

TURKEY TOURISM REPORT 2012 - VOLUNTEER

ANNUAL TOURISM REPORT 2012

TURKEY

1. INTRODUCTION

Council Decision 86/664/EEC of 22 December 1986¹ establishing a consultation and cooperation procedure in the field of tourism foresees that “each Member State shall send the Commission, once a year, a report on the most significant measures it has taken and, as far as possible, on measures it is considering taking in the provision of services for tourists which could have consequences for travelers from the other Member States”.

With the publication of the “Agenda for a sustainable and competitive European tourism”, the Commission announced that “in order to strengthen the collaboration with and among Member States, their current annual reporting through the Tourism Advisory Committee (TAC) will be used to facilitate the exchange and the dissemination of information about how their policies and actions safeguard the sustainability of tourism”.

This Communication was welcomed by the Competitiveness Council conclusions (22nd-23rd November 2007) and by the Presidency Conclusions of the Brussels European Council of 14th December 2007.

The main aims for the reporting process are:

- ① to be able to monitor the level of implementation of the “Agenda for a sustainable and competitive European tourism” by Member States;
- ① to facilitate the exchange of experiences among member States with regard to how they tackle issues which are important for the competitiveness and sustainability of European tourism.

MS reports referring to year n shall be sent to the European Commission by the end of February of year $n+1$.

If the reports are sent in English, the deadline is shifted to the end of April.

2. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

This section should provide an overview of the main organizational structure to illustrate how tourism is organized and managed, to identify linkages and to identify the engagement of other organizations/stakeholders.

The information required will only need to be prepared fully in year 1 as it will subsequently only be necessary to provide details of any changes.

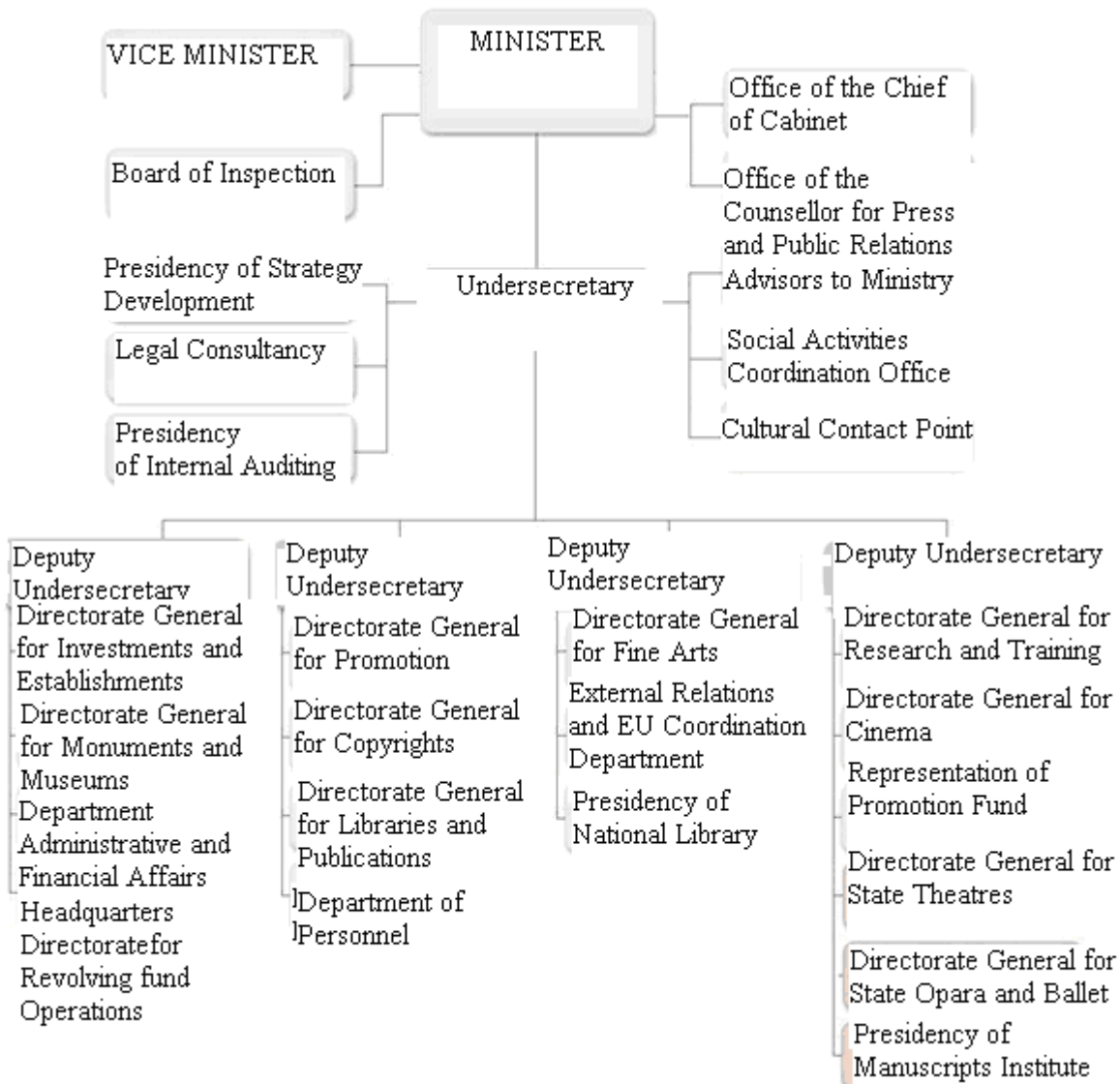
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¹ Official Journal L 384, 31/12/1986 P. 0052 – 0053.

