

Sustainable Destination Award Good Practice Story

Historical Tunnel Transforming to a Bike Lane

North East and Yilan Coast, Taiwan

Main challenges

Fulong Coastal Area used to be a popular attraction since 1900 era. All the facilities getting older and also tourists arrivals declined year by year. Since the new highway #5 built, tourists bypass fulong straight to east south, local economic faced big strike.

Solutions

NEYC tried to regenerate and reuse the abandoned train historical tunnel built in 1921-1924 to support local economy. It took lots of efforts to negotiate with the Taiwan Train Company, because of the property right and regulations.

Results

From 2004-2008s effort the Tunnel was regenerated as a 2km bike lane and NEYC also planned the bike lane along the coast to make 20km circle in total which brought back the tourist and also became a good model for heritage preservation. Now it creates around 540 million NT dollars every year and there are 22 bike shops open along with other new businesses.

Recognitions

NEYC was in the finalist of WTTC- Tourism for tomorrow / destination in 2015.

Key Success Factors

1. NEYC kept on discussing with the stakeholders to make it possible. It took more than 4 years.
2. Connect with local heritages and natural attractions to expand the bike lane to bigger areas.
3. To implement Green Destinations Program to make the area towards a more sustainable management.