ECOMEL Project Malloula Bay –Tabarka Tunisia

By Mr. Chokri Mansour (Head of Ass.Pinna /Project Manager)
The underwater trail of Melloula Bay is an educational tool of awareness and environmental education through the promotion of ecotourism, this trail is intended to discover a little-known environment, transmitting values aimed at improving knowledge and adoption of environmentally friendly activities. This project is developed in the framework of non-formal educational projects, raise awareness of the environment and information on the marine environment, also the management and the preservation of the coast through the establishment of an ecotourism infrastructure.
Project Objectives

Objective 1 • Discover the ecological heritage of the Bay

Objective 2 • Preserve and maintain the habitats of the bay and species diversity

Objective 3 • Control human activities to make use of the site compatible with the heritage conservation goals

Objective 4 • Consider actions on the peripheral areas of the Melloula Bay in order to enhance protection of the site

Objective 5 • Improve educational activities

Objective 6 • Strengthen the information and communication policy

Objective 7 • Promote Nature Reserve as support for basic research

Objective 8 • Ensure an optimal administrative and technical management of the bay

Objective 9 • Develop the integration of the bay in the network of protected areas and develop its missions abroad

Objective 10 • Develop a management of the marine area in connection with the watershed
Vous êtes dans un site protégé. Sans la vigilance de tous, son équilibre est menacé.

Ne nourrissons pas les poissons.

Respectons les distances d’approche.

Ne rejetons aucun déchet. Ils sont néfastes à la faune et à la flore et détériorent le paysage.

Sayons attentifs à ne pas détériorer le milieu par maladresse.
Responsible Snorkeling is a very good way to engage the visitors and serve as a lead-in to the definition tasks.
Achieved Results

- Melloula trail has a strategy for sustainable tourism development.

- The first underwater trail of Tunisia is created.

- 12 people trained in underwater trail management.

- The National Underwater Photo Competition 2016 was held.

- A partnership agreement between the site manager and a local diving club is signed for the scientific monitoring and management of underwater trail.

- Awareness campaigns and cleaning were organized with youth and families.

- Evolution of national regulations, with the addition of underwater trails, which should in future facilitate their development on other sites.
Actions Required!!
A project developed with the support of Legacy International and U.S. Department of State the Association Pinna APDPE in collaboration with Projet ECOMEL. The project aimed to transform the northwestern region of Tabarka into a ecotourism destination by creating a yoga environment focused not only on yoga workshops, but ecotourism activities such as responsible snorkeling, environmental education and the promotion of the local businesses and cultural aspects.
The number of participants in this pilot program was 20 including americans and Tunisians. The project impacted more than 50 individuals and local businesses in the northwest region.
Our yoga community-based experience is structured like a nature-based weekend. The members were varying roles in accommodation, food, crafts, and transportation or guide services, among others. More importantly, the financial benefits of this experience were shared throughout the community.
• Lack of promotion of the ecotourism in the Tunisian northwest and attractiveness to the yoga practitioners as a result we need to domestically and internationally market and promote the Tunisian Northwest as a major global tourism destination, highlighting the uniqueness and assisting the development of its tourism products and services, with the end in view of increasing tourist arrivals and tourism investment using the community based ecotourism concept.
Yoga dharma and snorkeling in Maloula Bay - Tabarka
Opportunities

• Increasing ecotourism in marine coastal areas in the Mediterranean

• Idea to spread to other coastal areas e.g. MPA

• Create a better sense of community and make sustainability happen
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