

**Название публикации:**

Development problems and prospects of environmental tourism in the territory of an unesco world heritage object “curonian spit” in cross-border cooperation projects

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**Аннотация:**

The importance and relevance of the tourism development research in the territory of the UNESCO World Heritage Site “Curonian Spit” is explained by the presence of great potential in the field of ecological, scientific, health, and other types of tourism in this area. On the other hand, tourism development in the national park is connected to a number of restrictions and possible negative consequences for the unique landscape and the Curonian spit preservation. Therefore, it is important to study the positive experience of other regions in the construction of tourist facilities, in particular, the city of Sochi, in order to use it to overcome existing problems in the ecological tourism development in the territory of the Curonian Spit. To conduct this study, the authors used the methods of ordering and generalization, comparative analysis, expert evaluations, allowing to address this issue comprehensively, taking into account the many factors that influence the development of eco-tourism on the territory of the Curonian Spit in the framework of cross-border cooperation projects. The novelty of the research results lies in the fact that the most promising types of tourism were identified on the territory of the Curonian Spit, both within the borders of the Russian Federation and within the borders of the Republic of Lithuania. The main problems in the development of tourism in the territory of the Curonian Spit are determined and their expert assessment is given. The article described the importance and prospects for the implementation of projects of cross-border cooperation in the development of ecological tourism in the territory of the Curonian Spit. The materials of the article are of scientific and theoretical value for scientific research in the field of tourism development in the territory of the Curonian Spit within the framework of cross-border cooperation projects in the Russian Federation and the Republic of Lithuania, and have practical significance for regional and municipal tourism management bodies, higher educational institutions that provide training for students in the direction of “Tourism”, as well as for all those interested in the development of ecological tourism in general, including on the territory of the Curonian Spit. The study was performed with financial support of Russian Foundation for basic research under the scientific project No. 16-06-00181. © Foundation Environmental Protection & Research-FEPR.

**Ключевые слова:**

Cross-border cooperation, Curonian spit, Ecology, Ecotourism