

The Influence of Electronic Word of Mouth on Labuan Bajo Content and Celebrity Endorser on TikTok Account @tassy.sy on Generation Z's Visiting Interest

Ayra Sekar Putri Irawan¹, Drina Instyaswati², Qasim Mahmood³

e-mail: ayraas10@gmail.com1*; drina.intyaswati@upnvj.ac.id2; gmahmood@numel.edu.pk3 *Corresponding author

ABSTRACT:

The recovery of the tourism sector in Indonesia, especially Labuan Bajo, can be overcome by utilizing technological developments and social media such as TikTok. Tassy is one of the traveling content creators who often shares traveling content on TikTok. This study aims to determine how much influence electronic word of mouth (variable X1) Labuan Bajo content and celebrity endorsers (variable X2) on the TikTok @tassy.sy account on visiting interest (variable Y) Generation Z. The theory used in this research is Source Credibility Theory. The research method used is explanatory quantitative. The sample uses Purposive Sampling by distributing questionnaires through TikTok. The research population is followers of the TikTok account @tassy.sy and obtained a sample size of 100 results from the Taro Yamane formula. The results of multiple linear regression analysis show that E-WOM and celebrity endorsers each have a positive and significant effect on visiting interest, with the magnitude of the influence of celebrity endorsers (0.827) greater than E-WOM (0.729). Meanwhile, the interaction between E-WOM and celebrity endorsers has a negative effect on interest in visiting, meaning that the knowledge gained through celebrity endorser accounts on TikTok elaborated with E-WOM related to Labuan Bajo does not increase interest in visiting. The coefficient of determination shows that the contribution of E-WOM on Labuan Bajo content and celebrity endorsers on the @tassy.sy TikTok account to visiting interest is 92.3%.

ARTICLE HISTORY

Submitted: 4 May 2024 Revised: 12 September 2024 Accepted: 27 September 2024

KEYWORDS

celebrity endorser, electronic word of mouth, labuan bajo, tiktok, visit interest

^{1,2}Department of Communication Science, UPN Veteran Jakarta, Jakarta, Indonesia

³Department Mass Communication, National University of Modern Language, Pakistan

INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is an archipelago that is famous for its beautiful natural tourist destinations. It is no secret that the attractiveness of Indonesia always attracts the attention of many tourists from domestic to foreign countries. One of the hidden paradises in Indonesia is Labuan Bajo, which is located in Komodo District, West Manggarai Regency, East Nusa Tenggara Province. Labuan Bajo is a tourist destination that is being raised in Indonesia because it is part of the five Super Priority Destinations. Known as an area that has the best biodiversity in the world, Labuan Bajo has many famous attractions including Padar Island, Pink Beach, Manta Point, and Komodo National Park which was declared a UNESCO World Heritage in 1991.

Based on BPOLBF's presentation, the number of tourist visits to Labuan Bajo has fluctuated. In 2019, it was stated that the number of domestic tourists visiting reached 77,635 people. This figure is higher than the previous year, which was 55,423 in 2018 and 48,457 in 2017. Unfortunately, the surge in tourist visits that continues to increase has to be stopped due to the implementation of Large-Scale Social Restrictions (PSBB) in several areas due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The number of tourists traveling to Labuan Bajo dropped dramatically to 38,529 people in 2020 and 88,099 people in 2021 (Indraswari, 2023).

After experiencing a very drastic decline, the Head of the Labuan Bajo Tourism Office provided data on the number of domestic tourist visits which continued to show an increasing performance, namely 170,352 in 2022 and 184,698 in 2023 (Ardin, 2024). Sandiaga also said that tourism development in Labuan Bajo as one of the super-priority destinations continues to be carried out to support the development of quality and sustainable tourism, with a target of increasing the number of tourist visits to Labuan Bajo to 1.5 million tourists per year (Hendriyani, 2022).

The recovery of the tourism sector in Labuan Bajo can be overcome by utilizing the development of communication technology that is now growing, one of which is social media. Social media is utilized as an electronic word-of-mouth (E-WOM) marketing tool. The purpose of electronic word of mouth is to provide information, influence views, inspire, trigger purchases, and provide product recommendations from the benefits that have been felt (Agustina et al., 2018). According to (Indriyani & Artanti, 2020), electronic word of mouth has the ability to influence tourist decisions because they tend to see electronic word of mouth as a source of information that is more up-to-date, interesting, and more trusted than information provided by tourism service providers. The use of electronic word of mouth itself in social media is more popular because it has the potential to reach many global audiences easily and quickly (Daugherty & Hoffman, 2014).

The social media that is currently popular is TikTok. TikTok is an application originating from China that was launched in early September 2016 by an entrepreneur named Zhang Yiming, who also founded a technology company called ByteDance. TikTok is one of the social media that has gained popularity in the world as well as in Indonesia. According to We Are Social data, Indonesia is the second country with the highest number of users, reaching 99.79 million as of July 2023 (Annur, 2023). With the high number of TikTok users in Indonesia, TikTok

is often used as a means of electronic word-of-mouth marketing in promoting a product or service.

