



**EMBEDDING SUSTAINABILITY SKILLS IN TOURISM  
EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

---

Project No. : 2020-1-PL01-KA202-081845

<b>ESTET Learning Block</b>	<b>Biodiversity</b>		
<b>Service Learning Project Title</b>	The power of Biodiversity	<b>SLP Code</b>	Service Learning Project SLP 1.5
<b>Type of resource</b>	<b>Service Learning Project (SLP)</b>	<b>Type of learning</b>	Active learning/Learning by doing
<b>Duration of Activity (in minutes)</b>	<b>60 min</b>	<b>Learning Outcome</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To Develop a critical understanding of the role of biodiversity and ecosystems in supporting human livelihoods and their contribution to sustainable tourism development.</li> <li>• To Connect with the natural environment, in both practical and engaging ways.</li> </ul>
<b>Aim of Service Learning Project?</b>	<p>In a world of increasing globalization and environmental degradation, management of its most precious living resource, biological diversity, is one of the most important and critical challenges facing humankind today.</p> <p>Protecting biodiversity is in our self-interest. Biological resources are the pillars upon which we build civilizations. Nature’s products support such diverse industries as agriculture, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, pulp and paper, horticulture, construction and waste treatment. The loss of biodiversity threatens our food supplies, sources of wood, medicines and energy, and also opportunities for recreation and tourism.</p> <p>The Convention on Biological Diversity is dedicated to promoting sustainable development. CBD has recognised tourism as an important factor for biodiversity and a positive force for conservation but also as a source of harmful impacts if not effectively managed (<a href="https://www.cbd.int/convention/">https://www.cbd.int/convention/</a>).</p> <p>The main goal of this project is to help VET students to better understand the benefits of a sustainable use of biodiversity.</p> <p>They will be able to learn why biodiversity is important for sustainable development and why ecosystem services and biodiversity are vital for tourism. Moreover, they can learn how they can promote biodiversity in their cities.</p>		
<b>Introduction</b>	<p>To use biodiversity in a sustainable manner means to use natural resources at a rate that the Earth can renew them. This is a way to ensure that we meet the needs of both present and future generations.</p> <p>As the human population increases, so does the pressure on ecosystems; since we continue to draw resources from them. Our ecological footprint on the planet is unsustainable and will become unbearable unless we change our consumption patterns and our behaviour in general.</p>		

<p><b>Challenge</b></p>	<p>Despite the fact that a sustainable use of biodiversity is widely included in national biodiversity strategies, unsustainable use and overexploitation remains a major threat to biodiversity in several sectors. Challenge is to understand how we can protect biodiversity and how protecting biodiversity can also help mitigate climate change.</p>
<p><b>Assignment</b></p>	<p>In this service learning project, learners will need to conduct a biodiversity assessment to raise their awareness and understanding of which organisms are currently living in these areas and the degree of biodiversity at each, as well as what are the linkages between tourism and biodiversity.</p> <p>To complete this task, learners should include the following information in a short presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What kind of biodiversity and local habitat can you identify in your city?</li> <li>● Which is the role of biodiversity and ecosystems in supporting human livelihoods and their contribution to sustainable tourism development?</li> <li>● What kind of possible solutions could you propose for increasing the biodiversity in these urban environments?</li> <li>● Please, present your results.</li> </ul>

