

An analysis of possible technologies with goal-directed optimising its logging and technological parameters or optimising technical parameters of engaged enginery can be of remarkable signification for minimization of damages.

Getting a minimum of damages in the forest growths at the production process does not consist only in selection of the enginery and logging technologies but it is also necessary to follow with responsibility the every times repeated fundamentals related to engaging the TDS in the production process, i.e.:

- Consistent section of the growths;
- Marking the trees for cutting;
- Following of production techniques.

The economical production has been often trumping the ecological point of view. But some few appreciate that both direct labour costs on decontamination and first of all losses for the future because a danger of contamination of the trees with fungous infections rises with escalating of damages, and therefore rises damaging and depreciation of wood material and decreasing of growth.

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***Tetsuhiko YOSHIMURA¹; Oleg STYRANIVSKY²; Igor POTOČNIK³;
Nestor BYBLJUK⁴; Yuriy STYRANIVSKY⁵***

MOUNTAIN TOURISM PLANNING WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF LOCAL PEOPLE IN THE UKRAINIAN CARPATHIANS

The Ukrainian Carpathians located in southwestern Ukraine attract many tourists not only from inside Ukraine but from abroad by providing them with an opportunity of skiing and other outdoor activities. A canvass survey was conducted in Rozhanka village on the

¹ Dr, Assistant Professor – Kyoto University. Yoshida-Honmachi, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto 606-8501, Japan, Phone: +81 75 753 3131, Fax: +81 75 753 3133, E-mail: yoshimu@bre.soc.i.kyoto-u.ac.jp

² Dr, Associate Professor – USUFWT. General Tchuprynka str. 103, 79057 Lviv Ukraine, Phone: +380 322 39 06 69, Fax: +380 322 37 89 05, E-mail: styran@forest.lviv.ua

³ Dr, Associate Professor – University of Ljubljana. Jamnikarjeva 101, 1000 SI Ljubljana, Slovenia, Phone: + 386 1 423 11 61, Fax: + 386 1 257 11 69, E-mail: igor.potocnik@Uni-Lj.si

⁴ Dr, Professor – USUFWT. General Tchuprynka str. 103, 79057 Lviv Ukraine, Phone: +380 322 39 06 69, Fax: +380 322 37 89 05

⁵ Undergraduate Student – USUFWT. General Tchuprynka str. 103, 79057 Lviv Ukraine, Phone: +380 322 39 06 69, Fax: +380 322 37 89 05

development plan based on nature tourism with construction of ski lift facilities. The objective of this survey was to realize the participation of the local people in the decision-making process of the development plan of their village. As a result, over 90 % of the respondents agreed with the plan. However, 43 % of them did not agree with hotel construction, which could result in damage to nature, landscape and social lives in the village, and could deprive the local people of an opportunity to provide tourist homes for visitors.

Keywords: mountain tourism, Ukrainian Carpathians, ski lift, participation of local people, questionnaire

*Асист. проф. Тецухіко ЙОШІМУРА, Др. – Ун-т в Кіото, Японія;
доц. Олег СТИРАНІВСЬКИЙ, канд. техн. наук – УкрДЛТУ, Україна;
проф. Ігор ПОТОЧНИК – Ун-т Любляни, Словенія;
проф. Нестор БИБЛЮК, д-р техн. наук – УкрДЛТУ, Україна;
студ. Юрій СТИРАНІВСЬКИЙ – УкрДЛТУ, Україна*

Планування гірського туризму з залученням місцевих жителів в Українських Карпатах

Українські Карпати розташовані на південному заході України. Цей регіон є дуже привабливим для туристів як з України, так і з-за кордону. В селі Рожанка проводилось опитування на предмет залучення місцевих жителів до організації зеленого туризму, літнього та зимового відпочинку з використанням гірськолижних витягів. Мета опитування – залучити місцевих жителів до планування та реалізації екотуристичної діяльності в їхньому селі. Як результат, понад 90 % респондентів погоджуються із запропонованим планом, однак 43 % із них вважають, що будівництво готелю може погіршити екологічну ситуацію в селі та зменшити доходи місцевих жителів від приймання туристів у власних оселях.

