

# Sustainable, resilient, data driven tourism in the post-Covid world: taking care of business

## Steps towards the European Tourism Agenda

"Sustainable Tourism Training for Tomorrow" EUROPARC Federation event 17/06/2021 Ramune Genzbigelyte Venturi Policy Officer -Tourism Team European Commission, DG GROW - G1

# Relaunching safe and seamless travel for the summer season 2021







### Re-open EU (europa.eu)



# Long-term priorities for Tourism ecosystem

- Recovery and resilience
- Responsible and sustainable tourism
- Digital transformation innovation and data
- **Skills** fit for tomorrow (European Skills Agenda, EU Pact for skills)
- Global competition EU sustainable, quality destination

Roadmap for the future:



Tourism Transition Pathway ➡ European Agenda for Tourism





A EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY

A new Industrial Strategy for a globally competitive, green and digital Europe





Commission Communication "Updating the 2020 New Industrial Strategy" (5 May 2021)

# 2021 Industrial Strategy Update



A EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY

A new Industrial Strategy for a globally competitive, green and digital Europe

- Need to accelerate the green and digital transitions and increase resilience for all 14 industrial ecosystems
- Transition pathways to be co-created with industry, public authorities, social partners and other stakeholders
- Priority to ecosystems that face the most important challenges meeting climate and digital goals and have been most heavily affected by the crisis
- Action: co-creation of transition pathways, starting with tourism as of Q2 2021.



Commission communication "Updating the 2020 New Industrial Strategy" (May 2021)

## Tourism ecosystem

### **Current situation**

#### Input challenges

- Limited data sharing
- Lack of digital/green skills
- Infrastructures not fully adapted for pandemics
- Limited availability / use of affordable and clean technologies for passenger transport
- Remaining barriers to Single Market

### **Demand challenges**

- Lack of consumer confidence
- New consumer aspirations (green, slow, authentic ... tourism)
- Less seamless travel (border controls...)

### **Competitiveness challenges**

- Relocation of online services (booking ...)

### Investment challenges

- Highest inv. gap (~€161 bn),
- High level of debt (solvency) & uncertain recovery's pace

### **EU** policy tools

- Clear rules on tourism data access and sharing
- EU pact for tourism skills
- Platform-to-Business relations framework
- Single Market review (short-term accommodation rental...)
- Protecting geographical indications (GI) for non-agricultural goods ٠
- **European Tourism Health Seal**
- **Consumer protection** (adequate rules for packages sold online ...) ٠
- Greening transparency tools (Tourism dashboard, sustainable destination passport, GHG footprint trackers...)
- Digitalisation of visa procedures

#### **Covering investment needs**

**RRF** (tourism specific measures in national Plans + support through horizontal measures like energy efficiency, clean mobility, connectivity and digitalisation)

MFF (ERDF regional investments, CEF transport, Digital Europe, InvestEU – see Guide to EU funding for tourism 05/21)

### Goals

- Improving data sharing at EU level to increase productivity and offer new tourism services
- Re- and up-skilling tourism workforce
- Improving Single Market ٠ functioning
- **Restoring consumer** confidence to pre-Covid level
- **Decarbonising tourism** destinations
- **Restoring seamless travel**



European Commission

### **Collaborative policy-making**

Digital innovation hubs & Clusters cooperation

# Why start with the tourism ecosystem?

- Very important for the EU in 2019 tourism generated 9.5% of the total GDP and was responsible for 22.6 million jobs
- Was hit very hard by the COVID-pandemic lost 70% of revenues in 2020 and up to 11 million jobs are at risk;
- Tourism globally accounts for 8% of GHG emissions
- EU tourism SMEs are generally characterised by a low level of digitalization
- Expectations of tourism stakeholders ahead of the summer
- The goal is to build back better leverage the recovery for the twin transition

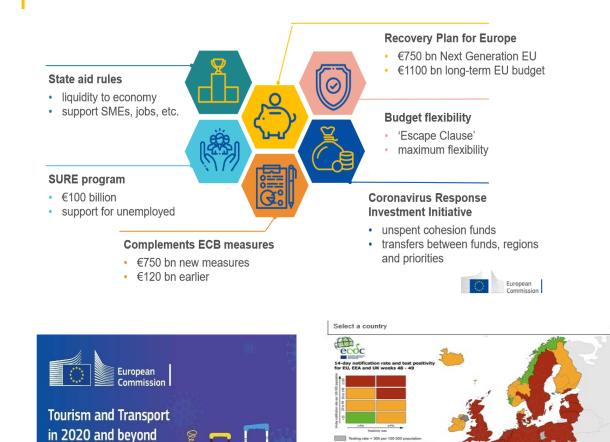


# Commission Staff Working Document presenting Transition Pathway for EU Tourism (upcoming mid-June 2021)

- Proposes for each key aspect: resilience, sustainability, digital innovation
  - Concrete issues
  - Possible scenarios for 2030, joint objectives for stakeholders to consider
  - Roles and actions for tourism stakeholders in the transition
- Presents supportive horizontal measures, such as legislative framework, funding, guidance and training, data and indicators, awareness raising and best practice sharing
- Outlines specific questions to stakeholders a targeted online consultation in parallel



### EU response in restarting tourism: from crisis management to the recovery support







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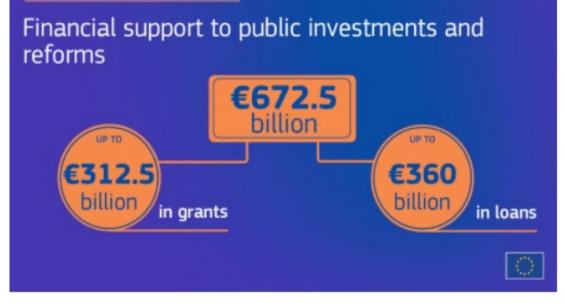


https://reopen.europa.eu/en/



# NextGeneration EU – enabling framework

#### RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE FACILITY



#### **RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE FACILITY**

### Flagship areas for investments and reforms







# Scope of the Recovery and Resilience Facility

### Structured around six pillars:



Green transition



Digital transformation



Economic cohesion, productivity and competitiveness



Social and territorial cohesion



Health, and economic, social and institutional resilience



Policies for the next generation



# Thank you and keep in touch!

DG GROW. G1 Unit - Tourism and Textiles: <u>GROW-G1@ec.europa.eu</u>)

DG GROW website: https://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/tourism



