

WORLD LEISURE NEWS

ISSUE 46


**CELEBRATE
WL DAY 2023!**



WLO 70th
ANNIVERSARY

MARCH 2023

**WORLD
LEISURE
ORGANIZATION**



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news here!



Editorial

Dear members, dear colleagues,

In this issue of *WL News*, we invite you to join us in the celebration of the World Leisure Day 2023. This new edition will be celebrated all around the globe on the 16 April 2023, to reinforce the role of leisure at the centre of the society. Check out below for more information on the programed activities!

We also want to remind you that the call for abstracts of the World Leisure Congress (WLC), which will be celebrated in December in New Zealand, hosted by the World Leisure Centre of Excellence (WLCE) at the University of Otago, will be open until the 4 April. In this issue we also tell you about some side events organized around the WLC, such as the PhD and Early Career Researchers workshop. We are looking forward to meeting you all in New Zealand for our first face-to-face Congress after the pandemic!

Another important announcement is the launch of the call for applications for the 2023 World Leisure International Innovation Prize. The 10th edition of this Prize seeks to recognize organizations that have implemented creative solutions which foster local, national or international leisure opportunities for the benefit and development of individuals and communities. Help us disseminate and/or apply now and until the 5 June 2023.

The issue is completed with a call for special issue proposals for the *World Leisure Journal*, a recap of some of the most relevant work done by the WLO in the past month, and much more information and opportunities from our WLO family and partners. Enjoy the reading!

Yours truly,

Dr. Cristina Ortega Nuere
WLO Chief Operating Officer



WLO News



Join us for the celebration of World Leisure Day 2023 – Leisure for Social Transformation!

World Leisure Day will be celebrated all around the globe on the 16 April 2023, to reinforce the role of leisure at the centre of the society. In these uncertain times, it is more necessary than ever to acknowledge the importance of leisure playing key role in individual and community developments, contributing to the quality of life and well-being, enhancing social relationships, and often becoming a space for expression and engagement. More and more cities and regions are officially joining the World Leisure Day to create a unique day and build bridges between people and city activities. Will you join us? Find the full information on the [WL Day 2023 official website](#) and the [WL Day 2023 info package](#). Various formats can be used to highlight the importance of leisure, in all its forms: recreation, sports, travel and tourism, arts, culture and education.

Activities can be in-person or virtual, depending on your organization or group. Some initiatives could include art or cultural performances, educational workshops, or sporting challenges, etc. Be creative and share how you could participate! You can submit your event to be part in the official agenda here: [WL Day 2023 submit your event!](#) Follow us on the [WL Day official Instagram account](#) to be up to date!



Glasgow Declaration Climate Action in Tourism

Source: *One Planet Network*

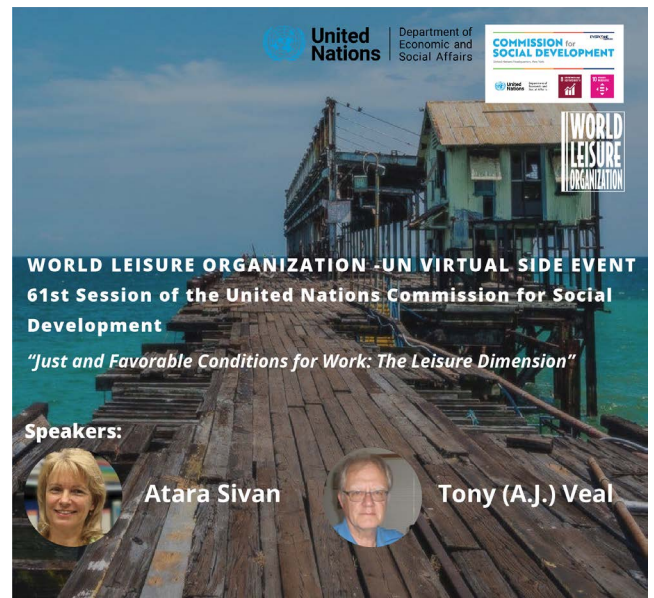
WLO presents the 2022 Progress Update from Signatories of the Glasgow Declaration

On the 30 January, as part of our responsibility as Supporting Organization signatory of the Glasgow Declaration on Climate Action in Tourism, World Leisure Organization (WLO) submitted its contribution for the 2022 Progress Update from Signatories. Throughout the last year, WLO has been working internally to align its operations to the commitments acquired by adhering to this declaration and will deliver its first Climate Action Plan in the following months.

