



AQUAMAN Living Lab for Climate Resilient Coastal Tourism

Interreg Euro-MED AQUAMAN Project

Assessment of aquatic systems for the mitigation of water scarcity in Mediterranean islands and coastal tourist destinations under severe pressure



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Co-funded by
the European Union



SESSION IN A SCHOOL CONTEXT *

Algarve School of Hospitality and Tourism | April 9 | 10:30am-12pm

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- To raise awareness among students/participants of the strategic importance of water efficiency and sustainable water management in the tourism sector, with a particular focus on the specific challenges of a vulnerable territory such as the Algarve.
- Present the AQUAMAN project and its Catalogue "Blue Horizons: Innovative Water Solutions for Tourism and Climate Change-Resilient Regions", highlighting existing

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concrete instruments and solutions, namely the Portuguese initiatives SAVE WATER Seal and AQUA+ index, as practical, transferable and replicable references.

- To promote experiential learning, through a living lab approach, involving participants in group dynamics oriented to the identification of problems, opportunities and solutions applicable to the regional context.
- To stimulate students' critical thinking, creativity and capacity for innovation in responding to the challenges of water scarcity in tourism.
- Strengthen the articulation between public policies, the business sector, technical entities and training, valuing the role of future tourism professionals in the transition to more sustainable and resilient development models.

TARGET GROUP

- Students of the Hotel Management and Accommodation and Tourism Management courses of the educational and vocational training institutions of the Network of Tourism Schools of Portugal in the Algarve region.
- Teachers and trainers in the areas of tourism and sustainability (as participants or observers).

SESSION DEVELOPMENT

The session will be developed in a living lab format, combining moments of conceptual framing with a practical and participatory approach, aimed at students in the area of tourism.

In the first part, the challenges of water scarcity in the Algarve will be framed, highlighting the strategic importance of water efficiency and sustainable water management in the tourism sector, in the context of climate change and high tourist pressure.

Subsequently, the AQUAMAN Project and the Blue Horizons Catalogue will be presented as a reference tool with concrete and transferable solutions for resilient tourist destinations, with emphasis on Portuguese good practices already integrated in the Catalogue, namely the SAVE WATER Seal and the AQUA+ system, as instruments applicable to the management of tourism developments.

The session will continue with a group work dynamic, in which participants, organized in small groups, will be challenged to identify risks and solutions related to efficient water management.

The session will conclude with the presentation of the main conclusions of the groups, a short debate and a final reflection on the role of future tourism professionals in the transition to more sustainable and resilient development models.



April 9, 2026 | 10:30am - 12:00pm

10:20	Reception of students/participants
10:30	<p>Opening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paula Vicente – Director of the Algarve School of Hospitality and Tourism
10:40	<p>Relevance of water efficiency for the tourism sector in the Algarve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cátia Godinho – Turismo de Portugal
10:50	<p>Portuguese Good Practices - Save Water Seal and AQUA+ water efficiency classification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Florbela Baptista – Turismo de Portugal
11:00	<p>Presentation of the AQUAMAN Project and the Catalogue "Blue Horizons: Innovative Water Solutions for Tourism and Climate Change-Resilient Regions"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sandra Pires – Turismo de Portugal
11:15	<p>Group dynamics</p> <p>The students, organized in small groups, will be challenged to identify risks and solutions related to water management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portugal Tourism
11:35	<p>Presentation of the results of the group dynamics and debate</p> <p>Sharing of key ideas, final comments and connection to the professional reality of the sector</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portugal Tourism
11:50	<p>Closing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portugal Tourism

* Conditional access to students of the Algarve School of Hospitality and Tourism (Level 5 of the Hotel Management and Accommodation and Tourism Management courses)