (1996). New directions in tourism for Third World development. *Annals of Tourism Research*, 23(1), pp.48–70.

Clancy, M. J. (1999). Tourism and development: Evidence from Mexico. *Annals of Tourism Research*, 26(1), pp.1–20.

Dickson-Waiko, A. (2003). The missing rib: Mobilizing church women for change in Papua New Guinea, *Oceania*, 74(1/2), pp. 98–119.

Duffy, R. (2002). *A Trip Too Far: Ecotourism, politics and exploitation*. London, UK: Earthscan.

Erskine, L. M. and Meyer, D. (2012). Influenced and influential: The role of tour operators and development organizations in tourism and poverty reduction in Ecuador. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 20(3), pp. 339–357.

Foley, C. et al. (2018). Women of the Kokoda: From Poverty to Empowerment in Sustainable Tourism Development. *Tourism Culture & Communication*, 18(1), pp.21-34.

Gascón, J. (2012). The limitations of community-based tourism as an instrument of development cooperation :The value of the social vocation of the territory concept. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 21(5), pp. 716–731.

Gentry, K. M. (2007). Belizean women and tourism work :Opportunity or impediment?. *Annals of Tourism Research*, 34(2), pp. 477–496.

Ghodsee, K. (2003). State Support in the Market: Women and Tourism Employment in Post-Socialist Bulgaria. *International Journal of Politics , Culture and Society*, 16(3), pp. 465–482.

Higgins-Desbiolles, F. (2006). More than an “industry”: The forgotten power of tourism as a social force. *Tourism Management*, 27(6), pp. 1192–1208.

Lee, A. (2018). *5 Questions*, Canda: Canadian Travel Press.

- Mrema, A. A. (2015). Tourism and women empowerment in Monduli District. *African Journal of Hospitality, Tourism and Leisure*, 4(2), pp. 1-14.
- OECD (2018). Women's economic empowerment. [Online] Available at: <http://www.oecd.org/dac/gender-development/women-economic-empowerment.htm> [Accessed 30 6 2018].
- Rizal, P. and Asokan, R. (2013). Empowerment OF Women Through Tourism Industry In Sikkim State, India. *International Journal of Current Research*, 5(12), pp. 4301-4305.
- Scheyvens, R. and Russell, M. (2012). Tourism and poverty alleviation in Fiji: Comparing the impacts of small- and large-scale tourism enterprises. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 20(3), pp. 417–436.
- Scheyvens, R. (2007). Exploring the tourism-poverty nexus .*Current Issues in Tourism*, 10(2/3), pp.231–254.
- Schilcher, D. (2007). Growth versus equity: The continuum of pro-poor tourism and neoliberal governance. *Current Issues in Tourism*, 10(2–3), pp. 166–193.
- Sharma, K. (2004). *Tourism and Socio-Cultural Development*, Sarup and Sons. New Delhi, India.
- Sharpe, R. and Swanson, K. (2016). Poverty in global perspective. In: N. Naples, R. Hoogland, W. Wong and M. Wickramasinghe, ed., *The Wiley Blackwell encyclopedia of gender and sexuality studies*. Wiley-Blackwell, pp.1-6.
- Snyman, S. L. (2012). The role of tourism employment in poverty reduction and community perceptions of conservation and tourism in southern Africa. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 20(3), pp.395–416.
- Spenceley, A. (2003). Tourism, local livelihoods and the private sector in South Africa: Case studies on the growing role of the private sector in natural resources management, sustainable livelihoods in southern Africa. *Institute of Development Studies*, Brighton, UK.
- Spenceley, A. and Meyer, D. (2012). Tourism and poverty reduction: Theory and practice in less economically developed countries. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 20(3), pp. 297–317.
- Tao, T. C. and Wall, G. (2009). Tourism as a sustainable livelihood strategy. *Tourism Management*, 30(1), pp. 90–98.
- Tucker, H. and Boonabaana, B. (2011). A critical analysis of tourism, gender and poverty reduction. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 20(3), pp.437–455.
- UNICEF (2018). UNICEF. [Online] Available at: https://www.unicef.org/publications/index_102731.html [Accessed 1 7 2018].
- UNPF (2018). United Nations Population Fund. [Online] Available at: <https://www.unfpa.org/gender-equality> [Accessed 20 6 2018].
- UNWTO & UN Women (2011). *Global Report on Women in Tourism 2010*, Madrid, Spain: UNWTO and UN Women.
- UNWTO (2018). International Seminar on Women's Empowerment in the Tourism Sector. [Online] Available at: <http://americas.unwto.org/event/international-seminar-women-empowerment-tourism-sector> [Accessed 2 7 2018].
- WBG (2017). World Bank Group Youth Summit 2017: Technology and Innovation for Impact. [Online] Available at: <http://www.worldbank.org/en/events/2017/08/08/world-bank-group-youth-summit-2017> . [Accessed 14 6 2018].