Ключові слова: гірський туризм, Українські Карпати, гірськолижний витяг, анкетування.

Introduction

Mountain tourism is characterized by fragile ecosystem, scenic beauty, high altitude, difficult access, scenic beauty, lack of infrastructure, sense of isolation and so on. While local communities obtain money income through mountain tourism by providing accommodations, selling food and drink, and working as a nature guide, negative impacts of tourists on the natural environment inevitably occur. Therefore, the balance between economic benefits and nature conservation must be considered and maintained by local communities benefiting from mountain tourism.

The Ukrainian Carpathians attract many tourists by providing an opportunity of skiing in winter while, in summer, many tourists come there for outdoor activities such as hiking and camping. Tourism could be a blessing for Ukraine whose industry has not yet recovered from the turbulence of the post-Soviet years. In Rozhanka village located in the Ukrainian Carpathians, however, money income is insufficient due to the lack of tourism industry. Therefore, this village has a plan to boost up its economy by utilizing nature inside the village, which is being used for forestry and cattle grazing, as tourism resources. The plan includes the construction of ski lift facilities in mountain areas to draw tourists in both winter and summer.

Local participation in the planning of nature tourism in Rozhanka village is important although local community participation in the decision making process of tourism development has often been lacking in the past [1]. Therefore, we inter-

viewed the residents of Rozhanka village to reflect their opinions to the development plan of the village based on nature tourism.

Materials and methods

The study site is Rozhanka village located in the Ukrainian Carpathians (Figure 1). In July 2002, we randomly chose and visited houses in Rozhanka village, whose area, population, number of households are 3390 ha, 2130, and 620, respectively. We interviewed one dweller in each house on behalf of the whole household as they filled out the questionnaire.



Figure 1. Study site

As a result, 61 questionnaires were collected. This means that the sampling rate was 9.8 %. In this questionnaire, information was elicited on individual and household data, necessary infrastructure and facilities for tourism and life improvement, products and knowledge that can be provided for tourists, and possible activities inside the village. We also asked if the residents of Rozhanka village agreed with the development plan based on nature tourism with construction of ski lift facilities.

Results and discussion

Canvass survey

Table 1 shows the individual and household data of the respondents of the canvass survey conducted in Rozhanka village. As shown in this table, 62 % of respondents were involved in the forestry sector, and no one was related to tourism industry. There were three respondents who earned relatively high annual income of over 10,000 GRN (1 USD = approximately 5.2 GRN at the time of July 2002), and all of them emigrated. The life levels of the respondents were sufficiently high in terms of durable goods possession although information technology tools such as computers or mobile phones were rarely or not owned (Figure 2).

Figure 3 shows necessary infrastructure and facilities for tourism and life improvement identified by the respondents. The degree of necessity for each item was evaluated according to 5 steps, that is, very high, high, moderate, low and very low. As shown in the figure, road construction/improvement was the most necessary. Actually, there was no paved road in the village although 31 % of respondents had a car/truck as shown in Figure 2. In fact, on rainy days, it was very hard to drive on dirty roads, and this somehow kept driving tourists away from the village. It should be noted that 46 % of the respondents answered that the necessity for

hotel construction was low or very low while 29 % for cottage construction. Large-scale accommodations could derive the local people of an opportunity to provide tourist homes for visitors, and cause relatively great damage to or irreversible change of nature, landscape and social life in the village. This figure also shows

Table 1. Profile of the respondents in Rozhanka village

	Category	Number
Age	- 19	1
	20 – 29	7
	30 – 39	19
	40 – 49	17
	50 – 59	9
	60 -	8
Gender	Male	46
	Female	15
Marital status	Married (incl. bereavement)	53
	Single	8
Type of work (Major income source)	Government employee	8
	Village office employee	2
	Forest enterprise	28
	Sawmill worker	10
	Emmigration	6
	Unemployed (incl. pensioner)	7
Household Income (GRN/year)	- 2000	11
	2001 – 4000	30
	4001 – 6000	13
	6001 – 8000	4
	8001 – 10000	0
	10001 -	3

