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# The Impact of Tourism on the Territorial Reorganization of the Population in Algeria Case Study: New City Boughezoul

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#### **ARTICLE INFO**

#### **ABSTRACT**

Received: 25 Dec 2024 Revised: 19 Apr 2025 Accepted: 18 Oct 2025 The new city of Boughezoul, with its important location within the existing urban network and its important natural and cultural resources, has the future potential to become a highly attractive city and a major tourist centre, effectively contributing to spatial transformation and thus strongly contributing to population redistribution and regional balance Thus, the example of the new city of Boughezoul can inspire other regions in Algeria to adopt the same approach with a focus on economic diversification through tourism while ensuring environmental ustainability and social development. As the World Tourism Organization states 'Sustainable tourism is a powerful engine for economic development, but it must be managed in a way that respects local environments and cultures' (Robert, 2021). If Boughezoul succeeds in being a model for sustainable tourism development, it will also play a pivotal role in promoting national cohesion. Such an approach not only promotes economic prosperity, but also a better quality of life for its inhabitants, thus enhancing the resilience and dynamism of the Algerian territory as a whole

**Keywords:** Tourism, reorganization, new city, population, territorial, Boughezoul, Algeria.

# Introduction

Tourism plays a central role in the restructuring of the economic and social sphere by activating different economic sectors and distributing economic activities in a more diversified and wider way (De Siano & Canale, 2024; Shaoru et al., 2024; Ohorodnyk & Finger, 2024), thus promoting the development of remote and underdeveloped areas (Bonol, 2021; Hutton & Paddison,2014). Tourism helps to improve infrastructure such as roads, airports and tourist facilities, which transforms these areas into economic and tourist attractions and leads to a more balanced distribution of population and economic activities. (Brida, et al., 2020; Larchenko, et al., 2019) The tourism sector also promotes the development of small and medium-sized enterprises in areas such as hospitality, transport and tourism services, which creates new job opportunities and helps reduce pressure on large cities.

In this context, Dubai and Qatar are among the most prominent examples of how tourism can be used to restructure the sector. Dubai's tourism megaprojects, such as Borj Khalifa, The Palm Island, and Dubai land, have helped transform the city into a global tourism and commercial hub, attracting investment and distributing economic activities on a large scale. The city of Doha in Qatar has also undergone a similar transformation thanks to projects such as Al Wakra and Education City, which have helped to restructure the country's economic and social sector (Bristow & Smith, 2016), increase employment opportunities and reduce pressure on the capital (Mirzaei et al., 2024; López-Gay et al., 2021; Michel, et al 2021). In addition, these projects help to stimulate migration from large cities to these new, less populated areas (Sutheeshna, 2021; Jing, et al., 2022; Ushakov, et al., 2020; Przybyła, et al., 2019), which strengthens sustainable development (Horbliuk, & Dehtiarova, 2021) and provides a more diversified economic environment in these new cities

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(Sidi Boumedine & Signoles, 2017), and creates opportunities for local and foreign residents to work and invest in the various tourism and service sectors (Hilti, 2020; UNWTO, 2022).

After independence, Algeria was faced with a demographic imbalance in the Territory (Rabhi & Chadli, 2023; Merakchi, & Zaouia, 2024; Kadri & Atmani, 2023; Kateb, 2003), and more than 63% of the population was concentrated in the north of the country in an area that does not exceed 5% of the national territory (RGPH, 2008). In order to promote regional balance and inclusive development, Algeria has implemented new spatial strategies with a view to redeploying the population and directing it towards the south of the territory, through the orientations of the National Territorial Development Scheme (SNAT) based on the creation of new cities (Rachid & Pierre Signole, 2017, 2016; Hammi, & Rahali, 2015). The aim of this article is to highlight the role of tourism in the reorganization of the territory through the case of the new city of Boughezoul, highlighting the similarities and differences with examples of globally recognized cities, such as Dubai and Qatari cities, which have managed to reposition themselves thanks to ambitious tourism strategies. Boughezoul, although still under construction, already benefits from many assets that, in the near future, could make it a major tourist center of the region. The city's urban planning project incorporates a modern and sustainable vision, with the implementation of modern infrastructure, careful urbanization, and consideration of local natural and cultural resources to stimulate the tourism sector (Pirie, 2017). This study draws its importance from the nature of the subject treated and its spatial scope. This is one of the most important areas of focus in geography. And due to the scar city of studies related to the role of tourism in the organization of space in North African countries, this study has come to provide the complement. And this study at the local level is considered as a decision-making tool for the future in the policy of territorial planning and development policy in Algeria and for others.

