Introduction

'Sustainable tourism' has been a popular conceptual frame for tourism planning and development (Hall & Lew, 2009). Its goal was to define an index system to deal with the deterioration of natural and cultural tourism resources.

The concept of resilience has recently been proposed as an alternative paradigm to sustainability (Davidou, 2012). Community resilience refers to the ability of a community to effectively respond to unanticipated changes in its situation. According to Lew (2012; 2013) sustainability tries to prevent the shock of change from occurring by conserving environmental and social resources for future use, whereas resilience planning focuses more on the capacity of communities to respond to, and if necessary recover from, significant shock and change events.

From a tourism perspective, one of the fundamental resilience questions is: How well is a community’s tourism sector prepared to survive and recover from a loss of a major natural resource and a loss of their tourist arrivals? This question focuses on what Lew (2013) has called “Fast Change and Slow Change affecting Individual or Site Tourism”. Examining a community based tourism case studies from China shows how the alternative approach of resilience might be applied.

GaoLan Village in Three Gorges, China

GaoLan Village is located in Xingshan County, Hubei, China where is in the Three Gorges area with iron ore and the beautiful valley. There are more than 500 households in the village, of which 50% are Three Gorges immigration – Because of the impoundment of the Three Gorges project which flooded their homes, they are relocated to high elevation GaoLan Village. GaoLan Village is located in mountainous areas and traffic is inconvenient, not suitable for industry and agriculture. Before the development of tourism, the income of the residents rely on small mountain cultivation, basically self-sufficient, but few balances, average annual per capita income of the resident not to 6000 RMB.
In 2007, Xingfa Group, a local company, developed a scenic spots named "Chaotianhou Drift" by making use of a river valley which the total length is 6.5 km and up to 148 meters between. In 2013 the arrivals of tourists reach 150000 and in the same year "Chaotianhou Drift" was awarded the “National 4A level scenic spots” by China tourist attractions A-level assessment committee.

By the development of tourism, the incomes of the residents increase. Some become staff in drift scenic area; some support catering and accommodation services for tourists; and some residents sell their own agricultural products to tourists along the road. In 2013, the annual per capita income of residents in Gaolan Village has exceeded 15000 RMB. Gaolan Village is considered a typical pro-poor tourism for Chinese Reservoir resettlement.

Lessons of Resilience

Fast Change 1
Impact of climate change on drift is enormous. Unexpected heavy rain or long time drought both will make it impossible for drift.
Responds 1
The local built a small reservoir in the upstream river for regulating the water needed to drift to meet the needs of tourists. At the same time, the reservoir also has power generation which can subsidize the cost of construction.

Fast Change 2
Drifting is a highly seasonal tourism project. Tourists increased in hot weather and burst reduction when the weather turns cool.
Responds 2
Develop the alternative tourism products. The local build a wooden path along the cliff on both sides of the river which in the off-season can provide hiking and overlooking the valley for visitors.

Slow Change 3
New drift scenic appeared in the adjacent areas which divide the tourist market and result in a loss of tourist arrivals.
Responds 3
To upgrade the quality of services especially the shore service. The local provide better dressing, shower, and rest, even child care services for tourists to improve tourist satisfaction and revisit willingness.
To make more promotions in the tourist market especially through the event such as 2013 International drift Game to increase its visibility.
To expand the villager's income sources. Due to the development of tourism, has brought traffic improvement. The local encourage villagers to plant walnut and other economic crops to gain a new source of income. There are also some villagers put forward to excavate the local iron ore resources which can bring greater benefits. But
there is no doubt that this will destroy the local ecological environment. And it also
does not conform to the concept of sustainable development.

Table 1. Evaluating Socio-ecological Resilience in the Tourism Sector and the Community Overall for Gaolan Village, China, measured by the 7 Principles of Resilience.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>7 Resilience Principles</th>
<th>Responds to Changes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Maintains diversity &amp; redundancy</td>
<td>Develop the alternative tourism products. Expand the villager's income sources.</td>
</tr>
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<td>2. Manages connectivity</td>
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<td>3. Manages slow variables &amp; feedbacks</td>
<td>Upgrade the quality of services especially the shore service. Make more promotions in the tourist market</td>
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<td>4. Fosters complex adaptive systems thinking</td>
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<td>5. Encourages learning</td>
<td>Training Programs are provided to local villagers during the off-season.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Broadens participation</td>
<td>Some villagers become staff in drift scenic area; some support catering and accommodation services for tourists; and some residents sell their own agricultural products to tourists along the road.</td>
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<td>7. Promotes polycentric governance systems</td>
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Conclusions

The tourism infrastructure with Multi purpose makes for greater resilience.

An alternative tourism product in the off-season makes for greater resilience.

A diversified economy, where tourism is not a primary or even sole source, makes for greater resilience.

Reference Cited


Resilience in Community Based Tourism: GaoLan Village in Three Gorges, China

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Outline

- Introduction
- Research Question
- Lessons of Resilience
- Conclusions
Introduction

- **GaoLan Village** is located in Xingshan County, Hubei, China where is in the Three Gorges area with iron ore and the beautiful valley.
- There are more than 500 households in the village, of which 50% are Three Gorges immigration – Because of the impoundment of the Three Gorges project which flooded their homes, they are relocated to high elevation GaoLan Village.
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GaoLan Village is located in mountainous areas and traffic is inconvenient, not suitable for industry and agriculture. Before the development of tourism, the income of the residents rely on small mountain cultivation, basically self-sufficient, but few balances, average annual per capita income of the resident not to 6000 RMB.
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- Some become staff in drift scenic area;
- some support catering and accommodation services for tourists;
- and some residents sell their own agricultural products to tourists along the street.
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- **Gaolan Village** is considered a typical pro-poor tourism for Chinese Reservoir resettlement.
Resilience

- Community resilience refers to the ability of a community to effectively respond to unanticipated changes in its situation (Lew, 2012)
Research Question

- How well is a community’s tourism sector prepared to survive and recover from a loss of a major natural resource and a loss of their tourist arrivals?
- This question focuses on what Lew (2013) has called “Fast Change and Slow Change affecting Individual or Site Tourism”.
Lessons of Resilience

- **Fast Change 1**
  - Impact of climate change on drift is enormous. Unexpected heavy rain or long time drought both will make it impossible for drift.

- **Responds 1**
  - The local built a small reservoir in the upstream river for regulating the water needed to drift to meet the needs of tourists. At the same time, the reservoir also has power generation which can subsidize the cost of construction.
Lessons of Resilience

- **Fast Change 2**
  - Drifting is a highly seasonal tourism project. Tourists increased in hot weather and burst reduction when the weather turns cool.

- **Responds 2**
  - Develop the alternative tourism products. The local build a wooden path along the cliff on both sides of the river which in the off-season can provide hiking and overlooking the valley for visitors.
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Thank you!