



CSTI's 2022 Achievements

CSTI was and is fully committed to working towards the reduction of plastic pollution in the tourism industry. The confirmation of this commitment is the Keep our Sand and Sea Plastic Free (KOSSPF) project where we provide consultation to the partners of the project on how they can reduce the use of plastics, especially the single-use plastics.

In 2022 we had 115 tourism businesses (mainly hotels) partners of the project that had to complete a questionnaire regarding what plastic items they use. Based on their answers we advised them accordingly. All our suggestions are best practices from hotels in Cyprus and abroad.

The partners chose the actions that were suitable for their business, and we measured the reductions in plastics that they achieved. The results of Phase I (July 2019-May 2022) of the project were very encouraging. We managed to save single-use plastics equal to the weight of 23 Boeing 737-800 airplanes.

In addition, as part of the KOSSPF project we organized webinars and seminars for the tourism industry. We also provided training to update them on the alternative solutions to single-use plastics. We informed them about the new European Legislations on the use of single-use plastics and how it can be applied in the tourism industry. We emphasized that the most important action in the waste hierarchy is to REFUSE.

We organized various awareness campaigns, beach clean-ups and upcycling workshops for the students and the public (including tourists). One of the highlight events that we organized in 2022 was the Colourful Side Event of the 9th Environment for Europe Ministerial Conference. The event was co-organised by the UN Environment Programme and CSTI. An Amazing Interactive event that gave the participants a positive taste from the Future of Sustainable Tourism. The participants were informed about innovative solutions for shifting tourism towards sustainability, touching topics such as plastic pollution issues, circular tourism business models, and the Global Tourism Plastics Initiative whilst tasting local produce.

In the Summer of 2022, we organized an event titled "Summer party... with a purpose!" as part of the 'Keep Our Sand and Sea Plastic Free' project. During this event we had a Live link with music, competitions with great prizes and various games aiming to inform and raise public awareness about plastic pollution of our seas. Particularly impressive and promising was the participation of our young friends who willingly cleaned the beach. Just from the live link we managed to convey our messages to more than 90.000 radio listeners.

CSTI is affiliated to





CYPRUS
SUSTAINABLE
TOURISM
INITIATIVE

The final events of the Plastic Waste Free Islands Med (PWFI) Project sent the clear message that urgent & collective action is needed to tackle plastic pollution in the Mediterranean. The Action Plan for the tourism, fisheries and waste management sectors was officially shared along with other IUCN reports. The PWFI Project is part of the International Union for Conservation of Nature - IUCN's global 'Close the Tap Programme'. The events were organized by CSTI with IUCN and Together Cyprus with the support of the Deputy Ministry of Tourism.

Also, we celebrated the World Tourism Day in Larnaka with many representatives from the tourism industry. During the event, the burning issue of plastic pollution was one of the key issues that we focused on. To cover the topic, we had a presentation from the Project Manager of KOSSPF, presenting the Project's animation on the topic, upcycling activities from plastic, artwork created from plastic and a photo exhibition with the topic: «Plastic Pollution - another threat to the beauty of our sand and sea & key contributor to environmental degradation». Also, the event was plastic free, and we installed a water station, so the participants had access to free, cold, and filtered water. We managed to send the message that it is possible to organize a high-profile event entirely plastic free.

CSTI is affiliated to

