



People



Planet



Profit



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## Introduction

<http://www.youtube.com/worldtravelmarket#p/c/82BA7DD47CFFE813/1/Rp1gQ61IYe4>

1. Perceptions
2. Development travel trade
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# Sustainable destinations?



# Perceptions

- ❖ Environment vs Social , Economic
- ❖ Sustainable – Eco tourism
- ❖ Big / mainstream vs. niche touroperators/ specialist
- ❖ Type of accommodations: ecolodges and small-scale vs mainstream - impacts
- ❖ Developing countries vs Europe
- ❖ Greenwashing and no control
- ❖ Need of urgency: financial crisis – environmental crisis

# Travel trade trends

European Tour operator associations  
expect their members to work towards sustainability

- **ANVR, Netherlands**
- **ABTA, UK**
- **ABTO, Belgium**
- **ASR, DRV Germany**
- **ASTOI, Italy**



# Sustainability



## Why is it relevant for you?

- ❖ Revenue growth
- ❖ Cost savings
- ❖ Pressure from society (e.g. NGO's, Unions, consumer)
- ❖ Access to capital
- ❖ Human capital
- ❖ Preservation of destination
- ❖ Brand value and Reputation of company, Risk Management
- ❖ Improved service- perform better
- ❖ Pro-active attitude government regulations

# Consumer Trends

- ❖ Enoughism: alarm health planet, influence materialism, reconnect, simple pleasure of life
- ❖ The Real thing:
  - ❖ travellers looking for destinations, culture and food with authenticity now a key decision factor
  - ❖ tourist wanting unique personal authentic experience





# Consumer Trends

- ❖ The echoes of eco: growing concern about environmental and social issues. Travellers increasingly hold countries and companies accountable for their footprint- expecting tax contributing towards environmental causes. Global warming is mega issue
- ❖ Travellers more aware of their own environmental impact- want "green options- demand information to evaluate and choose ethical operators
- ❖ Sustainability becoming tablestake rather than simply nice to do



# Consumer Trends

- ❖ Business as unusual (transparency and openness, a dialogue with consumer, innovations and sustainability)
- ❖ Me and my friends: sharing experience and information with friends while travelling (facebook, twitter), peer communication more relevant than companies. A good or bad note → huge implications tourism industry.



# Consumer Trends

- ❖ Eco-easy: consumer expect business to offer more green and sustainable products and services (Destinations, accommodations, activities, transport)
- ❖ Embedded generosity:  
Airline ticket including a donation  
green initiative





# Consumer Trends

- ❖ Destination based travel
- Experience based travel
- ❖ Experience-→ creative experience as a way to keep uniqueness of the individual
- ❖ Surprising/ storytellers/ authentic and relevant
- ❖ Involvement with locals (couchsurfing, guided-by-a-local, Spotted by a local)
- ❖ Needs: seeking to become immersed in a country, gain local knowledge and understanding, experience, special, unique, personal attention, time with family and friends, special workshops, quiet and relaxing. Demand for limited editions, tailor-made



## CONSUMER RESEARCH

### Are consumers looking for sustainability?

In most European countries 3 – 10 serious consumer studies were conducted between 1995 and 2009

.... they provide a clear and growing trend



# Consumer research



- ❖ Need for information- difficulty finding sustainable holiday offers
- ❖ Expectation holiday companies –preserving natural habitat, saving resources, fair working conditions, local communities, information:
  - ❖ 87 % British find it very or fairly important that holiday does not damage the environment
  - ❖ 71 % of British consumers would like to benefit local communities
  - ❖ The majority of German (74 %) travellers favour hotels who employ local staff and guarantee good wages and working conditions
  - ❖ 80 % of the Dutch want information on ethical issues in their travel information.



# Future

- ❖ Being and acting more sustainable takes time
- ❖ Sustainability criteria in more b2b contracts - integral part of decision making
- ❖ Rising Consumer expectations sustainability
- ❖ Sustainability umbrella for fairness Quality, authenticity , responsibility, healthy, safety
- ❖ Transparency of companies
- ❖ Sustainable tourism = modern way of tourism

**What does it cost?**

**Cost/Investment  
Return/Savings**

# Questions?

