Policy Framework for Sustainable Aqua Sites Development in South Sinai

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Abstract. *The South Sinai region of Egypt, celebrated for its stunning landscapes and rich cultural heritage, has emerged as a key destination for wellness and heritage tourism. This study examines the region's distinctive geographical features, including its Red Sea coastline, mountainous terrain, and mineral-rich resources, which create an ideal environment for tourism development. Historical landmarks such as St. Catherine's Monastery and routes associated with Moses attract both spiritual pilgrims and adventure enthusiasts. The research is using an observation method to explore a policy of the interplay between wellness tourism and cultural heritage, highlighting the potential for sustainable development that supports local communities while preserving cultural and natural resources. Key attractions—Moses Path, Pharaoh's Path, the Sulphur Eyes, and Moses Wells—are analyzed for their roles in promoting socioeconomic engagement and enriching visitor experiences. By assessing economic impacts and conservation efforts, the paper aims to offer insights into integrated tourism strategies that enhance South Sinai's appeal as a premier travel destination while fostering environmental sustainability and community involvement. Additionally, a conceptual design and functional program for one of the four sites are proposed as a pilot project to inform developments at the other sites. The research employs an analytical approach, utilizing field visits and geological, environmental, and demographic studies to establish comprehensive development strategies based on tourism data from the western coast of South Sinai.*

Keywords: Sustainable Aqua sites, Resilient development, Wellness therapeutic sites