Table 1 Indonesia content creators who shared Labuan Bajo content on TikTok

No.	TikTok Account	Followers	Number of Likes	Engagement Rate
1.	@tassy.sy	1,1 million	20,1 million	9,71%
2.	@onihoironi	505,3	14,6 million	3,45%
		thousand		
3.	@cannyclau	466,2	15,2 million	5,28%
		thousand		
4.	@jadiginimi	298,6	13,2 million	<0,01%
		thousand		
5.	@zilmizola	249,7	9,3 million	7,54%
		thousand		

Source: (Hypeauditor, 2023)

The type of electronic word-of-mouth content that is widely spread on TikTok is content about the tourist destination of Labuan Bajo. This Labuan Bajo content is often found in several content creator accounts that promote this tourist destination. In Indonesia itself, there are many TikTok content creators who focus on traveling such as Tassy, Zilmi Zola, Canny, Onihoironi, and Jadiginimi. Of the five content creators mentioned, the researcher chose Tassy as the research subject. This is because Tassy has the highest number of followers, likes, and engagement rate among the four other influencers, which makes her number one. Tassy's content also has many advantages such as: (1) Emphasizing attractive visual aspects by paying attention to lighting settings and shooting angles that highlight the beauty of nature; (2) Editing effects with a minimalist style to make the content more pleasing to the eye; (3) Selection of music or background sound that is currently viral so that it attracts the attention of the audience; (4) Clever speaking in videos so that the audience feels there is interaction with the content creator, so they feel provoked and encouraged to provide comments or reactions; (5) Using language that is easy to understand and the use of voice over features that give a pleasant impression in conveying information.



Source: (TikTok account @tassy.sy)

Figure 1 Electronic Word of Mouth Labuan Bajo TikTok content @tassy.sy

Tassy is a 21-year-old TikTok content creator who loves traveling to several tourist destinations in Indonesia ranging from Labuan Bajo, Sumbawa, Gili Trawangan, Lombok, Raja Ampat, Bromo, Bali, Toraja, Bangka Belitung, and many more. When viewed from some of the content on TikTok, Labuan Bajo is the most favorite destination, as evidenced by the frequency of visits and the boat that Tassy has just bought to be able to enjoy the natural beauty around Labuan Bajo.

The image above is one type of content promoted by the @tassy.sy account on TikTok, namely about Labuan Bajo tourist destination. This content aims to provide reviews about Labuan Bajo tourist destination so that they can be seen and provide benefits to TikTok users or followers. Designed into a creative and refreshing content to attract the attention of followers, this content consists of several categories such as A Day in My Life, culinary exploration, OOTD content, Q&A, recommendations (lodging, restaurants), travel budget, ship reviews, and others. Labuan Bajo content created by the @tassy.sy account always reaches millions of viewers or impressions, thus it can be seen that the potential interest of people to visit and enjoy Labuan Bajo as a tourist destination can be influenced by recommendations or reviews shared by content creators.

Based on the content of Labuan Bajo that is currently developing, it can certainly lead to electronic word of mouth which influences visiting interest. Electronic word of mouth is published in the form of consumer reviews in the form of video content, blogs, or discussion forums between fellow consumers who interact with each other, where it is continuous with the content of Labuan Bajo. Electronic word of mouth published on the TikTok platform allows content creators to convey information or reviews of a product with the experience and knowledge gained after visiting Labuan Bajo, which in this research is a video review content of tourist destinations published through the TikTok application for users or followers to see.

Besides electronic word of mouth in terms of content, support from celebrity endorsers as transmitters of messages or information is really needed. According to (Romdhoni et al., 2022), the use of celebrity endorsers is very popular because messages delivered through attractive sources can attract greater attention and are easier for consumers to remember. A celebrity endorser is a well-known individual or someone who has expertise, awareness, and attractiveness who can send messages about a product with the aim of attracting consumer attention in a short time and increasing consumer interest in buying the product (Novta et al., 2022).

Using celebrity endorsers in the tourism industry is nothing new. In 2020, to revive Indonesia's tourism sector which experienced a decline due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Anjani Trip collaborated with six of the most popular influencers to take a tourist trip to Labuan Bajo, East Nusa Tenggara. The six influencers are Sabian Tama, son of Wishnutama who was the former Minister of Tourism and Creative Economy in the Advanced Indonesia Cabinet (2019–2020), Awkarin, Keanu, Eri Carl, Dara Arafah, and Sarah Gibson. This aims to support the government in encouraging the spirit of the #BackTourism movement (Hasbullah, 2020).

The existence of Tassy as a content creator as well as a celebrity endorser can influence the interest in visiting Generation Z in Indonesia to come to Labuan Bajo with the aim of promoting increased domestic tourist visits. According to (Trihayuningtyas et al., 2019), Generation Z has a high affinity with digital technology so they are often dependent on doing many things, including looking for information about tourism. Generation Z feels that tourism has become a psychological need for them, the availability of digital platforms as information media makes it easier for them to fulfill all information needs related to tourist destinations and preparation for tourism activities that will be carried out.

