# Tourism Development in Algerian Border Regions Intersectional Margins Inside Oued Souf as a Model



#### Sami ENTALEB

University of Ghardaia, (Algeria) Laboratory: Tourism, Territory & institutions

bentaleb.sami@univ-ghardaia.dz

**Abstract:** This study aims to analyze tourism in border areas, taking Oued Souf Governorate in Algeria as a model, focusing on local potential and interaction with regional cooperation, and other factors that can have impacts on it. As research based on descriptive and analytical methodes, in which tourism in this region could be framed and networked within a compulsory trend, guiding to localize and internationalize the activity. As results proved the necessity of reviewing tourism policies for border areas in context of renewed pragmatic approach, considering its relevance in sustaining development at both domestic, regional, and even at international level.

**Key words**: Tourism Development; Border Regions; Algeria; Oued Souf; Regional Cooperation.

ملخص: تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى تحليل موضوع السياحة في المناطق الحدودية، باتخاذ ولاية الوادي الجزائرية نموذجا، بالتركيز على مؤهلاتها المحلية وتفاعلها مع أطر التعاون الإقليمي، وكذا مع العوامل المختلفة الأخرى التي يمكن أن يكون لها تأثير بهدا الصدد. وقد إستند البحث إلى منهجين الوصفي والتحليلي، بغرض النظر في إمكانية السياحة بهذه المنطقة، في أن تكون مؤطرة ومتشابكة ضمن اتجاه إلزامي، يؤول إلى توطين وتدويل النشاط. كما أثبت نتائج البحث، ضرورة إعادة النظر في السياحية المتعلقة بالمناطق الحدودية في سياق نهج عملي متجدد، بالنظر إلى أهميتها في الحفاظ على استدامة التنمية على الصعيدين المحلي، الإقليمي، وحتى الدولي.

الكلمات المفتاحية: التنمية السياحية؛ المناطق الحدودية؛ الجزائر؛ وادى سوف؛ التعاون الإقليمي.

### **Introduction:**

The tourism has become of great importance in the contemporary world as a result of its values progressed and achieved at several levels. As political entities, especially in developed countries, have become responsible in supporting planning and programming within the framework of tourism development policies at national level. In view of the complexity of the phenomena surrounding countries in light of international relations and renewed role of some concepts and factors such as borders and border activities, development and security and the extent of their impact and impact-back on general societal life, it has become necessary to review the border phenomenon and the extent to which it can push local tourism development as a basic requirement in achieving higher goals, such as sustainable development and security sustainable development at local, national and supranational level.

With the aim of developing tourism in border areas as a new trend in Algeria, the state has contributed in possible occasions, attempting to advance tourism activities in border departments, but with its continued marginalization at border municipalities level, which is the same situation for the province of Oued Souf, taken as a model for the study, as it generally has a tourism qualifications, giving an important role in the sustainability of border tourism development while preserving natural, cultural and environmental resources.

According to above, we could pose the following problematic:

\* To what extent, can tourism in Oued Souf Governorate as a border region, sustaining domestic & regional development?

# CHAPTER (I): BORDER TOURISM & COOPERATION: CONCEPTUALIZATION AND MEANINGS

The first Chapter as conceptual framework, will discuss the deep of the concept of Tourism in general and its relating issues, jumping through the phenomenon of Cross-Border Tourism as a part of Tourism field, and finally, the use of regional cooperation approach in theoretical perspective.

