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The Global Partnership for Sustainable Tourism

Le Partenariat mondial pour le Tourisme durable

Глобальное партнерство по устойчивому туризму

La Asociación Mundial para el Turismo Sostenible

Newsletter

No 3 – December 2010

www.unep.fr/tourism/partnership



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I. HIGHLIGHTS

NEWSLETTER

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Green Passport Campaign to combat climate change

One month before the UN Climate Convention meeting in Cancun, Mexico, UNEP released online case studies to show that



solutions to climate change are available; can be easily adopted and scaled up around the world. The examples are just the tip of the iceberg, which highlight the success of existing climate initiatives and programmes.

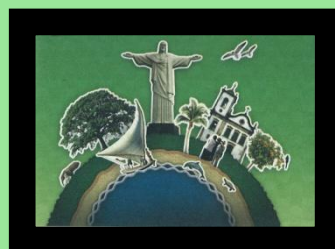
UNEP's aim is to show that there are a myriad of solutions available across the world to help confront the challenges of climate change and to help countries, communities and businesses move towards low-emission, climate-resilient growth; from community-based programmes to entrepreneurial actions.

One of the case studies featured is the "Green Passport – Holidays for a living Planet" - a UNEP coordinated initiative of the Global Partnership for Sustainable Tourism. It was launched under the International Task Force on Sustainable Tourism Development (ITF-STD), the predecessor to The Global Partnership. The Green Passport Campaign encourages travellers to make tourism sustainable choices.

Further information: www.unep.org/unite/30ways

Brazilian Green Passport Campaign wins prestigious advertising award

The Brazilian Green Passport campaign has been so successful that it was recently recognized by one of the country's most prominent advertising prizes – the Colunista Award.



► [Watch the video](http://il.youtube.com/watch?v=SieXTZuKmHM)

(<http://il.youtube.com/watch?v=SieXTZuKmHM>)

Launch of the Global Partnership for Sustainable Tourism



The first Annual General Meeting of the Global Partnership for Sustainable Tourism will take place from 17 – 19 January 2011 in Costa Rica. The meeting is kindly hosted by the Ministry of Tourism of Costa Rica and jointly organized with the French Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development, Transport and Housing, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and with the support of the Government of Norway. In addition, a one day back-to-back workshop on 17 January 2011 on "Sustainable Tourism Policies and Strategies for a Green Economy" will allow members and interested parties to share knowledge and be informed of the latest research on tourism and sustainability.

I. HIGHLIGHTS

World Tourism Day celebrations

The official 2010 World Tourism Day (WTD) celebrations on 27 September, underscored the need for increased action by the global tourism sector – as one of the world’s leading economic activities – towards the preservation of biological diversity.

A High Level Dialogue on Tourism Biodiversity and Sustainable Development provided an important platform, which debated how tourism can contribute positively to biodiversity conservation and the quality of life of local populations, while minimizing potentially negative environmental and social impacts.

A call was made on the tourism sector to generate momentum and accelerate progress towards the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. UNWTO Secretary-General, Taleb Rifai, underlined the value of life on Earth to the long-term sustainability of tourism. Among the main conclusions of the WTD celebrations was the need for the tourism sector, including governments, the private sector, intergovernmental organizations and civil society, to assume a collective responsibility for conserving biological diversity and implementing global targets. The publication: Tourism and Biodiversity – Achieving Common Goals Towards Sustainability was issued by UNWTO on this occasion.



The conclusions of the WTD were presented at a side event to the Tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 10) held in Japan in late October 2010, where the Global Partnership for Sustainable Tourism was also presented, receiving a very positive response.

UNWTO publication to come: Practical guides for the development of biodiversity-based tourism products

NGOs engage UNWTO on human right



Campaigning groups Tourism Concern (UK) and Tourism Watch (Germany) met with the UNWTO Secretary-General, Taleb Rifai, to push for further action in addressing the human rights impacts of tourism and to urge for increased opportunities for NGO participation. The two groups visited the UNWTO on behalf of the European Tourism Network (TEN) and its Thailand-based partner, the Ecumenical Coalition on Tourism (ECOT). Both networks are campaigning for the improved implementation of the UNWTO’s Global Code of Ethics for Tourism as a means to safeguard human rights, as well as for greater opportunities for civil society organizations, representing communities negatively affected by tourism, to participate in UNWTO processes.

