

International on-line conference

Opportunities for Ecotourism in Slovakia

17th and 18th Of September 2020

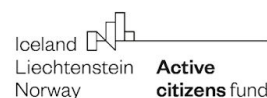
Dear Mrs / Dear Mr,

we cordially invite you to watch and participate in the international conference entitled Opportunities for Ecotourism in Slovakia, which will take place in the form of online presentations with the participation of Slovak and foreign experts on sustainable and nature-oriented tourism.

In Slovakia, there is currently a discussion running about expectations and conditions of protecting nature, and besides, legitimate questions arise about the sustainable development of regions, efficient use of local natural resources, employment, the importance of nature for the future ... And it is an Ecotourism that is the ideal tool that is helping to solve these issues, as evidenced by the many successful and inspiring examples abroad. The main goal of the conference is therefore to present the opportunities and possibilities for the development of Ecotourism in Slovakia.

We are looking forward to your participation.

Rastislav Mičaník
director of Aegis n.o.



Event program

Thursday, 17.9.2020

13:00 - 13:10 **Introduction**

13:10 - 14:45 **Ecotourism product development**

13:10 - Public-private partnership and product development in Soomaa National Park Estonia - Aivar Ruukel, Soomaa National Park, Estonia

13:45 - How to cook a tasty product in Ecotourism, Rastislav Mičaník, Aegis, SK

14:00 - Ecotourism product development in the Regional Travel Agency Banskobystrický kraj Turizmus, Eva Macul'ová, Regional tourism organization Banskobystrický kraj Turizmus, SK

14:15 - Product development focused on birdwatching, Ján Dobšovič, Watching.sk, SK

14:30 - Experience of Footour in Ecotourism product development, Petra Tanušková a Svetlana Križanová, Necestouka Footour, SK

14:45 - 15:15 **Discussion**

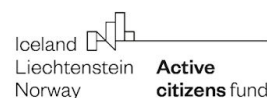
15:15 - 15:30 **Coffee break**

15:30 - 17:00 **Collaboration and search for solutions at the local level**

15:30 - Cooperation with stakeholders - lessons learnt on creating a common vision and bringing stakeholders together for the Jackson Hole & Yellowstone Sustainable Destination Program, Tim O'Donoghue, Riverwind Foundation, USA

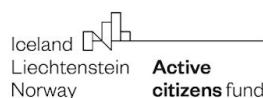
16:15 - Challenges and Opportunities of Cooperation in Ecotourism on Local Level: Perspectives from the Protected Landscape Area Poľana and National Park Muránska Planina, Ľudmila Elexová, Regional Development Agency of BBSK and Zuzana Okániková, OZ Pronatur, in cooperation with Management of Muránska planina National Park, SK

17:00 - 17:30 **Discussion**



Friday, 18.9.2020

- 9:00 - 9:05 **Introduction**
- 9:05 - 10:50 **Development of best practice for Ecotourism in the world**
9:05 - Ecotourism in Romania: from branding to ecotourism destination management, Andrei Blumer, Association of Ecotourism in Romania, Romania
9:40 - Presentation of the Handbook: "Best practices for developing ecotourism in support of national parks in Slovakia", Diana Körner a Nina Breck, LT&C, Germany
10:15 - Tour guiding concept and occupational profile for nature guiding - success story from Regio-Ranger® Germany, Jan Brockmann, Regio-Ranger®, Germany
- 10:50 - 11:15 **Discussion**
- 11:15 - 11:30 **Coffee break**
- 11:30 - 13:00 **Ecotourism in Slovakia - barriers and opportunities**
11:30 - Fewer barriers for more benefits in utilising nature, Rastislav Mičaník, Aegis, SK
11:50 - Analysis of selected legislation in relation to the implementation of Ecotourism in Slovakia, Eva Kovačechová a Imrich Vozár, Via Iuris, SK
12:15 - Conceptual Framework of Sustainable Tourism and Ecotourism Development in Natural Areas: The Case of The Banska Bystrica Region, Ľudmila Elexová, Regional Development Agency of BBSK, SK
12:40 - Coordination of Ecotourism development in Slovakia, Zuzana Okániková, Slovak Ecotourism Association, SK
- 13:00 - 13:30 **Discussion**
- 13:30 - 14:30 **Lunch break**
- 14:30 - 15:30 **Sustainable tourism - certification and green economy**
14:30 - Responsible Tourism: A Green Economy Imperative, Stanislava Brindzová, SK
15:00 - Is your destination green? Find it out, Petra Tanušková a Svetlana Križanová, Necestouka Footour, SK
- 15:30 - 15:45 **Discussion**
- 15:45 - 16:00 **Coffee break**
- 16:00 - 16:45 **Neo-localism and tourism**
16:00 - LT&C Example Costa Rica and research on neo-localism and tourism, Christina T. Cavaliere, Colorado State University, USA
- 16:45 - 17:15 **Discussion and conclusion**



Registration

Due to preventive measures and restrictions related to COVID-19, the conference will be held **online via a ZOOM platform**. Please confirm your participation in the conference no later than 15th of September 2020 by filling out the form. We will send you the necessary access data and basic instructions for joining the conference on 16th of September 2020.

Registration form: <https://forms.gle/1tBkg9b6PxP365LN7>

More details

The conference is intended primarily for representatives of the Ministries of the Environment, Transport and Construction, Agriculture and Rural Development, Investment, Regional Development and Informatization, as well as representatives of interest organizations in tourism, regional development and nature protection. Participation in the event is free of charge.

The conference language is both English and Slovak and the lectures will be simultaneously interpreted into Slovak or English.

Even more details: **+421 907 072 863** or: tomas.vida@aevis.org

Organizers: [Aevis n.o.](#)
[Linking Tourism and Conservation](#)

Partners: [VIA IURIS](#)
[Frankfurt Zoological Society](#)
[Active Citizens Fund – Slovakia](#)

