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Public Participation, Policy Transparency, and Community Satisfaction: Evidence from Local Tourism Governance in South Sulawesi, Indonesia

Sofyan B^{1*}, Sandi Lubis², Muhammad Rais Rashmat Razak³¹Universitas Muhammadiyah Sidenreng Rappang, Sidenreng Rappang, Indonesia, sofyanyofi@gmail.com²Universitas Muhammadiyah Sidenreng Rappang, Sidenreng Rappang, Indonesia, sandi.lubis7@gmail.com³Universitas Muhammadiyah Sidenreng Rappang, Sidenreng Rappang, Indonesia, mraisrahmat@gmail.com*Corresponding Author: sofyanyofi@gmail.com¹

Abstract: This study examines the associations among public participation, policy transparency, public trust, and community satisfaction in local tourism governance in South Sulawesi, Indonesia. The study employed a cross-sectional, one-time, same-respondent self-report survey involving 450 residents recruited through non-probability procedures at purposively selected tourism destinations. The final sample comprised 150 respondents from each of three contextual tourism clusters: natural, marine and island, and cultural tourism destinations. Partial least squares structural equation modelling was used to estimate the proposed associations. The retained statistical output indicates positive associations between public participation and community satisfaction, policy transparency and community satisfaction, public participation and public trust, policy transparency and public trust, and public trust and community satisfaction. The corrected standardized coefficients were 0.165, 0.414, 0.462, 0.498, and 0.395, respectively. The corresponding indirect associations through public trust were 0.182 for public participation and 0.197 for policy transparency. However, the reported inter-construct correlations ranged from 0.905 to 0.928 and exceeded the corresponding square roots of average variance extracted. The Fornell–Larcker criterion was therefore not satisfied, indicating that the constructs were not demonstrated to be empirically distinct in the available analysis. Because the respondent-level dataset, collection-mode identifiers, data-cleaning log, and complete SmartPLS project could not be recovered, the measurement model could not be re-specified or independently re-estimated. The findings must consequently be interpreted as exploratory associations within the non-probability sample rather than as causal effects or population-level estimates. The study highlights both the potential interrelationship of participatory governance perceptions and the need for future research using independently validated measures, probability-based sampling, and longitudinal or multi-source designs.

Keywords: public participation, policy transparency, trust in local government, community satisfaction, tourism governance.

INTRODUCTION

Tourism governance has become a critical component of sustainable regional development because tourism outcomes are shaped not only by economic resources and destination attractiveness but also by the quality of interactions between governments and local communities. Contemporary governance literature emphasizes that effective tourism management requires active citizen participation, transparent policy processes, and strong public trust to ensure that development initiatives generate benefits that are socially accepted and locally supported (Amore, 2024; Osborne & Strokosch, 2022). Within this perspective, residents are no longer viewed merely as beneficiaries of tourism development but as stakeholders whose perceptions and involvement influence the long-term sustainability of tourism destinations (Bichler, 2021; Weaver et al., 2022).

Good Governance Theory argues that participation, transparency, and accountability constitute fundamental principles of effective public administration (Pomeranz & Stedman, 2020; Tao et al., 2025). Public participation enables citizens to contribute to policy formulation, implementation, and evaluation, thereby increasing procedural fairness and democratic legitimacy (Cumming et al., 2022; Osborne & Strokosch, 2022). At the same time, policy transparency reduces information asymmetry between governments and citizens by ensuring that decisions, procedures, and outcomes are openly communicated (He et al., 2020; Tao et al., 2025). Together, these governance mechanisms strengthen institutional credibility and create conditions that foster positive evaluations of government performance (Kim et al., 2025; Pomeranz & Stedman, 2020).

The relationship between participation and community satisfaction can also be explained through Social Exchange Theory. According to this theory, individuals evaluate government actions based on perceived benefits, reciprocity, and fairness in social exchanges (Tao et al., 2025). When residents are given meaningful opportunities to participate in tourism-related decision-making, they perceive that their interests are recognized and valued. This perception generates a sense of ownership toward tourism policies and increases satisfaction with governance outcomes (Rasoolimanesh et al., 2017; Swapan et al., 2021). Similarly, transparent policy processes signal fairness and accountability, encouraging residents to view government actions more positively (He et al., 2020; Penny Wan, 2013). Consequently, both participation and transparency are expected to contribute to higher levels of community satisfaction.

