



Dear Affiliate Members,

I am pleased to introduce you to a new edition of the Affiliate Members Newsletter. This monthly publication will inform you about the latest news, events, and initiatives related to your membership and our Affiliate Members network. Also included is the updated calendar of events for 2023, including the main UNWTO events and those carried out by our Affiliate Members, with the participation of the Affiliate Members Department or the UNWTO.

Regarding the upcoming UNWTO statutory/high-level meetings, I am pleased to inform you that we are getting ready for the upcoming 118th Session of the UNWTO Executive Council, to be held on 16-18 May in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. Furthermore, I would like to remind you that meetings for the UNWTO Regional Commission are scheduled between June and July:

- 68th Meeting of the UNWTO Commission for Europe
- 49th Regional Commission for the Middle East
- 35th Joint Meeting of the UNWTO Commission for East Asia and the Pacific & for South Asia
- 68th Regional Commission for Americas
- 66th Regional Commission for Africa

These events represent an excellent opportunity for Affiliate Members to share their initiatives, and exchange information and knowledge with the authorities and Member States participating. Stay tuned to the [AMConnected Platform](#) to know more about the above-mentioned events.

I would also like to invite you to save the date for the 25th UNWTO General Assembly which has been confirmed for the 16-20 of October, in Samarkand, Uzbekistan. Mark your calendars as in this framework we will hold the 44th Plenary Session of the Affiliate Members on 16 October. This is the most important statutory meeting for the UNWTO Affiliate Membership and will bring together once again Affiliate Members from all around the world to meet, discuss, share, and interact around a variety of topics. It will serve as a dynamic space to generate ideas, discuss the latest trends of the sector and work together towards fostering public-private collaboration and promoting good practices in the industry.

The Affiliate Members Department will continue to collaborate and support the Affiliate Members' initiatives to the best of its capabilities. As usual, I am at your disposal and look forward to hearing any comments you might have.

Yours sincerely,
Ion Vilcu



AMD

the Affiliate Members Department

The UNWTO Affiliate Members Department (AMD) fosters public-private cooperation in tourism and the synergies among Affiliate Members and Member States. Bringing together more than 450 private companies, associations, educational institutions, and DMOs, the UNWTO Affiliate Membership provides an unparalleled space for members to engage in dialogue, exchange knowledge, support new measures and create synergies that promote the development of the sector, and contribute to the promotion of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



OUR MISSION

Helping private entities to forge alliances, fostering dialogue and collaboration, as well as strengthen synergies between Member States and Affiliate Members to face the challenges of the tourism sector

OUR PURPOSE

To support the development of the tourism sector by contributing to the achievement Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations

OUR VALUE PROPOSITION:

TO ASSIST OUR MEMBERS
IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF
THE TOURISM SECTOR

To outline action plans that will enhance the development of a more accessible, inclusive, sustainable, and profitable tourism industry

Main Objectives for the Membership

- 1 VISIBILITY**
Enhance the work of our Affiliate Members through the new communication channels
- 2 NETWORKING**
Promote the creation of alliances among like-minded Affiliate Members and Member States around the world
- 3 PARTICIPATION**
Facilitate the participation of our Affiliate Members in major events and international initiatives that will provide them with value and visibility
- 4 KNOWLEDGE**
Collect and share information, data, and research relevant to the Tourism Industry
- 5 COOPERATION**
Foster collaboration in joint projects with the UNWTO and in business projects among Affiliate Members
- 6 SUPPORT**
Offer institutional support and endorsement to promote new projects developed by the Affiliate Members
- 7 DEVELOPMENT**
Create opportunities for new innovative business projects for Affiliate Members that will contribute to the sustainable development of the Tourism sector

AGENDA OF THE AFFILIATE MEMBERS - EVENTS 2023

UNWTO STATUTORY AND HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS

UNWTO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

16-20 Oct.	25th UNWTO General Assembly	Samarkand, Uzbekistan	In Person
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UNWTO PLENARY SESSION

16 Oct.	44th AM Plenary Session	Samarkand, Uzbekistan	In Person
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UNWTO EXECUTIVE COUNCILS

16-18 May	118th Session of the UNWTO Executive Council	Punta Cana, Dominican Republic	In Person
(TBC)	119th Session of the UNWTO Executive Council	Samarkand, Uzbekistan	In Person
(TBC)	120th Session of the UNWTO Executive Council	Samarkand, Uzbekistan	In Person

UNWTO REGIONAL COMMISSIONS

31 May-2 June	68th Regional Commission for Europe	Sofia, Bulgaria	In Person
7-8 June	49th Regional Commission for the Middle East	Dead Sea, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan,	In Person
15-17 June	35th Joint Meeting of the UNWTO Commission for East Asia and the Pacific & for South Asia	Phnom Penh, Cambodia	In Person
27-28 June	68th Regional Commission for Americas	Quito, Ecuador	In Person
26-28 July	66th Regional Commission for Africa	Mauritius	In Person

