

Call for Financial Support for Tourism SMEs



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Single Market Programme (SMP COSME)

SMP-COSME-2023-TOURSME

Transitioning to a more sustainable and resilient ecosystem – empowering tourism SMEs

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| Name of the Project: | Development of resilient tourism ecosystems along Mediterranean walking routes |
| Acronym: | DETOUR |
| Proposal Number: | 101181295 |
| Project Duration and start date: | 36 months, 01 November 2024 |
| Lead partner/coordinator: | Comune di Fidenza (Italy) |
| Partners: | Kultur Rotalari Dernegi, DMO ES.CO. Esquilino Comunita – La Porta Di Roma, Antalya Il Kultur Ve Turizm Müdürlüğü, Training 2000 Piccola Sc, Mesogeiaiko Kentro Perivallontos, Organizatsia Za Upravlenie Na Trakiyski Turisticheski Rayon, Associazione Europea Delle Vie Francigene |
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Call for financial support for tourism SMEs

1. Introduction

Tourism is one of the Mediterranean's most dynamic sectors, yet tourism SMEs have been heavily affected by recent challenges such as the pandemic, climate pressures, rising costs, labour shortages, and rapid digital change. Building resilience and innovation has become essential.

DETOUR — Development of Resilient Tourism Ecosystems along Mediterranean Walking Routes — is a three-year project co-funded by the European Commission to support tourism SMEs along Mediterranean walking routes in Italy, Greece, Türkiye, and Bulgaria. Walking tourism is experiencing rapid global growth. Travellers increasingly seek slow, authentic, nature-based experiences — making walking routes one of the most sustainable and future-oriented forms of tourism. They generate local economic impact while protecting natural and cultural landscapes.

Through training, mentoring, financial support, and partner collaboration, DETOUR empowers SMEs to innovate, diversify their services, and extend the season. By connecting SMEs with trail managers, local authorities, and communities, the project builds stronger, more resilient tourism ecosystems along Mediterranean walking trails.

This document presents the Terms of Reference for the Call for Financial Support, outlining the conditions, eligibility criteria, and procedures for tourism SMEs wishing to apply.

Summary

DETOUR Call for Financial Support – Snapshot Overview

The Call for Financial Support defines the selection framework under the DETOUR project, which provides financial support to SMEs operating along selected Mediterranean walking routes. Below is the short summary of the call.

General Information

- **Project:** DETOUR – Development of Resilient Tourism Ecosystems along Mediterranean Walking Routes
- **Total Budget Available:** €800,000
- **Minimum projects funded:** 30 (across 4 countries, minimum 7 and maximum 12 highest scoring proposals per country)
- **Eligible Countries and geographic areas:**
 - Italy along the Via Francigena, stretch Pavia–Rome and 10 km buffer zone;
 - Greece along the mountainous paths of Olympos, Kissavos, Mavrovouni;
 - Bulgaria along the Sultan's Trail in Thrace Tourism Region and Thrace Tourism Region;
 - Türkiye along the Lycian Way, from Fethiye to Antalya, Türkiye and 3 km buffer zone.

Timeline

- **Opening of Call:** 9 March 2026
- **Deadline for Applications:** 1 June 2026 (12:00 CET)
- **Evaluation Period:** 1 June – 12 July 2026
- **Results Published:** by 13 July 2026



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- **Projects Start:** from 1 September 2026
- **Projects Duration:** 6–9 months (mandatory)

Financial Support

- **Grant per project:** €15,000 – €25,000
- **Funding rate:** 100% (no co-financing required)
- **Form of funding:** Lump sum
- **Payment structure:**
 - 20% at signature
 - 40% mid-project (interim report)
 - 40% after final report
- **Minimum 60% of funding must go to tourism SMEs**
- Possible budget reduction only for last-ranked project if funds are insufficient.

Who Can Apply?

- **Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs)** operating in tourism or tourism-related sectors.
- Must be legally established for **at least 1 year**.
- Must comply with EU SME definition (under 250 employees; ≤ €50M turnover or ≤ €43M balance sheet).

