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Developing a Sustainable Framework for the Tourism-Sharing Economy in Egypt: Proposing an 8-Pillars Model through a Delphi Study

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Tourism-sharing economy

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RESUMEN

The tourism-sharing economy (TSE) presents transformative opportunities and challenges for sustainable tourism development worldwide (Connolly, 2021; Zetzsche et al., 2017). In Egypt, where tourism significantly contributes to the economy, TSE platforms have grown rapidly but remain largely unregulated, raising concerns about informal operations, consumer protection, social equity, and social and environmental sustainability (Fouad, 2021; Haza & Abdelkafy, 2017; Ibrahim et al., 2022; Wael & Abdelhaleem, 2023). This paper reports on a comprehensive mixed-methods study employing a three-round Delphi technique with experts across academia, government, international organizations, and traditional industry professionals to explore the state and future of the Egyptian TSE.

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Introduction

The sharing economy has emerged as a transformative force globally, reshaping industries by enabling peer-to-peer exchanges of goods and services through technology platforms (European Commission, 2013; H. Liu & Wu, 2024). In the tourism sector, the sharing economy—often referred to as collaborative consumption, the gig economy, or the peer-to-peer economy—has driven significant changes to how travelers access accommodation, transport, and experiences (Bilgin & Ulema, 2018; Deloitte, 2016; Kamel, 2021). This evolution is fueled by the rapid growth of digital platforms like Airbnb and Uber, shifting consumer preferences from ownership to access, and expanding opportunities for micro-entrepreneurship (Bakker, 2018; Gössling & Michael Hall, 2019). Egypt, endowed with rich cultural heritage and a vibrant tourism sector, is witnessing a rapid expansion of the tourism-sharing economy (TSE) (Aref, 2024; Haizah & Abdelkafy, 2017). These platforms are creating new avenues for economic participation, particularly amid rising population, digital transformation efforts, and unemployment (Haizah & Abdelkafy, 2017; Imam, 2020). Despite the sector's promise, the TSE in Egypt remains largely informal and insufficiently regulated, creating both opportunities and challenges for stakeholders (Ammar et al., 2020; Haizah & Abdelkafy, 2017; Yaraghi & Ravi, 2017).

While the TSE has contributed positive benefits to the Egyptian economy—improving access, inclusion, and entrepreneurial activity—it has also given rise to critical concerns (Park, 2020; Weili & Khan, 2020; Yaraghi & Ravi, 2017). The absence of a comprehensive, context-specific regulatory framework has enabled the sector to operate informally, resulting in tax evasion, unfair competition with traditional tourism businesses, and risks to consumer protection and service quality (C. Köbis et al., 2021; OECD, 2020). These issues undermine the government's ability to capture economic value, enforce standards, and foster sustainability (Dredge & Gyimóthy, 2015; Hofmann et al., 2019). Although scholars have examined the impacts of the sharing economy on Egypt's tourism sector, there is a clear gap in the literature regarding formal and holistic strategies to regulate and integrate these platforms. Furthermore, the alignment of TSE sector growth with sustainable development goals (SDGs) remains poorly developed due to inconsistent legal oversight and fragmented stakeholder engagement (Harb, 2018; Khatab & Kandil, 2022).

This study sets out to address these gaps by developing a sustainable, expert-validated framework to guide and formalize the TSE in Egypt. The main objective is to create a balanced work environment that integrates TSE platforms into the formal economy, minimizes negative impacts, maximizes positive outcomes, and directly supports Egypt's progress toward SDGs.

To achieve these aims, the research tackles the following core questions:

1. What is the current state of the tourism-sharing economy in Egypt with regard to regulation, sector size, and key challenges?
2. How does the TSE impact the sustainability agenda and SDGs in Egypt?

3. What are the essential requirements for fostering a formal, balanced, and sustainable TSE sector?
4. What factors are critical for the successful implementation of an expert-validated framework (8-Pillars Model) to ensure growth and sustainability in Egypt's TSE?