COMMITTEE ON MATTERS RELATED TO AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP (CMAM)

11 May	3rd Meeting of the Committee on Matters Related to Affiliate Membership (CMAM)		Online
Sept. (TBC)	4th Meeting of the Committee on Matters Related to Affiliate Membership (CMAM)	Samarkand, Uzbekistan	In Person

BOARD OF THE AFFILIATE MEMBERS

6 Nov. (TBC)	59th Meeting of the Board of the Affiliate Members	WTM, London	In Person
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UNWTO/AMD THEMATIC EVENTS WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF AFFILIATE MEMBERS

26-27 April	<u>2nd World Sports Tourism Congress</u>	Zadar, Croatia	In Person/ Hybrid
27 Sept.	<u>World Tourism Day</u>	Riyadh, Saudi Arabia	In Person/ Hybrid
5-6 Oct.	<u>8th UNWTO World Forum on Gastronomy Tourism</u>	San Sebastian, Spain	In Person/ Hybrid
22-24 Nov.	<u>7th UNWTO Global Conference on Wine Tourism</u>	La Rioja, Spain	In Person/ Hybrid

UNWTO AFFILIATE MEMBERS DEPARTMENT EVENTS

15 June	UNWTO Affiliate Members Special Session	35th CAP-CSA Phnom Penh, Cambodia	In Person
Oct. (TBC)	Session dedicated to Affiliate Members	FIT Latin America Buenos Aires, Argentina	In Person
28 Oct. (TBC)	Session dedicated to Affiliate Members	Tourism Expo Japan Osaka, Japan	In Person
Nov. (TBC)	Session dedicated to Affiliate Members	WTM, London	In Person

AFFILIATE MEMBERS' EVENTS WITH UNWTO/AMD SUPPORT

Tourism Industry Association of Canada	TBC	Canadian Tourism Investor Forum	TBC
Tourism Industry Association of Canada	TBC	National Virtual Tourism Job Fair	TBC
University of Rijeka	25-27 May	ToSEE – Tourism in Southern and Eastern Europe Conference	Opatija, Croatia
FENALCO	21-23 June	Congreso Internacional de Turismo de Experiencias y Expo-Experiencias	Santa Marta, Colombia
Atletico de Madrid & EGEDA	23-28 June	MADCUP	Madrid, Spain
Culinary Tourism Alliance	27-28 June	Taste of Place Summit	Toronto, Canada
F.I.C.C.	28-29 June	1st F.I.C.C. World Camping Festival F.I.C.C. GA 2023 / 90th F.I.C.C. Years Celebration / World Camping Day 2023	Zadar, Croatia
CAT	6-7 July	1ª Conferencia & Expo Nieve y Montaña de las Américas	San Martin de los Andes, Argentina
SPET Turismo de Tenerife	23-28 July	Culture and Business Pride	Tenerife, Spain
Tripadvisor	Sept. (TBC)	Write a Review Day	
Seoul Tourism Organization (STO)	Sept.	Thematic conference (TBC)	TBC
CETT	13 Sept.	Terres CHECK-IN International Hospitality Film Awards	Lloret de Mar, Spain

Universidad del Caribe	27-29 Sept.	Seminar "Advances and challenges of the tourism sector in Quintana Roo: Horizon 2030"	Quintana Roo, Mexico
SPET Turismo de Tenerife	Sept.-Nov.	Arona SOS Atlántico	Tenerife, Spain
European Historic Thermal Towns Association	9-10 Nov.	International Congress on Thermal Tourism 2023	Nancy, France
Tourism Industry Association of Canada	21-22 Nov.	TIAC Canadian Tourism Congress	Ottawa, Canada
World Leisure Organization	11-15 Dec.	17th World Leisure Congress	Dunedin, New Zealand
IATA International Air Transport Association	TBC	International Conference on Tourism and Aviation	TBC
Tourism Development Institute of Uzbekistan	TBC	Conference on Making tourism smarter: innovation and digital transformation	TBC

AFFILIATE MEMBERS DEPARTMENT

TOURISM AND SPORTS UNITED FOR SUSTAINABILITY: KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM THE 2ND WORLD SPORTS TOURISM CONGRESS

The UNWTO and the Government of the Republic of Croatia, through its Ministry of Tourism and Sport, and the Affiliate Member Croatian National Tourist Board hosted **the 2nd World Sports Tourism Congress on 26-27 April 2023**.

Held under the theme *"Tourism & Sports United for Sustainability"*, the Congress welcomed worldwide experts in the field of sports tourism to discuss the potential and benefits of this growing field of tourism.

Through a series of panels, speakers drew up insights and conclusions that generated innovative ideas for destinations and sports events hosts.