“We are delighted at the UNWTO’s stated commitment to more actively push human rights amongst its members and to explore new ways of collaborating with civil society. This is vital if the voices of marginalised communities, whose rights are being violated by tourism, are to be heard and if tourism is to be developed in a truly sustainable way”, says Tricia Barnett, Director of Tourism Concern.

Tourism Concern is also commencing a major new programme of research and campaigning to address water inequity in tourism.

I. HIGHLIGHTS

Preserving World Heritage in Central America

Sites like the majestic Mayan ruins of Guatemala's Tikal National Park; Honduras' Río Platano Biosphere Reserve, home to a vast array of flora, fauna and thousands of indigenous people; and Belize's Barrier Reef system, the largest in the Northern Hemisphere, all served as the inspiration for the project "Heritage Tourism, Preserving What is Ours."

The project, led by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Rainforest Alliance and the UN Foundation, with support from the Central American Tourist Integration Secretary (SITCA), and the Costa Rican Tourism Institute (ICT), aims to promote sustainable tourism in and around World Heritage Sites in Central America by building capacity at the local, national and regional levels, and promoting the sharing of innovative solutions between the public and private sectors.

In August of 2009, a workshop was held in Costa Rica with representatives from local governments, tourism boards, NGOs and other key opinion leaders in each of the seven Central American countries. These 30 individuals returned to their homelands, and as a result of the workshop, have trained over 200 stakeholders from 131 government agencies, civil society organizations, indigenous communities, universities, and the private sector, involved directly or indirectly with managing world heritage sites.



For more information about world heritage preservation in Central America, please explore the interactive training tool, *Heritage-based Tourism: Conserving Our Treasures for Tomorrow*, available online in English, Spanish and French at: www.rainforest-alliance.org/tourism/world_heritage/.

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ISO 26000 guidance standard on social responsibility released

The ISO 26000 guidance standard on social responsibility was launched on 1 November in Geneva. It provides guidance to both business and public sector organizations on social responsibility. ISO 26000 is a voluntary guidance standard that is not to be used for certification.

ISO 26000 also refers to initiatives that have been developed by specific sectors, such as tourism, in an effort to address some of the challenges of the industry. In this regard the Global Sustainable Tourism Criteria is highlighted.

[GSTC website](#)

II. HIGHLIGHTS

International Conference for the Korean Demilitarized Zone area Nature, Peace and Local Development

Hosted by the Ministry of Environment, Gangwon-do Province, Gyeonggi-do Province, UNESCO and IUCN, the International Conference on Conservation and Peaceful Use of the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) was held in Goseong, Gangwon-do province from November 11 to 13, 2010. About 250 delegates from domestic agencies, academics, NGOs, UNESCO, UNEP and IUCN attended the conference.

At the conference, participants discussed measures to preserve the ecosystems in the DMZ and ways to enhance local and international cooperation. In addition, on November 13, delegates took part in eco-tourism tours in two DMZ areas. Further information: <http://2010dmz.paforum.or.kr/main/main.html>



UNEP Call for Participation

Global Outlook on Sustainable Consumption and Production

Dear colleagues,

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is developing a Global Outlook on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) Policies. To this end, UNEP is conducting a global survey on SCP among governments, business, and civil society organizations. As a key player in the transition to Sustainable Consumption and Production patterns, we believe that you could make a valuable contribution to this project. We also believe that this will be a good opportunity to ensure visibility and recognition of the valuable contribution your institution is making.

The results of the survey will be presented at the 19th session of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development in May 2011. The Global Outlook report and database will hence become a reference for SCP policies and practices along the whole life cycle of goods and services, and where relevant, highlighting development benefits.

The survey is accessible via <http://www.unep.fr/scp/go/> and the questionnaires are available in English, French, Spanish, Russian and Arabic. We hope that you will be able to make your contribution to the survey and share your institutions' examples on SCP **before 15 December 2010**.

