

Research Paper: Explaining The Tourism-driven Rural Restructuring Model: Systematic Review Approach

Maryam Naghavi¹, Esmail Ghaderi^{2*}, Vajhollah Ghorbanizadeh³, Mahmoud Jomehpour⁴

1. PhD Candidate, Department of Tourism Management, Faculty of Management and Accounting, Allameh Tabataba'i University, Tehran, Iran.

2. Associate Professor, Department of Tourism Management, Faculty of Management and Accounting, Allameh Tabataba'i University, Tehran, Iran.

3. Professor, Department of Public Administration, Faculty of Management and Accounting, Allameh Tabataba'i University, Tehran, Iran.

4. Professor, Department of Social, Urban, and Regional Planning, Faculty of Social Sciences, Allameh Tabataba'i University, Tehran, Iran.



Citation: Naghavi, M., Ghaderi, E., Ghorbanizadeh, V., & Jomehpour, M. (2025). Explaining The Tourism-driven Rural Restructuring Model: Systematic Review Approach. *Journal of Sustainable Rural Development*, 9(1), 15-30. <https://doi.org/10.22034/jsrd.2025.504500.1210>

doi: <https://doi.org/10.22034/jsrd.2025.504500.1210>

Article info:

Received: 11 May 2024

Accepted: 03 Jan. 2025

Keywords:

Tourism-driven restructuring,
Rural restructuring, Systematic
review, Restructuring

ABSTRACT

Purpose: Tourism-driven rural restructuring refers to reforming and reorganizing existing structures within rural territories, aligning these structural changes with the goals and strategies of tourism. The current study aims to develop a research model and identify the dimensions and components of tourism-driven rural restructuring.

Methods: The present study is exploratory in nature and has been conducted using a qualitative approach based on a systematic review of the research literature.

Results: The results demonstrated that the dimensions of tourism-driven rural restructuring encompass four dimensions and eleven components. The "economic restructuring" includes the following components: revitalization and diversification of the regional economy, economic valuation of regional assets, promotion of rural investment, and building entrepreneurial and job creation capacity. The "social dimension" comprises the following components: strengthening local culture, heritage, identity, social empowerment, and good governance. The "physical dimension" focuses on the spatial organization of economic and residential land uses, as well as the organization of infrastructure and public facilities and services. Finally, the "ecological dimension" covers environmental protection and the creation of sustainable ecosystems.

Conclusion: The tourism-driven rural restructuring serves as a roadmap, bringing in four distinct dimensions that play reinforcing and moderating roles for one another. Each dimension includes effective indicators for achieving tourism-based changes and transformations in rural areas.

* Corresponding Author:

Esmail Ghaderi, PhD

Address: Department of Tourism Management, Faculty of Management and Accounting, Allameh Tabataba'i University, Tehran, Iran.

Tel: +98 (912) 2151017

E-mail: eghaderi2002@atu.ac.ir

1. Introduction

Despite the common belief that rural spaces are perceived as stable and unchanging, these areas undergo significant transformation (Hruška & Piša, 2019; Woods, 2005).

Koolhaas, an architect and urban theorist (2012), argues that in the current context, the countryside is at the forefront of evolution and change (Woods, 2019). These extensive economic and social shifts, often evident in the geography of production and consumption, have emerged in response to the transition from Fordism to post-Fordism (Agarwal, 2002). They impact various rural structures—such as the economy and employment, consumption patterns, land use, and social organization (Long & Long, 2020c). If these changes are not adequately addressed, the mainstream trajectory of rural development may weaken, and the sustainability and resilience of rural areas could be threatened (Agarwal, 2002; Liu et al., 2020; Long & Long, 2020a).

To mitigate these challenges and adverse consequences in the process of rural development, many countries have adopted rural restructuring as a strategic tool to improve the conditions of their rural territorial systems (Long & Long, 2020b; Tu & Long, 2017; Sun et al., 2011). This process refers to significant quantitative and qualitative changes driven by globalization, technological advancements, and social modernization, through which society transitions from one state to another (Woods, 2005: 41). One of the key advantages of this process is its holistic and multidimensional perspective, meaning that rural changes should not be limited to a few aspects but rather viewed as an interconnected and multifaceted phenomenon (Hedlund & Lundholm, 2015). According to Feng (2012), two approaches have been proposed in academic circles to understand the concepts of rural restructuring: one considers restructuring as an evolutionary process within the rural domain, focusing on the analysis of objective characteristics, while the other introduces it as a strategic tool for rural development, involving human intervention to guide the positive evolution of rural areas in a predetermined manner (Tu & Long, 2017).

One of the ways to achieve rural restructuring is through tourism and engagement in service and recreational activities (Zang et al., 2020). Integrating rural assets and resources with tourism activities provides an effective pathway and foundation for inclusive development (Deng et al., 2021; Gao & Wu, 2017). Rural spaces, with their natural and cultural endowments and unique characteristics (Tu & Long, 2017; Zang et al.,

2020), influenced by the expansive economy and market of tourism, require restructuring (Gao & Cheng, 2020). In many areas where traditional industries or economies are in decline, tourism can act as a driving force (Koster, 2019; Martín Martín et al., 2020; Fang & Fang, 2020; Marcouiller, 2013). Given the importance of tourism in rural areas and the inevitable changes and transformations of the present, this study seeks to employ tourism in the process of rural restructuring as a strategic tool for rural development and to identify its relevant dimensions.

In reviewing studies and research conducted on rural restructuring, it can be observed that most of these studies have focused on assessing the current state of rural restructuring and its temporal evolution (Zhou et al., 2022; Tu et al., 2018; Hedlund & Lundholm, 2015). A few of these studies have addressed the framework of rural restructuring and explained its dimensions (Yin et al., 2022; Tu & Long, 2017; Long et al., 2016; Ahmadi et al., 2024). In the field of tourism, studies have primarily examined the revival and restructuring of coastal and rural settlements (e.g., Agarwal, 2002, 1999; Clegg & Essex, 2000; Yu et al., 2014; Eftekhari & Ghaderi, 2002) and the use of tourism for the economic restructuring of tourism tourism and rural destinations, along with its effects and consequences (e.g., Lundmark, 2005; Larchenko et al., 2019; Yang et al., 2022; Ramadanzadeh Lasboei et al., 2019; Mahmoodi et al., 2019). Therefore, based on the reviewed studies, it can be concluded that there is no unified framework for tourism restructuring. Additionally, the dimensions and concepts related to rural restructuring in the context of tourism are not sufficiently cohesive and are frequently discussed in a scattered and incomplete manner. In other words, a comprehensive framework for this issue has not been designed or defined. Thus, the present study aims to identify these concepts through a systematic review and to develop a comprehensive model of tourism-driven rural restructuring, explaining its dimensions and components. This proposed model can serve as a roadmap for planners, policymakers, and other decision-making sectors (rural, agricultural, tourism, etc.) to formulate appropriate strategic policies for balanced and sustainable rural development, providing a suitable foundation for economic welfare and improving the quality of life for rural residents.

