



A potential community-based tourism analysis of Baseco: A basis for socio-economic sustainability development

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ABSTRACT

Background: Community-based tourism has been promoted as a strategy for the reduction of poverty, with the potential to improve the sustainability of marginalized regions and communities. The locals of Baseco have low wages, unsecured employment, and limited access to primary services like education, healthcare, sanitation, and adequate shelter. **Methods:** The study determines the relationship between the local government views on community-based tourism and their level of contributions to the community-based tourism for the Baseco's socio-economic sustainability development. The researchers had two distinct categories of respondents to get the perspectives of all parties involved in the study's beneficial result. Using the quantitative method and the purposive sampling technique, there were 130 respondents through online survey questionnaires. The data of the respondents were examined using a Likert scale, and the collected information was statistically analyzed using frequency, weighted mean, standard deviation, and Pearson correlation coefficient. **Finding:** Using the elements of community-based tourism such as: (1) resource conservation; (2) social and economic development; (3) empowerment and ownership; and (4) quality visitor experience, the participants determine the impact of community-based tourism to the community. The result indicates a moderately strong positive relationship between the viewed community-based tourism socio-economic activity of the local government unit in Baseco and the perceived level of possible contributions to its community-based socio-economic sustainability. Moreover, the result from the local community of Baseco indicates a strong agreement and satisfaction with the possible implementation of community-based tourism in Baseco. **Conclusion:** The residents firmly support and express pleasure with the implementation of community-based tourism as shown in the data.

KEYWORDS: community-based tourism; local government unit; socio-economic; sustainable development.

1. Introduction

Community-Based Tourism (CBT) has been promoted as a strategy for the reduction of poverty, with the potential to improve the sustainability of marginalized regions and communities (Juma & Khademi-Vidra, 2019). Community-Based Tourism has generally benefited the local communities in terms of economic gains, employment opportunities, and improved infrastructure (Inocencio, 2023). Hiwasaki (2006), stated that Community-Based Tourism is composed of four elements. Resource conservation focuses on preserving the environment and creating a beneficial impact on both natural and cultural resources in the area through tourism, thereby adding value to the region. Social and economic development

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involves offering an alternative approach to local economic growth, ensuring that benefits and costs are distributed fairly among residents participating in tourism activities. Empowerment and ownership emphasize strengthening the role of local communities by encouraging their involvement in responsible tourism planning and management. Additionally, quality visitor experiences are achieved by providing unique and meaningful encounters for tourists, fostering a sense of social and environmental responsibility.

Tondo and Baseco in Metro Manila's outskirts are inhabited by an estimated 750,000 people in an area barely larger than 9 square kilometers, causing it to be one of the world's largest and most populous urban informal settlements. People who live in Tondo and Baseco come from all over the Philippines in an attempt to find better opportunities for employment in the city (Choi, 2021). The locals of Baseco have low-wage, unsecured employment and limited access to primary services like education, healthcare, sanitation, and adequate shelter (World Vision Philippines, 2021).

The livelihoods of those who live along the coast are fishermen (Amoguis, 2022a). Moreover, there is an existing organization in Baseco named "Kabalikat sa Kaunlaran ng Baseco" that is partnered with a non-governmental organization, "Urban Poor Associates" and takes a community-based approach. Their mission is to encourage volunteerism and assist their fellow citizens in the following areas: land tenure security, education, health, environment, livelihood, savings, and membership (Tenolete, personal communication, January 10, 2024).

The Kabalikat organization intends to commit to their missions and goals in their environment program, which includes the implementation of additional protections for Baseco residents. Mangrove planting, for example, contributes to improved water quality while also restoring the ecosystem by allowing several marine species to return to their natural spawning grounds. They additionally plant mangroves to help their community eliminate big waves, as the area is surrounded by water (Betasolo, personal communication, January 10, 2024).

Furthermore, to sustain the cleanliness of the beach, DENR and the Manila City government mandated a constant clean-up drive in the Baseco beach every five in the morning (Castillo, personal communication, September 16, 2023). However, countless amounts of plastic waste are collected every day, which appears to be a never-ending task for clean-up crews and garbage collectors (Amoguis, 2022b). The community has been struggling with a shortage of clean water and sanitation facilities.

Ms. *Edith Castillo* also added that there are currently no tourism activities in Baseco. Baseco beach is still closed from the tourists and locals because of the extremely elevated levels of fecal coliform, or bacteria from human excrement at the beach that has a great impact on health risk (GMA News Online, 2023). Despite the Department of Health's strong warning to avoid swimming on Baseco beach for the reason that it can lead to skin diseases, sore eyes, leptospirosis, amoebiasis, typhoid fever, and other gastrointestinal diseases, there are a plethora of illnesses that are possible to acquire in a polluted environment (Bosano, ABS-CBN News, 2023).

Tondo, Manila's beach, once a popular spot with coconut trees, was largely unnoticed before the development of Roxas Boulevard. Today, the area is occupied by commercial and industrial enterprises, including the Cultural Center of the Philippines and the Mall of Asia. In a short interview that the researchers conducted in Baseco on September 16, 2023, Saturday, with Ms. *Edith Castillo*, a local administrator of the barangay, former president Arroyo and the administration proposed to put 10-hectares of land around the area to be developed for more public housing.

However, due to some circumstance, it was not pursued, leaving only 4-hectares from the previous plan, and since the project did not push through, hence, the Baseco beach was made. The shells from the waves made Baseco beach look like white sand. She also added that it would be great if it was fully developed as the current project consists solely of clean-ups. Due to the past history of the area, Baseco has potential to become a famous tourist attraction in the future. In developing countries such as the Philippines, where residents engage in the tourism development process, community-based tourism is the most common

type of tourism. The involvement of local communities is practiced in several areas throughout the Philippines (Laire & Gutierrez, 2019; Mitekaro & Poche, 2017; Tiwari et al., 2021).