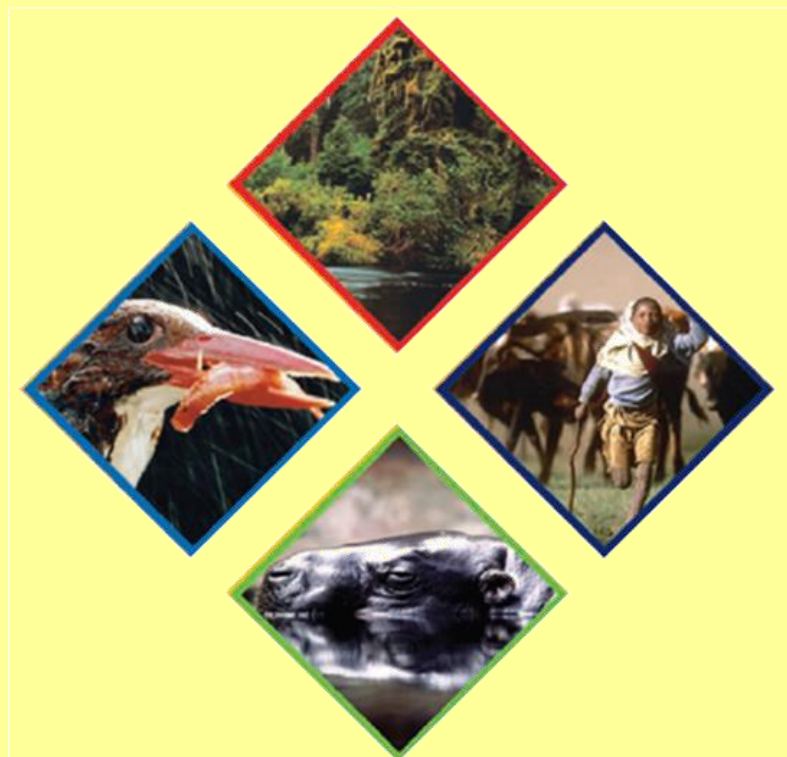
If you have any questions about the survey and report, please feel free to contact Ms. Nicole Polsterer at Nicole.Polsterer@unep.org. We thank you very much for your kind attention and look forward to your involvement in the Global Outlook.

The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) and Sustainable Tourism

Provided by the TEEB team

Many tourism businesses are fully or partially dependent on biodiversity and ecosystem services, whether relating to eco-tourism, beach holidays, skiing, visiting national parks etc. In 2010 the global tourism industry generated about US\$5.7 trillion of value added in 2010 (over 9% of global GDP) and employed around 235 million people directly or indirectly. Tourism is a key export for 83% of developing countries: for the world's 40 poorest countries, it is the second most important source of foreign exchange after oil.ⁱ Whale watching alone was estimated to generate US\$ 2.1 billion per year in 2008, with over 13 million people undertaking the activity in 119 countries.ⁱⁱ Several biodiversity hotspots are experiencing rapid tourism growth: 23 hotspots have seen over 100% growth in tourist arrivals in the last decade.ⁱⁱⁱ

Well-managed tourism can offer a vital source of funding to projects supporting biodiversity and local communities and provide an alternative to more damaging forms of development, such as some types of agriculture, logging, mining or consumptive use of wildlife.



A case study from TEEB showed that in the Republic of the Maldives two of the key economic sectors, Tourism and Fisheries, depend heavily on coastal and marine biodiversity. However with unsustainable fishing practices this vital asset, the “natural capital” of the Maldives, was being eroded with declines of several harvested marine species (i.e. sharks, lobsters, sea cucumbers, reef fish). In response to this, in February 2009, the Republic of Maldives launched a valuation study to capture the true cost-benefit of these two industries. The results showed that in the Maldives, the contribution of tourism was

estimated at 67% of GDP and that tourism employed 64,000 people or 58% of the workforce. In contrast the fishery sector accounted for 8.5% of GDP.

Special report

The valuation showed that single gray reef sharks were valued at US\$ 3,300/year to the tourism industry in contrast to US\$ 32 for a single catch. An initial step as a result of this study has led to a blanket protection for sharks –The Maldives is only the second country in the world to do so. Their valuation determined that protection was in the country’s economic interest, as shark diving tourism is an important source of revenue.

Local and national tourism can directly add value to natural resources through fees paid to park authorities, private companies or in some cases to local communities and through associated benefits and economic opportunities from having more tourists in the region:



A Payment for Ecosystem Services scheme in Japan helped reintroduce the Oriental White Stork. In Toyooka, Japan, the Oriental White Stork, reliant on traditional rice-paddies for hunting, nearly became extinct by modernized rice farming practices. It was reintroduced in 2003 and through a PES (Payment for Ecosystem Services) scheme rice farmers have been encouraged to use compost, organic fertilizers, reduce or use chemical-free pesticides, and flood their paddies deeper; with the result that the stork population has increased to 36.

