

## STNSA Newsletter: September 2010

### **Sustainable Tourism Network Southern Africa (STNSA) Capacity Building Workshop**

The Sustainable Tourism Network Southern Africa (STNSA) held a capacity building workshop on 23-24 August 2010 in Johannesburg. A total of seven certification schemes from South Africa, Botswana, Kenya and the Seychelles were present as well as representatives from the South African National Department of Tourism. It was a highly successful workshop where various issues surrounding accreditation by the Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC), membership and board representation of the GSTC were discussed and consensus reached on membership and representation on the GSTC board.



*Participants at the Sustainable Tourism Network Southern Africa Capacity Building workshop 23-24 August, 2010*

For further information on issues discussed and to access presentations made at the meeting visit: <http://www.sustainabletourismnetwork.co.za/resources/agms/>

## **FTTSA launches the Fight Child Exploitation in Tourism initiative**

FTTSA has launched the Fight Child Exploitation in Tourism initiative to combat and prevent commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) in South Africa's tourism and travel industry. This initiative encompasses four parts. First, we will continue our work as the Local Code Representative (LCR) and expand the number of Tourism Child-Protection Code of Conduct signatories. Second, we are continuing to distribute Red Card Campaign collateral to tourism businesses all over South Africa. Third, we are raising awareness about the problems of child sex tourism and human trafficking in South Africa by advocating for necessary policy reforms and implementation. Fourth, we are providing educational materials about CSEC and trafficking in persons for the tourism industry and the public to use. To learn more about the problem of CSEC and trafficking in persons in South Africa, to understand the relevant laws and know what the tourism sector can do, please contact Julia Kandzia for the Power Point Presentation: **Human Trafficking & South Africa**.

**For more information go to;**

<http://www.fairtourismza.org.za/thecode/>

## **Cape Town Hosts Successful World Tourism Day**

Cape Town was the host to a successful World Tourism day on the 27<sup>th</sup> September. The theme this year was tourism and Biodiversity. World Tourism Day, an annual celebration initiated by UNWTO, aims to create an international awareness of the role and value of tourism with regard to social, economic and environmental factors. The chosen theme provides an opportunity to raise awareness for the importance of biodiversity and the role of sustainable tourism in future development and the conservation of life.

For more information on World Tourism Day, please visit

<http://www.wtmwrtd.com/>

For more information on responsible tourism in Cape Town please visit

[www.capetown.travel/responsibletourism](http://www.capetown.travel/responsibletourism)

## **Imvelo Responsible Tourism Awards – Finalists Announced**

The finalists in the 2010 Imvelo Responsible Tourism Awards Programme, organized by the Federated Hospitality Association of Southern Africa (FEDHASA) in conjunction with the South African National Department of Tourism (NDT) have been announced. These awards recognize tourism businesses that demonstrate sustainable responsible practice in terms of their natural, social and economic environments.

The 2010 finalists are;

African Impact	Mashovhela Lodge	The Table Bay Hotel
Avis Rent a Car	Motsethabo Tours	Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Company
Carnival City Casino and Entertainment World	Palazzo Montecasino	The Westin Grand
City Lodge Hotels	Stormsriver Adventures (FTTSA Certified)	Umhlanga Sun Lifestyle Resort
The Drakensberg Sun Lifestyle Resort	The Southern Sun Waterfront Hotel	The Vineyard Hotel & Spa
Garden Court Eastern Boulevard	Sun City Resort	White Shark Projects (FTTSA Certified)
Kondowe Nature Reserve	Sun International Zambia	The Wild Coast Sun
Zululand Rhino Reserve	!XausLodge	

Fair Trade in Tourism South Africa received the Chairman's Award in 2009 for making a significant contribution to responsible tourism.

Winners will receive their awards at an awards ceremony to be held in Johannesburg on World Responsible Tourism Day, 10 November.

The 2010 awards are supported by ABSA, the Department of Water and Environmental Affairs, Eskom and the Industrial Development Corporation. For more information contact Lynda Bacon on telephone 011 467 5009 or visit

Imvelo Awards.

## **REGIONAL NEWS**

### **Investment in Sustainable Tourism in Southern Africa Roundtable**

The ***“Investment in Sustainable Tourism in Southern Africa Roundtable”*** took place on the 16<sup>th</sup> September 2010 in Botswana. The roundtable included participants from Malawi, Botswana, Mozambique and Zambia. The main purpose was to discuss ways and opportunities to strengthen the tourism business in Africa and in co-operation with European partners. It was officially opened by the Ambassador to the EU delegation in Botswana, HE Paul Malin. He says that tourism is the driving force for the development in a whole range of other sectors and “tourism kick starts the creation of jobs and enterprises and of infrastructure development”. In conclusion he said “we need to safeguard the environment - the nature, landscape, flora and fauna, and also the climate - which are assets that make Southern Africa so special, indeed unique.”

## **INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

### **Industry backs World Responsible Tourism Day in a big way.**

The WTM World Responsible Tourism Day 2011 promises to be the biggest ever. It is the only global day of action of its kind, and is sponsored by BBC News and supported by United Nations World Tourism Organization.

