

#EUTourism T4T News

Newsletter nr 1 – June 2023

Together for
EU Tourism



Dear stakeholders, dear all,

Welcome to this first edition of #EUTourism T4T News of June 2023.

The European Commission's Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW) is happy to share with you the latest news on events, projects and calls in the area of tourism.

NEWS



Creation of a new informal Commission expert group

The Commission has created the informal 'Together for EU Tourism (T4T)' **expert group**, following an open [call for applications](#) for individuals and organisations.

The group is composed of a maximum of 50 different stakeholders and individual experts, as well as Member States' authorities and public entities.

The experts will work in **three sub-groups** on the **green** transition, **digital** transition and **resilience/ inclusion/ skills**, and will follow-up and monitor the actions in the [Transition Pathway for Tourism](#) and the [EU Agenda for Tourism 2030](#).

They will act as a bridge between the European Commission and the broader T4T stakeholder community and support making the [collaborative IT platform 'T4T'](#) an effective community space for all stakeholders from 2024 onwards.

The first meeting took place on 22 June 2023 and we look forward to working with its members closely over the coming months and years.

Guide on EU funding & open calls

The [Guide on EU funding for tourism](#) is regularly updated with relevant open calls for tenders and proposals under the section "Open tourism calls". Current funding opportunities include, for example:



- a **call for tenders on "Supporting Sustainability and Resilience of EU Tourism Destinations"** to offer technical assistance to tourism destinations, published on 17 May. The new call deadline is 27 June 2023. More information here: [eTendering - Data \(europa.eu\)](#);
- several **cascading calls for proposals** to directly support SMEs across EU countries, e.g. [ACCELERATOR call for supporting SMEs in the tourism sector](#) (closes on 4 July);
- announcement of 4 [forthcoming calls under Horizon Europe](#) with potential to support tourism;

- [open calls under Erasmus+](#), some of those focusing on vocational education and training and others to support mobility of staff to undertake a learning/professional experience in another country, closing on different dates in October 2023.

Up-to-date information and additional calls can be found by following the [top link of this section](#) of the Guide on EU funding for tourism to the **pre-defined search for "tourism"** on SEDIA.

On 31 May, a 2nd call for proposals was opened under the [European Urban Initiative](#). The call will fund projects to deliver tangible, real-life examples under three topics, one of them ["Sustainable tourism"](#). Under this topic, projects will be funded to support the long-term green and digital transformation and resilience of the tourism ecosystem. By introducing unique solutions and comprehensive policies for the promotion and management of sustainable tourism, cities can set an example for smaller towns, villages and regions that are more dependent on tourism for their economy, particularly in terms of reducing overdependence on a single sector and combining tourism economic activities with other investments and job creation efforts for diversification to other sectors. The other two topics are *"Greening cities"* and *"Harnessing talent in shrinking cities"*.

An indicative budget of EUR 120 million of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) is allocated to this call. Each project can receive up to EUR 5 million ERDF co-financing, and project implementation should take place within a maximum period of 3,5 years. The call is open until 5 October 2023. Selected projects will be announced in May 2024.

Urban authorities can apply to the call. More information on the specificities of eligible authorities can be found on page 13 of the [EUI-IA Guidance](#).

Please note that several seminars for applicants, in person and online, are foreseen:

In-person seminars:

- 15 June 2023, Brussels, Belgium
- 28 June 2023, Warsaw, Poland
- 6 July 2023, Ljubljana, Slovenia

[Registration open](#) on the dedicated site to Call 2 under Applicants Seminars (in person events)

Online seminars:

- 20 June 10:00-13:45
- 17 July 2023, 11.00 – 13.00
- 7 September 2023, 10.00 – 12.00

([Registration open](#) on the dedicated site to Call 2 Online collective Q&A sessions)

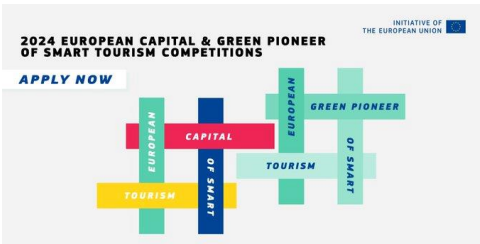
For detailed information on the call: [Sustainable tourism | EUI \(urban-initiative.eu\)](#)

Following the [study](#) on the feasibility of possible initiatives at EU level and establishment of a multi-stakeholder platform on quality of tourism accommodation, a new call follows its recommendation to create a Code of Conduct for online reviews and rating. The objective of the **Code of Conduct for online reviews and rating for tourism accommodation** is to define best practices to ensure that the reviews and ratings are reliable in this specific sector. The call is open until 24 July 2023 (12:00 CET).

More information and call documents on [Ted - eTendering](#).