Key issues such as Sports Tourism's economic impact, its contribution to the SDGs, key aspects to promote destinations through hosting sports events, and the connection between sports tourism and health, among others, have been addressed. The Congress counted on the participation of more than 300 participants from over 25 countries.

The UNWTO is currently working on collecting the main conclusions and best practices that will be soon featured and published in a dedicated report on sports tourism.

The UNWTO will keep supporting the effort toward the sustainable development of the growing field of sports tourism and, on this occasion, it was announced that the third edition of the congress is to be held in 2025.

You can find more information [HERE](#)



AFFILIATE MEMBERS DEPARTMENT

WORKSHOP ON INTERNATIONAL TOURISM COOPERATION

The Affiliate Member ASICOTUR hosted the I Workshop on International Cooperation/ I Taller de Cooperación de Asicotur.

The event, of hybrid format, took place on April 25 and 26 at the Hotel OCA Puerta del Camino, in the city of Santiago de Compostela, Spain.

This workshop has been included in the Affiliate Members Programme of Work 2023 and counted with the official participation of the UNWTO. Furthermore, the event was supported by the Xunta de Galicia and the National Institute for Tourism Promotion of Argentina, which took part in the event along with other governmental, and educational entities, and specialized press.

The objective of this meeting was to offer an instance of knowledge transfer with a strict focus on management, cooperation, and tourism project presentations, aiming at responding to the current needs of professionals who are in continuous search of appropriate lines of assistance and sources of financing.

It also intended to promote public-private participation, generating spaces for interaction among the different actors participating both virtually and in person.

On the first day, after the inauguration, Dmitry Ilin, representative of the UNWTO Affiliate Members Department delivered a speech highlighting the importance of public-private cooperation and confirmed UNWTO's support of initiatives related to international cooperation for tourism development, followed by the interventions from the event partners: Fundación Expourense, the Chamber of Commerce of Angra do Heroísmo, the Secretary of Tourism of the State of Querétaro (Mexico), the Secretary of Tourism of the State of Nuevo León (Mexico) and the Government of the Province of Misiones (Argentina), who discussed briefly the sustainable practices they carried out in their tourist destinations. On the second day, the social program included making a part of the Camino de Santiago and, in the afternoon, began the round of conferences.

The I Taller de Cooperación de Asicotur counted more than 70 attendees in the room each day, +180 views of the streaming channel, and entities from 26 countries connected by Zoom.

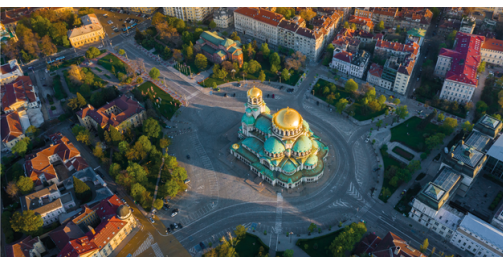


AFFILIATE MEMBERS DEPARTMENT

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE UPCOMING UNWTO REGIONAL COMMISSIONS

The annual appointments for the UNWTO Regional Commissions for Europe, the Middle East, the joint Meeting for East Asia and the Pacific & for South Asia, Americas and Africa are scheduled for the month of June and July as follows:

- **68th Meeting of the UNWTO Commission for Europe and Conference on Education and Skills in Medical and Wellbeing Tourism**, to be held from 31 May to 2 June 2023 in Sofia, Bulgaria. For more information and to register for this regional commission, click [HERE](#)
- **49th meeting of the UNWTO Regional Commission for the Middle East, and the "Medical and Wellness Tourism Conference"** to be held from 7 to 9 June 2023 in the Dead Sea, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. For more information and to register for this regional commission, click [HERE](#)
- **35th Joint Meeting of the UNWTO Commission for East Asia and the Pacific & the UNWTO Commission for South Asia**, the **55th Meeting of the UNWTO Commission for East Asia & the Pacific**, the **59th Meeting of the UNWTO Commission for South Asia** and the **UNWTO Conference on the International Code for the Protection of Tourists & the UNWTO Affiliate Members Special Session** will take place from 15-17 June 2023 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. For more information and to register for this regional commission, click [HERE](#)
- **68th meeting of the UNWTO Regional Commission for the Americas and the Seminar on sustainable investments: *a strategy towards competitiveness***, to be held on 27 and 28 June 2023, in Quito, Ecuador. For more information click [HERE](#)
- The **66th Regional Commission for Africa** will be held afterward, in Mauritius from 26 to 28 July 2023, under the theme *Rethinking Tourism For Africa*. For more information and to register for this regional commission, click [HERE](#)





SAVE THE DATE

25 UNWTO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SAMARKAND, UZBEKISTAN, 16-20 OCTOBER 2023



UNWTO HIGHLIGHTS

2ND WORLD SPORTS TOURISM CONGRESS: TOURISM AND SPORTS UNITED FOR SUSTAINABILITY

The 2nd edition of the World Sports Tourism Congress (WSTC), organized by UNWTO, Government of Croatia through its Ministry of Tourism and Sport, and the Affiliate Member Croatian National Tourist Board, brought together experts and leaders from across the sports and tourism sectors, alongside representatives of destinations and businesses.