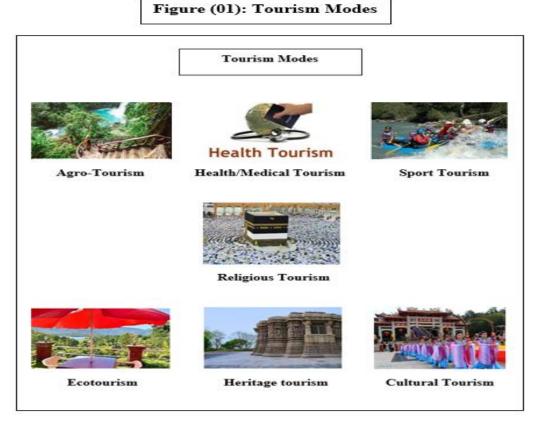
#### 1- Field of Tourism:

The concept of Tourism as a phenomenon has a deep value in general, as "in scientific studies, there can be found definitions, which emphasize a service nature of a tourism product and describe it as a set of goods and services, which a tourist uses and consumes when travelling. The tourism product is also considered in terms of tourism values which are one of the main motives for travelling by

tourists." (Anna Gardzinska, 2015). That means that Tourism has two components: first, tourism goods and facilities -products that have a touristic value and infrastructure-, and second, tourism services that can make visitors enjoying the destination in term of planning, travelling and reminiscing the trip, and in same time, dedicating domestic tourism values. Thus, it "is described as a cross-cultural contact that happens between two parties: the hosts and the guests". (Oscar F. Picazo)

The tourism industry based on human activity is a key factor for development, as it can simultaneously display the nation's heritage in a variety of economic, social, environmental, cultural, political, and technological contexts. Tourism can have visible impacts in the destination region, where visitors create an interaction with local environment, resulting socio-cultural, economic and environmental impacts. (Safdari Molan. A F.E, 2021)

The tourism could be seen in several figures, it depends to the sector embracing the activity in which it describes one of tourist values. By the following, we can cite the main modes of tourism:



Created by Researcher

Figures 01 shows the main modes of tourism, which can be detailed as follow:

- **Agro-tourism:** or Agri-tourism is a form of alternative tourism aimed to discover the agricultural world. This includes both, the discovery of know-how, landscapes and agricultural culinary specialties, as well as the exploration of social practices. (Virantin)
- **Health/Medical Tourism:** this kind of activity refers to travelling towards a destination, which provides two types of services: enjoying a trip by visiting and discovering region, and benefiting from both traditional/modern medical care in the same time. This kind of tourism is recently has a great interest around all over the world, it could be found in big medical cities or places having traditional and natural baths, framed in so-called: Care Centers.
- **Sport Tourism:** it refers to visiting whatever areas, attending the opening of sporting events, such as attending the World Cup and the African Nations Cup.
- **Religious Tourism:** This kind refers to orientation of tourists towards religious areas and sites, such as Saoudi Arabia for ELHADJ and ELOMRA seasons for Muslims, and different sites around all over the world.
- Cultural Tourism: it refers to visiting whatever areas, attending the opening of festivals and cultural events. "Cultural tourism is the movement of persons to cultural attractions away from their normal place of residence, with the intention to gather new information and experiences to satisfy their cultural needs" (Hardi. T & E, 2021).
- **Heritage Tourism:** it has a natural and cultural heritage background; it refers to visiting historical locations that have a heritage value created by human within historical chronology.
- **Eco Tourism:** it was emerged since forty years ago, where environmental protection has took a big space in almost discussions. Ecotourism is a tourist approach committed to sustainable development aimed at preserving the biodiversity and cultural resources of a natural area (L'Écotourisme).

Another definition presented by the International Ecotourism Alliance, considering Ecotourism as "a sustainable, natural-resource-based form of tourism that focuses primarily on acquiring experience in nature and its exploration, it is ethically driven to reduce impact on the environment and consumption, at the same time oriented on local conditions that way promoting the well-being of local residents. Ecotourism takes place in natural areas and contributes to the protection of these areas" (Interreg, 2009).

### 2- Cross Border Tourism:

In regard to cross border tourism, many researchers tried to put a look into this phenomenon. "Baklanov and Ganzei", while defining boundaries of crossborder tourist areas, they suggest that the outer boundary of peripheral zone should be taken as an international cross-border area. Moreover, a cross-border area can be considered as a complex natural and socio-territorial system enjoying a certain natural and territorial integrity. Thus, "Mirzekhanova" suggests considering a cross-border tourist area as a territorial unit consisting of two or more closely linked countries or parts of them, having common interest and ability to develop international tourism, by creating a common tourism product and assuring exchange of tourists in comparison with other regions (Zaitseva N. A, 2016).

