

Wadden Sea Board

**WSB 22
2 February 2018
Hamburg, Germany**



Agenda Item: 5.9 International Cooperation

Subject: Dolomites - Inventory of financial and work time implications

Document No. WSB 22/5.9/2

Date: 19 January 2018

Submitted by: CWSS

Attached is a draft inventory of financial and work time implications of an envisioned MoU with the Dolomites for the time period 2018 – 20XX, as requested by WSB 21.

The preparation of TGC Leeuwarden 2018 offers the opportunity to prepare an MoU to strengthen cooperation between the Dolomites and The Wadden Sea World Heritage.

Proposal: The meeting is invited

- 1) To comment respectively endorse the draft work programme;
- 2) To instruct the CWSS to outline a first draft of the envisioned MoU;
- 3) To consider a signing of the proposed MoU at the TGC Leeuwarden 2018 and to invite a delegation from the Dolomites to TGC 2018.

Introduction

The work time implications of an envisioned MoU with the Dolomites have been elaborated with reference to the documented time in the work plan sheets for the MoU Korea and MoU PNBA Mauritania.

Field of cooperation	Actions/Activities	work time implications	financial implications	Outcome
Socio-Economic Development and Sustainable Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint participation of representatives at symposia, trade fairs, meetings and arrangements (e.g. ITB Berlin, Wadden Sea Day, WH Day or similar) 	Covered within the work plan by Tourism Project Officer/Communication Officer - No additional resources foreseen.	Can be carried out within the proposed Supplementary Budget 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the implementation of the UNESCO sustainable development policy; • Examine key issues involved in maintaining a balance between sustainable tourism and conservation
Education and Scientific Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study visits with possible PH partners with the goal of enhancing knowledge of network management; ➤ Knowledge exchange on how to tailor UNESCO accreditation, governance and management to the different needs of territories (Dolomites) / regions (Wadden Sea); ➤ Best Practice Experience how to encourage active 	Covered within the work plan by Tourism Project Officer + 5 to 7 additional workdays foreseen.	Preparatory work can be carried by Tourism Project Office; Study trip expenses 2019 (20Pax, travel not included) € 10.000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report contributing to OpTeam PH work.

	participation			
Management of inter-regional and inter-provincial operating networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange visits and the transfer of know-how regarding WS/WH, Foundation and partners; • Develop new material that showcase the role of heritage as a vector for sustainable development, but also to advocate the importance of the role that can be played by networks in conservation and management of heritage sites. 	Covered within the work plan by Tourism Project Officer/Communication Officer - + 5 to 7 additional workdays foreseen.	Can be carried out within the proposed Supplementary Budget 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange of experience on general management issues; • External Review with recommendations on how to establish a foundation

Summary

UNESCO requests and encourages close cooperation between WH sites that could benefit from such cooperation.

The MoU would contribute to fulfilling this request by UNESCO and offers the prospect of greater reciprocity and mutual benefit than the existing MoUs with Korea and Mauretania.

The action/activities respectively the preparatory work for the envisioned MoU could be carried out mainly within the tasks assigned to the Tourism Project Officer and Communication Officer.

CWSS and the TWSC gained experience with the MoU Korea and MoU PNBA Mauritania which can serve as models for the cooperation with the Dolomites. Envisioned Work time for cooperation with the Dolomites is significant lower since both sites are located in Europe and are therefore easily mutually accessible and interaction in the past showed an easy, uncomplicated handling.

The proposed action/activities can be carried out mainly within the proposed Supplementary Budget 2018. For specific activities not covered by the Supplementary budget extra funding has to be acquired. However this will presumably be the case only as of 2019.

The proposed cooperation in the framework of an MoU is expressly welcomed by the Dolomites World Heritage Foundation and seen as mutual beneficial. Commonly shared topics of joint interest would form the basis of a result orientated co-operation in the future.

The TWSC would gain insight into the UNESCO Dolomites Foundation and its status as an open platform and functioning network. Enhanced cooperation would allow us to share and discuss best strategies for realising active stakeholder participation and learn about a People-Centred Approach (PCA) to strengthen practitioners' understanding of communities as a core component of heritage management.

The Dolomites on the other hand are interested in the implementation of the Sustainable Tourism Strategy and the Management of the WSWH brand.

For both WH sites it is important to fulfil the new UNESCO policy that focuses on promoting links between nature-culture-communities in the management of heritage sites and on securing World Heritage in a more dynamic role in wider sustainable development.