Expert Group Meeting on Sustainable Tourism: 
Ecotourism, Poverty Reduction and Environmental Protection


Programme

Conference Room S 2727 – United Nations Secretariat

Tuesday, 29 October 2013, Morning Session

Opening session (9:30 am – 10:15 am)

Welcome and opening address
Nikhil Seth, Director, Division for Sustainable Development (DSD), United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)

Welcoming remarks by co-organizers
Zoritsa Urosevic, Head, Institutional and Corporate Relations, United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO, and Helena de Rey, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Introduction of the provisional programme and introduction of participants
Ralph Wahnschafft, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, DSD/DESA

Introductory overview presentations: Setting the stage (10:15 am – 12:00 noon)

Ecotourism and Sustainable Development: Trends and Issues
Kelly Bricker, Associate Professor, Interim Chair, University of Utah, College of Health, and Chair, The International Ecotourism Society (TIES), Washington D.C.

Challenges and opportunities for sustainable (eco)tourism development in developing countries: The 2020 Vision and tourism development strategy of Morocco
Nada Roudies, Secretary-General, Ministry of Tourism, Rabat, Morocco, and Chair of Global Partnership for Sustainable Tourism (GPST)

Challenges and opportunities for sustainable (eco)tourism development in small island developing States (SIDS): The experience of Samoa
Sonya Hunter, Chief Executive Officer, Samoa Tourism Authority, Apia, Samoa
Challenges and opportunities for sustainable (eco)tourism development in countries of the European Union: The European Destinations of Excellence (EDEN) Programme

Ilona Lelonek Hustling, Policy Officer, DG Enterprise and Industry, Unit E1 Tourism Policy, European Commission, Brussels

**Special Presentation** (12:00 noon -12:45 pm):
Authentic Ecolodges as a driver for poverty alleviation

Hitesh Mehta, HM Design, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, United States

Lunch break

**Tuesday, 29 October 2013, afternoon session**

**Session 1: Financing sustainable (eco)resort/hotel investments and developing the markets for (eco)tourism services** (2.00 pm – 3.45 pm)

Moderator: Zoritsa Urosevic, Head, Institutional and Corporate Relations, United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)

Financing hotel, resort and ecolodge investments: Balancing economic viability, social benefits and environmental considerations

Lelei TuiSamoa Lelaulu, Special Advisor, World Bank, Washington D.C.

Financing support for sustainable tourism in LDCs: the Enhanced Integrated Framework as an Aid-for-Trade instrument

Dale Honeck, Counselor, Trade in Services Section, World Trade Organization (WTO)

Costa Rica’s Programme for Certification of Sustainable Tourism

Glenn Jampol, Vice President of the National Accreditation Commission for the Costa Rica Tourist Board

Voluntary programmes for “greener” tourism: Eco-certification of hotels and tourism services

Guido Bauer, CEO, Green Globe Certification, Los Angeles, California, United States

Break (3.45 pm – 4.00 pm)
Session 2: Tourism planning, marketing and destination management (4.00 pm – 6.00 pm)
Moderator: Mohamed Reza Salamat, Senior Sustainable Development Officer, Division for Sustainable Development, UN DESA

Challenges and opportunities for sustainable (eco)tourism development in developing countries:
Development of new ecotourism destinations in Indonesia
   Sapta Nirwandar, Vice Minister, Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy, Jakarta, Indonesia

Planning, developing and managing sustainable (eco)tourism destinations facing new or emerging challenges
   Maharaj Vijay Reddy, Senior Lecturer in Tourism Management, School of Tourism, Bournemouth University, United Kingdom

Planning for sustainable tourism development in South-Eastern Europe
   Manuel Junck, German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), Eschborn, Germany

Tourism development in Cape Verde: Is it time to abandon the all-inclusive model?
   Eneida Fernandes, Tourism Specialist, Private Sector Development, Africa Department, World Bank, Washington D.C.

Promotion of sustainable (eco)tourism in China
   Jigang Bao, Professor and Assistant President, Dean of School of Tourism Management, Sun Yat Sen University, China

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Promotion of sustainable (eco)tourism in Republic of Korea
   Hyeri Han, Assistant Director, Ministry of Sports, Culture and Tourism

Measures to promote sustainable (eco)tourism in Islamic Republic of Iran
Sustainable Tourism: the future that Madagascar wants through its Challenge 2020
Patrick Ramonjavelo, Tourism Expert, Honorary President of Travel Agencies Association of Madagascar, and Team Leader, Amadeus / France

New sustainable (eco)tourism initiatives in Indonesia
Iskandar B. Kuntoadji, Board member of IBEKA, Jakarta, Indonesia

Sustainable Eco-Tourism in Japan: Example of Picchio Wildlife Research Centre
Masaya Kusube, Picchio Wildlife Research Centre, Picchio, Japan

Session 3: Assessing socio-economic benefits, employment generation and poverty reduction from sustainable (eco)tourism (11:30 am – 12:30 pm)
Co-moderators: Eneida Fernandes, Tourism Specialist, Private Sector Development, World Bank, Washington D.C., and Birgitte Bryld Alvarez-Rivero, Senior Sustainable Development Officer, Division for Sustainable Development, UN DESA

Regulations to enhance sustainability of (eco)tourism in Cambodia
Neng Kim, Deputy Director, Ministry of Environment, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Policy recommendations for enhancing poverty reduction in developing countries through Tourism
Wolfgang Weinz, Hotels, Catering and Tourism Specialist, Sectoral Activities Department, International Labour Organization (ILO)

Lunch break (12:30 – 2:00 pm)

Wednesday, 30 October 2013, Afternoon session

Session 4: Enhancing environmental protection through sustainable (eco)tourism (2:00 – 3:00 pm)
Moderators: Helena de Rey, UNEP, Paris

Heritage protection and sustainable (eco)tourism
Peter DeBrine, The UNESCO World Heritage and Sustainable Tourism Programme, UNESCO World Heritage Center

Environmental Impact Assessment of Ecotourism Development: Case studies and experiences
Sang In Kang, Senior Development Management Expert, UN Sustainable Development Office, Songdo-dong, Rep. of Korea
Session 5: Partnerships for international cooperation (3:00 – 5:00 pm)
Co-moderators Lelei TuiSamoa LeLaulu, Special Advisor, World Bank and Ralph Wahnschafft, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, Division for Sustainable Development, UN DESA

Trans-boundary cooperation in sustainable tourism and destination management: Examples of German-Polish co-operation
Alexander Schuler, Managing Partner, BTE Consultants for Rural Tourism Development, Berlin, Germany

The 10YFP Sustainable Tourism Programme: Policies to implementation, partnerships, and results
Helena de Rey, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Paris, France

Delivering as One for Tourism: the UN Steering Committee on Tourism for Development and the EU-DEVCO Guidebook on Sustainable Tourism.
Zoritsa Urosevic, Head, Institutional and Corporate Relations, UNWTO

Compendium on Good/Best Practices in Sustainable (Eco)Tourism: Selected case profiles
Fen Wei, Research Assistant, Division for Sustainable Development, UN DESA

Closing session (5:00 – 5:30 pm)

Concluding remarks by Ralph Wahnschafft, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, Division for Sustainable Development, UN DESA/DSD