

EDUCATION ABOUT SUSTAINABLE TOURISM IN THE CONTEXT OF CLIMATE CHANGE

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Abstract

In the face of accelerating climate change, the tourism industry must adopt sustainable practices to mitigate its environmental impact and promote long-term resilience. This paper explores the critical role of education in fostering sustainable tourism within the context of climate change. It examines the current educational frameworks and their efficacy in imparting knowledge about sustainable tourism practices. The research highlights the importance of integrating climate change awareness into tourism education to create a well-informed workforce capable of implementing and advocating sustainable strategies. The findings suggest that comprehensive education on sustainable tourism is aligned with climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies. The paper concludes with recommendations for policymakers, educators, industry leaders, and the local community to collaborate in developing robust educational initiatives that promote sustainable tourism practices in the era of climate change.

Keywords: Education, Sustainable tourism, Climate change education, Vietnamese tourism.

Introduction

The global tourism industry, a key driver of economies worldwide, is currently facing a critical challenge due to the escalating effects of climate change. As a sector heavily dependent on natural environments and stable weather conditions, tourism is confronted with a host of difficulties, including rising sea levels, more frequent extreme weather events, and shifting ecosystems. These changes not only jeopardise the sustainability of popular tourist destinations but also magnify the industry's environmental impact, underscoring the increasing importance of sustainable tourism practices. Sustainable

tourism, which focuses on minimising environmental harm, safeguarding cultural heritage, and improving the welfare of local communities, is vital for the long-term resilience of the tourism sector. However, implementing sustainable practices necessitates a well-informed and educated workforce capable of understanding and addressing the intricate relationship between tourism and climate change.

Moreover, education plays a pivotal role in advancing sustainable tourism. By integrating climate change awareness and sustainability principles into tourism education, forthcoming industry leaders and practitioners can acquire the knowledge and skills needed to propel sustainable initiatives. Despite the recognised significance of this integration, current educational frameworks often do not adequately address the intersection of tourism and climate change. This paper aims to explore the critical role of education in fostering sustainable tourism within the context of climate change. It examines the current state of tourism education, identifies gaps and challenges, and proposes strategies for effectively incorporating climate change awareness into educational programs. Ultimately, this research underscores the need for a collaborative effort among policymakers, educators, and industry leaders to develop robust educational frameworks that promote sustainable tourism practices in an era of climate change.

Literary Review

1. Definition of sustainable tourism

Sustainable tourism is about maintaining a balance between tourism activities and their economic, social, and environmental impacts, both now and in the future (Theobald, 2012). Sustainable tourism involves a comprehensive approach to ensuring that tourism can be sustained without depleting natural resources or harming the environment and local cultures. By addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment, and host communities, sustainable tourism aims to create a harmonious and mutually beneficial relationship among all stakeholders.

One fundamental principle of sustainable tourism is environmental responsibility (Budeanu, 2005). This means minimising the environmental impact of tourism activities by adopting practices that reduce pollution, conserve water and energy, and promote the preservation of natural habitats and biodiversity. Sustainable tourism

also encourages the protection of natural landscapes and wildlife, fostering a sense of stewardship among tourists and operators alike. By promoting conservation efforts, sustainable tourism helps to ensure that natural resources are preserved for future generations. An essential aspect of sustainable tourism is its economic impact (Budeanu, 2005; Khuntia et al., 2014). Sustainable tourism creates lasting economic advantages for all parties involved, including local businesses, workers, and the broader regional economy. It prioritises the fair distribution of financial gains, ensuring that the economic benefits of tourism reach local communities and contribute to their development. Through supporting local economies, sustainable tourism helps to create stable jobs, improve infrastructure, and build economic resilience.

Moreover, social equity is also fundamental in sustainable tourism, focusing on host communities' well-being and cultural preservation (Dangi et al., 2016). This principle involves respecting and preserving local cultures, traditions, and social structures, ensuring that tourism activities do not disrupt or degrade the social fabric of the destination. Sustainable tourism advocates for socially responsible practices (Lee et al., 2008) that benefit local people, such as engaging them in tourism planning and decision-making processes, providing fair wages, and promoting cultural exchange. This approach helps to foster positive relationships between tourists and local communities, enhancing the overall travel experience. Another important principle of sustainable tourism is visitor satisfaction (Ridho et al., 2021). The goal is to provide enriching and educational experiences for tourists, raise awareness of sustainability issues, and promote responsible travel behaviour (Cárdenas et al., 2015). By facilitating meaningful interactions with the environment and local cultures, sustainable tourism helps foster a deeper appreciation for the destination among visitors. This improves their travel experience and encourages them to embrace sustainable practices in their own lives.

