



## CSTI Cyprus Sustainable Tourism Initiative

Our Mission Statement: "To contribute to the development of Sustainable tourism in Cyprus that conserves the environment, supports the local economy and promotes local culture "

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### New Board:

Philippos Drousiotis

Francis-Nectarios Guy

Angela Richardson

Antje Papageorgiou

Jeannette Salmon

Gregoris Demetriou

Christos Neocleous

Fylactis Lazarou

Tina Dobbins

Costas Michael

Michael Demosthenous

Yianna Orphanidou



CSTI is affiliated to:



## 5<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting was held at Troodos Hotel on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2011.

This year CSTI chose for its AGM to move on the highest spot of the island. The motto for this event served both metaphorical and literal the occasion: ***Sustainable Tourism – The road to the Peak.***

The Meeting started at 1700 with the presence of the Chairman of Travel Foundation Mr. Noel Josephides. CSTI Chairman, Mr. Drousiotis welcomed the members and through his speech addressed all the activities of 2010. He also announced the purchase of the remaining booklets of VR 4 and 5 from Troodos Tourism Board. Mr. Gregoris Demetriou, CSTI Treasurer reported on the finances of CSTI.



Two new members joined the Board of Directors Mr. Christos Neocleous and Mr. Fylactis Lazarou while Mr. Christos Petridis step out of the board.

Following the meeting CSTI hosted the usual Producers Fair and dinner to the members.

On the second day of the event CSTI members as a symbolic act planted 100 trees few meters from Troodos Square. The trees were donated by the Forestry Department.



Later that day CSTI members visited the environmental center at Troodos, Lazarou Herb Garden and ended in Sama Restaurant, at Spilia for a traditional lunch.

### Ian Chapman's Statement of support:

*In support of 'responsible leadership' being one of our key values, during 2011 TUI has worked hard to demonstrate its absolute commitment to sustainable tourism wherever we operate. Our Project Discovery volunteering scheme, which we manage with our Travel Foundation partners, involved 15 individuals spending up to 2 weeks each in several destinations. In Cyprus this included myself, who with the Purchasing and Area Managers for Cyprus spent a week meeting Hoteliers, community members and tourism officials across the island. We wanted to better understand the sustainability issues and opportunities, hear opinions and most importantly identify the areas in which we as TUI can work alongside the CSTI and the CTO in delivering strategic change for the future.*



*I wish I could have been with you for what I'm sure will be a successful AGM and look forward to working with you in the months and years ahead.*

### Ruth Holroyd, Head of Group Sustainability at Thomas Cook:

*The Thomas Cook Group has displayed its commitment to sustainability through the recent announcement of stretching targets and objectives through to 2020. Thomas Cook's vision of sustainability is 'To travel the world without costing the earth, to integrate sustainability into everything we do, every employees role and every product that we sell.'*

*Here in Cyprus, Thomas Cook has worked for a number of years with CSTI and the Travel Foundation to bring sustainability life for suppliers and customers. We have supported waste management conferences, involved our customers in minimizing plastic bag use through simple messages and by providing them with a 'bag for life' to use during their stay. This alone saved over 41,000 plastic bags going to landfill, and generated 13,650€ in income for the local producers who made the 'bag for life'.*

*As part of this project, the hotels were also asked to make reductions in plastic behind the scenes. The Ascos Beach Hotel proved to be the most engaged hotel and reduced plastic cups, bottles, bin liners, straws and much more saving thousands of unnecessary plastic items going to landfill and saving the hotel money. Thomas Cook wanted to demonstrate the commitment of the Ascos Beach and at World Travel Market this year a sculpture based on Rodin's 'The Thinker' was created using the 1,100 plastic bottles saved DAILY by the Ascos Beach. It certainly attracted interest at World Travel Market and even featured on Cypriot television and in other UK media coverage. He is now sitting at the Thomas Cook head office in the UK to promote the project to staff there.*



*Sustainable tourism is key to the future of the travel industry and the Thomas Cook Group is committed to playing its part.*