

GDS-FORUM &

IMPACT DAY



MANY MINDS CAN...

GROW
GROW
GROW
GROW
GROW

ENGAGE TO
CHANGE

?

GET
HEARD

DO MORE

REDUCE

MOVE THE WORLD

DO LESS

GDS-Forum 2026

Key Themes and Programme Co-Creation



GDS-Forum Key Themes

We gathered current trends and insights from interested parties to shape key topic blocks. A selection of these will be unpacked and workshopped collectively at the 2026 GDS-Forum.

Data-Powered Regeneration

How destinations use data, digital tools, and indicators to guide regenerative tourism strategies and decision making.

Impact Measurement, Claims and Accountability

Measuring sustainability performance and ensuring that claims are credible, transparent, and evidence based.

Storytelling for Regenerative Destinations

Using narratives and place-based stories to communicate transformation and inspire action.

Sustainability Certification and Standards

The role of certification schemes and standards in improving destination performance and credibility.

Designing for Regeneration

Approaches that go beyond minimising harm towards restoring ecosystems, economies, and communities.

Impactful Event Design and Legacy Creation

Designing business events that create measurable social, environmental, and economic benefits.

Stakeholder Collaboration and Community Engagement

Partnerships that bring together destinations, communities, NGOs, academia, and industry.

Destination Governance and Systems Leadership

Leadership and governance models that align tourism, climate, and economic strategies.

Climate Action and Low-Carbon Tourism and Events

Strategies and innovations that reduce emissions and support climate-resilient destinations.

Circular Economy in Tourism and Events

Practical approaches to waste reduction, circular supply chains, and resource efficiency.

Financing Impact and Innovation

Financing and investment models and partnerships that engage more regenerative tourism initiatives.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Destination Development

Ensuring tourism and events create more accessible and equitable opportunities for communities.

We Invite you to Contribute

Host a Conversation

Propose a conversation around one of the GDS-Forum themes and guide a discussion with participants. Rather than presenting slides, hosts are encouraged to spark dialogue, share personal experiences, and invite different perspectives in small groups.

Facilitate a World Café exchange

Lead and facilitate small group conversations on one of the proposed themes. World Café exchanges encourage open dialogue by holding parallel conversations across different tables, allowing participants to rotate, connect ideas, and collectively explore challenges and insights on one shared theme.

Suggest a New Theme

If there is an emerging issue, challenge, or opportunity that GDS-Forum should explore, we welcome proposals for additional themes that can enrich the conversation.

You can email us at forum@gds.earth to propose your contribution.

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BETTER

TOGETHER

THANK YOU!

For more information

www.gds.earth/forum-impact-day-2026



CITY OF
SZCZECIN

JUNE
16
17
18