However, without the help of the Local Government Units, there will be no actions to begin with. Department of Budget and Management (2012), define local governments as political entities made up of provinces, municipalities, and barangays. They have long existed with their own legislative bodies that are empowered with specified authorities, as stated by the Revised Administrative Code and individual local government unit (LGU) charters.

According to Adi et al. (2017), the local government plays an essential role in developing the community's tourism potential. As a motivator, the involvement of the local government is crucial for expanding the tourism business. Motivation should primarily target investors, communities, and entrepreneurs involved in the tourism sector. Additionally, the government acts as a facilitator by providing the necessary infrastructure to support all programs organized by the government to develop tourism potential. In practice, governments can collaborate with a variety of public and private groups to ensure effective tourism development. As a dynamist, the government plays a crucial role in fostering collaboration among the private sector, public sector, and other stakeholders. The local government is particularly significant in bringing all involved parties together to establish symbiotic mutualism, including for tourism development initiatives. To explore the potential of community-based tourism as a tool for socio-economic sustainable progress in Baseco, the researchers aim to understand the Manila local government unit's perspective on this possibility.

2. Methods

The researchers used a quantitative approach as it allows the researcher to quantify variables and test hypotheses in a systematic manner. Quantitative research is frequently employed in order to standardize data collection and generalize findings. In a quantitative approach, the study can be replicated in various cultural settings, times, or with different groups of participants. The outcomes can be statistically compared. In addition, through quantitative data analysis, data from large numbers of samples can be analyzed and processed using reliable and consistent methods (Bhandari, 2020a). Moreover, the researchers utilized a descriptive-correlational method in this study. Researchers gathered data to better understand the variables of interest and determine how the viewed community-based tourism socio-economic activity of the Local Government Unit in Baseco and the level of possible contributions of the Local Government Units to its community-based socio-economic sustainability relate to one another. The main goal is to account for all variables and their relationships without modifying them or assuming that one thing causes another. Researchers in descriptive correlational research do not change any variables or attempt to find cause-and-effect relationships. Instead, they simply observe and analyze the variables of interest before examining the patterns and relationships that emerge from the data (Bhat, 2018).

Purposive Sampling is a non-probability in which groups are chosen because they display attributes that are required in the sample. The units are selected "on purpose" in purposive sampling. When choosing and selecting individuals, cases, or 31 events that might offer the most useful data to accomplish the goals of the research, this sampling approach depends on the researcher's judgment (Nikolopoulou, 2022). The study used purposive sampling under non-probability sampling method, considering that there is already a sample that has been approached with a specific goal in mind. The researchers have two distinct categories of respondents to get the perspectives of all parties involved in the study's beneficial result.

According to *Mr. Angelo Carlo Salonga*, Tourism Operation Officer II, the Department of Tourism, Culture, and Arts of Manila has 118 personnel, but out of the said number of employees, only 51 were able to agree to answer the survey. Whereas the Department of

Public Services - Manila has 81 according to *Mr. Allen Adalin*, one of the employees in the DPS offices. However, out of the said number of employees, only 58 were able to agree to answer the survey. Besides, another reason why the other respondents did not answer the survey was because some of the employee contracts had already expired. Baseco's local government, on the other hand, has 11 personnel, which include the chairman, seven kagawad, treasurer, secretary, and the barangay administrator, according to *Ms. Edith Castillo*. But there were only four people who agreed to answer the survey. Moreover, the researchers wanted to know the views of the Manila city mayor, *Maria Sheilah Honrado "Honey" Lacuna-Pangan*; hence, the representative of the mayor was able to answer the survey. As a result, there are 114 Manila Local Government Unit respondents.

According to the Local Government Code of the Philippines, Title Two: Elective Officials, Chapter 1, Qualification and Election, Section 39, that "(a) An elective local official must be a citizen of the Philippines; a registered voter in the Barangay, municipality, city, or province or, in the case of a member of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, Sangguniang Panlungsod, or Sanggunian bayan, the district where he intends to be elected; a resident therein for at least one year immediately preceding the day of the election; and able to read and write Filipino or any other local language or dialect. (b) Candidates for the position of governor, vice-governor or member of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, or Mayor, vice-mayor or member of the Sangguniang Panlungsod of highly urbanized cities must be at least 23 years of age on election day. (c) Candidates for the position of Mayor or vice-mayor of independent component cities, component cities, municipalities must be at 21 years of age on election day. (d) Candidates for the position of member of the Sangguniang Panlungsod or Sangguniang bayan must be at least 18 years of age on election day. (e) Candidates for the position of Punong Barangay or member of the Sangguniang Barangay must be at least 18 years of age on election day. (f) Candidates for the Sangguniang kabataan must be at least 15 years of age but not more than 21 years of age on election day" (Local Government Code of 1991).

Selected agencies include Manila City Mayor, Department of Tourism, Culture, and Arts of Manila (DTCAM), Department of Public Services (DPS), and Baseco Compound Barangay. The office of the mayor is one of the respondents, considering they are most likely involved in decision-making when it comes to overseeing and regulating all municipal programs, initiatives, services, and activities in Baseco. Meanwhile, DTCAM is responsible for the promotion and development of tourism activities in the municipality. As a result, this office is included as a respondent in the study since the personnel at this office are associated with the planned project, and the study intends to determine the potential of community-based tourism in Baseco for its socio-economic sustainability. The Public Service Department was also involved, as the Manila Public Service Department handles the management of community waste. This office is connected to the study; hence, the views of the staff are important as the researchers are also looking at the waste management side of Baseco, which can affect the socio-economic sustainable growth in the area.

