



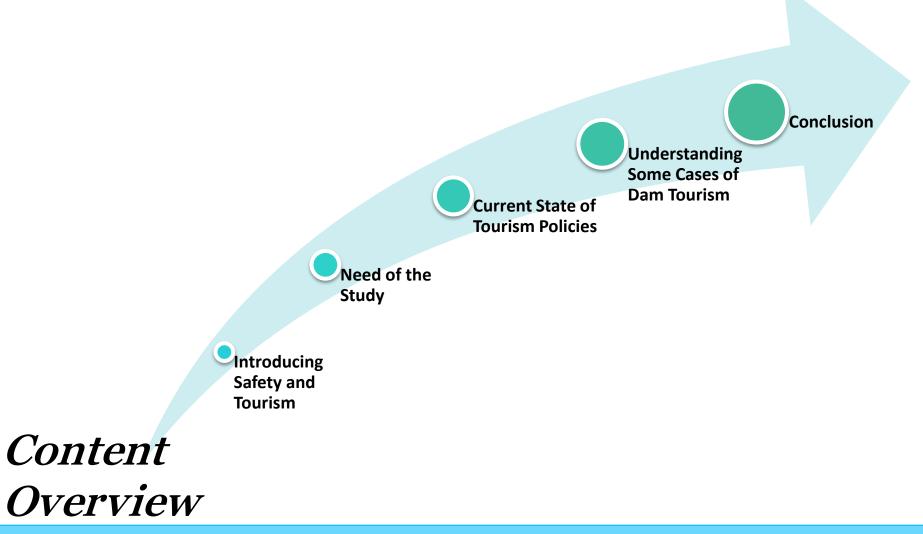
Technical Session III- Sustainable Dam and Reservoir Management

#### An Overview of Current State and Policies Governing Sustainable Tourism Around Dams in India











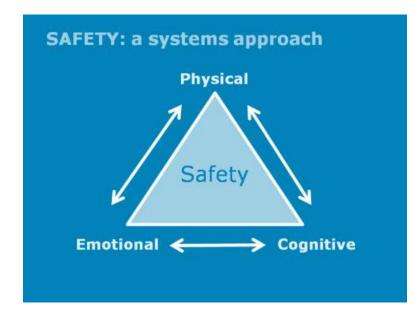


## **INTRODUCTION** Timeline of Evolution of Sustainable Tourism Safety and Tourism Defining Sustainable Tourism





## Exploring different Dimensions of Safety



"We sometimes forget that emotional safety is as precious as physical safety. But it's essential that we learn to protect both".

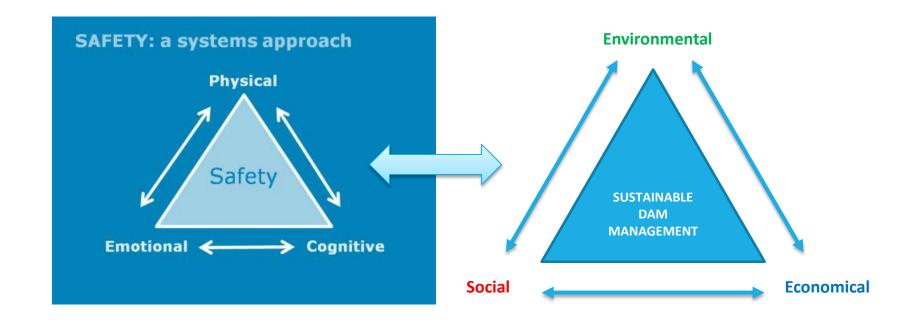
> - Nicole Sundine (Psychologist)

Sourcehttps://newandimproved.com/2015/02/03/company-emotionally-safe/





## **Connecting Safety & Sustainability**



#### Source-

https://newandimproved.com/2015/02/03/company-emotionally-safe/





Central Water Commission

## Identifying the **Opportunities due** to Tourism.....



**Economical Opportunities-** Tourism around dams create opportunities for local community to engage in various activities to generate income.

