

## **TOURISM IN PERIPHERAL TERRITORIES?**

### **Some Reflections about a Case Study in The Lavalle Desert, Argentina**

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*Argentina has promoted over the latest years a tourism policy which has turned out to be central to the economic growth of both the country and the provinces where this activity is developed. By virtue of these new expectations and the roads that are starting to be travelled, the present study explores the extent to which the tourism activities are an opportunity for peripheral territories. Based on a case study developed in desert areas of the Lavalle Department (Mendoza Province), an attempt is made to explain the role of the desert in the provincial tourism sector and to assess the incidence of tourism activity on the development of the communities settled in these territories as a strategy for a "more sustainable" diversification of production.*

**KEY WORDS:** *Mendoza, tourism, peripheral territories, desert, domestic economies.*