In other definition, "E. Kropinova" considers "cross-border tourist regions as a special kind of territorial recreation systems, compactly lying areas located on the territory of two or more countries, having a common tourist resource combined with substantial (backbone) linkages" (Zaitseva N. A, 2016).



Figure (02): Challenges and Barriers for Cross-Border Tourism Development

Source: Gustav Skäremo, Cross-border tourism development: A case study of the Öresund Region, Master Thesis in Human Geography 30 hp, Umeå University: Department of Geography and Economic History, 10-06-2016, p13.

Figure 02 shows the main challenges and barriers for cross-border tourism development, in which a tourism collaboration can face three types of problem. The first type expresses policies and regulations challenges and barriers in first place. The second expresses societal barriers at social, cultural and economic level. The third and last type, expresses other civil society barriers summarized at organization and governance level.

## **3- Regional Cooperation Approach:**

The tourism cross border cooperation is an integrated model of cooperation, covering fields of activity determined by social and economic, environmental processes, and territorial planning strategies, and by cultural manifestations also.

The tourism field of activity, within regional or local cross border relations, is the strongest binding element. Bearing in mind, that tourism influence is complex at

an economic, social but also at cultural level, and on mutual heritage from border areas.

The tourism cross border cooperation field bases on common tourism resources production, exploitation of transport, infrastructure, accommodation, and a common policy concerning the organizing of cultural events.

In the aim of reaching sustainable development through tourism cross border cooperation projects, it is necessary to retain that very delicate balance between economic growth realized by activities, and the protection the natural and inhabited environment, summarized in tourist brands of the region such as traditional houses and costumes, agro-pastoral rituals, music, hospitality, and gastronomy (BOAR Nicolae).

In terms of exploiting other non-habitual factors which can be a key to develop tourism sector in border periphery, such as culture and ethnicity and their contribution in the field, "Nationally oriented tourism in cross-border areas\*has shifted to an approach that attempts to link ethnic and cultural heritage on both sides of the borders in an attempt to increase their attractiveness" (Hardi .T, 2021). Therefore, cultural and ethnic capacities are not well explored in almost countries around all over the world, in spite of their potential in developing shared tourism capacities and projects at regional level.

As cross-border cooperation faces several obstacles including physical geographic barriers like mountain ranges, rivers, or cultural like language differences. In addition, socio-economic inequalities on both sides of a border or inadequate infrastructure linkages like poor transport connections as equipped roads, crossing points and so on, hinding territorial developments in border regions (Bettina TÓTH, 2020). Therefore, in order to launch and sustain regional development of border tourism, we need to find serious tourism policies, and create cross border projects attracting more hires, as "the direct presence of visitors and tourists in a border area, in addition to economic development and cultural exchanges, make that part of the country a safe place for living and tourism" (Safdari Molan. A F. E, 2021), in context of not destroying domestic and regional natural resources.

WORLD POLITICS, Volume (6), N°(1), years (2022), pp:1437/1451

<sup>\*</sup> cross-border tourism product is a specific area in which its management is a task of tourism entities located on both sides of the border in a cross-border region, in order to serve domestic, regional and international tourists (Anna Gardzińska, Beata Meyer, Agnieszka Sawiń, The Entity Structure of the Cross-Border Tourism Product, EPT 4/2015 (32) | ISSN: 1644-0501 | website: www.wzieu.pl/EPT | DOI: 10.18276/ept.2015.32-13, pp 171.172).

# CHAPTER (II): TOURISTIC DEVELOPMENT IN OUED SOUF: COOPERATIVE & SUSTAINABLE VIEW

We discuss within this second Chapter, the local capacities and potentials of Oued Souf Governorate, focusing on the hidden figures of Tourism in the region in context of Pragmatic Perspective, highlighting both agro-tourism and health/medical tourism, and finally, regional cooperation and expected future of tourism at both sides of shared border periphery between Algeria and Tunisia.