**Social Opportunities- Tourism around dams** can revive the lost culture and further improve the connection between dam and resettled population.



Just developing **TOURISM** is not enough....it has to be SUSTAINABLE TOURISM



**Environmental Opportunities- Tourism could** protect the surrounding environment of dams from being converted to other land use types.





## What is Sustainable Tourism

"Tourism that takes full account of its current and future economic, social and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment and host communities"

Source-Sustainable development | UNWTO



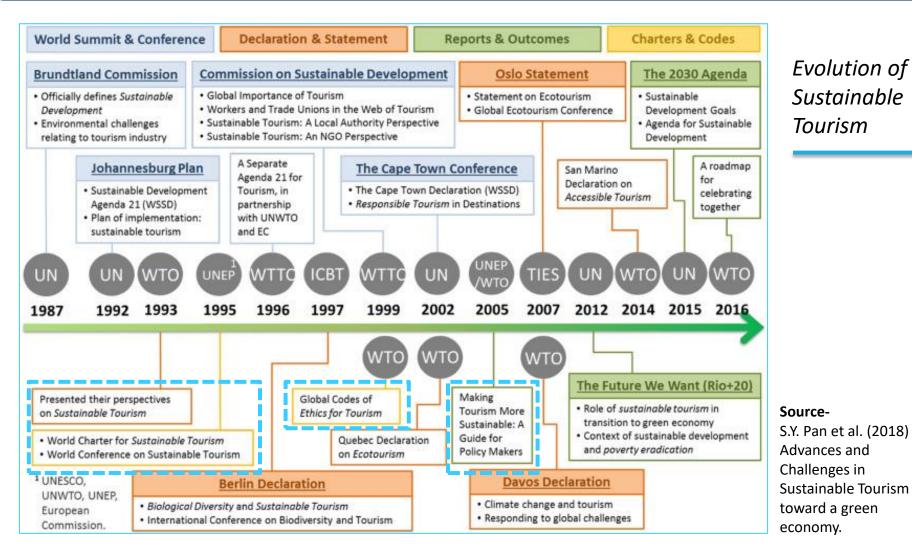




Understanding the complex network of Sustainable Tourism







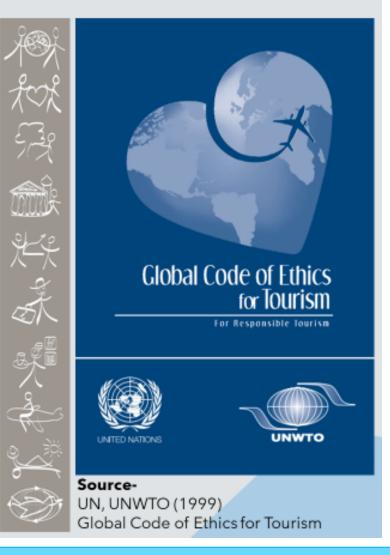




## Global Code of Ethics forTourism

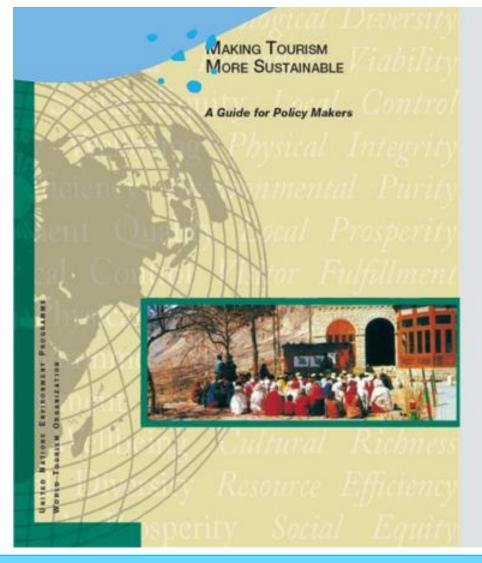
GLOBAL CODE OF ETHICS FOR TOURISM adopted by resolution A/RES/406(XIII) at the thirteenth WTO General Assembly (Santiago, Chile, 27 September - 1 October 1999).