2. Literature Review

2.1. The Concept of Restructuring

In dictionaries, restructuring is defined as a process involving the modification or reorganization of the exist-

ing structure of a system, organization, or business. This concept is an extension of the term “structure,” which refers to the arrangement and interrelationships of all components that form a whole (Siemiatycki, 2016). Emphasizing the entirety, the combination of components, and the connections between them, restructuring aims to achieve a specific objective. This framework is closely aligned with a systematic approach, where any change in the system affects all its components and elements (Pakshir, 2011). When a system or business undergoes restructuring, it means that its initial form or configuration has been altered for specific reasons or objectives, as the original structure is no longer optimal or suitable for current conditions. This process seeks to improve efficiency, adapt to new challenges, or align with evolving goals and strategies. Additionally, based on the definition of structure and its components, restructuring can be understood as both quantitative and qualitative structural changes in the components of a system. However, the concept of restructuring does not refer to ordinary changes but rather to irreversible transformations. These changes primarily result from both internal and external factors to affect the system (Siemiatycki, 2016; Pakshir, 2011).

Hoggart and Paniagua (2001) regard restructuring as a societal shift from one condition to another, encompassing both quantitative and qualitative changes in social structures and functions. From their perspective, restructuring is not merely a change in one sector that has multiplier effects on others but rather involves fundamental adjustments across various spheres of life, where processes of change are causally interconnected. This process is distinct due to its speed, continuity, comprehensiveness, and the interrelation of changes with prior transformations and developments, making it something more profound than mere change (Woods, 2005; Hu et al., 2019). Pakshir and Sarrafi (2007) also consider restructuring to be distinct and beyond simple change, attributing it to unique characteristics such as the comprehensive nature of changes (economic, social, and physical), changes that are distinct from the past and irreversible, long-term transformations, both quantitative and qualitative changes, influences from external opportunities and threats, and shifts in elements and functions, among others.

2.2. Rural Restructuring

The term “restructuring” in social sciences and rural literature emerged during the 1970s following a significant decline in global economic growth and its subsequent social and political consequences. During this period,

the growth of the manufacturing industry in advanced economies slowed, while the rise of new technologies—from information technology to biotechnology—led to the globalization of capital flows, and the ascendancy of neoliberal politicians implementing political-economic reforms reflecting neoliberal principles set the stage for fundamental and transformative changes post-World War II. These changes also marked the end of Fordism and the emergence of a new regime of accumulation and post-Fordism (Marsden et al., 2005). Furthermore, these neoliberal policies led to the decline of agricultural hegemony in developed countries and rural reforms such as the elimination of agricultural quotas and subsidies, deregulation of agricultural markets, reduction of rural services, and privatization of state-owned lands. Simultaneously, they created the necessary conditions for transitioning from productivism approaches to post-productivism or, more accurately, a multifunctional rural space (Mackay et al., 2009). Currently, due to globalization, industrialization, urbanization, and widespread informatization, rural territories have undergone profound transformations. These transformations, driven by changes in urban-rural development flows, innovations in production tools, shifts in economic values and priorities, and national policy-making systems, have deeply altered the spatial-physical patterns, economic forms, and social relations in rural areas, inevitably presenting a series of challenges for sustainable rural development (Tu & Long, 2017). To adapt to these conditions and new transformations and to avoid rural crises, rural restructuring with a comprehensive approach can be considered an effective tool for the revitalization and development of rural areas (Sun et al., 2011).

This restructuring encompasses a wide range of transformations, including industrial structure, employment patterns, the morphology of rural settlements, socio-cultural landscapes, urban-rural relations, agriculture, industry, and more, reflecting the systematic nature of this process (Long & Long, 2020c). Long et al. (2016) also define rural restructuring as a process aimed at changing the socio-economic structure and spatial patterns in rural areas in response to shifts in elements within both internal and external rural systems. It involves the optimal allocation and efficient management of elements in both systems, intending to optimize the structure and enhance the functionality of the rural system, as well as achieving greater structural harmony and improved performance between urban and rural territorial systems.

2.3. Tourism-Driven Rural Restructuring

In the service and tourism industry literature, restructuring has been used to explain the nature of structural change processes and their impact on society and the economy. Since the 1990s, the tourism industry has become a central topic in discussions on restructuring, leading to various studies in sectors such as hotels, coastal resorts, and tourist destinations, where diverse restructuring strategies have been identified. Some studies have also highlighted the significant effects and role of tourism in the restructuring of rural areas (Paniagua, 2002; Jing et al., 2022). Rural spaces, influenced by globalization, urbanization, and the growing interest of tourism markets in rural areas—driven by the desire to escape homogeneous urban environments (a result of globalization)—inevitably require restructuring, which tourism can provide (Tu et al., 2018; Gao & Cheng, 2020). In this context, the new rural paradigm, emphasizing a multisectoral approach, identifies tourism as one of the key economic sectors in rural areas (OECD, 2016), particularly when the primary industry (agriculture) and other industries face decline (Deng et al., 2021; Fang & Fang, 2020). Gao and Cheng (2020) argue that tourism-driven rural spatial restructuring, through human intervention and the reorganization of elements, structures, and functions, transforms rural areas from an undesirable state to a more favorable one. Tourism, through the reuse of unused and abandoned lands, enhances the scope of rural land utilization, and gradually, the function of rural areas shifts from residential and productive (agricultural) roles to more diverse functions, transforming them into spaces that serve the needs of both tourists and local communities. This shift generates increased employment opportunities and income, thereby injecting new vitality into rural regions.

3. Methodology

The present study is exploratory in nature and takes a qualitative approach to the systematic literature review. The aim is to develop a research model by systematic review techniques that can be used to identify

dimensions and components that form tourism-driven rural restructuring. A systematic review aims to locate and synthesize research findings on a specific theme in a thoroughly transparent, reproducible manner at each stage of the process (Xiao & Watson, 2019). It highlights and identifies areas where sufficient research has not been conducted or does not exist, thereby revealing the need for further studies in these areas (Petticrew & Roberts, 2008). Here, the systematic review was undertaken using the Xiao and Watson (2019) model.

Formulating the Research Problem

Just like any other research; initiating this process, requires first defining and formulating the research objectives and questions. These questions should be clear enough to provide specific guidance on the selection and analysis of the relevant literature. Two main questions have been developed in this study in line with the research objectives:

- What are the dimensions of tourism-driven rural restructuring?
- What are the components of tourism-driven rural restructuring?

Developing the Review Protocol and Comprehensive Literature Search

The review protocol should include all aspects of the review process, including criteria for study selection, search strategies, quality assessment indicators, data extraction methods, and reporting of results. In this stage, inclusion and exclusion criteria are established, and research keywords, databases, language, type, and time-frame of the study sources are defined to compile a comprehensive study list that would fall in this process. The present study used articles and book chapters written in English and Persian, published between 2000 and 2024, in local and international databases.

