A Study on Sustainable Tourism and Community Participation in Agricultural Heritage Sites

-Focused on Uljin Geumgang Pine Tree Habitat-

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Background & Purpose

Agroforestry Heritage System of Uljin Geumgang Pine Tree was designated as the 7th NIAHS in Korean in 2016.

Geumgang Pine Tree Habitat has been managed under conservation. But it is time to find a way to increase income of local people who live in agricultural heritage sites according to change of times.

It needs to utilize tourism for sustainable conservation of agricultural heritage and coexistence with local people and it.

It is crucial to link local tourism resources and agricultural heritage resources.

Research Area (Spatial Extent)

The Whole Uljin County including Nationally Important Agricultural Heritage Area
01 Introduction

What is Sustainable Tourism?

Sustainable tourism is the concept of visiting a place as tourist and trying to make a positive impact on the environment, society and economy. And it contains responsible travel to natural areas.
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02 Linkage Local Resources of Uljin and Agricultural Heritage

Geographical Information

Target Area
- Administrative areas: 10 ‘Myeons(towns)’ 195 ‘Lis(villages)
- Total Area: 989.43 km²

Demographic
- Populations: Total 53,103
- Households: Total 24,926

Physiographic
- The average temperature: 13.15°
- Average Precipitation: 68.2mm

Forest Status
- Forest Area: 47,097.62ha(88.78%)
- A Coniferous Forest: 28,736.5ha(56.6%)
- Geumgang Pine Forest: 43,330ha(92%)
- Natural Forests: 42,980.23ha(91.13%)
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Tourism potential area

① Forest genetic resource protection forest (2001)
- Area of forest: 3,705ha
- Distribution of 34 million Geumgang pine tree
- The largest natural community in a single area

② Ecological landscape conservation area (2005)
- Operate ecotourism routes in the Wangpicheon area
- More than 85% of green tract of land of grade 8 or higher
- Natural river conservation

③ KIAHS (2016)
- Geumgang pine forest and symbiosis system of residents and Agroforestry

④ National Geopark of Korea (2017)
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Tourist Attractions

① Coastline length : 111.75km

② Temple, Valley

③ Lime cave, Hot spring
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**Food and Livelihood security**

**Conservation and Utilization of Geumgang Pine Forest**

- Cultivating pine mushroom and producing timber through conservation of Geumgang pine forest
- Linkage festivals, visitor experiencing programs and products related to pine trees.

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### Pine tree Products

- Image showing pine tree products such as pine mushroom saplings, pine mushroom, and pine tree festival souvenirs.

### Pine tree Festival

- Image showing a pine tree festival with activities like games and performances.

### Experience

- Image showing various experiences related to pine trees and their products.
02 Linkage Local Resources of Uljin and Agricultural Heritage

Food and Livelihood security

Linkage sustainable tourism and Agricultural heritage based on chronological change

Before 1970’s
- Protect & Use
- Pine Mushroom
- Paganism (Folk Belief)
- Disforestation (Logging)
- Timber
- Farming (Forestry) Equipment
- Wooden Building Construction

After 1970’s
- National Policy
- The Forest Management
- Conservaton & Application
- The Forest Management
- Product Activity of community
- Sustainable tourism
- Timber
- Cultural Landscape
- Processed goods
- Pine Mushroom
- Restoration of Cultural Properties
- Paganism (Folk Belief)

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02 Linkage Local Resources of Uljin and Agricultural Heritage

Local and Traditional Knowledge system

Cultural Landscape and Knowledge System

- There is a national and a private system which has preserved and managed Geumgang Pine Forest over 500 years.
- Cultural landscape of the village such as community forest which is planted near the pine forest, the village shrine (‘Seonghwangdang’)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National: Boundary Stones (Logging Prohibition Policies)</th>
<th>Villagers: Songgae(松契), Bogae( móc契)</th>
<th>Community Forest / Village Shrine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1" alt="National: Boundary Stones" /></td>
<td><img src="image2" alt="Villagers: Songgae, Bogae" /></td>
<td><img src="image3" alt="Community Forest / Village Shrine" /></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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Agro-biodiversity

The coniferous forests in Uljin county, Geumgang pine trees account for 92%
02 Linkage Local Resources of Uljin and Agricultural Heritage

Culture, Value system and Social Organizations

Trade Route for Peddler merchant ‘Bobusang’, Joseon Dynasty (The Old Forest Trail) ➔ Designated ‘Geumgang Pine Forest Genetic Resources Protection Zone’ ➔ Open Geumgang Pine Forest Roads to Public (2011)

- The old forest roads is a trade route from seaside of Uljin to inland area.
- There is the old forest roads within a thick pine forest of Uljin.
- Culture, history, tradition and nature of Uljin are well-preserved with the forest.
- Every May, A festival is held by local community which plays a role of passing on ‘Bobusang Culture’.
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Landscape and Seascape Feature
03 Community Participation and Sustainable Tourism
03 Community Participation and Sustainable Tourism

**Operation of Geumgang Pine Forest Roads**

Open genetic preservation forest of Geumgang pine tree to the public in 2011 for coexistence of Korea Forest Service and Local people

