

ASERS

# Journal of Environmental Management and Tourism

Quarterly

Volume XIII

Issue 2(58)

Spring 2022

ISSN 2068 – 7729

Journal DOI

<https://doi.org/10.14505/jemt>

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# Call for Papers Fall Issues 2022 Journal of Environmental Management and Tourism

**Journal of Environmental Management and Tourism** is an interdisciplinary research journal, aimed to publish articles and original research papers that should contribute to the development of both experimental and theoretical nature in the field of Environmental Management and Tourism Sciences.

Journal will publish original research and seeks to cover a wide range of topics regarding environmental management and engineering, environmental management and health, environmental chemistry, environmental protection technologies (water, air, soil), pollution reduction at source and waste minimization, energy and environment, modeling, simulation and optimization for environmental protection; environmental biotechnology, environmental education and sustainable development, environmental strategies and policies, etc. This topic may include the fields indicated above, but are not limited to these.

Authors are encouraged to submit high quality, original works that discuss the latest developments in environmental management research and application with the certain scope to share experiences and research findings and to stimulate more ideas and useful insights regarding current best-practices and future directions in environmental management.

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## Comparative Bibliometric Analysis of the Concepts of “Ecotourism” and “Agrotourism” in the Context of Sustainable Development Economy

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### Suggested Citation:

Vysochan, O. *et al.* (2022). Comparative Bibliometric Analysis of the Concepts of “Ecotourism” and “Agrotourism” in the Context of Sustainable Development Economy. *Journal of Environmental Management and Tourism*, (Volume XIII, Spring), 2(58): 561-571. DOI: [10.14505/jemt.v13.2\(58\).24](https://doi.org/10.14505/jemt.v13.2(58).24)

### Article’s History:

Received 31<sup>st</sup> of October 2021; Received in revised form 7<sup>th</sup> of November 2021; Accepted 15<sup>th</sup> of February 2022; Published 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2022. Copyright ©2022 by ASERS® Publishing. All rights reserved.

### Abstract:

Discussions on such concepts as rural tourism, ecotourism, agrotourism, green tourism, and farm tourism are still ongoing among tourism professionals. The article aims to outline trends and priorities in the study of the definitions of “ecotourism” and “agrotourism” in the context of sustainable development economy, to identify commonalities and differences, to identify journals and researchers engaged in research in this area. In the course of work on the article, the latest research and publications of scientists in the field of ecotourism and agrotourism were analyzed according to the Scopus Elsevier database and the Web of Science Core Collection in the period 2005-2020. On the subject of agrotourism, which indicates the greater prevalence and use of the first term. The content analysis by countries made it possible to establish that the use of the term ecotourism is typical of the Anglo-American world (United States, Australia, United Kingdom), while the term agrotourism is used mainly in Eastern Europe (Romania, Poland, Czech Republic). If we compare the concepts of ecotourism and agrotourism by keywords, it is determined that both have in common the study of tourism in sustainable development, models of interaction with the environment, prospects for rural tourism and other related topics. As a result, it can be concluded that the study of issues and problems in the field of ecotourism and agrotourism in the context of sustainable development economy are extremely popular and relevant in the scientific literature.

**Keywords:** ecotourism; agrotourism; sustainable development; bibliometric analysis; VOSviewer.

**JEL Classification:** Q56; Q57; Z32.



## Introduction

In 2015, the General Assembly of the United Nations summit proclaimed the resolution “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” (Transforming our world, 2015), which identified 17 goals and 169 tasks in sustainable development. Their list includes tourism (presented for three purposes), namely:

- CSW 8: Promoting steady, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all;
- CSW 12: Ensuring the transition to rational models of consumption and production;
- CSW14: Conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

Stressing the need to optimize the economic, social, cultural and environmental benefits of sustainable tourism, especially in developing countries, the UN General Assembly adopted by consensus a landmark resolution recognizing the contribution of sustainable tourism to poverty eradication, community development and biodiversity protection and decided to declare 2017 the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development. The resolution recognizes the importance of international tourism, including the proclamation of the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, to improve mutual understanding between peoples around the world, to spread knowledge about the rich heritage of different civilizations and to care for the fundamental values of different cultures.