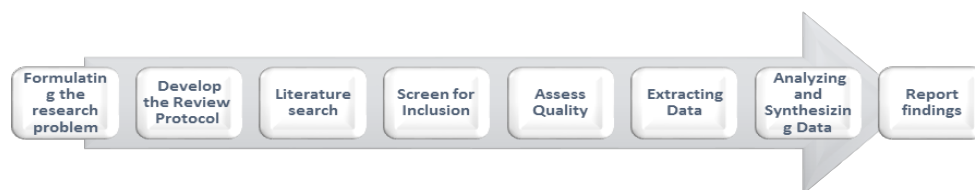


Figure 1. Xiao and Watson Model (2019)

Table 1. Keywords and databases

Databases	Phrases and keywords
Google Scholar, ScienceDirect, Springer, Taylor & Francis	Rural Restructuring, Tourism restructuring, Economic restructuring, social restructuring, Spatial restructuring, dimensions of rural restructuring, Rural change, Rural Transformation, Multifunctionality, Rural paradigm, Rural tourism
Magiran, Civilica, Ensani, Sid	Restructuring, Rural restructuring, Tourism restructuring, Economic restructuring, Social restructuring, Spatial restructuring, Agricultural restructuring



Screening Studies and Quality Assessment

At this stage, the study or studies to be included in the final list were determined, and criteria for evaluation were also defined. This initial screening process involved first reviewing studies based on their titles and abstracts, followed by a more detailed analysis. In this research, the method of Summers et al. (2008) was used as a framework for setting evaluation and selection criteria. To assess the quality of the content of the selected studies, three criteria, expressed in the form of the following three questions (Erwin et al., 2011), have been utilized: Is the selected study relevant to the research objective and its literature? Is the chosen research method appropriate for the research objective? Are the findings and content of the selected study aligned with the intended objective?

Consequently, the first step in this phase involves identifying studies related to both internal and external factors: a total of 188 studies were identified. Following this, the title screening phase involved evaluating the abstracts and keywords of each study to determine their alignment with the research context. Duplicate entries generated by the search engines of each database were removed. At this stage, 115 studies were excluded, leaving 73 studies for further analysis. These 73 studies were thoroughly reviewed and assessed for quality based on the three predefined criteria. Ultimately, 30 studies were deemed suitable for the next stage of the process. A PRISMA flowchart, presented in Figure 2, illustrates the study screening process.”

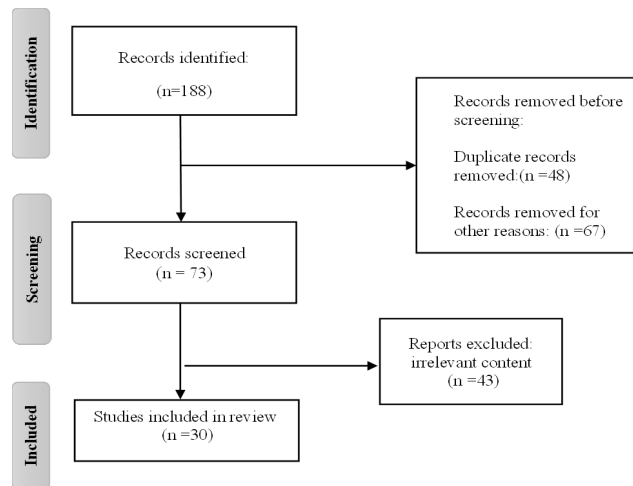


Figure 2. Study Selection Process Based on the PRISMA Model (2021)

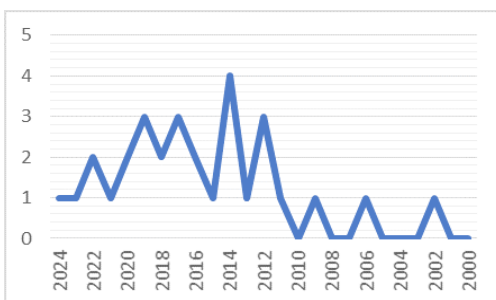


Figure 3. Distribution of Studies by Publication Year

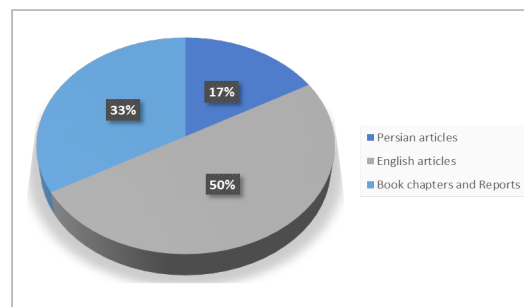


Figure 4. Types of Selected Studies



Data Extraction and Synthesis Methods

At this stage, key concepts and themes are extracted from the content of the selected studies through the coding process. In this research, thematic analysis and the qualitative data analysis software MAXQDA were used to identify and classify the codes present in these studies. In thematic analysis, concepts extracted from the literature are categorized and ultimately integrated into analytical themes (Xiao & Watson, 2019). In the first step, during the open coding phase, the text of the studies was analyzed line by line, identifying 75 concepts. These concepts were then compared, and similar concepts were grouped, forming 25 subcategories and 11 main categories. Finally, by examining their integration, the main dimensions of the research were identified, and the primary framework was outlined.

Presentation and Reporting of Findings

At this stage, the research findings are presented through tables and figures. Tables 2 to 5 include the dimensions, main and subcategories, and concepts of tourism-driven rural restructuring, along with related references. Figure 6 illustrates the proposed research model.

Validity

Qualitative research, by its nature, is prone to a greater margin of error and bias, mostly on the part of the researcher, who interprets and values the entire research process. Therefore, validity and reliability concerns in qualitative research must be carefully addressed. Some of the strategies researchers use to ensure validity in this research include peer debriefing, self-reflection by the researcher, and reflexivity. This study has also implemented necessary measures to ensure validity and accuracy. Measures taken involve repeated and iterative reviews of research steps such as formulation of research questions, review of previous studies, quality assessment of studies, coding procedure, multiple examinations of identified concepts and categories, and presentation and interpretation of findings by researcher and research team to ensure controlled conditions.

4. Findings

4-1. Dimensions and Components of Tourism-Driven Rural Restructuring

As previously mentioned, restructuring can be defined as the process of modifying and reorganizing existing structures within a rural territory. During this process,

the rural structure, which comprises various components and dimensions, undergoes significant transformations in response to changes in both internal and external factors. Consequently, the structure of the rural territorial system is optimized and enhanced.

Considering the objectives and research questions, as well as the review of restructuring studies, it is evident that most research emphasizes three primary dimensions: economic, social, and physical (Tu & Long, 2017; Long et al., 2012). However, since natural resources are considered vital assets and fundamental elements of rural areas, the ecological dimension can also be regarded as a crucial aspect of rural territories and a foundation for tourism activities in rural areas. Each of these dimensions includes components that play a significant role in tourism-driven restructuring and collectively form the elements of the rural territorial system.