Held under the theme “Tourism and Sports United for Sustainability”, the Congress focused on key issues such as sports tourism’s economic impact and its contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

UNWTO Secretary-General Zurab Pololikashvili says: “Sports Tourism plays a key role in enhancing economic growth and social development in many destinations. It creates jobs and supports businesses in cities and rural communities alike. In order to maximize its potential, public and private sector actors must collaborate, and that’s where UNWTO steps in.”

Ms. Nikolina Brnjac, Minister of Tourism and Sport of Croatia said: “I am very proud of having hosted this Congress in Croatia. We enjoyed hearing many excellent international and Croatian speakers, as well as presenting the many opportunities of sustainable development of sports tourism in Croatia. Croatian government has secured generous funds for building active tourism infrastructure, in line with our goal of making Croatia a globally competitive sports tourism destination.”

Alongside assessing the impacts of sports tourism, the Congress also explored the potential benefits of the growing sector, including its links to health and wellbeing, and its importance for promoting destinations to bigger and more diverse audiences. In Zadar, leaders from both established and emerging sports tourism destinations shared their insights and best practices to produce recommendations for growing the sector in size and influence.

You can find more information [HERE](#)



UNWTO HIGHLIGHTS

TOURISM'S POTENTIAL FOR MOUNTAIN ECOSYSTEMS AND COMMUNITIES OUTLINED IN NEW REPORT

While mountain tourism has become an increasingly relevant motivation for travel, data on its size and impact remains scarce, a new report from the UN agencies the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), and the Mountain Partnership (MP) makes clear.

Mountain tourism represents between 9 and 16% of international tourist arrivals worldwide, translating into 195 to 375 million tourists in 2019 alone. However, the scarcity of domestic mountain tourism-related data makes it difficult or even impossible to assess the economic, social, and environmental impacts of this important segment. This new report aims to address this data gap.

Mountains are home to around 1.1 billion people, some of them among the poorest and most isolated in the world. At the same time, mountains have long drawn tourists interested in nature and open-air destinations and outdoor activities like walking, climbing, and winter sports. They also attract visitors with their rich biodiversity and vibrant local cultures.

“With the right data, we can better control the dispersal of visitor flows, support adequate planning, improve knowledge on visitor patterns, build sustainable products in line with consumer needs, and create suitable policies that will foster sustainable development and make sure tourism activities benefit local communities,” FAO Director-General QU Dongyu and UNWTO Secretary-General Zurab Pololikashvili stated.

The study, which was based on research carried out in 46 countries, shows that generating economic benefits, creating opportunities for local communities, and developing sustainable products are the main motivations for mountain tourism development. The sustainable development of mountain tourism was also identified as a means to help to spread tourism flows, tackle seasonality and complement existing tourist offerings.

The publication coincides with the end of the International Year of Sustainable Mountain Development 2022.

You can find more information [HERE](#)



UNWTO HIGHLIGHTS

DESTINATION 2030: UNWTO AND GLOBAL TOURISM ECONOMIC FORUM PLOT STRONGER COLLABORATION

UNWTO and the Global Tourism Economic Forum (GTEF) have outlined their plans for stronger and closer collaboration.

Since the first Forum was held in 2012, the two organizations have partnered around promoting closer links between governments and tourism's private sector. Building on this success, UNWTO and GTEF have announced plans for a revamped and enhanced annual Forum to coincide with the 10th anniversary of the event in Macau, China (21 September). The location of subsequent Forums will then alternate between Macau and a different host country, to be jointly selected by UNWTO and GTEF.

Announcing the plans in Lisbon, UNWTO Secretary-General Zurab Pololikashvili said: "UNWTO is proud to work with the Global Tourism Economic Forum to unite governments and private sector leaders and address the biggest challenges and opportunities facing our sector today. We look forward to building on our successful partnership in 2023 and beyond."

Pansy Ho, Vice Chairman and Secretary-General, GTEF, said: "In response to China's policies in supporting enterprises to 'go global', we will stage the GTEF, an international platform, overseas every other year. Looking forward to the future, we believe that mainland China, Macao, and even the world can benefit from the event." The 10th edition of GTEF will be held around the theme of "Destination 2030: Unlocking Tourism for Business and Development".

It will bring together Governments as well as leaders from across the public and private sectors to further establish the Forum as the premier annual event for public-private partnerships and tourism for business growth and development.