Therefore, sustainable tourism seeks to balance the needs of tourists, the industry, the environment, and host communities. By adhering to principles of environmental responsibility, economic viability, social equity, and visitor satisfaction, sustainable tourism can be a positive force for sustainable development. It ensures that tourism activities contribute to all stakeholders' well-being, fostering a harmonious and sustainable future for the tourism industry.

2. Climate change impacts on tourism

Sea-level rise

One of the most visible effects of climate change on tourism is the rise in sea levels. Coastal destinations are particularly vulnerable, with rising sea levels threatening infrastructure, beaches, and ecosystems. Sea levels have been steadily increasing by approximately 7-8 inches since the start of the 20th century (Sweet et al., 2017). This rise is primarily attributed to the impact of human-induced climate change. Projections indicate that this trend is expected to persist (Koch et al., 2018), posing a significant threat to various social values, encompassing aspects like physical well-being, security, a sense of belonging, esteem, and self-actualisation, as highlighted in a recent paper (Graham et al., 2013). According to the IPCC AR5 report, the late 21st century could witness a sea-level rise within the likely range of 0.45 to 0.82 meters, further emphasising the pressing need for proactive measures to mitigate its impacts (Church et al., 2013). Sea-level rise is mainly caused by the warming and melting of glaciers and ice caps, with future projections uncertain due to ice sheet mass loss (Durand et al., 2022).

The rising sea level in Vietnam is a significant concern due to its potential impacts on coastal areas and ecosystems. Studies have shown that rising sea levels are expected to increase migration from coastal areas, including Central Vietnam (Duijndam et al., 2023). Mangroves in the Mekong Delta region are particularly vulnerable to rising sea levels, with potential losses projected by the end of the century (Dang et al., 2022). Coastal districts like Can Gio in Ho Chi Minh City are already experiencing the loss of residential and arable lands due to rising sea levels, highlighting the need for adaptive housing solutions (Ngo et al., 2020). The rise in sea level in Vietnam is above the global average, with projections indicating a 52-106 cm rise by the end of the century (Hens et al., 2018). These findings emphasise the importance of understanding and addressing the impacts of rising sea levels in Vietnam, including the need for sustainable livelihoods, mangrove conservation, and strategies for minimising the impacts on coastal communities (Tran et al., 2017).

The rise in sea level has significantly impacted Vietnam's tourism. The Mekong Delta region, in particular, is forecasted to experience severe effects from climate change, including rising sea levels (Zhou et al., 2023). This poses a real challenge for tourism businesses in the region, especially those located in low and flat areas like the Mekong Delta (Mateus et al., 2023). However, the impacts of rising sea levels on tourism in Vietnam have largely been ignored, with more attention given

to the effects on agriculture and fisheries (Yong, 2021). International organisations and local entities must pay more attention to the vulnerability of tourism businesses in the Mekong Delta and take practical actions to address the threats posed by climate change (Quang et al., 2022). In the face of climate change, regions that rely heavily on tourism face the alarming possibility of losing entire islands and coastal assets. The devastating effects of rising sea levels and increased storm surges severely threaten these areas, often the mainstay of their respective economies. To address this issue, it is crucial to implement adaptation measures that can mitigate these risks. These measures could include beach nourishment, the development of resilient infrastructure, and other initiatives that can help protect these regions from the worst impacts of climate change. With the proper planning and investment, it should be possible to safeguard these vital assets and ensure that tourism continues to thrive in these regions for years to come.

Extreme weather events

The empirical evidence suggests that in Vietnam, extreme weather has adversely impacted agriculture, tourism and other enterprises. As a result, these sectors have experienced value-added losses. The effect of extreme weather events and climate change on these enterprises is expected to escalate under different climate change scenarios (Osberghaus et al., 2014), with potential losses ranging from billion VND 3597.72 to 18,891.2 (Wang S et al., 2023). Additionally, the country has experienced an increase in hot and severe hot days while the number of cold and extremely cold days has decreased (Wang H et al., 2023). This trend is particularly evident in the North Central region, which has seen the highest increase in severe hot days, and the Northwest and Northeast regions, which have experienced the highest decline in cold days (Thanh et al., 2023). These findings highlight the necessity of planning adaptation measures to address changes in hot and cold extreme events in Vietnam, particularly in vital industrial areas (Do et al., 2021).