# 1- Local tourism capacities:

#### - General Presentation:

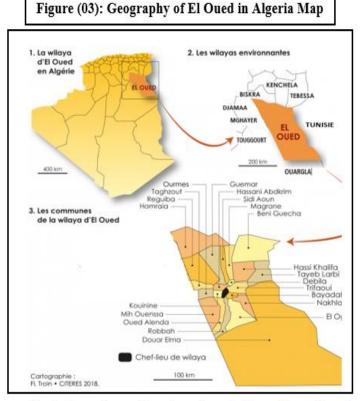
Oued Souf or El-Oued Province is located within the eastern erg of the Lesser Sahara, at the intersection point between the national roads No. 16 and 48 that pass through Annaba, Ouargla, Tebessa and the Republic of Tunisia. It is limited in the north by the wilaya of Khenchela, from the northeast by Tebessa, by the wilaya of Biskra, Jamaa and Meghayer from the northwest and west, by the wilaya of Touggourt from the south-west, the wilaya of Ouargla from the south, and finally the Republic of Tunisia in the east (Direction Générale du Budget D.P.S.P de la Willaya D'Eloued, 2021). It has about 44.585 Km² as overall area surface.

The Souf region covered by a series of sand dunes. It is characterized by a very arid climate, with an average rainfall of 78 mm annually. The region has a large reserve of groundwater, some of which form national and transcontinental layers. In general, its atmosphere is a desert air, with very hot summer and extremely cold winter, as its temperature rises to more than 50 degrees during the day, and drops to nearly 0 degrees at night. Among the winds in which regions characterized by, what so-called the Shahili, which is a dry, scorching wind of extreme intensity. It is also characterized by the sea wind due to its coming from the seaside (Al-Awamer, 2007).

The state composition has the following characteristics:

- Souf area: a sandy area covering the total area of Souf, east and south.
- Al-Erg: a sandy area covering ¾ of the area of Souf, located on the 80 meter east and 120 meter west lines. It is a part of the Great Eastern Race.
- Oued Righ: a composition of rocky plateaus extending along National Road No. 3 in the west of Oued Souf province, which extends to the south.
- The depressions area: so called: Shatt, in the north of the province, like shatt Melghigh and Shatt Marwan, near to National Road No. 48 in the municipalities of Hamraya and Setil.

- The border strip: consisting of Taleb al-arbi Department, which contains three municipalities: Taleb al-Arabi, Dawar al-Maa and Ben Guesha (Oued, Monography of Eloued 2011, 2012).



Source: <a href="https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/Camel-meat-marketing-and-camel-meat-marketplace-in-Zakaria-Abdelhakim/047a6cfb4edbf7c409ebfd65ddb5519430762830">https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/Camel-meat-marketing-and-camel-meat-marketplace-in-Zakaria-Abdelhakim/047a6cfb4edbf7c409ebfd65ddb5519430762830</a>

Figure (03) shows the location of El-Oued Governorate within Algeria Map, where the wilaya consists of 22 municipalities, which are, respectively: El-Oued, Guemar, Wermas, Hassani Abdel-Karim, Taghzout, Sidi Aoun, Reguiba, Magren, Hamraya, Hassi Khalifa, Debila Al-Taleb Al-Arabi, Ben Guesha, Dawar El-maa, Trifawi, Al-Bayada, Al-Nakhla, Al-Ugla, Kouinine, Mieh Wansa, Oued Al-Alanda, Al-Rabah. It should be noted that the number of municipalities in the province has decreased from 30 to 22, and this is the result of the new regional division of Algeria, which resulted in the independence of the states of Jamaa and Al-Meghayer with eight municipalities.