# **Materials And Methods**

To approach this article which will show the role of tourism in the reorganization of space expected from new cities as a new mechanism for regional balance, we have relied on statistical analysis through the results of the last three population censuses in Algeria (1987, 1998 and 2008) at national level in order to identify areas of demographic heaviness and lightness across the major geographical regions, which explains variance phenomena such as the variance test between weights and characteristics, the multi variation test and tests for interpreting relationships such as bilateral correlations. Applying them to the case study of the new city of Boughezoul in the High Plateau region as an intermediate strategic option whose main objective is the search for regional balance, in order to arrive at realistic results through which we provide effective suggestions for the intervention of the tourism factor at the level of the new city of Boughezoul and clarify its tourism capacities, which will have an effective role in promoting the region at an organizational level.

#### 1. The role of tourism in regional reorganization:

Tourism is increasingly central to the regional reorganization of new cities, serving as both an economic driver and a catalyst for urban planning (Sutheeshn, 2021), social dynamics, and development. These cities, created to address urban decentralization and growth, leverage tourism to shape their economic and social landscapes.

"sportscomplexes).(Rogerson, 2002).

#### 1.1 Tourism as an economic driver:

Tourism can stimulate the economic growth of new cities by diversifying their sources of income and creating direct jobs (hotels, transport, and leisure) and indirect jobs (local suppliers, craftsmen). It also makes them more attractive to investors and businesses, leading to the development of shopping areas, business centres and tourist infrastructure (parks, museums, sports complexes). (Rogerson, 2002).

# 1.2. Transformation and reorganization of urban areas:

New cities are designed with tourism infrastructure from the start, (Sechi et al, 2020) shaping their layout and economy through parks, leisure areas, and cultural complexes. Tourism drives the redevelopment of public spaces with modern amenities, enhancing the appeal for both residents and visitors. Urban planning seeks to balance work, residential, and tourist areas while preventing issues like congestion

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# 1.3. Tourism as a tool for redefining regional identity:

New cities focus on modern, sustainable living models, with tourism playing a key role in shaping their identity (Abodeeb et al, 2015). By promoting local heritage and offering diverse cultural and leisure experiences, these cities attract both domestic and international visitors, especially in eco-friendly or smart cities that present alternatives to traditional destinations.

# 1.4. Tourism and regional infrastructure:

The construction of new cities, with improved transport and communication infrastructure, supports territorial reorganization and tourism development, attracting tourists and reducing congestion in larger cities (Giaoutzi et al., 2020).

# 1.5. The challenges of tourism in the territorial reorganization of new cities:

While tourism drives development in new cities, it also presents challenges, such as pressure on resources, environmental impact, and conflicts over space between residents and visitors. Additionally, tourism can lead to gentrification (Maitland et al, 2014).

raising property prices and threatening local communities, highlighting the need for policies that ensure the benefits are shared equitably, and Tourism plays a central role in the territorial reorganization of new cities by stimulating the local economy, creating new infrastructures and redefining the identity of these areas. However, for this role to be fully positive, it is crucial that local authorities and urban planners adopt an integrated and sustainable approach to spatial planning, which takes into account the needs of residents, the preservation of the environment and the management of tourist flows. The challenge is to develop a new city model that takes advantage of tourism without suffering its negative effects (Lee et al, 2020) ensuring that this sector becomes a sustainable and inclusive asset for the region as a whole.

