

## Economic Indicators of Sustainable Tourism Development in Iraq

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Received: September 27, 2022

Revised: November 6, 2022

Accepted: November 14, 2022

### Abstract

The importance of the tourism sector is measured through several indicators that show the extent of its contributions to achieving the goals of economic and social development in the country, such as increasing the national income, increasing employment opportunities, providing job opportunities, reducing unemployment, supporting the balance of payments, achieving balanced development in the regions and regions of the country, supporting government income and other goals. Achieving sustainable development, and its importance increases as a supportive sector for the economy, especially in light of emergency conditions and the unstable international and local changes that the country is going through, which stimulates the advancement of all aspects of the national economy and its various sectors. From During Upgrade with a contribution tourism most importantly Indications Economy Iraqi and adopted curriculum descriptive Analytical to achieve Goals search and test his hypothesis From During analysis data that reflect reality Indications Economy tourist Iraqi available and suggest Opportunities possible to support this is Indications From During Recommendations I gave it The most important researcher adoption Policy tourism Inclusive for every activities sector tourist From Yes get up economy Iraqi.

**Keywords:** *Tourism, The Economic Effects of Tourism, Sustainable Development*

### Introduction

The tourism sector is a supportive force for the economy of most tourist countries, and Iraq has many historical, religious, archaeological and cultural elements. And the site Geographical Which is a comparative advantage for Iraq and reflects the civilization, heritage, legacies, beliefs and identity of a people, and tourism has an important role in Investigation most important Goals development sustainable and is Availability chances a job and shrink The unemployment Increasing income and supporting the balance of payments by developing fields chances investment in sectors tourism represented by in hotels and companies Travel and tourism and strip. The importance of the research in studying the role of the authorities concerned with Iraqi tourism (governmental and non-governmental) in employing soft power tools and investing their available components towards maximizing the economic effects of tourism and its effectiveness in positively affecting the Iraqi society and economy. Not all parties concerned with Iraqi tourism (governmental and non-governmental) made clear and important efforts in choosing and

employing the tools and elements of soft power available in supporting and maximizing the benefits and economic effects of the tourism sector in a way that is commensurate with Iraq's tourism potential and its diverse and unique components, which missed the opportunity for the Iraqi society and economy to benefit from them.

Research aims: The research aims to; (1) A statement of the importance of the tourism sector, including Iraq's diverse and different tourist components in the field of supporting the Iraqi economy and achieving sustainable development; (2) Directing the attention of decision-makers towards the importance and impact of the direct and indirect tourism sector and the necessity of highlighting and developing the tourism movement locally, Arab and international, and for its effective impact in maximizing the economic benefits of tourism.

Research Hypothesis: The authorities concerned with the tourism sector did not employ the elements of tourism available in Iraq in an optimal and appropriate manner for the status and potentials of Iraq for tourism, which weakened its role in achieving the economic effects of tourism on the Iraqi society and economy.

Accordingly, we ask the basic question: Are the authorities concerned with the tourism sector aware and diagnosing the impact of the tourism sector with all its components and its effective impact on economic indicators and achieving sustainable development

## **Methods**

We have adopted the descriptive analytical approach in studying the research variables and analyzing the reality of the economic indicators of the Iraqi tourism sector in order to achieve the goals and test the main research hypothesis, as well as the deductive approach by deducing logical results and proposing appropriate solutions to them.

## **Results and Discussion**

### **The Theoretical Side of the Research**

Definition of Tourism: Tourism in its simple concept is (travel for pleasure), Especially during vacation days and holidays, and on the basis of which programs, hotels and other supplies and requirements of tourism are provided It is defined as a human activity whose existence is based on free time and leisure, and includes travel, travel and moving from one place to another with the aim of viewing, getting to know and enjoying different sites, and it includes internal and external tourism (Saidi, 2011), as well as you know tourism It is a temporary movement of people to destinations outside the places where they live and practice recreational activities during their stay in those places (World Tourism Organization, 1997) They are the activities that arise from travel and residence, provided that this residence is not permanent and that it does not engage in activities that generate profit for them (Saidi, 2011). Macintosh defined it, which we consider as a comprehensive definition of tourism as "a set of phenomena and relationships resulting from the interactions between tourists, business establishments, countries and host communities, with the aim of attracting these visiting tourists." This definition includes the presence of four important elements of tourism: (tourists, and tourism institutions governments, and the communities visited by tourists) (Shuber& Al-Samarrai, 2018). The concept of tourism is also referred to through all the activities that people do outside their usual environment for a specific