Previous studies have reported that public participation positively influences residents' support for tourism development, perceptions of fairness, and overall satisfaction with local governance (Esteves et al., 2025; Rasoolimanesh et al., 2017). Likewise, transparency has been shown to strengthen citizens' confidence in public institutions and improve evaluations of government performance (Sawir et al., 2024; Wong & Lai, 2022). However, empirical findings also suggest that these relationships are not always direct. Citizens often develop positive attitudes toward governance because participation and transparency first enhance their trust in public institutions. Trust therefore functions as an important psychological mechanism linking governance practices to citizens' evaluations of policy outcomes (Kim et al., 2025; Tichaawa et al., 2023).

This issue is particularly relevant in tourism destinations experiencing fluctuations in tourism performance. Declining tourist arrivals and slowing tourism growth are frequently interpreted as economic challenges; however, they may also reflect governance-related concerns. In many destinations, inadequate community involvement and limited transparency can weaken public support for tourism initiatives, reduce collaborative problem-solving capacity, and diminish residents' willingness to contribute to destination development (Chiwaridzo, 2024; Ojijo & Steiger, 2024). Consequently, understanding how governance practices shape trust and community satisfaction becomes essential for maintaining tourism sustainability.

The case of South Sulawesi provides an appropriate context for examining these relationships. The province possesses diverse tourism destinations, including natural, marine, and cultural attractions, each characterized by different governance arrangements and community involvement patterns. Although tourism remains an important development sector, the region experienced mixed tourism recovery following the COVID-19 period, including declining international tourist arrivals and varying levels of tourism performance across destinations (BPS, 2025). Such conditions highlight the importance of governance quality because sustainable tourism development depends not only on tourism resources but also on the extent to which residents perceive decision-making processes as participatory, transparent, and responsive to local needs (Sawir et al., 2024; Huq & Puthuvayi, 2024).

Although extensive research has examined residents' support for tourism development, community participation, and governance quality separately (Bichler, 2021; Weaver et al., 2022), studies integrating public participation, policy transparency, trust in local government, and community satisfaction within a single explanatory framework remain limited, particularly in developing-country contexts. Furthermore, little empirical evidence exists regarding how trust mediates the relationship between governance practices and community satisfaction in local tourism governance settings.

To address this gap, this study examines the effects of public participation and policy transparency on community satisfaction and investigates the mediating role of trust in local government. Drawing upon Good Governance Theory and Social Exchange Theory, this study proposes that participatory and transparent governance practices enhance trust in local government, which subsequently increases community satisfaction. By testing this framework in the context of tourism governance in South Sulawesi, Indonesia, the study contributes to the growing literature on participatory governance and provides practical insights for policymakers seeking to strengthen sustainable tourism development through community-centered governance approaches.

This study aims to answer the following research questions: (1) Does public participation significantly influence public satisfaction with local tourism governance? (2) Does policy transparency significantly influence public satisfaction? (3) Does public participation significantly influence trust in local government? (4) Does policy transparency significantly influence trust in local government? (5) Does trust in local government significantly influence public satisfaction? (6) Does trust in local government mediate the relationship between public participation and public satisfaction? Moreover, (7) Does trust in local government mediate the relationship between policy transparency and public satisfaction?

METHODS

Research Design

This study employed a quantitative cross-sectional survey design. Information on public participation, policy transparency, public trust, and community satisfaction was collected once from the same respondents. Consequently, the temporal ordering required for causal inference was not established (Sekaran & Buogie, 2016). All estimated relationships are therefore interpreted as statistical associations and not as causal effects. The study used purposive destination selection combined with systematic intercept recruitment at selected field locations and an online QR-code survey supplement. These procedures constitute non-probability recruitment. Accordingly, the results cannot be generalized to all residents of South Sulawesi or to the broader Indonesian population. The statistical conclusions are limited to the respondents included in the final analytical sample (Bichler, 2021; Cumming et al., 2022; Kim et al., 2025; Pomeranz & Stedman, 2020; Rasoolimanesh et al., 2017; Tao et al., 2025; Tichaawa et al., 2023).