# 2. Tourism planning in territorial reorganization:

Tourism plays a fundamental role in the reorganization of space at several levels, in both urban and rural areas. The impact of tourism on geographical and social space is multidimensional, involving economic, social, cultural and environmental transformations; here are the main aspects of tourism's role in spatial reorganization, "Figure 1". In short, tourism plays a major role in the reorganization of space, by modifying the economic, social and environmental dynamics of territories. While generating economic benefits, it also poses challenges in terms of sustainability, social balance and land management. Intelligent management of tourism, which takes into account the needs of local residents and the preservation of natural and cultural areas, is essential to ensure that these spatial transformations are beneficial in the long term.

#### **Results And Discussion**

# 1. The Comparison of population between major geographical regions:

Table (01) illustrates the significant demographic disparity between the country's regions, reflecting its heterogeneous spatial structure. The population has grown steadily over time, with a clear trend of polarization towards the northern coastal area. Nearly three-quarters (65.41%) of the population is concentrated in the narrow Tellian zone of the North, which makes up only 13% of the country's territory, while the vast southern region, covering 87% of the country's area, is sparsely populated. This imbalance in population distribution is a key challenge for spatial planning, which needs urgent attention. Currently, the country's urban character is dominated by large coastal conurbations.

The ANOVA test is used to examine the relationship between regions coastal, highlands, and south and population numbers.

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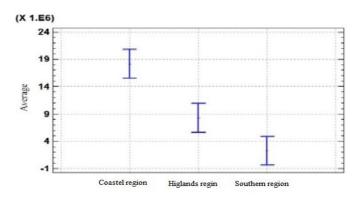
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**Table 1:** Evolution of the number of populations according to the RGPH.

GPHC	Coastal regions	High plateau regions	Southern regions	
1987	13515047	7662985	1 537601	
1998	18533588	8 291170	2 276105	
2008	22390829	8 854067	2 984534	
2018	25655212	13355735	3675656	

Since the F-test probability value is less than 0.05, there is a statistically significant difference in the average populations of the three regions at the 5% significance level. The test indicates a significant difference between the coastal, highland, and southern regions. To determine which specific region contributes to this difference, we proceed with the Multiple Extensions Test. "Figure 1".



**Figure 1:** Variation in the number of people between the large Zones Geographical regions.

Testing of multiple areas between regions (coastal, highlands, south) It is understandable that there is a significant disparity between the three regions, which is measured by a P= 0.0009; F= 27.98. "Figure 2.

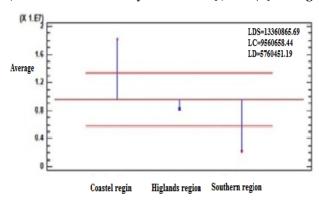


Figure 2: Variability of population averages between the large geographical regions.

Nevertheless, it can be said that the highlands are closer to the coast with a value of 9.87708 X106than to the South with a value of 6.00333 X106and the greatest disparity is between the coast and the South with a value of 1.58804 X107.

**Table 2:** Disparity of major geographical regions.

Contrast	Sig	Difference	+/- limits
Coastal regions - highlands	*	9.87708 X106	5.24625 X106
Coastal regions - Southern regions	*	1.58804 X107	5.24625 X106
high plateaux - Southern regions	*	6.00333 X106	5.24625 X106

<sup>\*</sup>Indicates a statistically significant difference.

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# 2. The option of the new city of Boughezoul within the Central High Plateaus region:

The High Plateaus region, which includes Laghouat, Djelfa and M'Sila, is a priority for future development because of its resources and its potential to absorb the population growth of the capital. The new city of Boughezoul is projected to have a population of around 500000, supporting policies aimed at decentralizing growth from coastal cities to medium-sized inland areas. This strategy aims to reduce urban pressure on the capital, improve infrastructure in regional cities and promote sustainable urban planning through collaboration between Médéa and Djelfa, with an emphasis on functional integration with neighbouring provinces.

# 2.1. The analytical study of the population of the new city of Boughezoul and the wilayas of Médéa and Djelfa within the region:

The new city of Boughezoul is a major national project in Algeria's urban policy, distinguished by its economic, social and political importance. Situated between Médéa to the North and Djelfa to the South, "Figure 3" Boughezoul aims to establish a strategic regional centre 170 km from Algiers, helping to balance the urban network both East-West and North-South. To achieve this objective, it is essential to analyze the demographic growth of Boughezoul and its region through censuses and future projections.