Given that the research is intended for the local government of Baseco, they are one of the most crucial respondents. As Baseco's government officials live in this community, changes to the potential project of the study have the greatest impact on the lives of people working in this office. Additionally, the researchers included the *Baseco Community* as respondents in order to gain knowledge about their perspectives on community-based tourism and the potential contributions of the Local Government Unit to Baseco's socio-economic sustainability development. Furthermore, on November 6, 2023, the researchers went to Baseco to gather information about the community leaders. To obtain the information, the researchers headed to the barangay where *Ms. Edith Castillo*, the barangay administrator at that time, was located. She suggested that researchers should reach out to "Kabalik sa Kaunlaran ng Baseco," also known as "Kabalik Youth," as our potential respondents. According to the barangay administrator, the Kabalik Youth Organization has four hundred (400) members and was formed to assist the barangay in implementing and monitoring programs and activities such as disaster risk reduction and solid waste management (World Vision Philippines, 2021). However, since the Kabalik officers and

leaders are the ones who assist the members and have the most knowledge of the system within the organization, the researchers selected them as the respondents to the study. There were sixteen officers and leaders in the organization, and they were able to agree and answer the survey.

2.1 Criteria for selecting the respondent

The respondent criteria in this research encompass three main requirements, namely (1) must be 18 years old or older, where the Philippine law establishes the majority age at 18 years according to Republic Act No. 6809, which states that majority commences at the age of eighteen years and does not require parental consent. The law specifically amends Article 234 of Executive Order No. 209, the Family Code of the Philippines, stating that emancipation takes place by attainment of majority, and at eighteen years, individuals are qualified and responsible for all acts of civil life, save for exceptions established by existing laws in special cases; (2) Must be currently residing in Baseco, since the research is intended for the Baseco community and to answer questions effectively and ethically, the respondent ought to reside in Baseco; (3) Must be part of the people's organization in Baseco, where the researchers are looking for a local resident who can represent the interests of the community as they know what is most beneficial for the people of Baseco.

2.2 Data collection, analysis, and interpretation of data

The following steps constitute the data collection process that the researchers employed, namely literary analysis, determining the respondents and sample size, formulation of the survey questionnaire, basis of the survey questionnaire, validation and reliability test of the research instrument, conveying a letter of intent, disseminating survey questionnaires, and retrieval of the data. After the data gathering, the researchers tallied the responses and transferred it into an Excel document. After tallying, the researchers subsequently sought the assistance of a statistician to analyze the data and obtain the findings. In this final step of the data collection method, the researchers sought assistance from a statistician to have an accurate data analysis and interpretation of data. The data in each table was then fully analyzed and interpreted by the researchers. Systematic and statistical methods were used to organize and analyze the data. The study's conclusions and recommendations are then based on the data that has been examined and interpreted.

The study is quantitative in nature. Moreover, the researchers obtained the data using survey questionnaires, specifically, Google forms. The research questions in the statement of the problem are answered using three 5-Point Likert Scales: Agreement, Likelihood, and Satisfaction. This is a frequent scaling approach that consists of various statements expressing one's perspective on a subject. A Likert scale is a type of rating scale that is used to assess opinions, attitudes, or behaviors. It begins with a statement or a question and then proceeds by five or seven answer statements. The option which most effectively indicates the respondent's emotions about the statement or question is chosen. Likert scales are commonly used in survey research, marketing, psychology, and other social sciences (Bhandari, 2020b).

Furthermore, the researchers were able to gather data through the development of the research tool. To verify the accuracy of the tools, the researchers consulted with their research adviser and a panel. In addition, researchers sought the assistance of a statistician to attest the study's instrument and questionnaire content. A consultation with a statistician professional was held to enhance the credibility of the research instrument, questionnaire, and statistics. The statistician has the following qualifications, namely a master's degree in a relevant subject such as statistics and professional certification.

The material is treated using four distinct statistical tools in accordance with the issues and the research procedure in order to address the study's questions. Frequency was utilized to make tallying and counting of frequencies simpler by using each item or category as a basis. With the Equation 1, where F frequency and n total number of respondents.

$$\text{Percentage} = F/n \times 100 \quad (\text{Eq. 1})$$

Weighted Mean was this statistical tool used to ascertain whether there is a prospect of community-based tourism in Baseco using the responses given by the survey respondents during the actual data collection procedure. The equation for calculating the weighted mean is to use Equation 2, where X_w weighted mean, f frequency, W weight of response, and N total number of responses.

$$X_w = f(W) N \quad (\text{Eq. 2})$$

3. Results and Discussion

3.1 Local government units' views on community-based tourism as a socio-economic activity in Baseco

The shown data below is the results of the gathered data analysis of the local government units regarding their views to Community-Based Tourism as a socio-economic activity in Baseco on the following CBT elements: Resource Conservation, Social and Economic Development, Empowerment and Ownership, and Quality Visitor Experience. The overall mean of the survey responses is 4.45, reflecting a strong consensus and high agreement among participants regarding environmental conservation and sustainable development in Baseco (Table 1). The majority of respondents marked *Strongly Agree* for each statement, indicating a shared commitment toward preserving natural resources, promoting biodiversity conservation, and enhancing the ecological well-being of the area. Governments hold a pivotal position in formulating legislative frameworks and enacting regulations that foster sustainable utilization of natural resources and enable local communities to responsibly oversee their resources' management (Ghayoumi et al. 2023).