Research Setting and Destination Selection

Data collection was conducted at tourism destinations in South Sulawesi between June and August 2025. The destinations represented three contextual categories. The natural-tourism category included Bantimurung–Bulusaraung, Rammang-Rammang, Taka Bonerate, and the Saddang River area. The marine and island category included Losari Beach, Tanjung Bira, Samalona Island, and Kodingareng Keke Island. The cultural-tourism category included Tana Toraja, Kete Kesu, Lemo, and the Blessed Christ Monument area. These destinations were purposively selected to represent variation in tourism settings rather than to create a probability sample of destinations. The final dataset contained 150 respondents in each contextual category, producing a total analytical sample of 450 respondents. However, the achieved numbers by individual destination and by offline versus online collection mode were not preserved in the retained study records and cannot be reconstructed reliably. The three destination categories are used only to describe the contextual composition of the sample. No pre-specified hypotheses concerning differences between the three categories were tested. Measurement invariance and multi-group analysis were not performed. Therefore, the categories are not used to support claims that structural relationships differ across tourism clusters.

Population, Eligibility, and Sample Size

The target participants were adults residing in communities associated with the selected tourism destinations. The stated eligibility criteria were a minimum age of 18 years and residence in the relevant community for at least one year. These criteria were communicated during recruitment. Nevertheless, the retained documentation does not contain an auditable record of how residence duration was independently verified. Eligibility was therefore based on the respondent's self-report (Kock, 2018). An a priori statistical-power calculation using G*Power indicated a minimum sample of 85 respondents, assuming a medium effect size of 0.15, a significance level of 0.05, statistical power of 0.80, and four predictors. The final sample of 450 was retained to improve estimation precision and provide contextual coverage across the selected tourism settings. The sample size was not justified on the basis of multi-group comparison, and no claim of population representativeness is made (J. Hair & Alamer, 2022).

Sampling Technique

A multistage stratified purposive sampling approach was employed. The sampling frame was first stratified into three tourism categories (natural, marine/island, and cultural). Within each stratum, three to four key destinations were purposively selected to capture diversity in governance structures and community contexts. At each site, systematic intercept sampling was applied: every third eligible adult encountered in public spaces (village centers, marketplaces, tourism sites) was invited to participate. An online component using Google Forms distributed via QR codes in local community and tourism forums supplemented the offline data collection to reach residents with limited physical accessibility.

Table 1. Sample Allocation by Tourism Cluster

Tourism Cluster	Example Sites	Target Sample
Natural Tourism	Bantimurung–Bulusaraung, Rammang-Rammang, Taka Bonerate, Saddang River	150
Marine/Island Tourism	Losari Beach, Tanjung Bira, Samalona, Kodingareng Keke	150
Cultural Tourism	Toraja, Kete Kesu, Lemo, Blessed Christ Monument	150

Tourism Cluster	Example Sites	Target Sample
Total		450

Research Variables and Indicators

Each construct was measured using multiple indicators adapted from established scales in prior studies, as summarized in Table 2.

Table 2. Research Variables and Indicators

Variable	Conceptual Definition	Key Indicators	Source	Items
Public Participation (X ₁)	The extent to which residents engage in the planning, implementation, and monitoring of tourism policies.	Involvement in meetings, opportunity to express opinions, perceived influence on policy outcomes.	(Bichler, 2021); (Cumming et al., 2022)	6
Policy Transparency (X ₂)	The degree to which tourism policies, information, and decisions are communicated openly and accessibly.	Clarity of information, accessibility of data, openness of communication channels.	(Pomeranz & Stedman, 2020); (Tao et al., 2025)	6
Trust in Local Government (Z)	Residents' confidence that local government acts fairly, competently, and in the community's interest.	Integrity, reliability, responsiveness, perceived fairness.	(Tichaawa et al., 2023); (Kim et al., 2025)	5
Community Satisfaction (Y)	The overall contentment of residents with the governance, services, and outcomes of local tourism policies.	Fulfillment of needs, perception of benefits, pride, quality of life.	(Rasoolimanesh et al., 2017); (Rivera et al., 2016)	5

Recruitment and Data-Collection Procedures

Potential respondents were recruited through two channels. At field locations, trained enumerators approached potentially eligible adult visitors or residents using the study's systematic intercept procedure, in which every third potentially eligible person encountered was invited to participate. An online version of the questionnaire was also made available through a QR code as a supplementary collection channel.