Literature Review

The Tourism-Sharing Economy in Egypt

The evolution of the tourism-sharing economy (TSE) in Egypt is deeply rooted in both long-standing communal practices and a recent surge of digital transformation (Harb, 2018; Khatab & Kandil, 2022). Traditionally, Egyptians have shared resources within communities, but the modern TSE—characterized by peer-to-peer service exchanges through digital platforms—has accelerated dramatically in the last decade (Ammar et al., 2020; Khatab & Kandil, 2022; Ramzy et al., 2019). The growth of the sharing economy in Egypt was catalyzed by technology adoption, societal changes following the 2011 revolution, government digital initiatives, and shifting economic needs. Platforms like Uber, Careem, and Airbnb quickly became vital to urban mobility and accommodation, enabling new opportunities for micro-entrepreneurship and local participation within tourism (Ammar et al., 2020; Aref, 2024; Haizah & Abdelkafy, 2017).

Growth Drivers and Characteristics

Multiple factors have driven the TSE's rapid expansion: a large and young population, increased internet penetration, high unemployment rates, and rising costs of living (Ianeva Assoc, 2018; Jaremen et al., 2019). Government support for digital transformation (e.g., ICT Strategy 2030) and the entrepreneurial spirit among Egyptians have also been key contributors (Central Bank of Egypt, 2023; ECES, 2024; Kamel, 2021). Egypt's rich cultural assets and strong appeal as a tourist destination further underpin the TSE's relevance, offering alternatives to traditional hotels and taxis while promoting authentic, local experiences (El Fakharany & Salama, 2022; Mostafa & Mostafa, 2024).

Platform Typologies and Sector Impact

Egypt's tourism-sharing economy (TSE) features a wide range of platform types (Mostafa & Mostafa, 2024). Transportation platforms such as Uber and Careem have transformed tourist mobility by offering enhanced reliability and safety. However, their expansion has also encountered challenges from regulatory authorities and resistance from traditional service providers (Abutaleb & Hamed, 2020; El Fakharany & Salama, 2022; Mostafa & Mostafa, 2024). Accommodation platforms like Airbnb and Vrbo expand lodging options by providing affordable and authentic alternatives to conventional hotels, thereby reshaping the formal hospitality sector and channeling income directly to local hosts (IDSC, 2024a; Ragab Abdelhady & Sayed Ameen, 2022). Furthermore, experience-sharing platforms like Airbnb Experiences, EatWith, and Viator facilitate unique connections between tourists and local residents, enabling distinctive tours and dining opportunities. These platforms promote cultural exchange and generate novel income

opportunities for local communities (AlAsrag, 2021; Hany B. Moussa et al., 2021; Ragab Abdelhady & Sayed Ameen, 2022).

Despite the sector's growth, formal quantification remains limited, with data being sparse and largely from unofficial sources, and the Egyptian government lacking comprehensive sectoral records (Hany B. Moussa et al., 2021; Ibrahim et al., 2022; IDSC, 2024b).

Economic, Social, and Environmental Sustainability

Literature underscores substantial economic benefits such as decentralized income generation, job creation (especially via ride-sharing), support for small businesses, and greater affordability for tourists (Ibrahim et al., 2022). Platforms empower youth, women, and lower-income groups; however, concerns about disruption to traditional tourism jobs, market instability, and uneven benefit distribution remain (Ibrahim et al., 2022; IDSC, 2024b). Socially, TSE platforms foster cross-cultural contact, community engagement, skill development, and inclusion—yet risks include cultural commodification, inequality, and potential displacement or social tensions in tourist-heavy areas (Hany B. Moussa et al., 2021; Ragab Abdelhady & Sayed Ameen, 2022).

Environmental aspects are less developed in both research and practice. While TSE platforms can theoretically promote efficiency (using existing assets, reducing congestion), in Egypt, regulatory shortcomings mean that potential gains—such as reduced resource consumption—may be offset or negated by unmanaged growth, over-tourism, and a lack of environmental safeguards (Abutaleb & Hamed, 2020; El Fakharany & Salama, 2022; Mostafa & Mostafa, 2024; Ragab Abdelhady & Sayed Ameen, 2022).

Regulatory Landscape and Policy Gaps

Egypt's TSE sector is mostly informal, with significant regulatory ambiguity and weak consumer protection (ECES, 2024; El Fakharany & Salama, 2022). Platforms often operate in legal grey zones regarding taxation, licensure, and safety standards (Kamel, 2021). This has led to missed government revenues, unfair competition with fully regulated tourism businesses, and an absence of reliable consumer dispute mechanisms (Bakker, 2018; Central Bank of Egypt, 2023). Enforcement and oversight lag behind international best practices, and Egypt's national tourism strategies have yet to systematically integrate the TSE as a tool for achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (Hany B. Moussa et al., 2021; Ibrahim et al., 2022).