Also in Lisbon, UNWTO signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Global Tourism Economy Research Centre (GTERC), the coordinator of GTEF, to work together to identify areas of future cooperation. Joining UNWTO Secretary-General Pololikashvili for the announcement were Ho Iat Seng, Chief Executive of Macao SAR; Zhao Bentang, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the Portuguese Republic, and Nuno Fazenda, Secretary of State for Tourism, Trade and Services, Portugal.

You can find more information [HERE](#)



UNWTO HIGHLIGHTS

UNWTO OPENS CALLS FOR BEST TOURISM VILLAGES 2023

UNWTO has opened applications for the third edition of its Best Tourism Villages (BTV) initiative.

Best Tourism Villages by UNWTO was launched in 2021 as part of the Organization's work to make tourism a driver of rural development and wellbeing. To date, over 70 villages from almost 40 countries have been recognized as Best Tourism Villages. A further 40 have been selected to participate in the Upgrade Programme where they benefit from expert mentorship and networking opportunities.

UNWTO's Members States can present up to eight villages through their National Tourism Administrations (NTAs). Applications will close on **23 June 2023** and the winners announced towards the end of the year. As with previous editions, the initiative has three components:

1. BTV recognizes outstanding examples of rural tourism destinations with cultural and natural assets, that preserve and promote rural and community-based values, products and lifestyle and have a clear commitment to innovation and sustainability in all its aspects;
2. BTV Upgrade Programme benefits a number of villages among those that do not fully meet the criteria to obtain the recognition.
3. BTV Network provides a space for exchanging experiences and good practices and opportunities

The villages in the Upgrade Programme will also join the Best Tourism Villages Network, which today numbers over 100 members in five world regions. Since its inception the BTV Network had organized a series of training sessions and masterclasses, allowing hundreds of participants to benefit from expert guidance and feedback from sector leaders.

You can find more information [HERE](#)



UNWTO HIGHLIGHTS

UNWTO STRENGTHENS COOPERATION AROUND TOURISM INVESTMENTS

UNWTO has further advanced its focus on investments in a more resilient and sustainable tourism by strengthening its cooperation with both the international community and with the private sector.

In this context, UNWTO has joined the World Investment for Development Alliance (WIDA). As part of the Alliance, UNWTO will work to enhance both the level and effectiveness of investment in the sector with the aim of supporting and accelerating the implementation of the Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals.

UNWTO Secretary-General Zurab Pololikashvili says: "Investment is all too often the missing ingredient for turning our shared plans for a more sustainable, inclusive and resilient tourism sector into reality. UNWTO is proud to join the World Investment for Development Alliance and we look forward to working together to re-think and transform investments into tourism."

WIDA Chair James Zhan adds: "WIDA fully recognizes that UNWTO has been playing a leading role in promoting investment in tourism for sustainable development and inclusive growth. It believes that UNWTO shares the same values as WIDA and can make a significant contribution to our common causes."

UNWTO data shows that, as a result of the pandemic, levels of investment into tourism dropped dramatically.

"For this reason, I am happy UNWTO has confirmed our new agreement with the Annual Investment Meeting (AIM)," Mr Pololikashvili says. "We consider this collaboration as mutually beneficial, as we recognize the significant contributions that can be made by the private sector to our organization's strategic objectives."

In line with the two Organizations' commitment to cooperate in the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding, UNWTO will spearhead the "Tourism Investment Segment", an official side event of the upcoming Annual Investment Meeting, to be held on 8-10 May in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

You can find more information [HERE](#)



AFFILIATE MEMBERS NEWS

THE TOURIST POTENTIAL OF BORDER REGIONS IN BRAZIL

The expansion of tourism in border regions and the logistical challenges of its activity are some of the topics addressed by the Working Group (WG) on Border Tourism of the National Confederation of Commerce of Goods, Services and Tourism (CNC). Promoted by the Business Council of Tourism and Hospitality (Cetur).

The meetings bring together representatives of the Brazilian border states of Amazonas, Acre, Roraima, Rondônia, Amapá, Pará, Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, Santa Catarina, Paraná and Rio Grande Sul and aim to support integrated actions that can leverage the border tourism. Every year, the group develops a work plan and acts to minimize the bottlenecks and promote the development of border regions.

The actions for 2023 involve the feasibility of a specific discussion space for border tourism with the Ministry of Tourism, the mapping of bilateral agreements and the monitoring of information on the importance of the release of casinos in Brazilian territory and also highlights the importance of expanding free shops in border regions, drawing attention to the need for planning, government incentive and investment to make trade attractive and boost tourism.

The logistical challenges of regional aviation that hinder tourism in the Brazilian border regions, the prices of air transport tickets, especially to places of difficult access or with limited transportation options, were the main concerns presented by the states of the North region.



