

Embracing our Role as Stewards of Antarctica

Five-Year Strategic Plan

At IAATO's 2023 Annual Meeting in Hamburg, Germany, IAATO members approved a five-year strategic plan, *Embracing our Role as Stewards of Antarctica*. This plan is anchored by four goals, which collectively assist in meeting our mission of safe and environmentally responsible private section travel to Antarctica and having "no more than a minor or transitory impact", while considering the growth of tourism, environmental changes and stakeholder considerations.

Operator as Stewards

- Participating actively in monitoring programs and reporting on the Antarctic environment, which includes site status, wildlife, weather/ice conditions & debris
- Continuing development of Antarctic Ambassadors resources, actively integrated by all members in guest experience
- Supporting the education of field staff, crew and appropriate office staff to support high levels of awareness of the ATCM & IAATO guidelines
- Assessing expedition team model to ensure ability to leave no more than a minor or transitory impact
- Requiring operator to be part of the solution when infractions occur

Deliberate resource management plan

- Responding actively to change through a defined program which addresses marine traffic, site awareness, wildlife activity & issues, climate change stressors & safety considerations
- Developing a mechanism to share real time information with operators regarding events/activities in Antarctica (i.e. breeding challenges, weather impact)
 - Creating 50 new site guidelines (terrestrial and marine) for the Antarctic Peninsula



 Enhancing the Polar Guide App, specific for field staff use

Purposeful support of research

- Understanding and harnessing of the cumulative benefit of individual operators supporting scientific research in Antarctica
- Identifying and investing in scientific research to understand what actions are needed to maintain a no more than minor or transitory impact
- Developing and supporting of more Citizen Science programs to further develop our understanding and educate passengers



Persistent proactive measures focused on sustainability

- Funding of IAATO that reflects commitment to the role of Stewards
- Enhancing guidelines to reflect evolving understanding of safe and sustainable practices in operations (plastics, fuels, garbage, etc.)
- Participating actively in committees & working groups
- Developing member forum groups (i.e. marketing)
- Developing technology tools to further support the mission
- Evolving IAATO's communication channels to reflect technology advances and diversity of the membership