

**Opening date:** 10 March 2022

**Call deadline:** 10 May 2022, 17h00 CET

**Expected duration of participation:** 13 months

**Total funding available:** 595.000€

**Project acronym:** SUSTOUR

**Full name of the EU funded project:** Boosting Sustainable Tourism Development and Capacity of Tourism SMEs through Transnational Cooperation and Knowledge Transfer

**Grant agreement number:** 951085

**What is the objective?**

The objective of SUSTOUR is to foster the capacities and skills of 175+ travel agents and tour operators (SMEs) to integrate sustainability principles within their companies and supply chains.

**What do we offer?**

SUSTOUR will offer selected travel agents and tour operators a comprehensive technical support programme that will help them improve their sustainability performance. The SME can choose between different modules of support: either support towards sustainability certification (different levels possible) and/or support to improve certain areas of its business operations, such as plastic / carbon / supply-chain management or shore excursion certification. Travel companies interested to get started on sustainability or wishing to improve on their existing sustainability practices can benefit from a mix of innovative online trainings, multi-day classroom trainings, intensive coaching (group and individual) as well as peer-to-peer learning – all provided and guided by selected sustainability experts. Support towards certification will be delivered, where possible, in either English, Croatian, Finnish, French, Dutch, Portuguese, German or Greek. The support provided for the other modules will only be available in English.

**Who can apply?**

A company must meet the following criteria to be eligible to apply:

* Has to have an economic activity of travel agent or tour operator (NACE 79);
* Be a small- or medium-sized company (SME)[[1]](#footnote-1);
* Be established in an EU State or a third country participating in the COSME programme[[2]](#footnote-2);
* Not received alternative funding for support under the other COSME TOURCOOP projects[[3]](#footnote-3);
* No prosecution for violations of health, sustainability, human resources and taxation matters.

**How to apply?**

The application guidelines and application form are available from the following website: <https://www.travelife.info/sustour/?menu=call-for-smes>. Applications must be submitted electronically in English by 10 May 2022, 17h00 CET.

**How long will the support programme last?**

The support programme is expected to start from beginning June 2022 to June 30th, 2023.

1. SME definition: https://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/sme-definition\_en [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Iceland, the UK, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Kosovo Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania or Turkey [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Tourban, CEnTOUR, ETGG2030, TouriSME and EU ECOTANDEM [↑](#footnote-ref-3)