Sustainable Tourism

Spanish Experience

Spain overview

- Spain is the 2nd country with the largest number of biosphere reserves (47 of the 631 in the world).
- 2nd country with more geoparks in the world (11 out of the 120 worldwide).
- The first European country with the most protected areas accredited as sustainable destinations by the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism (42 out of the existing 150 protected areas in the 17 European countries using this system).
- Spain has a high percentage of well-preserved landscapes, namely 27% of its area is part of the Natura 2000 network (the European network of protected biodiversity areas).
- Spain is a leader in number of blue flags awarded to the beaches for their environmental quality. 1 out of 6 Blue Flags worldwide, waves in Spain.
- Spain has developed the product Ecotourism supported by the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in protected areas. There is a product club with more than 900 certified tourism companies that makes the ecotourism experience in Spain an attractive and certificated product available for final consumers and tour operators.
Tourism Sustainability

- The Tourism Secretary of State has been actively working in tourism sustainability since years.

- The National and Integral Plan of Tourism (PNIT 2012-2015) incorporated sustainability as a cross-goal. Therefore, the Tourism Secretary of State developed “DTS” (Sustainable Tourism Destination Method) developing indicators according to GSTC and agenda 21 criteria.

- DTS is a tourism planning method at local level that helps municipalities to improve the planning of their tourism model, measuring sustainability and helping in the decision making.

DTS method

This method implies following steps:

1. Sustainability diagnosis (economic, social and environmental)
2. Participated strategy to work for tourism sustainability
3. Action plan to tackle the problems detected in diagnosis
4. Follow-up plan
5. Participation procedure
6. Communication procedure
Indicators of touristic sustainability in DTS:

- Basic Indicators System (from 21 agendas)
  - Basic Indicators (26)
  - Additional Indicators (18)
  - Turistic Establishments indicators (11)

- Follow-up indicators from the Action Plan

- Participation indicators

Examples of basic indicators for touristic sustainability in DTS:

- Electric power consumption due to tourism: $CE_{turismo} = CE_{PTE}$
Drinking water consumption due to tourism:

\[ \text{CA turismo} = \frac{C_A}{P_T P} \]

Urban waste production due to tourism:

\[ \text{GRU turismo} = \frac{R_U}{P_T P} \]
Pertentage of tourism inflow in the local destination:

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PT = \frac{ET}{Total Population} \times 100
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Thanks for your attention!