# APPLICATION FOR MEMBERS OF WORKING GROUPS

The GSTC appreciates your interest in dedicating your time to fulfilling the mission of the organization. To ensure we have a balanced representation and that the Board is aware of your background and expertise, please fill out the following form and submit with your most updated bio or curriculum.

Submission of this application is just an expression of interest and does not guarantee acceptance. Final acceptance will depend on availability of space within the working group, experience in the area of interest, and Board approval.

# GENERAL INFORMATION

Name:

Organization:

Nominated by:

Endorsed by (please submit two letters of endorsement):

# PERSONAL INFORMATION

Nationality: Country of Residence:

Education: Current position:

Are you affiliated to a certification or accreditation organization? Yes No

# ORGANIZATIONAL INFORMATION

Type of organization and GSTC membership:

| **Travel & Tourism Industry** -­‐ tour operators, hotels, lodges, resorts, travel consulting firms, travel agencies, travel guides, travel trade associations, travel and tourism businesses,  media/communications agencies |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Certification Bodies** – this includes organizations that have the authorization to provide written assurance and logo provision to certify that a product, service, company, process or management system conforms to specific requirements (this includes organizations certifying  the compliance of travel and tourism businesses or destinations with sustainability criteria |  |
| **Travel and Trade Associations-­‐** this includes membership organizations dedicated to  promoting tourism including associations for travel professionals and entrepreneurs involved in the travel and tourism industry. |  |
| **Governments** – (National, local and regional), Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Tourism, Tourism boards, Departments of Trade, Culture, Leisure |  |
| **NGOs** – all certified/registered non-­‐profit and non-­‐governmental organizations |  |

| **Academia** – technical schools, colleges, universities, research institutions Approval has to come from a senior official of the organization with appropriate authorization. |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Individual-­‐** individual consultants / experts / professionals with a vested interest in the tourism industry, and knowledge of the sustainable tourism sector, not affiliated to an  organization. |  |

Global Region (select the region that your organization’s headquarters are based in)

| Africa (sub-­‐Saharan) |  |
| --- | --- |
| Americas |  |
| East Asia and the Pacific |  |
| South Asia |  |
| Europe |  |
| Middle East & North Africa |  |

# EXPERIENCE

Please indicate if you have experience in the following areas:

|  | **Certification/ Accreditation/**  **Standards** | **Education and Training** | **Marketing/ Distribution/**  **Communications** | **Destinations Management** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **For profit** |  |  |  |  |
| **Non for profit** |  |  |  |  |
| **Financial**  **Sector** |  |  |  |  |
| **Academia** |  |  |  |  |
| **Government** |  |  |  |  |

# AREAS OF INTEREST

Which of the following are your areas of interest?

**Destination Stewardship Working Group (DSWG)**. This Working Group aims at assisting destinations in maintaining their cultural, environmental and socio-economic integrity through the implementation of the [GSTC Destinations Program](https://www.gstcouncil.org/certification/become-certified-destination/). The overall goal is to ensure that destinations retain and enhance their distinctive attributes that makes them attractive to beneficial tourism and competitive.

**Research & Academic Working Group (RAWG).** Supports the GSTC’s activities relation to internal and external communications, curation of content, knowledge management, and networking.

**Business Travel Working Group (BTWG).** The Business Travel Working Group (BTWG) seeks to reach new audiences and attract membership among Corporate Travel Managers (CTM), Corporate Travel Program (CTP), and suppliers. While most destinations and hotels accommodate both tourists and business clients, it is important to acknowledge the specialized needs and opportunities in the business market. The BTWG enables GSTC to better address these and ensure sustainability criteria are relevant in the [corporate and business travel sector](https://www.gstcouncil.org/business-travel/).

**MICE Working Group (MICE WG).** The MICE (Meeting, Incentives, Conventions, Events) Working Group focus in 2023 will be to support the GSTC MICE Criteria development process. The expertise of its members is important to the process. Other goals are to seeks reaching new audiences and attract membership from the MICE world.

**Attractions Working Group (AT WG).** The Attractions Working Group focus in 2023 will be to support the GSTC Attraction Criteria development process. The expertise of its members is important to the process. Other goals are to seeks reaching new audiences and attract membership from the attractions world.

**Italy Working Group (Italy WG).** With many GSTC Members active in Italy trying to work together to promote the GSTC framework, a dedicated Working Group focused on activities in Italy was established. More information to come soon.

**India Working Group (India WG).** As the name suggests, the Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC) is truly global. As such, we have a dedicated Director and a Working Group focused on India.

**International Standards Committee (ISC).** Through this Committee (formerly a Working Group), the GSTC strives to promote sustainable tourism through the adoption and creation of universal principles for sustainable tourism. The standard setting strategy focuses on the management and revision of the current version of the [Global Sustainable Tourism Criteria](https://www.gstcouncil.org/gstc-criteria/) and the creation or adaptation and distribution of additional criteria, standards and relevant indicators. 

Please summarize your experience in relation to the working group you are applying for below:



# COMMITMENT

I, hereby recognize that this application is a nomination to the working groups; that a selection will be undertaken by the Board of Directors of the Global Sustainable Tourism Council; that the Board will select upon experience and expertise, as well as time commitment; that until such time the Board has expressed consent, I will not be a part of the working group.

**If selected to the working groups** I will comply with the following conditions:

1. Regular attendance at meetings, and if there is an unavoidable absence, have an informed alternate with decision power attend the meeting who will keep the member informed of the proceedings of the group. Absence in more than three

(3) meetings will result in a request by the Board for the resignation of the working group member.

1. Respect the role of the Chairs as facilitators of the group, and recognize that given the size of the working group the chairs will need to take an active role in moving the agenda forward.
2. Willingness to complete working group tasks as delegated by the Chair or Vice Chair, and review and approve documents in the timelines assigned.
3. Recognize the need to potentially align some of the work of the group with other ongoing working groups or committees.
4. Notify the GSTC Secretariat in advance if there are relevant materials, or other documents intended for use at working group meetings to ensure that distribution of those materials can be done in a timely manner.
5. Responsible for representing organization’s views regarding the GSTC, without attempting to represent or characterize the views of other members of the group or the GSTC as a whole.
6. Be in good standing with the GSTC -­‐ meaning have paid membership dues and being compliant with the by-­‐laws and operational manual of the organization.
7. Have the support of employer.
8. Does not have a conflict of interest and if situations arise where a conflict is apparent the working group members are expected to recuse themselves as Chair.
9. Present and adhere to a confidentiality agreement



Signature and Date Printed Name