## Leveraging Sustainability for Success

How destinations around the globe are engaging, inspiring and enabling change

Presentation by Guy Bigwood, Managing Director















#### What is the GDS-Index

A destination level programme that measures, benchmarks and improves the sustainability strategy and performance of meetings, events and business tourism destinations.

#### It was founded by:









#### **Our Purpose**







**ENGAGE** 



**ENABLE** 

destinations to become more sustainable places to visit, meet in and thrive in.

#### **Participating** Cities

"We are the leading global community of event destinations committed to sustainability & regeneration"

CONVENTION Zürich, BUREAU Switzerland.































































































## How does the GDS-Index improve destination sustainability?

#### **Benchmarking**

Third party evaluation of Environment, Social, Supplier and Destination Management Strategy and Performance

#### **Assessment**

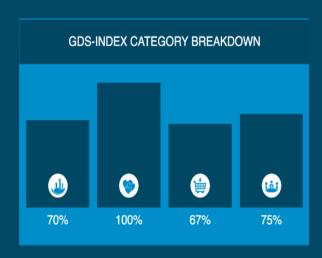
Specific recommendations to improve destination strategy, initiatives and performance

#### Consulting

Strategy development, stakeholder engagement, communication campaigns, training and coaching, measurement and reporting

#### **Sharing**

Sharing best practices through media partners, social media, whitepapers and speaking engagements



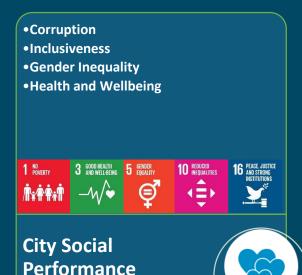






### **Overview 2018 GDS-Index Benchmarking Criteria**









### How is Asia and Korea Doing?





39%
IMPROVEMENT IN CVB PERFORMANCE SINCE 2016

How are leading destinations around the globe leveraging sustainability for success?

## 5 MEGATRENDS



4
BUILDING
BLOCKS

8
TACTICS
FOR CHANGE

#### **5 MEGATRENDS**

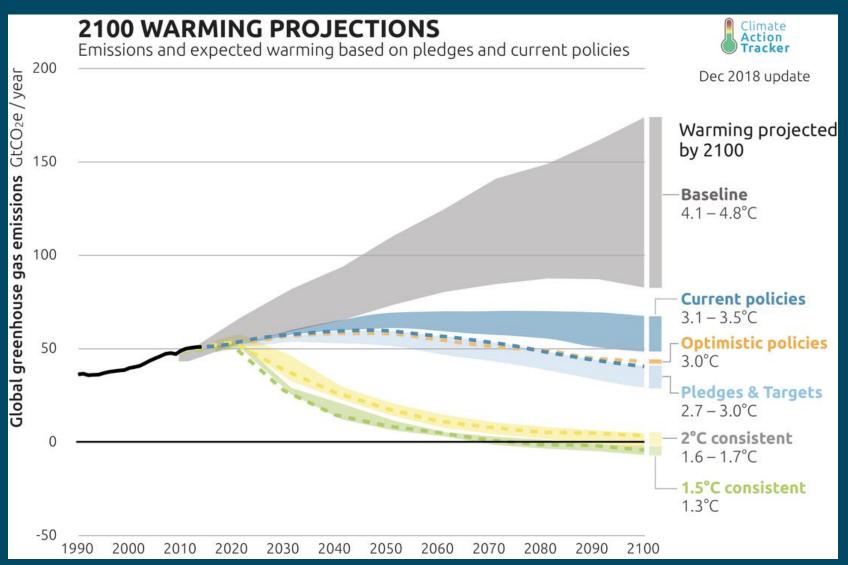
Transformative forces that are and will increasingly shape destinations in profound ways.

Destination management organisations must better understand and react to these forces, in their destination's development strategy.





