



***Successful Sudan* information cards**

Tourism

There are many attractions to visit in Sudan – from the pyramids in the north, to scuba diving in the Red Sea in the north east or visiting the surprisingly lush Nuba Mountains.

Tourists require a visa to stay in Sudan – it can take about two weeks to get your visa and it will cost about US\$160.

Once tourists arrive in Sudan, they must register with the authorities within 3 days.

Everyone wishing to take photographs in Sudan requires a permit, which is free to acquire. Visitors are forbidden from photographing sensitive sites; for example bridges, slums & beggars.

Increasing tourism to Sudan will bring much needed income to the country. Tourists spend money on food, accommodation, souvenirs and visits, and tourism can raise employment levels amongst local people. There will also need to be improvements to the country's infrastructure (roads, buildings, services, etc.), which will benefit the local population too.

Self help schemes

Temporary settlements (such as Mayo camp near Khartoum) could be upgraded by teaching building skills to local people.

Infrastructure such as roads, lighting, electricity, water and sewage are all absent from informal settlements.

Houses are poorly made of materials such as mud, wood, plastic and tin.

The poorly built homes are prone to destruction during the rainy season.

Disease is rife in such poorly built and unsanitary environments.

Providing better homes and facilities would drastically improve quality of life and the appearance of areas. It would also provide employment for local people involved in the rebuilding of the settlements.

Reversing the brain drain

Sudan has a big problem with educated young professionals choosing to leave the country for work elsewhere. This leaves vital skills gaps in the country.

The United Nations Development Programme has attempted to reverse this trend by encouraging young Sudanese people to set up their own businesses and organisations. Establishing new businesses generates much needed income for Sudan. Money is kept in the country and local people gain employment in the businesses. They in turn can use this money to spend in the local economy, thereby creating further wealth and a positive multiplier effect.

Developing the Economy

The Sudan Development Programme (www.sudandevdevelopmentprogramme.org) was established to help reinvigorate the economy of Sudan. Many governments try to encourage transnational corporations (multinational companies) to locate operations (e.g. factories) in their country. This brings wealth and provides jobs at no expense to the government. Some governments offer tax incentives to lure in the companies.

Sudan has had very little growth in its economy since the civil war ended. There has been little investment in the economy – during the conflict over half the state budget was invested in the civil war. In order to be able to develop its people and infrastructure, Sudan needs to encourage economic growth.