To ensure the soundness of the project, we subjected the results in Table 4 to statistical analysis at various stages.

<b>Table 3:</b> Evolution o	f the population	n of Boughezoul, Mé	déa, and Dielfa	within its region.

Region	1998	2008	2018
Boughezoul	14094	16939	30324
Médéa	721861	819932	1062134
Djelfa	797706	1092184	1508535
Central High Plateaus	1940385	2538377	3308909

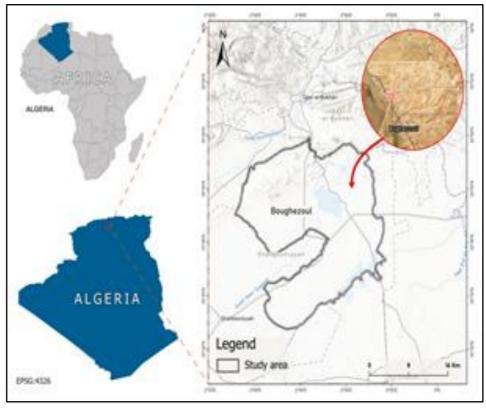


Figure 3: Administrative location of the new city of Boughezoul.

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# 2.1.1. ANOVA Test for the population of Médéa, Djelfa and the new city of Boughezoul by evolution:

The comparison of population trends in Boughezoul, Médéa and Djelfa shows significant differences table 4 and "Figure4"

**Table 4:** Comparison of the population evolution of the new city of Boughezoul, Medea, Djelfa.

Source	Sum of Squares	ddl	Mean Square	value	Probability
Between groups	3.643E12	2	1.8215E12	18.23	0.0007
Within groups	8.99038E11	9	9.98931E1		
Total	4.54204E12	11			

Indicated by F=18.23 and P=0.0007. Analysis reveals that Boughezoul is still under development, with only some infrastructure completed and its population figures are based on the municipality's main settlement. The disparity between Médéa and Djelfa is influenced by their geographical locations and borders Medea borders four provinces, while Djelfa borders nine. Additionally, Djelfa experiences higher demographic growth due to both natural increase and migration, further highlighting the differences between the two regions.

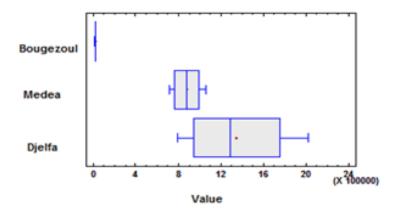


Figure 4: Comparison of the evolution of the population of the new city of Boughezoul and its wilayas Médéa, Djelfa

# 2.1.2. Testing multiple ranges between the new city of Boughezoul within its Wilaya (Medea Djelfa):

As a result of the implementation of multiple interval tests, our conclusion is drawn from Table 6 as well as "Figure 5"

**Table 5:** Multiple comparisons between Dielfa, Medea and the new city of Boughezoul

Contrast	Signif	Difference	Boundary +/-
Boughezoul - Médéa	*	-862996	505564
Boughezoul - Djelfa	*	-1.33014E6	505564
Médéa - Djelfa		-467142	505564

<sup>\*</sup>indicates a statistically significant difference. **Source:** authors' calculation.

Which illustrates the analysis of population mean variables (Boughezoul, Médéa, and Djelfa) in relation to the theoretical line, this analysis determines the strength of the interval, with Djelfa in the first place and Médéa in the second. The statistically significant differences between Médéa and the new city of Boughezoul, and Djelfa and the new city of Boughezoul, are due to the fact that the project has not yet materialized and that the population used is therefore that of the main agglomeration of Boughezoul at the present time.

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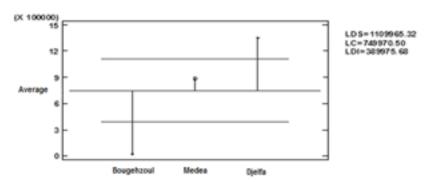


Figure 5: Analysis of population means variables for the new town of Boughezoul and its wilayas Médéa, Djelfa.

The new city of Boughezoul is currently performing well below the expected average, but there is every reason to believe that it will improve once all the planned projects have been completed. The city aims to reduce regional disparities by promoting homogeneity and reducing statistically significant differences. From the observation "Figure6".