#### **CLIMATE BREAKDOWN**

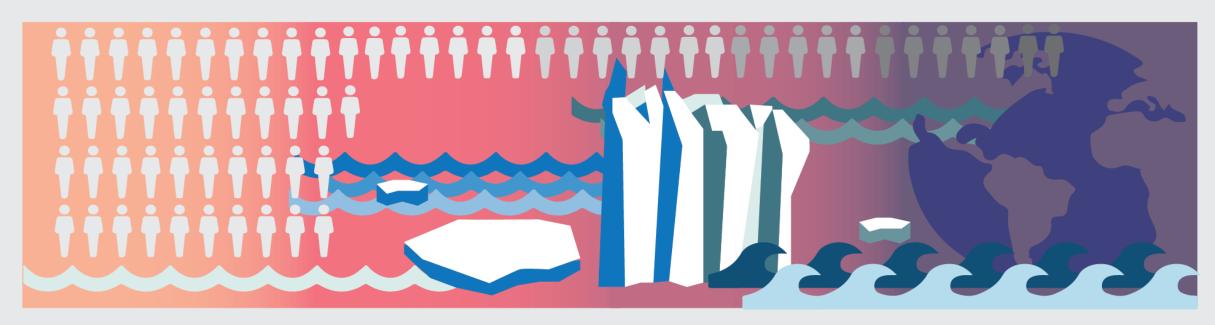


**Current projection** 

45% reduction by 2030 Net zero by 2050

## CLIMATE BREAKDOWN – What does this mean?

### IMPACTS ON SEA LEVEL RISE...



1.5°C

2.0°C

3.0°C

4.0°C

Rising sea levels displace 46 million people; **Sea level rise of 48cm**  Fewer opportunities for infrastructure adaptation;
Sea level rise of 56cm

Near-complete melting of the Greenland ice sheet;