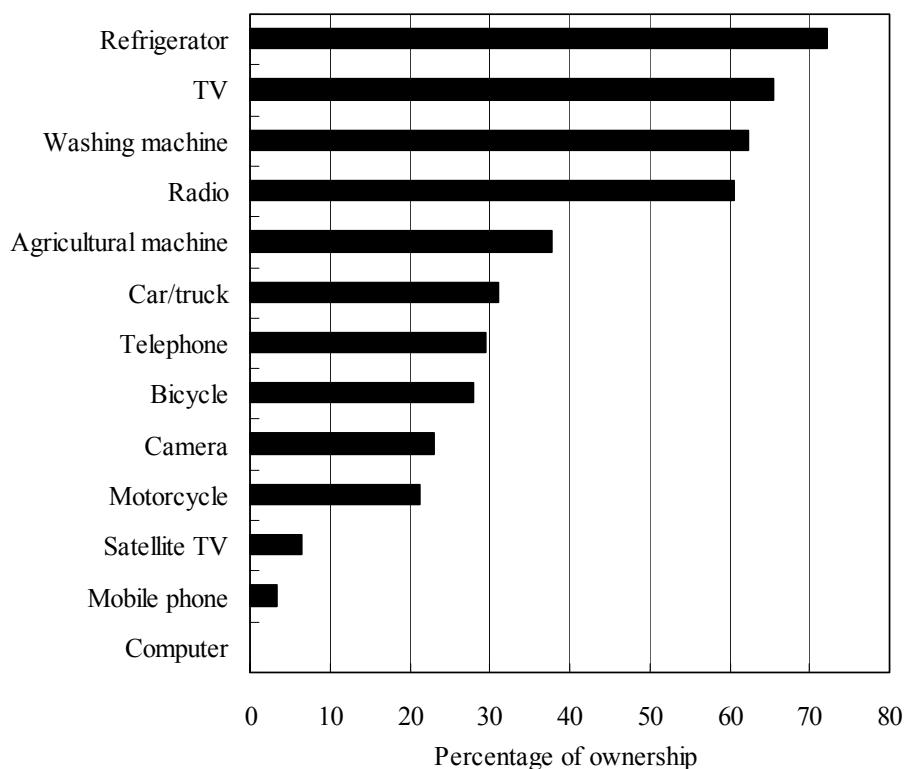
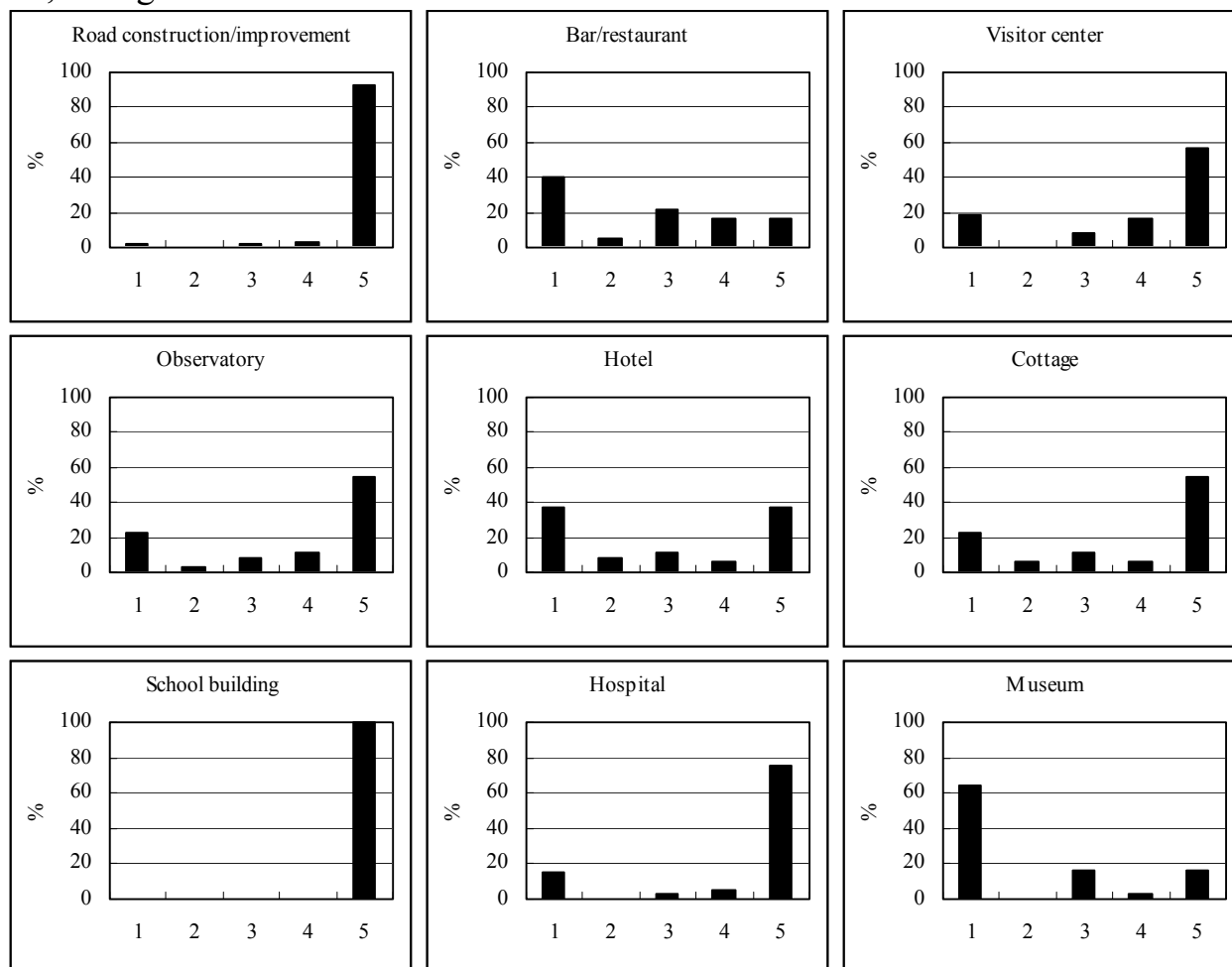