- Open ‘Geumgang Pine Forest Roads’ to the Public from April to November every year
- Strictly limited the number of visitors: 80 people /1 course & a day
- Visitors should accompany with the certified tour guides and forest interpreters who are local people.
- In principle, visitors should use service which is provided by local people such as B&B, meals, forest interpreter and cars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Old Forest Roads Management &amp; Community Participation System</th>
<th>The Pine Forest Roads</th>
<th>Community Participation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Course managing</strong></td>
<td>Limit the number of Visitors (80 people/1course)</td>
<td>Visitor Information Center (Visitors, Villages, Forest Interpreters)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operation System</strong></td>
<td>Accompany with Tour Guide</td>
<td>Forest Interpreters (8 Interpreters)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Management</strong></td>
<td>Assign a person in charge each route</td>
<td>Community involvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Providing Visitor Service</strong></td>
<td>Reservation through Internet &amp; Phone-call</td>
<td>B&amp;B (Bed &amp; Breakfast) Food Truck (Packed food box)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Main Body</strong></td>
<td>Visitor Information Center</td>
<td>Each Forestry Fraternity (Each Forest village Society)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Geumgang Pine Forest Roads Visitor Information Center)</td>
<td>Supporting Experiencing Program for Socially Disadvantaged Class (Over 65 year-old people, 2 times/a week(Mon, Wed)/20 people)</td>
<td>Forest Experiencing Instructors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Others</strong></td>
<td>Forest Interpreters</td>
<td></td>
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03 Community Participation and Sustainable Tourism

Tour Program, Meals, Accommodation and Interpretation which are involved to

Forest Interpretation

Food Truck

Taverns (Traditional Pub & Inn)

Home stay
03 Community Participation and Sustainable Tourism

Effects of Sustainable Tourism

The Number of Visitor to the Forest

Units: people

Income Change of Surrounding Villages

Units: 1,000 won (₩)

Food truck

Homestay
03 Community Participation and Sustainable Tourism

Developing Agricultural Heritage Governance

- **MAFRA** (Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs)
- **Korean Agricultural and Fishery Heritage Society**

**Uljin County**

- **Department of Forest & Green Space**
- **Heritage Promotion Committee** (Uljin Citizen About 1,000 people)

**Surrounding Villages of Geumgang Pine Forest Roads**

- **Empowerment**
  - Supporting Forest Roads Interpreters
  - Cultivating Agricultural Heritage Interpreters
- **Promotion/Marketing**
  - Prevention Campaign of Forest fire and Pine Wilt Disease
  - Running Geumgang Pine Forest Ranger
  - Holding a seminar of Geumgang pine forest conservation
- **Operation of Autonomous Organization** (Forest Village Fraternity, Village Fraternity)
  - Providing Visitors’ Service (B&B, Food Truck)
  - Collective Income Activities (Taverns, Experiencing Programs)
  - Manpower Supporting (Interpreters, Experiencing Instructors)
- **Running the forest roads**
  - Running 5 Course (Course 3-1 test operating)
  - Running Ecological education Program for students
  - Running a Program for the Socially disadvantaged class

**Supporting Visitors’ Program**

- **Financial Support**
- **Connected-Project Support**

- **Cooperation & coexistence**

- **Providing Visitors Service**
- **Connect Visitors to the Villages Management of Geumgang Pine forest Road**
03 Community Participation and Sustainable Tourism

Empowerment

Efforts to Keep a Sustainability of Agricultural Heritage Resources

- Strengthening management abilities in order to keep coexistence local people with Uljin.
- Attempting to strengthen visitors, local people and students’ abilities by running differentiated programs for each

Help Visitors to Understand Geumgang Pine Forest (Pine Tree)

- Build up Exhibition Hall (Museum)
- Understanding of Geumgang Pine Tree

Help Local People to Understand Geumgang Pine Tree and Agricultural Heritage

- Cultivation Agricultural Heritage Interpreters
- Making Continuous Presentations for Local People

Help Students to Understand Geumgang Pine Tree and Agricultural Heritage

- Making a Good Use of Workbooks
- Running Ecological Education Programs
04 Sustainable Tourism of Agricultural Heritage
04 Sustainable Tourism of Agricultural Heritage

1. Systemic Management by Assessment and Prediction of Ecosystem Service

• Biodiversity & values of ecosystem service should be evaluated as well as being predicted according to change of land use and land cover caused by tourism in Agricultural heritage. It is also necessary to make a plan to keep a balance of development and conservation based on the results of assessment and prediction.

• Making a land use plan and control tourists’ needs in compliance with results of assessment.

2. Tour Program Operation System, which run by Local People

• Establish responsible traveling culture through continuous education and communication between local people and visitors.

• Branding products of agricultural heritage sites and fair trade off

• Providing incentives to local people with ‘Direct Payment Program for Agricultural Heritage Conservation’.

• Promoting consumption, for example accommodation, experiencing programs and buying agricultural products, through linkage adjacent villages and villages on agricultural heritage sites.

• Generating greater economic benefits for local people and Enhancing the well-being of host communities.
04 Sustainable Tourism of Agricultural Heritage

3. Integration: Agricultural Heritage Tourism (Eco + Green + Rural + Culinary + Culture + Responsible ••)

- **Food and livelihood security**
  - Culinary Tourism

- **Agro-biodiversity**
  - Eco-Tourism

- **Local and Traditional Knowledge system**
  - Green/Rural Tourism

- **Culture, Value system and Social Organisations**
  - Culture Tourism, Responsible travel

- **Landscape and Seascape Features**
  - Green/Rural Tourism
Thank You