



## **UNWTO Recommendations on Youth Travel**

*Endorsed by the 20<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the World Tourism Organization (24-29 August, Victoria Falls, Zambia/Zimbabwe)*

### **Young travellers have a positive impact on host communities, destinations and countries**

1. National Tourism Plans shall recognize young travellers as a segment to be targeted for the social benefits they bring in terms of cultural interaction, mutual understanding and the laying of foundations for world peace.
2. National Tourism Plans shall recognize the positive impact of youth travel on economic growth and job creation at the local and national levels.
3. National Tourism Plans shall recognize the benefits for tourism development of young travellers in identifying new tourism destinations and in demanding new products.
4. Governments and educational institutions shall highlight the importance to young people of their engaging in activities that contribute to the sustainable development, in its social, cultural, environmental and economic pillars, of host communities, destinations and developing countries.

### **Facilitating and stimulating youth travel**

5. Provisions shall be made to facilitate the entry of foreign young travellers for temporary visiting, including for educational purposes, through adequate policies and measures.
6. Provisions shall be made to ensure that visas and other governmental formalities for young travellers are processed in a timely and efficient manner.
7. National and local authorities shall devise and implement appropriate procedures to ensure the safety and well-being of young travellers.
8. Provisions shall be made to provide travel incentives, favourable fares and adequate tourism products for young travellers.

### **Identification of key issues of youth travel**

9. Tourism development strategies shall encompass the relevant information and analysis for understanding the profile, characteristics and interests of young travellers.

10. Joint initiatives and partnerships among public and private tourism stakeholders regarding youth travel shall be encouraged in order to foster information sharing, knowledge development, policy measures, investment and the supply of the best possible services to benefit youth travel.

11. Stakeholders of the youth travel industry shall seek common positions, have a public voice and speak with unity on the issues involved in Youth Travel.

### **The educational significance of youth travel**

12. Governments and educational institutions shall highlight the importance to young people of their engaging in activities that will enhance their personal and professional development, particularly when these involve travel.

13. Governments and educational institutions shall consider the value of incorporating travel in curricula as a means of enhancing the skills and personal development of young people.