

Lagos Workshop Proposal draft

6th June 2019

Justification

On June 6th 2019, University of Algarve and Municipality of Lagos joined forces to increase awareness about the necessity of moving toward sustainable development approaches and draw the attention of the active businesses in the field of tourism in Algarve to the importance of climate change and also disseminate the TRIANGLE Project and expanding project's network. Experts from Tourism Algarve, Municipality of Lagos, University of Algarve, Successful Businesses, and Entrepreneurs talked about the current strategic plans, existing certifications, and best practices. This workshop is our national dissemination initiative for TRIANGLE project. Following our project's goal we chose Lagos as an host municipality for holding this workshop due to the following reasons:

- The fact that Lagos is host 5 of our students within our internship program;
- Lagos is one of the touristic hotspots of Portugal;
- The fact that municipality of Lagos is very active in the area of sustainability and certification;
- Municipality of Lagos has several certifications such as Green Destination, Blue Flag, Quality Coast and etc.
- Lagos hosts several SMEs and related businesses in tourism industry
- University of Algarve has a close ties with a group of businesses and Municipality of Lagos, since FASTLANE project.

So the Objectives of this workshops are:

- Dissemination of TRIANGLE Project
- Make aware the stakeholders about sustainable tourism
- To warn about risk and urgency of climate change and sustainable tourism approaches
- To explain and demystify sustainable tourism

- Demonstrate the feasibility of sustainable practices for SMEs
- To raise the importance of collaboration and participation at all levels

A Brief Report

The program is composed of two sections, first section was focused on more organizational, conceptual, and strategic topics around sustainable tourism. The head of Algarve Tourism joined us to briefly explain the priorities and existing initiatives in Algarve region and also in national level and also the attention was drawn to the necessity of moving towards sustainable approaches and the strategies implemented by Algarve tourism board in this regard. The lady mayor also explained the several projects and initiatives for sustainable tourism within the area led by municipality. Moreover, University of Algarve presented the project and the challenges of moving towards sustainability and importance of certification schemes.

The second section focused on case studies and best practices in order to vividly draw the picture regarding the climate change and also possible implementation opportunities and existing best practices which have proven to be practical and cost efficient.

In the end, during the final discussion many firms and businesses and also the municipality showed interest in participating in future sustainability related news and workshops. Also an important point would be the level of participation in this workshop and seeing the interest from individual entities and businesses which brought 40 participants together to discuss this issue. Municipality of Lagos was very kind and supportive in this process and also facilitated the process of dissemination which we would to appreciate their help and support. Moreover, municipality showed a very high level interest in further collaboration for holding workshops and increasing awareness among businesses and individuals.