

Tourism And Infrastructure Development in Kisoro District: A Case Study of Nkuringo Town Council**Tuyizere Enock¹, Tukamuhebwa Deus²****1,2 Metropolitan International University****ABSTRACT**

The major objective of this study lied in finding out whether there was a relationship between Tourism and infrastructure development in in Nkuringo Town Council, Kisoro District. Other objectives included: To find out the extent of Tourism performance in Nkuringo Town Council, Kisoro District and to find out the level infrastructure development in in Nkuringo Town Council, Kisoro District. The study employed a qualitative and quantitative research design and simple random probability sampling and purposive sampling techniques were used to obtain a sample size 80 respondents of from Nkuringo Town Council, Kisoro District, Kisoro District using solvin's formula. The researcher found out that there is a very strong positive relationship between Tourism and Infrastructure development at $r = 0.994$ and since the sig. value (.000) was far less than 0.01, which is the maximum level of significance required declaring a significant relationship Tourism and Infrastructure development, this implies that when the level of Tourism is high, the level of Infrastructure development is also high, and when the level of Tourism is low, the level of Infrastructure development is also low. It was also found out that among the factors that have favored the development of tourism include the presence of numerous tourist attractions like Mountain Muhabura, well developed transport routes, favorable political atmosphere, skilled labour like tourist guides, favorable climatic conditions characterized with reliable rainfall, hospitality of the people in Kisoro District because they are welcoming and improved accommodation facilities like Miami Hotel. The percentage mean concerning the level of infrastructure development in Kisoro District is 24%. The percentage mean was low hence indicating the low-level infrastructure development in Kisoro District. This is because the area is highly mountainous which hinders the construction of infrastructures like roads.

Key words: Tourism and Infrastructure Development**Background of the study**

According to (E. Of et al., 2023), tourism is the activity of people traveling and staying in places outside their usual environment for leisure, business or other purposes for a period of no more than one consecutive year (Nicholas et al., 2023). Also (Ivan & Kazaara, 2023) noted that tourism is a social, cultural and economic phenomenon that involves the movement of people to countries or places outside their usual environment for personal or business/professional purposes (advertising & Ubc, 2023). Tourism is a way of traveling somewhere for entertainment (Activities et al., 2023). According to (S.

Of & District, 2023), infrastructure development refers to improving the level of various infrastructure components in a country such as roads, power, ICT, water and sanitation. Infrastructure development is the building and improvement of basic services to stimulate economic growth (Ivan & Kazaara, 2023). Infrastructure development includes the improvement of basic physical and organizational structures and facilities such as buildings, roads, energy sources that are needed for the operation of a society or business (Paul & Kazaara, 2023). Tourism is one of the productive business activities focused on the

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production of goods and services. It provides goods and services to customers (visitors, generally foreigners) and local residents employment and income (Rosette, 2023). With this tourism business, businesses and people (directly or indirectly related) generate income from running tourism business activities. Further tourism as an economic activity produces various direct, indirect and induced impacts on the economy (Export et al., 2023). Ultimately, it increases foreign exchange earnings, creates employment and increases income (Case, 2023). Again, the resulting streams of income that circulate in the economy encourage further economic activity to take place, giving rise to many rounds of income. It also stimulates income and employment in other

sectors of the economy (Omotunde et al., 2013). According to a study by (Christopher & Felex, 2022), it was found that the success or failure of the economic development process largely depends on the available resources and favorable environment. Resources such as capital, labor and technology are necessary inputs in the growth process (Paul & Kazaara, 2023). However, the effectiveness of these inputs and the sources of economic growth efforts largely depend on the available environment, which is partly defined by available infrastructure (Filstar, 2023). Infrastructure are public goods and services that enter the production process as additional inputs to traditional factors of production such as capital, labor and the entrepreneur.

Statement of the problem

The problem lied in finding out whether there was a relationship between Tourism and infrastructure development in Nkuringo Town Council, Kisoro District.

Major objective

The major objective of the study was to find out the relationship between Tourism and infrastructure development in Nkuringo Town Council, Kisoro District.

Specific objectives

1. To find out the extent of Tourism performance in Nkuringo Town Council, Kisoro District.
2. To find out the level infrastructure development in in Nkuringo Town Council, Kisoro District.
3. To find out the relationship between Tourism and infrastructure development in in Nkuringo Town Council, Kisoro District.

Research questions

1. What is the extent of Tourism performance in Nkuringo Town Council, Kisoro District?
2. What is the level of infrastructure development in Nkuringo Town Council, Kisoro District?
3. What is the relationship between Tourism and infrastructure development in Nkuringo Town, Kisoro District?

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Methodology.

The researcher employed a mixed approach of both qualitative and quantitative research designs to ensure valid data collection from the field in which data were expressed and interpreted both descriptively and numerically for in depth coverage of the study objectives. The researcher used these research designs to obtain, analyze, present and describe answers to some research questions in order to collect a more in-depth data from the field. The researcher considered Nkuringo Town Council as a case study to find out the relationship between Tourism and infrastructure development in Kisoro districts. The studied population for the study included 30 road constructors, 13 civil engineers, 20 tourist guides, and 15 game rangers, LC 1 chairperson of Nkuringo Town Council and the District Engineer of Kisoro District, making a total of 80 respondents studied. The different two methods were used to collect data which included questionnaire and interview method. These were used to collect data from all industrial workers and community members from Hima cement factory, Kasese district. The validity of the instruments was established under the guidance of the supervisor (Dr. Arinaitwe Julius). To establish the reliability of the research instruments, the researcher carried out a pilot test of the instruments using another similar group with the same characteristics as the one targeted in the study. Quantitative data analyses were carried out using a software application called Statistical Package for Social Scientists (SPSS) (Nelson et al., 2022). Qualitative data was organized according to themes identified from research questions and analyzed using content analysis. Data from interviews were organized and presented in form of report.