Partnership Composition

- **2 to 5 independent legal entities**
- **At least 50 % must be tourism SMEs¹.** At least **one tourism SME should be located along (or in buffer zone of) eligible walking routes.**
- Each entity can participate in only one funded partnership.
- Partnerships may be of the following types:
 1. Only tourism SMEs
 2. Tourism SMEs and other tourism entities (DMOs, associations, sole-traders etc.)
 3. Tourism SMEs and Cross-sectoral partners (culture, agri-food, digital, IT, sole-traders, etc.)

Projects must contribute to:

- Sustainability and green transition
- Digital transformation
- Business resilience and risk management
- Inclusive and accessible trail tourism

Permissible Activities (Examples)

- Development of new tourism products or services
- Digital tools, booking systems, mapping platforms
- Relevant software licences (operational efficiency, customer experience)
- Sustainable mobility solutions

¹ Partnerships of 3 must include at least 2 tourism SMEs; partnerships of 5 must include at least 3 tourism SMEs.

- Green technologies and certifications
- Market studies and business plans
- Staff training and upskilling
- Communication and marketing campaigns
- Risk management planning

△ Equipment costs capped at **30% of total budget**

Evaluation Criteria (Minimum 3/5 each; 12/20 overall threshold)

1. Relevance
2. Quality
3. Feasibility
4. Impact

+1 bonus point if SME participated in DETOUR training.

Evaluation by **2 independent external experts per country.**

Required Documentation

- Application form
- Budget template
- Legal registration proof
- Tourism activity proof (NACE or equivalent)
- Declaration of Honour
- Partnership Agreement (after selection)
- Grant Agreement (after selection)

| Activity | Feb-26 | Mar-26 | Apr-26 | May-26 | Jun-26 | Jul-26 | Sep-26 |
|-----------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Opening date of application | | | | | | | |
| Call is open | | | | | | | |
| Closing date of application | | | | | | | |
| Evaluation process | | | | | | | |
| Results | | | | | | | |
| Financial support Programme Start | | | | | | | |

Figure 1. Timeline of activities of the Call for financial support for tourism SMEs

2. Objectives of the call

The DETOUR Call for financial support for tourism SMEs is designed to support partnerships of SMEs that propose innovative solutions in products, services, or business models.

The Call aims to fund initiatives that:

- Promote sustainability, including responsible resource use, reduced environmental impact, and climate-aware tourism services;
- Improve digital capacity, through smart tools, online visibility, booking systems, digital storytelling, or enhanced customer engagement;
- Strengthen business resilience, helping tourism SMEs adapt to climate risks, seasonal fluctuations, market disruptions, and support inclusive and accessible trail-based tourism.

3. Who can apply?

This Call is open to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) operating in the tourism sector and legally established in one of the four DETOUR partner countries: Italy, Greece, Türkiye, or Bulgaria.

To be eligible, applicants must meet each of the following criteria:

3.1 Partnerships Eligibility

DETOUR supports collaborative projects managed by a Lead Partner together with tourism and cross-sectoral SMEs and local partners and stakeholders such as guides, trail managers, cultural associations, municipalities, or service providers.

Each collaborative project must be implemented by a partnership of minimum 2 to maximum 5 independent legal entities, of which at least 50 % must be tourism SMEs²³.

Eligible partnership types must be:

1. **Only Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)** operating in tourism sector. **At least one of the SMEs** is situated along or in the buffer zone of the selected stretches of the routes and/ or conducts activities focused on these routes (more information in section 3.2).
2. **Tourism SME(s)** (at least 50 % of the partnership, including at least one situated along or in the buffer zone of the routes and/ or conducts activities focused on these routes) **AND another tourism business/entity** (e.g. DMO, national authority, larger company, a regional association, sole-trader⁴, etc). Other similar independent legal entities or those from related ecosystems may also be included additionally, provided that all such entities will pursue the same objective within the eligible activities.
3. **Tourism SME(s)** (at least 50 % of the partnership, including at least one situated along or in the buffer zone of the routes and/ or conducts activities focused on these routes) **AND Business/entity / SME/ sole-trader from other ecosystems and cross-sectors** (e.g. culture, agri-food, digital entertainment, textiles, IT service provider, public body etc.)⁵. Other similar independent legal entities or those from tourism sector may also be included additionally, provided that all such entities will pursue the same objective within the eligible activities.