period of time and its main goal of travel is to practice many activities without earning a wage. Since ancient times, tourism has been primitive and simple in its existence, and its aim was to practice the human activities necessary for human life, such as searching for food, drink, shelter, hunting ... etc. However, today tourism has moved as an important and prominent activity in the economic sector at the country level as a result of technological development, transportation and communication and the increase in the level of education. The importance of the tourism sector is not limited to the economic aspect only, but also goes beyond that in the civil, environmental and cultural aspect (Al-Houri, Muthanna Taha et al., 2000).

### **Economic Effects**

The economic effects of tourism are as follows; (1) Tourism works to increase national income and gross domestic product: the tourism sector is part of the national economy, which has an actual role in the formation of national income. This role varies according to the size and importance of the tourism sector in the national economy (Al-Houri, Muthanna Taha et al., 2000); (2) Tourism and its ability to increase the resources of the state's public treasury, tourism can be an important financial source for the state treasury through the revenues generated by the fees collected from tourists and visitors for the services provided to them. At the start of the project such as building licenses, licenses for travel and tourism agencies, licenses to operate projects such as hotels and public stores, and tax on public revenue (Haroun, 2000). As the general treasury of the tourist state benefits from the following resources from taxes on foodstuffs, taxes on commercial and industrial profits, and tourist beverages, in addition to income taxes whose proceeds increase with the increase in incomes and profits of workers in all businesses related to the tourism industry, fees for providing electricity, water, communications, mail, and fees for cruise ships in ports; (3) Tourism creates multiple employment opportunities and reduces unemployment: the tourism sector is more labor intensive than other sectors such as agriculture, industry and others (Ashley et al., 2007). Tourism is linked to many productive sectors, and thus leads to the creation of new employment opportunities in many sectors; (4) Tourism is a source of hard currency. The output of the tourism activity is the value of selling the tourism product sold to the preparation of tourists usually belonging to other countries, who pay in hard currencies in exchange for satisfying their tourist desires, whether they are cultural, recreational, scientific or environmental...etc. Therefore, tourism is a source of income in foreign currency, so its economic importance is measured by the size of its impact on the balance of payments of countries, and this balance represents a double entry that regulates all transactions between the concerned country and other countries of the year, and tourism activity represents part of invisible transactions such as navigation, shipping, insurance and banking transactions.. Etc (Abawi, 2008); (5) Achieving balanced development between the regions: Tourism development leads to the distribution and establishment of new tourism projects, which means a balanced development of the regions, especially the economically backward ones, through finding work, improving the living standard of the people of these regions, increasing the welfare of individuals and exploiting natural resources in the regions. regions or regions, achieving a state of economic balance, redistributing income, and developing these regions as places of population attraction, and thus the possibility of reducing migration from underdeveloped regions to more developed regions, as tourism contributes. It also contributes to deepening the cultural awareness of citizens and stimulating the development of the road network to cover new areas (Abawi, 2008)

Therefore, the objectives of the development plan for tourism activity must be comprehensively directed to all regions and regions of developing countries and work to increase the number of tourists, the number of tourist nights, the net returns achieved by the tourism sector, and the diversity of the tourism product therein.

