

EMBEDDING SUSTAINABILITY SKILLS IN TOURISM EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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ESTET Learning Block	Energy Management		
Service Learning Project Title	Turn on the Green Mode	SLP Code	Service Learning Project SLP1.3
Type of resource	Service Learning Project (SLP)	Type of learning	Active learning/ Learning by doing
Duration of Activity (in minutes)	2 days of field work	Learning Outcome	 To gain practical knowledge about the importance of energy management in the tourism and hospitality sector. To get a better understanding of the benefits of energy management. To learn how energy management systems and energy conservation can help tourism businesses to reduce their costs, such as electricity bills. To gain a profound understanding and knowledge on how energy management and efficiency can boost tourism business and be used to improve the image and increase profitability.
Aim of Service Learning Project?	The main aim of the project is to involve participants in a real-life situation where they can gain detailed information about energy management and how hotels can apply these techniques in their everyday activities. With this, VET learners will be able to see and learn how theory is implemented in practice.		
Introduction	Energy management and energy conservation have become very popular over the last decade. In tourism and especially in the hospitality sector, using sustainable energy sources and saving energy consumption have become some of the major topics for discussion. From consuming less to using renewable energy sources – numerous suggestions and changes have been made in the tourism sector. Additionally, many strategies, approaches and technologies have been developed in order to increase energy efficiency and energy conservation. This works to enhance companies within the tourism industry not only to become more sustainable and "green", which is beneficial for the environment. However, it also encourages businesses to strategise their energy management plan, consequently, reducing their expenditure.		

Challenge	Energy management, energy conservation and efficiency are crucial elements of sustainable development across all industries and sectors. The tourism and accommodation industry do not make any exception. Not only do hotels use new technology and energy management systems to reduce their operational costs, but they use these changes as a way to position their business as eco-friendly, sustainable and <i>green</i> . This allows them to enter niche markets, attract new customers and even increase their prices. How do they do it? Does it really work? How important is energy management for accommodation establishment? Some good examples of successful sustainable and eco-friendly hotels are <u>NEYA Lisboa Hotel</u> and <u>Grand Hyatt Singapore</u> .		
Assignment	You have to arrange an interview with a manager of an accommodation property in you location. It can be a guest house, hotel, youth hostel, apart-hotel, or a bed & breakfas. The size of the establishment is not of any importance. The purpose of the interview is t gather as much as possible information about the energy management of this hotel and to learn how the establishment implements it.		
	In order to complete your task successfully prepare your questions in advance. Use close- ended and open-ended questions. Below are the main topics that need to be included and discussed during the interview. Hence, organise your questions in a way to gather all the needed information.		
	 Energy management and its application in the hotel – theory versus reality. Energy management and the staff Energy management and customers Energy management systems – advantages and disadvantages from the practice Energy bills, investment costs and profitability Energy management and promotion 		
	After you completed the interview, organise the information and data gathered and present the most important findings to your peers. Based on the gathered information answer the following questions:		
	 What are the benefits for the accommodation establishment of using an energy management system? What are the most important elements of energy management for the hotel? Which element brings the most value to the establishment? 		







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