WLO became a signatory party in January 2022 after its official launch at the UN Climate Changes Conference (COP26) in November 2021. The Glasgow Declaration on Climate Action in Tourism unites travel and tourism behind a common set of pathways for climate action, aligning the sector with global commitments and catalyzing collaborative solutions to the many challenges facing businesses and destinations globally. Nowadays the number of signatories to the Glasgow Declaration passes the 500-mark and includes all types of stakeholders which reflects its cross-sectorial commitment.

The Glasgow Declaration encourages the acceleration of climate action in tourism by securing commitments to reduce emissions in tourism by at least 50% over the next decade and achieve Net Zero as soon as possible before 2050.

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WLO UN Virtual Side Event takes place on the 9 February in the framework of the United Nations CSocD61

In the framework of the 61st Session of the United Nations Commission for Social Development (CSocD61), on the 9 February WLO organized a Virtual Side Event endorsed by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs on "Just and Favorable Conditions for Work: The Leisure Dimension".

The virtual side event was connected to the main theme of the session, "Creating full and productive employment and decent work for all as a way of overcoming inequalities to accelerate the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", which took place from the 6 to the 15 February at the UN Headquarters in New York.

On this occasion, the WLO UN Virtual Side Event counted on the participation of the co-chairs of WL SIG Leisure and Human Rights and the 2020 Charter for Leisure revision co-convenors, Prof. Atara Sivan and Prof. Tony (A.J.) Veal, who along the session could directly interact with participants from different corners of the globe.

At this session they delved deeper in the UN International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and more specifically in the human rights declared for just and favorable conditions of work, and rest, leisure and reasonable limitation of working hours. Also, they linked this approach to the

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the WLO Charter for Leisure, and on how you could get involved in the recent Research Project "Leisure Rights: Holding Governments to Account on Leisure Rights".

Click [here](#) to watch!

For more information about the WL SIG on Leisure and Human Rights, you can check [here](#).



WLO participates as an observer at the Sixteenth Session of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions

WLO COO Dr. Cristina Ortega Nuere attended the Sixteenth Session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions held from the 7 to 10 February at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris. WLO has been appointed as an observer Nongovernmental Organization to the sessions of this Intergovernmental Committee after the approval of its written request. This recognition allows the organization to participate in the corresponding meetings between the civil society representatives and the Bureau and to provide written proposals in the preparation of these intergovernmental committee's sessions.

In keeping with its desire to broaden and diversify the range of stakeholders involved in promoting the objectives of the UNESCO 2005 Convention, the Committee discussed various modalities to strengthen collaboration with civil society organizations for its effective implementation. It also examined proposals to facilitate consultations with micro, small and medium-sized cultural and creative enterprises. It also considered proposals to highlight the commitment of cultural institutions and organizations to promote access to diverse cultural expressions originating in their territory or other countries of the world, as well as proposals to streamline the quadrennial periodic reporting cycle.

Furthermore, the Committee approved the funding requests submitted under the thirteenth call for funding

requests to the International Fund for Cultural Diversity and reaffirmed the fundamental role of this Fund for the implementation of the 2005 Convention. Finally, this session was an opportunity for the Committee to examine its report on its activities and decisions in order to transmit it to the 9th session of the Conference of Parties that will be held from the 6 to 8 June 2023.