### **Sustainable Development**

Since the beginning of the eighties of the last century, a new concept of development was crystallized for the first time, known as development sustainable development in the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, entitled Our Common Future our common future, first published in 1987 (Ghoneim et al., 2010) And in the wake of the twenty-first century, Two main forces converged in the trends of the field of rationalization of tourism, the first: it calls for greater responsibility towards respecting the inhabitants of the destination and their culture, and this demand came as a result of the growth of the repercussions of tourism and tourists on the hosts and their environment, and the second: calls for greater responsibility on the part of the traveling tourists, which came as a result of the growth of new models of consumption Which prompted tourists to education and self-development as a motive for their travel, and these two forces were the beginning of the emergence of the concept of sustainable tourism and the crystallization of its foundations, The basic principles and outlines for adopting the concept of sustainability in the tourism industry were presented through the document issued by the global conference that was held in Lanzarote in the Canary Islands, Spain in 1995, and the actual adoption was through the Earth Summit that was held in New York, USA in 1997 (Iraqi et al., 2007).

At the end of 1997, the World Tourism Organization called for a conference of Asian and Pacific Ministers of Tourism on tourism and the environment. The conference covered extensively technical topics related to sustainable tourism, and a statement was issued by the conference that clarified the official global interest in the principle of sustainability. Sustainable tourism development has been defined by the World Tourism Organization as “development that meets the needs of tourists and host sites while protecting and providing opportunities for the future (Al-Ansari, 2013). And the interest in tourism as a driver of sustainable development is an important economic requirement to stimulate investment in natural, environmental and cultural tourist places. Awareness of the importance of tourism development and its efficient management is one of the most important goals of the World Tourism Organization.

### **The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals For The Period 2015-2030**

World leaders adopted a new set of sustainable development goals at the United Nations conference, and the sustainable development goals represent a set of goals, desired goals and indicators that governments around the world are expected to achieve and achieve over the coming years. Table (1) shows the proposed goals set by the United Nations, which number (17) a goal. Some of these goals touched on the interest in tourism, including goal (9) related to the interest and development of infrastructure, because tourism development is directly linked to the provision of basic services, and goal (14) concerning the protection of seas, oceans and other water resources, especially in tourist countries spanning the seas and oceans, and the goal ( 15) Protecting forests, combating desertification, stopping land degradation, and paying attention to environmental diversity due to its importance in attracting tourists from all over the world. Goal

(17) is to provide the necessary funding to achieve sustainable development in all sectors, including the tourism sector.

Table 1. United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 2015-2030

T.	Target
1.	Eradicate poverty in all its forms and everywhere.
2.	Ending hunger, providing food security and improved nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture.
3.	Ensuring that everyone enjoys healthy lifestyles for all ages.
4.	Ensuring equitable and inclusive quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all.
5.	Achieving gender equality.
6.	Ensuring the availability of water and sanitation services for all.
7.	Ensuring universal access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy services.
8.	Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth for all, and provide decent work for all.
9.	Building resilient infrastructure and encouraging innovation.
10.	Reducing inequality within and between countries.
11.	Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
12.	Ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns.
13.	Take urgent action to address climate change and its effects.
14.	Save and protect oceans, seas and marine resources.
15.	Protecting and sustainably using terrestrial ecosystems, managing forests and combating desertification.
16.	Encouraging peaceful societies No one is marginalized in order to achieve sustainable development.
17.	Strengthening the global partnership on finance for sustainable development.

Source: General Assembly, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, (2015), seventieth session Items 15 and 116 of the agenda, October 21, United Nations, p. 12.

### The practical aspect of research

#### *The economic effects of Iraqi tourism and its importance in supporting sustainable development (Fact and indications)*

The development of the tourism sector in Iraq and the multiplicity of types of tourism in Iraq due to the huge cultural heritage that extends for more than 7000 years. The bounties of nature represented in fertile lands and sources of fresh water and the seat of ancient civilizations on the banks of the Tigris and Euphrates and other water sources, especially in northern Iraq, where springs and waterfalls abound (Saadoun, 2020).

