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A: **Oggetto:** DestiMED PLUS - Invitation to the training for pilot actions - Module 1

Dear DestiMED PLUS Regions and Pilot Areas,

We hope you are all well and have not been too badly affected by the ongoing situation with COVID 19.

As you all know the face-to-face training workshop for pilot actions scheduled to take place in the Garrotxa Natural Park in May could not go ahead due to COVID 19. Instead, DestiMED PLUS partners have been working to convert the face-to-face training into an online training programme. The programme is broken down into 3 modules which will be delivered between June and September this year to run in parallel with the pilot action activities, such as the creation of the LEC and development of the ecotourism products in each region. Attached you can find the document **“Training overview - Kick-off training for pilot actions”** with more information on the overall training programme.

**We would like to invite you, as a Regional Project Partner, and the relevant people in your pilot action, to participate in the first module of the training. Module 1 will cover the Governance of Ecotourism through the Creation and Management of Local Ecotourism Cluster (LEC). It will run over the course of the next 3 weeks from the 1<sup>st</sup>– 18<sup>th</sup> of June 2020.**

For this initial module, **we would request for you to enroll in this [form](#) and forward this invitation email to the relevant trainees in your Pilot Action by **Tuesday 2nd of June****, which should include (aside from yourself):

#### COMPULSORY

**PA Manager:** A staff member from the pilot area, usually the Park Director or the Head of Tourism / Local Development or Responsible for the ECST (European Charter for Sustainable Tourism), who would be convening the LEC (Local Ecotourism Cluster) in the pilot action.

#### RECOMMENDED

##### Regional/National

**A representative of the tourism or conservation administrations** that will form the core of the REC together with your organisation i.e. the sector not represented by the Regional/National Partner if the project partner is an Environmental/PA department, this should be a representative of the tourism department.

The **“Module 1: Training Plan”** document attached contains some more detailed information about the module and a module training plan. The module will include self-paced components, meaning you can read materials or watch lessons in your own time, but there will be 4 live Webinars on Zoom.

Please **save the dates** (below) of these webinars so you are available to attend. A specific calendar invitation with Zoom link for each of these dates will be sent out soon.

Webinar No.	Date
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Webinar 1 (60 mins)	Tuesday 09/06/2020 from 11.00 to 12:00 AM (CET)
Webinar 2 (90 mins)	Thursday 11/06/2020 from at 11.00 to 12:30 AM (CET)
Webinar 3 (90 mins)	Monday 15/06/2020 from at 11.00 to 12:30 AM (CET)
Webinar 4 (90 mins)	Thursday 18/06/2020 from at 11.00 to 12:30 AM (CET)

Once you have enrolled, you will be invited to access the virtual classroom corresponding to Module 1 (Ecotourism Governance: Creation and Management of the Local Ecotourism Cluster). In there you will find all the relevant information, training materials, calendar and links to the webinar in order to start the module at the beginning of next week.

**Please bear in mind that you will need a Google Account in order to access the classroom as we are using the Google Classroom app in G Suite for the online training.**

In case you don't have a Google Account, you can create one associated with your professional email address in here (<https://accounts.google.com/signup>), by selecting the option "Use my current email address instead". Otherwise, you can use an existing Gmail account or create a new one.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns in the meantime.

Kind Regards, IUCN Med Team