Stork related tourism is estimated to generate more than US\$ 11 million annually. Visitors include school children, students from China and Russia, farmers and researchers from Korea. Japan’s largest travel agency sells 1,000 package tours to Toyooka every year.^{iv} In Namibia 17% of its territory is designated as Protected Areas with an estimated management cost of US\$ 39.4 million. Annually 540,000 visitors come to the country for their holidays, producing a national benefit from tourism of US\$ 335.6 million- a benefit which outweighs the upkeep of these pristine areas of wilderness.^v In Scotland it is calculated that nesting ospreys (*Pandion haliaetus*) bring an addition US\$ 7 million per year into the area as a result of nature tourism.^{vi}

Eco-tourism is also a burgeoning section of the fast growing tourism sector. As consumers become more environmentally aware their tastes are expanding and they are also choosing to take part in holidays which have less impact on the environment. Ecotourism – “responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and improves the welfare of local people”^{vii}– stipulates that the net impact of travel on the environment and on local people must be positive. The ecotourism sector grew between 20-34% annually during the 1990s.^{viii} One survey indicates that ‘sustainable travelers’ are willing to spend an average of 10% more on travel services and products provided by environmentally responsible tourism.^{ix} This increase in consumer awareness can help local development.



The Federation for Ecuadorian Community Tourism encourages eco-friendly tourism. In a partnership of sixty community-based initiatives comprising indigenous peoples, afro-Ecuadorians, and farmers, the Federation for Ecuadorian Community Tourism (FEPTCE), focuses on encouraging eco-friendly tourism.

Special report

Since its establishment in 2002, participating communities have experienced improved access to health services and education, and increased employment. Reforestation and the protection of native flora and fauna, has improved the environment and biodiversity of 25,000 hectares, which has been used to promote the region's tourism. Conserving biodiversity has permitted the FEPTCE communities to diversify their economy, leading to added income and an improved standard of living^x (www.feptce.org).

The Kaya Kinondo Ecotourism Project in Kenya was set up by local communities to protect the coastal Kaya forests from exploitation and conversion. Local communities view the forests as sacred sites and socio-economic and valuation studies have demonstrated the dependence of local communities on the forests for fuel wood, food, medicinal herbs and building materials. In conjunction with the National Museum of Kenya, local communities set up the Kaya Kinondo Ecotourism Project, which uses local guides to take visitors through the forests. As a result, in 2001 communities around Arabuko Sokoke Forest earned US\$ 37,000 from guiding, beekeeping and butterfly farming.^{xi}

The key to continued growth of this form of tourism is maintenance of natural areas in good condition. This requires reinvestment of some tourism revenues in the protection of ecosystems. TEEB shows that revenue generated through tourism can give direct value to nature i.e. through direct payments to safaris or national parks, and lends itself as a tool for clear valuation of biodiversity and ecosystems, which in turn promotes the maintenance of these services. With careful management, tourism also acts as a catalyst for local and national development and as a motivator for conservation.

About the TEEB study

The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) is a study into the economics of ecosystems and biodiversity to assess the global economic costs of ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss, and to recommend solutions to policy makers, administrators businesses and individuals. The tourism sector is one of the major employers in the world and TEEB has found that tourism can offer multiple benefits to communities, governments and businesses by both acting as a catalyst for the protection of biodiversity and as a stable and burgeoning source of revenue. For more information on TEEB and Tourism please see the TEEB reports available at www.teebweb.org or the website for citizens www.teeb4me.com. The latter will feature article on the topic next month.

ⁱ http://www.mekongtourism.org/site/uploads/media/IETS_Ecotourism_Fact_Sheet_-_Global_1__01.pdf

ⁱⁱ IFAW (2009) Whale watching report. International Fund for Animal Welfare

ⁱⁱⁱ Christ, C.; Hillel, O.; Matus, S. and Sweeting, J. (2003) Tourism and Biodiversity: Mapping tourism's global footprint. Conservation International, Washington, D.C. 20036.

^{iv} TEEB case by K. Hayashi and H. Nishimiya (2010) PES for habitat restoration to reintroduce Oriental White Stork, Japan, available at: [TEEBweb.org](http://www.teebweb.org).

