

Committee on Social Policies of Tourism



CSPT Bulletin
N. 2 - September 2020

Who are we?

The Committee on Social Policies of Tourism (CSPT) is part of the **working groups** of the International Social Tourism Organisation (ISTO).

It was formed in April 2019 and its **purpose** is to provide a forum for debate, interaction and proposals with regards to social policies of tourism in order to enable public authorities and other relevant bodies to **better understand** existing mechanisms, to **assess** their strengths and weaknesses and to **promote** their use.

This **bulletin** is elaborated to provide you with some interesting and updated **tourism insights**.

For more information about ISTO's working groups [click here](#).



Introduction



In the previous bulletin of the Committee we have presented you the preliminary results related to the research in Europe and the share of participation in tourism in Europe using Eurostat's most updated information.

In this edition, **focus** has been set **in the Americas**. Here you will find the preliminary results of the research done during the last months about policies in the American continent regarding social tourism. This work **should continue** in order to have a **more complete understanding** on the existent policies and initiatives of social tourism in the Americas.

The aim of the research has been to **identify the policies that allow countries and/or regions** to develop social tourism from the public sphere.

**Which countries
in the **Americas**
have policies
related to **social**
tourism?**



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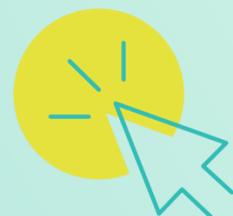
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It is interesting that **most countries define social tourism** in their tourism laws. However, not all of them have available information about programs or actions focus on its implementation or support.

This could be because priority is set in other tourism initiatives, or because the communication of the social tourism ones is done in a local basis aimed directly to target groups.

As an example, **countries** that have information available online about their **social tourism initiatives** are: [Argentina](#), [Canada](#), [Chile](#), [Guatemala](#), [Mexico](#), [Uruguay](#) and [Venezuela](#).



More than tourism laws...

Beyond tourism laws in themselves, there are 7 countries that include **social tourism** as part of their **tourism strategies and development plans**. In particular:

- **Brazil** considers it in the "Tourism National Plan 2018-2022".
- **Chile** includes in in the "Tourism National Policy" and "Tourism National Strategy 2012-2020".
- **Colombia** takes it into consideration in the " Tourism Sectorial Plan 2018-2022" and it even has a specific "Social Tourism Policy".
- **Costa Rica** has developed the "Social Tourism Regulations".
- **Ecuador** has considered social tourism in the "Sustainable Tourism Development Strategic Plan 2020" .
- **Guatemala** has included it in the "Sustainable Tourism Development National Policy 2012-2022".
- **Peru** considered it the "Tourism National Strategic Plan 2025".

Conclusions

There is no doubt that in the Americas **social tourism is a relevant topic**. While some countries have strong policies of social tourism, others are still in the process of developing them. We **aspire** to see **more countries involved** in social tourism, implementing **more initiatives** that will allow access to tourism to those who cannot do it due to different barriers.

As presented previously, in some countries **policies include plans and strategies**, and some of them should be redesigned soon. We expect that social tourism will **continue to be part of them**, and that more destinations will also include them in their strategies.

Further research needs to be done to identify more initiatives of social tourism available, particularly thinking in those countries where the communication is done directly to target groups and not necessarily online.



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