Sea level rise of 7+ meters

470-760 million people at risk; Sea level rise of nearly 9 meters

## CLIMATE BREAKDOWN – What does this mean?

### IMPACTS ON WATER AT...



1.5°C

Water shortages in the Mediterranean, Australia, Brazil and Asia 2.0°C

8% of the global population faces severe water shortages

3.0°C

Almost half of Himalayan high mountain glaciers lost 4.0°C

More frequent and severe extreme droughts

## CLIMATE BREAKDOWN – What does this mean?

### IMPACTS ON FLORA & FAUNA AT...



1.5°C

9 out of 10 coral reefs at risk from severe degradation 2.0°C

All coral reefs disappear

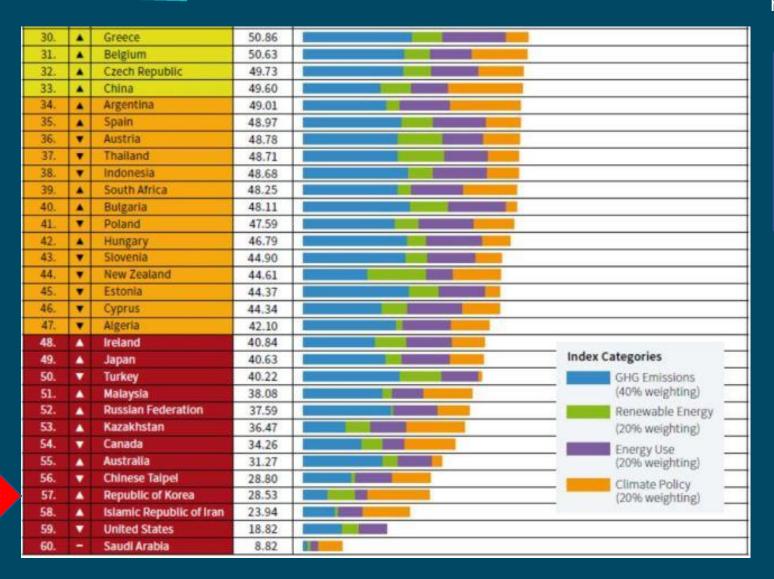
3.0°C

Marine ecosystems may collapse

4.0°C

Half of all plant and animal species face local extinction

#### **CLIMATE BREAKDOWN**



## Heading towards 3 to 4 °C mean annual temperature increase by 2100



60 for Climate Action







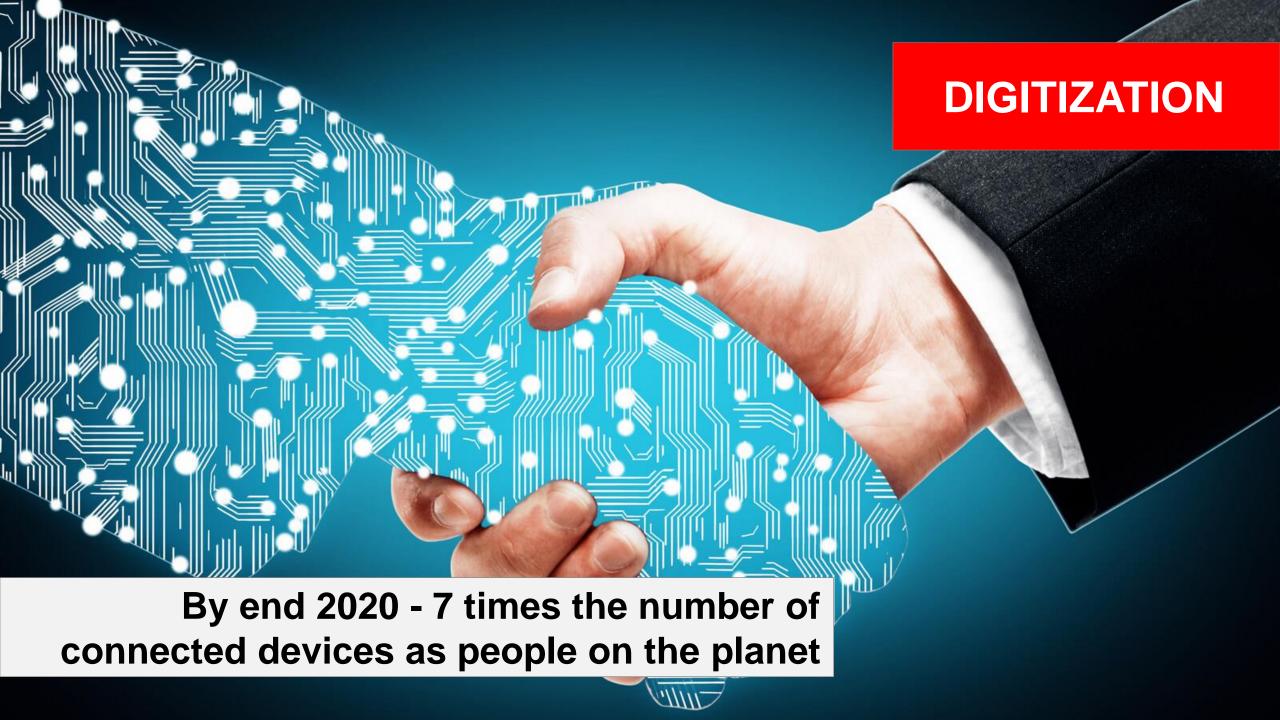
### **SOCIAL CHANGE**



Estimated increase - 150 to 200 million people by 2050

Source UNHRC







## How are leading destinations around the globe responding to these megatrends?



### **BUILDING BLOCKS**



## BUILDING BLOCKS 1 and 2 Take the lead and Masterplan

### Whose responsibility is it?

DMOs must play a key role in developing a destination sustainability strategy.