Researchers chose Labuan Bajo as the object of research to be studied because it is included in the list of five super-priority destinations of the Kemenparekraf program. However, among the five super-priority destinations, Labuan Bajo is still considered difficult to become a large tourist area, because it still requires large costs to carry out proper development. The number of domestic tourist visits to Labuan Bajo is still relatively small when compared to foreign tourists, so Sandiaga as Minister of Tourism asked Gen Z to promote Labuan Bajo through social media such as TikTok.

This is based on the characteristics of Generation Z who have a tendency to express themselves, one of which is by sharing photos on social media. Sandiaga sees that Gen Z is very familiar with social media like TikTok. Coupled with the creative content that is often made, so that it can attract the attention of tourists (Fauziah, 2023). By referring to the Source Credibility theory which states that the credibility of the message source is a stimulus that influences changes in a person's behavior, this study was conducted. The research aims to determine the influence of electronic word of mouth (E-WOM) on Labuan Bajo content and celebrity endorsers on TikTok account @tassy.sy on Generation Z's visiting interest.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research uses the method of explanatory quantitative. The research population was followers of the TikTok account @tassy.sy and a sample of 100 respondents was taken. Samples were obtained using the purposive sampling method. Data collection uses a questionnaire in the form of a Google Form which is distributed via the TikTok social media network. This research uses two independent variables, namely electronic word of mouth (X1) and celebrity endorser (X2), as well as one dependent variable, namely interest in visiting (Y). Data analysis used multiple linear regression with the help of SPSS Version 29 software.

The measurement of each variable uses statements, each of which has four answer choices, namely; strongly agree (SS) with a value of 4, agree (S) with a value of 3, disagree (TS) with a value of 2, and strongly disagree (STS) with a value of 1. The indicators that are statement items for each variable are as follows:

1. Electronic word of mouth, (Goyette et al., 2010) provides 8 indicators consisting of; a) Frequency of accessing information related to Labuan Bajo, b) Frequency of interaction with other users/followers related to Labuan Bajo, c) Number of reviews written regarding Labuan Bajo, d) Positive comments related to Labuan Bajo, e) Recommendations related to Labuan Bajo, f) Information (tourist destinations, estimated costs, quality of facilities) in Labuan Bajo.

- 2. Celebrity endorser, (Shimp, 2014) provides 8 indicators consisting of; a) Celebrity endorsers have honesty in conveying Labuan Bajo information, b) Celebrity endorsers have integrity in conveying Labuan Bajo information, c) Celebrity endorsers have knowledge in conveying Labuan Bajo information, d) Celebrity endorsers have skills in conveying Labuan Bajo information, e) Celebrity endorsers have experience in conveying Labuan Bajo information, f) Celebrity endorsers have beautiful faces, g) Celebrity endorsers have an attractive appearance, h) Celebrity endorsers have their own character.
- 3. Visiting interest, (Ferdinand, 2002) provides 8 indicators consisting of; a) The individual's tendency to visit Labuan Bajo, b) The individual's tendency to recommend Labuan Bajo to others, c) The individual's tendency to invite other people to Labuan Bajo, d) The individual's feeling of liking to be the main preference or choice regarding Labuan Bajo information, e) Individual tendency to seek more information about Labuan Bajo.

Validity test

Testing the validity of the measurement instrument using exploratory factor analysis (EFA) has been declared valid. The assumptions used in factor analysis with a KMO value >0.50 have been fulfilled, namely (0.849), which can be seen in Table 2. In addition, Bartlett's Test of Sphericity (<0.01) has met the standard significance value, namely less than 0.05 (Intyaswati, 2023).

Table 2 KMO and Bartlett's Test Values

KMO and Bartlett's Test					
Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy ,8					
Bartlett's Test of	953,369				
Sphericity	276				
	Sig.	<.001			

Source: (Research Data Analysis, 2024)

Table 3 Anti-Image Correlation Measures Values of Sampling Adequacy (MSA)

				ItemsY	
ItemsVariable Statement X1	r MSA (X1)	ItemsVariable Statement X2	r MSA (X2)	Variable Statement	r MSA (Y)
EWOM.1	0.890a	CELEB.1	0.815a	INTEREST.1	0.898a
EWOM .2	0.807a	CELEB .2	0.869a	INTEREST .2	0.871a
EWOM .3	0.910a	CELEB .3	0.813a	INTEREST .3	0.859a
EWOM .4	0.737a	CELEB .4	0.844a	INTEREST .4	0.854a
EWOM .5	0.934a	CELEB .5	0.822a	INTEREST .5	0.874a
EWOM .6	0.832a	CELEB .6	0.815a	INTEREST .6	0.783a
EWOM .7	0.820a	CELEB .7	0.861a	INTEREST .7	0.853a
8. MOW3	0.869a	CELEB .8	0.864a	INTEREST .8	0.890a

Source: (Research Data Analysis, 2024)

Based on Table 3, it is known that all measurement items for each variable have an MSA anti-image correlation value that meets the established standards, namely a value greater than 0.50.

