Mainstreaming Biodiversity Considerations into Sustainable Tourism Development & Land Use Planning

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The Importance of Tourism in Caribbean SIDS

Source: www.wttc.org

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Tourism Life Cycle

- Planning & Design
- Investment
- Operations & Management
- Marketing & Promotion
- Products & Services
- Monitoring & Evaluation

Value Chain

- Public Sector
  - National/Local Government Ministries
  - Statutory Agencies
  - Semi-State Organisations
  - Authorities
  - Natural Assets
  - Cultural Assets
  - Staff

- Private Sector
  - Investors
  - Planners
  - Architects
  - Tour Operators
  - Hotels
  - Restaurants
  - Transport
  - Recreation
  - Suppliers
  - Workers

- Civil Society
  - Investors
  - Planners
  - Architects
  - Tour Operators

Focus on 6 areas

- "whole of industry" approach
- Monitoring
- Knowledge
- Stakeholders
- Supply Chains
- Projects

For a sustainable Sector: implementation is essential!

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Caribbean SIDS:

Biodiversity ‘hotspot’ and “one of the world’s greatest centers of biodiversity and endemism”

Specific threats to biodiversity:
- Invasive alien species
- Residential, commercial development
- Severe weather, climate change
- Habitat loss & fragmentation
- Agriculture
- Over-exploitation of living resources
- Pollution of coastal areas

Southern Africa:

“Centre of Biodiversity richness & endemism”

Specific threats to biodiversity:
- Invasive alien species
- Rapid development
- Climate change
- Habitat loss
- Mining
- Illegal harvesting
- Trade of wildlife, forest resources
- Over-harvesting of select species

Can tourism provide solutions for better planning & collaboration?

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Snapshot of Biodiversity Projects in Caribbean SIDS

Opportunities for biodiversity conservation via tourism?

GEF-Funded Biodiversity Projects
(Public Sector)
Data Source: www.thegef.org
- 40 “Biodiversity” Projects
- $173M

Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF)
Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot Investment, 2010-2015
(Civil Society Grants)
- 53 Projects
- $6.6M

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Caribbean Proposal Ideas
UNEP & the Global Partnership

Build upon regional cooperation platforms e.g. in tourism sector & energy efficiency gains

- Sustainable energy standards – sector modernization, technology markets, consumer awareness & demand
- Mainstreaming resource efficiency: water, waste, land, food supply/sources
- Preserving capacity
  - Biodiversity conservation
  - Sustainable consumption & production
  - Natural & cultural sites and attractions

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Snapshot of Biodiversity Projects in Southern Africa

Opportunities for biodiversity conservation via tourism?

Data Source: www.thegef.org

- 88 GEF-funded “Biodiversity” (Public Sector) Projects
- $1.3B

- Broad coalition of tourism stakeholders: collaboration & cooperating
- Resource efficiency assessment & planning tools e.g. tourism assets vs. biodiversity ‘hotpots’ mapping; project screening
- Small-grant project support by theme &/or actors
- Preserving capacity
  - Poverty alleviation
  - Jobs
  - Poaching

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End result:
Establishing “A Virtuous Cycle” of sustainability

- Consumer Awareness & Demand
- Capacity
- Business models
- Technology use

Demonstrated by monitoring indicators & measures

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The United Nations led international initiative dedicated to promoting sustainable tourism practices around the world.

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