


Tourism in a low-carbon economy

Adjusting to a carbon-constrained future

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Context



- ✓ Tourism makes up approx. 5% of global GHG emissions
- ✓ Tourism is currently almost entirely dependent on fossil fuel energy
- ✓ Transport to and from the travel destination, accommodation, and tourist activities
- ✓ Expected to further increase over next 20 years
 - ✓ Strong growth in international travel
 - ✓ Number of people travelling
 - ✓ Travel frequency and distance
- ✓ Hardly any climate governance for tourism

Drivers



- ✓ Response to higher energy costs and climate legislation
- ✓ Increased efficiencies
- ✓ Meeting organisational and environmental objectives
- ✓ An opportunity for public recognition, improved/differentiated branding
- ✓ External demand for more transparency
- ✓ Redirecting resources at expansion or new products and services
 - ✓ Certified products/services
 - ✓ Ecosystem services

Perceived risks



- ✓ Absence of global (regulatory) framework
- ✓ Cost prohibitive
- ✓ Low level of interest
- ✓ Lack of knowledge of managers/owners
- ✓ Insufficient resources
- ✓ Financial, strategic and market risks
 - ✓ Will projects deliver?
 - ✓ Are other corporate goals affected?
 - ✓ What if energy prices or interest rates rise/drop?

Offsetting and abatement strategies



- ✓ Action on climate change strongly related to cost
- ✓ Aligns with core objectives and competencies of the business
- ✓ Choice of measure(s) can be influenced by existence of climate policy
- ✓ Offsetting
 - ✓ Purchase of emission reductions achieved elsewhere
 - ✓ Cost-effective alternative to internal abatement
- ✓ Abatement strategies
 - ✓ Energy efficiency, renewable energy
 - ✓ Pollution prevention
 - ✓ Effective procurement, supply chain engagement

What can business do?



- ✓ Assess environmental performance and impact, i.e. carbon footprint, energy audit
- ✓ Identify opportunities based on environmental performance
- ✓ Engage with staff, guests, supply chain
- ✓ Investment in more energy/water/waste efficient features and services
- ✓ Participate in voluntary programs
 - ✓ Ecotourism Australia
 - ✓ National Carbon Offset Standard Carbon Neutral Program
 - ✓ Airport Carbon Accreditation

Sustainability Strategy



- ✓ Can come in many different shapes and have different names
- ✓ Establishes a robust process for data collection & reporting
- ✓ Sets a performance baseline & tracks performance over time
- ✓ Defines technical steps and targets
- ✓ Helps to select which activities will make the most impact
- ✓ Outlines what activities are being undertaken, by whom & by when
- ✓ Builds sustainability into operations, maintenance and/or staff remuneration practices and procedures

Thank You!



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