Virtual & Augmented Reality Trainers Toolbox To Foster Low Carbon Tourism & Related Entrepreneurship

Welcome by Pavel Janak (IRR)

Welcome to the third digital newsletter of the Erasmus+ VINCI project on low-carbon tourism. In this newsletter, you will find information about the developments in the project implementation since the second newsletter. You will find out what project objectives have been achieved and what tasks the project partners are currently working on. The newsletter also includes interesting information on low-carbon tourism.
PR2: AR/VR enhanced Case-Studies on Low Carbon Tourism Activities
In the period under review, a total of 16 case studies were created in Zappar, focusing on tourism in its various phases (planning, travel, and destination). These case studies contain a combination of text, images, videos, and quiz questions. They are intended for VET students, tourism stakeholders and entrepreneurs in the implementation of low-carbon technologies. The aim is to provide this target group with interesting information in an entertaining way using modern technologies.

PR3: Digital Toolbox to Foster Low Carbon Tourism & Related Entrepreneurship
For each of the partner countries (Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Malta, and Romania), the consortium has produced a descriptive two-page fact sheet containing information on available low-carbon opportunities and activities for tourists visiting their country. The training content in Powerpoint format on Low Carbon Tourism & Related Entrepreneurship is divided into a total of eight modules based on the PR1 VET Curriculum. It contains an introduction to low carbon tourism; best practices during the planning, travel, and destination phase; principles and tools fostering low carbon footprint activities; strategic policies, national plans, and initiatives relevant to low carbon tourism; entrepreneurial opportunities for low carbon tourism initiatives. The training material is intended for all stakeholders in low carbon tourism.

After creating all the outputs for the PR2 case studies and PR3 fact sheets and the training content in Powerpoint format in English, the individual partners started translating all these outputs into their national languages, which are Croatian, Czech, Estonian, Greek, Maltese, and Romanian. By translating all the project outputs, the general public in each partner country will be reached, as not all people have a higher level of English.

All project outputs will be posted on the project website and will be free.

PR4: Trainers Guide e-Book on Fostering Low Carbon Tourism & Related Entrepreneurship will provide guidance to Tourism VET Trainers & Mentors on how to plan, prepare for and deliver training to Tourism VET learners and Tourism stakeholders, on how to foster low carbon activities in the different tourism phases. It will also provide a training path to those who want to become entrepreneurs in the low-carbon tourism sector.
Eat & Shop Local

During travel, you can reduce your waste and carbon footprint by buying and eating locally sourced products - goods that don't have to be packaged multiple times and transported overseas to reach their destination.

- **Double-check that your souvenir is authentic.** Avoid mass-manufactured apparel and plastic decorations that had to travel just as far as you did. That I <3 NY t-shirt and that Eiffel Tower keychain were, in all likelihood, manufactured overseas on an assembly line.
- **Eat local cuisine.** From vegetables to wine and coffee, learn what foods and beverages your destination is famous for and what's in season. When you choose these products over anything imported, you'll be supporting the local economy of farmers and eliminating the distance your food must travel. Also, you may never eat this dish so fresh again.
- **Rent your gear on location rather than packing it or buying it new.** Surfing? Skying? Spending the night under the stars? First check the opportunities to rent items like skis, surfboards, and camping gear at your destination. It will save you cash, a lot of weight, and it's better for the planet when individuals share things rather than owning.

Tallinn Meeting

The third transnational meeting of the partners took place on 28th April 2023 in Tallinn, the capital of Estonia, which is the seat of the Stockholm Environment Institute Tallinn Center. Representatives of all seven partner organizations attended the meeting. The participants at this meeting mainly discussed the parts of the project that have already been implemented and the tasks for the next period. The main topics of the discussion were:

- Overall VINCI Project Status
- R2: AR/VR enhanced Case-Studies on Low Carbon Tourism Activities
- R3: VINCI Digital Toolbox & Its Content
- R4: Trainers Guide e-Book
- VINCI Dissemination
- Project Management Issues
- Internal Peer Review Committee Session

The final meeting will take place in December this year in the Czech capital Prague.
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