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2.1 Please identify the National Bodies responsible for tourism (Ministry and also any separate/related National Tourism Organization), including key areas of responsibility, and their relationship to other national bodies. (maximum of 1.000 characters)

Ministry of Culture and Tourism – Planning ,public land allocation, certification and control of tourism establishments in Tourism Regions and Culture and Tourism Preservation and Development Regions announced in Official Gazette by the Tourism Encouragement Law No:4957/2634 as well as promotion and marketing by the Law for the Foundation of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism No:4848



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2.2 Please, describe what organizations/agencies are used to deliver services at the national and regional level and the services that they deliver. (maximum 800 characters)

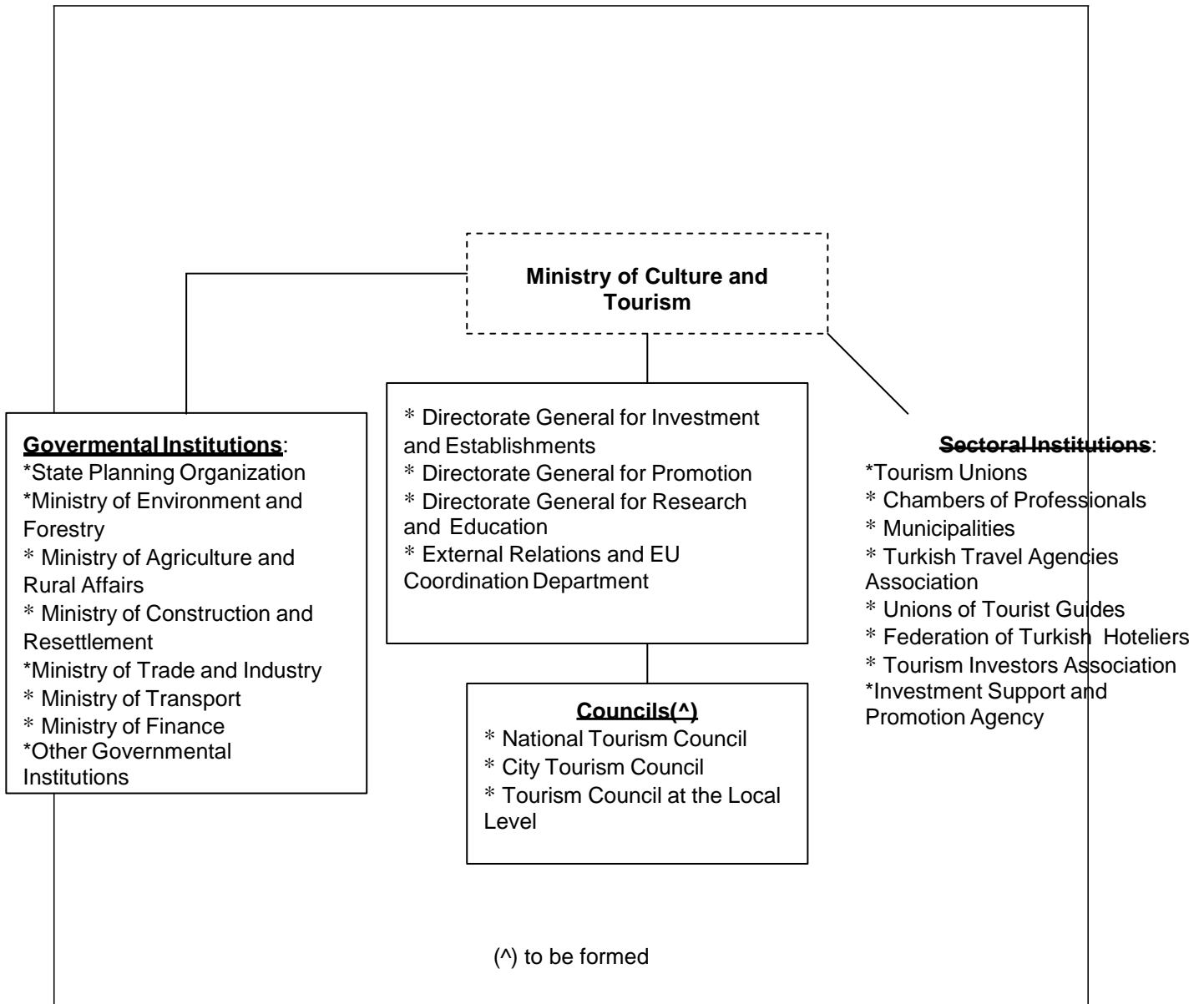
The Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Republic of Turkey is the biggest organization operating in this sector. There are 81 Provincial Culture and Tourism Directorates apart from the central organization. The Ministry has 44 counselor's and attaché's offices in around 80 countries abroad.