TSE and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Egyptian experience shows that the tourism sharing economy (TSE) has the capacity to contribute to several Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those concerned with poverty reduction, economic growth, decent employment, inequality reduction, and the development of sustainable cities (Ibrahim et al., 2022; IDSC, 2024b). Research indicates that TSE activities help generate income and encourage entrepreneurship, which aligns with SDGs 1 and 8. They also create opportunities for marginalized or underrepresented groups, reflecting the aims of SDG 10 (Hany B. Moussa et al., 2021; Ibrahim et al., 2022; IDSC, 2024b). In addition, the emphasis on efficient use of resources

in both accommodation and transportation supports SDGs 12 and 13 (Abutaleb & Hamed, 2020; IDSC, 2024a; Ragab Abdelhady & Sayed Ameen, 2022). However, the overall impact is limited by issues such as the uneven distribution of benefits, slow adaptation of regulatory frameworks, and insufficient environmental monitoring, all of which restrict the sector's broader alignment with the SDGs (Abutaleb & Hamed, 2020; Mostafa & Mostafa, 2024).

Key Gaps and the Need for a Framework

The literature reveals a field marked by innovation, inclusion, and economic opportunity, yet undermined by fragmented policies and lax regulatory oversight (Central Bank of Egypt, 2023; ECES, 2024; Kamel, 2021). Scholars consistently call for a flexible, locally tailored framework to formalize the TSE, equip it to deliver sustainable benefits, and mitigate unintended economic, social, and environmental risks (Abutaleb & Hamed, 2020; Bakker, 2018; Kamel, 2021).

Previous studies stress the importance of developing frameworks suited to local market conditions that address the unique socio-economic and sustainability challenges in Egypt's tourism industry (Araújo, 2021; Aref, 2024; Haizah & Abdelkafy, 2017; Imam, 2020). Therefore, this study presents the experts' validated 8-Pillar Model.

Methodology

This study employs a mixed-methods research design that is primarily descriptive, with exploratory elements, to evaluate both the current status and future direction of Egypt's tourism-sharing economy (TSE) and to develop a framework for its sustainable integration. The research unfolds in two phases. The theoretical phase involved a literature review and analysis of secondary data to build an understanding of the sharing economy and its mechanisms and regulatory aspects within the Egyptian tourism sector. The empirical phase centers on the Delphi method, a structured, multi-round approach aimed at reaching consensus among experts and stakeholders on the main challenges and foundational pillars for integrating Egypt's TSE into the formal economy while promoting sustainable development (Khodyakov et al., 2023; Okoli & Pawlowski, 2004; Skinner et al., 2015).

Experts were selected to form the Delphi panel, representing government officials, traditional tourism enterprises, platform operators, international organizations, academics, and economists. The initial panel comprised 40 experts, with 31 participating in the first round; although participation declined in subsequent rounds, it remained within acceptable Delphi standards. Data collection in the first round relied on open-ended qualitative questions to gather expert perspectives on the current TSE landscape, its challenges, and emerging opportunities. Later rounds used structured questionnaires with Likert-scale items to refine initial findings and guide the group toward consensus, with all surveys administered online (Khodyakov et al., 2023; Okoli & Pawlowski, 2004).

The analysis combined qualitative and quantitative approaches. Qualitative responses were manually coded to identify core themes that informed the development of the

proposed framework, while quantitative data from later rounds were evaluated using descriptive statistics—such as the mean, median, standard deviation, and interquartile range—to assess levels of agreement and consensus (Carter et al., 2020; Ecartot et al., 2015; Okoli & Pawlowski, 2004). The Delphi method was chosen because its anonymity and iterative feedback process reduce bias and help build consensus in complex policy contexts involving multiple stakeholders (Beshay & Morsy, 2024; Khodyakov et al., 2023; Okoli & Pawlowski, 2004; Skinner et al., 2015).