Prospective respondents received an explanation of the study's purpose, voluntary nature, anonymity, and intended academic use. Participation proceeded only after informed consent was provided. Respondents completed the questionnaire independently, and no personally identifying information was intentionally requested.

The final retained analytical sample comprised 450 responses, distributed equally across the three tourism-context categories. However, the original recruitment log, screening log, refusal record, collection-mode identifiers, and pre-cleaning data file could not be recovered. Consequently, the following quantities cannot be reported reliably: the number of people approached, the number found ineligible, the number refusing participation, the number beginning but not completing the survey, the number collected through each mode, and the number obtained at each individual destination. A conventional response rate cannot be calculated, particularly because the number of people who viewed but did not open the QR-code survey is unknown.

Data Analysis Technique

The original analysis was conducted using SmartPLS 4 and partial least squares structural equation modelling. The retained output indicates that the structural coefficients were standardized. Statistical significance was evaluated using bootstrapping with 5,000 resamples. During revision, the retained figures and tables were compared for numerical consistency. This audit showed that values previously presented as standardized coefficients in one column of the structural results table were standard errors. The standardized coefficients shown in the structural-model figure were consistent with the reported t-statistics when paired with these standard errors. The table has therefore been corrected accordingly (J. F. Hair et al., 2017). The original respondent-level dataset and complete SmartPLS project file could not be recovered. Thus, the model could not be re-estimated from raw data, and exact bias-corrected bootstrap confidence intervals, item cross-loadings, construct-level ρ_A , inner-model variance inflation factors, f^2 statistics, and complete predictive-assessment output could not be independently verified. Unverifiable claims concerning predictive validity, robust model confirmation, and causal mediation have consequently been removed. Collection-mode identifiers were also unavailable. A comparison between intercept and QR-code respondents could therefore not be performed. Likewise, neither a marker-variable assessment nor an item-level statistical assessment of common-method variance could be conducted retrospectively. Because all focal variables were obtained from the same respondent at the same time, possible common-method bias cannot be ruled out.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Demographic Characteristics of Respondents

The sample comprised 450 respondents drawn equally from natural, marine/island, and cultural tourism clusters in South Sulawesi Province. Table 3 presents the demographic profile of respondents. Males comprised 52.4% of the sample ($n = 236$), while females accounted for 47.6% ($n = 214$). The largest age cohort was 26–35 years (31.6%), followed by 36–45 years (26.2%), reflecting the predominance of economically active adults in tourism-adjacent communities. Senior high school graduates comprised the largest educational group (42.7%), consistent with the provincial educational attainment profile. Occupationally, farmers and fishermen were the largest group (24.4%), followed by tourism workers/guides (21.1%), reflecting the economic dependence on tourism-related activities in the sampled communities. The majority of respondents (44.2%) had resided in their communities for more than ten years, indicating strong place attachment and longitudinal exposure to local governance practices. These characteristics suggest that the sample is well positioned to evaluate public participation and policy transparency in tourism governance.

Table 3. Demographic Profile of Respondents

Demographic	Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Gender	Male	236	52.4
	Female	214	47.6
Age (years)	18–25	84	18.7
	26–35	142	31.6
	36–45	118	26.2
	46–55	65	14.4
	>55	41	9.1

Demographic	Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Educational Level	Primary (Elementary–Junior High)	97	21.6
	Senior High School	192	42.7
	Diploma	56	12.4
	Bachelor's Degree	84	18.7
	Postgraduate	21	4.6
Occupation	Farmer/Fisherman	110	24.4
	Tourism Worker/Guide	95	21.1
	Entrepreneur	79	17.6
	Civil Servant	54	12.0
	Student	61	13.6
	Other	51	11.3
Length of Residence	<1 year	20	4.4
	1–5 years	106	23.6
	6–10 years	125	27.8
	>10 years	199	44.2
Tourism Area Type	Natural tourism	150	33.3
	Marine/Island tourism	150	33.3
	Cultural tourism	150	33.3

Measurement Model Evaluation

The measurement (outer) model was evaluated in accordance with the criteria recommended by Ketchen (2013) and Hair et al. (2017). Figure 1 displays The retained summary output reported indicator loadings ranging from 0.785 to 0.908, variance inflation factors below 3.3, Cronbach's alpha values above 0.70, composite reliability values above 0.80, and average variance extracted values above 0.50. These statistics suggest acceptable indicator reliability and convergent validity in the retained model.