2.3 Please, describe which other bodies and organizations are involved at the national level and the process for involving them. (maximum 800 characters)

State Planning Organization, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Ministry of Construction and Resettlement, Ministry of Transport and Ministry of Finance are related national bodies for implementation of actions defined in Action Plan of the Tourism Strategy of Turkey 2023, which is approved by the decision of high planning council and published in the Official Gazette dated 02.03.2007 and no. 26450

2.4 Please provide a diagram/organogram of the organizational structure for tourism identifying the relationship between national, regional and local bodies. Provide also a short description of the core responsibilities and competencies of each of the organizations. Include also information regarding the direct and indirect links between other departments, stakeholder organizations and unions. Information about mechanisms of decision making process participation from outsider organizations, e.g. forums, advisory committees is also requested. (maximum of 2.000 characters)

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2.5 Please provide information about financial data, including spend/budget on tourism as a percentage of overall government spend/budget, the level of national funding support for tourism marketing, the amount of EU funding support made available for tourism and data concerning the support to SMEs and Destinations. (500 characters)

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Budget of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism for 2012-2013 (National Currency/TL)

2012	1.705.076.000
2013	1.783.856.000

* <http://pbk.tbmm.gov.tr>

3. POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

3.1 Is there a current National Strategy for tourism?

Yes No

If yes, please, provide information in bullet point format about the key aims, objectives and priorities of the strategy highlighting those that are designed to address sustainability issues in economic, environmental and social terms in particular those related in the six aims included in the Agenda. In preparing the tourism strategy, explain how consideration has been given to the 9 principles set out in the Agenda (para2.3 p5) and given in the appendix. (Maximum 1.000 characters)

Turkey Tourism Strategy-2023 and Action plan 2013 were prepared by Ministry of Culture and Tourism, approved by the decision of High Planning Council dated 28.02.2007 and no. 2007/4 and published in the Official Gazette dated 02.03.2007 and no. 26450.

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VISION- "With the adoption of sustainable tourism approach tourism and travel industry will be brought to a leading position for leveraging rates of employment and regional development and it will be ensured that Turkey becomes a world brand in tourism and a major destination in the list of the top five countries receiving the highest number of tourists and tourism revenues by 2023."