The emergence of the concept of sustainable tourism is a definite response of mankind to global environmental problems and the growing consumption of natural resources. Today, sustainable tourism is developing rapidly and gaining popularity in many countries, which helps to harmonize the relationship between nature, people and the economy. Sustainable tourism as a multilateral phenomenon combines economic, social, environmental and cultural aspects (Hyk 2021). The tourism industry has enormous potential for sustainable development, interacts closely with other sectors of the economy, is one of the most promising, dynamic and profitable in the world economy (Vysochan *et al.* 2021b). Globally, the growing role of tourism is manifested through the strengthening of the multiplier effect of tourism, which is expressed in direct and indirect stimulation of related sectors of world economies and social spheres - culture and sports, transport, communications, trade, catering and others.

The basic principles of tourism for sustainable development are aimed at improving the welfare of the population and reducing the negative impact of tourist flows on the environment. The main idea of sustainable tourism is the care and preservation of the natural environment, which is used for tourism purposes and implemented in its tasks and functions. The above indicates the prospects for tourism development for sustainable development.

## 1. Literature Review

The scientific issues of tourism in the context of sustainable development are presented in terms of three main components: economic (provides optimal use of limited resources), social component (human-oriented and aimed at maintaining the stability of social and cultural systems, including reducing destructive conflicts between people) and the environmental component (ensuring the integrity of biological and physical natural systems). This topic is widely covered in the works of scientists: Aall (2014), Fibrianto (2021), Fitri Amir *et al.* (2015), Hadad (2019), Hyk *et al.* (2021), Manniche *et al.* (2021), Negruşa *et al.* (2015), Pasek and Ratkowski (2021), Phoochinda (2019), Pulido-Fernández *et al.* (2015), Rasoolimanesh *et al.* (2020), Richins (2009), Sharpley (2020), Shcherbakova (2019), Siryk *et al.* (2021), Sysoieva *et al.* (2021), Vysochan *et al.* (2021c), Wardana *et al.* (2019) and others.

In the scientific literature, tourism for sustainable development is directly related to the use of the concepts of ecotourism and agrotourism. The work of many scientists is devoted to the study and analysis of the meaning of these terms. Thus, Motuzenko and Kireieva (2020) analyzed the substantive essence of the concepts of “rural tourism”, “ecotourism” and “agrotourism” of countries such as Canada, Italy, the USA, Poland and their comparative analysis. Ana (2017) studied the development trends of ecotourism, agro-tourism, rural tourism in the countries of the European Union.

It should be noted that agrotourism has something in common with ecotourism, namely, it meets the criteria of environmental friendliness, ie contributes to nature protection, preservation of natural monuments, etc. Abroad, the offers of agro-villages are often combined with the requirements of ecological behaviour of tourists. But agrotourism has another purpose – it offers a stay in an agricultural enterprise (farm), agro-village (household) and the study of rural life, or just a holiday in a picturesque area, while ecotourism focuses on the active study of nature and, most often, active travel (Hranovska and Alieshchenko 2019).

In general, in the literature there is no universal and unique definition of “ecotourism”, each author formulates his vision of this category, in some works, it is argued that the term “ecotourism” is synonymous with the term “green tourism”, “agrotourism” and others. Therefore, there is a need for theoretical analysis of scientific and methodological approaches to the definition of “ecotourism” and “agrotourism”, the separation of common and distinctive features. In our opinion, it is most successful to make this comparison using bibliometric analysis. Bibliometrics - the use of mathematical and statistical methods to study the flow of scientific documents (books, periodicals, etc.) to identify trends in the subject areas, the peculiarities of authorship and the mutual influence of publications. Bibliometric links, such as citations, reciprocal citations and cross-references, authorial co-citations, and collective authorship, provide documentary evidence of communications within and between scientific fields (Vysochan *et al.* 2021a).

