

**Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference
Sustainable Infrastructure
Sustainable Tourism
Education for Sustainable Development**

**5-7 of October 2022
Nicosia-Cyprus**

AGENDA

EUROPEAN SUSTAINABLE TOURISM AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY:

Shifting tourism towards circular economy models

October 6th 2022 - 13:10-14:40, 5b/Fresnel Building of Cyprus Institute

[English] {Hybrid}

Contribution from the Interest Group on Environment and Tourism (IGET)¹ of the European Network of the Heads of Environment Protection Agencies (EPA Network) to the UNECE Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference

The side event will provide an opportunity to present the main elements of the [background paper](#) that IGET has produced as a contribution to the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference and to discuss together with key actors from National/European/International institutions about the application of circular economy principles in the tourism sector. Amongst others, the one identified by the EPA Network in the Bellagio declaration, a set of principles capturing the essential elements of a monitoring framework for the transition to a Circular Economy. The [background paper](#) aims to provide a contribution to policy makers, in order to promote a sustainable and resilient tourism sector, and to show how the careful use of environmental resources are critical components of the sector and crucial for its recovery from the related impacts of the pandemic. The side event will focus on how tourism activities can shift to the circular economy paradigm to embrace a sustainable and resilient growth pathway and main elements needed for such shift.

¹ The EPA Network Interest Group on Environment and Tourism (IGET) was set up in 2021, with the aim to provide a contribution in rethinking and shifting the tourism sector in a sustainable development perspective after the pandemic crisis. IGET is composed of experts from both national environmental protection agencies and national tourism administrations (ministries, agencies and authorities).

Organisers: Giovanni Finocchiaro, Stefania Minestrini, Sandra Moscone - ISPRA - Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (IT).

Co-Organisers

IGET members: Ministry of Tourism and Sports of the Republic of Croatia (HR); Agência Portuguesa do Ambiente (PT); Turismo de Portugal (PT); ADEME - French Ecological Transition Agency (FR); Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge (ES); Environmental Protection Agency (IE); Fáilte Ireland (IE); Environment Agency Austria (AT); Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic (SK); SAŽP/Slovak Environment Agency (SK); Institute of Tourism (SK); Herman Ottó Institute (HU); Environment and Resources Authority (MT) ; Malta Tourism Authority (MT).

Moderator

Stefania MINISTRINI, *Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research – ISPRA*

Rapporteur

Sandra MOSCONE, *Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research - ISPRA*

Preliminary Agenda

13.10	<p>Opening remarks</p> <p>Stefano LAPORTA, <i>Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research – ISPRA</i></p> <p>H.E. Federica FERRARI BRAVO, <i>Embassy of Italy in Cyprus</i></p>
13.25	<p>Presentations</p> <p>Main elements of IGET background paper</p> <p>Giovanni FINOCCHIARO, <i>Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research – ISPRA</i></p>
13.35	<p>Circular Economy: the EEA perspective</p> <p>Luc BAS, <i>European Environment Agency</i></p>
13.45	<p>Sustainable Tourism and Circular Economy: the UN perspective</p> <p>Dirk GLAESSER, <i>UNWTO</i></p>
13.55	<p>Towards a transition pathway for tourism</p> <p>Ramune GENZIBIGELYTE-VENTURI, <i>European Commission - DG GROW</i></p>
14.05	<p>Steps towards measuring the environmental aspects of the sustainability of tourism</p> <p>Christophe DEMUNTER, <i>EUROSTAT</i></p>
14.15-14.35	<p>Discussion (Q&A)</p>
14.35- 14.40	<p>Closing remarks</p> <p>ISPRA and other partners</p>

Speakers and organisers

Luc BAS is Head of Coordination Network and Strategy Programme at the European Environment Agency. He is responsible for coherent and effective governance, coordination of strategic and policy-related activities.

Christophe DEMUNTER is responsible for tourism statistics at the European Commission, Eurostat Unit G-2 “European Businesses”.

H.E. Federica FERRARI BRAVO is Ambassador of Italy to Cyprus and she leads the Italian delegation at the Ninth Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference.

Giovanni FINOCCHIARO is the Head of Environmental Statistics Section of the Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA) and co-chair of the Interest Group on Environment and Tourism (IGET) of the EPA Network.

Ramune GENZIBIGELYTE-VENTURI is a policy officer for tourism at the DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs Unit GROW G1 – Tourism and Textiles, responsible - among other - for the aspects of sustainability, regional policy, rural tourism, funding aspects.

Dirk GLAESSER is Director of Sustainable Development of Tourism Programme at the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO). He is responsible for managing the programme.

Stefano LAPORTA is the President of the Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA). He is chairing the Italian National System for Environmental Protection (SNPA).

Stefania MINISTRINI is an expert on international cooperation at the Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA) and co-chair of the Interest Group on Environment and Tourism (IGET) of the EPA Network.

Sandra MOSCONE is part of the Institutional and International Affairs Unit at the Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA) and member of the Interest Group on Environment and Tourism (IGET) of the EPA Network.