FuTour Alliance
Empowering Europe's Tourism Workforce for a Digital and Sustainable Future
POWERED by PacTS4ALL

TOURISM TALKS SERIES

Webinar 27 November 2026 (11.00-12.30)

"Tourism and climate change: adaptation strategies for destinations"

In the rapidly evolving landscape of global tourism, addressing the impacts of climate change has become essential for destinations looking to ensure their long-term resilience and competitiveness.

So, we will go in:

- Understanding Climate Impacts on Tourism: We'll begin by examining how climate change is reshaping the tourism sector and why adaptation is critical today. This will include an overview of key environmental risks, shifting seasonality, and changing traveler behaviors affecting destinations worldwide.
- Identifying Vulnerability and Strategic Needs: We will discuss the specific assessments, infrastructures, and governance frameworks required for destinations to effectively manage climate risks. This includes areas such as resource management, risk mitigation, and sustainable planning.
- Adaptation Strategy Development: What should a climate-resilient destination look like? We'll examine best practices for designing actionable adaptation plans that balance environmental protection with the economic needs of local communities and stakeholders.
- Case Studies and Success Stories: We will share inspiring examples of destinations that have successfully implemented climate adaptation measures, highlighting the policies and collaborative initiatives that enabled their transition.
- Future Outlook and Resilience: Finally, we will look ahead to emerging climate scenarios and green innovations in tourism, discussing how proactive planning and continuous upskilling can prepare destinations for future challenges and opportunities.

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Agenda

27 November 2026

The times given are those of the Central European Time Zone (CET)

Moderator

- **Silvia Enea**, Member of the EU-Funded Projects Team at Federturismo Confindustria

Speakers:

- **Julie Berckmans**, Climate Risk and Resilience Expert European Environment Agency
- **Maja Turnsek**, lead researcher of the project Climate change and sustainable tourism development in Slovenia. assoc. prof., University of Maribor Faculty of Tourism
- **Elisa van de Heuvel**, Senior lecturer in the Tourism Destination Management master's programme at Breda University of Applied Sciences, project manager and researcher at the Centre for Sustainability, Tourism and Transport (CSTT)
- **Paola Fagioli**, Head of Territory and Innovation Legambiente
- **Mauro Carbone**, Director of the National Truffle Studies Centre

Q&A Session, wrap-up and closing

Bio notes of moderator and speakers:

Moderator:

- **Silvia Enea** is a member of the EU-Funded Projects team at Federturismo Confindustria.
  Mrs. Enea has extensive experience in project management, successfully leading three EU-funded tourism projects: NTG, Pantour, and Tourism 4.0. Under NTG-Pantour, she helped to establish National/Regional Skills

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Partnerships across Europe and aligning efforts with the European Commission's Pact for Skills. In PacTS4ALL, she was in charge of enhancing cooperation through the Knowledge Triangles initiative and expanding partnerships in underrepresented countries. She has also monitored EC-funded projects in developing countries, ensuring results meet key indicators. Her expertise spans strategic planning, stakeholder coordination, and project management in the tourism sector.

Keynote speaker:

- **Julie Berckmans** is an expert in climate risk and resilience at the European Environment Agency, bridging science and policy. She specializes in assessing climate risks, digital tools, user engagement, and climate data analysis. With a background in meteorology, she played a key role in the European Climate Risk Assessment, translating complex climate data into accessible, actionable insights. Julie has about 15 years of experience in the fields of climate modelling, climate services and climate resilience. She has a particular interest in urban climate, rail resilience and sustainable tourism.

Speakers:

- **Elisa van de Heuvel** is senior lecturer in the Tourism Destination Management master's programme at Breda University of Applied Sciences, and project manager and researcher at the Centre for Sustainability, Tourism and Transport (CSTT). Current work centres on climate risk and tourism. In the Interreg project RESTART and in two Dutch projects on climate risks and impacts on tourism, the question is how destinations and businesses can prepare for, absorb and respond to climate shocks, c including its cascading effects on the tourism industry, upstream and downstream: how a shock in one part of the chain reaches transport, accommodation, attractions and suppliers. Together, the projects connect risk analysis with practical action. The foundation was built through earlier work. As project lead of the Cross-Re-Tour consortium, coordinated by Breda University of Applied Sciences, transnational collaboration became a core part of the approach.

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- **Maja Turnsek** is Associate Professor at University of Maribor, Faculty of Tourism, Slovenia and the head of Master's Study Programme Tourism Destinations and Experiences. Her research interests cover the intersections of climate change, communication, and algorithmic management in tourism. She has been the lead researcher of several research projects, amongst other the national research project "Climate change and sustainable tourism in Slovenia" with the focus both on climate change adaptation and mitigation. Some of the project outputs available in English are the project report for the industry and the scientific report on climate adaptation needs of Slovenian tourism.

- **Paola Fagioli**, with a degree in biology, managed the Legambiente Turismo eco-label. She is a trainer and tutor for courses on sustainable tourism organized by trade associations, universities, and foundations. In 2024, she obtained the GSTC Professional Certificate in Sustainable Tourism. She is currently on the board of directors of the GSTC Italy Working Group and of the AITR Foundation.

- **Mauro Carbone** was born in 1970 in the Langhe region of Piedmont, Italy.
  He studied Economics and Marketing at the University of Turin while beginning his career in local development.
  In 1998, he joined the Alba Bra Langhe and Roero Tourism Board, later becoming its Director. He also played a key role in expanding the organisation's geographical reach, contributing to the establishment of ATL Langhe Monferrato Roero. His work within the Destination Management Organisation (DMO) focused primarily on destination management, with a strong emphasis on innovation and strengthening the region's international positioning. These efforts helped open up new tourism markets, particularly long-haul markets.
  Since 2000, he has served as Director of the National Truffle Studies Centre, coordinating and developing initiatives to promote the truffle and communicate its cultural, gastronomic and territorial significance.
  In June 2022, he became an independent consultant specialising in destination management and regional tourism development. He works with a range of organisations across Italy, coordinating strategic initiatives to enhance the appeal, competitiveness and sustainable development of tourism destinations.

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Since 2026, he has served as President of the Enoteca Regionale del Barbaresco and Vice-President of Iter Vitis Italia, the Italian association representing the wine-themed Cultural Route certified by the Council of Europe.

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