

REPORT OF THE SUSTAINABLE TOURISM WORKING GROUP on the 2016-2019 mandate

1. Overview of 2016-2019 mandate or relevant decision of the Alpine Conference

Brief summary of the main activities according to the 2016-2019 mandate or relevant decision of the Alpine Conference

- Collect and share knowledge and experiences concerning the sustainable management of destinations, with a specific focus on the reduction of CO2 emissions.
- Identify the main challenges and future scenarios for alpine destinations aiming to develop strategies for competitiveness and sustainable management of alpine resources and landscape.
- Set up a network of alpine tourism destinations for an exchange of information and good practices.
- Explore the feasibility of an award for innovation in sustainable alpine tourism destinations.

2. Meetings

Summary of the meetings

- 18 October 2017: 1st (kick-off) meeting of the WG in Werfenweng (Austria).
- 23-24 April 2018: 2nd meeting of the WG (23) and Workshop “Future Scenarios of Alpine Tourism” (24) in Bolzano/Bozen (Italy).
- 22 August 2018: Workshop “The role of women for the development of sustainable tourism in mountain areas” in Cortina d’Ampezzo (Italy).

3. Activities carried out

Report on activities carried out (including meetings, conferences)

- 1) Identification of shared criteria for good practices collection based on the typology from RSA 4 on “Sustainable Tourism” and in accordance with the mandate’s reference to CO2/GHGs emissions’ reduction and the “greening” of alpine tourism.

- 2) Identification of a set of destinations to be involved in a network based on the availability of local good practices consistent with item 1), and potential for innovation with the contribution of all the participants in the WG.
- 3) Participation in the workshop on innovation for sustainable tourism and future scenarios in alpine tourist destinations organised by Italy in Bolzano/Bozen in April 2018.
- 4) Participation of WG members and its Presidency in related events promoted during the Austrian Presidency of the AC (2016-2019) by the contracting Parties such as: side event to PC 66 on sustainable tourism (organised by Germany) and Conference on the role of women in sustainable tourist development in the Alps in Cortina (organised by Italy, August 2018).
- 5) Continuous exchange and collection of information concerning national, regional and international awards to set up a “screening” for assessing the features and feasibility of an award for sustainable alpine tourist destinations under the coordination of the WG Presidency.

4. Results and outputs

Description of main results and outputs achieved

- Report “Sustainable practices in Alpine tourist destinations” – A collection of good practices from the mountain tourist sector aimed to curb emissions (particularly GHGs), increase energy efficiency and support a wide adoption of sustainable practices in Alpine tourist destinations.
- Brochure “Good... in practice – Alpine destinations for sustainable tourism”. A collection of sustainable alpine destinations engaged in a path to sustainability and innovation in their tourist offer.
- Report “Directions for innovation of tourist destinations in the Alps. Towards innovative tourist strategies in alpine sites”.
- Report “Setting up an award for sustainable tourist destinations in the Alps. Feasibility study and international experience”.

5. Cooperation

Description of cooperation initiatives and activities with other Alpine Convention Thematic Working Bodies and other relevant bodies and processes (e.g. EUSALP)

- Participation in the Workshop EUSALP AG – Alpine Convention WG/PF exchange meeting: Workshop between Working Groups & Platforms and EUSALP Action Groups on October 5, 2017, in Gmünden (Austria).
- Participation of WG representatives and President in the “Alpine-wide tourism-mobility day – innovatively and sustainably mobile in tourism regions”, October 19, 2017 in Werfenweng (Austria).
- Participation in the Workshop organised by Germany: *Sustainable tourism in the Alps. Who gets the job done?* Nov. 5, 2018 in Innsbruck, Austria.

6. Attachments

List of the documents attached to the report

1. Agenda and Minutes of the 1st meeting of the WG in Werfenweng (Austria) of October 21, 2017.
2. Agenda and Minutes of the 2nd meeting of the WG in Bolzano/Bozen (Italy) of April 23, 2018.
3. Program of the Workshop on “Innovation for sustainable tourism and future scenarios in alpine tourist destinations” held in Bolzano/Bozen (Italy) on April 24, 2018.
4. Report “Sustainable practices in Alpine tourist destinations”, a collection of good practices a from the mountain tourist sector aimed to curb emissions (particularly GHGs), increase energy efficiency and support a wide adoption of sustainable practices in Alpine tourist destinations.
5. Brochure “Good... in practice – Alpine destinations for sustainable tourism”. A collection of sustainable alpine tourist destinations engaged in a path to sustainability and innovation in their tourist offer.
6. Report “Directions for innovation of tourist destinations in the Alps. Towards innovative tourist strategies in alpine sites”.
7. Report “Setting up an award for sustainable tourist destinations in the Alps. Feasibility study and international experience”.

For information:

8. Program of “Alpine-wide tourism-mobility day – innovatively and sustainably mobile in tourism regions” held on October 19, 2017 in Werfenweng (Austria).
9. Program of the Event on the role of women in sustainable alpine tourism (Il ruolo della donna per lo sviluppo di un turismo sostenibile dei territori di montagna) held in Cortina d’Ampezzo (Italy) on August 22, 2018.