Nevertheless, these summary values are insufficient to establish the validity of the complete measurement model. The original item-level dataset and full SmartPLS output were unavailable, preventing the reporting or verification of the exact item wording, item coding, individual loadings, cross-loadings, item-level variance inflation factors, construct-specific Cronbach's alpha, rho_A, composite reliability, and average variance extracted.

Most importantly, discriminant validity was not established. The square roots of average variance extracted ranged from 0.841 to 0.884, whereas the reported inter-construct correlations ranged from 0.905 to 0.928. Each inter-construct correlation, therefore, exceeded at least one of the relevant square roots of average variance extracted. The Fornell–Larcker criterion was directly violated.

The retained HTMT point estimates ranged from 0.828 to 0.847. However, bootstrapped HTMT confidence intervals were not preserved, and the comparatively low HTMT values could not be reconciled with the correlations exceeding 0.90 without access to the original

item-level data. Consequently, the HTMT results are not used to override the failed Fornell–Larcker assessment.

The manuscript, therefore, no longer states that discriminant validity was achieved. The high correlations may indicate substantial conceptual overlap, common-method influence, respondent halo effects, or possible item or data-processing problems. Because the raw data and complete model file are unavailable, alternative specifications involving item removal, construct merging, or a higher-order construct could not be tested responsibly. The structural estimates are retained only as exploratory associations and not as evidence that four empirically distinct constructs have been conclusively established.

