Linking Tourism & Conservation (LT&C) for the Icelandic Highlands

Reykjavik
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UNITED NATIONS

The Global Frame

Strong UN. Better World.

14 January 2015: The UN General Assembly (UNGA) has adopted a resolution (A/RES/69/233) recognizing the contribution of sustainable tourism to poverty eradication, community development and the protection of biodiversity.

The world has already agreed

Convention on Biological Diversity

"*17%* of terrestrial and inland water, and *10%* of coastal and marine areas (…) *conserved and effectively managed*"

CBD Aichi 2020 Target 11

RIO+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

"*well designed and managed tourism* can make a significant contribution"

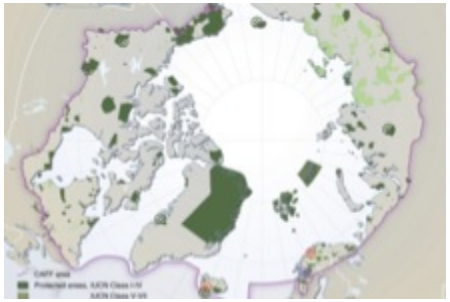
"… the need to support sustainable tourism activities (…) that promote *environmental awareness, conserve and protect the environment*"

Rio+20, "The Future We Want"

It started in the Arctic…

How to tackle these Challenges ?

Only **3,4% marine protected areas** reached, far away from 2020 target of **10%**



Many existing national parks are just **“paper parks”**

30$ billion/a for managing effectively a global network of national parks (**0.5%** of the World’s Tourism turnover)

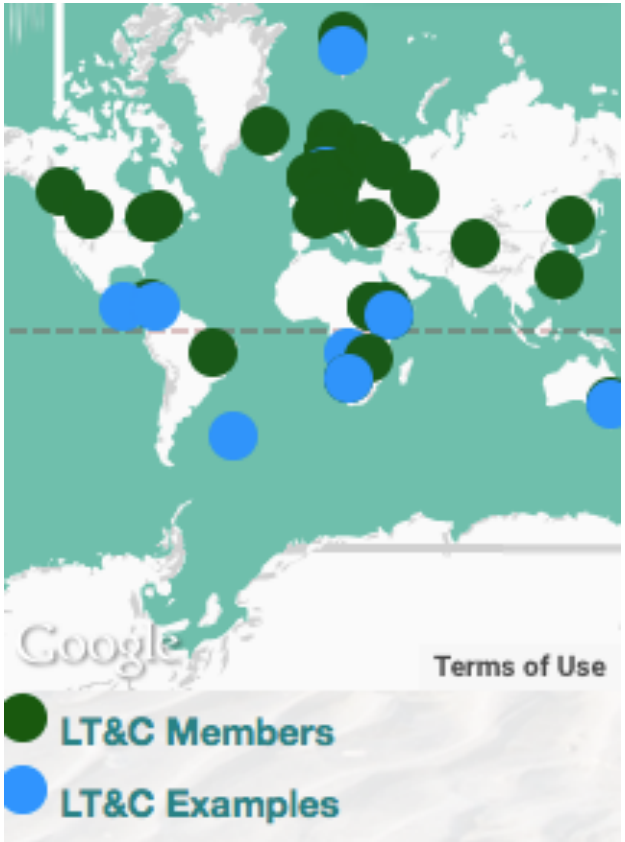
Jungle of Sustainable -, Responsible -, Eco- and other Tourism

LINKING TOURISM & CONSERVATION
LT&C

Linking Tourism & Conservation is

- *Developing methods, tools and incentives for upgrading and replicating best examples of tourism supporting protected areas*
- *Promoting and educating best praxis*
- *Making its members from tourism & conservation producing synergy and cooperation*