Moreover, Vietnam, known for its rich cultural heritage and natural beauty, has been experiencing extreme weather events like storms, floods, and droughts, significantly affecting the tourism industry. The impact of these events on coastal areas is extensive, leading to the degradation of natural resources, including mangrove forests and the inundation of transportation infrastructure (Zhang et al., 2023). This causes property loss, environmental damage, and disruptions in tourism

activities. The tourism industry in Vietnam is highly susceptible to the influence of natural disasters, which can have both short-term and long-term impacts on mature tourist destinations (Nukapothula et al., 2023). The aftermath of hurricanes can significantly drop tourist arrivals and revenue, leading to economic losses for the tourism sector. In summary, the effects of extreme weather events in Vietnam are far-reaching, and mitigating their impact on the tourism industry is essential.

Therefore, the increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events pose significant challenges to tourism. Hurricanes, wildfires, and floods disrupt travel plans and damage tourism infrastructure. Robust disaster preparedness and response plans are critical for destinations to safeguard tourists and ensure business continuity. The tourism industry is increasingly challenged as extreme weather events such as hurricanes, wildfires, and floods become more frequent and intense. These events disrupt travel plans and can cause damage to tourism infrastructure, which can have a significant impact on the industry. To mitigate these risks, destinations must have robust disaster preparedness and response plans. These measures can help safeguard tourists and ensure that businesses can continue to operate in the aftermath of a disaster. Therefore, it is critical that the tourism industry takes these risks seriously and prioritises the safety and well-being of its customers and employees.

Changing traveller preferences

As the level of consciousness regarding climate change increases, travellers' preferences also expand. A considerable number of tourists currently pursue travel experiences that are environmentally friendly and can be sustained in the long term.

Firstly, the perception of sustainability significantly influences travel behaviour and intentions to recommend and revisit a destination (Conti et al., 2023). Secondly, reliable information on the sustainability of destinations positively influences the adoption of pro-sustainable travel and tourism habits (Maltese et al., 2023; Gomes et al., 2023). Additionally, the attractiveness of a destination can be enhanced by implementing green transport modal choices, which reduce car use and improve the environment (Vukolić et al., 2023). Furthermore, specific gastronomy and cultural experiences in agro-tourism destinations can motivate tourists to try local gastronomic specialities and food (Araújo et al., 2022). Lastly, the willingness to pay a premium price to visit destinations with sustainable practices is influenced by environmental

and sociocultural sustainability, with younger travellers showing a higher willingness to pay (Gomes et al., 2023). These factors collectively contribute to tourists' decision-making process when choosing sustainable destinations.

This change in demand has opened up possibilities for destinations that prioritise preserving the environment, safeguarding cultural heritage, and implementing sustainable practices in the tourism industry.

Methods

This research uses a qualitative method to explore the topic's intricacies, harnessing the advantages of qualitative approaches to obtain detailed, contextual understanding. The data-gathering process entailed a comprehensive review of approximately 60 carefully chosen documents, selected based on their relevance and potential to offer a thorough overview of the subject matter. These documents were classified, and their inclusion facilitated a comprehensive grasp of the research topic by incorporating diverse perspectives and insights from a range of sources.

Findings and Discussions

1. The Role of Education in Sustainable Tourism

Importance of education in promoting sustainable tourism practices

Education is a cornerstone in promoting and implementing sustainable tourism practices (Farsari, 2022). It provides the necessary knowledge and skills (Karampotsis et al., 2024) for future industry professionals to understand tourism's environmental, social, and economic impacts. Educated individuals are more likely to adopt and advocate for sustainable practices that minimise negative impacts and enhance tourism's positive contributions to local communities and environments. Moreover, education fosters critical thinking (Taimur et al., 2020) and innovation, empowering individuals (Mochizuki et al., 2015) to develop and implement new strategies to address the complex challenges of climate change.

In the context of sustainable tourism, education serves several vital purposes. Firstly, it raises awareness about the importance and benefits of sustainable tourism practices (Cárdenas et al., 2015). Understanding the long-term advantages of sustainability makes

students and professionals more committed to implementing these practices. Secondly, education builds competence by providing the technical knowledge and practical skills to implement sustainable practices effectively (Karampotsis et al., 2024). This includes understanding environmental management, resource conservation, and community engagement.