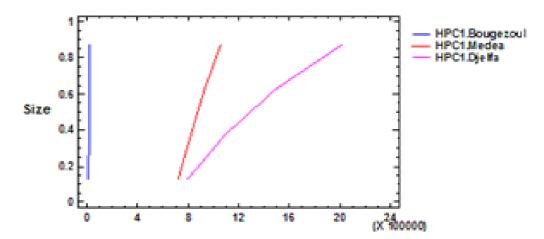


Figure 6: Analysis of variables for the new town of Boughezoul and its affiliated wilayas Médéa, Djelfa.

Which represents the analysis of average population variables for the new city of Boughezoul and the region of Médéa and Djelfa, we can deduce directly from the curves that the new city of Boughezoul has experienced acceleration in its growth rate followed by a standstill. This can be explained by the fact that the Boughezoul new city project has not yet been completed. In conclusion, the Boughezoul project is well positioned to succeed thanks to favorable regional factors and statistical data that match its objectives, forecasting a population of 400,000. The city's strategic geographical location, reinforced by a road network and the ongoing construction of a railway line, will boost regional dynamics and contribute to the balance of the central coastal zone. However, its success ultimately depends on the country's political will, particularly if it is designated as Algeria's political capital.

#### 3. Tourism resources and territorial reorganization:

#### 3.1. Lake and islands:

The Boughezoul Lake is an ecological, (Keria, et al 2024). Social and economic asset for the city, contributing to urban development, quality of life for local residents and tourist appeal, particularly for nature lovers and eco-tourists, it also helps to preserve the local environment.

Covering an area of 1200 hectares, the lake has an impressive storage capacity of 50 million m3 of water, making it a valuable resource for the region, particularly in terms of irrigation and regulating local ecosystems. It acts as a natural reservoir, regulating water levels and preventing the risk of flooding, while enriching local biodiversity.

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The three artificial islands in the lake enhance its appeal as a tourist and recreational destination, offering spaces for activities like hiking, fishing, and water sports. This has transformed the lake into a hub for ecological and aquatic tourism, allowing visitors to explore local flora and fauna in a pristine natural setting. "Figure 7"



Figure 7: The pink flamingo

The wetland surrounding the lake is also a key element in the city's ecological character. It plays a vital role in filtering water and regulating the climate, while providing a haven for a wide variety of animal and plant species. This wetland helps to reinforce the city's identity as an ecological centre, while providing an ideal setting for nature tourism and wildlifewatching activities, such as migratory bird-watching.

Finally, the green belt around the lake, made up of parks, gardens and footpaths, encourages sustainable urban development and improves air quality. It encourages residents and visitors to adopt a more environmentally-friendly lifestyle, while adding value to the city's aesthetic appeal. This development, which gives pride of place to nature, provides leisure space for residents and serves as an ideal setting for wellness-related tourist activities such as walking, cycling and outdoor picnics, In short, the Boughezoul Lake is not only an important natural resource, but also a catalyst for the sustainable development of the city, transforming it into a model green and ecological city, combining nature, tourism and quality of life. Thanks to its ecological diversity and tourism infrastructure, it is becoming a genuine eco-tourism destination, attracting visitors while preserving its unique natural environment. "Figure 8"



Figure 8: Lake and islands in new town Boughezoul.

# 3.2. Hotels:

The convention centre integrated into the hyper centre of the new city of Boughezoul is a major hub for the economic and tourist development of the region, This modern centre, designed to meet the needs of professionals and businesses, has spacious, well-equipped exhibition and conference rooms, suitable for hosting a wide range of events, such as trade fairs, seminars, congresses and international conferences. It thus plays a key role in positioning the city as a regional business hub, attracting visitors and professionals from all over the world, in the immediate vicinity of the convention centre, the new city of Boughezoul offers a range of high-quality business hotels, specially designed to meet the requirements of business travellers. These hotels are equipped with tailored services, such as meeting rooms, functional workspaces, transport services and high-speed Internet access, to ensure a comfortable and productive stay for business travellers.

