Building Back Better in Tourism: The Role of International Organisations

Simply Services: A Trade in Services Speaker Series

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The Commonwealth
The Commonwealth

- Voluntary Inter-governmental association
- 54 members
- 2.4 bn people
- 14 LDCs
- 25 SIDS
Commonwealth Stake in Tourism

- Commonwealth Small States: Total Contribution of Tourism to GDP by Country (%)
Commonwealth Stake in Tourism

Most Vulnerable Commonwealth SIDS: Share of International Tourism Revenues of Total Exports (%)
Commonwealth Tourism-Related Projects

• Boosting economic growth and diversification

• Creating sustainable economy-wide linkages

• SDG target 8.9 (devise and implement sustainable tourism policies that create jobs and promote local culture and products; SDG 5 (gender equality);
  • World Bank and Commonwealth: (2013) ‘Tourism and Inclusive Growth in Small Island Developing Countries’
  • Commonwealth: Key Characteristics of African Tourism Global Value Chains (2017)
Commonwealth Programs to Build Back Better in Tourism

• **Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic:**
  
  • **Policy-Related and Analytical:**
    • May 2020: ‘COVID-19 hitting tourism hard: What does this mean for the world’s poorest countries?’ (EIF Trade for Development News)
    • June 2020: COVID-19 and Tourism: ‘Charting a Sustainable, Resilient Recovery for Small States’ (Commonwealth Trade Hot Topics)

  • **Webinars:**
    • Comsec: Tourism, Debt and Natural Disasters (May 2020)
    • EIF: Tourism and LDCs (May 2020)
Other Commonwealth Projects and Programmes

• Indirectly, assist resilience and competitiveness, cross-cutting

• Under specific Commonwealth divisions:
  • Create overall policy enabling environment, supporting tourism sectors:
    - Trade and Economic growth (Competitiveness and Connectivity Agenda)
    - Environment Protection, Climate and Oceans (Blue Oceans Charter)
    - Good Governance and Law-making
    - Gender and Youth Empowerment
    - Small States
Multilateralism and its Significance during Crises

• Collaboration, common goals during crisis

• Strengthening strategic engagements and partnerships: leveraging maximum benefits

• Integrity of the MTS: a level playing field; avoid protectionism
Thank you!

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