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| **Indicator name** | Tourism certification tools (2. Beaches and marinas) |
| **ASSESSMENT** |  |
| Indicator Name | TOUR009c – Blue Flags for beaches and marinasTOUR009e – Share of marina port capacity with Blue Flag by coastal NUTS 3 |
| Key policy question | How effective are environmental management and monitoring tools towards a more integrated tourism strategy? |
| Key message | Blue Flags have a significant presence and recognition, as a certification tool for beaches and marinas, in many European coastal tourism destinations, especially (but not only) in the Mediterranean basin.  |
| Key assessment  | Spain, Turkey, France, Greece, Portugal, Italy, and Denmark were the countries with the highest number of Blue Flags for beaches in 2016 (more than 200 per country). The other European countries present lower numbers. Regarding marinas, the countries with more awards (more than 50) were the Netherlands, Germany, Spain, France, and Italy.In the case of the share of the marinas’ capacity awarded with Blue Flag in the Mediterranean sea countries, there is an uneven territorial distribution of this certification tool. Most of the coastal NUTS 3 regions of Spain have a certain percentage of their port capacity under the Blue Flag award. The French NUTS 3 regions included into the NUTS 2 region of Languedoc-Roussillon have high percentages, while in the Provence-Alpes-Cote d’Azur region these numbers are lower. In Italy, most of the regions do not have awarded marinas, although a few number of regions have a relatively high percentage of port capacity under the Blue Flag certification. In the case of Croatia, most of its NUTS 3 regions have between their 25% and 50% of their port capacity with Blue Flag certification. Finally, Montenegro do not have any marina with Blue Flag, and most of the Greek coastal NUTS 3 regions neither do not have the award. C:\Users\2012351\Downloads\Marinas_BlueFlag.png |
| Specific policy question |  |
| Specific assessment  |  |
| Examples |  |
| **SPECIFICATIONS** |  |
| Indicator definition | Number of Blue Flags awarded by the Foundation for Environmental Education per country and year, split by beaches and marinas.In the case of marinas, a subindicator on the share of marina port capacity with Blue Flags by coastal NUTS 3 regions has also been calculated for the Mediterranean sea. |
| DPSIR | R |
| Justification |  |
|  | Rationale | Blue Flag is the most renowned eco-label in the world, specifically created for beaches and marinas. It is an indicator of environmental (and safety and services quality) performance for coastal destinations. |
|  | References | <http://www.blueflag.global>  |
| Policy context |  |
|  | Policy context | Blue Flag is a voluntary certification system. |
|  | Targets |  |
|  | Related policy documents |  |
|  Methodology |  |
|  | Methodology for indicator calculation | Total number of beaches and marinas per country provided by the Foundation for Environmental Education.Subindicator on share of marina port capacity with Blue Flag: percentage of marinas port capacity with Blue Flag in relation to the total marina port capacity of the region. |
|  | Methodology for gap filling |  |
|  | References | <http://www.blueflag.global>  |
| Data specifications |  |
|  Uncertainties |  |
|  | Methodology uncertainty |  |
|  | Data sets uncertainties |  |
|  | Rationale uncertainty |  |
| Further work | Data needs to be regularly updated. This will allow analyzing trends. A new subindicator could be also created, calculating the number of Blue Flags (beaches) per km of beach.  |
| Ownership and contacts  | ETC-ULS  |