4-1-1- Tourism-Driven Economic Restructuring:

Economic restructuring, as a key factor in the restructuring process, refers to a range of structural changes in the economic sector, including the transition from traditional rural production and industries to modern, knowledge-based, and multifunctional economic sectors. The main categories of this dimension include the revitalization and diversification of the regional economy, the economic valuation of regional assets, the promotion of rural investment, and the encouragement of entrepreneurial and employment opportunities.

In tourism-driven restructuring, transitioning from a traditional economy does not mean abandoning it entirely; rather, restructuring aims to revitalize and innovate traditional industries (such as agriculture) while nurturing new economic forms and diverse tourism activities. Another influential component in this dimension is the economic valuation of regional assets, which emphasizes the need to value essential rural assets, as well as land, natural, cultural, and historical resources, particularly by optimizing the use of underused resources. Leveraging these assets in tourism activities can help policymakers and planners gain a better understanding of their value and contribution to the rural economy, enabling them to formulate appropriate policies and strategies for their management and utilization. This, in turn, highlights the economic benefits of these resources and creates opportunities for attracting and increasing investment in these sectors. According to the new rural paradigm, rural policies have shifted from focusing on financial support measures (such as subsidies) to prioritizing investment initiatives. Thus, by identifying and valuing rural as-

sets and fostering a positive perception of the numerous economic benefits of these areas, more investors can be encouraged to engage in rural regions. Another important category in economic restructuring is the creation of entrepreneurial and employment capacities through increased job opportunities and the establishment and support of small-scale enterprises. These enterprises, given

the importance of rural environmental conditions and sustainable development, can integrate innovative business practices with environmental responsibility, moving toward green entrepreneurship and promoting green jobs. Studies by Hedlund et al. (2017), Eimermann et al. (2020), Gartzios et al. (2022), and Ilbery and Bowler (2014) have explored these components in detail.

Table 2. Dimension of Tourism-Driven Economic Restructuring

Main Categories	Subcategories	Concepts	Frequency	Sources
Revitalization and diversification of the regional economy	Diversification of tourism activities	Development of health tourism	1	(Tu & Long, 2017; Li et al., 2019; Tu et al., 2018; Woods, 2011; Ilbery & Bowler, 2014; Hodge, 2012; Gkartzios et al., 2022; Anthopoulou & Melissourgos, 2012; Karim & Toulabi Nejad, 2022)
		Development of sports tourism	3	
		Development of agricultural tourism	4	
		Development of culinary tourism	2	
		Development of nature-based tourism	2	
	Development of agricultural activities	Development of heritage tourism	1	
		Marketization and branding of agricultural products	3	
		Development of sustainable agriculture	5	
		Strengthening multifunctional agriculture	7	(Gkartzios et al., 2022; Li, 2023; Tu & Long, 2017; Ilbery & Bowler, 2014; Hodge, 2012; Woods, 2011; Li et al., 2019; Oruji et al., 2018; Karim & Toulabi Nejad, 2022)
Economic valuation of regional assets	Economic valuation of regional natural resources	Valuation of natural resources and landscapes (mountains, forests, natural springs, rivers, etc.)	3	(Gkartzios et al., 2022; Zang et al., 2020; OECD, 2006; Woods, 2011; Tu et al., 2018; Mackay et al., 2009)
		Valuation of old houses and conversion into tourism facilities	3	
	Economic valuation of regional cultural resources	Commercialization of local food	5	
		Commercialization of local traditions and arts	3	
Creation of entrepreneurial and employment capacities	Creation and support for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)	Support for green entrepreneurs and rural lifestyles	6	(Gkartzios et al., 2022; Eimermann et al., 2020; Li et al., 2019; Gao & Wu, 2017; Hedlund et al., 2017; Paniagua, 2002; Anthopoulou & Melissourgos, 2012)
		Strengthening the presence of tourism startups	6	
	Increasing job opportunities	Promotion of home-based and family businesses	2	
		Reorganization of the workforce	1	
		Creating job opportunities for women	2	
Promotion of Rural Investment	Investment in tourism sectors	Investment in traditional accommodations and recreational facilities	1	(Woods, 2011; Marsden, 2014; Gkartzios et al., 2022; OECD, 2006, 2016; Mackay et al., 2009; Ilbery & Bowler, 2014; Li et al., 2019; Tu & Long, 2017; Karim & Toulabi Nejad, 2022; Mahmoodi et al., 2019)
		Investment in protected areas (national parks or wildlife reserves)	2	
		Investment in traditional heritage (local cuisine and handicrafts)	3	
	Investment in non-tourism and supportive sectors	Investment in the agricultural sector	4	
		Investment in Processing Industries	1	
		Investment in infrastructure and construction	5	

4-1-2 Tourism-Driven Social Restructuring

This type of restructuring aims to enhance rural social governance, foster sustainable rural development by engaging various stakeholders (including rural residents, independent and private organizations, rural and tourism elites, etc.), and strengthen local culture, heritage, and identity.

Tourism-driven social restructuring seeks to enhance rural social governance by leveraging managerial roles and participatory and supervisory approaches. This can create the necessary conditions for empowering local communities and effectively managing resources related to tourism and other fundamental changes. Additionally, social empowerment in rural areas refers to enhancing the skills and capabilities of rural residents, enabling their informed and active participation in diverse rural activities and improving social conditions. Preserving and strengthening rural culture, heritage, and identity is achievable through the recognition and appropriate utilization of cultural and historical assets in rural areas. Traditional rural settlements, historic structures, cultural landscapes, traditional crafts, customs, the organization and development of rural events, and even the re-creation of social memories and collective heritage should be preserved and promoted. These tangible and intangible cultural values and heritage must be integrated into tourism and economic activities. Studies by [Tu and Long \(2017\)](#), [Zang et al. \(2020\)](#), and [Frank and Hibbard \(2016\)](#) are among those that emphasize these three key components of restructuring.

4-1-3- Tourism-Driven Physical Restructuring

Tourism-driven physical restructuring involves fundamental transformations in rural spaces, primarily affecting production, living, and ecological spaces, and can provide the necessary foundation for economic and social restructuring. This dimension focuses on two main categories: the spatial organization of economic and residential land uses and the organization of infrastructure and public services.

This dimension focuses on two main categories:

1. The spatial organization of economic and residential land uses
2. The organization of infrastructure and public services

To enhance tourism-oriented rural development, it is essential to organize and optimize tourism-related land uses. This includes:

- Developing and expanding tourism accommodations and hospitality facilities
- Preserving and revitalizing cultural landscapes and historical rural settlements
- Designing recreational and leisure spaces that align with the village's physical and environmental characteristics

Beyond tourism-specific spaces, restructuring efforts must also encompass other economic land uses, including:

- Enhancing commercial and service areas to support tourism-driven economic activities
- Improving the management of agricultural lands to integrate sustainable tourism with traditional rural industries
- Organizing residential areas to accommodate both local communities and tourism development

Additionally, the organization of infrastructure and public services plays a critical role in improving the efficiency of rural spaces and meeting the evolving needs of rural communities. Access to transportation networks, water and sanitation systems, digital connectivity, and public amenities is vital for both residents and visitors, ensuring a well-functioning and sustainable rural environment.