The study for the Tourism Strategy of Turkey 2023 proposes a variety of long term strategies in the realms of planning, investment, organization, domestic tourism, research and development, services, strengthening, promoting and marketing, education, branding at city level, diversification of tourism products, rehabilitation of existing tourism areas and improvement of destinations.

PLANNING STRATEGY-"To exhibit a planning approach that supports economic growth, is physically applicable and socially oriented and fairly reflects the principle of sustainable tourism.

TARGETS

-To contribute to the objective of sustainable development by eliminating the interregional differences in levels of development.

-To reconsider and plan the existing tourism sites within a sustainability perspective and thus create high quality viable environment.

-To support tourism development with sustainable environmental policies.

- To help increase the competitiveness of the tourism sector through creation of regional tourism brands rather than relying upon cheaper products

- to support the social and economic objectives of central government with tourism development.

-To strengthen international cooperation

-To close the trace global trends and demands and build up plans and conduct practices accordingly

-To promote tourism and rise awareness in public, private companies and NGO's, especially on eco-tourism, plateau and agricultural tourism

-To make both domestic and international promotions and marketing efforts effective

-To ensure integration of various types of tourism specific to region or locality, thus establish tourism cities with focus on alternative tourism (health, thermal, golf, winter sports, nature trips, and etc.) capable of offering an ample variety of tourism facilities, along with such utilities as health, education and etc.

_ To alleviate the burden on public by encouraging active involvement of private sector enterprises in tourism infrastructure and transportation projects.

_To ensure that appropriate governance mechanisms are used in which central and local government and civil actors can collaborate and cooperate in decision making processes concerning tourism.

_To ensure coordination between central and local government and integral treatment of managerial organization and means of financing, within and integral planning approach when drafting down plans on tourism.

-Helping infrastructure related and environmental problems occurring at locations where tourism activities get denser be solved with joint efforts and contribution of local governments and private sector enterprises.

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3.2 Who was the initiator and who is responsible for its implementation? (maximum 200 characters)

The Ministry of Culture and Tourism has initiated this study of Tourism Strategy of Turkey and Action Plan, and is responsible for its implementation together with other related responsible ministries and institutions reported in the action plan, also by strong co-operation with private sector institutions. Besides within the framework of the Tourism Strategy, Central and Provincial Tourism Councils which will be formed in the implementation stage will be responsible for the implementation of strategies and actions.

3.3 How is the strategy monitored and how often? (maximum 500 characters)

The criteria of measurement developed for monitoring the performance of Tourism Strategy of Turkey-2023 and how successfully the targets are attained will be among the basic tools used by enforcers and decision makers to get involved and proceed with the transformation process. At this extend, National Certification Service shall be formed and put in function.

Throughout the process monitoring phase which has critical importance for the overall success of the strategy, the outcomes of updates measured according to predefined indicators will be subject to regular comperative analysis with preset targets and objectives.

The National Database Repository Service will organize the data transmitted by various public and private sector entities and then submit its conclusions with Ministry of Culture and Tourism and National Tourism Council. Later, the service and Council will get together to set measures required to be taken in line with the conclusions and opinions submitted, making necessary amendments in the strategy accordingly.

3.4 What tourism specific legislation exists? (maximum 500 characters)

Current Tourism Legislation includes, Tourism Encouragement Law No: 4957/2634 and related Regulations, Law For The Foundation of Ministry of Culture And Tourism No:4848, Law of Travel Agencies and Union of Travel Agencies No:1618

4. MEASURES AND INITIATIVES

This section provides Member States with an opportunity to outline specific initiatives and policies that are or are going to be adopted to manage and develop tourism activity in ways which respond to the key challenges of the Agenda and which fall within the six main aims of the Agenda itself.

1 Economic prosperity

- a. To ensure the long term competitiveness, viability and prosperity of tourism enterprises and destinations.
- b. To provide quality employment opportunities, offering fair pay and conditions for all employees and avoiding all forms of discrimination

2 Social equity and cohesion To enhance the quality of life of local communities through tourism, and engage them in its planning and management To provide a safe, satisfying and fulfilling

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experience for visitors, available to all without discrimination by gender, race, religion, disability or in other ways.