Despite the strength of this design, the study faced several limitations, including the gradual decline in expert participation across rounds, the absence of comprehensive official statistics on TSE in Egypt, and difficulties in assessing environmental and SDG-related impacts due to limited data and indicators. Even with these constraints, the combination of qualitative insights and quantitative consensus-building through Delphi rounds provided a solid, nuanced foundation for the framework and recommendations aimed at advancing Egypt's tourism-sharing economy sustainably (Khodyakov et al., 2023; Okoli & Pawlowski, 2004).

Results and Data Analysis

The Delphi panel comprised a balanced mix of government officials, traditional tourism business owners, platform operators, academics, and representatives from international organizations. Across three rounds, the expert retention trended from 31 participants (out of 40) in the first round, to 27 in the second round, and 16 in the final round, maintaining diversity throughout.

Results & Findings from Round One: Qualitative Insights:

Experts identified the TSE as a globally relevant, permanent model with transformative potential for Egypt's tourism industry. Strong support was shown for TSE's ability to generate jobs, foster entrepreneurship, and promote innovation. Key challenges included a lack of regulatory frameworks, risks from shadow economy practices, tax evasion, unfair competition, quality/safety issues, and cultural and infrastructural pressures.

Despite concerns, experts saw TSE as generally positive for tourists, destinations, and local communities. However, traditional businesses and rural areas faced adaptation challenges, and experts warned about uneven benefit distribution and increased strain on infrastructure.

A summary of the outcomes from Round One is presented in the following SWOT analysis in Figure (1.1), highlighting the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats related to the TSE sector in Egypt.

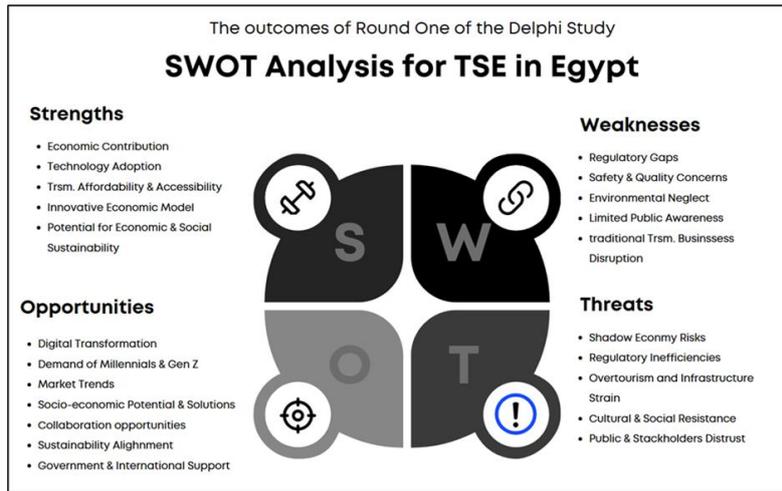


Figure (5.2): SWOT Analysis of the TSE in Egypt

The outcome of this Round (R1) formed the basis for a proposed regulatory framework for Egypt’s tourism-sharing economy (TSE), the core goal of the research. The framework aims to balance stakeholder interests, formalize the sector, reduce negative impacts, and enhance positive outcomes in line with sustainability and the SDGs. Its main pillars—illustrated in Figure (1.2)—were derived from the previous SWOT analysis of Round One. Each pillar includes targeted suggested actions to address key challenges. Together, they offer a comprehensive and structured approach to integrate the TSE into the formal economy, support sustainability, and maximize the sector’s potential.

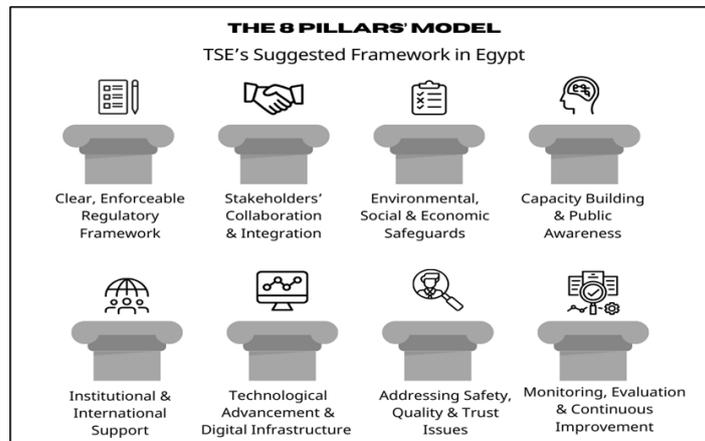


Figure (1.2): The Suggested 8-Pillars Model.