Isolated studies of these concepts through a bibliometric analysis were conducted by Khanra *et al.* (2021) – review in six reputable publishers in the period from 1990 to 2019; Singh *et al.* (2021) – review in the Journal of Ecotourism for the period from 2002 to 2020; León-Gómez *et al.* (2021) – review in the period from 1991 to 2019. However, it should be noted that these studies were conducted within a single journal and can be considered fragmentary.

## 2. Methodology

To study the thematic focus of publications and approaches for a deeper understanding of the concepts of ecotourism and agrotourism, as well as the availability of scientific schools in this field with further visualization, we conducted a bibliometric analysis based on Scopus Elsevier and Web of Science Core Collection databases using software VOSviewer. Several steps have been taken to build bibliometric maps:

- searched for the words “ecotourism”, “agrotourism”;
- the time lag from 2005 to 2020 was chosen.

The results were imported into VOSviewer. The analysis in this program was aimed at identifying the frequency of sharing terms by researchers in the titles, annotations and keywords of scientific publications.

In addition, for a more detailed analysis, we set a limit on which the term must occur at least five times (search shingle). It is worth noting that the bibliometric map shows the frequency of use of terms by the size of the circle and the closeness of the relationship and allows you to track variants of combinations of terms both within clusters and between them.

## 3. Results

As a result of the study for the period 2005-2020, the following were identified: 1) 7038 documents in Scopus and 5404 in Web of Science for the key term ecotourism and 2) 140 documents in Scopus and 162 in Web of Science for the key term agrotourism. Generalized information on the number of publications depending on the type of document is given in the Table 1.

Table 1. The total number of identified publications in terms of ecotourism and agrotourism

Document type	Ecotourism				Agrotourism			
	Scopus		Web of Science		Scopus		Web of Science	
	number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%
Article	5576	79,2	3911	72,4	97	69,3	86	53,1
Proceedings paper	-	-	821	15,2	-	-	67	41,4
Book chapter	434	6,2	399	7,4	5	3,6	5	3,1
Early access	28	-	43	0,8	-	-	-	-
Editorial	19	0,3	42	0,8	-	-	-	-
Review	272	3,9	110	2,0	5	3,6	4	2,5
Meeting abstract	17	-	15	0,3	-	-	-	-
Book review	16	-	47	0,9	-	-	-	-
Conference Paper (Conference Review)	600	8,5	-	-	30	21,4	-	-
Book	76	1,1	16	0,3	3	2,1	-	-
Total number	7038	100,0	5404	100,0	140	100,0	162	100,0

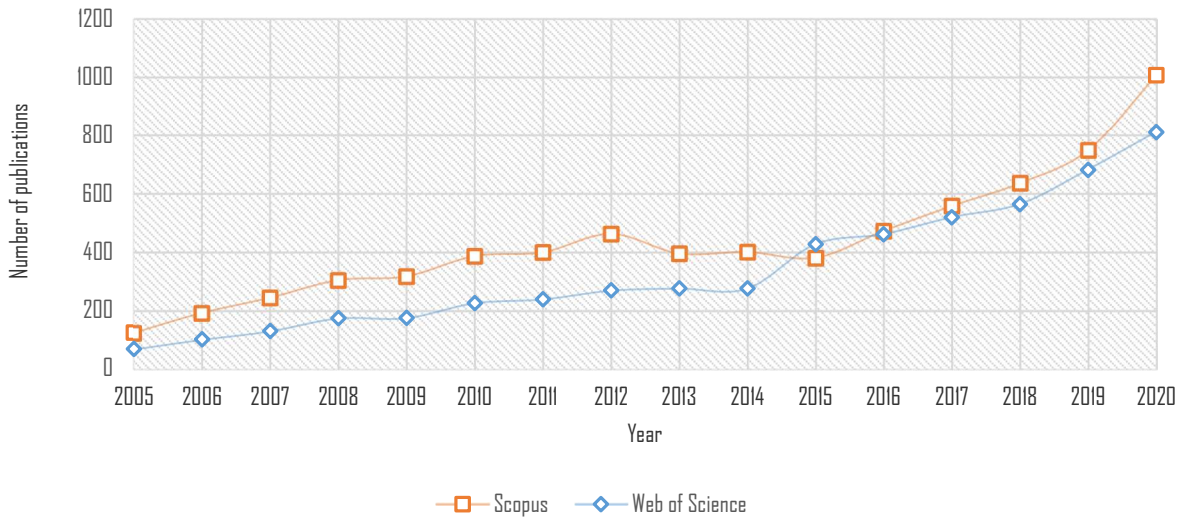
Source: generated by the authors based on data search in Scopus and Web of Science databases

