Eco-SmaRT:  
Initiating Project Education for Sustainable Development of Regional Tourism.

As part of this project, a range of activities related to raising the profile of environmental problems among the tourism industry will be carried out. In addition to this, a number of activities in relation to raising the awareness of non-governmental organizations, local communities and local governments. In particular activities that highlight the importance of a sustainable tourism service that both enhances the visitor’s experience and enables the local environment to remain intact and undisturbed, therefore creating a sustainable long-term future for the growth of the well-being of local communities.

The project aims to contribute to enhancing values of the local natural environment, including tradition and culture for the tourist.

Project participants will work on:

- The development of training materials for use in adult education in order to improve the qualifications of staff employed in the tourism industry in the field of eco-tourism,

- Preparation of ecological path projects in participant’s local region, which will be presented to local governments as proposals for implementation in the future.
The first meeting of the Eco-SmaRT Erasmus+ funded project took place in Mardin, Turkey from 6th to 7th December, 2017. The ancient city of Mardin is situated in South-east Turkey. Tourism is a key component of this region’s economy. This enabled the Eco-SmaRT participants to experience, first hand, the necessity for a sustainable development strategy in which a deeper understanding of what a conscious ‘eco-tourist’ can contribute to a particular region. The first day concentrated on the meeting of the partners and identifying which course of action was best to take to meet the aims and objectives of the project. The participants enjoyed lunch at the local institute of further education, where the culinary students prepared a traditional regional feast. The second day was dedicated to ensuring that all partners understood their respective roles and what they will be able to deliver to ensure a successful outcome of the project. A trip to the famous Daryülfazaran Monastery and Kasimiye Medresesi was part of the second day’s activities. The meeting ended with an evening of Turkish and Kurdish culinary delights.

The partner organisations participating in this project are Instytut Rozwoju Regionalnego i Przedsiębiorczości (FIRRiP)(Kraków, Poland), Institute of Technology Tralee (ITT)(Kerry, Republic of Ireland), Comitato per i Gemellaggi del Commune di Ceregnano (Rovigo, Italy), Mardin Halk Eğitim Merkezi ve Akşam Sanat Okulu (Mardin, Turkey). This is a Strategic Partnership for Adult Education Erasmus+ project, and it will run over the next year and a half.

We invite you to participate in one week international workshops on eco-tourism and sustainable development in tourism, which will take place from 9th to 13th May 2018 in the conference room of the Warszawianka restaurant in Krzeszowice. A detailed project program will be available soon on the project website, on the Facebook and FIRRiP website.

If you would like to hear more about the project or get involved, please contact:

biuro.firrip@gmail.com
www.eco-smart.firrip.com.pl
Facebook page

Kind regards,

Project Team

“This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication [communication] and all its contents reflect the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.”