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They also offer complementary services such as refined restaurants, fitness centres and relaxation areas, enabling visitors to enjoy a complete experience during their stay in the city.

The integration of these business hotels into the new city promotes synergy between business tourism and economic development, while facilitating access to events organized at the convention centre (Issac, 2024). Travellers can stay just a few steps from their place of work, optimizing their time and comfort. "Figure 9".

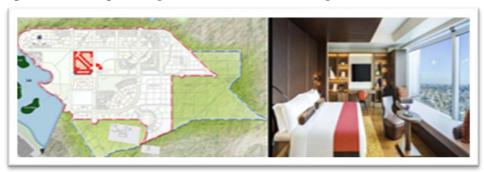


Figure 9: Hôtels in new town Boughezoul

What's more, this concentration of modern facilities helps to boost Boughezoul attractiveness as a business tourism destination, while supporting the local economy through the flow of international visitors. The city, with its modern, well-designed setting, is becoming a real focal point for professionals, combining innovation, comfort and accessibility.

# 3.3. Parks and green spaces:

The new city of Boughezoul stands out for its innovative design, which harmoniously integrates parks and green spaces into its urban fabric. These facilities play a crucial role in the daily lives of residents and also contribute to the development of the tourism sector by attracting visitors thanks to their beauty, accessibility and diversity. Here's how the design and organization of these green spaces translate into tourism benefits and engines of economic and ecological growth for the city

# 3.3.1. Design and organization of parks and green spaces:

The parks and green spaces in Boughezoul have been designed to create a coherent and accessible network, where each neighborhood has its own space for relaxation and recreation. Green spaces are organized strategically to maximize their accessibility and connectivity, while promoting a harmonious transition between urban and natural areas.

# • Multifunctional urban parks:

Boughezoul parks are designed to meet a variety of needs, from simple relaxation to the practice of sports. These multifunctional parks offer play areas, sports fields, walking and cycling trails, and picnic areas. The diversity of activities on offer attracts not only local residents, but also visitors looking for suitable places to spend their leisure time and socialize outdoors. "Figure 10".



Figure 10: parks and green spaces in new town Boughezoul

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# • Theme and botanical gardens:

To enhance the leisure and environmental education offer, the city has integrated themed and botanical gardens. These gardens are specially designed to showcase local and international plant diversity, while also serving as information points on local ecosystems and wildlife. These gardens are becoming popular places to visit for nature lovers and families who want to learn while having fun.

# • Ecological corridors and green belts:

Ecological corridors link the various parks and green spaces, creating pathways for wildlife and allowing walking and cycling in natural areas. The green belt that surrounds the city helps to reduce the urban heat island, filter the air and provide a habitat for biodiversity. These features make the parks and green spaces attractive places to walk and sites for eco-tourism.

#### 3.3.2. The role of parks and green spaces in the tourism sector:

Boughezoul parks and green spaces are not only places for residents to enjoy themselves; they are also major assets for the tourism sector. Here's how they contribute to the city's appeal as a tourist destination:

#### • Attracting visitors and eco-tourism:

Thanks to their landscaping and the diversity of their ecosystems, Boughezoul parks and gardens attract visitors in search of escapism and nature, which enhances eco-tourism. Visitors can enjoy the local flora and fauna, take part in activities such as bird watching or guided walks, and explore the well-maintained paths and trails.

#### Outdoor events and festivals:

Boughezoul parks and green space are regularly used to host cultural and sporting events, such as festivals, open-air concerts, craft markets and sporting competitions. These events attract visitors from outside the area and stimulate the local economy by boosting the hotel, restaurant and retail sectors.

## • Leisure and recreation facilities:

Facilities such as playgrounds, leisure centres and relaxation areas help to extend the tourist experience by providing fun for families and groups. Visitors can enjoy themselves in parks where modern, well-designed facilities make for a pleasant, long stay.

#### 3.3.3. Economic impact and sustainable development:

Boughezoul parks and green spaces contribute to the city's economic development by attracting tourists who spend money in hotels, restaurants, local shops and transport services. This increase in tourist numbers helps to boost the local economy and creates jobs, direct and indirect, linked to the tourism sector.

