The Impact of Tourism on Social Cohesion. Caibarién, Cuba. The paper presents an analysis of a participatory study of the impacts of tourism on social cohesion and the public policies which have contributed to reduce the negative effects. According to the participants, the main impacts of tourism on social cohesion are related to employment and income, infrastructure development, and environmental conservation. However, problems associated with economic differences, deterioration of social values, changes in patterns of behavior and leaving jobs in different sectors in order to turn to tourism was also observed. The most interesting result was that the public policies implemented by the Cuban Social Project helped to minimize the negative impacts of tourism.

KEYWORDS: tourism, social cohesion, impacts, public policy, communities.