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Source: *Media UN*

WLO attends the 2023 ECOSOC Partnership Forum

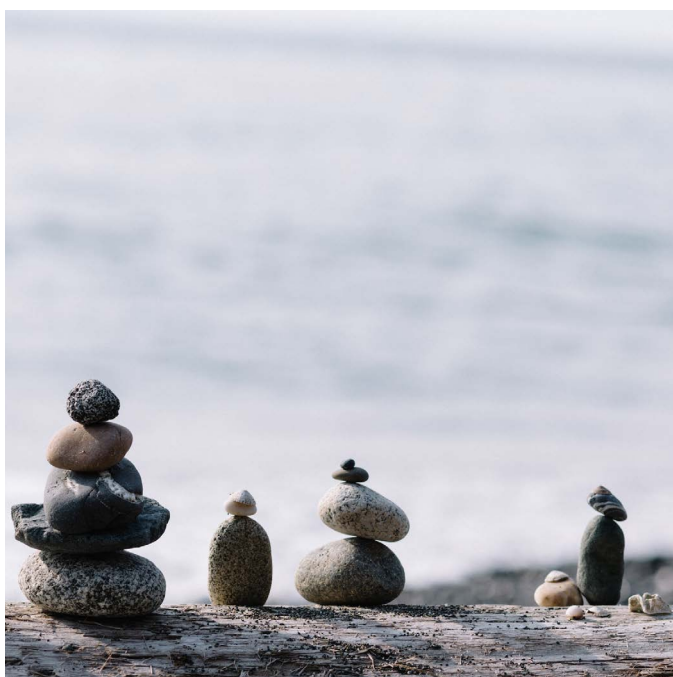
As an NGO with consultative status with ECOSOC, WLO attended the 2023 ECOSOC Partnership Forum which took place on the 31 January devoted to the theme “Accelerating the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels”.

Under the main theme of the 2023 ECOSOC and the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), the 2023 ECOSOC Partnership Forum brought together UN Member States and stakeholders from civil society, the private sector, scientists, women, youth, local governments, and many others, to discuss innovative efforts that are driving action on the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to highlight the contributions that partnerships can make in this regard.

WLO also attended the informal Partnership Exchange organized by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs which took place the day prior to the Forum, which provided a space for Member States and other stakeholders to share knowledge and expertise in the design and implementation of partnerships that will contribute to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

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Research



through an online questionnaire. If you live in one of the involved countries and you are more than 18 years old, we invite you to participate in this study, by filling in this questionnaire. You can access the questionnaire in your own language!

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Contribute to the research project “Leisure and Well-Being Across Countries in the Era of Coronavirus-19: Trends and Applications”!

The Coronavirus-19 pandemic has compromised forms of social interaction and full access to leisure as a primary source of meaningfulness in life and well-being. The research project, Leisure and Well-Being Across Countries in the Era of Coronavirus-19: Trends and Applications, proposed by the World Leisure Organization (WLO) – Leisure and Well-Being Special Interest Group (chair Teresa Freire) has been awarded by the WLO Strategic Priority Grants, and involves different countries (Portugal, Brazil, Australia, South Africa, Hungary, Turkey, Canada, United States and China). We are collecting data about leisure and well-being across different countries

Industry



Les Mills Live was filmed in VR PHOTO: LES MILLS

Editor's letter: Into the fitaverse

By Liz Terry, editor, Fit Tech

Fitness is already among the top three markets in the metaverse, with new technology and partnerships driving real growth and consumer engagement that looks likely to spill over into health clubs, gyms and studios. As omnichannel fitness becomes richer and more complex, we expect health club operators to add metaverse products to the mix, for example, launching studios where members can exercise in gamified, immersive environments. Home workouts connected to the same system will ensure members enjoy the fun and motivation of metaverse fitness, while still being emotionally invested in their club.

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Sign up for free magazines and ezines at
<http://leisuremedia.com/signup>

Network



UNWTO Announces winning start-ups for “Awake Tourism Challenge”

Source: UNWTO

UNWTO has announced the winners of its Awake Tourism Challenge, celebrating the start-ups that are reshaping the sector in every global region. The Challenge was the second edition of the UNWTO Global Startup Competition focusing on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Entrants were judged on how they are contributing to the development of an inclusive, resilient and sustainable tourism sector, with a focus on six core themes: Local Community Involvement; Green and Blue Economies; Ecological and Sustainable Capital Creation; Tourism Tech for Good; Tourism Education, and Women Empowerment.

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Publications



New issue of the World Leisure Journal now available!