Connect with the municipality, partners, clients, visitors, and citizens to co-create a shared vision and masterplan

68%

OF ALL GDS-INDEX DESTINATIONS HAVE A SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY A

47%
GROWTH IN DESTINATIONS WITH A SUSTAINABILITY TEAM OR COMMITTEE



44%
INCREASE IN
DESTINATIONS
INTEGRATING
SUSTAINABILITY
INTO CORE
USINESS STRATEGY

# WAY TO GROW

Business plan for destination Gothenburg 2018–2020

WAY TO GROW: The destination's business plan describes how tourism to Gothenburg will have doubled by 2030. This development must be sustainable and in the best interests of the people of Gothenburg.

WAY TO GO: Göteborg & Co's business plan describes how the company will ensure as effectively as possible that the goals for the destination are realised, and thus create value for Gothenburg.

Vision: By 2030, destination Gothenburg will have doubled its tourism by setting an international example and constantly challenging accepted ideas of sustainability.

We do this through wide-reaching collaboration

- by leading and promoting the development of Gothenburg as a sustainable destination
- so that everyone who lives and works here benefits from a growing hospitality industry.

## BUILDING BLOCK 4 Become a master at collaboration



### SUSTAINABLE DESTINATION PARTNERSHIP





#### https://www.sustainabledestinationpartnership.com.au/

#### Who we are

The Sustainable Destination Partnership is a collaboration of hotels, backpacker hostels, serviced apartments, cultural institutions, entertainment venues and industry influencers working together to make Sydney a sustainable destination.

#### Single-use items

Working to reduce single use items in our businesses.

#### Food waste

Working to eliminate food waste and piloting a range of toolkits.

#### Sustainable procurement

Aligning supply chains with our sustainability objectives.

#### Shared measurement

Developing shared targets and indicators to measure our progress.

## TACTICS FOR CHANGE Integrate the SDGs

Growth is only relevant when it has a positive impact

#### TOURISM MUST CREATE BETTER PLACES TO LIVE, MEET AND THIRVE IN



TOURISM BY 2030

»Wonderful Copenhagen's ambition for 2030 is that tourism in Greater Copenhagen positively impacts local and global sustainable development.«



### SUSTAINABLE GALS DEVELOPMENT GALS





































#### TACTICS FOR CHANGE

### Integrate the SDGs

High

### Mapping: Which goals are relevant?

Impact and Influence on Destination and Stakeholders













Medium























Low

### TACTICS FOR CHANGE: Footprint & set science based goals

This sector has substantial environmental impacts and is currently responsible for:



11% of the city's total GHG emissions

14% of potable water consumption



46% of the city's commercial waste



of which only 50% is recycled

#### **Sector targets**

City of Sydney has set bold targets for a 70 per cent emissions reduction by 2030, and net zero emissions by 2050.

#### By 2022, sector targets are to:

- Reduce emissions by 12%
- 0% increase in potable water use
- Divert 70% of waste from landfill.

By 2030, if the hospitality sector implements the actions in the plan

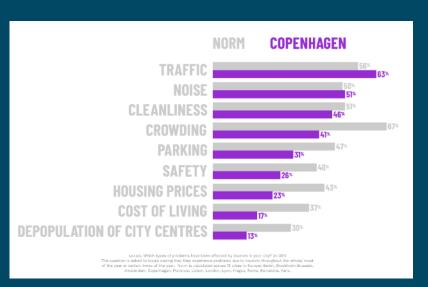
- Reduce emissions by 23%
- Save over 9% of potable water
- Divert 90% of waste.