² Partnerships of 3 must include at least 2 tourism SMEs; partnerships of 5 must include at least 3 tourism SMEs.

³ Each entity can apply only once with one project proposal

⁴ Sole trader is a self-employed person where the company does not have legal personality separate from that of the natural person (the EISMEA Call)

⁵ The cross sectoral partners must demonstrate a link to tourism

Partnerships may be newly formed or already established. All partners must be legally independent from each other (that is no ownership or control). Each legal entity can be a member of only one partnership benefitting from the funds.

3.2 SME Eligibility

To qualify as an SME, an enterprise must comply with the definition in EU Recommendation 2003/361/EC:

- Fewer than 250 employees, and
- Annual turnover not exceeding €50 million, or
- Balance sheet total not exceeding €43 million.

To be eligible under this Call, the Small or Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) must:

- Be legally established in one of the four project countries (Italy, Greece, Bulgaria, Türkiye).
- Operate for at least 1 year before the application.
- Operate in the tourism or cross sectors⁶
- Be registered in the relevant NACE codes⁷ or be able to clearly demonstrate that the business activities support or operate within the tourism sector
- At least one of the SMEs should operate within or contribute to the tourism sector along the project walking routes or in the buffer zone:
 - Via Francigena stretch from Pavia to Rome, Italy with a buffer zone of 10 km. from the route (the route map and buffer zone can be found following the link <https://www.viefrancigene.org/en/home>),
 - [Sultans Trail](#) stretch in Thrace Tourism Region and the entire Thrace Tourism Region, Bulgaria, as defined by the Ministry of Tourism under the Tourism Act of the Republic of Bulgaria⁸.
 - Greek routes in the area of Mounts Olympos, Kissavos and Mavrovouni including Municipalities (Dimoi) of Larisa, Ellassona, Tempi, Riga Feraiou, Agia, Dios Olympou, and Municipal unit of (Dimotiki enotita) Petras.
 - [Lycian Way](#) from Fethiye to Antalya in Türkiye with a buffer zone of 3 km from the main route and its extensions.

⁶ accommodation services, camping grounds, food and beverages, agritourism and ecotourism locations, farms, national parks, restaurants and beverage services, mobility and transport services within cities and rural tourism destinations, tour operators, agencies, and related tourism management services, creative, arts, and entertainment activities, libraries, archives, museums, and other cultural activities, sports activities, amusement, and recreational activities, IT or Energy solutions for the tourism sector, environmental and circular economy services related to tourism.

⁷ See Annex 1, more information on https://ec.europa.eu/competition/mergers/cases/index/nace_all.html

⁸ The center of Thracian Tourist Region is in Plovdiv and includes areas of Pazardzhik, Stara Zagora, Haskovo, Sliven and Yambol region. The region includes 35 municipalities: Bratya Daskalovi, Brezovo, Galabovo, Dimitrovgrad, Elhovo, Kaloyanovo, Krichim, Lesichovo, Lyubimets, Maritsa, Mineralni Bani, Nova Zagora, Opan, Pazardzhik, Perushtitsa, Peshtera, Plovdiv, Parvomay, Radnevo, Rakovski, Svilengrad, Septemvri, Simeonovgrad, Stamboliyski, Stambolovo, Stara Zagora, Straldzha, Saedinenie, Topolovgrad, Tundzha, Harmanli, Haskovo, Chirpan and Yambol.

3.3 Partners' eligibility

Each partner must:

- Be a legally established organization based in the project country (Italy, Greece, Bulgaria, Türkiye);
- Be either:
 - a tourism SME,
 - another tourism entity, sole-trader, or a non-tourism partner providing support or expertise aligned with the project's goals;
- Be independent from the other partners in the consortium, meaning that they are not considered linked enterprises, there is no family connections or conflicts of interest.

