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ANTHROPO-SITES – CONCEPT AND QUANTIFICATION

ANTROPOSITURILE – CONCEPT I CUANTIFICARE

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*Abstract: This paper deals with the necessity of a common terminology and quantification of anthropo-sites, given the involvement of many professionals from various fields of expertise in tourism. Anthropo-sites and geosites form together the tourism potential. When investigating a certain place or region, it is important to select first the anthropic components appropriate for tourism, then to quantify them minutely, according to precise criteria, and classify them on value types and overall.*

*Key words: anthropo-site, geosite, tourism potential, tourism patrimony, tourism, cultural landscape*

## INTRODUCTION

One should define the terminology, functionally ordered and in accordance with the elements man made in time, that are attractive enough to be arranged for tourism (anthropo-sites). Together with the natural elements (geosites), they form the tourism potential. They also represent most of the elements defining the cultural landscape of a place, village, city or region; these characteristics resulted from the interaction in time between the natural environment and the mental evolution of a well defined human community.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

This paper is a synthesis study on how to define and quantify tourist spots, especially the anthropo-sites. It is mandatory to find a common ground in defining them correctly and appreciating their degree of attraction

for tourists in tourism planning of the territory and tourism managing. The theoretical research is based on the papers mentioned in the references below.

### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS**

When investigating a certain place or region, it is important to select first the anthropic components appropriate for tourism (table 1), then to quantify them (table 2) minutely, according to precise criteria, and classify them on value types and overall. The results of such analysis would be:

- overall knowledge of the region, of the objectives with touristic valence, knowledge and exploitation degrees;
- specifying the types of tourism activities that can be done according to the importance of objectives, depending on which planning efforts of various structures are established and differentiated;
- possibility to establish the specifics of a tourist region, locality, and some spatial differences (in a city neighborhood, in a region localities, axes, etc.), defining the center with a polarizing role;
- determining the role of tourism development on priority directions will lead to regional economic development and welfare of residents (jobs, human resources, living standards);
- setting a program of measures designed to protect specific environmental factors and its implementation in terms of structures and tourist activities that may generate situations of vulnerability and risk.

Geographically, an anthropo-site may be linked with an isolated place (eg. a city on the top of a cliff) or enrolled in an extended area with others alike or geosites (eg. in a locality there is a mansion, several historic churches, architecture and religious, secular buildings belonging to a stage of evolution, a statue, etc.) which multiplies the touristic significance of this particular space. Furthermore, their location - in composition, structure and reflection as cultural landscape forms a separate unit in relation to others (Maramures or Saxon villages, the villages in the Danube Delta, etc.). All these result in delineating two subtypes: simple and complex anthropo-sites, due to different quantification; the second case should take into account the cultural landscape developed.

Temporally, the anthropo-sites can be connected to certain periods,

phases of society evolution (those with purely historical specific) or settlements (have more mental character as the location is isolated and people are linked to a limited lifestyle and activity and heterogeneous since it is on the axis of allogenic influence). In the first case the value for tourism is greater, it is a complex system well defined and unique (given the components and the cultural landscape imposed) while in the second (atypical overall settlement) only the individual situations will be analyzed.

Accessibility is an important reference point in assessing tourism as it is reported to the road network (type, degree of modernization) and traveling time, but also the distance from the center of the localities (especially those outside it).

Most anthropo-sites are located in settlements, but differences between them are imposed by number, type, touristic value, degree of concentration or dispersion in particular sectors, and reporting to different service structure. Therefore, the situations range from simple cases related to the isolated or individual objectives from some settlements where their touristic value prevails, and the extremely complex cases in large cities, where they differentiate single or branching nucleuses (reflecting different stages of evolution) with elements dispersed or in combination with the natural environment. Therefore, in the latter case, the analysis involves not only quantifying and overall assessment of objective types, but also knowing the degree of concentration in different sectors, and hence the possibility to separate areas with a specific touristic value may cause a degree of recovery with dynamics that sets them apart, spatial and temporal.