### The importance of the tourism sector in the balance of payments

The tourism balance represents the difference between tourism revenues and tourism expenditures, and the tourism balance plays an influential role in influencing the balance of payments through the foreign currencies it provides to the country. In financing its foreign

exchange needs to pay its external payments, Table (2) shows the contribution of tourism to the balance of payments for the period from 2010-2020.

Table 2. The importance of the tourism balance at current prices (million dollars) for the period 2010-2020

Balance of Payments				Tourist Balance			
The Year	Exports	Imports	Net	Tourism Returns	Tourism Spending	Net	The Net Contribution of Tourism to the Balance of Payments
2010	51764	37328	14436	1658	1564	94	0.65
2011	79,681	40633	39048	1543	1814	271-	0.69-
2012	94209	50155	44054	1635	2191	556-	1.26-
2013	89768	50477	39321	2173	3,159	986-	2.5-
2014	83981	45200	38781	2488	4030	1542-	3.9-
2015	43442	33188	10254	4046	5271	1225-	11.9-
2016	8472	5682	2790	4870	5065	195-	3.4-
2017	57559	32185	25374	2958	7978	5020-	19.8-
2018	86359	38875	47484	1982	7782	5800-	12.2-
2019	81585	49417	32168	3583	10827	7243-	22.5-
2020	46829	40,927	5902	633	3528	2895-	49.1-

*Source: - Columns 5,4,2,1, based on data from the Central Bank of Iraq, Department of Statistics and Research, Balance of Payments Department, based on data of commercial banks, columns 6, 3, 7 prepared by the researcher.*

We note from the above table that the result of the tourism balance for 2010 is positive as it reached (94) and its contribution to the balance of payments is (0.65), and the result of the tourism balance became negative and continued to decline during the period 2011-2020 and with a negative contribution rate to the balance of payments, as the deficit reached in 2019 The deficit reached about (22.5-) million dollars and decreased further and at a record level in 2020 to reach (-49.1), which is the highest level of deficit reached by the Iraqi tourism balance during the period 2010-2020, due to the Corona pandemic.

### **The importance of the tourism sector in the development of fixed capital formation**

The importance of the tourism sector in the national economy is shown through its contribution to the total fixed capital formation. Table (3) shows the amount of this contribution, as it is clear from the table that the percentage of the tourism sector's contribution to the formation of fixed capital was constantly fluctuating up and down after 2003, due to The policy aimed at making commitment to the implementation of plans and strategies that aim to achieve sustainable development of the tourism sector.

Table 3. The amount of the tourism sector's contribution to the total fixed capital formation during the period (2004-2019) (million dinars)

The years	Gross fixed capital formation for the tourism sector	Gross fixed capital formation in Iraq	* contribution percentage
2010	761,255,190	26,252,776,813	2.89971303
2011	904,182,468	28,234,992,625	3.202347102
2012	1,276,076,554	38,139,871,015	3.34578099
2013	2,369,603,150	55,036,676,169	4.305498288
2014	932,980,348	55,837,402,859	1.670887792
2015	1,676,384,657	50,650,572,753	3.309705233
2016	690,695,801	28,703,209,160	2.406336508
2017	891,614,067	32,330,275,722	2.757830074
2018	282874706	38,107,186,603	0.742313278
2019	1,239,458,176.20	60,715,399,287	2.041423083

Source: - Ministry of Planning, Central Statistical Organization, Statistical Group for Multiple Years.

We note from the above table that the fixed capital formation rate reached (585514414) in 2009 and its contribution rate was estimated at (4.3%) compared to (31424511) in 2004 and its contribution rate was estimated at (1.0%) due to the high total capital formation. The constant that expresses the annual investment volume for the year 2009, but it declined again in 2014 and its contribution rate reached (1.6%) due to the negative effects of the double crisis, which was reflected on the volume of revenues available to the public budget, but it returned and rose again in 2019 where it reached (1,239,458,176.20) and the relative importance was (2.0%) after it was in 2018 (282874706) and the relative importance was estimated at about (0.7%), and the achieved tourism revenues achieved an increasing annual growth rate of (29.4%) for the period (2004-2019) (Ministry of Planning, Central Statistical Organization, Statistical Group for Multiple Years). And the ratio of the total fixed capital formation in Iraq was an average of (11.2%) for the period (2004-2019), as it is clear from the same table that the annual growth rates of the total fixed capital formation in the tourism sector are higher than the overall fixed capital formation growth rates in Iraq.

