The European Environment Agency tourism and environment reporting mechanism initiative
Why tourism and environment?

EEA frames tourism as a land and sea dependent socio-economic sector and in this sense LAND has multiple values (functional/operational and attractiveness) for tourism.

Tourism is a **driving force determining pressures and impacts, land take and land use changes.**
Why tourism and environment?

Policy context

(a contribution to) Monitor progress towards a resource efficient, green and low carbon economy, in the context of the 7th Environment Action Programme – “Living well within the limits of our planet”

⇒ EEA initiative to set up a reporting mechanism (TOUERM) that aims at monitoring indicators on drivers-pressures-state-impact-response of the relationship tourism-environment

⇒ There is a data need to be space, time and policy relevant
TOUERM initiative

• Indicators to respond to main policy questions at EEA level:
  – What characterizes and drives the demand for tourism?
  – What are the environmental impacts of tourism?
  – Are we getting better at managing tourism demand to preserve natural resources?
  – Are we moving towards a better internalization of the external costs of the tourism sector?
  – How effective are environmental management and monitoring tools towards a more integrated tourism strategy?
TOUERM initiative / the process

• Launched by the EEA in 2013, supported by the ETC ULS and **EIONET** (Environmental Information and Observation network) expert group

• Collaborative effort:
  – Eurostat
  – DG GROW
  – UNWTO
  – INRouTe
### TOUERM indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Driver indicators</th>
<th>Pressure indicators</th>
<th>State indicators</th>
<th>Impact indicators</th>
<th>Response indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D1 - Tourism arrivals</td>
<td>P1 - Tourism density</td>
<td>S1 - Bathing water quality</td>
<td>I1 - Spatial impact of tourism facilities (I): Golf courses</td>
<td>R1 - Percentage of destination that is designated for protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D2 - Overnights spent at tourism accommodation establishments</td>
<td>P2 - Tourism intensity</td>
<td></td>
<td>I2 - Spatial impact of tourism facilities (II): Marina ports</td>
<td>R2 - Tourism enterprises using environmental certification / labelling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D3 - Seasonality of tourism</td>
<td>P3 - Occupancy rate in tourist accommodation establishments</td>
<td></td>
<td>I3 - Spatial impact of tourism facilities (III): Ski resorts</td>
<td>R3 - Blue Flags for beaches and marinas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D4 - Tourism related modes of transport</td>
<td>P4 - Most attractive places</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D5 - Tourism related modes of transport (I): Airplane</td>
<td>P5 - Tourism and leisure pressure on protected areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D6 - Tourism related modes of transport (II): Cruises</td>
<td>P6 - Water abstraction by tourism</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Spatial Indicators – use of big data - Attractiveness of places

Due to publication in January 2018 by the EEA
Spatial Indicators – use of open & collaborative data
- Pressure of ski areas in Europe -

Due to publication in January 2018 by the EEA
Spatial Indicators - Land take around ski areas

Ski lift density
Total length of ski lifts
km / 10km Grid
- < 2.5
- 2.5 - 10
- 10 - 15
- 15 - 35
- > 35
- Outside coverage
Spatial Indicators - Land take around ski areas

Land take (as percentage of initial artificial areas) at 10, 20 and 30 km distance of ski resorts.

Developments have been at expenses of pastures and mosaics in both periods. Pastures are important mountain landscapes that contribute to biodiversity and C sequestration.
During the period 2000-2006, the highest land take occurs on the closer region to the ski resorts (10 km service area), while it is progressively decreasing as we move further. This pattern is opposite to the one observed in the next subsequent period (2006-2012): there is a strong decrease on land take in the first 10 km, while increasing by 60% on the 20 km and more than 200% on the further distance (up to 30 km).
In recent years, golf tourism has increased in popularity and the number of golf courses has grown rapidly.

Moreover, there is a requirement for additional infrastructure to support the golf courses (e.g. roads to access or additional buildings).

Golf courses have also attracted the development of holiday resorts as a supporting business with a mutual retrofit.
The indicator analyses the land take (development of new infrastructures in previously undeveloped land) in areas near the golf courses (up to 1000 m from their border). During the period 2000-2006 about 3.600 ha within the 1 km buffer around golf courses were taken for new developments in Europe (including sport infrastructures). This corresponds to an increase of 3.6% compared to already developed land in 2000, which is above the overall land take rate in Europe for the same period (2.8%).
The EEA Tourism and Environment Reporting Mechanism Initiative

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