From the Table 1 shows that the number of publications on the keyword ecotourism is much higher than on the word agrotourism. From this, we can conclude that the concept of ecotourism is more common and used

in scientific literature. Analyzing the structure of publications, it was determined that the vast majority (approximately 70% of the total) are scientific articles.

To conduct a quantitative analysis of publications, we will form a schedule of publications on ecotourism (Figure 1).

Figure 1. The number of publications on ecotourism for the period 2005-2020.

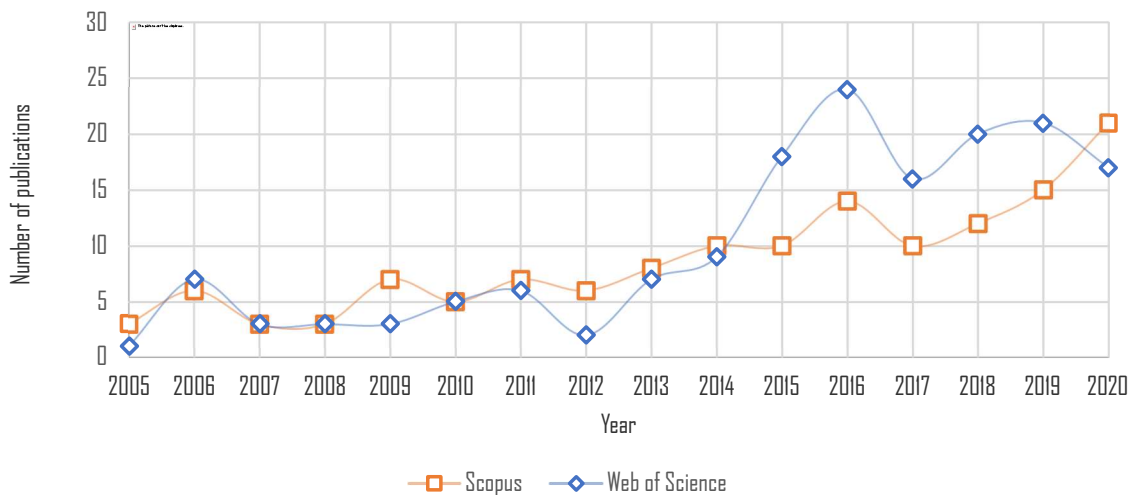


Source: formed by the authors based on data obtained from Scopus and Web of Science databases

From Figure 1 shows that the number of publications on ecotourism each year showed a growing trend. The Quebec Declaration on Eco-Tourism (Quebec Declaration, 2002), approved in 2002, gave an active impetus to this, becoming one of the main documents in the world on ecotourism. The Quebec Declaration sets out several criteria that an ecotourism product must meet, including political and financial support for environmental protection, recognition and respect for the rights of local and indigenous communities, and cultural and environmental education for tourists.

A slightly different situation is observed with regard to publications on agrotourism (Figure 2).

Figure 2. The number of publications on agrotourism for the period 2005-2020.



Source: formed by the authors based on data obtained from Scopus and Web of Science databases

From Figure 2 shows that the curve is galloping and the total number of publications during the year did not exceed 30 units, which is much less than the term ecotourism.

The structure of publications on the topic by category is shown in Figure 3.

