Hrvoje Carić

**Climate Change and Tourism: Where We Are Now and How to Enable Positive Change to Low Carbon Tourism**

Addressing climate change through tourism activities is critical to reducing emissions, conserving natural resources, supporting economic resilience, promoting education and awareness, fostering collaboration and innovation, and enhancing the adaptive capacity of destinations. By adopting sustainable practices, the tourism industry can contribute to global efforts to mitigate climate change and create a more sustainable future. To achieve this, stakeholders need to be educated on how to approach low carbon tourism (LCT) and how the EU Erasmus+ project VINCI contributes to knowledge transfer in this regard.

The EU recognises the importance of low-carbon tourism for sustainable development, climate change mitigation and the preservation of natural and cultural heritage. Through policies, funding and the promotion of sustainable practices, the EU aims to make the tourism sector greener and more resilient. The EU has taken important steps that demonstrate its commitment to change. Here are some important points:

1. **Climate targets:** The EU is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and achieving carbon neutrality. The *European Green Deal* aims to make Europe the first carbon-neutral continent by 2050, with low-carbon tourism playing a crucial role.
2. **Sustainable tourism policies:** The EU has implemented guidelines and policies to foster sustainable tourism practices. The EU Tourism Sustainability Strategy ensures that tourism contributes to sustainable development and addresses climate change through energy efficiency and environmental impact reduction.
3. **Funding and support:** The EU provides funding and support for a number of low-carbon tourism related projects. The European Regional Development Fund and the European Social Fund invest in sustainable tourism infrastructure, energy efficiency and training initiatives. On the other hand, Erasmus+ helps to train and upskill stakeholders.
4. **Certification and labeling:** The EU encourages the use of certification and labeling schemes to promote low-carbon tourism. The EU Ecolabel certifies accommodations and campsites that meet specific environmental criteria, helping consumers identify eco-friendly options.
5. **Research and innovation:** The EU invests in research projects related to low-carbon tourism. Programs like Horizon Europe, support research on sustainable tourism practices, renewable energy solutions, and low-carbon transportation to reduce the tourism sector’s carbon footprint.

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Hrvoje Carić, PhD, Corresponding Author, Institute for Tourism, Zagreb, Croatia; ORCID ID: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9755-4688; e-mail: hrvoje.caric@iztzg.hr