3.4 Roles and Responsibilities within the Partnership

Each collaborative project must designate a Lead Partner. The Lead Partner is in charge of the partnership and is responsible for:

- Submitting the full application and representing the partnership during evaluation of the proposal;
- Acting as the primary contact with the DETOUR consortium;
- Signing the Grant Agreement with the DETOUR project (after the approval of the project), following the provided template.
- Signing the partnership agreement with all the partners (after the approval of the project), following the provided template.
- Receiving and managing the full project amount (between €15 000 and up to €25 000);
- Distributing the budget internally between the partners based on the approved budget;
- Coordinating the implementation of activities across the partnership;
- Submitting reports according to the provided templates and ensuring all commitments are met;

The Lead Partner carries both administrative and financial responsibility for the project.

Tourism SMEs are the main target group of DETOUR and must receive the majority of the project funding (minimum 60%). Other eligible partners (for example cultural organizations, digital solution providers, local tourism associations, DMOs, social economy actors) may:

- Provide complementary expertise in sustainability, digital tools, or support for visibility and outreach;
- Contribute to innovation and enhance cross-sectoral cooperation;
- Participate in the design and delivery of the collaborative project.

However, project partners within the collaborative partnership:

- Cannot act as subcontractors
- May receive a share to cover eligible expenses (for example event hosting, tools) if:
 - Their role is clearly defined in the application,
 - The costs are directly linked to the approved project activities, and

- These costs are listed transparently in the Budget Template

4. Timeline and duration

Opening of application: 09 March 2026

Closing date of application: 1 June 2026 at 12.00 CET (closed)

Evaluation: 1 June – 12 July 2026

Results: by 13 July 2026

Programme Start: From 1 September 2026

Programme Duration: Each project must have a duration of a minimum of 6 and maximum of 9 months. Projects with a duration longer than 9 or shorter than 6 months will be considered as not eligible.

5. Allowable activities and costs

The grant provided through the programme can be used to cover allowable costs associated with implementing each project. Applicants must include a balanced range of activities and costs in collaborative projects. It is not permissible to fund only one type of cost, or to use the same single type across all projects.

At least 60 % of the project funding must be allocated to tourism SME(s).

Allowable costs:

- Consultancy Services (service provider, mentor, expert, consultant, technician): this includes costs for services provided by external experts or organizations that are essential for project execution.
- Market studies and business plan development and analysis, including audits
- Training, capacity building organised externally to the DETOUR partner organisations
- Intellectual property protection
- Certification schemes compliance relevant to sustainability, digitalisation and resilience;
- Equipment, purchase, goods, supplies, tools and technology solutions⁹: Expenses include the purchase or rental of equipment and materials necessary for project implementation or measurement tools for testing collaborative solutions, sustainability impact monitoring equipment (maximum 30% of the project budget).
- Working time of employees focused on the project
- Travel, accommodation and subsistence: Expenses for project-related travel to suitable destinations, including transportation, lodging, and daily subsistence allowances.

All costs must be:

- Costs incurred during the project duration.
- Necessary for the project implementation.
- Identifiable and verifiable.
- Compliant with national laws and accounting principles.
- Contribute to resilience, green or digital transition.

⁹ Essential tangible assets that contribute to the successful delivery of the solution detailed in the project application e.g. energy efficient devices, energy management systems, waste management equipment etc.

Ineligible costs include:

- VAT costs (if recoverable)
- Debt and debt service charges.
- Provisions for future losses or debts.
- Interest owed.
- Doubtful debts.
- Currency exchange losses.
- Costs declared under another grant.

The examples are given in the Section 13. The proposed project activities should be aligned with the admissibility check and evaluation criteria and contribute to one or more of the objectives of the call (see par. 2.) and of the Transition Pathways of Tourism.

This financial support should be used to contribute in an instrumental way to the development of the selected collaborative project. It cannot be used simply to purchase stand alone, off-the-shelf products or solutions. 'After the ranking of the project proposals has been established, and within the framework of the Agreement between DETOUR and the selected project partnership, the DETOUR consortium reserves the right to discuss minor adjustments with the selected partnership.

Beneficiaries are required to keep detailed records and documentation to support all claimed costs for 5 years after the project closure in case of an audit.

Double funding (e.g. in case of involvement in other projects) for the same activities will not be eligible.