## TACTICS FOR CHANGE Engage Strategically with Stakeholders

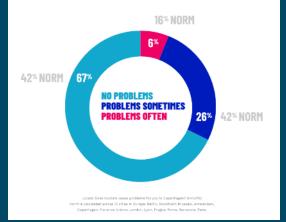




#### **MAKE THE DATA SEXY!**

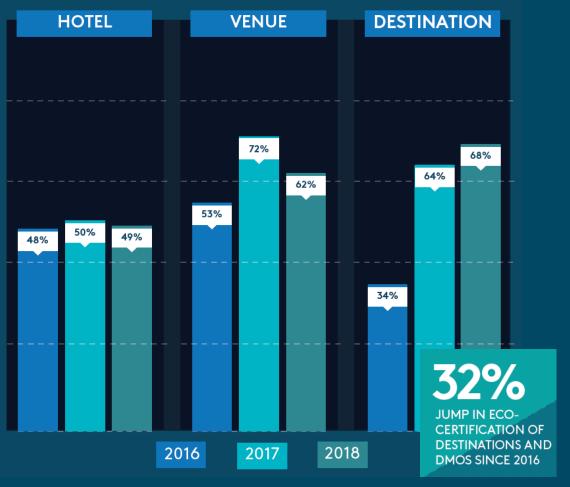


#### https://10xcopenhagen.com/



## TACTICS FOR CHANGE Champion Certification

In a market where everyone is proclaiming their sustainability credentials, recognised eco-certifications are increasingly important. They make the planners life much easier!





Sweden Leads: Karlstad has 97% of the city's total hotel room inventory eco-certified, followed by Gothenburg with 92%.

# TACTICS FOR CHANGE Promote The Food Revolution

Modern visitors seek local, authentic, healthy and sustainable experiences. DMOs have a key role in engaging clients and suppliers to promote a regenerative food revolution.



# TACTICS FOR CHANGE Promote The Food Revolution





A local, regenerative and healthy approach to gastronomy, can be turned into a **competitive advantage**. A pathway to job creation, increasing social inclusiveness whilst helping to reduce carbon emissions and environmental pressures.

### Locally Grown Food Exchange (Borza lokalnih živil)

- Ljubljana Tourism biannually convenes a meeting between
- suppliers (farmers, producers) and buyers (hotels, restaurants).
- Professionally moderated exchange designed to facilitate inter-personal meetings and encourage new agreements.
- 3 events organised: Over 200 people
- Won the Premik Naprej 2018 award



# TACTICS FOR CHANGE Promote The Food Revolution





#### ONE THIRD OF ALL FOOD PRODUCED IS WASTED

Thailand Exhibition and Convention Bureau developed a third party audited standard for food waste

Aligned with the United Nations' Draft Food Loss and Waste Standard.

Online tool to help hotels and venues to calculate, manage and reduce the amount of waste.

Piloted in 10 hotels, delivering over **530,000€** in cost savings and 383 tons carbon emissions reduction.



# TACTICS FOR CHANGE Create an engaging story

Pure "green" advertising campaigns does not work.



# TACTICS FOR CHANGE Create an engaging story

Destinations need to create movements based on a new story of purpose, authentic action and data.







CONTACT US





**Guide to LEED-Certified** Hotels & Venues in DC



**Guide to Sustainable Spaces** for Your Next Event



Sustainability at DC's **Convention Center** 



Sustainable Catering Companies in the DC Region



**Eco-Friendly Tours** 







Didn't Know About DC

## **SUSTAINABILITY** LIVES HERE











#### SUSTAINABILITY LIVES HERE

Melbourne is committed to becoming one of the world's most sustainable cities for business events with the goal to be carbon neutral by 2020.

Melbourne Convention Bureau (MCB) recognises the value of sustainable practices for meeting organisers and delegates and is continuously developing Melbourne's capacity for delivering sustainable events.

We actively grow and promote the city's sustainability credentials to the business events industry in Australia and abroad whilst also contributing to the broader sustainability agenda by actively sharing learnings from such events with the tourism sector and wider community.

#### MORE ON SUSTAINABILITY



Calculate the Co2 emissions from

READ MORE



Plan a sustainable event Discover how to plan a



Latest news View the latest sustainability READ MORE



MCB IS A GDS INDEX **MEMBER** 

The Global Destination Sustainability Index (GDS Index) is an initiative that drives the adoption and recognition of sustainable practices in the business tourism and events industry.



