

URBANIZATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AT EL PATIO RAZON, TANAY, RIZAL

ABSTRACT

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This study examined the relationship between urbanization and environmental sustainability at El Patio Razon, Tanay, Rizal, an ecotourism site known for its Hobbit House and Kawa Bath attractions. Although increased nature-based tourism has supported the destination's popularity, the development of related infrastructure may challenge ecological balance through waste generation, reduced green space, and resource consumption. The study used a descriptive-correlational research design. Data were collected through a structured questionnaire from 50 respondents selected using convenience sampling. Weighted mean, ranking, and Pearson's correlation coefficient were used to summarize perceptions and examine the relationship between urbanization and environmental-sustainability indicators. Respondents strongly agreed that El Patio Razon maintained favorable environmental conditions. Green-space availability received a mean of 3.80, air and water quality 3.65, waste management 3.53, and the absence of industrial zones 3.71. Infrastructure was viewed positively, although accessibility concerns were reported. Pearson's correlation coefficient indicated a very weak positive relationship between urbanization and environmental sustainability ($r = 0.0357$). The very weak observed correlation suggests that the measured urbanization and sustainability indicators had little linear association in this sample. Respondents nevertheless identified low community participation, improper waste disposal, and limited awareness as continuing concerns. Recommendations included sustainable-tourism regulations, green infrastructure, stronger waste-management practices, and community engagement, supported by a strategic plan aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals.

RECOMMENDED CITATION

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