Figure 2. Durable goods possessed by the residents in Rozhanka village (multiple answer)

that all respondents answered that they needed school building construction very much. Actually, although reconstruction work of a new school building replacing the decrepit one started, it was stopped due to insufficient finance. As a result, the respondents needed the infrastructure and facilities used for their life improvement such as road construction/improvement, a school building and hospital rather than those used only for tourism such as a visitor center, bar/restaurant, observatory, hotel, cottage and museum.



Note: 5 – Very high; 4 – High; 3 – Moderate; 2 – Low; 1 – Very low.

Figure 3. Necessary infrastructure and facilities for tourism and life improvement

Figure 4 indicates the products that can be provided for tourists by the respondents. Such products are expected to become income sources for the residents of Rozhanka village. According to the figure, 95 % and 92 % of the respondents answered that they could provide dairy products and meat/egg products, respectively. On the other hand, only 38 % can provide alcoholic drink that is Ukrainian vodka called Horilka. Similarly, Figure 5 shows the knowledge on nature that can be provided for tourists by the respondents. Such knowledge also can be income sources when the local people work as a nature guide. As shown in this figure, 87 % of the respondents can provide knowledge on mushrooms and berries because they go into forests to collect them as many Ukrainians do. Possible activities depend on the quality and quantity of natural resources in the village. According to Figure 6, possible activities in Rozhanka village were skiing (95 %), camping (95 %), mushroom/berry collection (70 %), hiking (69 %) and so on. On the other

hand, only 28 % of the respondents answered that fishing was possible because there was not much fish in the Rozhanka river. Boating was listed by only 2 % of them due to the shallow depth of the river. Some respondents added horse riding and cycling to possible activities when asked if there were any other of them.