Findings and Data Analysis from Round Two & Three: Quantitative Consensus Building

In R2 & R3, Experts in the panel list were asked to evaluate the suggested action in each pillar if they are helping in overcoming the challenges of the TSE identified earlier in R1. Each pillar was evaluated using key statistical tests—mean, median, standard deviation (SD), and interquartile range (IQR)—to measure both the level and consistency of agreement among participants. Below is a summary Table (1.1) that demonstrates these results:

Table (1.1): Comparison of Delphi Round Two and Round Three Results for the Proposed 8-Pillars Model

Pillar	Round Two (R2)					Round Three (R3)					
	Mean	Median	SD	IQR	Consensus (R2)	Suggested Modifications (R2)	Round Three Mean	Median	SD	IQR	Consensus (R3)
P1: Clear & Enforceable Regulatory Framework	4.07	4	0.83	2	No Consensus	Prioritizing actions; Phasing actions (time plan); Assigning roles	4.59	5	0.73	1	Achieved
P2: Stakeholder Collaboration & Integration	3.93	4	0.83	0	High Consensus	No comments	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Already Achieved in R2
P3: Environmental, Social & Economic Safeguards	3.85	4	0.95	0	Moderate Consensus	Link each action to SDGs	4.63	5	0.68	1	Achieved
P4: Capacity Building & Public Awareness	4.37	5	0.74	1	Moderate Consensus	Assign roles	4.66	5	0.68	0	Achieved
P5: Institutional & International Support	4.04	4	0.81	2	No Consensus	Identify outcomes of each action	4.57	5	0.69	1	Achieved
P6: Technological Advancement & Digital Infrastructure	4	5	1.33	1.5	No Consensus	Give tourism priority in the national digital strategy; Accelerate digital development equal to fintech	4.66	5	0.71	0	Achieved
P7: Addressing Safety, Quality & Trust Issues	4.19	4	0.68	1	High Consensus	No comments	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Already Achieved in R2
P8: Monitoring Evaluation & Continuous Improvement	4.33	5	0.78	1	High Consensus	No comments	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Already Achieved in R2

This table illustrates the evolution of expert consensus across rounds and outlines the suggested modifications made to strengthen pillar implementation. By Round Three, consensus was achieved for all remaining pillars, with mean and median values consistently above 4, and SD and IQR equal to or below 1, demonstrating both robust agreement and practical endorsement of the Eight-Pillars Model. Such detailed quantitative analysis provided clarity on priorities and actionable improvements, ensuring the framework is both widely accepted and adaptable for Egypt’s tourism-sharing economy context (Khodyakov et al., 2023; Okoli & Pawlowski, 2004).

Discussion

The Delphi study robustly validated the Eight-Pillars Model as a comprehensive framework for the sustainable development and formalization of Egypt’s tourism-sharing economy (TSE). Across rounds, expert consensus highlighted the urgent need for regulatory clarity, coordinated stakeholder engagement, digital transformation, and sustainability safeguards—findings that resonate strongly with leading literature on the sharing economy’s impacts in tourism sectors (Arner et al., 2017; Česnuitė et al., 2022; CIPPEC, 2018; Connolly, 2021; ESCWA, 2018; X. Liu & Chen, 2020).

Relating to existing research, the study’s results confirm that TSE platforms have dramatically reshaped tourism industries by promoting economic participation, job creation, and entrepreneurship (Alloh et al., 2024; Boar et al., 2020; Meshulam et al., 2024; Sadiq et al., 2023; Shereni, 2019). In Egypt, as in other emerging economies, regulatory gaps and informal operations remain the primary barriers, constraining both sector growth and the realization of sustainable development goals (Ammar et al., 2020; Imam, 2020; Morrison, 2020; Öberg, 2024; Ramzy et al., 2019). The Eight-Pillars Model directly addresses these concerns by emphasizing enforceable regulation, sectoral collaboration, digital infrastructure, and ongoing monitoring—all elements identified in current academic discourse.

