



Caribbean Regional Sustainable Tourism Development Programme
CTO Lot 3: Sustainable Tourism Policy Development

International Policy and Market Response to Global Warming: Challenges and Opportunities for Caribbean Tourism

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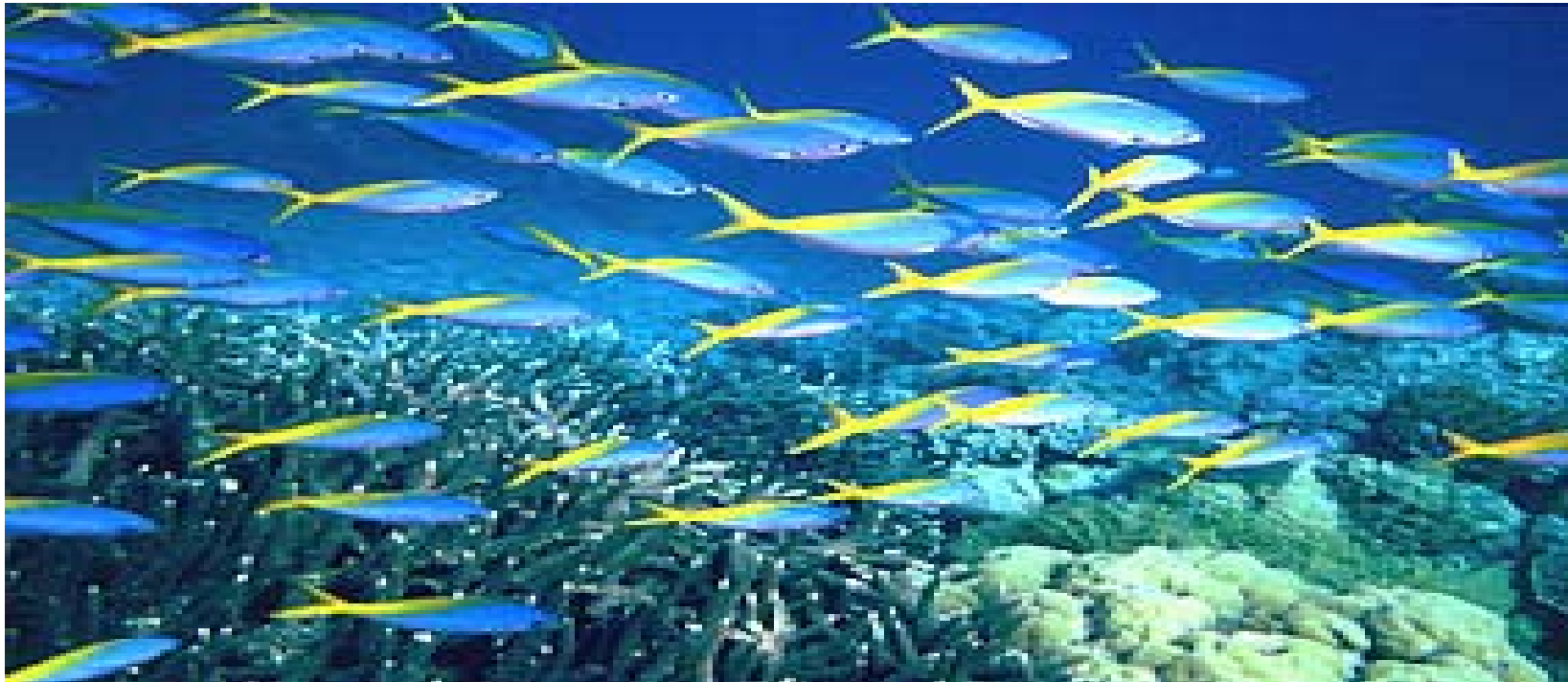




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RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT FINDINGS #3

Dr. Murray C. Simpson





Recommendations 1

- A. Inter-ministerial cooperation and cross-ministerial collaboration is required to assist in the fulfilment and meeting of the following recommendations:





Recommendations 2

- B. Embark on pro-active strategy to support the Kyoto-integration of aviation plus support voluntary carbon offsetting.
 - C. Countries review the energy use of source markets in comparison with cost-effectiveness to restructure tourism economies with the overall goal of reducing energy use
 - And thus vulnerability to oil price volatility, climate policy, environmental awareness of tourists, and the consequences of unlimited climate change.
 - Overall goal to reduce dependency on highly energy intense markets, developing new products to increase average length of stay and revenues per tourist (i.e. begin to restructure markets to focus on 'low emissions, high economic yield' segments).
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Recommendations 3

- D. Carbon emissions measured with transparency through the tourism supply chain and use of low carbon technologies and renewable energy encouraged by the use of incentives and regulation. Efficiencies sought through economies of scale and business investment in low carbon infrastructure encouraged.
 - E. Seek to become the world's first 'Carbon Neutral' tourism region
 - generating huge media attention and create a positive image for the region.
 - Tourists willing to support pro-climate measures, considerable potential to co-finance energy-efficiency, renewable energy and adaptation measures with payments and donations by tourists).
 - Projects should have multiple sustainability dimensions, e.g. offset provider Atmosfair's proposition of saltwater greenhouses providing locals and hotels with organic vegetables, resulting in lower emissions (imports), reducing dependency, and providing local jobs.
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Recommendations 4

- **F. Voluntary or 'opt-out' carbon offsetting of flights incorporated in packages as soon as possible (by 2009)**
 - possibly based on an incentive approach (i.e. tour operators would match payments made by tourists on a 1:1 basis) or as part of a national hotel or departure tax.

 - **G. Money collected from tourists re-invested in the region.**
 - Projects focus on energy-efficiency and renewable energy, as well as adaptation to climate change, and tourists should be able to visit these.

 - Stimulate positive feedback, and tourists may be willing to make additional donations.

 - Offset projects in the Caribbean should include livelihood enhancements as well as environmental protection and enhancement.
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Recommendations 5

- H. Guarantee a high level of transparency and credibility, seek to cooperate with a high-quality voluntary carbon offset provider offering GS CERs
 - i.e. all projects should be registered through UNFCCC and provide sustainable development benefits. Some offset providers such as not-for-profit Atmosfair offer comprehensive solutions, i.e. they can provide the emissions calculator, debiting software for tour operators, advice on suitable and innovative projects, and carry out the certification process through UNFCCC.



Recommendations 6

- I. Governments should combine voluntary with mandatory measures to ensure that the tourism industry supports goals.

include the following aspects (Dodds and Kelman 2008)

- enacting effective control systems to ensure that policies are implemented and monitored;
 - improving education and awareness on climate change and its potential impacts;
 - placing sustainable tourism and climate change within broader policy frameworks (i.e. 'mainstreaming');
 - implementing economic incentives to encourage adjustment strategies;
 - using accountable, flexible, and participatory approaches for addressing climate change in sustainable tourism policies;
 - filling in policy gaps while further integrating policies.
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Recommendations 7


- J. Build capacity for adaptation and mitigation in response to climate change across government bodies and tourism institutions and organizations at national, regional and destination level.
 - Pragmatic strategies developed in harmony with other regional initiatives such as the Sustainable Tourism Zone for the Caribbean currently being established by the member states of the Association of Caribbean States.

 - K. To assess the need for and best practices to adaptation and mitigation, both global and location-specific research and evaluation activities are required
 - e.g. projecting current and future climate change impacts; assessing vulnerabilities and evaluating resilience and adaptive capacity; and evaluating current and future adaptation and mitigation activities. (Simpson et al 2008)
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Recommendations 8

- L. Needs of destinations, nations and the region addressed as a whole by using a sectoral approach
 - i.e. addressing tourism through its integral sectors; e.g. energy, water, waste, agriculture, biodiversity and coastal planning.
 - Funding should be sought and provided for further robust studies to clarify priorities and specifics for the different levels of the tourism supply chain and for sub-sectors / different activities conducted as part of tourism in the Caribbean.



**‘For me I am an Optimist...
there seems little point in anything else’**

Winston Churchill

THANK YOU

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