#### - Touristic Potentials:

Oued Souf area has turned into a promising tourist destination, whether locally or internationally, as a result of natural and equipment qualifications it has acquired, it has about 80 tourist facilities between hotels and shrines, and it has recently been reinforced with 04 new tourist facilities providing 200 beds, and the number of local tourism agencies has increased from 21 to 35 agencies. This

situation contributed to the promotion of local tourism, as a significant increase was recorded for tourists coming to Oued Souf, where 55.987 Algerian tourists visited the region in 2018, while 53.000 tourists were registered in 2017. As for foreign tourists, the region recorded the arrival of 10.253 International tourists. Thus, the province considerable facilities are: "10 hotels classified, including 03 hotels one-star, 03 two-stars, 03 three-stars and 01 hotel five-stars. In addition to two non-rated hotels (Tourism Directorate of El Oued, 2020-2021).

Table (01): Number of hotels and their capacities in El Oued 2011-2021

Years	2011	2021
N° of Hotels	24	36
Accomodation Capacity	1829	2845

Source: Directorate of Tourism of El Oued

The table (01) shows the number of hotels and their capacity in the province of Oued Souf 2011-2020, as you notice that the number of hotels has increased from 24 hotels in 2011 with a capacity of 1.829 person to 36 hotels in 2020 with a capacity of 2.845 person. This difference is estimated at 12 average hotels over a ten-year period, compared to a capacity difference estimated at 1.016 person, which is considered a rather weak increase. Accordingly, the criterion of balance between hotel establishments and their absorptive capacities must be taken into consideration in future projects in order to ensure the good promotion of tourism activity in the state.

Oued Souf is rich of natural tourism potentials, which are mainly manifested in the sand dunes and oasis places that provide attractive landscapes for tourists. In addition to old palaces located in some of old municipalities, as well as the urban style based mainly on the erection of domes, whether in traditional or modern construction as a traditional and heritage suit, which makes an aesthetic palette covering most of the region, which inspires viewers coming from inside and outside of Algeria.

It also has some tourist sites, such as the city of Guemar, the city of Zugum, the old Oued Souf's market and museums\*, in addition to some traditional arts and industries, such as the manufacture of pottery and palm fronds, weaving, carpets and mattresses, and traditional clothes, such as barons, kashabia and pillows, and

WORLD POLITICS, Volume (6), N°(1), years (2022), pp:1437/1451

<sup>\*</sup>Oued Souf has two museums, two houses of culture and two cultural centers, which is few for a region that intends to adopt programs for the development of tourist attractions, as museums and cultural centers play an important role in promoting the cultural heritage of the region and the local product (Directorate of Culture-El Oued 2021).

the manufacture of traditional musical instruments from goat skins, as well as the manufacture of pots of wood (Mohsen Tamer, 2020), and the traditional cooking that characterizes the region. Although these activities are mainly commercial, there are non-profit organizations and bodies that seek to preserve the traditional, cultural, tangible and intangible heritage, such as active local, provincial and municipal associations in this field.

The province has a total road network estimated at: 1.658, 61 km, in which 1.651, 01 km are paved in 99%, and this contributes to facilitating the rapid and safe movement of people and goods. Including total national roads estimated at: 686.15 km in 100% paved, and 249.79 km are provincial roads that are 100% paved. Finally, there are 721.66 km of municipal roads, of which 715.06 km are paved, which is equivalent to 99%, which is a very high percentage indicating a large coverage rate to link the municipalities of the Governorate to each other (Directorate of Transport of El Oued, 2020-2021). In addition, in term of land transportation for passengers of both public and private sector, Oued Souf has 595 dealers who own 906 licensed buses carrying 28.852 passengers daily. It also has an international airport that provides some international routes for travelers to Tunisia and France, and commercial ones for export to Europe and the Gulf countries, with a capacity to accommodate goods at the internal level estimated at: 4.060 tons / year, and a capacity to accommodate domestic travelers estimated at: 25.551 passengers / year (Directorate of Transport of El Oued, 2020-2021).

