



# TOURISM AND SDG 13 CLIMATE ACTION

As a sector that is dependent on the environment, tourism contributes to and is directly affected by climate change. Tourism stakeholders should play a leading role in the global response to climate change. By reducing its carbon footprint, mostly in the transport and accommodation industries, tourism can benefit from low carbon growth and help tackle one of the most pressing challenges of our time.

Achieving the SDGs through tourism: Toolkit of Indicators (TIPs) publication will allow users to explore tourism's role in achieving SDG 13 and discover links and connections

tourism have with climate change.

Each chapter in Part II of TIPs is dedicated to one SDG. In the chapter for SDG 13, users will be introduced to selected targets and potential indicators (note: Indicators are nonexhaustive and adaptable) for tourism projects to take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

## Selected SDG 13 Targets : 13.1 | 13.2 | 13.3 | 13.b

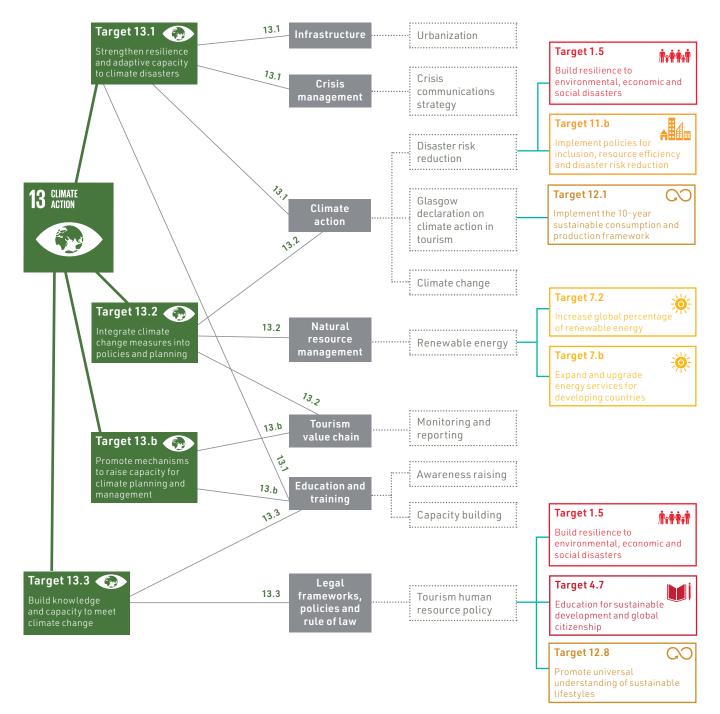
There are four targets within SDG 13 that are deemed to ensure the promotion of climate action. These targets have been selected to base the potential project indicators.

In the following pages, you will find:

- a visual aid which illustrates the connection between the selected SDG 13 targets with various themes, subthemes and connection with other SDGs and targets.
- Snapshot of the tourism-related SDG 13 targets including short elaboration of its connection with tourism, together with examples of potential indicators.



Visual aid - Connections between selected SDG 13 targets with themes/sub-themes and other SDGs/targets





# 13.1 STRENGTHEN RESILIENCE AND ADAPTIVE CAPACITY TO CLIMATE-RELATED HAZARDS AND NATURAL DISASTERS IN ALL COUNTRIES.

Target 13.1 specifically aims to strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters. Such events are the consequence of climate change, and their frequency and intensity are increasing. Many tourism destinations are exposed to different impacts from climate change, such as coastal erosion, reduction of the snowpack, hurricanes, etc. It is therefore crucial to build resilience including proactively de-risking and adapting destinations, reducing exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events, as well as other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters. Tourism stakeholders can transform the landscape for climate action and optimize instruments and strategies to scale up mitigation and adaptation in tourism destinations, contributing therefore towards the achievement of this target.

Potential indicators in this target are grouped by the following **Theme** and *sub-theme*:

Climate action / Disaster risk reduction Crisis management / Crisis communications strategy Infrastructure / Urbanization Education and training / Capacity building Education and training / Awareness raising

#### **Examples of potential indicators:**

- Whether there is a creation or improvement of tourism crisis management plan/disaster risk management policy or strategy plan (Yes/No)
- Number of tourism businesses successfully implementing the protocols set out to combat the impact of a crisis/disaster
- Number of tourism businesses breaching building codes or requirements

And more..