The model also closely aligns with the SDG agenda, particularly by supporting decent work, poverty reduction, and inclusive cities (SDGs 1, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13). Literature stresses the risk that TSE, without robust regulation and capacity-building, may exacerbate social inequalities or environmental pressures, which the model's focus on monitoring and evaluation addresses directly (Acquier et al., 2017; Cheng, 2016a, 2016b; Kuhzady et al., 2021; Muñoz & Cohen, 2017; Wang & Nicolau, 2017).

This research offers clear and comprehensive answers to the core questions guiding the study. It reveals that the tourism-sharing economy in Egypt is dynamic and rapidly expanding yet remains predominantly informal. The sector faces regulatory ambiguity, weak consumer protection, limited stakeholder coordination, and insufficient alignment with national economic and sustainability priorities. These structural gaps threaten both its long-term stability and its capacity to contribute meaningfully to national development.

The findings also show that the tourism-sharing economy has a positive impact on sustainability and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It supports micro-entrepreneurship, generates decentralized income, encourages the participation of women and youth, and enhances authentic tourism experiences. Nonetheless, the sector's informality and the absence of environmental and social safeguards limit its potential to advance goals related to poverty reduction, decent work, equity, and sustainable urban development. Stronger integration of sustainability measures is necessary to unlock its full contribution.

To foster a formal, balanced, and sustainable sector, the study identifies several essential requirements, all embedded in the proposed Eight-Pillars Model. These include an adaptive regulatory framework, active collaboration among stakeholders, capacity building and awareness efforts, investment in digital infrastructure, integration of environmental and social protections, and continuous monitoring and evaluation. The research further shows that the successful implementation of the model depends on enforceable regulations with clear priorities, clearly assigned roles, strong institutional and technological backing, sustained capacity-building efforts, and consistent monitoring aligned with SDGs. The Delphi results confirm expert agreement on these factors and affirm the model's viability.

Overall, the Eight-Pillars Model offers a structured response to the sector's main challenges and opportunities, presenting a clear pathway for formalizing and sustainably advancing Egypt's tourism-sharing economy. The study concludes by emphasizing the need for future research to apply and assess the framework in practice, and to continue refining its environmental and social dimensions to ensure resilience and alignment with both national strategies and global sustainability objectives.

Recommendations

Based on the validated Eight-Pillars Model, this research recommends the following prioritized actions for policymakers, industry stakeholders, and practitioners to ensure the sustainable integration and growth of Egypt's tourism-sharing economy (TSE). Each

pillar is supported by consensus-based strategies designed to achieve regulatory clarity, operational efficiency, inclusivity, and sustainability:

1. Clear & Enforceable Regulatory Framework

- Establish comprehensive, flexible regulations that cover all forms of TSE, including accommodation, transport, and experiences.
- Implement phased and prioritized legislative reforms, with realistic timelines and clear assignment of stakeholder responsibilities.
- Develop robust licensing and registration procedures, enforce standardized taxation, and create transparent compliance monitoring.
- Set up independent regulatory authorities for oversight and consumer protection.
- Launch awareness campaigns to educate stakeholders on their legal obligations.

2. Stakeholder Collaboration & Integration

- Form institutional bodies or chambers for TSE within tourism federations that represent all stakeholder interests in policy formulation.
- Facilitate regular forums for dialogue between public, private, and community actors.
- Develop incentive programs for partnership between TSE platforms and traditional tourism businesses.
- Create digital platforms, virtual sandboxes, and collaborative marketing initiatives to foster innovation and joint action.
- Promote knowledge exchange, capacity building, and joint certification programs.

3. Environmental, Social & Economic Safeguards

- Explicitly align every action and guideline within the framework to specific relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Develop sustainability guidelines for platforms addressing resource use, waste reduction, and eco-friendly practices.
- Monitor and mitigate risks of over-tourism, environmental degradation, and cultural displacement.
- Support social equity by fostering economic inclusion, gender parity, and protection of vulnerable groups.

4. Capacity Building & Public Awareness

- Design transparent accountability mechanisms, assigning clear responsibilities for each action to the appropriate entities.
- Organize nation-wide campaigns and educational workshops for operators, hosts, and local communities, focusing on digital transformation, sustainability, and customer service.
- Collaborate with educational institutions to mainstream TSE-related training and upskilling curricula.
- Establish centralized portals for guidelines, training, and best practices.