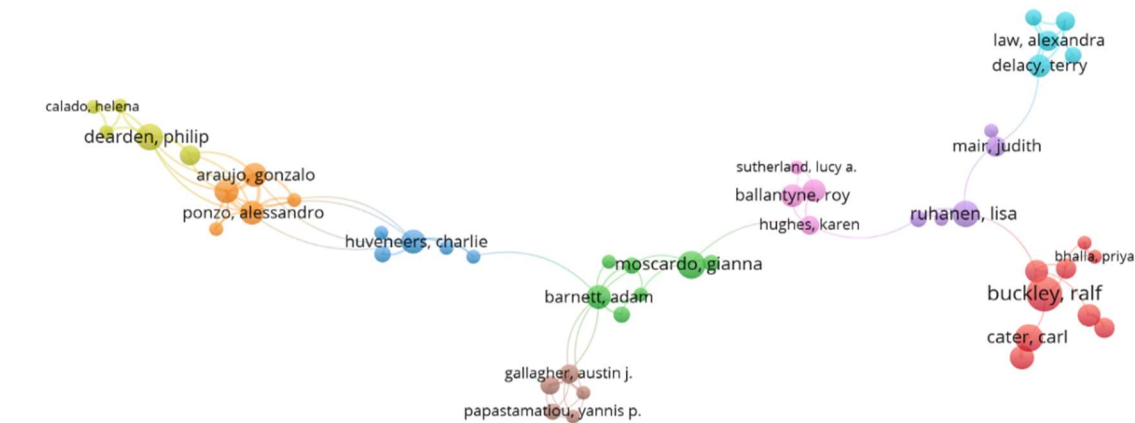






Given the ramifications of ecotourism and agrotourism, it is advisable to consider information about the most cited authors and the links between them (Figure 6).

Figure 6. The most cited authors in the research of ecotourism and agrotourism for 2005-2020.



Source: generated by the authors using VOSviewer

Visualization of the research network to complete the formation of the parameters of the scientific landscape of ecotourism also allows identifying patterns of citation between colleagues in the field of research. For example, Fig. 6 shows that there is a distance between clusters that are located far from each other, or, conversely, very related in terms of citation. In Fig. 6 separates nine clusters, which are marked with different colours, within each of which the authors often quote each other and the areas of research of which are related. It is characteristic that the authors are clustered not by geography, but by imitation of ideas and development of conceptual provisions of research. In particular, cluster 1 combines ecotourism research from British, Australian and American science schools.

The study found that the most cited authors are: Ralf Buckley (Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia) and Carl Cater (Swansea University, Swansea, United Kingdom). Also, their works Buckley (2021), Buckley *et al.* (2008) are the most cited in the field of ecotourism.

A study of publications by country of origin, as shown in the Table 3, will allow structuring the countries whose scholars most analyze the field of ecotourism and agrotourism.

Table 3. Top 7 countries by the number of publications on ecotourism and agrotourism

