

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

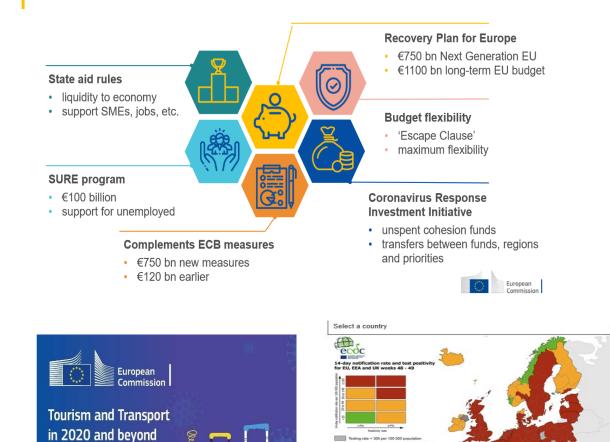


Commission Staff Working Document presenting Transition Pathway for EU Tourism (upcoming mid-June 2021)

- 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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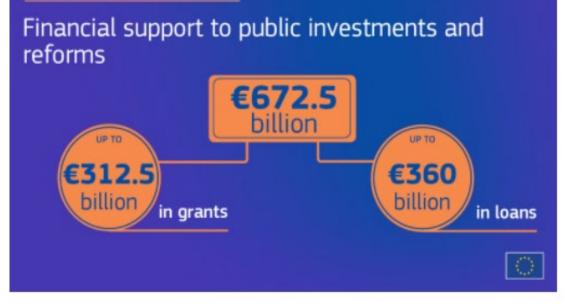


https://reopen.europa.eu/en/



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!

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