Onuma, A and M. Yamamoto(2009), Economic Analysis of Reintroduction of Oriental White Stork in Toyooka, Hyogo. Mita Journal of Economics, Vol102, No.2.

Toyooka city information

^v Turpie, J.; Barnes, J.; Lange, G.M.; Martin R. (2009) 'The Economic Value of Namibia's Protected Area System: A case for Increased Investment', Report by ANCHOR Environmental, South Africa, p59.

^{vi} Dickie, I.; Hughes, J.; Esteban, A. (2006) 'Watched Like Never Before...the economic benefits of spectacular bird species', RSPB, Sandy, Beds

^{vii} http://www.ecotourism.org/site/c.orLQKXPCLmF/b.4835303/k.BEB9/What_is_Ecotourism__The_International_Ecotourism_Society.htm (source of citation from Mastny 2001).

^{viii} http://www.mekongtourism.org/site/uploads/media/IETS_Ecotourism_Fact_Sheet_-_Global_1__01.pdf

^{ix} CBI (2009a) Long Haul Tourism: The EU market for adventure travel (March).

^x *Equator Initiative Prize 2006* (www.equatorinitiative.org)

^{xi} Gachanja, M. and Kanyanya, E. (2004) 'Conservation of Kenya's Coastal Forests: Social Economic Resources', WWF East African Coastal Forest Ecoregion Programme, Nairobi, Kenya.

Central American Sustainable Tourism Criteria

Sustainable Tourism Criteria have been validated by seven country members of SICA; made up of both the private and public sector with concern for sustainability, climate change, preservation of natural and cultural heritage, and social responsibility of tourism. The criteria were a result from the first regional Forum on Sustainable Tourism, held in Costa Rica in December 2009. The criteria will allow SMEs to promote and develop responsible tourism in the Central American regions.

In addition, a common definition on rural tourism terms was agreed in order to understand and to promote the same meaning for this special segment of tourism which is very important for Central America.

Sustainable Tourism Criteria [SPA](#) | [ENG](#)

Rural Sustainable Tourism: [SPA](#)

Terminology for rural tourism: [ENG](#)



World Congress of Social Tourism 2010

Tourism: the time for social policies

Some 200 delegates from 25 countries met from 19 to 23 September in Rimini, Italy to participate in the World Congress of Social Tourism organized by BITS in partnership with the region of Emilia-Romagna and the Republic of San Marino.

The congress initially marked an important moment in the life of the BITS, since members meeting in the General Assembly formally approved the proposed amendments and the renaming of the organization now known as the International Organization for Social Tourism (IOST). Jean-Marc Mignon (France) succeeds Norberto Tonini (Italy) and was elected president of the IOST. The Congress was also an opportunity to hold the first meeting of the new "Alliance sur la formation et la recherche en tourisme social et solidaire" created within the IOST.

At the closing session of the congress, delegates adopted a recommendation for "social policies of tourism" which was addressed to governments at local, regional, and national level to implement social tourism policies.

The IOST comprises over 165 organizations in 35 countries and aims to promote social tourism, sustainability and solidarity.

II. REGIONS

Mainstreaming Resource Efficiency Use, Cleaner Production and Corporate Social Responsibility in the accommodation sector in Mozambique

UNEP and UNIDO Joint Project



During the period of 12 to 14 of October 2010, UNIDO and UNEP, in collaboration with the National Cleaner Production Center (CNPML), the Ministry for Coordination of Environmental Affairs (MICOA) and the Ministry of Tourism, organized a Capacity Building Workshop for the National Experts on Resource Efficiency, Cleaner Production and Corporate Social Responsibility. Around 33 participants attended the workshop including national experts, government officials and the representatives of Maputo and Matola cities.

The Capacity Building Workshop was held on 15 October 2010 followed by a Raising Awareness Workshop, which targeted hotel managers and included topics on the Development of Sustainable Tourism, Clean Production and Corporate Social Responsibility. Around 38 participants including hotel managers, the Directors of Maputo and Matola Municipalities, the representatives of Central and Provincial government, attended the event, which was facilitated by Dr. Wolfgang Weissel, UNIDO International Consultant. The main topics covered in the Capacity Building Workshop were as follows:

- Sustainable Development and Sustainable Tourism Aspects;
- Occupational Health and Safety issues, risk assessment in the hospitality sector, preventive maintenance;
- Tools and Methodologies for Cleaner Production and Corporate Social Responsibility Assessments;
- Environmental Management Systems (EMS) standards SA 8000, OHSAS, HACCP, ISO 14001, ISO 26000 the future quality management standard;

The forthcoming Capacity Building Workshop for the technicians of the hotels is from 29 November to 10 December 2010 at Maputo Mozambique.

