

Sustainable Tourism Certification Network of the Americas Application Form

In late 2003, a Sustainable Tourism Certification Network of the Americas was launched to promote sustainable tourism in the region through the strengthening of tourism initiatives based on mutual respect and recognition, joint efforts, harmonization (balancing) of systems and the sharing of information and experience. Network objectives include the establishment of common work tools among network members and a joint marketing strategy, the generation of a set of "best management practices" for sustainable tourism based on existing regionally and nationally accepted standards, and the definition of strategies to promote the participation of tourism operations, focused on small scale operations, to implement best practices and certification processes.

At the launch, the founding members of Network expressed a strong interest in recruiting additional members and developed the criteria below. All stakeholders based in countries or regions of the Americas will be welcome to apply for Network membership. Organizations interested in supporting the Network development and its integration with other regional or international initiatives will be considered.

The Network seeks entities as national or regional partners that comply with the following criteria:

- Currently working, supporting, or promoting sustainable tourism certification initiatives.
- Experience in sustainable tourism.
- Be a functioning organization (with management capacity).
- Express commitment to the vision, mission, values and objectives of the Network.
- Guarantee of multistakeholder representativeness in the country or region (through multistakeholder national committees or equivalent mechanism).
- Availability of time to work on the Network activities.
- Guarantee of dissemination of information in the country/region.
- Commitment to maintain active and transparent communications.

Responsibilities of the Members:

- Meet with the criteria mentioned above.
- Identify the stakeholders in the country or region.
- Establish the structure that allows them to consult and maintain stakeholders informed about the Network activities in their country or region (e.g. national committee or equivalent mechanism).
- Designate a formal contact with the Network in their country or region and communicate it to Rainforest Alliance (secretarial), in a maximum of three months.
- Participate in the Network activities (including electronic discussion forums and annual meetings).

Questionnaire for Membership

Please double click on the selected box and mark "checked" under default value

Contact Information

Full Name

Current Position

Email address

Phone

Fax

Organization

Name of the organization you represent.

Type of Organization

- Financial Entity
- Academic Institution
- Entrepreneur (Tourism Service Provider)
- Consumers (Tourist)
- National Accreditation Entity
- Governmental Entity
- Local Government
- Private Tourism Organization

NGOs

- Tourism
- Conservation
- Community & indigenous

Workers Association

Others

Specify _____

Physical address

Country/City

Web Site

Date of the Organization establishment

1. ¿Why does your organization would like to become part of the Network?

2. ¿Does your organization have a certification program?

Yes Name of the Program _____

2.a. Status of the certification program:

Development Currently operating

2.b. Years of operation in certification _____

3. ¿Does your organization support sustainable tourism certification initiatives?

Yes Name of the initiatives _____

No

4. Contact person for the Network in your country.

5. ¿Does your organization belong or have been part of a Network (s)

Yes

¿Which? _____

No

5.a ¿For how long?

5.b ¿What was your main responsibility?

Please attach to this form general information on your organization (profile, mission, vision, objectives, programs, etc.)

The information provided in this form is legitimate.

Signed on _____ the month of _____ of the year _____

Mr. (Mrs.) _____

We thank you beforehand for your interest and support to our efforts.

Please return this form via email to:

| [Silvia Rioja](mailto:srioja@ra.org)

Sustainable Tourism Division Associate

Rainforest Alliance, Costa Rica

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| srioja@ra.org

www.rainforest-alliance.org

For more information on the **Sustainable Tourism Certification Network of the Americas**, please see <http://www.ra.org/programs/sv/index.html>