Several studies have explored various aspects of tourism-driven physical restructuring, including [Li \(2023\)](#), [Zhang et al. \(2020\)](#), [Tu and Long \(2017\)](#), and [Mahmoodi et al. \(2019\)](#).

4-1-4 for Tourism-Driven Ecological Restructuring

Ecological restructuring is a critical process for enhancing sustainability in rural areas, focusing on environmental protection and the establishment of sustainable ecosystems. While this dimension has often been overlooked within the broader framework of rural restructuring or discussed separately (e.g., [Wang et al., 2019](#)), this study considers it a distinct and essential aspect due to the unique natural conditions of rural areas.

Table 3. Dimension of Tourism-Driven Social Restructuring

Main Categories	Subcategories	Concepts	Frequency	Sources
Preservation and strengthening of local culture, heritage, and identity	Preservation of tangible cultural heritage	Preservation of traditional rural settlements	3	(Tu & Long, 2017; Gao & Wu, 2017; Gkartzios et al., 2022; Zang et al., 2020; Woods, 2011)
		Preservation and revitalization of historic structures and cultural landscapes	3	
		Preservation of traditional handicrafts	1	
	Preservation of intangible cultural heritage	Preservation of traditional customs	3	
		Recreation of social memories and heritage	1	
	Organizing rural events	Music festivals	1	
		Agricultural product festivals	1	
		Festivals of rural arts and traditions	3	
Social empowerment	Education and awareness-raising	Increasing the knowledge level of the local community	2	(Anthopoulou & Melissourgos, 2012; OECD, 2016; Zang et al., 2020; Frank & Hibbard, 2016; Zhang et al., 2020; Gkartzios et al., 2022; TU et al., 2018; Tu & Long, 2017; Mahmoodi et al., 2019; Ahmadi et al., 2024)
		Training technical and managerial skills for local ownership of companies	1	
		Training and social empowerment of women	2	
		Training for new job skills	3	
		Training and improving ICT literacy	1	
	Fostering intellectual currents	Promoting self-help and self-reliance culture	1	
		Cultivating and utilizing rural elites	2	
		Formation of various rural associations	4	
Good governance	Networking (vertical and horizontal networks)	Establishing connections between local stakeholders, investors, and markets	1	(Frank & Hibbard, 2016; Mackay et al., 2009; Tu et al., 2018; Tu & Long, 2017; Li et al., 2019; OECD, 2016; Gkartzios et al., 2022; Wu & Gallent, 2021; Mahmoodi et al., 2019; Ahmadi et al., 2024)
		Improving links between rural and urban areas	1	
		Enhancing interaction and connections within the rural community	1	
		Creating multi-level coordination among local and non-local stakeholders	3	
	Increasing opportunities for participation and decision-making	Encouraging the participation of local elites in village management decision-making	1	
		Greater involvement of the private sector	2	
		Creating opportunities for the participation of associations and non-profit organizations	2	
	Establishing inclusion and social justice	Increasing the level of participation of local communities in decision-making and management	6	
		Social equality in villages	2	
		Reducing socio-economic gaps between urban and rural life	1	

Table 4. Tourism-Driven Physical Restructuring

Main Categories	Subcategories	Concepts	Frequency	Sources
Spatial Organization of Economic and Residential Uses		Organizing spaces for tourism accommodation and hospitality capacities.	1	
	Organizing Tourism Activities Spaces	Organizing Cultural and Historical Rural Landscapes	1	
		Organizing Recreational and Leisure Spaces	1	(Yu et al., 2014; Gkartzios et al., 2022; Tu & Long, 2017; Zang et al., 2020; Zhang, et al., 2020;
	Organizing Economic Units (Non-Tourism)	Organizing and Improving Commercial and Service Spaces (Non-Agricultural Industries)	1	Mahmoodi et al., 2019; Sadeghi & Toulabi Nejad, 2019; Ahmadi et al., 2024)
		Organizing and Managing Agricultural land use	1	
	Organizing Residential spaces	Organizing and Monitoring Residential Construction in Rural Areas	1	
		Adhering to Local Architectural Patterns in Construction	2	
Organizing Facilities and Public Services		Enhancing Information and Communication Technology Infrastructure	1	
	Organizing Public Infrastructure	Improving Access Infrastructure	6	(OECD, 2016; Li, 2023; Zang et al., 2020; Yu et al., 2014; Long et al., 2012; Gkartzios et al., 2022; Tu & Long, 2017; Zhang, et al., 2020; Mahmoodi et al., 2018)
		Enhancing Service Infrastructure (Gas, Water, and Electricity)	2	
		Organizing and Improving Educational and Cultural Spaces	2	
	Organizing Public services	Organizing and Improving Healthcare Spaces	2	
		Organizing Public and Institutional Centers	3	



Rural economies, being highly dependent on natural resources, face significant challenges, including:

- Overexploitation and unsustainable resource use
- Environmental degradation due to economic pressures
- Loss of biodiversity and ecosystem imbalance

To address these concerns, rural communities must embrace ecological restructuring as a key strategy for sustainability. This process involves:

1. Transforming the use and management of natural ecosystems to align with sustainable environmental principles.
2. Integrating clean technologies and eco-friendly practices into economic activities, particularly tourism and agriculture.
3. Implementing conservation strategies to mitigate the negative impacts of tourism development on local ecosystems.

Since the natural environment is a fundamental pillar of rural tourism, ensuring its protection and sustainable management is essential. Adopting effective environmental policies can help maintain the long-term ecological integrity of rural areas, prevent resource depletion, and create a harmonious balance between tourism growth and environmental conservation.

Several studies, including Zhang et al. (2020), Tu and Long (2017), Hodge (2012), and Sadeghi & Toulabinejad (2019), have emphasized the importance of ecological considerations in tourism-driven rural restructuring.

In the figure below, the dimensions and main categories related to each of them, along with their associated frequency, are presented in the Maxqda software environment.

In the end, by integrating and combining the categories, the main storyline and the relationship between the main categories and other categories were illustrated in the form of a model (Figure 6).