3 Environmental and cultural protection To minimize pollution and degradation of the global and local environment and the use of scarce resources by tourism activities. To maintain and strengthen cultural richness and biodiversity and contribute to their appreciation and conservation.(

4.1 Please set out, briefly, the steps which have been or will be taken, if any, to address the 7 key challenges for the delivery of sustainable and competitive tourism, covered in the TSG report and referred to in the 'Agenda'

4.1.1 Reducing the seasonality of demand. (maximum 200 characters)

In order to reduce the seasonality of demand in tourism new approaches are adopted such as diversification of tourism types by concentrating on thermal tourism, golf tourism, congress tourism, winter tourism, ecological tourism and nature tourism beside coastal tourism in Tourism Strategy of Turkey, physical planning activities and other master planning studies.

4.1.2 Addressing the impact of tourism transport. (maximum 200 characters)

In increasing the quality of tourism activities, competitiveness of tourism regions and also diversification of new tourism types, transportation infrastructure is highly important. In order to connect the inner country tourism activities with coasts new transportation infrastructure types like fast-train routes, seaway connections, airports are proposed the Action Plan of Tourism Strategy of Turkey.

4.1.3 Improving the quality of tourism jobs. (maximum 200 characters)

In improving the quality of tourism jobs, main theme is the educational strategy in Tourism Strategy of Turkey. The Educational Strategy is mainly to set up and introduce an education program in tourism, which would yield measurable outcomes.

Tourism Education shall target raising awareness on existence and protection of national tourism assets and resources and leveraging the contribution of tourism national economy at the highest possible extent. Within the context of education, enrollments shall basically be instructed on moral ethics of serving every traveler without discrimination but discrete honesty, as well as on the importance of showing hospitality and left for a brainstorm on the long term benefits of such education and knowledge.

In order to achieve the educational targets; co-developing academic and vocational educations to raise qualified staff for the tourism industry, boosting informal education, renewing and updating the content in formal and informal education are the main goals.

4.1.4 Maintaining and enhancing community prosperity and the quality of life, in the face of change. (maximum 200 characters)

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In maintaining and enhancing community prosperity and quality of life, main aspect is the increase of economical level of community with the increase of tourism revenues, while not disturbing the moral and ethnic values at the social base and maintaining the quality of settlements during the change process.

In that context almost all of the strategies of Tourism Strategy of Turkey offers targets to increase the tourism revenues by new tourism development areas, diversification of tourism types, increasing tourism investments, with renovation of existing tourism sites, preservation of historical and cultural heritage and natural values in the means of sustainability. These targets will be set into action in the frame of Action Plan.

4.1.5 Minimizing resource use and the production of waste. (maximum 200 characters)

Ministry of Culture and Tourism issued a general communiqué to encourage tourism facilities in minimizing resource use and production of waste named “ Communiqué for the Certification of Environment-friendly Tourism Establishments, No:2008/3” which is announced in Official Gazette on 22.09.2008 No:27005.

This communiqué aims to reward Tourism Establishments which provide evidence on;

- preparing an action plan for environment policy of the establishment, implementing and monitoring this plan,
- conducting training and certification programs for the staff to raise environmental awareness and to take necessary precautions according to action plan,
- preparation of waste water management plan,
- monitoring of water and energy consumption in the establishments,
- preparing periodical reports on proper disposal of chemicals and monitoring of waste,
- Coordination with NGOs on environmental sensitivity.

If the establishments prove their environmental sensitivity they then will have the right to use “The Green Star” instead of their ordinary star labels.

4.1.6 Conserving and giving value to natural and cultural heritage. (maximum 200 characters)

On the conservation of natural and cultural heritage, Law for The Preservation of Cultural and Natural Assets No:2863, Law for Renovation and Restitution of Deteriorated Historical and Cultural Immovables No:5366, Law for the Approval of European Declaration on Protection of Archeological Heritage are valid and related Institutions are carrying out operations about their area of responsibility in the frame of sustainability.

4.1.7 Making holidays available to all. (maximum 200 characters)

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According to the actions defined in the Tourism Strategy of Turkey diversification of tourism types will allow creation of new and different tourism types for different tourist groups.

Besides this, with the social strategy defined under the heading of "Domestic Tourism Strategy" "A variety of social tourism projects will be developed and launched to allow disadvantaged groups to take up vacations more easily.