Table 4 Communality Values

Communalities					
	Initial	Extraction			
EWOM.1	1,000	,763			
EWOM .2	1,000	,761			
EWOM .3	1,000	,746			
EWOM .4	1,000	,748			
EWOM .5	1,000	,913			
EWOM .6	1,000	,859			
EWOM .7	1,000	,801			
8. MOW3	1,000	,867			
CELEB.1	1,000	,908			
CELEB .2	1,000	,729			
CELEB .3	1,000	,739			
CELEB .4	1,000	,827			
CELEB .5	1,000	,813			
CELEB .6	1,000	,759			
CELEB .7	1,000	,756			
CELEB .8	1,000	,788			
INTEREST.1	1,000	,949			
INTEREST .2	1,000	,836			
INTEREST .3	1,000	,870			
INTEREST .4	1,000	,890			
INTEREST .5	1,000	,869			
INTEREST .6	1,000	,897			
INTEREST .7	1,000	,886			
INTEREST .8	1,000	,846			

Source: (Research Data Analysis, 2024)

Table 4 shows that the Communalities value from EFA has met the specified standard value, namely more than 0.50. Furthermore, Table 5 shows the results of grouping factors using the Component Transformation Matrix which explains that each variable with its measurement items declared valid is grouped into three variables.

Table 5 Grouping of Component Transformation Matrix Factors

	Information			
Components				
1 (X1)	,672	,558	,487	Valid
2 (X2)	740	,510	,438	Valid
3 (Y)	004	655	,755	Valid

Source: (Research Data Analysis, 2024)

Based on the results of the Component Transformation Matrix above, it shows that as a result of varimax rotation a total of 3 factors (variables) are formed, namely: electronic word of mouth, celebrity endorser, and interest in visiting. The statement items included in the factor grouping calculation are statement items that meet the requirements of the factor validity test criteria, namely KMO, Barlett's Test of Sphericity, MSA, and communality. Each factor is included in a group that represents the number of existing variables.

As component 1 (Variable X1) has a correlation result of 0.672>0.5, component 2 (Variable The final result has 24 statement items containing 8 items of variable X1, 8 items of variable X2, and 8 items of variable Y which are declared valid. Valid statement items will be used by researchers to collect data at the next stage.

Reliability Test

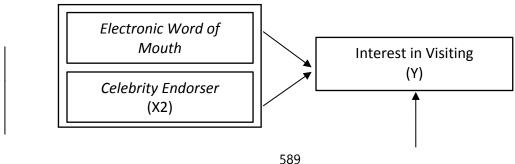
Table 6 Reliability Test Results

	Reliability Statistics						
Variable	Cronbach's Alpha	Number of items					
X1	0.950	8					
X2	0.946	8					
у	0.950	8					

Source: (Research Data Analysis, 2024)

The results of the measurement reliability test can be seen in Table 6, the Cronbach's Alpha value for each variable has met the established standards, namely greater than 0.6. Electronic word of mouth (X1) produces a Cronbach's Alpha value of 0.950, celebrity endorser (X2) of 0.946, and interest in visiting (Y) of 0.950. It can be concluded that the measurements of the three research variables are declared reliable.

Framework of thinking



Research Hypothesis

H0: There is no positive and significant influence from electronic word of mouth on visiting interest.

- H1: There is a positive and significant influence of electronic word of mouth on visiting interest.
- H0: There is no positive and significant influence from celebrity endorsers on visiting interest.
- H2: There is a positive and significant influence from celebrity endorsers on visiting interest.
- H0: There is no positive and significant influence on the interaction between electronic word of mouth and celebrity endorsers on visiting interest.
- H3: There is a positive and significant influence on the interaction between electronic word of mouth and celebrity endorsers on visiting interest.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 7. Normality Test Results

One-Sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov Test

		Unstandardized Residuals
N		100
Normal Parameters a, b	Mean	.0000000
	Std. Deviation	1.12567997
Most Extreme Differences	Absolute	,086
	Positive	0.79
	negative	086
Statistical Tests		0.86
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed) c		,065

Source: (Research Data Analysis, 2024)

Research data analysis was conducted using multiple linear regression analysis with the SPSS 29 application. The initial stage of the research was an evaluation of the classical assumptions that must be met in the regression analysis. Table 7 shows the results of the normality test on the results of the regression analysis, and the normality assumption has been met with a significance value of 0.065 (> 0.05).

Table 8 shows the results of the multicollinearity test where the Tolerance value of Value amounting to 0.149 in the electronic word of mouth (X1) and celebrity endorser (X2) variables. Apart from that, the VIF (Variance Inflation Factor) value shows a result of 6.713 for the electronic word of mouth (X1) and celebrity endorser (X2) variables. These results indicate that the Tolerance of the value of each independent variable is greater than >0.1, and the VIF value of each is smaller than 10. The standard criteria have been met, so it is stated that there is no multicollinearity problem in the two independent variables in this study.