Table 1. Views of the local government unit to community-based tourism in terms of resource conservation

Statement	Weighted Mean	Verbal Interpretation
To preserve areas in Baseco with fragile ecosystems.	4.36	Strongly Agree
To protect, manage, and improve Baseco's natural and landscape in order to improve the visual quality of the environment	4.50	Strongly Agree
To protect and manage marine life because of their critical role in environmental regulation and as producers of protein and other products.	4.47	Strongly Agree
To provide and protect natural resources for outdoor recreation needed by the local community of Baseco.	4.44	Strongly Agree
To promote the rational use of marginal areas as well as environmentally sound urban development.	4.42	Strongly Agree
Investing in other biodiversity conservation programs in Baseco.	4.39	Strongly Agree
To improve and enhance watersheds and water courses in Baseco in order to maintain high quality and quantity standards.	4.49	Strongly Agree
To promote and encourage environmental education to gain awareness among the community.	4.61	Strongly Agree
To improve the ecological well-being and scenic quality of coastal views in order to demonstrate man's unified interactions with the sea, while also offering opportunities for recreation, tourism, education, and research.	4.40	Strongly Agree
To protect natural resources through a zoning system that will ensure strict protection in some areas of Baseco.	4.40	Strongly Agree
Overall Mean	4.45	Strongly Agree

The overall mean of the Local Government Unit views on community-based tourism in Baseco in terms of social and economic development is 4.47, indicating a robust consensus and strong agreement among the surveyed local government units (Table 2). The majority of respondents marked *Strongly Agree* for each statement, reflecting a collective endorsement of community-based tourism as a socio-economic activity for social and economic development in Baseco. This aligns with the study of Zabeen et al. (2021), that tourism can have a positive impact on the economy by generating foreign exchange, creating job opportunities, and increasing government revenue.

Table 2. Views of the local government unit to community-based tourism in terms of social and economic development

Statement	Weighted mean	Verbal interpretation
To improve the quality of life in baseco by providing environmental and recreational areas, as well as cultural and social activities.	4.50	Strongly agree
To initiate a community plan or project to assist the growth of baseco, such as sustainability tourism and a green approach etc	4.51	Strongly agree
To encourage sustainable practices and activities in the community of baseco.	4.50	Strongly agree
To provide livelihood programs in baseco.	4.54	Strongly agree
To promote barangay micro businesses.	4.46	Strongly agree
To provide and support educational assistance to the residents of baseco.	4.59	Strongly agree
The lgu is enthusiastic about collaborating between residents to easily achieve economic advancement.	4.42	Strongly agree
The lgu will offer public employment services.	4.40	Strongly agree
The lgu will generate revenue to sustain, develop, and enhance local infrastructure and community services.	4.42	Strongly agree
The lgu is motivated to establish a long-term community strategy that will decrease poverty and promote community progress.	4.32	Strongly agree
Overall mean	4.47	Strongly agree

The overall mean of the survey results on Local Government Units views on community-based tourism as a socio-economic activity in Baseco in terms of empowerment and ownership is 4.31, indicative of a strong consensus among participants (Table 3). The majority of Local Government Units expressed a positive stance, with a predominant *Strongly Agree* response to each statement. This high overall mean reflects a collective belief in the potential of community-based tourism to positively impact the socio-economic aspects of Baseco.

Table 3. Views of the local government unit to community-based tourism in terms of empowerment and ownership

Statement	Weighted mean	Verbal interpretation
To provide assistance to the residents with their start-up.	4.25	Strongly agree
To provide employment opportunities for the community.	4.42	Strongly agree
The residents will have sufficient freedom and authority to do their role in the community.	4.12	Agree
The lgu involves the residents in decision-making.	4.22	Strongly agree
Community ownership and empowerment is beneficial to society.	4.19	Agree
To organize and conduct events/seminars to enhance the skills of the residents.	4.44	Strongly agree
Community ownership and empowerment is necessary to get the desired results.	4.25	Strongly agree
The lgu is willing to cooperate with the residents in the community.	4.40	Strongly agree
To organize events/seminars for the environmental awareness of the residents.	4.46	Strongly agree

To promote community ownership and empowerment programs.	4.34	Strongly agree
Overall mean	4.31	Strongly agree

In sum, while these statements received slightly lower mean scores, the overall agreement suggests recognition of the importance of addressing these aspects for the successful implementation of community-based tourism in Baseco. There may be opportunities for enhanced communication and education to further strengthen community involvement and empowerment initiatives. The overall mean of the Local Government Units' views on community-based tourism in Baseco in terms of Quality Visitor Experience is 4.39, indicating a robust consensus and high agreement among participants regarding the socio-economic potential of community-based tourism (Table 4).

Table 4. Views of the local government unit to community-based tourism in terms of quality visitor experience

Statement	Weighted Mean	Verbal Interpretation
Organizing the local transportation services.	4.31	Strongly agree
Conduct a rehabilitation program to ensure the cleanliness of the destination.	4.55	Strongly agree
Ensuring that the natural environment is respected in this tourist destination.	4.46	Strongly agree
To have more availability for recreational activities to the destination.	4.33	Strongly agree
Ensures that the locals at this tourist destination treat visitors with respect.	4.43	Strongly agree
To ensure the personal safety and security of the destination.	4.48	Strongly agree
Providing cultural, natural, and historical education of the destination.	4.43	Strongly agree
To use integrated quality management, which includes assessing visitor satisfaction at a destination.	4.30	Strongly agree
To offer quality accommodation and services to the destination.	4.33	Strongly agree
Represent the area at tourism road shows/fairs.	4.28	Strongly agree
Overall Mean	4.39	Strongly agree

The majority of respondents marked *Strongly Agree* for each statement, demonstrating a collective commitment to fostering a positive visitor experience and supporting community-based tourism as a viable economic activity in Baseco. The results indicate an overall positive outlook on community-based tourism, with specific areas identified for potential targeted improvements. The high overall mean and agreement among respondents underscore the collective commitment to leveraging tourism as a socio-economic activity in Baseco. The nuanced analysis of individual statements provides valuable insights for local authorities to refine their strategies and enhance various aspects of community-based tourism for a more holistic and sustainable development approach in Baseco.

