TOURISM POLICIES RESPONSES TO COVID-19 – ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION

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Impact of Covid-19 on the tourism sector has been unprecedented …

OECD estimates for international tourism in 2020

**Scenario 1**
-60%
if recovery starts in **July**

**Scenario 2**
-75%
if recovery starts in **September**

**Scenario 3**
-80%
if recovery starts in **December**

Recovery to pre-crisis levels may take two years or more

- OECD forecasts a global **fall of 6% of GDP** (7.6% if a second wave of lockdowns) in 2020
- Tourism economy has been hard hit, especially in places where sector supports many jobs and businesses
- Domestic tourism will restart more quickly, but will not be able to fully compensate for the decline in international tourism
… Governments have moved quickly to respond with exceptional measures

1. Supporting people, businesses, destinations
   - Visitor protection
   - Worker, business and destination support

2. Reopening the tourism economy
   - Establishing co-ordination mechanisms
   - Lifting travel restrictions
   - Restoring traveler confidence
   - Stimulating demand

3. Preparing recovery, shaping future of tourism
   - Re-thinking the tourism sector
   - Rebuilding destinations and the tourism system
   - Innovating and investing in tourism

COUNTRY EXPERIENCES

- **Portugal**: state-backed credit guarantees to provide liquidity for companies
- **In Iceland**: funding for infrastructure as part of the recovery package
- **Japan Tourism Agency**: USD 2.2 billion to attract tourists after the end of the pandemic
- **New Zealand**: work underway to ‘reimagine’ how tourism will operate post-COVID-19.
Impact of the crisis is felt through the entire tourism ecosystem …

Re-opening the tourism economy and rebuilding destinations will require a more coordinated approach, due to the inter-dependent nature of tourism services.
… Crisis also offers an opportunity to rethink tourism for the future

**Sectoral:** Governments, together with the private sector, should continue to **reinforce co-ordination mechanisms** to support tourism SMEs, workers and destinations in the recovery phase.

**Strategic:** Important to already consider the **long term implications** of the crisis, beyond immediate impact mitigation and reopening, as the measures put in place today will shape tourism for tomorrow.

**Structural and sustainable:** Recovery plans and programmes should be accompanied by policies that **encourage the digital, low carbon, and structural transitions** needed to build a stronger, more sustainable and resilient tourism economy.
Multilateral efforts will be key for the recovery

**OECD Tourism Committee**
is working closely with governments, international organisations, and industry to collect, share and shape tourism policy response to the crisis

**OECD actively engaged** in the
- G20 Extraordinary Tourism Ministers Meeting on COVID-19 and Tourism Working Group
- UNWTO Global Tourism Crisis Committee
- WTTC Travel & Tourism Task Force on COVID-19

**Updated OECD Policy Note on Tourism Policy Responses to COVID-19** available on the OECD Digital Hub on Tackling the Coronavirus (COVID-19) [fourth update, 2 June]

**OECD Global Forum on Tourism Statistics, Knowledge and Policies** in Korea (May 2021)
Tourism Policy Responses to the coronavirus (COVID-19)

Updated 2 June 2020

The tourism economy has been heavily hit by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, and measures introduced to contain its spread. Depending on the duration of the crisis, revised scenarios indicate that the potential shock could range between a 60-80% decline in the international tourism economy in 2020. Beyond immediate measures to support the tourism sector, countries are also shifting to develop recovery measures. These include considerations on lifting travel restrictions, restoring traveler confidence and rethinking the tourism sector for the future.
THANK YOU!