Table 8 Multicollinearity Test Results

Coefficients								
Model		ndardized fficients	Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.	Collinea Statisti	•	
-	В	Std. Error	Beta			Tolerance	VIF	
(Constant)	1,146	,793		1,445	,152			
E-WOM	,413	,072	,429	5,730	<.001	,149	6,713	
Celebrity	,553	,075	,549	7,338	<.001	,149	6,713	
Endorser								

a. Dependent Variable: Interest in Visiting

Source: (Research Data Analysis, 2024)

The results of the heteroscedasticity test can be seen in Table 9. The decision-making criteria are obtained from the Glejser test value, if the significance value is more than 0.05, it means that there are no symptoms of heteroscedasticity. It can be seen from the table that the significant value of the electronic word-of-mouth variable (X1) is 0.912 and the celebrity endorser (X2) shows a value of 0.787. So, it can be concluded that the two variables in this study do not experience symptoms of heteroscedasticity because the significance value is more than 0.05.

Table 9 Heteroscedasticity Test Results

Coefficients								
	Unstar	ndardized	Standardized					
Model	Coe	fficients	Coefficients		t	Sig.		
	В	Std. Error	Beta					
(Constant)	1,051	,537			1,958	,053		
E-WOM	,005	,049		,029	,110	,912		
Celebrity	014	,051		071	271	,787		
Endorser								

a. Dependent Variable: RES2

Source: (Research Data Analysis, 2024)

Based on Table 10, it is known that electronic word of mouth has a positive and significant effect on Visiting Interest, with a value of 0.703 (p < 0.001). Likewise, there is a positive and significant influence from celebrity endorsers on Visiting Interest with a value of 0.833 (p < 0.001). These findings form the basis for accepting H1 and H2. Meanwhile, the interaction between electronic word of mouth and celebrity endorsers significantly influences visiting interest with a value of (-0.013) with a significance of less than 0.05, which means it has a negative influence. These results are the basis for rejecting H3. This negative influence means that when someone jointly gains knowledge from celebrity endorser content and accesses

electronic word of mouth related to Labuan Bajo, the elaboration of these two messages does not increase interest in visiting Labuan Bajo. Based on the standard coefficient value, it was found that the influence of celebrity endorsers (0.827) on visiting interest was greater than the influence of electronic word of mouth (0.729).

Table 10. Results of Multiple Regression Analysis

Coefficients							
	Unstar	ndardized	Standardized				
Model	Coef	ficients	Coefficients	t	Sig.		
	В	Std. Error	Beta				
(Constant)	-4,776	2,661		-1,795	,076		
E-WOM	,703	.143	,729	4,912	<.001		
Celebrity Endorser	,833	.141	,827	.5903	<.001		
X1_X2	013	,005	571	2,327	,022		
a. Dependent Variable: Interest in Visiting							

Source: (Research Data Analysis, 2024)

Table 11 shows that the coefficient of determination obtained is 92.3%, meaning that the Electronic word-of-mouth variable (X1) and the Celebrity Endorser variable (X2) have an influence of 92.3% on the Interest in Visiting variable (Y), while the remaining 7.7% is influenced by other independent variables.

Table 11. Coefficient of Determination

Model Summary b							
Model	D	R Square	Adjusted R	Std. Error of the			
Model	r.	K Square	Square	Estimate			
1	.961a	,923	,921	1,112			

a. Predictors: (Constant, X1_X2, Celebrity Endorser, E-WOM)

Source: (Research Data Analysis, 2024)

Electronic Word of Mouth on Visiting Interest

The research results show that electronic word of mouth has a significant effect on interest in visiting. These results are in line with previous research conducted by (Doosti et al., 2016);(Wang, 2015); (Thao et al., 2023); (Abubakar et al., 2017); (Witarsyah & Hasanah, 2023); (Nechoud et al., 2021); (Alsheikh et al., 2021); (Choirisa et al., 2021); (Abubakar & Ilkan, 2016); (Auliya & Pertiwi, 2020); (Thaothampitak & Wongsuwatt, 2022); (Krishnapillai & Ying, 2017), which found that electronic word of mouth will increase someone's interest in visiting.

These findings are able to prove that the higher the level of information from a trusted source, the more positive impression it will have on potential visitors, the more tourists will be interested in visiting. These findings can answer the problem and can be utilized by the

Ministry of Tourism, Generation Z, celebrity endorsers (influencers, content creators, travel bloggers, and public figures), as well as online tours to provide information regarding the promotion of the Labuan Bajo tourist destination which is packaged into interesting content so that the number of domestic and foreign tourist visits increases.