Additionally, education encourages responsibility by instilling a sense of stewardship and ethical responsibility towards the environment and local communities (Budeanu, 2005). It helps individuals recognise their role in preserving natural and cultural resources for future generations. Finally, education facilitates innovation by encouraging creative problem-solving (Sándorová et al., 2020) and developing new technologies and methods for sustainable tourism (Thomas, 2010). By fostering a culture of innovation, educational programs can help the tourism industry adapt to the evolving challenges of climate change.

Review of existing educational frameworks and curricula

Current educational frameworks and curricula in tourism education vary widely in their emphasis on sustainability and climate change. Some institutions have made significant strides in integrating these topics into their programs, while others still treat them as peripheral issues. A review of existing educational programs reveals a range of approaches.

Some universities offer dedicated courses on sustainable tourism and climate change, providing in-depth knowledge and case studies (Thomas, 2010). These courses allow students to delve deeply into the principles and practices of sustainability within the tourism industry. In other programs, sustainability and climate change topics are integrated into broader tourism management courses. This approach ensures that all students are exposed to these critical issues regardless of their interests.

Experiential learning is another common approach in many institutions. Programs incorporate hands-on learning experiences like internships and field trips to provide practical insights into sustainable practices (Lewis et al., 1995). These real-world experiences help students understand the practical applications of their theoretical knowledge (Bada, 2015). Some educational institutions offer interdisciplinary programs combining tourism studies with environmental science, business, and social sciences. These programs

provide a holistic understanding of sustainability and highlight the interconnectedness of various fields.

Despite these efforts, significant variability in the depth and comprehensiveness of sustainability education in tourism programs remains. While some programs are comprehensive and well-integrated, others may offer only superficial coverage of these critical issues.

Gaps and challenges in current tourism education regarding climate change

While tourism education has promising developments, several gaps and challenges persist. One major issue is the insufficient integration of sustainability and climate change into the core curriculum (Eilam et al., 2020). In many programs, these topics are treated as elective or supplementary subjects rather than fundamental components of the education. Another challenge is the lack of an interdisciplinary approach (Siegner, 2018). Many tourism programs fail to adopt an interdisciplinary perspective, which is crucial for understanding the multifaceted impacts of climate change on tourism. This narrow focus can limit students' ability to grasp the broader implications of their work. Practical training opportunities are often limited as well. There is a need for more hands-on experiences that demonstrate sustainable practices in real-world settings (Bada, 2015). Without these experiences, students may struggle to apply theoretical knowledge to practical situations. Furthermore, some educational materials and curricula may be outdated and not reflect the latest research and developments in sustainable tourism and climate change.

Resource constraints also pose a significant challenge. Many institutions face limitations regarding qualified faculty, financial resources, and infrastructure, which can hinder the development and implementation of comprehensive sustainable tourism education programs (Leal Filho et al., 2018). Addressing these gaps requires concerted efforts from educational institutions, industry stakeholders, and policymakers. Enhancing sustainability and climate change integration into tourism education, fostering interdisciplinary approaches, and providing ample practical training opportunities are essential steps towards preparing a workforce capable of driving sustainable tourism in a changing climate. By addressing these challenges, the tourism industry can better equip itself to face the impacts of climate change and contribute to a more sustainable future.

2. Integrating Climate Change Awareness into Tourism Education

The necessity of integrating climate change awareness into tourism education is paramount, given climate change's profound impact on the tourism industry (Eilam et al., 2020). Climate change affects destination viability, alters weather patterns, and impacts the natural and cultural resources integral to tourism. Without a clear understanding of these dynamics, future tourism professionals may lack the capacity to implement sustainable practices effectively or to innovate solutions that mitigate these impacts (Leal Filho et al., 2018). By embedding climate change education into tourism curricula, we ensure that graduates are aware of the challenges and equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to address them proactively (Farsari, 2022). This integration is crucial for fostering a resilient and sustainable tourism sector that can adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change.

Incorporating climate change topics into tourism education requires a multifaceted approach. One effective strategy is to revise existing curricula to include modules that specifically address the relationship between tourism and climate change (Fidgeon, 2010). These modules should cover a range of topics, including the science of climate change, its impacts on various tourism sectors, and strategies for mitigation and adaptation. Additionally, integrating case studies and real-world examples can help students understand the practical implications of climate change and the effectiveness of different approaches.

