



## Press Release

### **11<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting and the Event 'Sustainable Tourism for the Present and the Future'**

The Cyprus Sustainable Tourism Initiative (CSTI) is an independent Non-Governmental Organisation, which was established in 2006 to promote the development of sustainable tourism. Our aim is: the protection and conservation of the environment, the optimal use of natural resources and improving the social and economic situation of the isolated communities of Cyprus in relation to tourism.

To celebrate the 11 years of presence in the tourism industry of Cyprus, the CSTI will organize its 11<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting and event, which will have as a main theme 'Sustainable Tourism for the Present and the Future'. The event will take place on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> October 2017, at 6.00 pm at Palia Ilektriki, Pafos.

The event is under the auspices of H. E. the President of the Republic of Cyprus Mr Nicos Anastasiades and is connected with Pafos as the European Capital of Culture – Pafos2017 through the platform 'Celebrating with Pafos'.

The keynote speaker of the event is Mr Christopher N. Imbsen, Deputy Regional Director for Europe, UNWTO, who will present the topic 'Sustainable Tourism for the Present and the Future'.

A reception with traditional delights and Producers' Fair will follow the event.

On Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> October at 10.30 a.m. in Pafos, we will organize a kickoff event for the initiative '**Prevent Plastic in the Mediterranean**' as the CSTI is one of the eleven winners in the Mediterranean of the BeMed project which started in September 2017 until November 2018 and the aim is to raise awareness of civil society through specific actions and inform stakeholders in the tourism industry about sustainable management practices to protect beaches from plastic litter.

The kickoff event will include a beach clean-up of the **SODAP Municipal Beach** and some activities for raising guests' awareness regarding the importance of preventing plastic in the Mediterranean Sea.

The project is funded by the Prince Albert II Monaco Foundation, the Surfrider Foundation Europe, the Tara Expeditions Foundation, the Mava Foundation and IUCN within the 'Beyond Plastic Med' (BeMed) Task Force.

We will be happy to honour us with your presence.

Please contact us at [info@csti-cyprus.org](mailto:info@csti-cyprus.org) or 22252315/99800189 to register your participation.