Celebrity Endorser on Visiting Interest

The research results show that celebrity endorser has a significant effect on interest in visiting. This is in line with previous research conducted by(van der Veen & Song, 2014); (Windya Giri & Alfaruqi, 2023); (Chaddha et al., 2021); (Liu et al., 2023); (Putri et al., 2023); (Ferreira et al., 2022) that found celebrity endorsers will increase someone's interest in visiting.

These findings prove that the higher the trust, expertise, and attractiveness of a celebrity endorser, the more influence their attitude will have on potential visitors and increase tourist interest in visiting. Attitudes and perceptions will increase if the celebrity endorser is their idol. These findings can address problems and can be used by influencers, content creators, and public figures to increase the intensity of publishing content related to Labuan Bajo through videos packaged into interesting content. Additionally, influencers can provide persuasive responses or invitations to followers, including Gen Z, who comment in the comments section of content uploads, so that they can be more inclusive and increase closeness.

Source Credibility Theory

The research results show that electronic word-of-mouth Labuan Bajo content and celebrity endorsers on the TikTok account @tassy.sy have a significant influence on visiting interest using source credibility theory. This is in line with previous research conducted by(Kapoor et al., 2020); (Ismagilova et al., 2020); (Hussain et al., 2017); (Aljabari et al., 2023); (Weismueller et al., 2020).

These findings are able to prove that the higher the communicator's credibility, the more effective it will be in changing someone's opinions and attitudes. The main key of electronic word of mouth is an opinion leader, namely a person who has the power to influence a decision (influencer). As with the Labuan Bajo content created and uploaded by the TikTok account @tassy.sy, this content aims to provide reviews about the Labuan Bajo tourist destination so that it can be seen and provide benefits to TikTok users or followers.

An influencer is considered trustworthy if he is an expert in his field. As a content creator in the travel sector, Tassy always builds a different image compared to other content creators, both in terms of clothing, delivery method, variety of content presented, choice of color grading, and footage used. By relying on your expertise, trust, and attractiveness, viewers will be interested in continuing to view, share, and provide likes or comments on uploaded Labuan Bajo content.

CONCLUSION

The results of the study which looked at the influence of the relationship between the research variables are as follows; there is a positive and significant influence of both electronic

word of mouth and celebrity endorsers on the TikTok account @tassy.sy regarding Generation Z's interest in visiting Labuan Bajo. However, simultaneous access to electronic word of mouth and celebrity endorsers on the TikTok account @tassy.sy is unlikely to increase interest in visiting. The contribution of celebrity endorsers to visiting interest is greater than the influence of electronic word of mouth.

The contribution of electronic word of mouth and celebrity endorsers to visiting interest is quite large, namely 92.3%. These findings can be a reference that the role of celebrity endorsers on social media can be increased, especially to participate in development in the tourism sector. The interaction of celebrity endorsers with their followers (Generation Z) through uploading their content has been proven to contribute to promoting the products and content created. Generation Z, with their social media activities, can become agents who contribute to promoting the tourism sector through electronic word of mouth on their social networks.

REFERENCES

- Abubakar, A. M., & Ilkan, M. (2016). Impact of Online WOM on Destination Trust and Intention to Travel: A Medical Tourism Perspective. *Journal of Destination Marketing & Management*, *5*(3), 192–201. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jdmm.2015.12.005
- Abubakar, A. M., Ilkan, M., Meshall Al-Tal, R., & Eluwole, K. K. (2017). eWOM, Revisit Intention, Destination Trust and Gender. *Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management*, *31*, 220–227. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jhtm.2016.12.005
- Agustina, L., Fayardi, A. O., & Irwansyah, I. (2018). Online Review: Indikator Penilaian Kredibilitas Online dalam Platform E-commerce. *Jurnal ILMU KOMUNIKASI*, *15*(2), 141–154. https://doi.org/10.24002/jik.v15i2.1320
- Aljabari, M. A., Joudeh, J. M., Aljumah, A. I., Al-Gasawneh, J., & Daoud, M. K. (2023). The Impact of Website Quality on Online Purchase Intention: The Mediating Effect of e-WOM, Jordan Context. *International Journal of Professional Business Review, 8*(6), e02143. https://doi.org/10.26668/businessreview/2023.v8i6.2143
- Alsheikh, D. H., Abd Aziz, N., & Alsheikh, L. H. (2021). The Impact of Electronic Word of Mouth on Tourists Visit Intention to Saudi Arabia: Argument Quality and Source Credibility as Mediators. *African Journal of Hospitality, Tourism and Leisure, 10(4)*(10(4)), 1152–1168. https://doi.org/10.46222/ajhtl.19770720.154
- Annur, C. M. (2023, Mei 24). *Pengguna TikTok di Indonesia Terbanyak Kedua di Dunia per April 2023, Nyaris Salip AS?* Databoks.katadata.co.id. https://databoks.katadata.co.id/datapublish/2023/05/24/pengguna-tiktok-di-indonesia-terbanyak-kedua-di-dunia-per-april-2023-nyaris-salip-as
- Ardin, A. (2024, Januari 7). *Lampaui Target, 423.847 Turis Kunjungi Labuan Bajo Sepanjang 2023.* Detik.com. https://www.detik.com/bali/wisata/d-7129064/lampaui-target-423-847-turis-kunjungi-labuan-bajo-sepanjang-2023
- Auliya, Z. F., & Pertiwi, I. F. P. (2020). The Influence of Electronic Word of Mouth (E