5. Institutional & International Support

- Foster targeted partnerships with international organizations, accelerators, and incubators to build innovation capacity.
 - Standardize cooperation agreements and benchmarking programs with global tourism bodies, leveraging cross-border knowledge.
 - Specify concrete expected outcomes for each partnership and initiative, enabling impact evaluation and accountability.
6. Technological Advancement & Digital Infrastructure
- Prioritize tourism in Egypt's national digital transformation strategy, emulating successes from sectors like fintech.
 - Invest in secure, scalable digital platforms for bookings, payments, and visitor management.
 - Promote open innovation labs and agile regulatory sandboxes to support rapid tech adoption.
7. Addressing Safety, Quality & Trust Issues
- Enforce mandatory safety and service-quality standards, with transparent consumer protection mechanisms including refund, complaints handling, insurance, and rating systems.
 - Implement digital safety features (identity verification, GPS tracking, panic buttons) to foster user trust and security.
 - Establish regulatory oversight for risk management and sector resilience.
8. Monitoring, Evaluation & Continuous Improvement
- Create dedicated monitoring and evaluation units within regulatory bodies, develop performance indicators (KPIs), and implement data systems for regular review.
 - Launch public dashboards and benchmarking tools to enable transparent progress tracking.
 - Provide continuous training for regulators to maintain responsiveness to emerging trends.

The successful integration of Egypt's tourism-sharing economy requires a phased and coordinated application of the Eight-Pillars Model, which is intended to function as a flexible and adaptive framework rather than a fixed strategic plan. Implementation should follow a time-phased structure in which actions within each pillar are prioritized and sequenced based on urgency, feasibility, and expected impact. Dividing implementation into short-term, medium-term, and long-term phases allows for gradual progress, supports effective resource allocation, reduces disruption, and enables ongoing feedback and adjustment.

A central element of the framework is the clear assignment of responsibilities to the appropriate stakeholders. Government bodies—including the Ministry of Tourism, regulatory agencies, and local authorities—are expected to lead in the early stages, particularly in relation to policy development, enforcement, and oversight. As implementation advances, TSE platforms, traditional tourism businesses, community

actors, and international partners become more actively involved in areas such as innovation, capacity building, and monitoring. Clear role designation improves accountability, strengthens coordination, and sustains engagement across all actors.

Another critical aspect of implementation is outcome-driven planning. Each proposed action should be tied to a clearly defined result with measurable indicators and success metrics. Establishing these outcomes helps track progress, motivates participating stakeholders, and ensures that efforts contribute to meaningful sector transformation. It also facilitates transparent evaluation and enables continuous refinement as conditions change.

Linking the framework to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is equally essential. Each pillar and its corresponding actions should clearly align with relevant SDGs, such as decent work and economic growth (SDG 8), sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11), responsible consumption and production (SDG 12), and climate action (SDG 13). Making these connections explicit enhances stakeholder commitment, attracts international support, and strengthens mechanisms for sustainability assessment and funding.

In sum, a phased, outcome-oriented implementation approach that includes clear role allocation and explicit alignment with the SDGs provides a practical pathway for integrating and sustaining the tourism-sharing economy in Egypt. This adaptive strategy ensures that the Eight-Pillars Model remains relevant and actionable over time, enabling stakeholders to collaboratively advance sustainable tourism and national development priorities.

In conclusion, The Eight-Pillars Model developed in this study provides a practical and comprehensive framework for formalizing and advancing Egypt's tourism-sharing economy. By addressing current challenges and linking each pillar to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the model supports a more inclusive, competitive, and environmentally responsible sector. Its strength lies in its collaborative design, which relies on coordinated efforts from government institutions, private actors, local communities, and international partners to foster innovation, resilience, and sustainable growth.

However, the study's findings are context-specific and may not fully apply to other regions. Limited engagement with tourist and consumer perspectives, along with the fast-paced evolution of the sector compared to slower policy reform, may also create gaps between recommendations and implementation. These limitations underscore the need for ongoing refinement of the framework.

Future research should evaluate the model's long-term impact, explore TSE's environmental and social implications, and examine trust, behavior, and inclusion among users and providers. Developing SDG-based performance indicators and integrating them into national monitoring systems will further support sustainability and policy alignment. Advancing these research areas will strengthen the TSE's contribution to national development and global best practice.

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