Program alternatives will be evolved that address university youth high school juniors and middle aged singles which collectively form up % 20 of the entire population. As better recognition of the country among young people will increase their attitude toward favoring travel and vacation habits more than usual joint work groups and programs shall be put in action with the sector, for persuading them to turn towards youth tourism in growing youths.

4.2 As key challenges may change over time, please identify any other areas that are becoming a new challenge. (maximum 600 characters)

- Rehabilitation of existing tourism regions in the aspects of infrastructure and urban quality,

During the change processes while new tourism areas are created the quality of existing mass tourism centers gets worse. Additional transportation, waste management, urban renovation projects must be developed in order to raise the quality.

-The effects of global economic conditions to tourism sector,

As soon as new investment opportunities are developed, global economic conditions are challenging factors to make clear interpretations for the next 10 years period.

4.3 Please identify and describe a specific initiative, which is related to the 7 key challenges, that is innovative/ successful and which would be of interest to or of help to other Member States. (maximum 2.000 characters)

5. MECHANISMS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Three mechanisms for implementing the Agenda were identified in the "Agenda": sustainable destinations, sustainable businesses and responsible tourists.

5.1 Sustainable destinations: What support is given to strengthen destination management at the regional/ destination level (supportive policy environment, knowledge networks, training programmes, establishment of measures/indicators for benchmarking, etc.)? (maximum 600 characters)

Planning, Organization, Research and Development, Tourism Diversification and City Branding strategies are reported at the Tourism Strategy of Turkey, related with sustainable destinations mechanism. Within that framework, creation of new investment areas, coordination of central, local

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Governments and NGOs under the principle of "Governance", developing marketing and branding strategies are taken into consideration at the preparation of action plans for each developing city.

5.2 Sustainable businesses: What support is given to strengthen the sustainability and competitiveness of businesses (supportive policy environment, orientation of business support services to sustainability, training, financial incentives, etc.)? (maximum 600 characters)

Investment Strategy is developed which is to boost tourism investments by designing incentive schemes that would make tourism investment projects economically feasible and viable, which includes building up new incentive opportunities, eliminating bureaucratic barriers and certification of companies for sustainability of compatibility.

5.3 Responsible tourists: What support is given to promote responsible choices by tourists (e.g. sustainability in education, national marketing and media campaigns, promotion of certification schemes)? (maximum 600 characters)

Investment and tourism operation licenses are given by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism where monitoring and control of tourism establishments is carried out. Supporting these operations new educational and certification strategies are developed by Tourism Strategy Report.

6. DATA AND INDICATORS

Eurostat will provide, as an annex, the key statistical data required to support the reporting process covering around 20 indicators². These are mainly related to the aim of 'economic prosperity'.

Please, identify indicators that are being used or developed which could add to the range of information being provided by Eurostat, particularly in relation to social and environmental issues (other indicators from the TSG report, visitors/ resident's satisfaction, etc.). (Maximum 500 characters)

International Visitor Arrivals In Turkey

YEARS	VISITORS (million)
2008	26.3
2009	27
2010	28.6
2011	31,5
2012	31,8

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Tourism Receipts

Years	Million Dollars	Change Ratio
2005	20 322,1	19,0
2006	18 594,0	-8,5
2007	20 942,5	12,6
2008	25 415,1	21,4
2009	25 064,5	-1,4
2010	24 931,0	-0,5
2011	28 115,7	12,8
2012	29 351,4	4,4

Share of Tourism Receipts in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

Years	Gross Domestic Product	Receipts	%Share of Tourism Receipts in the GDP
2003	304901.0	13 854,9	4,5
2004	390387.0	17 076,6	4,4
2005	481497.0	20 322,1	4,2
2006	526429.0	18 594,0	3,5
2007	648754.0	20 942,5	3,2
2008	742094.0	25 415,1	3,4
2009	616703.0	25 064,5	4,1
2010	731608.0	24 931,0	3,4
2011	773298,0	28 115,7	3,6
2012	786293,0	29 351,4	3,7

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Rate of Tourism Receipts in the Export Earnings and Tourism Expenditure in the Import Expenses

(2003 - 2012)

(1 000 000 \$)