Volume 65 of the World Leisure Journal is now fully published online! This new issue includes a welcome letter to all leisure friend by the Editor-in-Chief, Professor Sandro Carnicelli, which is available for free access consultation. This is a miscellanea issue that includes 7 original research articles dealing with a wide range of leisure-related topics such as gender differences in leisure in Korea, with an article by Yong-Kwan Lee, or the intention-behaviour relationship within community running clubs, explored in the article by Leeann M. Lower-Hoppe, Thomas J. Aicher and Bradley J. Baker. This is just a snapshot, but we encourage you to check out the new issue for the latest research on leisure.

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Opportunities



2023 World Leisure International Innovation Prize call is now open! (Deadline: 5 June 2023)

The 10th edition of the World Leisure International Innovation Prize seeks to recognize organizations that have implemented creative solutions which foster local, national or international leisure opportunities for the benefit and development of individuals and communities. Initiated in 2006 the World Leisure Organization has awarded projects all over the world offering them a unique opportunity to be recognized by a high level international audience, gaining prestigious position and promotion in the international leisure field.

Some of the opportunities and benefits of winning the 2023 WL International Innovation Prize, are: 1) the winning organization will be awarded with USD \$3,000; 2) one representative of the winning organization will be funded to attend the 6th World Leisure Expo &

Forum in Hangzhou, China, to receive the Prize; 3) The winning organization will receive the “George” trophy, a physical symbol/statue.

Learn more on how to apply [here](#).

Applications deadline is Monday, 5 June 2023.

Details of previous winning projects can be found on our website [here](#).



Submit your abstract for the World Leisure Congress 2023 in New Zealand (Deadline: 4 April 2023)

The organising committee for the 17th World Leisure Congress welcomes you to join us in New Zealand in 2023 and invites you to submit abstracts for presentation at the Congress. Abstracts for contributions are welcome to a) General Congress sessions – oral presentations (20 minute presentation and 10 minutes Q&A), or b) [Special topic sessions](#). Abstracts must be clearly written in English and be a maximum of 300 words excluding the title and authors. The call for abstracts will close on the 4 April 2023.

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Call for Special Issue Proposals for World Leisure Journal (Deadline: 20 April 2023)

The Editor-in-Chief of the *World Leisure Journal* welcome proposals from appropriately qualified colleagues wishing to express an interest in editing a special issue of the journal. We welcome proposals which address any topic which advances the knowledge in the field, but would particularly encourage proposals which address: Research Methodologies; Leisure and Ethics; Leisure and Justice; Leisure and Sport/Physical Activity/Health; Leisure and Artificial Intelligence, and The Future of Leisure. Proposals should be sent by email to Professor Sandro Carnicelli sandro.carnicelli@uws.ac.uk no later than 20 April 2023.

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Leisure Sciences Call for Papers – The Fraying of Society (Deadline: 15 May 2023)

Leisure Sciences and *Leisure/Loisir* present the first inter-journal collaboration in the field of leisure studies in the form of a double special issue. Issue #1 will be published in *Leisure Sciences* and will focus on the “fraying of society.” Issue #2 will be published in *Leisure/Loisir* and focus on “rebuilding society.” The call for papers for Issue #2 will come after abstracts have been submitted and reviewed, and invitations have been sent to authors for Issue #1.

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Upcoming events

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13 Mo

Kia ora!
Welcome to the 17th World
Leisure Congress.

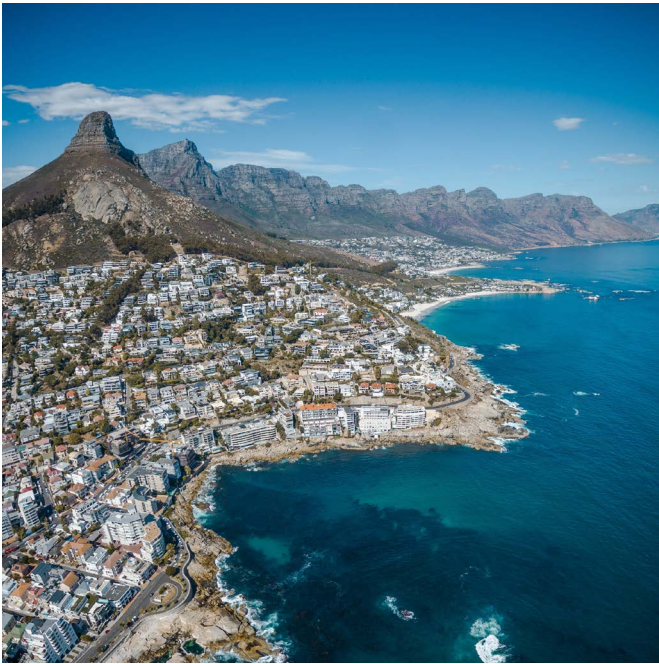
11 - 15 DECEMBER 2023 | DUNEDIN | NEW ZEALAND