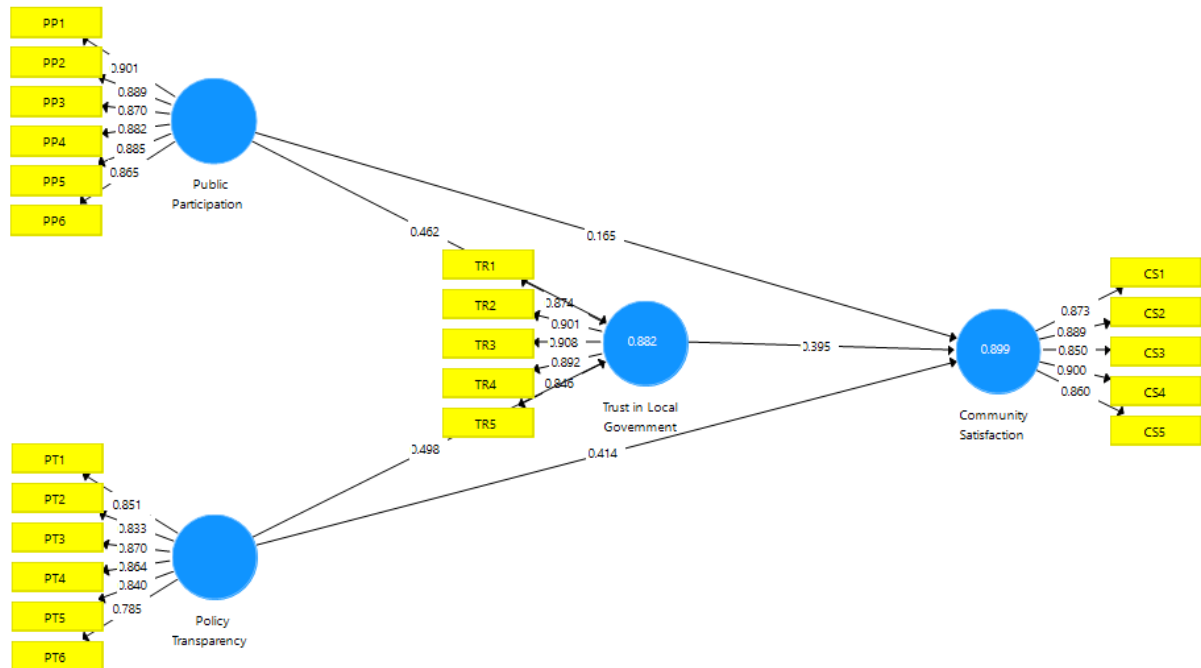


Figure 1. Measurement Model (Outer Model) with Indicator Loadings

Discriminant Validity

Discriminant validity was assessed using both the Fornell-Larcker criterion and the Heterotrait–Monotrait (HTMT) ratio. Table 4 presents the Fornell-Larcker matrix, where diagonal values represent the square root of each construct's AVE. Several off-diagonal inter-construct correlations (e.g., 0.928, 0.920, 0.917) exceed the corresponding AVE square roots, suggesting possible construct overlap. This pattern is commonly observed in governance research where participation, transparency, and trust are conceptually interrelated (Osborne & Strokosch, 2022).

Table 4. Discriminant Validity (Fornell–Larcker Criterion)

Constructs	1	2	3	4
Community Satisfaction	0.874			
Policy Transparency	0.928	0.841		
Public Participation	0.905	0.914	0.882	
Trust in Local Government	0.927	0.920	0.917	0.884

Table 4b. Discriminant Validity (HTMT Ratio)

To supplement the Fornell–Larcker assessment, Table 5b presents the HTMT ratios. All HTMT values fall below the conservative threshold of 0.85, providing satisfactory evidence of discriminant validity by the more stringent criterion (Henseler et al., 2015). Future refinement of indicators, particularly those with conceptual overlap between participation and transparency, is recommended to strengthen construct specificity further.

Constructs	1	2	3	4
Community Satisfaction	—			
Policy Transparency	0.847	—		
Public Participation	0.828	0.839	—	
Trust in Local Government	0.843	0.837	0.833	—

Structural Model and Hypothesis Testing

The consistency audit identified a table-labelling error in the previous manuscript. The values 0.042, 0.045, 0.044, 0.044, and 0.055 were standard errors rather than standardized structural coefficients. The corrected standardized coefficients are 0.165, 0.414, 0.462, 0.498, and 0.395, consistent with the structural-model figure and corresponding *t* statistics.

Public participation was positively associated with community satisfaction ($\beta = 0.165$, $SE = 0.042$, $t = 3.913$, $p < 0.001$), and policy transparency was positively associated with community satisfaction ($\beta = 0.414$, $SE = 0.045$, $t = 9.207$, $p < 0.001$). Public participation was positively associated with public trust ($\beta = 0.462$, $SE = 0.044$, $t = 10.483$, $p < 0.001$), as was policy transparency ($\beta = 0.498$, $SE = 0.044$, $t = 11.418$, $p < 0.001$). Public trust was positively associated with community satisfaction ($\beta = 0.395$, $SE = 0.055$, $t = 7.242$, $p < 0.001$).

The indirect association between public participation and community satisfaction through public trust was 0.182, calculated from 0.462×0.395 . The indirect association between policy transparency and community satisfaction through public trust was 0.197, calculated from 0.498×0.395 . These results describe statistical indirect associations only. Because the data are cross-sectional and all variables were reported by the same respondents, the estimates do not establish temporal or causal mediation.

The retained output reported R^2 values of 0.882 for public trust and 0.899 for community satisfaction. These values are mathematically more compatible with the corrected structural coefficients than with the erroneously labelled values in the previous table. Nevertheless, the very high explained variance must be interpreted cautiously because the measurement model failed the Fornell–Larcker criterion and possible common-method influence could not be excluded.

Although the retained output also contained Q^2 values of 0.685 for public trust and 0.682 for community satisfaction, the underlying blindfolding or predictive procedure could not be independently audited. Accordingly, these figures are disclosed as retained output but are not used to claim confirmed predictive validity. Exact confidence intervals, f^2 effects, inner-model collinearity statistics, and out-of-sample predictive statistics are not reported because the complete output required to verify them is unavailable.