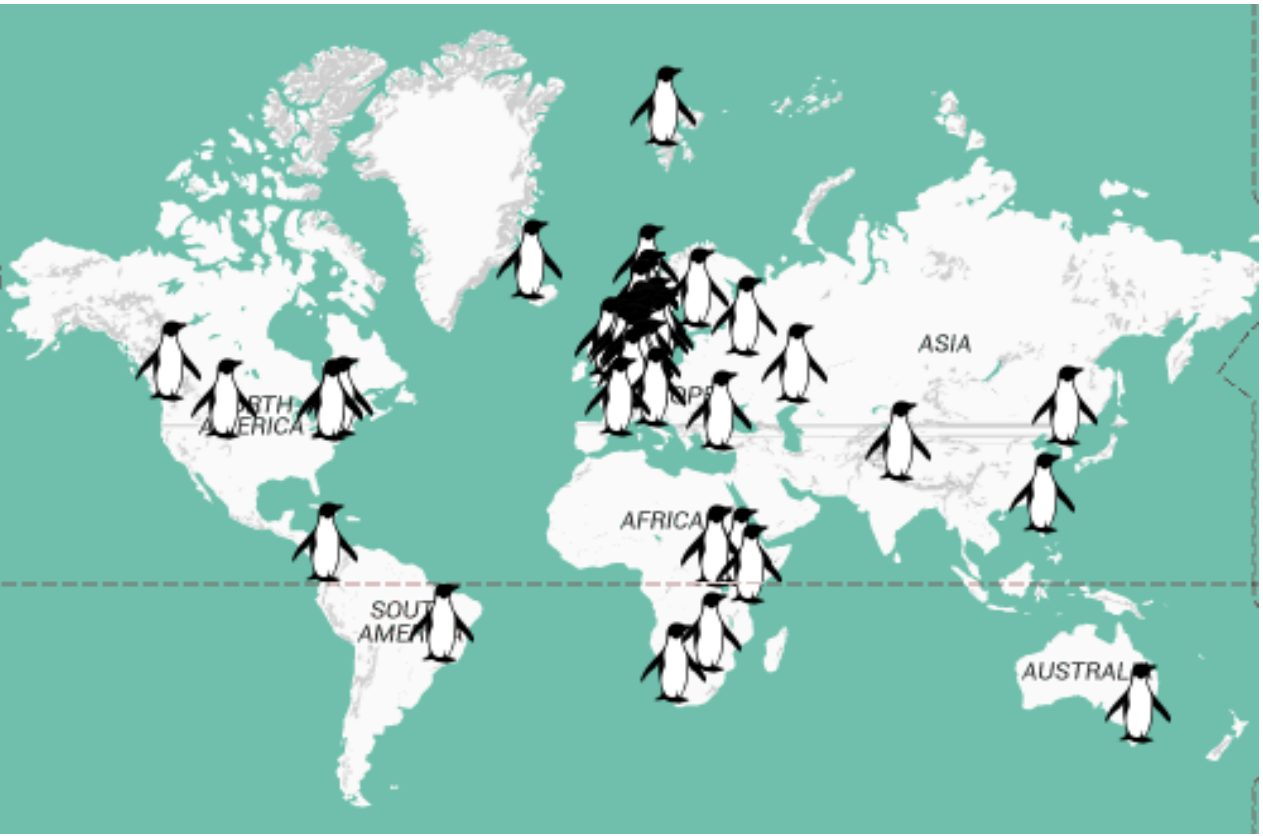
LT&C-Examples

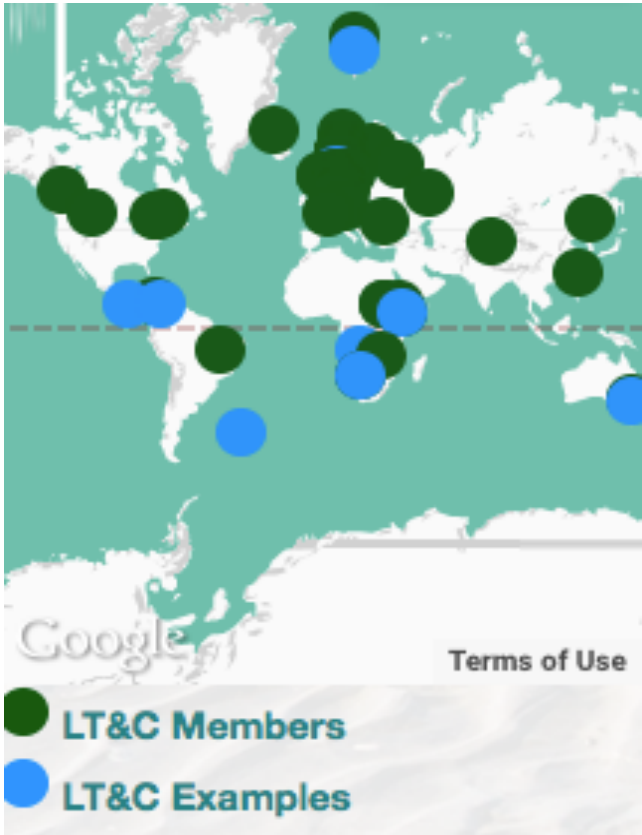


Become a Member

Join our LT&C partnership

LT&C-Penguins on World Map

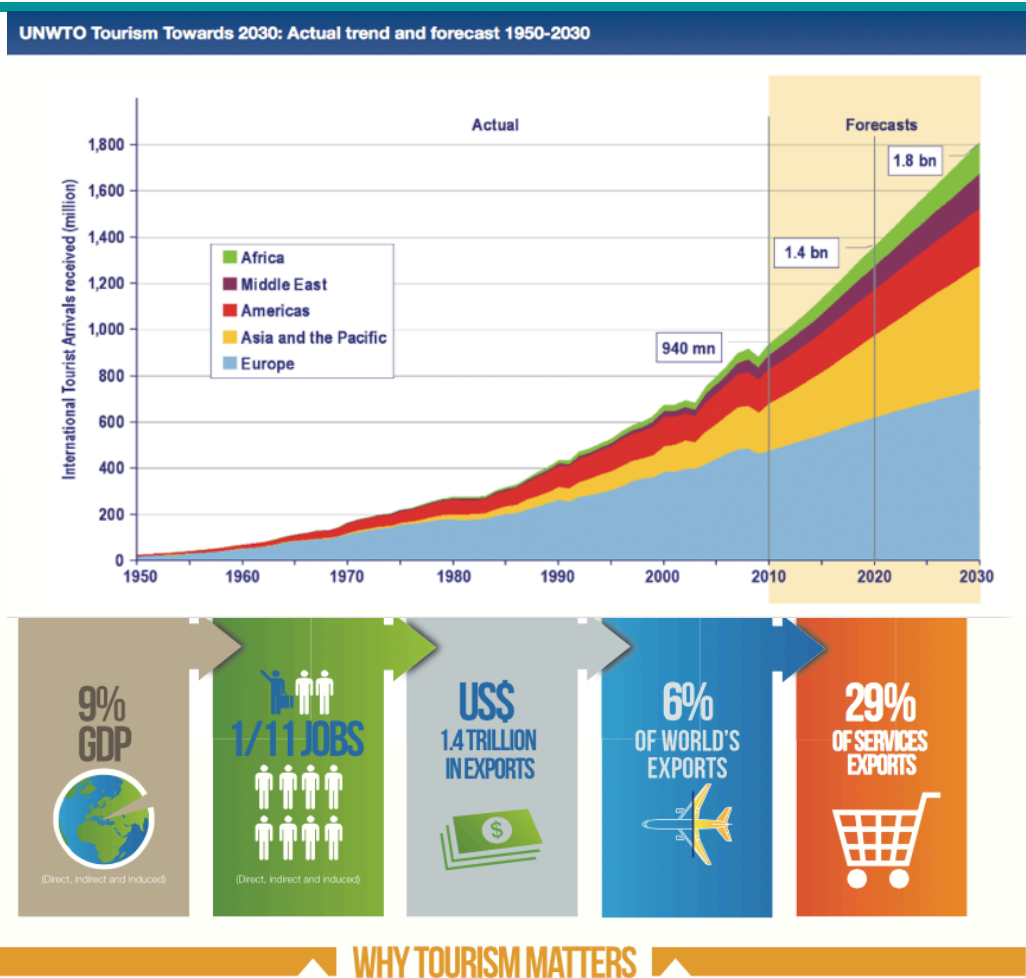




World Parks Congress, Sydney 2014

Development of Tourism

Evolution of the annual number of foreign tourists in Iceland.



Education and Regulation of Tourism

The Iceland Highland Project

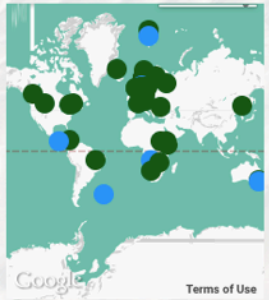
Protect the entire Icelandic Highlands as National Park !
Support the Conservation Movement on Iceland !

Posted on April 5, 2015 by Peter Prokosch

Holuhraun Eruption and Northern Lights, Vatnajökull National Park, Iceland, August 12, 2014. Photo: Peter Prokosch

The Vatnajökull National Park, established in 2008, includes all of Vatnajökull glacier as well as the national parks previously

LT&C MEMBER AND LOCATIONS



LT&C Members
LT&C Examples

NEWEST ARTICLES/EXAM

- Protect the entire Icela lands as National Park the Conservation Move Iceland !
- The Long Run – Partne
- Namibia
- UK creating three of th marine protected areas the world ?
- LT&C-Study Tour "Clea shores of Spitsbergen"

The area of Iceland's wilderness decreased by about 70% over the past 70 years

Zoning as Solution for Integrating Traditional Use and Culture

Different Categories available:

IUCN Categories:

- Strict nature reserve (Ia)
- Wilderness area (Ib)
- **National park (II)**
- Natural monument and Natural feature (III)
- Habitat management area and Species management area (IV)
- Protected landscape and Protected seascape (V)

- **UNESCO Biosphere Reserve**
- **UNESCO World Heritage**

- **GEO-Park**

“Important to look at the central highlands as one continuous whole and endeavor” (Landvernd)

Arguments for a National Park:

- the **unique nature** that Icelanders are responsible for,
- the opportunity for a very **unique tourist experience** through sustainable tourism and **wealth creation for the nation**.
- Outdoor activities in almost unspoiled nature are also very important for people's physical health and wellbeing.

Going for the Protection of the Highlands as National Park – do you want to join?