The total population of the state in 2020 amounted to 925.000 people, with a population density of 20, 75 person / km, which is a high density compared to previous periods. As we can note, that population is divided almost equally between males, with a census of 470.720 man, compared to 454.280 for females. This indicates the strength of the "Soufi society"-local society of Oued Souf in an anthropological view- in terms of human capacities of both gender categories (Directorate of Programming and Budget Follow-up of El Oued).

About tourism activity development in Oued Souf, the tourism expansion area benefited from a study project funded within the framework of the South Development Program with the aim of reviving tourism activity, and highlighting the various assets and components of the region. The Tourism Directorate, in coordination with civil society actors active in the field, intend to initiate a number of mechanisms, which can attract national and foreign investors, through the provision of real estate investment vessels, in cooperation with small and medium enterprises and crafts initiators (Invest in Algeria, 2013).

By final, we can say that the province of Oued Souf really has different most relevant potential and qualifications, such as natural, human, equipment and infrastructure ones, that can guide the tourism in this region as a border area towards more success and motivation. However, the only thing that needs to be taken into serious and urgent consideration is the legal and institutional framework, which really needs to be revised again, in order to meet tourism ambitions at local, national and supranational level.

## 2- Hidden figures of Tourism in El Oued: Pragmatic Perspective

The tourism in Oued Souf in general, has serious potentials in term of human capacity, equipment and infrastructure. As there are some other factors and domains in the field, which are not well explored yet, such as agro-tourism and health/medical tourism qualifications, in which the region owns, but in fact, this needs more interest reserved by central and local authorities in collaboration with local society different actors as participants in the operation.

-Agro-Tourism:

Figure (04): Methodes of Planting & Irrigation in the Region of El Oued



Source: SEBAA Abdelkamel, Guide des techniques de lutte contre l'ensablement au Sahara Algérien, Algerie, Centre de Recherche Scientifique et Technique sur les Régions Arides, 2015, p.p 50.51.

Figures 04 -in picture 1, 2, 3 & 4- shows main methodes of planting and irrigation in Oued Souf region, planting in the middle of desert, expressing an extraordinary experience, resulting both economic and touristic values, which can be a motivate space in attracting visitors in context of agro-tourism activities.

The region of Oued Souf has benefited from the project of green belt, which is an environmental initiative framed in the aim of planting trees that absorb water and give an aesthetic and natural image of the area, such as eucalyptus trees, where the project covers 14 municipalities over a length of 114 km.

Therefore, the above gains can provide an incentive to promote agricultural and eco-tourism, especially within agro-production diversity characterizing the region.

#### -Health/Medical Tourism:

El-Oued has several nearby health institutions, clinics and centers in different specialties, covering almost of municipalities. It also has numerous private clinics/hospitals with a capacity of 75 beds (Directorate of Health, 2021). In addition to a medical center for cancer patients, and a medical center for the treatment of addiction. As there are other health facilities in process of being completed, including two hospitals in Rabah and Taleb Al-Arabi, a blood transfusion center in the valley, and 12 clinics in Debila, Hassi Khalifa, Al Shohada, Taghazout, Sidi Aoun, Trifaoui, Ogla, Wermas, and Dawar EL maa and Ben Guesha at border front (ABID).

The main idea here, is the opportunity of Oued Souf to embrace health/medical initiatives framed by doctors, which have realized their private health centers and clinics in order to re-enforce the demands of medicine field, and especially for different kinds of surgeries, such as ERRIMEL CLINIC, IBN HAYEN CLINIC, along with different laboratories, which attract patients from different points around Algeria regions, and especially from south, extreme south and even form the east of the country.

