

Conflicts in tourism and sustainable development in Moieciu de Sus Village, Moieciu Resort, Romania

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Abstract: Moieciu, a tourist resort of local interest, focused on agri-tourism, has become a favourite destination for weekend tourism, gaining mass tourism features. Situated between two large protected areas, the eastern part of the resort has developed slightly uncontrolled in comparison with the western side that has to undergo specific conservation management. Thus, in the eastern part, respectively in Moieciu de Sus Village, the accommodation structures boomed generating extremely high densities of the accommodation capacity in some areas, so that this informal development and the tourists' flows have led to the emergence of some conflicts. The study aims at identifying and assessing the causes and effects of the conflicts that occur within a part of resort. The research methodology includes field observations for mapping the locations with problems and introduction to GIS, semi-structured interviews. The results show that there are many spatial, environmental, socio-cultural and economic conflicts. For a sustainable development the area should solve some conflicts in order to improve the environmental quality, the agri-pastoral landscape conservation and to raise both local community quality of life and tourists satisfaction.

Key words: *Conflict, tourism, environmental pollution, sustainable development, Moieciu de Sus, Romania.*

1. Introduction

Tourism is perceived by its benefits, especially for the consumers (Cohen, 2013) and also for business stakeholders. In many regions of the world, aiming to get as much as possible gains to investors, tourism infrastructure was overdeveloped stimulating mass tourism which consumed very rapid the destinations (Buttler,1997).The decline of destinations lead to the loss of tourists satisfaction and trigger many environmental (Young et al., 2016), economic, social (Yang et al., 2013) and cultural conflicts (Zeppel, 2010).

In recent times, new forms of sustainable tourism try to solveparts of these issues among them being the ecotourism, agri-tourism, responsible tourism etc. (Matei, 2016). The sustainable tourism development is geared towards acquiring benefits on

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