

ABSTRACT

The travel and tourism industry contributes 4% of global GDP, but its sustainability is threatened by the impacts of climate change. This paper examines the complex relationship between climate change and international tourist arrivals in three groups of economies at different stages of development: G7, BRICS, and CIVET. Using a macro panel dataset spanning 1995-2020, we find evidence of bidirectional causality between tourism and climate change for G7 nations, while the relationship is unidirectional for BRICS and CIVET economies, with tourism causing climate change. Our analysis suggests that income differences may create barriers to accessing resources and technologies, resulting in divergent outcomes. We also observe a positive correlation between climate-related disaster frequency and international tourist arrivals for developing nations. This study highlights the urgent need for effective policies and strategies to mitigate the negative impacts of tourism on climate change while promoting sustainable tourism practices that support economic growth and environmental protection.

Keywords: Sustainability; climate change; international tourist arrivals; climate-related disaster; CO₂ emissions

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