#### **13.2 INTEGRATE CLIMATE CHANGE MEASURES INTO NATIONAL POLICIES, STRATEGIES, AND PLANNING.**

Tourism can act as an engine to build resilience, reduce exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters. As a sector, tourism can promote and integrate climate change approaches, given the often-heavy reliance on tourism as a key economic driver (cf. Sendai Framework). Both public and private sectors should have/build the capacity to prevent, manage, adjust and adapt the impact of the tourism sector to climate change. Depending on the countries' governance structure or the monitoring instruments available, the contribution of a tourism project to this target might be straightforward to measure.

Potential indicators in this target are grouped by the following **Theme** and *sub-theme*:

Climate action/ Climate change

**Climate action /** *Glasgow Declaration on Climate Action in Tourism* 

Natural resource management / Renewable energy

Tourism value chain / Monitoring and reporting

#### Examples of potential indicators:

- Whether there is a national tourism and climate change policy/ strategy creation (Yes/No)
- Number of laws, policies regulations, or standards regarding the tourism sector addressing renewable energy
- Number of tourism businesses having a corporate policy/ strategy (CSR) which includes climate change practices

And more..

# 13.3 IMPROVE EDUCATION, AWARENESS-RAISING AND HUMAN AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY ON CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION, ADAPTATION, IMPACT REDUCTION AND EARLY WARNING.

Target 13.3 raises awareness about human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation ad impact reduction, as well as on early warning systems. The official indicator for this target measures the extent to which countries mainstream Global Citizenship Education (GCED) and Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in their education systems. Tourism can contribute to this target by referencing the official indicator and integrating ESD in the tourism education system, which will help to equip future tourism workers with adequate information on sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature. Awareness raising initiatives through tourism can enable people to develop knowledge, values and skills and motivate the community to change their behaviour to be more mindful of sustainable practices and take action for sustainable development.

Potential indicators in this target are grouped by the following **Theme** and *sub-theme*:

**Legal frameworks, polices and rule of law /** Tourism human resources policy

Education and training / Awareness Raising

#### **Examples of potential indicators:**

- Whether there is a creation/revision of a tourism HR policy/ strategy according to the needs of the tourism sector on climate change mitigation (Yes/No)
- Whether there is reference on capacity building on climate change mitigation and adaption in HR policy/strategies (Yes/No)
- Number of views of an online campaign on climate change and tourism

And more..

### RAISING CAPACITY FOR EFFECTIVE CLIMATE CHANGE-RELATED PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT IN LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES, INCLUDING FOCUSING ON WOMEN, YOUTH, AND LOCAL AND MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES.

Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are mostly located in regions of the world that are highly exposed to the consequences of climate change. Yet their resources to prepare for, or recover from climate change disasters, are very limited, which makes them more vulnerable. Some LDC and most SIDS economies are also very dependent on tourism, which makes tourism stakeholders' preparedness to face extreme events and long-term effects of climate change a crucial issue. This target aims to promote the empowerment of local communities, women and young people in developing countries and Small Island Developing States in relation to climate change action. It will also contribute to strengthening the resilience of tourism through the development of crisis management systems in national and regional tourism destinations covered by Article 4 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in 1992.

Potential indicators in this target are grouped by the following **Theme** and *sub-theme*:

Tourism value chain / *Monitoring and reporting* Education and training / *Capacity building*  determined contributions/long-term strategies/national adaptation plans/ adaptation communications mentioning tourism in LDCs and SIDS (Yes/No)

- Number of LDCs and SIDS with nationally determined contributions, long-term strategies, national adaptation plans and adaptation communications mentioning tourism.
- Number of capacity-building programmes on tourism and climate change-related issues in LDCs and/or SIDS



## TIPs Toolkit is a joint publication by:



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Discover more in the full publication, available online at UNWTO e-library: https://www.e-unwto.org/doi/10.18111/9789284424344