### Third: The importance of the tourism sector in the gross domestic product

Tourism is one of the important and supportive sectors of the economy, and the analysis of the reality of tourism activity and knowing the extent of its contribution to the gross domestic product in Iraq will be discussed, as shown in Table (4).

Table 4. The importance of tourism in GDP for the period 2010-2018 at current prices (million dinars)

The Year	Gross Domestic Productgdp For The Whole Economy	Gdp In The Tourism Sector	(1/2) %
2010	162064566	163514	0.1
2011	217327107	183578	0.8



2012	254225491	2130773	0.8
2013	273587529	2250365	0.8
2014	266420385	2288550	0.9
2015	194680971	2442598	1.2
2016	196924142	2531948	1.2
2017	221665709	-	-
2018	254870185	-	-

*Source: - Columns No. 2.1 Data of the Ministry of Planning, Department of National Accounts, Department of the Central Statistical Organization, Statistical Group for the period from 2010- 2018. - Column (3) prepared by the two researchers.*

#### **- (-) No data available**

The GDP in the tourism sector for the year 2010 amounted to (163514) million dinars, compared to (162064566) million dinars to the total GDP for the whole economy, i.e. a rate of (0.1%) of the total sectors, and this percentage began to rise during the period 2011-2014, as it reached ( 0.8, 0.8, 0.8, and 0.9, respectively). As for the years 2015 and 2016, the GDP of the tourism sector amounted to (2442598) and (2531948) million dinars, compared to (199715699) and (203869832) million dinars to the total GDP, with a high relative importance of (1.2) and (1.2), respectively.

We note the weak contribution of the tourism sector and its limited contribution to the gross domestic product, and the reason for this is the lack of interest of the responsible and decision-makers in it and the state's dependence on the oil sector only, which deprives the economy of diversifying its sources of income in addition to its preoccupation with many things, including the financial, economic and political crisis that confronted Iraq and the government's preoccupation with expenses Military expenditures in the war against ISIS, confronting terrorism, and the requirements to liberate Iraqi lands from the grip of terrorist groups.

#### **The importance of tourism in employment, job creation and reducing unemployment**

Tourism is one of the sectors in which the human element is one of its basic elements to carry out the tourism activity, unlike industry and agriculture, which can rely more on mechanization and technological means and reduce the human factor. Travel and tourism, as well as the food and beverage sector, but unfortunately no data is available.

#### **Hotel Sector**

The hotel sector is one of the tourism sectors that provides job opportunities Because it is mainly related to the comfort rates that it provides to its customers and that the private sector hotels constitute (8.98%) of the total Iraqi hotels, as we note from Table (5) that the number of workers in the hotel sector in all governorates of Iraq during the period 2016-2018 amounted to (9132) employees for the year 2016, while the number of employees in the tourism sector reached (10,167) employees for the year 2017, with an increase of (11.3%) compared to the year 2016, and the number of employees reached (8920) employees for the year 2018 with a decrease of (12.3%) compared to The year 2017, and it is clear that the numbers in the job opportunities are not commensurate with the development of hotel investment.



In terms of providing job opportunities by gender in Iraqi hotels, it was in favor of males at the expense of females, as the percentage of male workers reached 93% in 2016 compared to 7% for female workers for the same year, and rose in 2017 and 2018 to reach 95% and 96% for males compared to 5% and 4% for women. In 2018, the percentage of male workers increased to 94% compared to only 4% for female workers. This means that job opportunities in Iraqi hotels provide more males than females, and this is a problem that needs to be stopped and studied to diagnose its causes and find possible and appropriate solutions for it, especially in the field of tourism awareness and increasing societal culture to attract women to work in tourism and hotels. We note from the table that Iraqi hotels provide job opportunities for Iraqis at a much greater rate compared to Arabs and foreigners. We also note that the number of Arab workers is in a continuous decline, reaching 168 workers in 2016 and dropping to 33 and 36 workers for the years 2017 and 2018, while the number of foreign workers is clearly increasing, reaching 736 workers. In 2016, it increased to 1,145 workers in 2017, and decreased to 869 in 2018. Most of them are unskilled.