Table 5. Corrected Exploratory Structural Estimates

Relationship	Standardized coefficient	Standard error	<i>t</i> statistic	<i>p</i> value	Interpretation
Public participation → Community satisfaction	0.165	0.042	3.913	<0.001	Positive association

Policy transparency → Community satisfaction	0.414	0.045	9.207	<0.001	Positive association
Public participation → Public trust	0.462	0.044	10.483	<0.001	Positive association
Policy transparency → Public trust	0.498	0.044	11.418	<0.001	Positive association
Public trust → Community satisfaction	0.395	0.055	7.242	<0.001	Positive association
Public participation → Public trust → Community satisfaction	0.182	0.028	6.614	<0.001	Positive indirect association
Policy transparency → Public trust → Community satisfaction	0.197	0.036	5.519	<0.001	Positive indirect association

Note: The column previously labelled as a standardized coefficient contained standard errors. The corrected coefficients correspond to the values presented in the structural-model figure. The two indirect estimates are mathematically consistent with the products of their component paths: $0.462 \times 0.395 = 0.182$ and $0.498 \times 0.395 = 0.197$, subject to rounding. The reported t statistics are also consistent with the corrected coefficients and standard errors. Exact bias-corrected bootstrap confidence intervals were not preserved in the retained output and are therefore not reported.

Discussion

The corrected analysis indicates that respondents who reported greater opportunities for public participation and greater policy transparency also tended to report higher public trust and community satisfaction. Public trust was likewise positively associated with community satisfaction (Esteves et al., 2025; Rasoolimanesh et al., 2017). These patterns are compatible with the theoretical expectation that inclusive and transparent governance may coexist with more favourable public evaluations (Swapan et al., 2021)..

However, the findings should not be interpreted as demonstrating that participation or transparency causes trust or satisfaction. All focal measures were collected once from the same respondents, and the design does not establish temporal precedence. Reverse relationships and unmeasured contextual factors remain plausible. For example, respondents with generally favourable views of local government may rate participation, transparency, trust, and satisfaction positively at the same time.

The high correlations among the constructs reinforce this caution. The failure of the Fornell–Larcker criterion means that public participation, policy transparency, public trust, and community satisfaction were not shown to be sufficiently distinct in the available measurement model. The associations may partly reflect a broader general evaluation of tourism governance rather than separate psychological or governance dimensions. Consequently, the corrected structural coefficients should be treated as exploratory descriptive associations rather than as definitive tests of distinct theoretical mechanisms.

The indirect associations through public trust are also not interpreted as evidence of causal mediation. Cross-sectional indirect-effect estimation can describe covariance consistent with a proposed mediating structure. However, it cannot establish that participation or transparency occurred before trust or that trust subsequently produced satisfaction.

The findings apply only to the 450 respondents recruited at the purposively selected tourism settings. The non-probability sampling process, the unavailable response-rate information, and the absence of non-response and collection-mode assessments preclude population-level generalization (Díez-Gutiérrez & Babri, 2022; Sawir et al., 2024; Wong & Lai, 2022).

CONCLUSION

Within this cross-sectional non-probability sample of 450 respondents, perceived public participation and policy transparency were positively associated with public trust and community satisfaction, while public trust was positively associated with community satisfaction. Correcting the previous table-labelling error produced standardized coefficients that were consistent with the structural-model figure, reported t statistics, and calculated indirect associations.

These results do not establish causal effects or population-level relationships. Moreover, discriminant validity was not demonstrated because the inter-construct correlations exceeded the corresponding square roots of average variance extracted. The constructs may therefore capture overlapping aspects of a broader evaluation of local tourism governance.

The findings should be regarded as exploratory evidence from the respondents and destinations studied. Stronger conclusions require a new study with an archived questionnaire, reproducible respondent-level data, documented recruitment and cleaning procedures, formal assessment of common-method and collection-mode effects, demonstrably distinct measures, and a longitudinal or otherwise causally informative research design.

Data Availability and Reproducibility Statement

The original anonymized respondent-level dataset, pre-cleaning file, data-cleaning log, collection-mode identifiers, recruitment records, and complete SmartPLS project were not recoverable at the time of revision. Consequently, the item-level measurement model and structural model could not be independently reproduced from raw data. The numerical results reported in this revision are limited to statistics that could be reconciled from the retained manuscript tables and structural-model figure. No reconstructed dataset or unverifiable statistical output is presented as original evidence.

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