

HELLENIC CENTRE FOR MARINE RESEARCH

**Diving routes in the light of marine
biology**

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Coastal Alternative Tourism

- Marine mammals/birds observations
- Fishing tourism
- Diving / Snorkeling

Legal framework

- **Law 4582/2018 – Article 12 (Marine tourism)
Paragraph 5 (Diving tourism)**
- **Law 3409/2005 Diving activities. Introduces the
National Leisure Diving Standards which
establishes rules to improve diving safety.**

The European framework

European coastal and Marine Tourism

Facts

- Contributes the 1/3 of the total EU marine revenues
- Offers 3,2 mln jobs
- Creates 183 bln € in added value

Policy in the Blue Growth framework

- Horizon 2020 – Program COSME
- Creative Europe
- Erasmus +
- Life

14 Actions for the communication of the EU Strategy

The target group of diving tourism

Divers

- 25 mln certified divers world wide - 5mln from EU
- 1,5 mln active divers making at least one trip per year
- Creates 183 bln € in added value
- Age group 20-40
- High spending power

Snorkelers

- Unspecified number. Presumably, all tourists under 60s are considered potentially part of the target group
- No studies are available considering the specific character and behaviour of this group
- Form a much larger group than the certified divers

The message

**Discover the beauty and complexity of
the eastern Mediterranean under water
life**

The diving environment

Environment

- Multifaceted morphology
- Rich biodiversity
- Good visibility
- Largely acceptable temperatures

Biodiversity

The hidden asset

- Oligotrophic environment
- Rich biodiversity
- Macrobenthic growth



Were to focus on

Flora

- Show the macrobenthic community
- Emphasize the human-environment interaction for the benthic communities
- Describe the role of macrobenthic communities in maintenance of the overall environmental stability

Fauna

- Species life history
- Reproduction - Migration - Recruitment
- Human environment interaction affecting fish abundance

Were to focus on

Climate change

- Show the impact of increase of temperature in the Mediterranean
- Show the invasive alien species

Pesca gastronomy

- Trophic values
- Taste
- Local seafood culinary culture

Service provision

Knowledge

- Organized (certified) diving centers
- Scientific divers
- Ichthyologists with diving expertise

Shore support

- Organized diving seminars
- Knowledge brokerage seminars

Après plongée

- Marine biology in practice
- Socialization activities

Ευχαριστώ