

8th May 2011

Subject: EuroEco 2011 Geilo Norway Conference Rescheduling

We are sorry to announce the postponement of Geilo 2011 ecotourism conference. Many stakeholders have expressed difficulty in raising funds and finding time to repeat last years' conference so quickly, major developments have taken place in the world of European ecotourism that need to be factored in, and next year the International Year of Ecotourism + 10 review will take place, which was not foreseen in the 2010 agenda.

To maintain the momentum of European-level support for local ecotourism activities, the conference organisers will continue to work to prepare for a global event that will showcase European developments in ecotourism for the IYE +10 in 2012. Innovation Norway will assume a stronger role in the preparation to build on the success of the 2007 Oslo five year review of the IYE. And furthermore, as part of the recent major developments, we are pleased to be able to announce that the International Ecotourism Society (TIES) will support of the development of European Ecotourism Network, currently being developed in the ECOLNET project, as the unifying process for sustaining and improving ecotourism in Europe.

To this end there will be an Online Open Forum to be held on 29th May -1 st June. You will be able to find out the latest news of European ecotourism developments and contribute your views of what needs to be done. Details of the forum will be available on

<http://destinet.eu/topics/natural-and-cultural-heritage/ecotourism/european-ecotourism-network/>

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