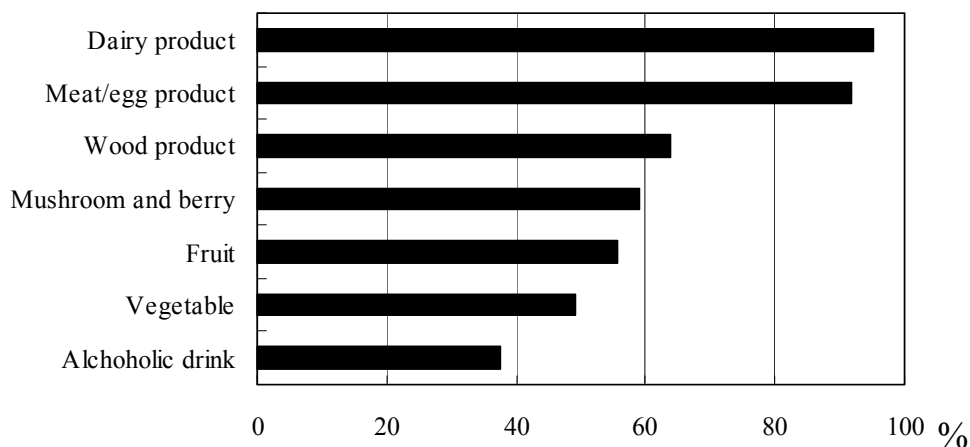


Figure 4. Products that can be provided for tourists (multiple answer)

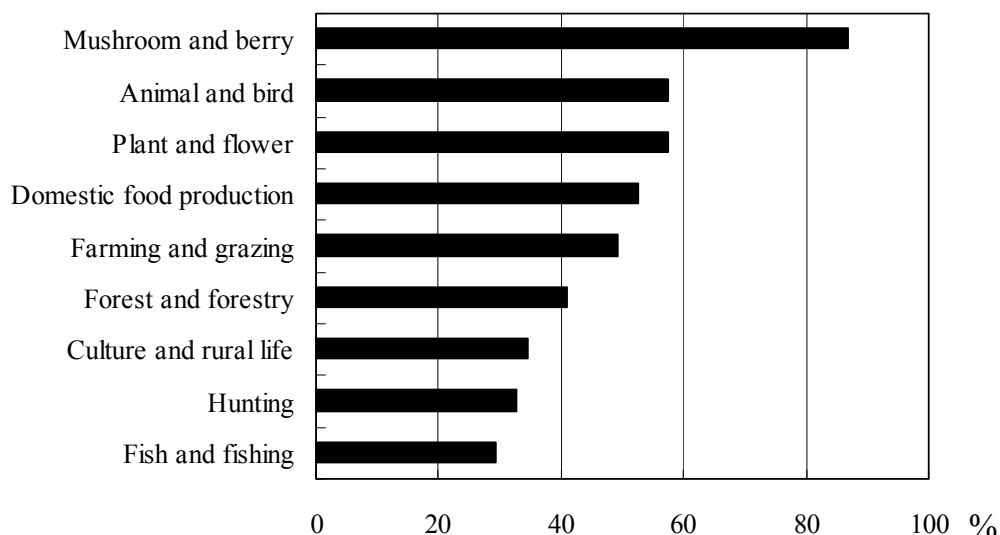


Figure 5. Knowledge that can be provided for tourists (multiple answer)