10 Articles were Recognised to guide tourism development and serve as a frame of reference for the different stakeholders in the tourism sector.









### Making Tourism more Sustainable: Guide for Policy- Makers

The Guide defines what sustainability means in tourism, what are the effective approaches for developing strategies and policies for more sustainable tourism, and the tools that would make the policies work on the ground.

## 12 Aims for a Sustainable Tourism Agenda were identified in this document.

Source-UNEP, UNWTO (2005) <u>Making Tourism More Sustainable</u> A <u>Guide for Policy Makers-2005445.pdf</u>





Evolution of Tourism Policies in India.	1956	•Second Five Year Plan- 336 Lakh allocated for development of tourist infrastructure.
	1966	•Formation of Indian Tourism Development Corporation Established
	1967	•Formation of Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation
	1969	•Fourth Five Year Plan- Distinction between destination traffic and transit traffic eatablished.
	1982	•First Tourism Policy of India- Tourism was recognized as an industry.
	1985	•Seventh Five Year Plan- Recognition of Tourism related activities as industry.
	1986	•Setting up of National committee on Tourism.
	1992	•Eighth Five Year Plan- 15 State Governments and 5 UTs recognised tourism as industry.
	2002	•National Tourism Policy- Positioned tourism as a major driver of economic growth with a ' Multi- Faced Approach



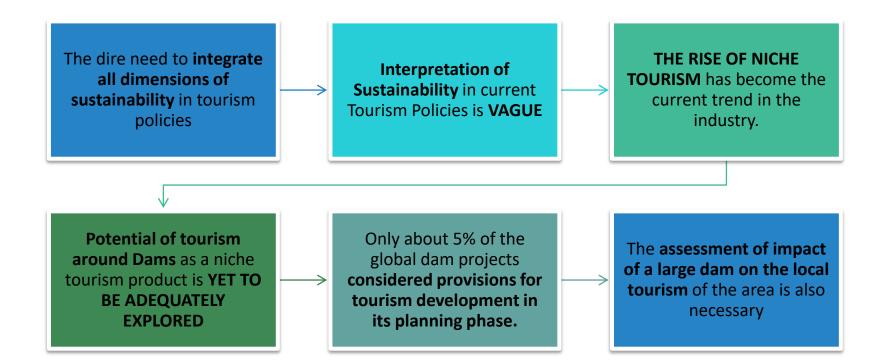


# NEED OF THE STUDY





## **Need of the Study**







## Current State Of Tourism Policy And Governance In India







The draft tourism policy 2021 was uploaded by government of India on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2021. This is the first policy document issued by the government recognizing the avenue and opportunity of tourism development around dams.

In a paragraph it outlines the strength, opportunity, and limitations of sustainable tourism development around dams in India.

The pristine environment and reasonable connectivity support the development of tourism infrastructure such as accommodations, gardens and mounting water sport activities around the dams while ensuring their alignment with antipollution measures protecting the surrounding environment (Ministry of Tourism (Gol), 2021).





Tourism being a state subject is dependent on the state level tourism policy and nature of governance for its growth.

The state tourism policies' scope for provisions of sustainable tourism around dams in line with the draft national tourism policy can be traced subject to broader understanding and interpretation. The distribution of dam is not even across states. As per NDRL 2019 volume 75, Maharashtra with 2394 large dams, has the highest for any state in the country, it is followed by Madhya Pradesh (906), Gujrat (632), Chhattisgarh (258) and Karnataka (232).





*Tourism Around Dams: Policy and Implementation MAHARASHTRA* 

Maharashtra, home to the highest number of dams in India did identify dams as an area of tourist interest as early as 2003(Macdonald, 2003)

Maharashtra is the first state to recognize hospitality sector as an industry.

The latest tourism policy of Maharashtra notified in 2016 **does not identify 'dam tourism' but has a multitude of provisions for development of tourism around Dams.** 

It proposes creation of water sport facilities for tourists, it also recommends the camping site structures should be eco-friendly.





