

**Special Session (SS02) on:**  
*Thermalism and Wellness Tourism for Sustainable  
and Inclusive Territorial Development*

**Organizers:**

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**The aim and scope:**

This Special Session aims to analyse how thermalism and wellness tourism can contribute to sustainable territorial development, reducing territorial inequalities, strengthening interregional cohesion and valorising endogenous resources. By integrating tourism, health, well-being and sustainability, it explores pathways towards diversified, resilient, inclusive and environmentally responsible local and regional economies, with particular attention to low-density territories.

The session focuses on thermalism and wellness tourism as strategic drivers of sustainable regional development. It examines place-based and multilevel governance approaches, cooperation among destinations, and public policies linking tourism, preventive health and environmental well-being. Special emphasis is placed on nature-based wellness experiences, innovation and social inclusion, aligned with cohesion policy objectives and sustainable territorial development.

**SUBMIT ABSTRACT**