YILLAR	İHRACAT	TURİZM GELİRLERİ	TURİZM GELİRLERİNİN İHRACAT GELİRLERİNE ORANI (%)	İTHALAT	TURİZM GİDERLERİ	TURİZM GİDERLERİNİN İTHALAT GİDERLERİNE ORANI (%)
Years	Exports	Tourism Receipts	Rate of Tourism Receipts in the Export Earnings (%)	Imports	Tourism Expenditure	Rate of Tourism Expenditure in the Import Expenses (%)
2003	46 877,6	13 854,9	29,6	69 339,7	2 424,8	3,5
2004	63 167,0	17 076,6	27,0	97 539,8	2 954,5	3,0
2005	73 476,4	20 322,1	27,7	116 774,2	3 394,6	2,9
2006	85 534,7	18 594,0	21,7	139 576,2	3 271,0	2,3
2007	107 271,8	20 942,5	19,5	170 062,7	4 043,3	2,4
2008	132 027,2	25 415,1	19,2	201 963,6	4 266,2	2,1
2009	102 142,6	25 064,5	24,5	140 928,4	5 090,4	3,6
2010	113 883,2	24 931,0	21,9	185 544,3	5 874,5	3,2
2011	134 906,9	28 115,7	20,8	240 841,7	5 531,5	2,3
2012	152 478,5	29 351,4	19,2	236 545,1	4 593,4	1,9

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Number of Tourism Licenced Accommodation Establishments by Types and Classes

TÜRÜ Type	SINIFI Class	TÜRCÜM YATIRIMI BELGELİ Tourism Investment Licenced			TÜRCÜM İŞLETİM BELGELİ Tourism Operation Licenced		
		TEBİS BAYI Number of Establishment	ODA BAYI Number of Rooms	YATAK BAYI Number of Beds	TEBİS BAYI Number of Establishments	ODA BAYI Number of Rooms	YATAK BAYI Number of Beds
GİTELER (Hotels)	5 YILDIZLI (5 Stars)	148	40 731	33 806	388	113 418	251 103
	4 YILDIZLI (4 Stars)	268	33 033	31 308	664	31 064	187 368
	3 YILDIZLI (3 Stars)	244	14 730	30 024	881	46 680	82 383
	2 YILDIZLI (2 Stars)	28	1 818	3 188	632	20 814	40 734
	1 YILDIZLI (1 Star)	17	628	1 080	83	2 430	4 730
TOPLAM - Total		686	86 738	204 481	2 208	283 074	668 338
MİNGİTELER (Minotels)	1.SINIF (1st Class)				2	31	181
	2.SINIF (2nd Class)				4	138	370
	Motel (Motel)	6	107	218	7	213	437
	TOPLAM - Total	6	107	218	13	486	888
TARLİNGİLİKLER (Holiday Villages)	1.SINIF (1st Class) (5 YILDIZLI (5 Stars))	21	6 088	11 038	88	24 777	64 838
	2.SINIF (2nd Class) (4 YILDIZLI (4 Stars))	18	3 216	3 114	17	3 033	8 233
	TOPLAM - Total	37	9 304	14 152	105	27 810	73 071
NORMAL GİTELER (Normal Hotels)	5 YILDIZLI (5 Stars)	10	2 048	4 710	13	2 833	8 723
	4 YILDIZLI (4 Stars)	7	1 008	2 432	14	2 018	4 188
	3 YILDIZLI (3 Stars)	1	30	180	8	688	1 188
	2 YILDIZLI (2 Stars)				3	122	251
	TOPLAM - Total	18	3 186	7 302	38	6 661	12 342
YATIRIMCILAR (Boarding Houses)		18	342	838	61	728	1 436
KAMPİNGLER (Camping)		3	260	440	4	238	880
GİZLİLER (Inns)		1	63	120	3	442	842
APARTE GİTELER (Apartment Hotels)		38	4 343	12 414	106	6 221	12 371
GİZLİLER (Special Establishments)		14	408	371	222	7 314	16 447
GOLF TESİSLERİ (Golf Facilities with Accommodation)		1	80	223	2	201	424
EĞİTİM VE UYGULAMA TESİSLERİ (Training and Practice Establishments)					1	38	72
TÜRSAT KONGRESİONELERİ (Tourism Complex)		3	4 883	10 770	1	318	1 782
BUTİK GİTELER (Boutique Hotel)		70	2 738	6 780	48	1 340	3 784
BUTİK TARLİNGİLİKLER (Boutique Holiday Villages)		3	1 317	4 868	2	348	880
BUTİK TARLİNGİLİKLER (Boutique Holiday Villages)		1	21	100	1	83	138
DAĞ EVİ (Mountain House)		1	10	20	2	83	372
ÇİFTLİK EVİ / KONGRESİONELERİ (Ranch / Village House)		8	226	318	2	63	133
YAYLA EVİ (Mountain Pasture House)		2	66	110			
TOPLAM / Total		822	122 584	287 800	2 733	318 318	683 328