#### **SUSTAINABLE PROGRAMS**

Melbourne continues to delivers sustainable programs across transport, urban city spaces, design and infrastructure to develop an eco-friendly future for the city.



#### 6-STAR GREEN STAR **CONVENTION CENTRE**

Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre is the first convention centre in the world to be awarded the 6-Star Green Star environmental rating by Green Building Council of Australia.



#### SUSTAINABILITY **POLICY**

View Melbourne Convention Bureau's Sustainability Policy including our commitment statement and future vision.

# TACTICS FOR CHANGE Report on economic, social and environmental Impact



## GÖTEBORG & CO'S KEY SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

Göteborg & Co strives to take economic, environmental and social responsibility. Through its collaborations, the company has opportunities to influence business partners and thus contribute to long-term sustainable growth in Gothenburg's hospitality industry.

#### GÖTEBORG & CO'S SUSTAINABILITY AREAS

#### Göteborg & Co's sustainability efforts can be divided into four areas:

- A welcoming destination with attractions and experiences for everyone
- An environmentally and climate-friendly destination
- Lasting positive effects for local community and industry
- · Buoyant, thriving industry with favourable conditions

#### MATERIALITY ANALYSIS

In December 2017, a materiality analysis was carried out to identify the most important sustainability issues for Göteborg & Coto focus on ints operations and communications. About ten representatives of the company's most important stakeholders such as the owner, event organisers, hotels and tourism organisations, were interviewed to find out their views regarding the company's responsibilities in its four sustainability areas. The results from the stakeholder dialogue were discussed and processed during a workshop attended by representatives from different parts of the company. This resulted in the identification of twelve material sustainability aspects, which are listed to the right.

#### GENERAL GOVERNANCE

The company is governed at a general level by shareholder agreements/owner directives, the Municipal Council budget, the destinations and the company's three-year business plan and the City of Gothenburg's programme, policies and guidelines. The sustainability perspective is integrated into the relevant parts of the governing documents. Göteborg & Co gained its first environmental diploma in 2008 and has had a constantly evolving environmental management system in place ever since.

#### MATERIAL SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

#### A welcoming destination with attractions and experiences for everyone

- Offer a wide variety of events and attractions aimed at different target groups.
- Make the destination, its events and attractions welcoming and accessible, especially with regard to special needs and language.
- . Contribute to making experiences safe and secure.

#### An environmentally and climate-friendly

- Promote climate-friendly transport to and within Gothenburg.
- Encourage systematic sustainability management at meetings, events, hotels, facilities etc.
   by providing support and imposing demands.
- Promote sustainable food.

#### Lasting positive effects for local community and industry

- Promote tourism that contributes to positive development of the local community.
- Make use of meetings, projects and events to spotlight key social issues.

#### Buoyant, thriving industry with favourable conditions

- Raise trade and industry's profile as an attractive sector
- Demand fair conditions.
- Ensure a healthy working environment for own employees.
- Work to combat corruption

#### **GRI INDEX**

This is Göteborg, & Co's first sustainability report. Göteborg, & Co will issue a sustainability report once a year. The report has been prepared in accordance with the Copoption of the Global Reporting Initiative Sustainal sty Ri porting Standards (2016), and deserbles Götebol. & Comanagement of key sustainability issues. More into an into on GRI can be found on usura, global-propring our

Göteborg & Co has prepared this report in accordance with the UN Global Compact's ten principles for sustainable development. I foreness to the principles that are also address the tild of into it on on the output of the groups and it in the only lebel a region at its on lone long & Co's work to achieve computance with the ten-

orchorg & Co's work to achieve compliance with the terprinciples is available in the report. The company's efforts in certain areas such as environmental management and human rights require further development next year.