Croatian Tourism Days



The Croatian Tourism Days took place on 20 and 21 October 2010 in Rovinj, Croatia.

It included a meeting of the Minister of Tourism of the Republic of Croatia with the Representatives of the International Associations and Institutions to discuss “The Economic and Social Impacts of Tourism”.

The Global Partnership for Sustainable Tourism Secretariat was presented by David Owen, who showcased the links between the Partnership’s mission focusing on the theme: social impacts of tourism. The positive response shown by all the countries represented to the Global Partnership is evidence that, with membership support, significant progress can be made in embedding sustainability in tourism.

Hotels going Green: “Sustainable Resource Management in Nicaragua”

A new business approach implementing effective renewable hot water installations in Nicaraguan hotels has shown excellent results. Environmental concern is growing in Nicaragua, with climate change and business opportunities being the driving forces to install solar thermal systems to supply hot water for showers and kitchens in hotels. Hotels are going green and showing examples of low carbon business models.



The National Cleaner Production Center of Nicaragua, throughout - NICATEC Project, supported by the Austrian Development Agency- identified Solar Thermal Systems as a solution to involve hotels in low carbon production, reduce the operational cost while benefiting the environment. This system can heat water up to 85°C – 90°C and store water tanks from 300 to 2000 litres.

For the installation of these systems, the need of a subsidy mechanism was identified. A mechanism that involved the cost sharing of the investment was created, which saw a return on investment within four years. This was a key motivator for company owners to provide the rest of the investment. These hotels have become the flagships of Nicaraguan tourism and are now looking for certifications in environmental performance as a market instrument.

4th International Conference on Responsible Tourism in Destinations in Oman

The 4th International Conference on Responsible Tourism in Destinations has been held in Oman from 10 to 13 October 2010 to explore the application of the principles of Responsible Tourism, which originated in the UNWTO’s Global Code of Ethics and the 2002 Cape Town Declaration on Responsible Tourism in Destinations. At this occasion, David Owen of the Global Partnership for Sustainable Tourism Secretariat, UNEP, presented the Global Partnership for Sustainable Tourism.



The Conference was co-chaired by Her Excellency Dr Rajiha Abdul Ameer Ali, Oman’s Minister of Tourism and Professor Harold Goodwin from Leeds Metropolitan University’s International Centre for Responsible Tourism. Supporting organizations were UNWTO, UNEP, IUCN and the Leeds Metropolitan University’s International Centre for Responsible Tourism.

New OECD-UNEP report Sustainable Tourism Development and Climate Change: Issues and Policies



The draft report on “*Sustainable Tourism Development and Climate Change: Issues and Policies*” was reviewed by the OECD Tourism Committee on 21 October 2010, with a final approval process agreed. Undertaken jointly with the United Nations Environment Programme, the report analyses policies and issues related to climate change adaptation and mitigation in the tourism sector.

It suggests policy recommendations, with the objective to identify priority areas to be included in a framework for action in the area of climate change and tourism. Report findings will be used by the Tourism Committee and more widely to inform the OECD's Green Growth Strategy and Innovation Strategy. The report will be launched at the beginning of 2011.

Annual Conference of the project HOTEL ENERGY SOLUTIONS 20 January 2011 - FITUR Madrid

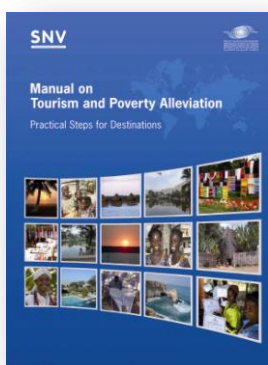


This year the conference will be a 1-day event divided in three sessions: a) Presentation of the HES e-Toolkit & Experiences by Pilot Destinations Hoteliers, b) Energy Technologies to boost your Hotel's Competitiveness, and Incentives and c) Support for Energy Efficiency (EE) & Renewable Energies (RE) Installation in Hotels.

