

## AI-NURECC PLUS HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE

# Sustainable Tourism as a strategic driver for the responsible and inclusive growth of the Adriatic Ionian Region and its mountain areas

Monday, 23 January 2023 – from 15:00 to 18:10 CET

Meeting venue: BUSHI Resort & SPA, Old Bazaar,  
1000, Skopje, North Macedonia

### [REGISTRATION LINK](#)

### [Online meeting \(MS Teams\)](#)

***Working languages: English, Macedonian, Italian***

**15:00-15:15**                      **REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS**

**15:15-15:50**                      **OPENING SESSION. Macroregional context and state of play of Sustainable Tourism policies.**

***Moderation by Mr. Francesco COCCO, AIE Secretary General***

- **Mr. Gilles KITTEL**, Team Manager – Instrument for Pre-Accession, Enlargement Negotiations and EUSAIR, DG REGIO, European Commission
- **Ms. Adriana RELJA**, EUSAIR Thematic Steering Group 4, Ministry of Tourism and Sport, Croatia - *Sustainable Tourism as the 4th Pillar of the EUSAIR (Croatia)*
- **Mr. Daniel-George SURDU**, State Secretary, Romanian Ministry of Development, Public Works and Administration (Romania)
- **Mr. Stavros KALOGNOMOS**, Executive Secretary of the Balkan & Black Sea Commission of the CPMR, AI-NURECC PLUS Coordinator – *The AI-NURECC Plus as a platform of cooperation across and beyond the Macroregion*

**15:50-16:45**                      **PRESENTATION. Tourism industry recovery by means of sustainability. Presentation of Sustainable Tourism cooperation actions from the region and beyond.**

### *Moderation by Ms. Maria Luisa ESPOSITO, AIE EU Project Officer*

- **Ms. Irina COZMA**, Priority Area 3 “Culture, tourism and people to people contacts” – EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR) coordination team, Directorate General of Regional Development and Infrastructure, Romanian Ministry of Development, Public Works and Administration (Romania)
- **Ms. Cinzia DE MARZO**, EU Climate Pact Ambassador and Sustainable Tourism Expert (Belgium)
- **Mr. Kostantinos TZAMALOUKAS**, Project Manager at Region of Western Greece (Greece) – *Adriatic Ionian Enhanced Strategy for Innovation in Tourism*, ADRION InnoXenia PLUS Project – *online*
- **Ms. Urska STARC PECENY**, Chief Innovation Officer at Arctur, Tourism 4.0 Initiative (Slovenia) – *online*
- **Mr. Mario IALENTI**, Senior Expert at EuRelations EEIG (Italy)
- **Mr. Kostas ZAPOUNIDIS**, Senior Project Manager at Pieriki Local Development Agency (Greece) – *The Emblematic project*
- **Ms. Natasha GLIGORIJEVIC**, Director at Center for Sustainable Development of Serbia and representative of Adriatic Ionian Youth Network (AIYN) (Serbia)

**16:45-17:00**                      **COFFEE BREAK**

**17:00-18:00**                      **DISCUSSION. Sustainability as a driver for tourism development in Adriatic Ionian mountain areas.**

### *Introduction and moderation by Ms. Ivanka NESTOROSKA, Full Professor at the Faculty of tourism and hospitality, University St. Kliment Ohridski-Bitola*

- **Mr. Jovan TOZIEVSKI**, Mayor of Resen (North Macedonia)
- **Mr. Nehat RAMADANI**, Connecting Natural Values and People Foundation (North Macedonia)
- **Ms. Anela PANAJATOVA**, Head of Unit at Public institution National Park Sharr Mountain (North Macedonia)
- **Mr. Angel SEKULOSKI**, Project Coordinator at Balkan Foundation for Sustainable Development (North Macedonia)
- **Mr. Nikola KISELINOV**, President at Ohrid Tourist Association (North Macedonia)

**18:00 -18:10**                      **CONCLUSIONS**

- **Ms. Maria Luisa ESPOSITO**, EU Project Officer at the Secretariat of the Adriatic Ionian Euroregion – *Technical wrap-up and conclusions*

**19:30 -21:00**                      **Light dinner on site**