*Tourism Around Dams: Policy and Implementation MAHARASHTRA* 

There is appropriate intent but lack of structured execution giving an impression of stop gap arrangements for managing immediate crisis without any long-term perspective.

Tourism is being developed around dams in Maharashtra, **but no heed is being paid to align the development with the broader understanding of sustainability.** 

An example of the same is the decision to privatize 147 accommodation facilities surrounding dams and reservoirs, at the same time opening hundreds of acres of land surrounding dams for the development of tourism (Faisal Malik, 2019).





*Tourism Around Dams: Policy and Implementation MADHYA PRADESH* 

> Madhya Pradesh is the second largest Indian state by land mass. With an array of rivers flowing across its surface, it is home to over 900 constructed and under construction large dams.

> In the 20-year tourism perspective plan notified by the government of Madhya Pradesh in 2003, **it sanctioned a water sport facility to be developed at Bargi Dam** this is traced to be the first tourism initiative around a dam that found place in the scope of larger policy.

> In the state tourism policy of 2012, the state government formally recognized the opportunity of tourism development around dams in Madhya Pradesh.





*Tourism Around Dams: Policy and Implementation MADHYA PRADESH* 

The state tourism policy of 2016, which is currently in effect, provisioned for capital investment subsidies for creation of infrastructure and installation of permanent facility to establish water tourism, water sports, etc.

Further amendments to the policy in 2019 included strategies for development of basic infrastructure around water bodies.

In accordance with the provisions of clause no.20, of the tourism policy of Madhya Pradesh, 2016, the state identified 16 water bodies for grant of license for development of tourism infrastructure around the bodies, of these 14 were dams.





*Tourism Around Dams: Policy and Implementation ODISHA* 

The state of Odisha has 204 large dams, the state is an established hub of water and costal tourism.

In its annual report of 2012-13, the department of **water resources Odisha identified 4 dams with high potential to be developed into recreational tourist destinations** and allocated funds for the development of the same (DoWR Odisha, 2012).

**It allocated 50Cr** for landscaping, beautification, amusement avenues as well as infotainment zones (Hemant Kumar Rout, 2022).



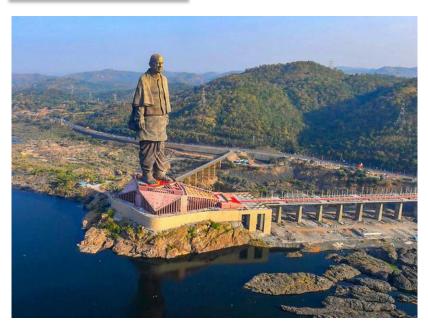


## Understanding Some Cases of Dam Tourism Statue of Unity, The Case of LAVASA, Maharashtra Gujarat Gavi-Kakki EcoTourism, Kerala





#### Case 1: *Statue of Unity, Gujarat*



#### 1. Visit to Statue of Unity, Exhibition Hall/ Museum and Wall of Unity

- 2. Laser Light and Sound Show
- 3. Tour of Valley of Flowers
- 4. Tour of Sardar Sarovar Dam and its dykes
- 5. Boating
- 6. Sight-seeing of historical Shoolpaneshwar Sanctuary and Temple
- 7. Zarvani Eco-Tourism Area
- 8. Bird Watching
- 9. Shopping

Sourcehttps://statueofunity.in/







#### Case 2: Gavi-Kakki EcoTourism, Kerala





The Kakki , Gavi and Pamba dams are part of Sabarigiri Hydro Electric Project which is the second largest Hydro Electric Project in Kerala. The Gavi is an Eco-Tourism spot located in Pathanamthitta district, which is famous for its Pamba Reservoir and vast expanses of reserve forest Kerala.

#### Sourcehttps://gavikakkionline.com/book

#### **Developmental Plan**

- •Increase the tourism scope of Gavi- Kakki and Pamba as an extension of Pilgrimage tourism in connection with Sabarimala Pilgrimage and Gavi eco spot.
- •Increase the income inflow of the natives.
- Preserve the water reserve.
- •A sustainable balance between the eco system of the proposed location and the natives of the land.