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7. Complementary Additional Information

Main strategy in terms of promotion and marketing in Turkey

- To promote the positive image of Turkey through by emphasizing its strengths as tourism destination.
- To ensure branding at national, regional and site levels
- To identify the core as well as the alternative outbound markets, niche markets and the relevant market segments
- To attend international tourism exhibitions and fairs
- To host opinion leaders, journalist, tour agents' representatives etc. To promote the positive image of Turkey
- To run affective promotional advertisement campaigns through press, TV and the social media
- To fully integrate the marketing initiatives into the social media
- To emphasize the diversity of the tourism products of Turkey such as health tourism, MICE, culture, youth, yachting and city tourism.
- To evaluate the brand position of Turkey with respect to its main competitors to shape the marketing efforts
- To scrutinize both the global and the regional tourism trends
- To monitor the statistical facts and figures in order to define customer profiles, accommodation occupancy rates, number of visitors, length of stay,
- To give emphasize more on public relations (PR) activities.

Responding to the crisis in terms of tour operators, accommodation, transportation

Public- Private Sector Cooperation

In the target countries

Co-advertising, info-tours, familiarization trips, workshops, road-shows in cooperation with tour operators

In Turkey

Professional Tourism fairs

Workshops

Meetings

In cooperation with private sector institutions (travel agencies, accommodation enterprises etc.)

Cooperation with the neighbouring countries

Middle Eastern Countries

Turkic Republics

Development of Domestic Tourism

Early Booking Campaign

Holiday credits

Advantages of price/quality

APPENDIX

Principles of sustainable tourism

Taking A Holistic and Integrated Approach

Tourism in general has been defined as the most peaceful mass movement. Despite this fact, its detrimental impacts cannot be ignored if tourism starts to harm the environment, cultural heritage and values of any hosting society. Taking preliminary measures to protect the environment, the social integrity and the cultural heritage of our country has been assigned the top priority in the recent decades.

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Planning For the Long Term

The Ministry of Culture and Tourism aims to expand the tourism activity to all its regions and seasons to achieve the sustainability of the tourism activities in the long term. Thus, intra-regional development will create equal income generation for every region in the country which will not only help to improve the social integrity of the society, but also to introduce the cultural values and assets of the country to promote its unique identity and positive destination image. In addition, the Ministry pays the utmost importance to the preservation of vibrance diversity, authenticity and the quality of its environment and nature.

Achieving an Appropriate Pace and Rhythm of Development

Sustainability in tourism can be realised if efforts are carried out through certain principles to guarantee a pace and a rhythm of development. Clean beaches signifies high environmental quality all around the world and Turkey's beaches have now reached a total of 324 blue flags. In this category, Turkey is far ahead of other Mediterranean countries.

Involving All Stakeholders

The policy of sustainability requires commitment in decision making and application for these decisions. The overall success of tourism and travel industry depends on ability to set up and implement an effective cooperation administration.

Using best available knowledge

A flexible and strategic planning approach should be leaded by best knowledge available. It is important for carrying out studies and defining policies on the maximum use of the tourism potential.

Minimizing and managing risk- the precautionary principle

The main focus is to analyze potential risk factors and evaluate these for the best policy management.

Reflecting impacts in costs- user and polluter pays

Prices should reflect the real costs to society of consumption and production activities. This has implications not simply for pollution but for charging for the use of facilities that have significant management cost attached to them.

Setting and respecting limits, where appropriate

The carrying capacity of individual sites and wider areas should be recognized, with a readiness and ability to limit, where and when appropriate, the amount of tourism development and volume of tourist flows.

Undertaking continuous monitoring

Sustainability is all about understanding impacts and being alert to them all the time, so that the necessary changes and improvements can be made.