In large or tourist based towns (rarely outside them), the anthropo-site setting may include some assemblies arranged to provide various services with some interesting components, and hence the orientation for this purpose for many tourists. For example, architectural and decorative, innovative elements, and creation of a distinct interior environment (a large aquarium with a rare aquatic population) or of a gambling complex. Hence the hotel will be not only a structure for food, accommodation, information, but also a touristic objective for activities, recreation, scientific, business or political meetings, etc.

**Anthropic tourism directions and attractions**

Types of anthropo-sites	Significant directions	Tourism objectives and types	
<b>HISTORICAL</b>	<i>Pre-medieval</i>	Different age <i>ruins</i> in Romania, (Neolithic, Bronze, Iron, Greek, Roman, etc.).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- individual or group visits;</li> <li>- research, debates, creation;</li> <li>- theme trips to scientific reunions;</li> <li>- trips with historical itineraries, or to monuments and commemorative museums;</li> </ul>
	<i>Medieval</i>	Representative ... <i>fortresses, castles, churches, constructions, ruins, famous battle places.</i>	
	<i>Capitalist</i>	Different representative <i>constructions and facilities.</i>	
	<i>Socialist</i>	Different representative <i>constructions and facilities.</i>	
	<i>Others</i>	<i>Isolated tourist sites</i> outside a locality. <i>Tourist sites within a locality</i> Representative <i>collections</i> found in a certain region and gathered in museums and exhibitions. <i>Commemorative tourist sites</i> of some <i>terrible (atrocious) historical events.</i>	
<b>CULTURAL</b>	<i>Popular creations</i>	<i>Traditional villages; traditional houses; national costumes; traditional occupations</i> (pottery, metalwork, woodwork, fabrics, needlework, stone or leather processing, masks, etc.); <i>traditional workmanship; folklore and ethno-folkloric events.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- visits;</li> <li>- trips;</li> <li>- fairs, exhibits;</li> <li>- hobby;</li> </ul>
	<i>Religious creations</i>	<i>Isolated tourist sites</i> (churches, cathedrals, monasteries, hermitages, mosques, synagogues, etc.); <i>Church dedication day; Tourist sites within itineraries or on certain holidays.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- individual visits;</li> <li>- group trips;</li> <li>- pilgrimage;</li> </ul>
	<i>Artistic creations</i>	<i>Distinct tourist sites</i> (museums, exhibits – permanent, temporary, itinerant, private collections, monuments, statues, etc.); <i>Concentrated tourist sites in a region with theme tours</i> – memorial houses, historical, art, or complex museums).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- individual visits;</li> <li>- group trips;</li> <li>- showing;</li> <li>- festivals, discussions, special occasion meetings ("the night of museums", certain commemorative days);</li> <li>- artistic camps;</li> <li>- photo-safari;</li> </ul>
	<i>Architectural creations</i>	<i>Localities of certain characteristics resulted from mental evolution</i> (the villages in Maramure , Vrancea, ara Mo ilor, etc.); <i>Distinct constructions from different ages located in a centre, neighborhood or on a street,</i> etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- itinerant individual and group trips;</li> <li>- visits;</li> <li>- different events (fairs, festivals, theme reunions);</li> </ul>