Case 3: Lavasa Corporation Ltd. , Maharashtra

Lavasa Corporation Limited was developing the city of Lavasa in Maharashtra. The city developed majorly around the backwaters of Warasgaon dam, in Maharashtra. The construction of the city had to be stopped owing to several violation- There were several functional misappropriations when it comes to granting of approvals for the city, but the major finding was, the lack or a coordinated development policy binding the jurisdiction of both state and center resulted in the fall of the initiative.





Source-Impact of construction on Warasgaon Reservoir (Source:walkthroughindia.com-top; downtoearth.org.in-bottom)





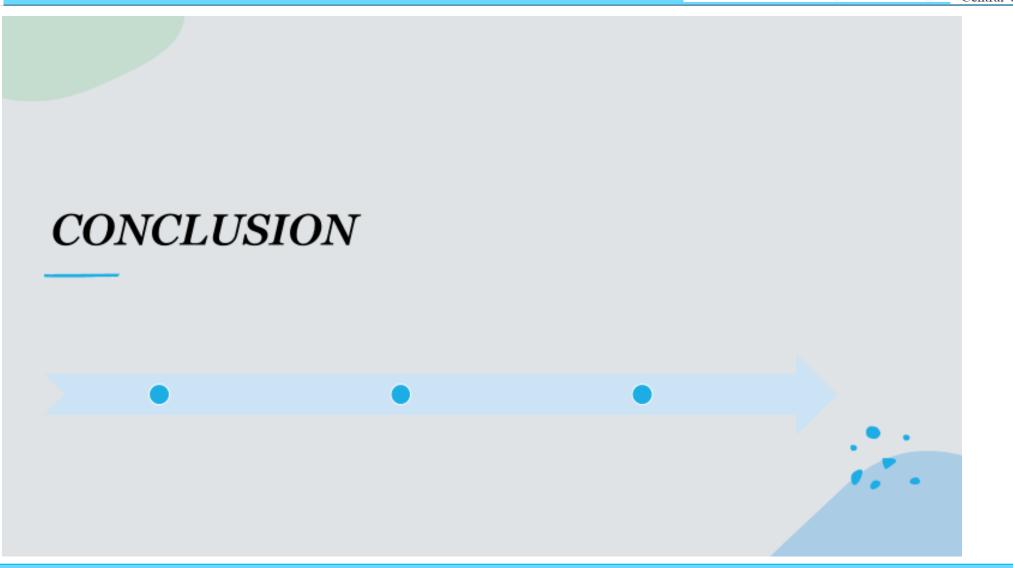
Case 3: Lavasa Corporation Ltd. , Maharashtra

There was an upper cap to the limit of construction, but the company went far and beyond cutting down major hills. The company also cited the ease of using local materials instead of transporting them and blasted away mountains for developing quarries. These disturbed the water tables of the area.

LCL also **started using water from the Warasgaon Dam** to the extent that there were fears of drinking water shortage at Pune. The study of LCL puts light on the cons of having unregulated private development, especially in an ecologically sensitive zone like dams.











## CONCLUSION



It can be safely stated that there is a significant scope for development of dam tourism in India. Dams are highly sensitive areas and should not be viewed as other avenues of niche tourism.



For a developing economy like India, the lack of regulation especially in sectors involving independent private stakeholders may seem to yield higher gains in the immediate scheme of things but in the longer run the lack of a central regulatory policy will prove to diminish and may even adversely affect the prospect of holistic sustainable development.





## CONCLUSION



The tourism policy developed for dams should have regulatory bindings for all involved parties and have a body overviewing the co-ordination of the developments and their synchronization.



While tourism is an established industry, dams too are an infrastructure of national importance and are always under high scrutiny and tension. Though multiple factors play a role, tourism derives its major validation from its economic prowess while that for dams is the environmental sustainability.



As such, any development of tourism around dams should have a detailed framework considering all factors and parameters involved.





"Modern travelling is not travelling at all; it is merely being sent to a place, and very little different from becoming a parcel."

- John Ruskin





