

## International Projects



### Sustainable and Nature-based Tourism IT Course and Handbook

The *STITCH* project promoted by the German *Ernst-Moritz-Arndt Universität Greifswald (EMAUG)* and funded by the European Commission's *Key Activity 3/ICT* of the *Lifelong Learning Programme*<sup>^</sup> has the following main goals:

improving general learning in the sustainable and nature-based tourism sector;

strengthening the position of this sector within the general tourism industry;

introducing IT-based learning to the educational programmes of leading training providers.

#### Target Groups

The *STITCH* project is tailored for the following main target groups:

VET and higher education providers and their students in the tourism sector;  
communities/regions focusing on tourism;  
policy makers in the education, labour market, regional development and ecological levels.

#### Partnership

Besides Bucharest Academy of Economic Studies, Tourism and Geography Department, the projects partnership comprises eight experienced and reliable partners from seven other different countries (Germany, Austria, Denmark, Lithuania, Portugal, Turkey and the United Kingdom). They represent different organisations, sectors and perspectives, such as VET providers, universities, SMEs (Small and Medium-sized Enterprises) and chambers of commerce.

The project kicked off with the first meeting in Bad Gleichenberg, Austria, from 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> January 2010. The project partners familiarised themselves with the project topic and all of the relevant issues. They have decided to develop five modules:

- M1: Introduction to Sustainable Tourism,
- M2: Heritage Tourism,
- M3: Tourism and Protected Areas,
- M4: Sustainable Tourism Practice,
- M5: Intercultural Interferences.



The second project meeting took place in Bucharest and Brasov, Romania, from 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> October 2010. The main issues were the presentation and discussions over the *STITCH* curriculum and material pool as well as the agreement of the basic structure for the e-learning environment.



The third project meeting was held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> March 2011. The partners presented and agreed upon the developed structure of each module and practised working on the e-learning platform where content is to be entered.



The next project meeting was held in Porto, Portugal, from 26<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> October 2011. Partners discussed the status quo of the development of the learning materials and reached an agreement regarding the formal structure of modules and units, assignments, bibliography and forms of work. They also made arrangements for the pilot trainings.

The second to last project meeting was held in Colwyn Bay, United Kingdom, from 10<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> May 2012. The partners shared their feedback about STITCH piloting and decided on several other issues (integrating the APL concept, translation of training documents, intellectual property rights, strategy paper).

## Results

The main outputs of this project are at this point:

- ^ STITCH curriculum;
- ^ material pool and learning content;

STITCH e-learning course in English for use at 3 different educational levels: VET (Vocational and Educational Training), Bachelor and Master; pilot training in five countries evaluating the materials developed;

project website ([www.stitch-project.eu](http://www.stitch-project.eu)) with a download section containing all documents; dissemination activities (e.g. flyers, posters, conferences).



STITCH DVD handbook;

Still to be developed:

pilot training in two other countries;

STITCH European policy strategy;

translation of all materials in German, Danish, Lithuanian, Portuguese, Romanian and Turkish.

## Last Meeting

The next project meeting will take place in Greifswald, Germany, from 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> October 2012. You are welcome to take the opportunity to meet the project group to discuss relevant topics of the STITCH project or to exchange information and experiences of importance. If you would like to, please be so kind as to make contact with the project group in good time so that the appropriate arrangements can be made.

For further information or if you are working on similar projects please visit

[www.stitch-project.eu](http://www.stitch-project.eu)

and/or contact us:

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