In case you missed it

Last chance to become the European Capital or Green Pioneer of Smart Tourism 2024



If you missed the online workshops to guide your city/destination through the process of creating a successful application, you can now watch the full video recordings related to each competition:

- * [European Capital of Smart Tourism recording](#)
- * [European Green Pioneer of Smart Tourism recording](#)

Deadline to apply: 5 July 2023 (17:00 CET)

More information:

[EU initiative smart tourism website](#)
[How to nail your application in 7 steps](#)

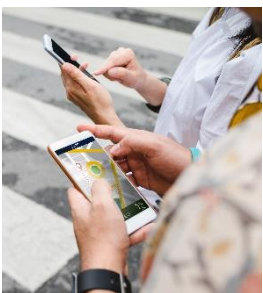
A big thank you to those who attended in person or online the European Tourism Day of 5 May 2023 in Brussels.



For those who missed it, you can still watch the full recording and have a look at the speakers' presentations and photos of the event: [European Tourism Day 2023](#).

Your contribution makes a difference

Digital tools and practices for tourism



The Commission has completed a study to collect transferable **digital tools and practices for tourism actors**, and published a searchable inventory on DG GROW's website: [Tools and practices \(europa.eu\)](#). This collection aims to help SMEs and destinations by giving options for readily available digital tools and practices for their use.

Many thanks to those stakeholders who have contributed thus far to this inventory, which is updated on a bi-monthly basis.

You can still add your digital tool or practice here: [EUSurvey - Digital tools & practices that support tourism](#)

Progress of the Transition Pathway for Tourism: Stocktaking 2023

All stakeholders who have submitted pledges to the [Transition Pathway for Tourism](#) have been asked for an update on the progress of these pledges. This update provides us with key information on active pledges and

their progress, which feeds into the first stocktaking report of the Transition Pathway, to be published before the end of the year. We encourage you to send in your updates, as those pledges from which we do not receive information will be assessed as “non-active/need revision”. Please send your updates to EU-TOURISM-PATHWAY-2030@ec.europa.eu.

The Commission has launched a **public consultation** to gather people’s views **on the EU’s intermediary climate target for 2040**, setting a path from our already-agreed 2030 targets to net-zero emissions by 2050. You can answer the public consultation [here](#). It will run until **24 June 2023**. More information: [Have your say on the EU’s climate target for 2040 \(europa.eu\)](#)

The European Commission would like to [hear your views](#) on the draft delegated regulation on **European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS)**. These standards guide companies in their reporting as required by the [Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive](#). The feedback period is open until **7 July 2023**.



The [Junior Professionals Project](#) addressing skills and staff shortages in EU Tourism needs your help to collect data. So, please fill in a short 10 minutes questionnaire by scanning the QR code or going to the [EUSurvey - jobs in EUTourism](#)
Contact: EU-JOBS-IN-TOURISM@ec.europa.eu

Relevant publications

A [package of different documents on sustainable finance](#) was published by the European Commission on 13 June 2023. The aim of this package is to ensure that the EU sustainable finance framework continues to support companies and the financial sector, while encouraging the private funding of transition projects and technologies. Specifically, the Commission added additional activities to the [EU Taxonomy](#), including accommodation in [Annex IV of the EU Taxonomy Delegated Act](#) on restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems. The EU Taxonomy is a classification system that helps companies and investors identify “environmentally sustainable” economic activities to make sustainable investment decisions.

The European Commission's Joint Research Centre has recently published a report on “**Regional impact of climate change on European tourism demand**”. You can read it here: <https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC131508>.



11 September 2023 AM: Open T4T community event in Brussels (hybrid meeting)

The European Commission continues organising open T4T stakeholder community events ahead of pledges collection cut-off dates, twice a year. Please mark your calendars: **11 September 2023, from 8:30-13:00 in Brussels** (with possibility for hybrid participation). We will provide **updates on recent developments** in the areas of the Transition Pathway for Tourism and **share best practices from stakeholder pledges**. This event should encourage you to update or send new pledges before the next pledges collection cut-off date of 18 September, for the publication of the fourth batch of pledges in mid-October.

End of September 2023: back-to-back meetings with the Tourism Advisory Committee with Member State representatives and the T4T expert group meeting (in-person)

End of September 2023: Shortlist announced for 2024 European Capital and Green Pioneer

30–31 October 2023: European Tourism Forum co-organised with the Spanish Presidency

16 November 2023: Tourism Intelligence Forum co-organised with the Spanish Presidency in Benidorm

Tourism website & other useful links

We created a **new website on Your Europe** “[Running a business in the tourism industry](#)” summarising and linking to the essentials on EU rules and consumer rights and some additional important topics for **tourism enterprises**.

There is also a **newly revamped DG GROW website for Tourism** with pages dedicated to the [transition of EU tourism](#).

For general **information about DG GROW**, please feel free to subscribe to the monthly [DG GROW newsletter](#). You can find the previous editions at [GROWTH - Newsletter Archives \(europa.eu\)](#)

Thank you for your support!

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