Guest lectures and workshops led by experts in climate science and sustainable tourism can also enhance students' learning experiences (Li et al., 2021). These sessions provide opportunities for students to engage directly with current research and practices from professionals in the field. Another strategy is developing partnerships with organisations and institutions specialising in climate change and sustainability (Schott, 2017). Such collaborations can offer valuable resources and expertise, enriching the educational content and providing students access to a broader knowledge network.

Interdisciplinary Approaches

An interdisciplinary approach is essential for comprehensively addressing the complexities of climate change within tourism education (Scott et al., 2012). By integrating insights from environmental science, economics, social sciences, and policy studies, educators can provide students with a holistic understanding of the multifaceted impacts of

climate change on tourism. This approach encourages students to think critically about the interconnections between different fields and to develop innovative and practical solutions.

For instance, combining tourism studies with environmental science can help students understand the ecological impacts of tourism activities and the importance of conservation (Ardoin et al., 2015). Including elements of economics can illuminate the financial implications of sustainable practices and the cost-benefit analysis of various mitigation strategies (Khuntia et al., 2014). Social sciences can provide insights into the human dimensions of climate change, such as community resilience and the social impacts of tourism development (Tsai et al., 2016). Policy studies can help students understand the regulatory frameworks that govern sustainable tourism practices and the role of governance in addressing climate change (Edgell, 2019).

Experiential Learning and Field Studies

Experiential learning and field studies are powerful tools for integrating climate change awareness into tourism education (Lewis et al., 1995). These approaches allow students to apply theoretical knowledge to real-world situations, enhancing their understanding and retention of key concepts. Field studies, in particular, can provide firsthand experience of the impacts of climate change on specific destinations and tourism operations (Schott, 2017).

For example, students can participate in field trips to areas affected by climate change, such as coastal regions experiencing erosion or alpine areas facing glacier retreat. These trips can include interactions with local stakeholders, such as community leaders, business owners, and conservationists, who can share their experiences and strategies for coping with climate change. Internships and practical projects with organisations working on sustainability initiatives can also provide valuable hands-on experience (Kosnik et al., 2013). By engaging directly with the challenges and solutions, students gain a deeper appreciation of the complexities involved and are better prepared to implement sustainable practices in their future careers.

Use of Technology and Digital Platforms

Technology and digital platforms can significantly enhance the integration of climate change awareness into tourism education (Gössling, 2019). Online courses, webinars, and virtual simulations can provide flexible and accessible learning opportunities for students. These platforms can offer interactive content, such as simulations of

climate change scenarios and their impacts on tourism destinations, enabling students to explore different outcomes and mitigation strategies.

Digital tools can facilitate collaboration and information sharing among students, educators, and industry professionals (Benckendorff et al., 2019). For example, online discussion forums and collaborative projects can enable students to engage with peers from different regions and backgrounds, broadening their perspectives and understanding of global climate change issues. Additionally, incorporating digital resources such as GIS (Geographic Information Systems) can help students analyse spatial data related to climate change impacts and tourism planning.

By leveraging technology, educators can create dynamic and engaging learning environments that enhance students' understanding of climate change and its implications for sustainable tourism (Mochizuki et al., 2015). This approach enriches the educational experience and prepares students to utilise modern tools and technologies in their professional careers, promoting innovative solutions to the challenges posed by climate change.

Recommendations

1. For policymakers: Policy support and funding for sustainable tourism education

Policymakers play a crucial role in fostering sustainable tourism through targeted support and funding (Edgell, 2019). Governments and regulatory bodies should develop and implement policies mandating the inclusion of climate change and sustainability topics in tourism education programs. This can be achieved by establishing national guidelines and accreditation standards that require educational institutions to integrate these critical subjects into their curricula.

Additionally, policymakers should allocate funding to support developing and enhancing sustainable tourism education programs (Kapera, 2018). Financial resources can be used to update educational materials, invest in training for educators, and develop state-of-the-art facilities that provide students with hands-on learning experiences. Grants and scholarships should also be made available to students pursuing studies in sustainable tourism, encouraging more individuals to enter the field (Lange et al., 2017). By prioritising funding and policy support, policymakers can ensure that the next generation of tourism

professionals is well-equipped to address the challenges of climate change.