Period of costs' eligibility is from the project starting date until the end of the project. Expenditures occurred before the signature of the agreement are not eligible. Expenditures occurred after the reporting period are not eligible.

5.1 Withdrawal or Cancellation of Funding

The DETOUR consortium reserves the right to withdraw or cancel the awarded funding, in whole or in part, if beneficiaries fail to comply with the rules and obligations set out in this Call, including those listed in the Annexes. This may include, but is not limited to, non-compliance with eligibility conditions, misuse of funds, failure to implement the approved activities, insufficient reporting, or breach of ethical, financial, or contractual obligations. In such cases, beneficiaries may be required to reimburse any amounts unduly received, in accordance with the applicable procedures and decisions of the DETOUR consortium

5.2 Services provided by DETOUR project

Withing the Support Scheme programme all services provided directly by the DETOUR project partners (in particular by Municipality of Fidenza (Comune di Fidenza), Culture Route Society (Kültür Rotaları Derneği), DMO ESCO Esquilino Community – The Gate of Rome (Esquilino Comunità – La Porta di Roma), Antalya Provincial Directorate of Culture and Tourism (Antalya İl Kültür ve Turizm Müdürlüğü), Training 2000 (T2000 Training 2000 Piccola S.C.), Mediterranean Centre for the Environment (MKP – Μεσογειακό Κέντρο Περιβάλλοντος ΕΛ), Organization for Management of the Thracian Tourist Region (Организация за управление на Тракийски туристически район), European Association of the Via Francigena Ways (Associazione Europea delle Vie Francigene) and trainers certified by the DETOUR Train the Trainer programme such as organisation of the DETOUR workshops and mentorship will be provided free of charge.

6. Budget available

The total available funding for this call is €800,000. Each selected project will receive a lump sum from €15,000 to €25,000 funding in accordance with the provided budget. It is expected that a minimum of 30 collaborative projects in total (a minimum 7 and maximum 12 highest scoring proposals per country) will be supported over the eligible countries (Italy, Greece, Bulgaria, Türkiye) in the limit of the available grant.

Projects obtaining a high score but not selected for funding will be placed on a ranked reserve list, subject to the availability of additional funding. (see section 13.2 for more details on the evaluation procedure).

In the event of drop-outs or a lower number of approved projects in a given eligible country, an additional call for applications may be launched.

The DETOUR consortium may request applicants to reduce their proposed budgets if the total available funds are not sufficient to finance all selected projects in full. The reduction could apply only to the last ranked project that qualifies, on each national list.

7. Funding rate

Eligible costs specified in the application form are 100% covered through a lump sum, with no co-financing required from the applicants. The payments will be conducted with following instalments:

- **20%** upon the signature of the grant agreement between DETOUR project and the partnership in the **first month of the project** upon provision of documents (registration numbers, declaration of honour by the Lead Partner, partnership agreement)
- **40% mid-project**, upon the submission of the interim report and payment request.
- **40% after the end of the project** upon the submission of the final report and payment request.

8. Required Documentation

The Lead Partner must supply the evidence of deliverables such as reports, marketing materials, digital tools (for example screenshots or demo links) and the photographs or visual records of project implementation activities in order to receive interim and final payments.

The Lead Partner should collect and retain the following documentation to justify the use of the lump sum and project results in case of audit:

- Invoices, receipts, or proof of payment for eligible purchases and services;
- Any additional documentation.

All financial and technical documentation must be retained by the Lead Partner for a minimum of five years after project closure, in line with EU audit and verification requirements.

The Grant Agreement will be signed between the Lead Partner and the representative of the DETOUR project in charge of the financial support scheme in the respective country (AEVF, CRS, MOTTR, MKP)

after the final selection of funded projects. It will define the specific obligations, payment terms, and reporting requirements. All provisions outlined in this section will be detailed and contractually binding within the Grant Agreement.

9. Reporting

To enhance support for applicants, selected projects will need to provide:

- Reports every 3 months on the advancement of the projects
- Interim reporting to be submitted mid-project to receive the second financial instalment
- Final report upon the end of the collaborative project to claim the final instalment.

This documentation will serve as the primary monitoring procedure for tracking project progress.