Table 5. Tourism-Driven Ecological Restructuring

Main Categories	Subcategories	Concepts	Frequency	Sources
Environmental protection	Improvement of environmental quality	Protection of water and soil resources	4	(Tu & Long, 2017; Niedzielski, 2015; Hodge, 2012; Ilbery, 2014; Gkartzios et al., 2022; Hedlund et al., 2017; Woods, 2011; Sadeghi & Toulabi Nejad, 2019)
		Protection of rural natural landscape	4	
		Protection and promotion of soundscape (calm and pleasant rural environment)	1	
	Conservation and restoration of natural habitats	Restoration of terrestrial habitats (forest restoration and afforestation)	2	
		Restoration of aquatic habitats (wetlands restoration)	1	
		Conservation of biodiversity (wildlife and plant species)	4	
Establishing sustainable ecosystems	Enhancing environmental awareness	Awareness of the consequences of environmental pollution	2	(Niedzielski, 2015; OECD, 2016; Hodge, 2012; Gkartzios et al., 2022; Zang et al., 2020; Sadeghi & Toulabi Nejad, 2019)
		Awareness of the high importance of natural ecosystems	2	
	Sustainable management of natural resources	Sustainable waste and wastewater management	2	
		Management of development control levels	1	
		Management of environmental carrying capacity (control of density and intensity of use)	1	
		Post-carbon rural landscape: solar landscapes, wind turbines, etc	3	



Code System	Persian articles	English articles	Book chapters and reports
⊖ Economic Restructuring			
> Revitalization and diversification of the regional economy	4	11	14
> Economic valuation of regional assets		5	7
> Creation of entrepreneurial and employment capacities		10	8
> Promotion of Rural Investment	2	2	12
⊖ Social Restructuring			
> Good governance	2	11	6
> Preservation and strengthening of local culture, heritage, and identity	2	7	8
> Social empowerment	3	7	6
⊖ Physical Restructuring			
> Organizing Facilities and Public Services	1	10	5
> Spatial Organization of Economic and Residential Uses	4	5	1
⊖ Ecological Restructuring			
> Environmental protection	2	4	10
> Establishing sustainable ecosystems	2	3	6

Figure 5. Dimensions, Main Categories, and Their Frequencies in Software Environment

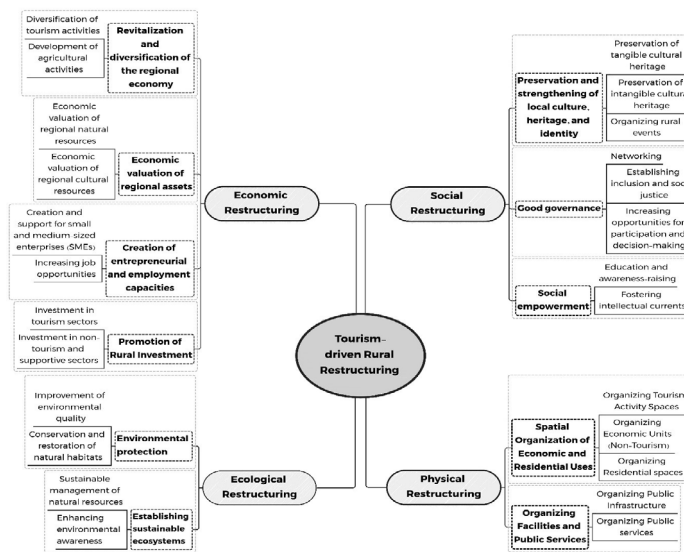


Figure 6. Proposed Research Model



5. Discussion

Based on the review of previous studies, tourism-driven rural restructuring can be defined as the process of reforming and reorganizing rural structures. This process aligns structural changes (including economic-social morphology and the physical-ecological patterns of rural territories) with tourism goals and strategies, contributing to the optimization of the structure and the enhancement of its function within the rural territorial system. The present study aims to identify and explain the dimensions and components of tourism-driven rural restructuring within the framework of a model. The results of the research indicate that all rural dimensions (economic, social, physical, and ecological) can, by focusing on the tourism sector, create appropriate changes in the rural structure, thereby guiding rural communities toward a desirable state under current conditions. Most restructuring studies emphasize the economic centrality of tourism, whereas restructuring cannot be achieved solely through changes in one sector, particularly economic changes; rather, it requires fundamental transformations and adjustments across various domains and their mutual interactions. The economic restructuring dimension, centered on tourism, plays a leading role in the process of other restructurings and includes the revitalization and diversification of the regional economy, economic valuation of regional assets, promotion of rural investment, and the creation of entrepreneurial capacities and job opportunities. Tourism-driven social restructuring aims to establish an optimal rural social governance system, foster a development mindset for rural and tourism development (including villagers, independent and private organizations, tourism and rural elites, etc.), and strengthen local culture, heritage, and identity. By providing intellectual support to the economic dimension, it seeks to organize and coordinate the process of physical restructuring. Meanwhile, the physical dimension influences rural economic and social restructuring by organizing and providing spaces for the development of economic and residential units, offering infrastructure and public facilities, and optimizing them. Finally, the ecological dimension is closely linked to sustainability issues and seeks to integrate economic activities with environmental considerations (such as environmental conservation and the creation of sustainable ecosystems) to enhance the resilience of rural communities while improving their quality of life.

By synthesizing insights from existing research, this study develops a systematic and holistic model that illustrates how these dimensions interact, reinforcing and moderating one another. This model serves as a strategic

framework for guiding tourism-based transformations in rural areas. Moreover, it provides practical indicators to assess the current stage of restructuring in any given village and to formulate targeted strategies for leveraging tourism potential effectively.

Future Research Suggestions

- The proposed model should be designed in a localized and appropriate manner for various rural destinations, considering local conditions, geography, and tourism potential and capacities.

- Additionally, the research model can be fitted and validated using quantitative methods in study areas such as tourism-prone villages.

In conclusion, like any other research, this study has its limitations: some studies were not included due to the lack of access to the full text, and the studies were limited to English and Persian languages.

Acknowledgements

This article is extracted from the doctoral dissertation of Ms. Maryam Naghavi in the Department of Tourism Management, Faculty of Management and Accounting, at Allameh Tabataba'i University, Tehran. The dissertation is supervised by Dr. Esmail Ghaderi and advised by Dr. Vajhollah Ghorbanzadeh and Dr. Mahmoud Jomehpour.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declared no conflicts of interest.

References

- Agarwal, S. (1999). Restructuring and local economic development: implications for seaside resort regeneration in South-west Britain. *Tourism Management*, 20(4), 511-522. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0261-5177\(99\)00004-7](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0261-5177(99)00004-7).
- Agarwal, S. (2002). Restructuring seaside tourism: The resort lifecycle. *Annals of Tourism Research*, 29(1), 25-55. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0160-7383\(01\)00002-0](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0160-7383(01)00002-0)
- Ahmadi, S., Sadeghloo, T., & Shayan, H. (2024). Conceptual explanation and validity evaluation of reconstruction indicators in rural areas. *Human Geography Research*, 56(3), 225-245. (In Persian). <https://doi.org/10.22059/jhgr.2023.353816.1008576>