3.2 Level of possible contributions of the local government unit on community-based tourism in Baseco in terms of socio-economic sustainability

This section evaluates the level of possible local government contributions to community-based tourism in Baseco for its socio-economic sustainability. The local government units' roles are recognized by: Motivator, Facilitator, and Dynamist. The overall mean for the level of possible contributions of the Local Government Unit on Community-Based Tourism in Baseco in terms of motivator, with a mean score of 4.31, indicates a strong consensus among respondents (Table 5). This suggests a high likelihood of perceiving the local government's contributions as very likely to positively impact socio-economic sustainability as a motivator for community-based tourism. The predominant *Very Likely*

response category highlights a shared belief in the potential effectiveness of the local government's role in fostering community-based tourism.

Table 5. Motivator

Statement	Weighted Mean	Verbal Interpretation
Reinforce investment promotion activities such as conferences, fiestas, corporate events, and other similar activities that will help the community.	4.30	Very likely
Supports and encourages innovative startups and helps them grow.	4.32	Very likely
Conduct entrepreneurial programs, like providing training and seminars about business and product development.	4.36	Very likely
Collaborate with multiple investors to diversify funding sources in order to generate more jobs and strengthen Baseco's competitive position.	4.32	Very likely
Implement tourism promotions strategies.	4.26	Very likely
To ensure the personal safety and security of the destination.	4.38	Very likely
Ensure that local tourism development plans are properly coordinated, integrated, prioritized, and implemented.	4.25	Very likely
Oversee and organize the execution of projects, programmes, and policies related to tourism.	4.27	Very likely
Offer a comprehensive market development programme to draw tourists to the area.	4.35	Very likely
Establishing a safe environment that motivates the group.	4.28	Very likely
Overall Mean	4.31	Very likely

This finding is in line with the study of Lidona et al. (2021), emphasizing that the government acts as a driving force in society, promoting the participation of local communities in managing the development of tourism. The engagement of the local government as a motivator is required for sustainable tourism development. The role of government as a motivator has a beneficial and important effect on community-based tourism, as evidenced by the predominant social, economic, cultural, environmental, and political dimensions.

Table 6. Facilitator

Statement	Weighted Mean	Verbal Interpretation
Planning a full community participation project such as discussion of different options, decision-making, and action.	4.32	Very likely
Conduct ongoing research projects and surveys to assess the destination's tourism economic circumstances and trends.	4.32	Very likely
To provide needs in terms of infrastructure and programs in the area.	4.28	Very likely
To assess the effectiveness of projects and engagement processes.	4.26	Very likely
Encouraging participation and brainstorming with other stakeholders.	4.25	Very likely
Implement policies that allow businesses to create more value in terms of efficiency and effectiveness.	4.31	Very likely
Invest in infrastructure that makes it easier for businesses to create value and come up with new business ideas.	4.30	Very likely
Increase the locals' skills and knowledge foundation by enabling research as well as reforming education.	4.42	Very likely
Collaborate with various groups with the goal of creating goals and strategies for increasing employment opportunities and healthcare projects.	4.34	Very likely
Facilitates the community in reaching an outcome or decision-making for which everyone will take full responsibility and commitment.	4.37	Very likely
Overall Mean	4.32	Very likely

The survey results reveal a strong consensus among participants, with an overall mean of 4.32, regarding the Local Government Unit potential contributions to community-based tourism in Baseco in terms of socio-economic sustainability as a facilitator (Table 6). The majority of respondents expressed a *Very Likely* response for each statement, indicating a shared belief in the Local Government Unit's pivotal role in fostering community-based tourism for socio-economic development in the area. This corresponds with the study of Wangdi (2020), which emphasizes that local authorities have the opportunity to combine their functions as executors and facilitators.

They can unite key stakeholders, encourage partnerships, and enhance collaboration mechanisms. Furthermore, the survey results underscore a collective belief in the Local Government Unit's potential to significantly contribute to community-based tourism and socio-economic sustainability in Baseco. The nuanced differences in mean scores provide valuable insights into specific areas where respondents perceive opportunities for improvement or emphasis within the Local Government Unit's facilitation role.

Table 7. Dynamist

Statement	Weighted Mean	Verbal interpretation
Increase the commitment of LGU officials and other parties to ensure the collaboration's long-term viability.	4.33	Very likely
Conduct field visits to successful collaboration cases.	4.30	Very likely
Collaboration with nongovernmental organizations, academe, and research institutions, among others.	4.34	Very likely
Strengthening the promotion of local collaboration through policy support, including national or provincial government technical and financial assistance.	4.30	Very likely
Conduct strong information, education, and communication campaigns to ensure social acceptance.	4.48	Very likely
Promotion of public-private partnerships and their relation to waste management, amongst others.	4.36	Very likely
Implementation of specific policies and programs to support the community.	4.43	Very likely
Undertake continuing research studies and surveys to analyze tourism economic conditions and trends and compile and integrate a statistical database.	4.39	Very likely
Public-private partnership and external investments should be promoted.	4.28	Very likely
Establish motivating joint projects.	4.38	Very likely
Overall Mean	4.36	Very likely

The level of possible contributions of the Local Government Unit on Community-Based Tourism in Baseco, focusing on dynamist aspects, exhibits an overall mean of 4.36, indicating a *High Likelihood* of contributions and a positive perception among respondents (Table 7). This suggests a collective belief in the efficacy of various strategies and collaborations to enhance socio-economic sustainability in the context of community-based tourism. The outcome matches up with the study of Mtapuri et al. (2020). The local government supports community-based tourism through the implementation of programs and policies, enabling local business development and creating employment opportunities, supporting interaction between cultures and preservation of heritage, and maintaining sustainable tourism procedures with minimal negative environmental impact.