Table 5. Preparing employees by gender and nationality in Iraqi hotels and for all governorates for the years 2016-2018

The Year	Sex	Iraqis	Relative Importance %	Arabs	Relative Importance %	Foreigners	Relative Importance %	The Total
2016	Male	7659	93%	161	95%	731	99%	8551
	Female	566	7%	7	5%	8	1%	581
	<b>Sum</b>	8225	100%	168	100%	739	100%	9132
2017	Male	8546	95%	31	94%	1116	97%	9693
	Female	443	5%	2	6%	29	3%	474
	<b>Sum</b>	8989		33		1145	100%	10167
2018	Male	7667	96%	35	97%	861	99%	8563
	Female	348	4%	1	3%	8	1%	357
	<b>Sum</b>	8015	100%	36	100%	869	100%	8920

*Source: Prepared by researchers based on the data of the Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation, Central Agency for Statistics and Information Technology, Directorate of Trade Statistics, Survey of Hotels and Tourist Accommodation Complexes for the years 2016-2018.*

### Travel and Tourism Companies Sector

The private sector in Iraq is the owner of travel and tourism companies, and it is important here to clarify its ability to create jobs and provide job opportunities in travel and tourism companies, as in Table (6), which shows the number and types of workers in these companies and how many of them work with or without pay for the years 2006 And 2007, 2009, 2011 and 2016.

Table 6. The number of employees in travel and tourism companies and the wages paid to them for the years 2006, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2016

The Year	Number of Companies	Types of Employees	Wage Workers 1	Unpaid Workers 2	The Total 3	The Ratio of Wage Employees to the Total Number of Employees 1/3	The Relative Importance of Each Category %
2006	479	Administrators	130	178	308	42.2	1. 71
		Driver	74	14	88	84.1	3. 20
		Others	30	7	37	81.1	6. 8
		The Total	234	199	433	54.0	100%
2007	497	Administrators	257	307	564	45.6	3. 80
		Driver	62	29	91	68.1	0. 13
		Others	44	3	47	93.6	7. 6
		The Total	369	339	702	52.6	100%
2009	466	Administrators	369	471	840	43.9	2. 76
		Driver	135	19	154	87.7	9. 13
		Others	105	4	109	96.3	9. 9
		The Total	609	494	1103	55.2	100%
2011	678	Administrators	1062	905	1967	54.0	83.0
		Driver	118	29	147	80.3	6.2
		Others	244	12	256	95.3	11.0
		The Total	1424	946	2370	60.1	100%
2016	721	Administrators	961	65	1026	94.0	48.0
		Driver	204	1	205	99.5	10.0
		Others	883	25	908	97.2	42.4
		The Total	2048	91	2139	96.0	100%

*Source: Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation, Central Agency for Statistics and Information Technology, survey of the activity of travel and tourism companies in the private sector for the years 2006. 2007. 2009. 2011. 2016*

We conclude from the above table that; (1) There is a development in the preparation of workers in travel and tourism companies for the period 2006-2016 after it was 433 in 2006, it rose to (702) in 2007 with a change rate (1.62%) and increased to 1103 in 2009 with a rate of change (1,57%) for the year 2007 and rose to 2370 in 2011 and the rise is normal with the increase in the number of travel and tourism companies in Iraq, while it decreased in 2016 when the number of employees reached 2139; (2) As for the classification of employment according to (administrators, drivers, others) for the travel and tourism companies sector, it appears to us that the percentage of administrative workers is higher than the rest of the categories for the years 2006, 2007, 2009 and 2011, reaching (71.1%), (80.3%) and (78.2%), and (83%) respectively, while it decreased in 2016 to (48%) due to the increase in the number of workers in other categories,