- Anthopoulou, T., & Melissourgou, Y. (2012). Agri-tourism: in between rural change, tourism restructuring, and environmental imperatives. In *The Routledge Handbook of Tourism and the Environment* (pp. 359-370). Routledge.
- Clegg, A., & Essex, S. (2000). Restructuring in tourism: The accommodation sector in a major British coastal resort. *International Journal of Tourism Research*, 2(2), 77-95.
- Deng, A., Lu, J., & Zhao, Z. (2021). Rural destination revitalization in China: Applying evolutionary economic geography in tourism governance. *Asia Pacific Journal of Tourism Research*, 26(2), 215-230. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10941665.2020.1789682>
- Eftekhari, A., Ghaderi, E. (2002). The Rule of Rural Tourism in Rural Development (Theoretical Analysis). *MJSP*, 6 (1):23-41. (In Persian)
- Eimermann, M., Lindgren, U., Lundmark, L., & Zhang, J. J. (2020). Mobility transitions and rural restructuring in Sweden: A database study of holistic simplifiers. In *Degrowth and Tourism* (pp. 54-68). Routledge.
- Erwin, E. J., Brotherson, M. J., & Summers, J. A. (2011). Understanding qualitative meta-synthesis: Issues and opportunities in early childhood intervention research. *Journal of Early Intervention*, 33(3), 186-200. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1053815111425493>
- Fang, W.-T., & Fang, W.-T. (2020). Rural tourism. *Tourism in Emerging Economies: The Way We Green, Sustainable, and Healthy*, 103-129. Springer Singapore. DOI:10.1007/978-981-15-2463-9
- Frank, K. I., & Hibbard, M. (2016). Production, consumption, and protection: perspectives from North America on the multifunctional transition in rural planning. *International Planning Studies*, 21(3), 245-260. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13563475.2016.1188685>
- Gao, C., & Cheng, L. (2020). Tourism-driven rural spatial restructuring in the metropolitan fringe: An empirical observation. *Land Use Policy*, 95, 104609. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landusepol.2020.104609>
- Gao, J., & Wu, B. (2017). Revitalizing traditional villages through rural tourism: A case study of Yuanjia Village, Shaanxi Province, China. *Tourism Management*, 63, 223-233. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tourman.2017.04.003>
- Gkartzios, M., Gallent, N., & Scott, M. (2022). The economic rural. In *Rural places and planning: Stories from the global countryside* (pp:47-70). Policy Press.
- Hedlund, M., & Lundholm, E. (2015). Restructuring of rural Sweden—employment transition and out-migration of three cohorts born 1945–1980. *Journal of Rural Studies*, 42, 123–132. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jrurstud.2015.10.006>
- Hedlund, M., Lundmark, L., & Stjernström, O. (2017). Rural restructuring and gendered micro-dynamics of the agricultural labour market. *Fennia. International Journal of Geography*, 195(1), 25-35. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.11143/fennia.59542>
- Hodge, I. (2012). The further development of agri-environmental schemes: extending and defending conservation values. In *Multifunctional Rural Land Management* (pp. 57-76). Routledge.
- Hoggart, K., & Paniagua, A. (2001). What rural restructuring? *Journal of Rural Studies*, 17(1), 41-62. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0743-0167\(00\)00036-X](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0743-0167(00)00036-X)
- Hruška, V., & Piša, J. (2019). Winning and losing rural localities of the post-socialist economic restructuring: Case study of Czechia. *Hungarian Geographical Bulletin*, 68(4), 373–389. <https://doi.org/10.15201/hungebull.68.4.4>
- Hu, X., Li, H., Zhang, X., Chen, X., & Yuan, Y. (2019). Multi-dimensionality and the totality of rural spatial restructuring from the perspective of the rural space system: A case study of traditional villages in the ancient Huizhou region, China. *Habitat International*, 94, 102062. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.habitatint.2019.102062>
- Ilbery, B. (2014). Dimensions of rural change. In *The geography of rural change* (pp. 1-10). Routledge.
- Ilbery, B., & Bowler, I. (2014). From agricultural productivism to post-productivism. In *The geography of rural change* (pp. 57-84). Routledge.
- Jing, W., Zhang, W., Luo, P., Wu, L., Wang, L., & Yu, K. (2022). Assessment of synergistic development potential between tourism and rural restructuring using a coupling analysis: a case study of Southern Shaanxi, China. *Land*, 11(8), 1352. <https://doi.org/10.3390/land11081352>
- Karim, M. H., & Toulabinejad, M. (2022). Strategies for Revival of Agriculture In line with the Revitalization of Rural Areas. *Serd*, 10 (38) :17-42. (In Persian)
- Koster, R. L. (2019). Why Differentiate Rural Tourism Geographies? Perspectives on Rural Tourism Geographies: Case Studies from Developed Nations on the Exotic, the Fringe and the Boring Bits in Between, 1-13.
- Larchenko, L. V., Gladkiy, Y. N., & Kolesnikov, R. A. (2019). Tourism is a factor in restructuring the economy of resource-producing regions of the Arctic (in the example of the Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous District). In *IOP Conference Series: Earth and Environmental Science* (Vol. 302, No. 1, p. 012039). IOP Publishing. DOI 10.1088/1755-1315/302/1/012039
- Li, Y., Westlund, H., & Liu, Y. (2019). Why some rural areas decline while some others do not: An overview of rural evolution in the world. *Journal of Rural Studies*, 68, 135-143. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jrurstud.2019.03.003>
- Li, Z. (2023). The Correlation Effects and Mechanisms of Rural Restructuring and Transformation: A Case Study of the Jiangnan Plain in China. *Sustainability*, 15(1), 395. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su15010395>
- Liu, Y., Zang, Y., & Yang, Y. (2020). China's rural revitalization and development: Theory, technology and management. *Journal of Geographical Sciences*, 30, 1923–1942.
- Long, H., & Long, H. (2020a). Analysis of Rural Transformation Development and Restructuring in China. *Land Use Transitions and Rural Restructuring in China*, 315–377.
- Long, H., & Long, H. (2020b). Rural Restructuring in Typical Villages of China. *Land Use Transitions and Rural Restructuring in China*, 415–458.
- Long, H., & Long, H. (2020c). Understanding Rural Restructuring: A Theoretical Approach. *Land Use Transitions and Rural Restructuring in China*, 291–314.