3.3 Relationship between the viewed community-based tourism socio-economic activity of the local government unit in Baseco and the level contributions of the local government units to its socio-economic sustainability

The Pearson correlation coefficient of 0.597 between the viewed community-based tourism socio-economic activity of the Local Government Unit in Baseco and the level of possible contributions of the Local Government Unit to its community-based socio-economic sustainability suggests a moderately strong positive relationship. The correlation coefficient, being positive, indicates that as the viewed community-based tourism socio-economic activity of the Local Government Unit increases, there is a tendency for the perceived level of possible contributions to socio-economic sustainability also to increase. Meanwhile, the statistically significant p-value of 0.000, which is less than the conventional significance level of 0.05, suggests that this correlation is not due to random chance, reinforcing the reliability of the relationship observed. Hence, the null hypothesis of this study should be rejected accordingly (Table8).

Table 8. Pearson correlation coefficient result

Level of Possible Contributions of the Local Government Units to its Community-Based Socio-Economic Sustainability	Viewed Community-Based Tourism Socio-Economic Activity of the Local Government Unit in Baseco
Pearson Correlation	0.597***
Significant (2-tailed)	0.000

**correlation is significant at the 0.05 level

3.4 Views of the residents of Baseco in community-based tourism and the level of satisfaction with the possible contributions of the Local Government in Community- Based Tourism

Furthermore, for additional supporting data of the study, the researchers obtained the perception of the residents of Baseco regarding their views in community-based tourism and the level of satisfaction in terms of the possible contribution of the local government units to community-based tourism. Their responses to the survey are important as they will benefit from and execute the planned and organized programs/projects. The presented data below is the viewed perception of the residents in community-based tourism and the possible contribution of the local government regarding community-based tourism as a socio-economic sustainability development activity in Baseco.

Table 9. Views of the residents to community-based tourism in terms of resource conservation

Statement	Weighted Mean	Verbal interpretation
To preserve areas in Baseco with fragile ecosystems.	4.25	Strongly agree
To protect, manage, and improve Baseco's natural and landscape in order to improve the visual quality of the environment	4.38	Agree
To protect and manage marine life because of their critical role in environmental regulation and as producers of protein and other products.	4.63	Strongly agree
To provide and protect natural resources for outdoor recreation needed by the local community of Baseco.	4.56	Strongly agree
To promote the rational use of marginal areas as well as environmentally sound urban development	4.44	Strongly agree
Investing in other biodiversity conservation programs in Baseco.	4.25	Strongly agree
To improve and enhance watersheds and water courses in Baseco in order to maintain high quality and quantity standards.	4.56	Strongly agree
To promote and encourage environmental education to gain awareness among the community.	4.50	Strongly agree
To improve the ecological well-being and scenic quality of coastal views in order to demonstrate man's unified interactions with the	4.25	Strongly agree

sea, while also offering opportunities for recreation, tourism, education, and research.

To protect natural resources through a zoning system that will ensure strict protection in some areas of Baseco.	4.50	Strongly agree
Overall Mean	4.43	Strongly agree

The overall mean of survey responses is 4.43, indicating a substantial majority and high agreement among Baseco participants on environmental conservation and sustainable development issues (Table 9). The majority of respondents marked *Strongly Agree* for each statement, indicating a shared commitment to protecting natural resources, conserving biodiversity, and improving the area's ecological well-being. As highlighted by Adi et al. (2017), the role of government as a motivator has a beneficial and important effect on community-based tourism, as evidenced by the predominant social, economic, cultural, environmental, and political dimensions.

Table 10. Views of the residents to community-based tourism in terms of social and economic development

Statement	Weighted Mean	Verbal Interpretation
To improve the quality of life in Baseco by providing environmental and recreational areas, as well as cultural and social activities.	4.31	Strongly agree
To initiate a community plan or project to assist the growth of Baseco, such as sustainability tourism and a green approach etc.	4.50	Strongly agree
To encourage sustainable practices and activities in the community of Baseco.	4.56	Strongly agree
To provide livelihood programs in Baseco.	4.63	Strongly agree
To promote barangay micro businesses.	4.56	Strongly agree
To provide and support educational assistance to the residents of Baseco.	4.69	Strongly agree
Enthusiastic collaboration between residents to easily achieve economic advancement.	4.19	Strongly agree
Offering public employment services.	4.44	Strongly agree
Generate revenue to sustain, develop, and enhance local infrastructure and community services.	3.94	Agree
Motivated to establish a long-term community strategy that will decrease poverty and promote community progress.	4.31	Strongly agree
overall mean	4.41	Strongly agree

Overall mean of survey responses is 4.41, indicating that participants have a strong consensus and high agreement on Social and Economic Development in Baseco. A large number of respondents marked each statement as Strongly Agree, indicating a shared commitment to providing education, livelihood programs, and promoting micro in Baseco (Table 10). This finding is in line with the study of Paladan (2020), indicating that community-based tourism is a great tool in promoting local socioeconomic development and poverty reduction, creating opportunities for small-scale job creation and complementary occupations like agriculture, livestock farming, and fishing in rural and urban areas.

Table 11. Views of the residents to community-based tourism in terms of empowerment and ownership

Statement	Weighted Mean	Verbal Interpretation
To provide assistance to the residents with their start-up.	4.31	Strongly agree
To provide employment opportunities for the community.	4.50	Strongly agree
The residents will have sufficient freedom and authority to do their role in the community.	4.50	Strongly agree
The LGU involves the residents in decision-making.	4.38	Strongly agree
Community ownership and empowerment is beneficial to society.	4.13	Agree

To organize and conduct events/seminars to enhance the skills of the residents.	4.63	Strongly agree
Community ownership and empowerment is necessary to get the desired results.	4.19	Strongly agree
The LGU is willing to cooperate with the residents in the community.	4.56	Strongly agree
To organize events/seminars for the environmental awareness of the residents.	4.63	Strongly agree
To promote community ownership and empowerment programs.	4.13	Strongly agree
Overall Mean	4.39	Strongly agree

The overall mean of the locals' perspectives on community-based tourism in Baseco in terms of empowerment and ownership development is 4.39, indicating substantial consensus and agreement among those polled (Table 11). The majority of respondents marked *Strongly Agree* for each statement, indicating a widespread acceptance of community-based tourism as a socio-economic activity for empowerment and ownership development in Baseco. The findings are consistent with the study of Lwoga (2019), the gain institutional and managerial ability as well as a sense of ownership over tourism as they actively and completely participate in the management of Community-Based Tourism.