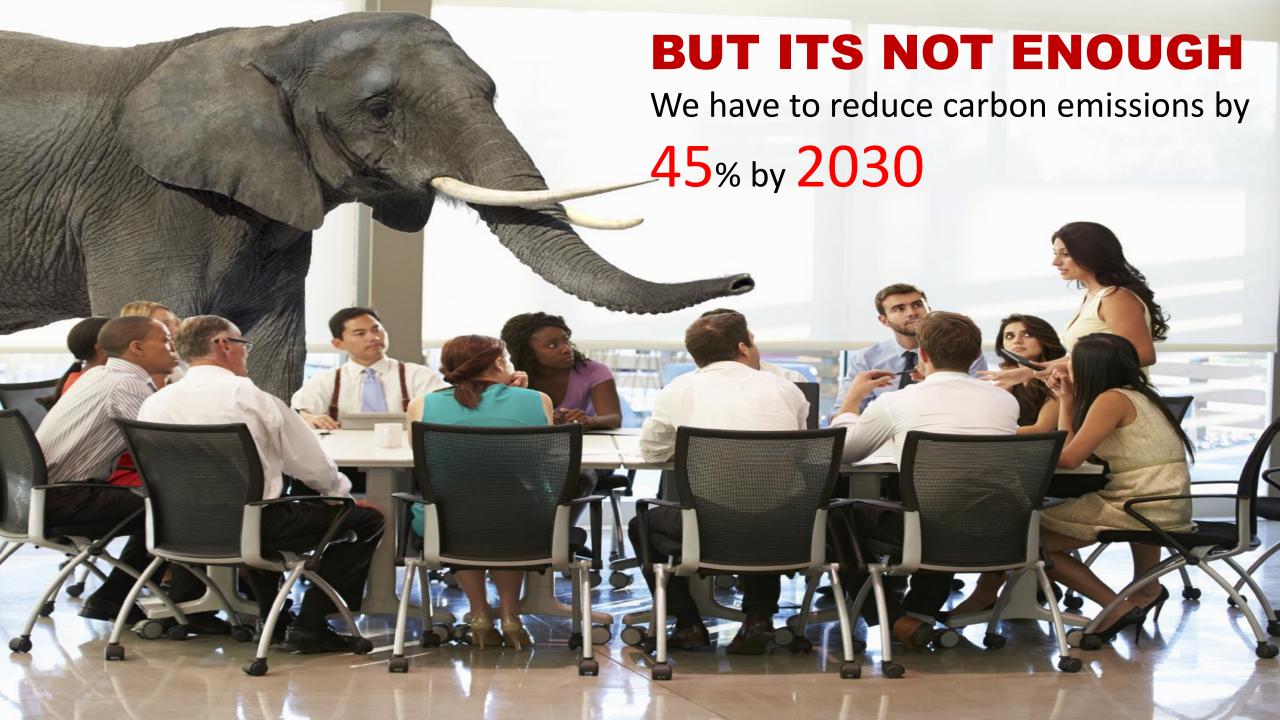
GRI Stand	dards 2016	Disclosure	Page Number	Global Compact
102 GENERAL DISCLOSURES				
ORGANIS	SATIONAL PROFILE			
102-1	Name of the organisation	Göteborg & Co AB		
102-2	Activities, brands, products and services		p. 6-7	
102-3	Location of headquarters	Gothenburg		
102-4	Location of operations	Gothenburg		
102-5	Ownership and legal form		p. 6-7	
102-6	Markets served	Sweden and international through marketing and partnerships.		
102-7	Scale of the organisation		p. 6-7, 12	
102-8	Information on other workers	The company conducts all its operations in Gothenburg. Full-time employes (December): % people. Part-time employes (hourly paid employees during the year): 12 people. Average number of employees during the year.	p. 23	Principle 6

ONLY
21%
OF DESTINATIONS
DISCLOSE ON
SUSTAINABILITY

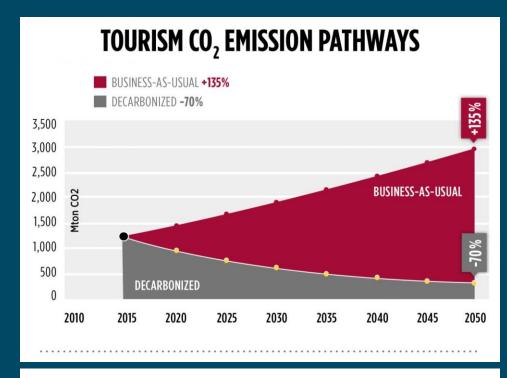
## Creating better places to live, meet and thrive in

Sustainability has become a key measure of a city destinations success.