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	<b>Scientific creations</b>	<u>Isolated tourist sites with workmanship, industry, agriculture, infrastructure characteristics; landscapes characteristic to some traditional economic activities.</u>		- individual or group trips and visits; - photo-safari;
	<b>Education</b>	Different <u>cultural tourist sites important for personality, aesthetic, technical, professional, religious, political development, etc;</u> <u>Organizing conferences and theme debates.</u>		- visiting sites for mental development; - participating in reunions, anniversaries, theme events;
	<b>Training – creativity</b>	<u>Training institution in cities or villages, sometimes forest schools, that provide professional and scientific training; Scientific investigation and forecast centers</u>		- information and documentation visits, training stages; - creation camps (cultural, scientific, creative tourism); - participating in economic activities (workmanship, agriculture, etc.) and traditional activities (lucrative tourism)
	<b>Gastronomy and Ethnology</b>	<u>Representative wine centers; traditional culinary and pastry centers</u>		- individual and group participation to permanent, temporary or itinerant exhibits; different meetings, traditional city fairs and festivities
<b>OTHERS</b>	<b>Sports</b>	<u>Alpinism</u> <u>Caving</u> <u>Winter sports</u> <u>Water sports</u> <u>Paragliding</u>	<u>Gliding</u> <u>Fishing</u> <u>Hunting</u> <u>Rally</u> etc.	- group expeditions; - training and development camps; - contests (as spectators or amateur participants); - hobby and photo-safari;
	<b>Recreation</b>	<u>Curative</u> (balneal, climatic) <u>Rest-recreation, relaxation</u> <u>Spectator to cultural or sportive events</u> (horse riding, bicycling, fishing, amateur activities); <u>Entertainment</u>		- treatments in spas or health resorts; - week-end visits; - itinerant trips or local trips; - participating as tourist at sportive events (Olimpic Games, international championships and competitions, etc.), artistic events (concerts), international or national tourism or economic fairs etc., special scientific events.

Table 2.

**Characteristics, criteria and score to evaluate anthropo-sites**

Indicators	Characteristics		Score			
			Simple anthropo-sites			Complex anthropo-sites
			a	b	c	d
			low	medium	high	landscape
PRIMARY	Value importance	Local	0.2	0.5	1	0.5
		National	0.5	1	2	1
		International	1	2	3	1.5
	Rarity by	Frequency	1.5	1	0.2	1.5
		Mode of artistic expression	0.2	1.5	0.5	1.5
	Novelty regarding	Past ages	0.2-0.5	0.5-1	1-1.5	0.5
		Present	0.2	0.5-1	1-1.5	0.5
Source of instruction and education		0.2	0.5	1	0	
SECONDARY	Location for different tourism activities	Cultural	0.5	1	1.5-2	0.5
		Historical	0.5	1	1.5	1
		Sportive events	0.2	0.5	1.5	1
		Recreation and rest	0.2	0.5	1	0.5
		Scientific research (creative tourism)	0.5	1	1.5	0.5
		Participative education to some economic activities (lucrative tourism)	0.5	1	1.5	0.5
OTHER INDICATORS	Vulnerability	Natural	0-0.2	0.5	1	0.5
		Anthropic	0	0-0.5	0.5-1	0.5
	Protection	By local, national works, etc.	0	0-0.5	0.5-1	0.5
	Accessibility		Unpaved road 0-0.5	Paved road 0.5-0.8	Paved roads 0.8-1	0.5
	Facilities		0	0-0.5	0.5-1	0.5
	Yearly number of tourists		0-0.5	0.5-1	1-1.5	0.5
	Attainable tourism activities		0.5 for each type			

**CONCLUSIONS**

Therefore, solving the equation whose final result is to estimate the tourist value of an objective or a group of objectives involves several elements, among significant are the features defining - through composition,

aspect and dynamics - a specific structure of tourism activities including their hierarchy level and the viability and budgetary functions. For anthro-sites, because their fairly rapid evolution in relation to geosites, assessments must be made at short intervals, for they depend on appropriate and optimal exploitation of each type of activity, eliminating those that are impossible to get, along with others to promote. This may provide elasticity of structure and function and appropriate adaptation. In this respect, the two tables were designed to lead to differences in exploratory objectives to quantification. Summing values from their assessment will lead to obtaining average size percentage weights, of types and subtypes to regional differentiations and prediction of directions whose priority may change over time. Add to this the analysis of existing structures, including quantification. By correlating the results of these assessments with findings resulted from tourism potential quantification, some tourism planning projects could be made, including a first assessment of a development program, and some service structures appropriate for the expected types of activities.

Administration of these steps requires input and cooperation of professionals from diverse fields (specialists in environmental sciences, sociologists, economists, architects, builders, etc.) among which geographers play a distinct role (especially in determining the value of the patrimony components).

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