- Long, H., Li, Y., Liu, Y., Woods, M., & Zou, J. (2012). Accelerated restructuring in rural China fueled by 'increasing vs. Decreasing balance' land-use policy for dealing with hollowed villages. *Land Use Policy*, 29(1), 11-22. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landusepol.2011.04.003>
- Long, H., Tu, S., Ge, D., Li, T., & Liu, Y. (2016). The allocation and management of critical resources in rural China under restructuring: Problems and prospects. *Journal of Rural Studies*, 47, 392-412.
- Lundmark, L. (2005). Economic restructuring into tourism in the Swedish mountain range. *Scandinavian Journal of Hospitality and Tourism*, 5(1), 23-45. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15022250510014273>
- Mackay, M. D., Perkins, H. C., & Espiner, S. R. (2009). The study of rural change from a social scientific perspective: a literature review and annotated bibliography. Lincoln University - Department of Social Sciences, Parks, Recreation, Tourism & Sport.
- Mahmoodi, H., Rajabi, M., & Roumiani, A. (2019). Examining the Role of Tourism in Development and Reconstruction of Rural Regions (Kharghan Area, Owj City). *Journal of Geography and Regional Development*, 16(2), 1-26. (In Persian). <https://doi.org/10.22067/geography.v16i2.52885>
- Marcouiller, D. (2013). The rural development attributes of tourism. In *Handbook of Rural Development* (pp. 158-178). Edward Elgar Publishing.
- Marsden, T. (2014). Economic perspectives. In *The geography of rural change* (pp. 13-30). Routledge.
- Marsden, T., Murdoch, J., Lowe, P., Munton, R. C., & Flynn, A. (2005). *Constructing the countryside: An approach to rural development*. Routledge.
- Martín Martín, J. M., Salinas Fernandez, J. A., Rodriguez Martin, J. A., & Ostos Rey, M. del S. (2020). Analysis of tourism seasonality as a factor limiting the sustainable development of rural areas. *Journal of Hospitality & Tourism Research*, 44(1), 45-75. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1096348019876688>
- Niedzielski, E. (2015). Functions of rural areas and their development. *Problems of Agricultural Economics*, University of Warmia and Mazury Olsztyn, 84-93
- OECD. (2016). *A New Rural Development Paradigm for the 21st Century: A Toolkit for Developing Countries*, Development Centre Studies, OECD Publishing, Paris. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/9789264252271-en>
- OECD. (2006). *The new rural paradigm: Policies and governance*. Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.
- Oroji, H., Alizadeh, M., Abianeh, V., & Safavi, S. R. (2018). Explanation and presentation model of the rural tourism economy in Iran. *Geographical Planning of Space*, 8(29), 107-132. (In Persian)
- Pakshir, A., & Sarafi, M. (2007). Factors Affecting the Metropolitan Physical. Restructuring Process, A Case Study of the North - West. Area of Shiraz City (1979-2005). *Human Sciences*, 53, 381 - 404. (In Persian)
- Pakshir, A. (2011). Exploring the concept of city and urban restructuring. *Scientific Monthly Art Haft*. Faculty of Art and Architecture (Shiraz University). 7: 1-12. (In Persian)
- Paniagua, Á. (2002). Urban-rural migration, tourism entrepreneurs and rural restructuring in Spain. *Tourism geographies*, 4(4), 349-371. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14616680210158128>
- Petticrew, M., & Roberts, H. (2008). *Systematic reviews in the social sciences: A practical guide*. John Wiley & Sons.
- Ramzanzadeh, M., Tabrizi, N., Zeimaran, M. (2019). Tourism Development and Reconstruction in Urban Destinations (Case Study: Shiraz City). *Urban Management*, 55, 27-44. (In Persian)
- Sadeghi, K., & Toulabinejad, M. (2019). Analysis of Local Community Perception of Physical-Spatial Reconstruction of Hadi Project Implementation in Roshtkhar District. *JHRE*, 38(167), 67-82. (In Persian). <http://dx.doi.org/DOI:%2010.22034/38.167.67>
- Siemietycki, E. (2016). Restructuring. *International Encyclopedia of Geography: People, the Earth, Environment and Technology: People, the Earth, Environment and Technology*, 1-8.
- Summers J. A., Brotherson M. J., Naig L., Ethridge B., Singer G. H., Kruse A., Wang W. (2008, March). A preliminary synthesis of qualitative research: Gaining emotional well-being from other parents. Paper presented at the Beach Center on Disability State of the Science Conference, Washington, DC. Retrieved from http://www.beachcenter.org/Wisdom/EmotionalWellBeing/WisdomRP2_SummaryofQuantMetaAnalysis_April08.pdf
- Sun, H., Liu, Y., & Xu, K. (2011). Hollow villages and rural restructuring in major rural regions of China: A case study of Yucheng City, Shandong Province. *Chinese Geographical Science*, 21, 354-363.
- Tu, S., & Long, H. (2017). Rural restructuring in China: Theory, approaches and research prospect. *Journal of Geographical Sciences*, 27, 1169-1184.
- Tu, S., Long, H., Zhang, Y., Ge, D., & Qu, Y. (2018). Rural restructuring at village level under rapid urbanization in metropolitan suburbs of China and its implications for innovations in land use policy. *Habitat International*, 77, 143-152. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.habitatint.2017.12.001>
- Wang, J., Liu, Y., & Li, Y. (2019). Ecological restoration under rural restructuring: A case study of Yan'an in China's loess plateau. *Land Use Policy*, 87, 104087. DOI: 10.1016/j.landusepol.2019.104087
- Woods, M. (2005). *Rural Geography: Processes, Responses and Experiences in Rural Restructuring*. India: SAGE Publications.
- Woods, M. (2011). Consuming the rural. (92-129). In *Rural*. Routledge.
- Woods, M. (2019). The future of rural places. In *The Routledge Companion to rural planning* (pp. 622-632). Routledge.
- Wu, M., & Gallant, N. (2021). Second homes, amenity-led change, and consumption-driven rural restructuring: The case of Xingfu village, China. *Journal of Rural Studies*, 82, 391-403. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jrurstud.2021.01.036>
- Xiao, Y., & Watson, M. (2019). Guidance on conducting a systematic literature review. *Journal of planning education and research*, 39(1), 93-112. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0739456X17723971>

- Yang, J., Ma, H., & Weng, L. (2022). Transformation of Rural Space under the Impact of Tourism: The Case of Xiamen, China. *Land*, 11(6), 928. <https://doi.org/10.3390/land11060928>
- Yin, Q., Zhou, S., Lv, C., Zhang, Y., Sui, X., & Wang, X. (2022). Comprehensive Land Consolidation as a Tool to Promote Rural Restructuring in China: Theoretical Framework and Case Study. *Land*, 11(11), 1932. <https://doi.org/10.3390/land11111932>
- Yu, H., Chen, T., Wang, K., Zhang, X., & Zhu, F. (2014). Decentralization, spatial disequilibrium, and restructuring of coastal tourist destination—Empirical research from Sanya, China. *Chinese Journal of Population Resources and Environment*, 12(1), 68–79. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10042857.2014.886755>
- Zang, Y., Liu, Y., Yang, Y., Woods, M., & Fois, F. (2020). Rural decline or restructuring? Implications for sustainability transitions in rural China. *Land Use Policy*, 94, 104531. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landusepol.2020.104531>
- Zhang, L., Zhao, Y., Zhang, X., & Du, H. (2020). Effect mechanisms of peasant relocation decision-making behaviors in the process of rural spatial restructuring: the case of Hotan Region, China. *Sustainable Cities and Society*, 63, 1-11. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scs.2020.102429>.
- Zhou, L., Wang, L., Su, K., Bi, G., Chen, H., Liu, X., & Yang, Q. (2022). Spatiotemporal Characteristics of Rural Restructuring Evolution and Driving Forces in Mountainous and Hilly Areas. *Land*, 11(6), 848. <https://doi.org/10.3390/land11060848>