In addition, the region has witnessed a very big touristic project represented in a modern infrastructure called: "GOLDEN DEER", it is a private project creating a touristic city, showing a mixing between traditional authenticity and contemporary presence in term of construction, equipment and type of provided services. The most amazing and wonderful thing within this project, it doesn't provide habitual touristic services only, as it provides even health and medical ones, under the supervision of trained stuff like doctors and technicians in Sauna and Orthopedic Mechanical Treatment. Really, this kind of project gives more vitality to the region, where it can receive high level of national and international visitors within its huge capacity of accommodation and management. Therefore, this example should be a landmark for the state in order to review again the tourism policies that can help such initiatives and for investors as well in order to develop their ideas and dreams in being pioneers of tourism development in Algeria in general, and in border regions in particular.

## 3- Tourism Regional Cooperation:

Border periphery in Oued Souf represented in the region of TALEB El-Arbi, has a great opportunity to deal with Tunisian part represented in the Governorate of Tozeur represented in Nafta and Hazwa, in term of collaboration

and cooperation in tourism field in context of cross-border relationship\*. "However, cross-border cooperation and networking concerning infrastructure developments can decrease expensive and possibly needless duplication of facilities and services. Hence, by cooperating across borders it is possible to better utilize tourism related infrastructure and services" (Skäremo, 2016).

On both sides level, there are some important natural qualifications such as desert, dunes and oasis places, in addition to traditional artisanat, manifesting the real image of cross-border region. This could be explored as a shared tresor, attracting more local and international tourists, noting, that majority of local Tunisian tourists coming to Oued Souf, are just in the aim of commercial and smuggling activities and affairs and no more. As in comparison between both governorates of El Oued and Tozeur, this latter was more advanced then Oued Souf in term of tourism infrastructures since a long time ago, regardless of the recent tourism project of Golden Deer of course in El Oued land.

In 2018, a partnership and cooperation agreement was signed between both governorates of El Oued (Algeria) and Tozeur (Tunisia), setting a general framework for expected collaboration between both border sides. In which, the domains and limits of cooperation and partnership were identified through the recommendations of four workshops:

- Agriculture, environment and irrigation.
- Discussing the files of industry, trade, investment and public works.
- Culture, youth, sports, tourism and traditional industries, indicates the positive outcome of the exchange of delegations in cultural festivals, folkloric activities, highlighting common social heritage, and the organization of joint sports courses and the organization of meetings and seminars for scientific, intellectual and academic creativity with the preparation of flyers for activities.
- •The fourth was about health and social affairs, to exchange preventive information, participate in medical scientific meetings, and a twinning between private and public medical institutions (DEROUICHE, 2021).

We can confine gained advantages behind cross-border tourism development, framed in shared border tourism policies between both Algeria and Tunisia. As this field development can realize an advancement at several levels, such as at social level, by letting people freely travelling within the region, supporting interactions between hires and hosts, and encouraging social and cultural exchanges. At economic level, by encouraging local industries and local artisanat, and creating jobs for men and women. At environment level, by issuing

<sup>\*</sup> Cross-border tourism collaborations can be understood as a significant force for changing the function of borders.

policies which puts a legal framework to preserve nature and environment. Finally, at security level, as people freedom consecration-psychologically-, job and investments creation can provide more stability to the cross-border region.

## **Conclusion:**

We conclude from the above that the state of the valley possesses enormous natural, human and material tourism potentials that can make it a border area par excellence. However, there are some obstacles and deficiencies that must be reconsidered, the most important of which is the legal framework that regulates the sector at the national level in general, and at the level of border areas in particular, which have a specificity that distinguishes them from the rest of the homeland.

Among the most important recommendations that the study concluded are the following:

- Providing the appropriate real estate container for tourism projects

Attracting investments and investors in tourism by providing necessary facilitation, support and guarantees to advance projects.

- Involving the local community, including associations and those interested in tourism, in order to promote tourism in the region.
- Supporting traditional activities and industries that preserve the authenticity of the region.
- Paying attention to the border region of the Arab student by supporting desert and agricultural tourism.
- Developing partnership projects in the tourism sector between the governorates of El-Oued and Tozeur in the aim of realizing development in social, economic, environment and security level.

