

Sujet **Futur INTERREG IVC project : Pan-European Routes for Ecotourism and its Sustainable Development Label Village+**

De <touringnature@wanadoo.fr>

Vers "Undisclosed-Recipient: "@orange.fr

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Dear colleague,

In order to prepare the forthcoming INTERREG IVC call for proposals that will be published in September 2007 by the European Commission, the Assembly of European Regions (AER) wishes to work ahead of time so as to be ready when the calls come out.

The AER, an NGO located in Strasbourg and Brussels which has 255 member regions from 32 countries, wishes to set up the Pan-European Routes for Eco-tourism called Touring Nature between 2007 and 2013 in the framework of an INTERREG IV C project.

The aim is to make European regions and public authorities working together in order to create routes to enhance their natural and cultural assets while focussing on management and preservation of environment resources. The Touring Nature initiative answers to the "Environment and Risk prevention" priority of Interreg.

To allow all European public authorities to take part to those Pan-European Routes for Ecotourism, the **AER launches a call to candidacy throughout Europe to identify those that want to participate to that long-term cooperation.**

To reach this objective, the AER is proposing :

An integrated approach through an educational labelling process which actively involves local professionals in sustainable development actions (water and energy savings, waste management, using of renewable energy) and give territories the chance to gain the Sustainable Development European Label Village + awarded by the AER and necessary to take part to the Pan-European Routes to Eco-tourism.

International actions to enhance the Pan-European Routes for Ecotourism and thus the natural and cultural heritage of each labelled territory and their local professionals.

If you are interested in participating to that forthcoming INTERREG IV C project and would like to be informed about its advances in order to answer the call for proposals in autumn 2007 with the other European authorities, please get in touch with Agnès Ciccarone from the Assembly of European Regions :
a.ciccarone@a-e-r.org

I put in attachement the Touring Nature presentation brochure. It explains the aims, the integrated approach of the sustainable development labelling procedure, the estimated budget .

Website of the Pan-European Routes for Ecotourism : www.touringnature.com

Further information about the initiative : <http://www.a-e-r.org/about-aer/regional-policies-committee/partner-network/>

I remain at your disposal,

Best regards

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TOURING NATURE

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