and the number of drivers takes the second place, reaching (20.3%), (13.5%) and (13.9%), respectively, while the year 2013 to (6.2%) and increased in 2016 to reach (10%) and the rest of the percentages for other categories, and this indicates employment in favor of administrative work. Note that the data lacks an accurate description of workers in companies, such as the function of guides and translators, in addition to workers in marketing, promotion, sales and program organizers, which reflects the type and level of services provided by these companies. If such data were available, we would have reached more useful results in this field. As administrators, and their impact on planning greater marketing and promotion opportunities; (4) The percentage of wage employees to the total number of employees in travel and tourism companies constituted almost half or a very little more, reaching (54%), (52%) and (55%) (60%) for the years 2006, 2007, 2009 and 2011, respectively, while it increased in 2016 with a greater percentage, as it reached (96%), and despite that, this percentage for the previous years remains small and is not commensurate with the objectives of tourism development and its economic and social requirements, because this means this modest percentage is (paid wages and compensation), which represents actual job opportunities that meet the needs of the market Tourism work This modest percentage in an important sector such as the sector of travel and tourism companies, so its economic and social impact is also modest on society and the tourism economy in particular and on the Iraqi economy in general; (5) As we notice that number companies in to rise Clear From 497 general 2006 to 497a company general 2007 because of Excellence Request tourism religious in Iraq. While it decreased slightly in 2009 to 466 companies and rose continuously for the years 2011 and 2016 to reach 678, 721, and 721, respectively.

## Conclusion

We conclude; (1) Weak role of responsible authorities and makers the decision For this the supplier Economic the important And who From possible that contribute in to treat disruption structure Services And from then The resulting the local; (2) The weak contribution of the tourism sector to the GDP, which means the deterioration of the productivity of the tourism activity and its weak contribution to the economic value added in the output; (3) Limited surplus Economic in sector tourist in terms of Importance Relativity for him and he What Confirms on me weakness Role Activity tourist in Economy Iraqi And from then weakness its effect in investigation development sustainable; (4) The tourism sector's low contribution to employment and job creation, and its weak contribution to reducing unemployment, despite the hotel sector being the largest field for employing and attracting young people to hotel work compared to other sectors, as it does not match the increase in the hotel sector, travel and tourism companies, or the food and beverage sector, and does not meet the requirements of social development and economic opportunities in achieving the goal of reducing unemployment and employment, and job opportunities in the private sector hotels provide a greater percentage of males than females; (5) The lack of information and data on the activity of the Iraqi tourism sector in general and the private tourism sector in particular, which has an impact on the suffering of researchers and those interested in private sector issues and in providing studies of the reality of the tourism sector in general.

## Recommendations

The recommendations; (1) We recommend the formation of a higher council for tourism in Iraq, comprising specialists from the public sector (Tourism Authority) and representatives from the private sector, working on developing tourism development plans and making tourism decision-making with the aim of achieving sustainable development; (2) Encouraging and supporting Iraqi businessmen and investors to participate in tourism development projects, to cooperate and coordinate with the authorities directly related to the tourism sector, and to provide sufficient investment incentives to increase private investment in this sector; (3) Giving the private sector a leading and prominent developmental role that contributes to maximizing the economic, social and cultural benefits to society and the national economy in general and to the local economies of the areas to be developed in tourism and activating its contribution at the level of tourism planning, organization, marketing and promotion of Iraqi tourist destinations and diversification of tourism production and community awareness in order to raise the competitiveness of the tourism economy and increase Iraq's share in the global tourism market; (4) Providing a database for the tourism system through the establishment of a tourism information center that is interested in publishing and updating everything related to job opportunities and skills required for the labor market, as well as providing data on investment opportunities available in Iraq and the most important tourist destinations that attract investment locally and Arab.

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