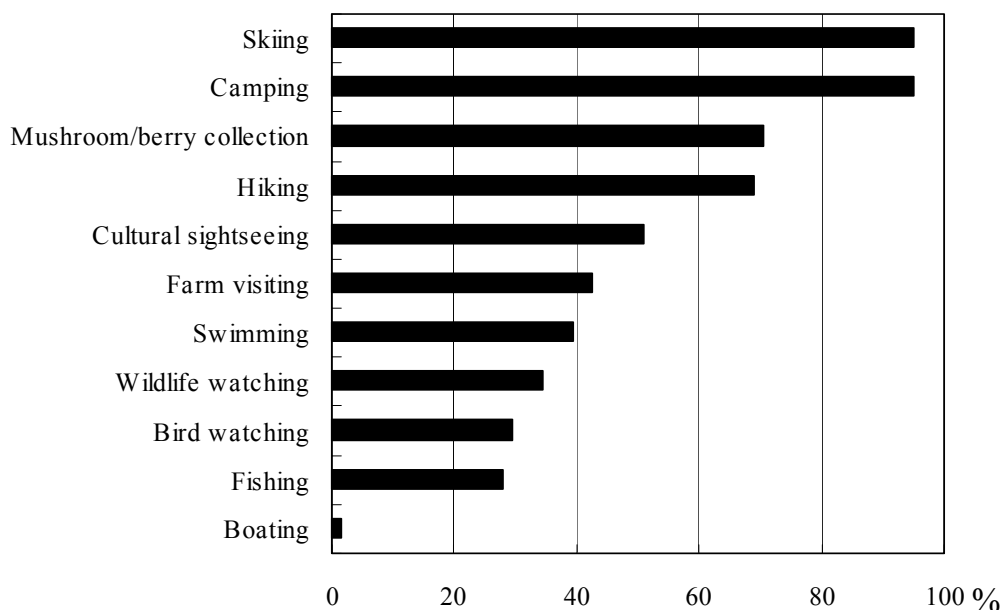


Figure 6. Possible activities inside Rozhanka village (multiple answer)

Finally, according to 5 steps, we asked about the degree of agreement with the development plan of Rozhanka village based on nature tourism with construction of ski lift facilities. As shown in Figure 7, 88 % of the respondents agreed with the plan strongly or very strongly. That is because they understood that ski lift facilities could bring them economic benefits by encouraging nature tourism. On the other hand, only 9 % did not agreed at all, probably because they were afraid that their environment, landscape and life could change at the unacceptable level. Therefore, careful attention should be paid to the level of their change, and negative impacts to them should be minimized when making the development plan of the village.

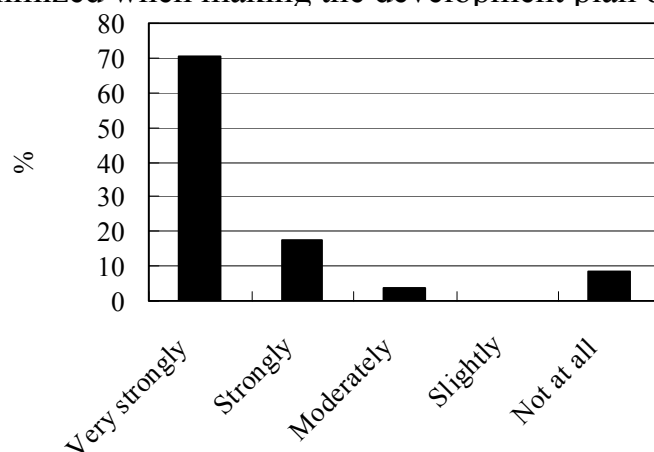


Figure 7. Agreement with the development plan of Rozhanka village

Conclusions

The Ukrainian Carpathians blessed with nature are a considerable draw for domestic or international tourists. The results of the canvass survey in Rozhanka village showed that 88 % of the respondents strongly or very strongly agreed with the development plan based on nature tourism with construction of the ski lift facilities. However, it should be noted that 46 % of the respondents answered that the necessity for hotel construction, which could cause relatively great damage to or irreversible change of nature, landscape and social life in the village, was low or very low. Large-scale hotel construction also could derive the local people of the opportunity of providing tourist homes by themselves. On the other hand, more than 90 % of the respondents answered that road construction/improvement was required. It was concluded that the respondents needed the infrastructure and facilities used not only for tourism but for their life improvement. The respondents listed possible activities such as skiing, camping, mushroom/berry collection, hiking, farm visiting and so on. In conclusion, Rozhanka village could offer many opportunities of nature- or agriculture-oriented activities. The all respondents in Rozhanka village answered that they needed a new school building for their children, whose construction work was stopped due to insufficient finance. We believe successful nature tourism could realize it by bringing sufficient economic benefits to Rozhanka village.

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