WTM World Responsible Tourism day 2009 attracted nearly 1,500 participants to the challenging and thought provoking programme. Travel and tourism companies are under increasing pressure to work more responsibly.

The Virgin Holidays Responsible Tourism Awards will be handed out at the event. The central tenet of these awards is that all types of tourism from niche to mainstream can and should be operated in such a way that respects and benefits destinations and local people. The awards recognize people who have made a significant commitment to the culture and economies of local communities and are providing positive contribution to biodiversity conservation.

Participants will be invited to the highly popular WTM WRTD networking reception on the day at ExCeL London, attended by 300 people. They also receive listings in the WTM catalogue, route planner and WTM WRTD website.

There are 13 categories and a panel of 13 judges who will decide who are the most committed responsible tourism destinations and dedicated industry professionals.

The 2009 recipients of the Award from Africa were;

1. Best for poverty reduction - Guludo Beach Lodge, Mozambique
2. Best for conservation of wildlife & habitats - Great Plains Conservation, South Africa
3. Best destination - City of Cape Town, South Africa

Celebrations in South Africa will take place in Johannesburg at the Melrose Arch on 10 November.

For more information or to apply for a WTM World Responsible Tourism logo, log on to [www.wtmwrtd.com](http://www.wtmwrtd.com) or

<http://www.travelio.net/industry-gets-behind-wtm-world-responsible-tourism-day.html>

## **EVENTS**

### **The First Regional Workshop on Harmonization of Tourist Accommodation Classification and Grading Systems in Southern Africa**

The First Regional Workshop on Harmonization of Tourist Accommodation Classification and Grading Systems in Southern Africa will be hosted by RETOSA in Johannesburg on 26 -28 October. A draft agenda will be circulated soon. Questions and RSVP's should be directed to Simba Mandinyenya electronically at: [simba@retosa.co.za](mailto:simba@retosa.co.za).

### **International Conference on Global Sustainable Tourism**

Mbombela Local Municipality and the Tshwane University of Technology's Department of Tourism Management are pleased to announce the 2010 International Conference on Global Sustainable Tourism. This conference has been scheduled to take place at the Bundu Country Lodge, Mbombela, South Africa, from 15 to 19 November 2010.

Updated details are now available through conference website on; <http://www.mbombela.gov.za/International%20Conference1.html>

### **Hospitality Investment Conference Africa (HICA), Sandton Sun Hotel, Johannesburg, 31 October - 2 November 2010**

The Tourism Business Council of South Africa is pleased to announce the 4th edition of the Hospitality Investment Conference Africa (HICA). HICA offers three days of business-generating networking opportunities with participating local and international captains of the tourism industry. The conference program explores investment opportunities in the African context, challenges the sector faces and reviews international trends and best practice. For more information contact, Zelda Coetzer at [zelda@imfunzelelo.co.za](mailto:zelda@imfunzelelo.co.za). Or +27(0) 21 761 3382, alternatively visit [HICA](#).

### **Training and Capacity Development for Sustainable Tourism**

The TrainForTrade project for Angola launches a new training cycle on sustainable tourism for development. **The Project** comprises training and technical assistance activities - ranging from institutional support to enhance the national policy dialogue, to a sector-wide study to identify opportunities and weaknesses in the tourism sector - that will be carried out during the upcoming months. It takes place in Benguela and the **Seminar** comprises two distance learning sessions between 11 and 22 of October 2010, to be followed by a face-to-face course from 3 to 5 November.

For more information contact [mark.assaf@unctad.org](mailto:mark.assaf@unctad.org) or [katharina.lima.de.miranda@unctad.org](mailto:katharina.lima.de.miranda@unctad.org)

**Did you know?**

From January to April 2010, South Africa received foreign arrivals totaled more than 2.5 million, compared to approximately 2.2 million in 2009, representing a growth of 16.3 percent. Approximately 14.6 million adult South Africans undertook about 30 million domestic trips in 2009, with a total annual spend of more than R22 billion, this according to the South African Tourism Minister Marthinus van Schalkwyk. During the world cup months, total arrivals for the period from both land and air markets increased by 42,7% from 505 341 in 2009 to 721 311 in 2010. African markets did not swell as considerably as might have been expected, with only a moderate 11,9% increase. Although a double-digit growth for African markets, traditional African land markets such as Mozambique and Lesotho, who were pinned as definite for a visit over the tournament, did not increase by as much as their potential promised.

The most impressive numbers come from the Central and South American markets, which are reported by a large group of travel trade as the markets that have shown the most potential for the country. Overall, the Central and Southern American markets exploded with a 924,7% increase from 4 605 visitors in June 2009 to 47 188 visitors in 2010.

The country's traditional European and North American markets also displayed impressive visitor numbers for the period and smaller, yet important, markets such as Spain and Portugal showed good numbers for the period.

.For more information visit Africa the good news.

Or <http://www.tourismupdate.co.za/NewsDetails.aspx?newsId=22557>