Table 12. Views of the residents to community-based tourism in terms of quality visitor experience

Statement	Weighted Mean	Verbal Interpretation
Organizing the local transportation services.	4.31	Agree
Conduct a rehabilitation program to ensure the cleanliness of the destination.	4.56	Strongly agree
Ensuring that the natural environment is respected in this tourist destination.	4.56	Strongly agree
To have more availability for recreational activities to the destination.	4.13	Strongly agree
Ensures that the locals at this tourist destination treat visitors with respect.	4.44	Strongly agree
To ensure the personal safety and security of the destination.	4.44	Strongly agree
Providing cultural, natural, and historical education of the destination.	4.25	Agree
To use integrated quality management, which includes assessing visitor satisfaction at a destination.	4.12	Strongly agree
To offer quality accommodation and services to the destination.	3.50	Agree
Represent the area at tourism road shows/fairs.	3.75	Neutral
Overall Mean	4.20	Strongly agree

The overall mean of survey responses is 4.20, indicating that participants have a strong consensus and high agreement on Quality Visitor Experience in Baseco (Table 12). The majority of respondents marked *Strongly Agree* for each statement, which included conducting rehabilitation, ensuring the natural environment is respected, using integrated quality management, and ensuring the destination's personal safety and security. The most common response category demonstrates a widespread belief in the potential effectiveness of the local government's role in promoting community-based tourism. This is consistent with Mercado et al. (2023) findings, stating that local communities contribute to tourism development by promoting tourism-related goods and services, fostering self-governance, and collaborating with other stakeholders in sectors like accommodation, transportation, food, and travel.

3.5 Level of satisfaction to the possible contribution of the local government unit to community-based tourism as socio-economic activity in Baseco

Table 13. Motivator

Statement	Weighted Mean	Verbal Interpretation
Reinforcing investment promotion activities such as conferences, fiestas, corporate events, and other similar activities that will help the community.	4.25	Very satisfied
Supporting and encouraging innovative startups and helping them grow.	4.06	Satisfied
Conducting entrepreneurial programs, like providing training and seminars about business and product development.	4.31	Very satisfied
Collaborating with multiple investors to diversify funding sources in order to generate more jobs and strengthen Baseco's competitive position.	3.88	Satisfied
Implementing tourism promotions strategies.	4.00	Satisfied
Ensuring that local tourism development plans are properly coordinated, integrated, prioritized, and implemented.	3.94	Satisfied
Oversees and organizes the execution of projects, programmes, and policies related to tourism.	3.81	Satisfied
Offering a comprehensive market development programme to draw tourists to the area.	3.75	Satisfied
Establishing a safe environment that motivates the group.	3.94	Very satisfied
Taking the initiative to plan and prepare ahead to ensure a smooth project.	4.25	Satisfied
Overall Mean	4.01	Satisfied

The overall mean for the level of potential local government unit contributions to Community-Based Tourism in Baseco in terms of motivator is 4.01, indicating a strong consensus among respondents (Table 13). This indicates a high level of satisfaction with the local government's contributions in terms of positively impacting socioeconomic sustainability as a motivator for community-based tourism. The predominant *Satisfied* response category highlights a shared belief in the potential effectiveness of the local government's role in fostering community-based tourism.

Table 14. Facilitator

Statement	Weighted Mean	Verbal Interpretation
Planning a full community participation project such as discussion of different options, decision-making, and action.	4.13	Very Satisfied
Conducting ongoing research projects and surveys to assess the destination's tourism economic circumstances and trends.	4.25	Satisfied
Providing the needs in terms of infrastructure and programs in the area.	4.13	Satisfied
Assessing the effectiveness of projects and engagement processes.	3.88	Satisfied
Encouraging participation and brainstorming with other stakeholders.	4.25	Satisfied
Implementing policies that allow businesses to create more value in terms of efficiency and effectiveness.	4.25	Satisfied
Investing in infrastructure that makes it easier for businesses to create value and come up with new business ideas.	4.00	Satisfied
Increasing the locals' skills and knowledge foundation by enabling research as well as reforming education.	4.31	Satisfied
Collaborating with various groups with the goal of creating goals and strategies for increasing employment opportunities and health-care projects.	4.31	Satisfied

Facilitates the community in reaching an outcome or decision-making for which everyone will take full responsibility and commitment.	3.88	Satisfied
Overall Mean	4.15	Satisfied

The overall mean for the level of possible local government unit contributions to Community-Based Tourism in Baseco in terms of facilitator is 4.15, indicating a strong consensus among respondents (Table 14). This indicates a high level of satisfaction with the local government's contributions in terms of positively impacting socioeconomic sustainability as a motivator for community-based tourism. The predominant *Satisfied* response category highlights a shared belief in the potential effectiveness of the local government's role in fostering community-based tourism.

This is demonstrated in the study of Bacares (2021), based on community satisfaction, local government units (LGUs) may foster a more vibrant and welcoming atmosphere for community-based tourism, which can benefit nearby communities on an economic, social, and environmental level. The development of community-based tourism depends on local government units providing services and infrastructure like waste management, water supply, and roads (Giampiccoli et al., 2022).

