

From Protection to Prosperity- Evidence of Ecotourism in Chorao Island's Marine Protected Area

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Abstract

This study explores the contribution of Marine Protected Areas towards supporting sustainable tourism with emphasis on environmental protection and community engagement in Chorao Island, Goa, India. With pressures of tourism rising from around the globe, MPAs become critical to sustaining the ecological protection and economic growth along with social inclusion. The research will evaluate the current status of ecotourism, determine challenges and suggest policy interventions to enhance inclusivity and sustainability. Using a secondary research approach and case study evaluation, the study looks at existing papers,

published literature and tourism policies regarding MPAs in Goa, specially Chorao Island. The study aims at explaining how ecotourism can reduce pressures on environment and support local livelihoods. The findings aim at providing policy recommendations to improve ecological conservation and benefiting local community. Ultimately, the research contributes to the development of more sustainable and fair tourism practices on Chorao Island.

Key words- marine protection, life below water, ecotourism, biodiversity, conservation, sustainability