The innovative Energy Toolkit will deliver information, technical support and training to help small and medium sized hotels across the 27 EU countries to increase their use of energy efficiency and renewable energy. This will help to reduce hotel operational costs, while increasing competitiveness and sustainability and assist in alleviating the industry's impact on climate change.

Hotel Energy Solutions is a European Commission co-founded initiative, which brings together key organizations in the fields of tourism and energy technologies: the World Tourism Organization which is coordinating the project, the United Nations Environment Program, the International Hotel and Restaurant Association, the European Renewable Energy Council and the French Environment and Energy Management Agency.

New UNWTO/SNV publication on tourism and poverty alleviation



In many developing and least developed countries, tourism is the most viable and sustainable economic development option, and in some countries, the main source of foreign exchange earnings.

Aware of the close relationship between tourism and local economic development and committed to help enhance tourism's contribution to poverty alleviation, the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) launched the ST-EP initiative (Sustainable Tourism – Eliminating Poverty) at the World Summit for Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002.

In less than a decade, the ST-EP initiative has evolved from an ambitious idea into a comprehensive and fully operational programme with research conducted, publications disseminated, seminars organized, and projects executed all around the world.

With the aim of contributing to the understanding of tourism as a tool for poverty alleviation and sustainable development, UNWTO jointly with SNV has produced a Manual on Tourism and Poverty Alleviation – Practical Steps for Destinations, which outlines some practical steps that can be taken in tourism destinations to shape and manage tourism in ways which deliver more benefits to disadvantaged individuals and communities.

The manual looks at the process of analyzing a tourism destination in terms of current contribution of tourism to the poor and planning how this could be strengthened in the future. It also contains an indicative programme of training sessions, including handouts, using the material contained in the manual.

We thank all partners and members that have contributed to this newsletter.

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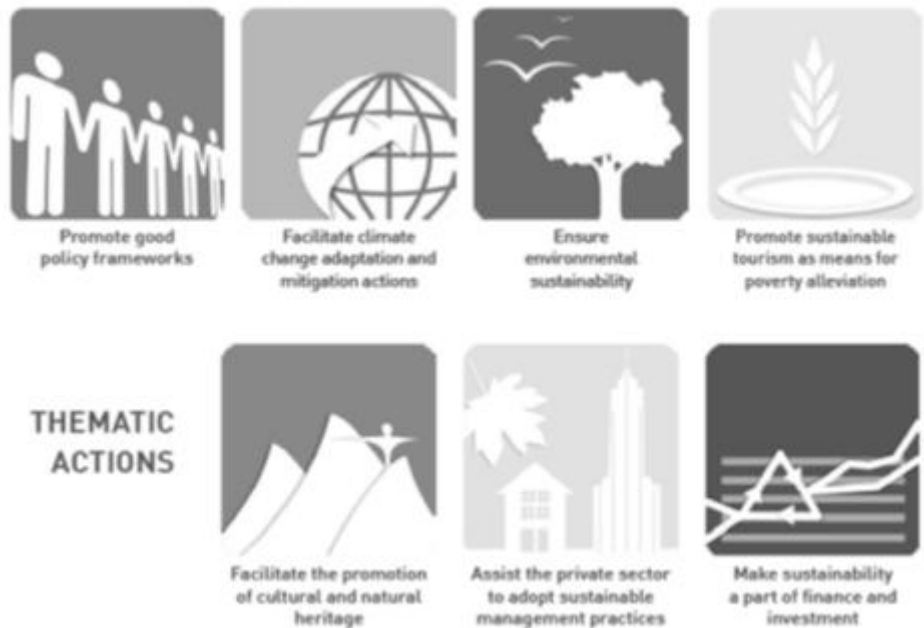
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ABOUT THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

The Global Partnership for Sustainable Tourism has as mission to benefit members and sectors affected by tourism through its systemic approach to transforming the way tourism takes place worldwide. It will help build synergies to promote long-term viability of the sector, which depends on an unspoiled environment and a healthy social and cultural context, by working on seven thematic action lines.



The Partnership builds upon the strong accomplishments and the broad membership of the International Task Force on Sustainable Tourism Development (ITF-STD). The nearly 40 implemented projects, activities, networks, expertise, and policy recommendations of this Marrakech Process Task Force will be extended, expanded, and implemented by the Partnership.

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