



Australian Community Frontline Actions

Abstract

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Presentation Title: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation - Implications for Communities with a Particular Focus on Tourism

While climate change is a global issue, its management implications are largely local. Both the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (i.e. mitigation) and the adaptation to a changing climate require players to take action at a local level. The tourism sector is a very good example of how climate change impacts on the economic activities as we know them today. In a carbon-constrained world tourism businesses will have to review their energy consumption patterns and actively manage their carbon footprint, for example by switching to low-carbon fuel sources, improving energy efficiency or engaging in carbon offsetting. Similarly, tourism businesses - as well as other stakeholders - will have to adjust their operations to a climate of warmer temperatures, changing precipitation patterns, more frequent and intense extreme events and changing ecosystems. Finally, climate change will impact upon tourism demand, both as a result of climate change policies such as carbon taxes and changing destination attractiveness. There are a wide range of management options to reduce the risks associated with the above changes and examples from different types of tourist destinations will be discussed in this presentation.