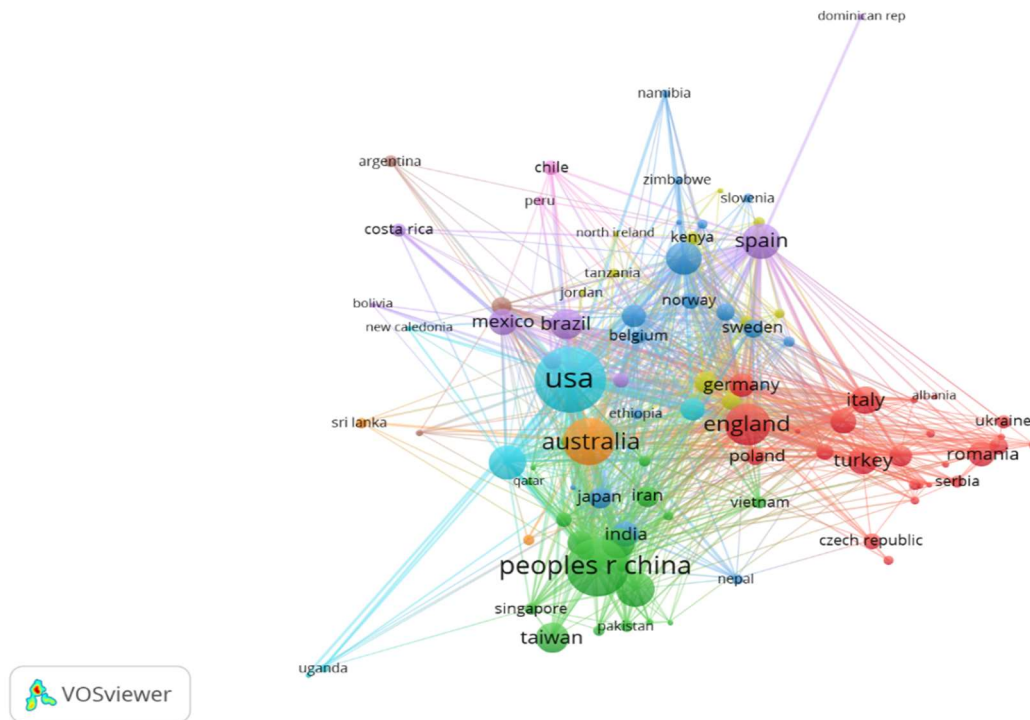
Ecotourism				Agrotourism			
Scopus		Web of Science		Scopus		Web of Science	
Country	Number of publications	Country	Number of publications	Country	Number of publications	Country	Number of publications
United States	1137	United States	957	Indonesia	21	Romania	36
Australia	744	China	734	Poland	15	Poland	20
China	689	Australia	481	Greece	13	Croatia	16
United Kingdom	589	United Kingdom	379	Romania	11	Czech Republic	15
Spain	359	Spain	256	Russian Federation	9	Greece	12
Indonesia	345	Indonesia	253	Croatia	8	Indonesia	11
Canada	340	Canada	237	Czech Republic	7	Slovakia	6

Source: generated by the authors based on data search in Scopus and Web of Science databases

Based on the data given in the Table 3 it can be concluded that the use of the term ecotourism is typical for the United States, Australia and Western Europe (United Kingdom, Spain), while the term agrotourism is used mainly in Eastern Europe (Romania, Poland, Czech Republic).

Here is a visualization of the use of the terms ecotourism and agrotourism, built-in terms of countries (Figure 7).

Figure 7. The visual map on ecotourism and agrotourism by country



Source: generated by the authors using VOSviewer

Analysis of bibliometric data in terms of journals will establish a certain correspondence between publications. For this purpose, we selected journals in two categories: by the largest number of documents (articles) and by the largest citations (Table 4).

Table 4. Grouping of journals (Top-8) by number of documents and citations

Rank	Journal by Documents	Documents	Rank	Journal by Citation	Citations
1	Journal of sustainable tourism	220	1	Journal of sustainable tourism	6709
2	Sustainability	187	2	Tourism Management	6197
3	Tourism Management	94	3	Annals of Tourism Research	2545
4	Annals of Tourism Research	49	4	Biological Conservation	2138
5	Biological Conservation	48	5	Sustainability	1325
6	Current Issue In Tourism	45	6	Journal of Cleaner Production	1020
7	Asia Pacific Journal of Tourism Research	43	7	International Journal of hospitality management	960
8	International Journal of Sustainability Development And World Ecology	39	8	Current Issue In Tourism	823

Source: generated by the authors based on data search in Scopus and Web of Science databases

From the Table 4 shows that the largest number of publications (220) and the largest citation (6709) on this topic has the Journal of Sustainable Tourism. Quite a large number of publications are available in the journals Sustainability (187) and Tourism Management (94). In other journals, the number of publications was less than 50 units. In addition, high citations were observed in the journals Tourism Management (6197), Annals of Tourism Research (2545) and Biological Conservation (2138). Below is a visual map in terms of journals (Figure 8).







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ISSN 2068 – 7729

Journal DOI: <https://doi.org/10.14505/jemt>

Journal's Issue DOI: [https://doi.org/10.14505/jemt.v13.2\(58\).00](https://doi.org/10.14505/jemt.v13.2(58).00)