

Tourism WG

ANNUAL PLAN 2019

Working Group Leaders

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Short summary of your Working Group's aims and objectives

Up-to-date and early information to members on tourism policy future strands, strategic objectives with financial tools, inter-regional joint activities, EU calls. Application of innovative tools and deployment of research and innovation in the tourism sector, conducted within EU programmes.

Objectives for 2019:

- Raising awareness of a variety of aspects related to smart tourism destinations and of their interlinkages
- Creating strong links with the European Commission and the European Parliament and promoting the Tourism WG activities and potentials
- Nominating ERRIN member representatives to high-level events
- Engaging different stakeholders from the regions
- Raising the profile of regions through their good examples, successful projects
- More thorough knowledge about funding opportunities

Planning for 2019

The main theme for 2019 will be **Smart Tourism Destinations**. Aspects to explore: energy and circular economy, resource management, the exploitation of regional and local assets and digital technologies. The meetings/events can be organised in collaboration with other working groups such as **ICT, Design and Creativity, Energy and Climate Change, Transport**.

What type of activities is your working group planning to organise (project development, information session, exchange of experiences and best practice, policy debate with EU institutions etc.)?

Information sessions and debates in the form of closed WG meetings for Brussels-based members



If you already know when you would like to organise your meeting, you can also indicate the time (Q1, month, or specific date)

- 1) Exploitation of regional/local assets: cultural tourism & experience economy in February 2019
- 2) Resource management: short-term rentals, staff, skills, etc in September – October 2019
- 3) Digital and space technologies, AI, etc in November – December 2019

The schedule of the meetings will be aligned to Interreg Programme calls as much as possible to facilitate the exploration of the topic better at European level and also to potentially find partners. See Annexed list of Interreg Programme calls that are open for the moment. This list will have to be continuously updated.

Context

In the calendar attached please identify key policy initiatives, processes, conferences, events etc. it could both be from the European institutions and other relevant organisations for your Working Group.

- EU Tourism Forum 2019
- EU Tourism Day 2019
- Green Week 2019

After the European Elections and the new Commissioner coming into power, the WG would like to approach them with a political statement (in collaboration with the Tourism Manifesto – tbc) in favour of tourism: call for an intergroup in the EP and high position of tourism on the new Commissioner's agenda.