World Leisure Congress PhD and Early Career Researchers workshop

The purpose of this full day workshop is to provide a high-quality learning and networking opportunity for PhD scholars and early career researchers. Workshop activities seek to develop knowledge and skills for the later parts of the PhD journey and into the early stages of academic careers. As such, the workshop is a great opportunity for emerging academics to network with fellow scholars and internationally recognised academics. Panel members will share their own experiences and insightful advice into strategic thinking and approaches for developing a successful long-term academic career. Hands-on workshop components will offer opportunity to engage with other participants in reflection and problem-solving exercises. Be prepared to challenge your understanding of academic careers, and join us for the World Leisure Congress PhD and ERC

workshop. This event will be held in the Otago Business School building on the University of Otago main campus on Monday 11 December 2023. More information and registration to open soon at the [World Leisure Congress website](#).



3rd International World Leisure Youth Scientific Conference and Field Study Tour to take place at University of Western Cape

The 3rd International World Leisure Youth Scientific Conference, endorsed by the WLO as part of the WL Youth Ambassadors' programme will take place from the 29 March to 4 April in South Africa. The University of Western Cape, located in Cape Town, will host the Conference IWLYSC 2023 whose main theme is *Promoting Leisure, Recreation, Physical Activity & Tourism in Rural Communities*.

Participants in this conference are young people (Undergraduate & Postgraduate students, aged 18-35) in the field of Leisure, Recreation, Physical Activity and Tourism. The Conference will be offered in a hybrid manner to accommodate participants who cannot attend in person. The conference will also include a short field study tour visiting local projects in surrounding communities related to leisure for the disabled, sport and tourism. Additionally, time will be allocated for finalizing the Young Peoples' Book on Leisure and Safety.

All interested participants should fill a registration form which can be provided by and submitted to the host organizations before the 10 March: mmalema@uwc.ac.za; myoung@uwc.ac.za; and cc: wl.youthambassadors@gmail.com; miklosbanhidi@gmail.com

Encounter



Encounter with Dr. Ricardo Uvinha, Dean at the EACH University of Sao Paulo, Brazil, and Chair of the WLCE USP (Audio in Portuguese)

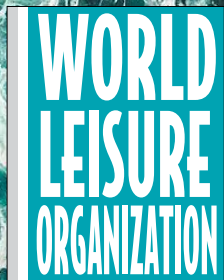
Full Professor and Dean at the School of Arts, Sciences and Humanities, University of Sao Paulo USP (EACH/USP) Brazil, Dr. Ricardo Uvinha is the Chair of the World Leisure Center of Excellence University of Sao Paulo (WLCE USP). He holds a master's degree in Leisure Studies by the State University of Campinas, Ph.D. in Tourism and Leisure by USP and post doctorate in Leisure Studies from Griffith University Australia. Recipient of the University of Sao Paulo Outstanding Teaching Award he is an author of several articles and books about leisure, in particular within the South America region and has attended academic and professional meetings in more than 50 countries.

At the occasion of the 2022 WLO Board of Directors Annual Meeting and the Forum "Talking About Leisure", we had the opportunity to interview him and talk about the different WLO programmes that have taken place in Brazil over the last years and the positive impact they have had within the communities, such as the 2018 World Leisure Congress in Sao Paulo or the most recent initiative by WLO co-organized by WLCE University of Sao Paulo, WLCE Vancouver Island University and SESC, the World Leisure Day.

In response to our members request about the language diversity in our events and media contents, this interview was conducted in Portuguese.

[Click to watch!](#)





WORLD LEISURE ORGANIZATION (WLO)

World Leisure Organization is a non-profit organization registered in the State of New York in Special Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council since 1990.

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