



**10th Annual Forum of the EU Strategy of Baltic Sea Region
12-13th of June, 2019
Gdańsk, Poland**

SUMMARY REPORT

Seminar: Eco and sharing tourism (tourist butterfly effect)

Time: Thursday 13th of June 2019, 10.45-12.15

The workshop program Eco and sharing tourism (tourist butterfly effect) aimed to show ecological solutions used in the Pomorskie Voivodeship, whose recipients can be both tourists and residents. The workshop was divided into three thematic blocks:

1. Sharing economy in transport, ecological solutions, in which the ecological means of shared transport was shown and the visionary project of a hydrogen-powered bicycle were presented.
2. Accommodation - Hotels - ecological solutions, or eco-friendly solutions in hotels on the example of Scandic and Mercure Gdańsk Old Town.
3. Food waste - the problem of our life, which presents the problem of food waste and ways of its solution.

The workshop ended with the presentation The chances of implementing solutions prepared and delivered by PA Tourism Coordinator Andrea Krabbe.

1. In the first part of the workshop dedicated to transport, 4 companies presented their activities.
 - a. Grzegorz Krajwieski from Metropolian Bike presented an innovative project in Poland of the MEVO metropolitan bike, in which 4020 electric bicycles and 660 parking stations will be made available. This project covers 14 cities and communes of the Pomorskie Voivodeship. The possibilities and technology used in bicycles were presented.
 - b. Klaudia Pokrątką with the presentation "City without traffic jams - ecofriendly scooter sharing platform" presented the profile of the Ecoshare company. Scooters which are available through the application are powered by an electric battery, and thus do not emit fumes into the environment. An additional advantage of this means of transport is its speed and the ability to avoid traffic jams, which in the city is important and convenient not only for residents but also for the tourists.
 - c. Michał Lewandowski from EcoCar in the presentation "Ecology and comfort" presented the possibilities offered by renting an electric taxi. The data presented allowed to know the scale of the problem of cars with the combustion engine. Taxis from EcoCar produce more than half less carbon dioxide a day compared to traditional cars. An interesting solution introduced into the application is the ability to check how much of exhaust gases went into the environment during the ride and compare the results with



those obtained by an ordinary vehicle on the same section. The EcoCar company has its own vehicles not only in the Tri-City but also in Warsaw and other large cities of the country.

d. The last presentation in this part of the workshop was delivered by Bartosz Dubiński from Drucki - Lubecki Institute. Presentation of "Future - hydrogen bicycles" showed an innovative design of bicycles powered by a hydrogen engine that allows quick charging and is an alternative to electric vehicles. The hydrogen drive is still being tested all the time, but the test results are so satisfactory that the company will soon receive the ready prototype of the device. During the workshop, the technology of such bicycle and the possibilities that flow from similar solutions were presented.

2. The second part of the workshop touched on topics that are closer to tourism: hotels and solutions used to make these objects more eco-friendly.
 - a. Grzegorz Grabowski from Scandic Hotel in the presentation "Solutions that protect the natural environment" drew attention to small details, which despite their simplicity significantly reduce the amount of waste. Hotel Scandic completely abandoned the use of small, disposable packaging for gels and shampoos in the room bathrooms, as well as the water in plastic bottles for the glass bottles. The hotel also tries to give up wasting food in the hotel kitchen. Certificates were also presented, which were given to Hotel Scandic - including the Ecolabel certificate - which can boast of being the only hotel in Gdańsk.
 - b. Sylwia Gadomska in the presentation of "Sustainable Hospitality" presented the solutions used by the Mercure Gdansk Old Town hotel. Minor changes such as the resignation of small packages of butter for large cubes available on the Swedish table, allow not only to save money but also to reduce the amount of waste produced by the hotel. After small changes, which are introduced gradually, you can change the mentality of people visiting the hotel, and ultimately affect their behaviour after returning home. The hotel pays much attention to the use of local businesses and the use of reusable packaging.
3. The last part of the workshop was devoted to wasting food and how to fight this problem. Presentation *Hotel guest: friend or foe in the fight against food waste - Polish experience* was presented by Tomasz Szuba from Venturis Horeca. There were very important questions asked in the presentation, How much do we waste? What are we wasting? When are we wasting? Why and how much money is wasted along with thrown food? All these questions were answered by the workshop's listeners, and the lecturer only completed the answers. This shows that people are aware of how much and what they are throwing away, but they are doing little to do anything about it. The scale of the problem was illustrated by examples. A hotel / spa with 100 rooms during the year produces about 25,000 kg of food waste, which is equal to about 180 thousand Euro. In Poland, the whole hotel industry loses about EUR 400 million during the year. This presentation has left listeners with a conception and reflection on how much we throw away ourselves.



4. The last presentation was presented by Ms. Andrea Krabbe, who spoke about funding in tourism and the possibilities of the Baltic Sea Region. The Sustainable Development Goals were presented along with an indication where to look for tourism.

Why tourist butterfly effect? Because, the solutions we use on a daily basis can affect others. New habits implemented during the holidays transferred to everyday life may affect other people's habits. An example may be the Mercure Hotel, which is not ashamed that some of the solutions used in the hotel have been copied from the competition. In this way, change in one place involves changes in others. The butterfly effect cannot be stopped, it is only necessary to take care that it carries changes for the better.