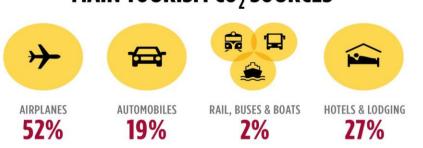




## **Decarbonising tourism and events**



## $\mathbf{MAIN}\ \mathbf{TOURISM}\ \mathbf{CO_2}\ \mathbf{SOURCES}$



Tourism is estimated to generate 8% of global GHG emissions Growing by 4% annually\*

We have to reduce emissions by 45% by 2030

#### HOW

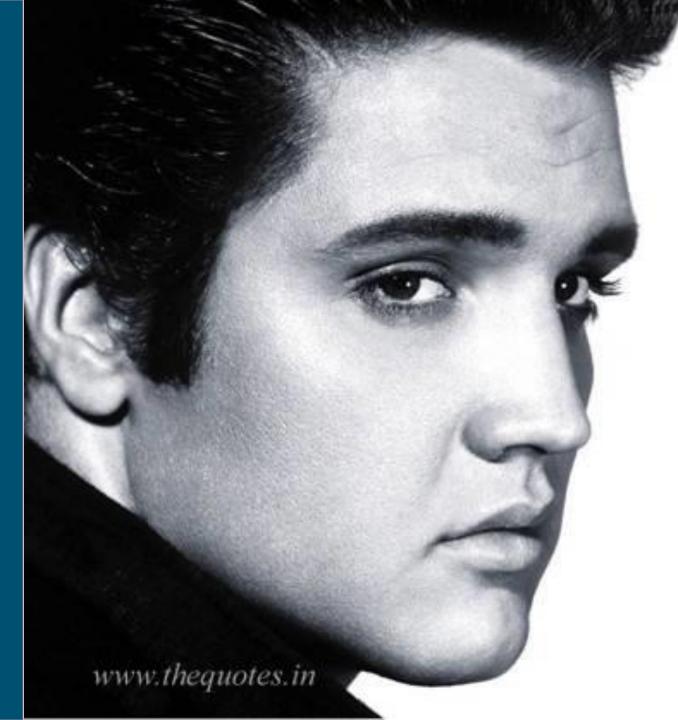
- Government policy
- Better measurement and reporting
- Optimization of buildings, productions, events...
- Renewable energy
- Low-carbon fuels
- Carbon tax & offsetting
- Behaviour change
- COLLABORATION & INNOVATION

<sup>\*</sup> https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-018-0141-x https://etc-corporate.org/uploads/2019/03/ETC-Climate-Change-Report\_FINAL.pdf

"I don't want your hope. I don't want you to be hopeful. I want you to panic ... and act as if the house was on fire."

**Greta Thunberg Environmental Activist** 





A little less conversation, a little more action, please

# This is your wake up call...









Creating better places to live, meet & thrive in.

Sustainable Destination Management Trends Best Practices and Insights.

Featuring an analysis of the 2018 Global Destination Sustainability Index from the world's leading cities.

AN INDUSTRY COLLABORATION BETWEEN IMEX, ICCA, MCI AND ECM











If you have any questions or require more information, please contact:

<u>Guy.Bigwood@gds-index.com</u> #guybigwood To find out more about the GDS-Index, please visit: <a href="https://www.gds-index.com">www.gds-index.com</a>