Results.**The extent of Tourism performance in Nkuringo Town Council, Kisoro District**

This Section describes the independent variable (Tourism). The independent variable was addressed in Section B of the questionnaire for respondents.

Table 1: Shows the extent of performance of tourism

	N	Range	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
EXTENT OF PERFORMANCE OF TOURISM	50	2.00	1.00	3.00	6.6000	.69985
Valid N	50					

The extent of performance of tourism was measured using the mean percentage which was **66%**. The high mean percentage is attributed to availability of numerous tourist attractions like Bwindi Impenetrable national park, Mt. Mugahinga national park and the beautiful sceneries of Mountain Muhabura. Under this study objective, the respondents were asked the factors that have favored the development of tourism in Kisoro District and revealed that presence of numerous tourist attractions like Mountain Muhabura, well developed transport routes, favorable

political atmosphere, skilled labour like tourist guides, favorable climatic conditions characterized with reliable rainfall, hospitality of the people in Kisoro District because they are welcoming and improved accommodation facilities like Miami Hotel.

The Level of Infrastructure development in Nkuringo Town Council, Kisoro District

This Section describes the dependent variable (Infrastructure Development). The dependent variable was addressed in Section C of the questionnaire for respondents.

Table 2: The level of Infrastructure Development

	N	Range	Minimum	Maximum	Sum	Mean	Std. Deviation
LEVEL OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT	50	2.00	1.00	3.00	126.00	2.4768	.70682
Valid N	50						

The percentage mean concerning the level of infrastructure development in Kisoro District is **24%**. The percentage mean is low hence indicating the low-level infrastructure development in Kisoro District. This is because the area is highly mountainous which hinders the construction of infrastructures like roads and also the land in Kisoro District is too expensive which makes compensation of those people who live near roads difficult so that the roads can be widen and be constructed.

The relationship between Tourism and Infrastructure Development

Table 3: Showing Pearson Correlation between Tourism and Infrastructure Development

		Tourism	Infrastructure development
Tourism	Pearson Correlation	1.00	.994
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	50	50
Infrastructure development	Pearson Correlation	.994	1.00
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	50	50

Table 3 indicates that there is a very strong

positive relationship between Tourism and

Infrastructure development at $r = 0.994$ and since the sig. value (.000) was far less than 0.01, which is the maximum level of significance required declaring a significant relationship Tourism and Infrastructure development, this implies that when the level of Tourism is high, the level of Infrastructure development is also high, and when the level of Tourism is low, the level of Infrastructure development is also low (Nelson et al., 2023).

Summary of Findings

The extent of performance of tourism was measured using the mean percentage which was 66%. The high mean percentage is attributed to availability of numerous tourist attractions like Bwindi Impenetrable national park, Mt. Mugahinga national park and the beautiful sceneries of Mountain Muhabura. Under this study objective, the respondents were asked the factors that have favored the development of tourism in Kisoro District and revealed that presence of numerous tourist attractions like Mountain Muhabura, well developed transport routes, favorable political atmosphere, skilled labour like tourist guides, favorable climatic conditions characterized with reliable rainfall, hospitality of the people in Kisoro District because they are welcoming and improved accommodation facilities like Miami Hotel. The percentage mean concerning the level of infrastructure development in Kisoro District is 24%. The percentage mean is low hence indicating the low-level infrastructure development in Kisoro District. This is because the area is highly mountainous which hinders the construction of infrastructures like roads and also the land in Kisoro District is too expensive which makes compensation of those people who live near roads difficult so that the roads can be widen and be constructed.

There is a very strong positive relationship between Tourism and Infrastructure development at $r = 0.994$ and since the sig. value (.000) was far less than 0.01, which is the maximum level of significance required declaring a significant relationship Tourism and Infrastructure development, this implies that when the level of Tourism is high, the level of Infrastructure development is also high, and when the level of Tourism is low, the level of Infrastructure development is also low.

Conclusion of the findings

Objective one aimed at finding out the extent of performance of tourism in Kisoro District. The researcher concluded that the performance of tourism is high and this is attributed to availability of numerous tourist attractions like Bwindi Impenetrable national park, Mt. Mugahinga national park and the beautiful sceneries of Mountain Muhabura. Objective two aimed at finding out the level of Infrastructure development in Kisoro District. The researcher concluded on this objective that the level of Infrastructure development is very low and this is because the area is highly mountainous which hinders the construction of infrastructures like roads and also the land in Kisoro District is too expensive which makes compensation of those people who live near roads difficult so that the roads can be widen and be constructed. The third objective aimed at establishing at the relationship between Tourism and infrastructure development. The researcher concluded on this study objective that there is a very strong positive relationship between Tourism and Infrastructure development at $r = 0.994$ and since the sig. value (.000) was far less than 0.01, which is

the maximum level of significance required declaring a significant relationship Tourism and Infrastructure development, this implies that when the level of Tourism is high, the level of Infrastructure development is also high, and when the level of Tourism is low, the level of Infrastructure development is also low.

Recommendations of the study

On the basis of the findings of this study and conclusions drawn, the following are the recommendations regarding the relationship between Tourism and Infrastructure Development in Nkuringo Town Council, Kisoro District.

The researcher recommended the government to allocate more funds in the national budget that caters for the construction of infrastructure like roads, railways, schools and hospitals in order to n foster the development of the country.

The researcher recommends the community members to stop poaching of animals in the national parks mainly for meet and ivory, because this reduces the number of animals in the game parks and limits the number of tourists who come into the country.

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