Abstract of the Master’s Dissertation

**Subject Matter of the Dissertation:** Application of foreign experience of development of ski tourism in the region of North Caucasus Federal District
(On the example of the Kabardino-Balkarian Republic)

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**Topicality of the research:** Available in Kabardino-Balkarian Republic resources for the development of mountain tourism are evidence of its high potential and prospects of sustainable competitive presence on the national and international market of tourist and recreational services. However, in order to have a competitive advantage, a modern ski resort is not enough to recreational resources as such. The main objective, which is to be solved by attracting investment, as well as their own potential and internal resources of the region, is the formation of a tourist mountain KBR cluster-based development of mining and recreational areas, the construction of tourist complexes, reconstruction of communal, transport, road and other infrastructure development training system. Thus, the relevance of the chosen theme of the research is based on the urgent need to develop new approaches to planning and management of development of Russian ski tourist centers that meet the principles of sustainability, ensuring the preservation of natural areas with the formation of a high standard of living of the local population.

**Objective:** purpose of the work is to analyze foreign experience, determining the factors that make the implementation of innovative strategies for the development of mountain tourism and its application in the region of North Caucasus Federal District (in the example of the Kabardino-Balkarian Republic).

**Tasks:**
1. Develop a concept and determine the types of mountaineering, to consider their historical, legal and social aspects in the international practice.
2. To study the international experience and the development of modern international mountain tourism in some regions of the world.
3. Describe the most popular international tourist ski centers.
4. Analyze the ski centers of Russia, consider the problem of tourism development problems and prospects in mountain areas.
5. Consider the ski tourism as a priority direction of development of the North Caucasus Federal District.
6. Identify promising innovative projects of development of mountain tourism in the North Caucasus Federal District.
7. Give a general characteristic and make an analysis of the resources for the development of ski tourism in the Kabardino-Balkarian Republic.
8. To develop the use of the best areas of foreign experience for the organization of mountain tourism in the KBR and create methodological apparatus
for the development of management development schemes ski tourist centers in the KBR.

**Hypothesis:** It is reduced to the position that in the development of the tourism cluster in the KBR mountain tourism may be the most important aspect of creating a unique tourism product, which is formed based on the unique tourism resources, tourist interest and a developed tourist infrastructure.

**Novelty of the research:**
- It is to develop methodologies for evaluating and characteristics of international tourism development in mountain areas. For the first time the object of research to develop a sustainable development principles inbound mountain tourism as an element of sustainable socio-economic development, identify promising tourist specialization studied mountain areas North Caucasus Federal District. The novelty of the research is to systematize and tourist and recreational resources of the Kabardino-Balkaria as a basis for the ideas and the development of tourism and recreation cluster in the territory of the region.

**The main principles to be depended:**

1. Skiing and mountaineering - a typical example of life industries, based on the concept of sustainable development. In many countries with mountainous areas, in the field has accumulated considerable experience. The most widespread type of mountain tourism is the ski tourism, which each year is gaining momentum.

2. In recent years, ski tourism is gaining popularity in Russia. Turnover of domestic ski industry exceeds EUR 5 billion. But the quality of infrastructure, domestic ski resorts can not yet compete with the traditional ski resorts in Europe. As a result, more than 200 thousand tourists from Russia annually resting on the European ski resorts, leaving behind more than 400 million euros. However, international experts give good predictions about Russia's role in the international mountain tourism market. All this underlines the need to coordinate the efforts of federal and regional authorities to create the conditions for investment in the skiing business.

3. For a number of indicators, the most promising platform for the creation and development of mountain tourism in Russia is the North Caucasian Federal District. One of the most large-scale regional projects is a year-round mountain recreation center-Elbrus. To effectively address the problems faced by the leadership of the Caucasian republics, the need to develop the concept of management of mountain tourism, which is a complex methodical support for improving the control area of mountain tourism.

**Theoretical and practical significance of the research:**

The theoretical significance of the research results is due to the author's contribution to the development of theoretical and methodical positions that can provide a theoretical basis for development of different types of mountain tourism in the Kabardino-Balkaria, the creation of tourist-recreational cluster in the south of Russia. Ordering of the information available in the application of the cluster approach to the development of tourism regulation enhances general theoretical knowledge about the subject.
The practical significance of these results is the possibility of applying the recommendations proposed in the dissertation in the development of strategic programs for the development of mountain tourism in the KBR. Methods of assessing the international tourism development factors in mountain areas can be applied in other regions of Russia. The interest for the tourist firms may be the analysis of the international mountaineering submarkets, current and future trends in the industry.

**Results of the research:**

To effectively address the problems faced by the leadership of the Caucasian republics, the need to develop the concept of management of ski tourism, which is a complex methodical support for improving the control area of mountain tourism. This study identified the main principles of the development of ski tourism management Concept, as well as a list of key objectives for public authorities and private businesses.

1. Based on the analysis of various models of national systems of ski tourism management organization (public, market and mixed) in the work identified in the feasibility of the model of mixed Russian ski tourism management organization (a combination of government and private enterprise). Analysis of the French ski tourism development experience has shown the need to develop a legal and business model of ski legislative base formation of mixed tourism, which should clearly regulate the relations between the state and private business.

2. The Master's thesis expediency of attracting tourism offices to develop regional programs to develop and support the formation of ski tourism in the North Caucasus Federal District, who will be able to define a common vision and perspective make a phased program of becoming subordinated to ski tourism in the region; to choose the right strategy for the management and development of the ski center; Ensuring that basis for the fullest satisfaction of the population's needs in the tourist services and the rational use of existing natural and recreational resources.