Action 1. Tourism of Portugal, Public Institute

Title: Implementing the + Sustainable Tourism Plan 20-23

Focus area: Focus area 2) Promote the internalization of negative externalities and the sustainable use of natural capital; Focus area 3) Enhance ecosystems and ecosystem services as part of ecological infrastructure; Focus area 4) Shift consumer behaviours towards sustainable consumption patterns; Focus area 7) Increase green and decent jobs, while developing the necessary human capital.

Description of action: Implementing the + Sustainable Tourism Plan 20-23, which aims to position Portugal as one of the most sustainable, competitive and safe tourist destinations in the world, through the sustainable planning and development of tourism activities, from an economic, social and environmental point of view, throughout the territory and in line with the Tourism Strategy 2027 and respective economic, social and environmental sustainability goals

Type of action: Legal/Regulatory/Policy/Economic

Economic sectors: sectors including tourism; energy; transport; water resources; waste management

Reference instruments and sources: The +Sustainable Tourism Plan 20-23, through various actions and aligned with the 2027 Tourism Strategy, aims to contribute to stimulating the circular economy in tourism, fostering the transition to an economic model based on prevention, reduction, reuse, recovery and recycling of materials, water and energy, thus strengthening the Agenda for Circular Economy in the Tourism Sector and placing the tourism ecosystem at the forefront of the climate transition towards a new green and inclusive economy.

This Plan is also one of the measures of the Reactivate Tourism | Build the Future Plan, recently approved by the Government. The +Sustainable Tourism Plan 20-23 is one of the main measures of its Pillar 4 - "Build the Future - Sustainability in companies and destinations", contributing to strengthen the positioning and competitiveness of Portugal as a sustainable and safe tourism destination, also managing to accommodate the requirements of new guidelines at national and European level that will occur in the short and medium term, within the circular economy and environmental sustainability.

Expected co-benefits and impact of the outcome:

Reaching by 2023:

- 75% of tourist resorts with energy, water and waste management efficiency systems
- 75% of tourist enterprises that do not use Single-Use Plastics
- Clean & Safe Seal: 25,000 adherents, 30,000 trained and 1,000 audited
- 50 000 professionals with training in the areas of sustainability
- 200 international references about Portugal, associated with sustainability

SDGs target(s) that the action may contribute to implement:

Tourism has shown to gather the potential to contribute directly and indirectly to all SDGs, being directly referenced in the goals of sustainable economic growth, sustainable consumption and production as well as in the sustainable use of oceans and marine resources. Today, Tourism activity and its stakeholders are committed to sustainable development on a global scale. This plan adresses, namely, the following SGDs:

Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all;

Goal 7 Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all;

Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all;

Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation;

Goal 11 Sustainable cities and communities;

Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts;

Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development;

Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

Implementation of Environmental Performance Review (EPR) Recommendations, as appropriate: NA

Objectively verifiable indicators, as appropriate: The Plan includes 119 actions, each one with specific indicators and calendar, distributed by the 4 axes of action: AXIS I - STRUCTURE an increasingly sustainable supply; AXIS II - QUALIFY tourism professionals; AXIS III - PROMOTE Portugal as a sustainable destination; AXIS IV - MONITOR sustainability metrics in Tourism. The IV AXIS aims to ensure continuous monitoring of sustainability metrics through a broad and stable framework of indicators and ensure the dissemination of results

Partners: Tourism stakeholders; energy sector decision makers; public administration entities.

Contact point:

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