Table 15. Dynamist

Statement	Weighted Mean	Verbal Interpretation
Increasing the commitment of LGU officials and other parties to ensure the collaboration's long-term viability.	3.56	Satisfied
Conducting field visits to successful collaboration cases.	4.13	Satisfied
Collaboration with nongovernmental organizations, academe, and research institutions, among others.	4.44	Satisfied
Strengthening the promotion of local collaboration through policy support, including national or provincial government technical and financial assistance.	4.00	Satisfied
Conducting strong information, education, and communication campaigns to ensure social acceptance.	4.25	Satisfied
Promotion of public-private partnerships and their relation to waste management, amongst others.	4.25	Satisfied
Implementation of specific policies and programs to support the community.	4.25	Satisfied
Undertake continuing research studies and surveys to analyze tourism economic conditions and trends and compile and integrate a statistical database.	4.25	Satisfied
Public-private partnership and external investments should be promoted.	4.06	Satisfied
Establish motivating joint projects.	4.25	Satisfied
Overall Mean	4.14	Satisfied

The overall mean for the level of possible LGU contributions to Community-Based Tourism in Baseco in terms of Dynamist is 4.14, indicating a strong consensus among respondents (Table 15). This suggests a high level of satisfaction with the local government's contributions to positively impact socio economic sustainability as a driver of community-based tourism. The predominant *Satisfied* response category reflects a widespread belief in the potential effectiveness of the local government's role in promoting community-based tourism. As noted by Adi et al. (2017), the Local Government Units' involvement in the successful operation of community-based tourism is the development of infrastructure and procedures by the local government, as well as the provision of assistance and direction.

3.6 Discussion

The result of the data obtained from the residents of Baseco regarding their views in community-based tourism as a socio-economic sustainability development and the level of satisfaction from the local government units possible contribution depicts that they *strongly agree* and are satisfied with the possible implementation of community-based tourism in Baseco. The result of the local views regarding the community-based tourism as a socioeconomic activity in Baseco with the following elements: (a) resource conservation the overall mean of the local views on community-based tourism in Baseco in terms of resource conservation is 4.43. The majority of respondents strongly agree, reflecting a long-term preservation of natural and cultural resources, as locals are more motivated to reconcile economic growth with the socio-cultural and environmental effects of tourism. (b) Social and economic development, the overall mean of the local views on community-based tourism in Baseco in terms of social and economic development is 4.41. The majority of respondents indicated strong agreement, emphasizing the positive outcome of tourism as it can generate significant economic benefits, create jobs, and encourage local businesses. (c) Empowerment and ownership, the overall mean of the local views on community-based tourism in Baseco in terms of empowerment and ownership is 4.39. A large number of respondents strongly agree, highlighting the value of community involvement, which fosters a sense of ownership and pride in the local tourism industry. And lastly, (d) quality visitor experience, the overall mean of the local views on community-based tourism in Baseco in terms of resource conservation is 4.20. A substantial number of respondents indicated strong agreement, focusing on enhancing the quality of life in the host community, giving a high-quality experience for visitors, and protecting the environment on which both locals and tourists rely.

Furthermore, the result of the local views regarding the level of possible local government contributions to community-based tourism in Baseco for its socioeconomic sustainability are recognized by the following roles of the local government unit as follows. (a) Motivator, the overall mean of the locals regarding the level of satisfaction in the possible contribution of the local government units in community-based tourism in Baseco in terms of motivation is 4.01. The majority of respondents were satisfied, prioritizing the need to strengthen local government unit capacity-building by collaborating with the private sector in the management of local tourism endeavors and plans. (b) Facilitator, the overall mean of the locals regarding the level of satisfaction in the possible contribution of the local government units in community-based tourism in Baseco in terms of facilitator is 4.15. A large number of the respondents indicated satisfaction, identifying as potential partners in strengthening public-private partnerships for expanding tourism development and services. Finally, the (c) dynamist, the overall mean of the locals regarding the level of satisfaction in the possible contribution of the local government units in community-based tourism in Baseco in terms of motivation is 4.14. The majority of respondents were satisfied, indicating an effective collaboration can have ideal development to occur.

4. Conclusions

The local government and community in Baseco are committed to community-based tourism, aiming to address social and economic issues. They are committed to sustainable initiatives, education, livelihood programs, strategic planning, employment services, and collaboration, demonstrating their desire to improve the community's quality of life. Since there is a lack of reliable data on the internet about Baseco, the researchers visited Baseco and collaborated with the barangay and the community organization to gather further information. This would assist the future researchers by using the information gathered in this research as a reference in future related studies of their own research papers.

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Author Contribution

Conceptualization, S.M.D.L., L.F.T., N.P.S., J.A.F., E.F.R., and M.D.C.; Methodology, S.M.D.L., L.F.T., N.P.S., J.A.F. and E.F.R.; Funding Acquisition, S.M.D.L., L.F.T., N.P.S., J.A.F. and E.F.R.; Investigation, S.M.D.L., L.F.T., N.P.S., J.A.F. and E.F.R.; Writing – Original Draft Preparation, X.X.; Writing – Review & Editing, S.M.D.L.; Visualization, S.M.D.L.; Supervision, S.M.D.L.; Project Administration, M.D.C. and S.M.D.L.

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Ethical Review Board Statement

Not available.

Informed Consent Statement

Informed consent was obtained from all subjects involved in the study. The Manila Local Government Unit (LGU) and the residents of Baseco were presented with a consent form to request permission to conduct a survey. These participants had been advised that their participation in the research should be given knowingly, voluntarily, and intelligently, and that they were allowed to withhold their participation from it at any time and for any reason. If they have decided not to participate, all the details and information they have already provided will be deleted from the study. Even if they previously accepted, the participants have the legal right to change their mind and not to participate in the study. They also have the option to refuse or withdraw from this study at any time. In any case, if they choose to participate in the study and then withdraw throughout the procedure, the entire data set will be discarded.

Data Availability Statement

Not available.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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