# **Liste of Figures & Tables**

Designation	Title	Page
Figure (01)	Tourism Modes	03
Figure (02)	Challenges & Barriers for Cross-Border Tourism Development	05
Figure (03)	Geography of El Oued in Algeria Map	07
Figure (04)	Methodes of Planting & Irrigation in the Region of El Oued	10
Table (01)	Number of Hotels and their Capacities in El Oued 2011-2021	08

# Bibliography:

ABID, L. (n.d.). La couverture sanitaire dans la Wilaya d'El Oued. Retrieved from http://www.santemaghreb.com/algerie/documentations\_pdf/docu\_75.pdf

- Al-Awamer, I. M.-S. (2007). *Al-Sarouf in the History of the Sahara and Souf.* Algeria: Thala publications.
- Anna Gardzinska, B. M. (2015). The Entry Structure of the Cross-Border Tourism Product. *EPT*, 32, 170. doi:10.18276/ept.2015.32-13
- Bettina TÓTH, G. V. (2020). The Potentials of Cross-Border Tourism Development in The Lower-Tisa Valley. *GeoJournal of Tourism and Geosites Year XII*, 28(1), 360-375.
- BOAR Nicolae, K. S. (n.d.). Tourism Cooperation Projects in The Cross-Border Romanian-Ukrainian Maramures. Vectors For Sustainable Develop? . Retrieved from https://econpapers.repec.org/paper/wiwwiwrsa/ersa12p636.htm
- DEROUICHE, D. (2021). Development of borders areas in Algeria: Place-Based Approach. *Algerian Review of Economic Development*, 08(01), pp. 343-354.
- Direction Générale du Budget D.P.S.P de la Willaya D'Eloued. (2021). *Annuaire statistique de la Willaya D'Eloued 2020*.
- Directorate of Health, P. a.-E. (2021). Directorate of Health, Population and Hospital Reform-El Oued. *Directorate of Health, Population and Hospital Reform- El Oued*.
- Eloued, D. o. (2020-2021). Directorate of Transport of Eloued.
- Hardi .T, K. .. (2021). Examining Cross-Border Cultural Tourism as an Indicator of Territorial Integration across the Slovak–Hungarian Border. *Sustainability*, *13*. Retrieved from https://doi.org/10.3390/su13137225
- Interreg. (2009). Ecotourism development strategy 2019 2023 for cross-border areas. Interreg.
- Invest in Algeria, w. d. (2013). andi.dz. Retrieved from andi.dz: www.andi.dz
- L'Écotourisme. (n.d.). L'Écotourisme. Retrieved from https://passionterre.com/lecotourisme/
- Mohsen Tamer, Y. B. (2020). The Role of Cultural Tourism in Achieving Sustainable Development Oued Souf Model. *Al-Muntada Journal for Economic Studies and Research*, 04(02), 10-31.
- Oscar F. Picazo, S. U. (n.d.). People-to-People Tourism in APEC: Facilitating Cross-Border Entry and Exit, with Special Focus on ASEAN.
- Oued, D. o. (2012). Monography of El Oued 2011.
- Oued., D. o.-u. (n.d.). Directorate of Programming and Budget Follow-up of El Oued.
- Safdari Molan. A, F. E. (2021). *Border Tourism Development Strategies in Kaleybar Compared to Regional Rivals* (Vol. 13). Sustainability. doi:https://doi.org/10.3390/su132011400 Tourism Directorate of El Oued (2020-2021).
- Skäremo, G. (2016, 06 10). Cross-border tourism development: A case study of the Öresund Region. *Master Thesis in Human Geography 30 hp*. Umeå: Umeå University: Department of Geography and Economic History.
- Virantin, A. (n.d.). C'est quoi l'agritourisme? Retrieved from https://www.magazine-avantages.fr/c-est-quoi-l-agritourisme,190620.asp
- Zaitseva N. A, K. E. (2016). Problems and prospects of cross-border cooperation in tourism between Russia and Europe. *Baltic Region*, *3*, 98-108. Retrieved from https://doi.org/10.5922/2079-8555-2016-3-8