AFFILIATE MEMBERS NEWS

SILK ROAD TOUR OF THE "NOWRUZ 1402 MESSENGERS" (NOWRUZ CELEBRATING COUNTRIES OF IRAN, TURKMENISTAN, UZBEKISTAN, AND TAJIKISTAN)

Travel Itinerary

Days	Date	From	To	Camping
Arrival to Turkmenistan & Onward:				
Day 01	16/03/2023	Bajgiran Border (Iran)	Ashgabat (Turkmenistan)	---
Day 02	17/03/2023	Ashgabat		1st Camp.
Day 03	18/03/2023	Ashgabat	Khauz-Khan	2nd Camp.
Day 04	19/03/2023	Khauz-Khan	Çärjew	3rd Camp.
Arrival to Uzbekistan & Onward:				
Day 05	20/03/2023	Çärjew	Farab (border crossing)-Bukhara (Uzbekistan)	4th Camp.
Day 06	21/03/2023	Bukhara	Samarkand	5th Camp.
Day 07	22/03/2023	Samarkand		
Day 08	23/03/2023			
Arrival to Tajikistan & Onward:				
Day 09	24/03/2023	Samarkand	Dushanbe (Tajikistan)	6th Camp.
Day 10	25/03/2023	Dushanbe		
Day 11	26/03/2023			
Day 12	27/03/2023			
Day 13	28/03/2023	Dushanbe	Khujand	7th Camp.
Day 14	29/03/2023	Khujand		
Day 15	30/03/2023			
Return & departure from Tajikistan and Uzbekistan:				
Day 16	31/03/2023	Khujand	Tashkent (Uzbekistan)	8th Camp.
Day 17	01/04/2023	Tashkent		
Day 18	02/04/2023			
Day 19	03/04/2023	Tashkent	Gulistan, Jizzakh, Samarkand	9th Camp.
Day 20	04/04/2023	Samarkand		10th Camp.
Day 21	05/04/2023	Samarkand	Navoi, Zeravshan, Bukhara	
Day 22	06/04/2023	Bukhara	Xorazm Region	
Day 23	07/04/2023	Urgench, Hazorasp, Shavat, Khanka, Yangibazar, Pitnak, Chalysh, Khiva		
Day 24	08/04/2023			
Day 25	09/04/2023			
Days	Date	From	To	Camping
Return & departure from Turkmenistan:				
Day 26	10/04/2023	Xorazm	Daşoguz, Turkmenistan	12th Camp.
Day 27	11/04/2023	Daşoguz	Darvaza gas crater	13th Camp
Day 28	12/04/2023	Darvaza gas crater		
Day 29	13/04/2023	Darvaza gas crater	Ashgabat – Firuzeh	14th Camp
Day 30	14/04/2023	Ashgabat (Turkmenistan)	Bajgiran (Iran)	---
Total Stay:		30 Days		



AFFILIATE MEMBERS NEWS

ATTENDING INTERNATIONAL EVENTS PRACTICAL ACTION TO DEVELOP INTERNATIONAL TOURISM

CEO of Abas Abad Eco Park traveled to Russia in order to attend the third international exhibition and conference on the "Creation, maintenance and development of comfortable urban environment, recreation parks, public spaces and specially protected natural areas"-ParkSeason Expo- and in the opening and public panel This exhibition gave a speech.

This exhibition aimed to show the latest achievements in green space improvement, space cleanliness, and services, information technology security and solutions, entertainment, sports and health, public nutrition, special facilities for parks, nature and animal world, tourism, and relaxation.

Mohammad Hossein Hejazi, while welcoming at the opening ceremony and announcing the readiness of this collection to expand interactions with companies and related institutions present in the exhibition, gave a special presentation in the general panel of this conference on the topic of "multipurpose development of territories as a key tool for creating a comfortable urban environment" and shared the experience of Tehran Municipality in the development of urban parks and public spaces.

Recalling the historical background of life in Tehran, he enumerated the tourist attractions in the capital of Iran and the measures Tehran Municipality took to develop tourism. Explanation about per capita green spaces in Tehran based on global indicators, Tehran's valuable experiences in the field of tree planting, landscaping, lighting, implementation of cultural programs, maintenance of urban parks and eco-parks, green and environmentally friendly transportation, how to provide urban services to the elderly, the disabled, children, etc. were among the other topics raised by the CEO of Abas Abad Renovation Company.

In the end, while explaining the latest status and facilities of Abas Abad Eco Park, as an affiliated member of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), he announced the readiness of this complex to exchange experiences in various civil, technical, educational issues and economic and investment partnerships. Meeting and talking with the Deputy Minister of Infrastructure of Russia, the Deputy Mayor of Moscow, the head of the Russian Tour Operators Union, the head of the Russian International Academy for Tourism (RIAT), the head of the Board of Directors of the Association of Parks of Russia, etc. were among the other plans of this trip.