2. For educators: Curriculum development and innovative teaching methods

Educators are at the forefront of preparing students for sustainable tourism's complexities in climate change (Sándorová et al., 2020). It is recommended that educators continuously update and revise their curricula to include the latest research and best practices in sustainability and climate change. This includes incorporating interdisciplinary approaches that draw from environmental science, economics, social sciences, and policy studies to comprehensively understand the issues.

Innovative teaching methods should also be employed to engage students and enhance their learning experiences (Li et al., 2021). This can involve experiential learning opportunities, such as field trips, internships, and practical projects, allowing students to apply theoretical knowledge in real-world settings. Additionally, integrating technology and digital platforms into the learning process can provide interactive and flexible educational experiences. Educators should also seek partnerships with industry stakeholders and experts to bring real-world perspectives and expertise into the classroom. Educators can effectively prepare students to contribute to sustainable tourism practices by adopting these strategies.

3. For industry leaders: Partnerships with educational institutions and investment in training programs

Industry leaders are vital in promoting sustainable tourism through active collaboration with educational institutions (Schott, 2017). Tourism businesses and organisations should establish partnerships with universities and colleges to support developing and delivering sustainable tourism education programs. These partnerships can take the form of guest lectures, collaborative research projects, and internships that provide students with practical insights and hands-on experience in the industry.

Furthermore, industry leaders should invest in ongoing employee training and professional development programs. This can include workshops, seminars, and certification programs focused on sustainable tourism practices and climate change adaptation. By investing in the education and training of their workforce, businesses can ensure that

their employees are knowledgeable about sustainability issues and equipped to implement best practices in their operations.

Additionally, industry leaders can support sustainable tourism education by providing funding and resources for educational initiatives (Lange et al., 2017). This can include sponsoring scholarships, funding research projects, and donations of equipment and technology. By actively engaging with and supporting educational institutions, industry leaders can help build a skilled and knowledgeable workforce capable of driving sustainable tourism practices in the face of climate change.

4. For Community engagement: Engaging local communities in tourism planning and development is crucial

The involvement of host communities (or destination residents), particularly in developing countries, is critical to the success of tourism development and the creation of a “Just Destination” (Saufi et al., 2014). Therefore, engaging local communities in tourism planning and development has several benefits (Nunes et al., 2023). Firstly, it leads to the development of various goods and services suitable for visitors' requirements and tastes, enhancing the attractiveness of destinations. Secondly, it supports regional economic and social development, creating employment opportunities and sustaining local arts, culture, and the environment. Thirdly, it helps preserve natural and cultural resources for future generations, promoting sustainable tourism management strategies. Fourthly, it influences residents' attitudes towards tourism development, leading to their support for growth at the community level. Lastly, it ensures that tourism planning is based on the interests and needs of the local community (Djatmiati et al., 2019), guaranteeing a balanced and sustainable improvement of the destination and the well-being of residents.

Local communities can be better engaged in tourism planning and development by involving them in decision-making processes and considering their perspectives. This can be achieved through resident participation in tourism development, directly impacting their attitudes towards tourism growth. Engaging locals in the planning process helps to ensure that their needs and rights are respected and that the development aligns with their interests. Additionally, tourism planning should focus on involving local actors and considering their interests and community dynamics. This approach increases the perception of collective benefits and contributes to the sustainability and competitiveness of the destination. Furthermore, co-creating new

tourism stories between tourism planners and destination residents can enhance the sustainability and resilience of tourism. Sustainable tourism should benefit residents, create employment opportunities, and support local culture and traditions. Community buy-in fosters long-term sustainability (Hall et al., 2004).

Conclusion

This paper delves into the pivotal role of education in advancing sustainable tourism within the context of climate change. It underscores the importance of integrating climate change awareness into tourism education and identifies the prevailing gaps and challenges in educational frameworks and curricula. The paper advocates for a collaborative approach involving policymakers, educators, and industry leaders to craft comprehensive educational frameworks. It also underscores the necessity of interdisciplinary learning, experiential education, and technology to equip graduates with the skills to address sustainability and climate change issues in the tourism industry. Additionally, the paper recommends future research to focus on assessing the effectiveness of educational strategies, exploring innovative approaches, and continuously updating curricula. It also emphasises the need to forge stronger partnerships between academia, industry, and government, secure funding and policy support, and ensure access to high-quality education in sustainable tourism. Overall, this paper underscores that a comprehensive and unified approach to education in sustainable tourism and climate change is critical for preparing a workforce capable of promoting sustainable practices and adapting to the challenges posed by climate change in the tourism industry.

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