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Machu Picchu Achieves Carbon Neutral Certification, Setting Global Sustainability Standard

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In a significant environmental achievement, the Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu in Peru's Cusco region has once again been certified as a 'Carbon Neutral Destination.' This recognition, coinciding with the 17th anniversary of its selection as one of the Seven Wonders of the Modern World.

positions Peru at the forefront of environmental sustainability and climate change mitigation efforts.

The certification, awarded by Green Initiative, a leading climate certification company in the tourism sector, acknowledges Machu Picchu's successful implementation of decarbonization objectives. This achievement is the result of a collaborative effort between public and private sectors, including a driving group formed by the Municipality of Machupicchu, AJE Group, Inkaterra, and Tetra Pak, along with an allied group comprising PROMPERÚ, World Xchange, Luz del Sur, Bosques Amazónicos (BAM), Latam, and CANATUR.

To earn this prestigious recognition, the Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu has implemented effective measures to reduce its carbon footprint and offset remaining emissions. These efforts include adopting sustainable practices such as solid waste management and promoting a circular economy. The certification process used 2019 carbon emission results as a baseline and focused on stimulating actions for the reduction, treatment, and proper management of generated waste. It also included raising awareness among residents, businesses, and hotels.

Claricia Tirado, Executive President of PROMPERÚ, emphasized the organization's commitment to sustainable development, stating, 'At PROMPERÚ, we have the firm purpose of contributing to the sustainable and decentralized development of our country.' She added, 'All of us who play a role in the public or private sector have the responsibility to

ensure that the economic benefits generated are accompanied by sustainable

As part of its sustainability initiatives, Machu Picchu has implemented four processes to reuse recyclable waste. These include the installation of a PET plastic and cardboard compacting plant, a biodiesel plant to process used oil from restaurants and casinos, and a pyrolysis plant, although details about the fourth process were not specified in the release.

This certification not only highlights Peru's commitment to environmental conservation but also sets a new standard for sustainable tourism globally. As the only Wonder of the World to achieve Carbon Neutral status, Machu Picchu serves as a model for other historical sites and tourist destinations worldwide.

The achievement of Carbon Neutral certification for Machu Picchu has significant implications for the tourism industry and environmental conservation efforts. It demonstrates that it is possible to balance the preservation of historical sites with sustainable practices, potentially inspiring other popular tourist destinations to adopt similar measures. This certification may also attract environmentally conscious travelers, potentially boosting Peru's eco-tourism sector.

Furthermore, this accomplishment aligns with global efforts to combat climate change, showcasing how local actions can contribute to international environmental goals. By implementing sustainable practices and offsetting carbon emissions, Machu Picchu is playing a crucial role in preserving not only its immediate environment but also contributing to global climate change mitigation efforts.

As the world continues to grapple with the challenges of climate change, Machu Picchu's achievement serves as a beacon of hope and a practical example of how historical preservation, tourism, and environmental sustainability can work in harmony. This certification reinforces Peru's position as a leader in sustainable tourism and sets a new benchmark for other countries and historical sites to aspire to in the global fight against climate change.

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