Abasabad Renovation Company

PARKSEASON EXPO
ГЛАВНАЯ ПАРКОВАЯ ВЫСТАВКА РОССИИ
5-6 АПРЕЛЯ 2023
МОСКВА, ЦВК «ЭКСПОЦЕНТР»

III Международная выставка-конференция по созданию, обслуживанию и развитию комфортной городской среды, парков отдыха, общественных пространств и особо охраняемых природных территорий
EXPO.URBANPARKS.RU

ДОМ.РФ – ЕДИНЫЙ ИНСТИТУТ РАЗВИТИЯ В ЖИЛИЩНОЙ СФЕРЕ РОССИИ

- Развитие рынка недвижимости, повышение доступности жилья, создание комфортных условий проживания
- Увеличение количества городской среды к 2025 г. **× 1,5**
- 5 млн семей "Уютное жилье"
- Проекты городского развития и благоустройства общественных пространств
- Проведение краудсорсинговых конкурсов
- Инициатива "Культура городской среды" - инструмент взаимодействия
- Методические документы
- Технические проекты позитивного проживания
- Образовательные программы
- Фигурка "Счастье для жителей"

38 мастер-планов разработаны проектом "Уютное жилье"

312 дизайн-проектов подготовлены к выставке

408 участников проекта "Уютное жилье"

> 360 грантов выданы в рамках программы "Уютное жилье"

Панельная дискуссия с участием представителей различных организаций и компаний, работающих в сфере недвижимости и городского развития.

AFFILIATE MEMBERS NEWS

AMFORHT NEWSLETTER MAY 2023

AMFORHT is excited to introduce the latest newsletter, which provides the most up-to-date information and insights on the hospitality industry.

AMFORHT team has worked tirelessly to bring you the most relevant news, trends, and emerging technologies from across the globe. This edition of the newsletter focuses on sustainability in hospitality, exploring ways that businesses can reduce their environmental impact while still delivering exceptional guest experiences. We also highlight the latest actions, and interview leading hospitality professionals who share their perspectives on the industry's future.

AMFORHT is confident that this newsletter will provide valuable insights to help you stay ahead of the curve in the ever-changing hospitality landscape.

AMFORHT encourages you to read and share the newsletter with your colleagues and peers, and to engage with us on social media to share your thoughts and feedback.

To access AMFORHT Newsletter, kindly click [**HERE**](#)



**WELCOME TO
AMFORHT NEWSLETTER**



AFFILIATE MEMBERS NEWS

TOURISM SUCCESS INDEX OF PORTUGUESE MUNICIPALITIES - A NEW APPROACH BY IPDT

IPDT has been working on a new model for assessing the success of tourist destinations and recently published a new tool for this end: the Tourism Success Index of Portuguese municipalities. The index includes social and environmental indicators, besides traditional economics and financial metrics.

The Tourism Success Index aims to contribute to a more competitive tourism sector, by stimulating the quality of the offer and so meet the demands of present and future tourist profiles. The awareness of local communities for the adoption of more responsible practices, while having sustainability as the new metric for evaluating the success of tourist destinations, is the central objective of the Index.

To analyze the destinations' current situation, 17 indicators were selected, covering environmental, social, economic, and cultural areas.

The data used for this analysis was that of the national institute of statistics (INE), PORDATA database, and key official websites.

Energy and water consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, crime rate, gender equality, tourism intensity, and density, seasonality rate, GVA of accommodation and restaurants, and destination certification, are some of the indicators considered in the index.

Based on this methodology, the 308 Portuguese municipalities were analyzed, resulting in the following top 5 of the most successful tourist destinations in Portugal: Melgaço, Ponta do Sol, Manteigas, Sardoal, and Mondim de Basto. Complete ranking is available [HERE](#).

This evaluation model should be seen as a stimulus for tourist destinations to embrace actions towards a more sustainable future, whereby tourism is highly responsible for the well-being and happiness of local communities and tourists.



AFFILIATE MEMBERS NEWS

SCOTLAND'S JOURNEY TO NET ZERO: DELIVERING CLIMATE ACTION IN TOURISM

*May 16, 2023, 17:30 – 20:00
Scotland House Brussels,
Rondpoint Schuman 6, 1040*

VisitScotland, the national tourism organisation, is delighted to invite you to an in-person event at Scotland House Brussels on May 16, 2023. It will focus on the activity being delivered to support Scotland's tourism industry on the road to Net Zero.

Decarbonising the tourism sector is a challenge many destinations now face and Scotland has committed to ambitious targets to reach Net Zero by 2045.

Chairman of VisitScotland, Lord Thurso, will share his perspective on the opportunities – and challenges – ahead for tourism. We will also be joined by VisitScotland's Senior Responsible Tourism Manager, Lyn Donnelly,

who will highlight the actions being taken in Scotland and ask:

How do we support tourism businesses and industry to take climate action? How do we collaborate with, and help enable, destination-level stakeholders? And what are the next steps that can make a difference on the journey to Net Zero?