- WOM) and Travel Motivation toward the Interest in Visiting Lombok, Gender as a Mediator. *INFERENSI: Jurnal Penelitian Sosial Keagamaan*, *13*(2), 201–218. https://doi.org/10.18326/infsl3.v13i2.201-218
- Chaddha, P., Agarwal, Dr. B., & Zareen, Dr. A. (2021). Investigating the Impact of Celebrity Endorsement on Consumers' Purchase Intention towards Online Travel Service Industry in India. *Turkish Journal of Computer and Mathematics Education*, *12*(11), 6138–6147.
- Choirisa, S. F., Purnamaningsih, P., & Alexandra, Y. (2021). The Effect of E-WOM on Destination Image and Attitude Towards to the Visit Intention in Komodo National Park, Indonesia. *Journal of Tourism Destination and Attraction*, *9*(1), 49–60. https://doi.org/10.35814/tourism.v9i1.1876
- Daugherty, T., & Hoffman, E. (2014). eWOM and the Importance of Capturing
 Consumer Attention within Social Media. *Journal of Marketing Communications*, 20(1–2), 82–102. https://doi.org/10.1080/13527266.2013.797764
- Doosti, S., Jalilvand, M. R., Asadi, A., Khazaei Pool, J., & Mehrani Adl, P. (2016). Analyzing the Influence of Electronic Word of Mouth on Visit Intention: the Mediating Role of Tourists' Attitude and City Image. *International Journal of Tourism Cities*, 2(2), 137–148. https://doi.org/10.1108/IJTC-12-2015-0031
- Fauziah, N. (2023, Mei 11). Sandiaga Uno Ajak Gen Z Promosikan Labuan Bajo Melalui Medsos. Idxchannel.com. https://www.idxchannel.com/economics/sandiaga-uno-ajak-gen-z-promosikan-labuan-bajo-melalui-medsos
- Ferdinand, A. (2002). *Pengembangan Minat Beli Merek Ekstensi* (Vol. 3). Semarang: Badan Penerbit Universitas Diponegoro.
- Ferreira, S., Santos, S., & Santo, P. E. (2022). *How Creativity and Celebrity Trust Promotes Intention to Visit a Destination* (hlm. 689–700). https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-89735-2 56
- Goyette, I., Ricard, L., Bergeron, J., & Marticotte, F. (2010). E-WOM Scale: Word of Mouth Measurement Scale for e-Services Context. *Canadian Journal of Administrative Sciences*, 27(1), 5–23. https://doi.org/10.1002/cjas.129
- Hasbullah. (2020, Agustus 24). *Bangkitkan Pariwisata Indonesia, Anjani Trip Gandeng Influencer Sambangi Labuan Bajo*. Timesindonesia.co.id. https://timesindonesia.co.id/wisata/292489/bangkitkan-pariwisata-indonesia-anjanitrip-gandeng-influencer-sambangi-labuan-bajo
- Hendriyani, I. G. A. D. (2022, Oktober 31). SIARAN PERS: Kunjungan Wisatawan ke

 Labuan Bajo NTT Ditargetkan 1,5 juta Per Tahun. Kemenparekraf.go.id.

 https://kemenparekraf.go.id/berita/siaran-pers-kunjungan-wisatawan-ke-labuan-bajo-ntt-ditargetkan-15-juta-per-tahun
- Hussain, S., Ahmed, W., Jafar, R. M. S., Rabnawaz, A., & Jianzhou, Y. (2017). eWOM Source Credibility, Perceived Risk and Food Product Customer's Information Adoption. *Computers in Human Behavior, 66*, 96–102. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chb.2016.09.034