In terms of sustainable development, these green spaces contribute to the city's ecological management. They help to reduce the city's carbon footprint by capturing carbon dioxide and improving air quality. In addition, they provide a natural setting that promotes the well-being of visitors, making the city a more attractive travel destination.

# 3.3.4. Accessibility and connectivity for tourism:

The new city of Boughezoul has been designed to offer fluid connectivity between the various parks, green spaces and tourist attractions. The pedestrian and cycle paths that criss-cross the city allow visitors to get around easily while enjoying the scenery. These infrastructures facilitate access to tourist sites while encouraging active and sustainable tourism, the parks and green spaces in the new city of Boughezoul are not just elements of urban design, but important drivers for tourism. They offer places to relax and enjoy leisure activities, attract visitors thanks to their natural beauty and diversity, and contribute to the development of the local economy. Their intelligent design, which incorporates ecological and sustainable aspects, makes Boughezoul a destination of choice for ecological and family tourism, while supporting sustainable and inclusive growth for the city.

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# 4. Infrastructure:

The new city of Boughezoul in Algeria is part of an urban development project aimed at reorganizing the national territory. As well as building infrastructure, this project is part of a wider strategy to decentralize the population and achieve balanced regional planning. The emergence of new cities like Boughezoul is helping to relieve congestion in the major cities, distribute the population more evenly and open up certain regions. With its modern infrastructure and strategic urban planning, Boughezoul will become an attractive regional centre, stimulating investment, creating jobs and developing the local economy. Integrated as a development lever, tourism plays a key role in diversifying sources of



income, showcasing the region's cultural and natural heritage and boosting its international appeal. "Figure 11".

Figure 11: Infrastructure in new town Boughezoul

This development dynamic contributes to decentralization, improving access to basic services and reducing economic and social disparities between urban and rural areas. In short, the basic infrastructure of the new city of Boughezoul plays a key role in the territorial reorganization of Algeria, promoting decentralization, economic diversification, tourism and an improved quality of life, for a more harmonious development of the national territory.

### **Conclusion And Recommendations**

The new city of Boughezoul represents an ambitious project that goes far beyond a simple urban initiative: it is a strategic opportunity for the territorial reorganization of Algeria, where tourism plays a central role in economic and social transformation. By making the most of the region's natural and cultural assets, Boughezoul has the potential to become a major tourist hub, attracting both national and international visitors and stimulating the local economy by creating jobs, attracting investment and promoting local products. In addition, the provision of modern, sustainable infrastructure is essential to ensure the long-term viability of the city and to meet the growing needs of its population. (Mustafa, 2023)

However, Boughezoul success will depend on the ability of decision-makers to learn from successful examples of urban and tourism development around the world, such as Dubai and the cities of Qatar. These examples show that rapid growth and tourism development can be synonymous with prosperity, but only if well thought-out strategies are put in place to maintain a balance between economic development, environmental protection and social inclusion. Sustainable urban planning is the key to transforming cities into places of prosperity while preserving the environment and integrating local communities' (Turok, 2016). Thus, it is crucial to adopt sustainable planning practices, ensure the conservation of natural resources and make sure that the local population really benefits from these changes. Transparent governance policies and community participation are essential to ensure that development projects are not limited to mere economic ambitions, but take into account the needs and aspirations of local people. According to the economist Amartya Sen, 'genuine development must be centred on improving people's capabilities and opportunities' (Sen, 1999), which underlines the importance of including local people in the development process, the example of Boughezoul could therefore inspire other regions of Algeria to adopt similar approaches, focusing on economic diversification through tourism while ensuring environmental sustainability and social development. As the World Tourism Organization states, 'sustainable tourism is a powerful engine for economic development, but it must be

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managed in a way that respects local environments and cultures' (Robert, 2021). If Boughezoul succeeds in becoming a model of sustainable tourism development, it could contribute to the growth of Algeria's tourism sector as a whole, while also playing a central role in strengthening national cohesion through the idea of reorganizing the distribution of the population towards the interior cities. Such an approach not only promotes economic prosperity, but also a better quality of life for its inhabitants, thereby strengthening the resilience and dynamism of the Algerian territory as a whole.

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