Collaboration with EU colleagues will also be discussed in light of the shared challenges for more sustainable tourism. Such exchange will be vital as we work to ensure that tourism plays a role in tackling the climate emergency.

Registration will take place from 17:30, with the event beginning at 18:00. The presentation will include a Q&A and will be followed by a reception showcasing Scottish food and drink.

If you would like to attend this event, please contact lee.mcronald@visitscotland.com by May 11.



AFFILIATE MEMBERS NEWS

5TH AFRICA YOUTH IN TOURISM INNOVATION SUMMIT 2023 MOVES TO SWAKOPMUND FROM 31 MAY TO 2 JUNE

With only three weeks before the 5th Africa Youth in Tourism Innovation Summit and Challenge kicks off, this year's edition is scheduled for 31 May to 2 June 2023 in Swakopmund, and again hosted by the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, Namibia.

The town is a coastal city in Namibia, west of the capital, Windhoek with must-experience beautiful sandy beaches.

Held annually in collaboration with the UNWTO and BDO, this year's Summit will include desktop exhibition, SME Digital/social media and Entrepreneurship Masterclass, SMEs trade offerings including tour operators, tourism accommodation facilities, transport service providers, educational institutions, travel and marketing technology start-ups and incubators, employment agencies, professional development and more. The goal is to provide a transformative platform for African Youth, start-ups, entrepreneurs and small enterprises for income generation and career development.

The faculty for this year's summit includes Elcia Grandcourt - Director, Africa Department, UNWTO - Spain, Hon. Pohamba Shifeta - MP Minister of Environment, Forestry and Tourism, Namibia, Dr. Linda Pereira - CPL Events, Portugal, Nangula Uaandja CEO of The Namibia Investment Promotion and Development Board (NIPDB), Prof. Michael Twum-Darko - Cape Peninsula of University of Technology, Hamza Farooqui - Founder & CEO, Millat Investments, South Africa, Alex Mabunda - Founder and CEO, Nyitiso Consulting Group, South Africa, Robert Eiman - The DBN Head - Namibia, Caroline Wairimu - Deputy Operations Coordinator, INUA AI Solutions, Kenya, Mustapha Tijjani - CEO & Co-Founder, Aeropaye, Nigeria, York Zucchi - Centre For Unconventional Entrepreneurship, Switzerland, Dipopego Julius Tsheko - Project Manager, Global Expo Botswana, BITC, Botswana.

Mentorship of the Innovation Challenge finalists has commenced. Top three finalists will be announced on the last day of the Summit. Currently, registrations for both physical and virtual participants are ongoing. Interested persons may visit www.youthtourismsummit.com. For more information about the Summit, , please contact Ms. Rejoice Chishamba at: rejoice@africatourismpartners.com

5th Africa Youth In Tourism
Innovation Summit & Challenge

Swakopmund,
Namibia

31 May – 02 June 2023



Scan to register now



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AFFILIATE MEMBERS NEWS

EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME ON ESG IN HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM HELD AT SHTM

Organised by the SHTM and supported by Hotel ICON and Hospitality Sales & Marketing Association International (HSMAI) Asia Pacific, the Executive Development Programme on ESG in Hospitality and Tourism was successfully held in March 2023, attracting a host of industry practitioners.

The programme offered three modules, each focused on one aspect of ESG. Together, they provided a complete picture of ESG concepts in the industry.

The first module, "Caring for the Environment", was delivered by Dr Deniz Kucukusta, SHTM Associate Professor, who covered the principles and concepts in environmental sustainability and illustrated how the industry was switching to renewable energy with the objective of a carbon-neutral future. Using examples of good practices, Dr Kucukusta also explained how the industry is dealing with waste, encouraging healthy lifestyles, and improving air quality.

In the second module, Dr Sebastian Filep, SHTM Assistant Dean, focused on "Creating a Positive Impact on Society". Dr Filep covered the key concepts of this important topic, such as corporate social responsibility, positive organisational scholarship and the latest trends in supporting the well-being of tourism and hospitality stakeholders. Dr Filep also illustrated how positive relationships with the community contribute to the success of a business.

The programme ended with a third module, "Upholding Good Governance", which was presented by Dr Michael Lin, SHTM Assistant Professor. Dr Lin covered the handling of global and local issues in governance, such as anti-corruption, data security, and risk management. Dr Lin also explored with participants the oversight of ESG and the need to keep society informed of how the industry was faring in ESG.

The School is very proud to have organised this important programme in collaboration with Hotel ICON, its teaching and research hotel, and HSMAI Asia Pacific. The programme enabled participants to articulate ESG concepts and relate them to the hospitality and tourism businesses they work for.





The UNWTO Affiliate Members Department is responsible for the management of the partnership between UNWTO and the private sector.

Contact us at: am@unwto.org