Mainstreaming Accessibility in Tourism

UNWTO

Igor Stefanovic Ethics & Social Responsibility Programme



# **About UNWTO**

- Promotion of responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism
- Mainstreaming tourism in the global agenda
- Int'l hub for tourism know-how, policy making, competitiveness, tourism trends & statistics
- 157 Member States + more than 480 Affiliate Members



## Why Tourism matters?



WHY TOURISM MATTERS

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## Where tourists go most?



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## Who are the top spenders?





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## **Global Code of Ethics for Tourism**



Roadmap for

#### development of sustainable,

#### responsible and accessible tourism



Translated into 43 languages





# **UNWTO on Universal Accessibility**

- Not only a human right issue
- A transversal element of any tourism policy & strategy
- Contributes to **extended seasons**
- Benefits the whole society
- Dependent on removing mental barriers
- Political will, business strategies, constant innovation & direct involvement of DPOs

Photo credit: Jose Junca Ubierna



## **Our Work**

**1980** onwards – **Resolutions & recommendations** adopted by the General Assembly of UNWTO targeting the tourism sector

2007 – UN Convention on the Rights of People with DisabilitiesArt. 30: Participation in sport & leisure activities

2011 onwards - Close partnerships with DPOs and civil society

## **UNWTO Recommendations**

#### 2013-UNWTO Recommendations on Accessible Tourism for All 2015-UNWTO Recommendations on Accessible Info. in Tourism





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#### Removing barriers for a **better quality of** life for ALL

#### Underpinning elements: Universal **Design** & adequate staff training



## **UNWTO technical Manuals**

#### **Our partners: ONCE F/ENAT & ACS F**

Aimed at **destinations/tourism industry** to:

Understand accessbility users /value chain
Appreciate its economic advantages
Asses accessiblity level with indicators
Learn how to implement accessbility



## **Accessible Tourism Value Chain**



# **Creating Policy Framework**

- Key role of National Tourism Administrations
- Planning and long-term plans vs. short-term solutions
- Legislation & standards
- Elimination of barriers + Universal Design
- Training and awareness-raising
- Labor inclusion
- Accountability and regular assessment of results

# **Advancing Accessbility Strategies**

Engage in **strategic planning by:** 

Advancing supply & demand research

Creating development plans for destinations and products ,

innovation and development of SMEs to enhance

#### competitiveness

Adopting quality standards

> Developing marketing, promotion, booking/sales channels

Corporate Social Responsibility actions- CSR

# **Promoting Good Practices**

- Key to awareness-raising
- Instrumental in training to learn do's and don'ts
- Adding value to positive stories and inspiring decision makers and peers
- Enabling potential clients to identify their next destination





# Join us in celebrating the World Tourism Day 2016!

## Grazie

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