- Indriyani, N. E., & Artanti, Y. (2020). Peran Citra Destinasi, E-WOM, dan Travel Constraints pada Niat Berkunjung Wisata Pantai di Kota Surabaya, Jawa Timur. *JRMSI Jurnal Riset Manajemen Sains Indonesia*, *11*(2), 260–281. https://doi.org/10.21009/JRMSI.011.2.04
- Intyaswati, D. (2023). STATISTIK SOSIAL Pengujian Hipotesis Dengan Aplikasi SPSS.
- Indraswari, D. L. (2023, Januari 7). *Menanti Hasil Transformasi Labuan Bajo Sebagai Destinasi Wisata Superprioritas*. Kompas.id. https://www.kompas.id/baca/riset/2023/01/07/menanti-hasil-transformasi-labuan-bajo-sebagai-destinasi-wisata-super-prioritas
- Ismagilova, E., Slade, E., Rana, N. P., & Dwivedi, Y. K. (2020). The Effect of Characteristics of Source Credibility on Consumer Behaviour: A Meta-Analysis. *Journal of Retailing and Consumer Services*, *53*, 101736. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jretconser.2019.01.005
- Kapoor, P. S., Jayasimha, K. R., Sadh, A., & Gunta, S. (2020). eWOM via Social Networking Site: Source versus Message Credibility. *International Journal of Internet Marketing and Advertising*, *14*(1), 19. https://doi.org/10.1504/IJIMA.2020.106043
- Krishnapillai, G., & Ying, K. S. (2017). The Influence of Electronic Word of Mouth on Travel Intention among Foreign Students in Malaysia: Does Gender Really Matter? *International Review of Management and Marketing*, 7(1), 475–483.
- Liu, B., Moyle, B., Kralj, A., & Li, Y. (2023). Celebrity Endorsement in Tourism: Attention, Emotional Arousal and Familiarity. *Tourism Management*, *98*, 104750. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tourman.2023.104750
- Nechoud, L., Ghidouche, F., & Seraphin, H. (2021). The Influence of eWOM Credibility on Visit Intention: An Integrative Moderated Mediation Model. *Journal of Tourism, Heritage & Services Marketing (JTHSM), 7*(1), 54–63.
- Novta, A., Liestiandre, H. K., & Aridayanti, D. A. N. (2022). Pengaruh Celebrity Endorser dan Citra Destinasi Terhadap Minat Berkunjung Wisatawan di Destinasi Wisata Ubud. *Jurnal Kepariwisataan*, *21*(1), 37–45. https://doi.org/10.52352/jpar.v21i1.604
- Putri, N. N. E. C. A., Dianasari, D. A. M. L., & Subrata, I. M. (2023). The Influence of Celebrity Endorsers On Social Media On Tourists' Visiting Interest In Melasti Beach Bali. *Journal of Applied Sciences in Tourism Destination*, *1*(1), 53–61.
- Romdhoni, A. H., Sumadi, S., & Firdaus, T. A. (2022). Pengaruh Celebrity Endorser, Label Halal dan Kualitas Terhadap Minat Beli Konsumen Produk Pasta Gigi Halal Sasha Siwak di Surakarta. *Jurnal Ilmiah Ekonomi Islam, 8*(2), 2261. https://doi.org/10.29040/jiei.v8i2.5556
- Shimp, T. A. (2014). *Komunikasi Pemasaran Terpadu dalam periklanan dan Promosi.* (8th ed.). Jakarta: Salemba Empat.
- Thao, D. T., Caldicott, R. W., & Kamal, M. A. (2023). Electronic Word of Mouth (Ewom) and the Travel Intention of Social Networkers Post-COVID-19: A Vietnam Case. *International Journal of Professional Business Review*, 8(11), e03856. https://doi.org/10.26668/businessreview/2023.v8i11.3856
- Thaothampitak, W., & Wongsuwatt, S. (2022). The Effect of e-WOM on Foreign Students' Travel Intention Related to Visiting Tourism Destinations along Thailand's Andaman Coast in

- the Wake of the COVID-19 Pandemic: Mediating Roles of Destination Image. *Journal of Community Development Research (Humanities and Social Sciences), 15*(1), 62–75.
- Trihayuningtyas, E., Wulandari, W., Adriani, Y., & Sarasvati, S. (2019). Media Sosial Sebagai Sarana Informasi dan Promosi Pariwisata Bagi Generasi Z di Kabupaten Garut. *Tourism Scientific Journal*, *4*(1), 1. https://doi.org/10.32659/tsj.v4i1.46
- van der Veen, R., & Song, H. (2014). Impact of the Perceived Image of Celebrity Endorsers on Tourists' Intentions to Visit. *Journal of Travel Research*, *53*(2), 211–224. https://doi.org/10.1177/0047287513496473
- Wang, P. (2015). Exploring the Influence of Electronic Word of Mouth on Tourists' Visit Intention. *Journal of Systems and Information Technology*, *17*(4), 381–395. https://doi.org/10.1108/JSIT-04-2015-0027
- Weismueller, J., Harrigan, P., Wang, S., & Soutar, G. N. (2020). Influencer Endorsements: How Advertising Disclosure and Source Credibility Affect Consumer Purchase Intention on Social Media. *Australasian Marketing Journal*, *28*(4), 160–170. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ausmj.2020.03.002
- Windya Giri, R. R., & Alfaruqi, F. F. (2023). The Effect Of Endorser Credibility On Purchase Intention Mediated By Brand Attitude And Brand Credibility On Online Travel Agent Traveloka. *Jurnal Manajemen Indonesia*, *23*(2), 209. https://doi.org/10.25124/jmi.v23i2.4295
- Witarsyah, N. A., & Hasanah, Y. N. (2023). Analysis of e-WOM and Destination Image on Visit Intention. *Almana: Jurnal Manajemen dan Bisnis, 7*(3), 421–430. https://doi.org/10.36555/almana.v7i3.1790