10. Submission of Applications

Tourism SMEs must submit a complete proposal following the steps below. The process is transparent, and open to eligible candidates from all four countries. This Call is governed by the [Guidelines for Awarding Financial Support to Innovative Projects under the SMP-COSME-2023-TOURSME programme](#).

Applications must be submitted through the online submission platform: [LINK](#). Applications submitted by any other means will be rejected.

To apply, the applicant must complete the following steps:

1. Go to the online submission platform: [LINK](#)
2. Fill out all sections of the online Application Form
3. Upload the following required documents:
 - Project proposal (using the provided template)
 - Budget proposal (using the provided template)
 - Proof of legal registration of all the partners (e.g. extract from official business registry, registration number etc)
 - Proof of registration in the tourism NACE code or a clear demonstration of exercising the business activities within the tourism sector for tourism SMEs
 - Declaration of honour (to be completed and signed only by the Lead Partner). It Confirms SME status, independence, and absence of conflict of interest

After the project has been selected:

- Proof of full compliance with national tax and social security laws of the Lead Partner
- Partnership Agreement
- Grant Agreement
- Completion of form detailing projects' contribution to the "Transition pathway for tourism"

The applications must be submitted in one of the project languages: English, Italian, Greek, Bulgarian, Turkish.

Only the information provided in the online application form and required documents will be evaluated.

Additional materials or external links will not be considered.

For technical issues with the submission platform, please contact: detour.eu.project@gmail.com

The data provided will remain confidential and only be shared with the evaluation team for the purpose of assessing the application and with EISMEA¹⁰. All personal and organizational data will be processed in strict accordance with applicable data protection regulations, ensuring that the rights and privacy of individuals and organizations are safeguarded. By submitting an application, applicants consent to the processing of their data as outlined in our privacy policy. This policy details how data is collected, used, stored, and protected, reinforcing our commitment to transparency and data security throughout the evaluation process.

11. Evaluation

The evaluation will be carried out in two phases:

- Admissibility Check
- Award Criteria

11.1 Admissibility

All applications will first undergo a rigorous admissibility check to ensure they meet the basic requirements:

- The applicants are legally established SME or other entities, registered as legal entities for at least one year prior to the application deadline in one of the eligible countries (Italy, Greece, Bulgaria, Türkiye).
- The application is submitted via the online platform before the deadline, along with the required supporting documents.
- The application is complete
- The proposal presents a collaborative project related to the walking routes of Via Francigena (between Pavia and Rome, Italy), Sultans Trail stretch in the Thrace tourism region and/or the entire Thrace Tourism Region (Bulgaria), mountainous routes in Greece in areas of Mounts Olympos, Kissavos, Mavrovouni and Lycian way in Türkiye (more information in 3.2)
- At least one of the partners is situated along or in the buffer zone of the selected stretches of the routes and/ or conducts activities focused on these routes (more information in 3.2).
- Are not already funded elsewhere.
- No conflicts of interest¹¹ exist.

¹⁰ European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency, project granting authority

¹¹ A conflict of interest occurs when a person's or organisation's private interests (financial, personal, or professional) could improperly influence — or appear to influence — their decisions, actions, or responsibilities.

This check will be carried out by the DETOUR Consortium and is a pass/fail procedure. Proposals that do not meet all admissibility criteria will be rejected. An admissible applications list will be produced, including all applications that pass this initial check. The results of the assessment will be approved by the Consortium partner-country members and the Award Criteria evaluation will follow.

11.2 Award Criteria

Eligible proposals will be evaluated by two independent experts outside of the DETOUR consortium per country.

Composition of the Evaluation Committee and Selection of Evaluators

The evaluation of eligible proposals will be carried out by an Evaluation Committee composed of external experts, ensuring transparency, impartiality, and independence of the assessment process.

For each participating country, two independent evaluators will be appointed. These experts will be external to the DETOUR consortium organisations and will not have any contractual or operational role within the project. This guarantees the absence of conflicts of interest and ensures objective assessment of proposals.

The evaluators will be professionals with proven expertise in tourism, local economic development, and SME support, with a particular focus on sustainable tourism, walking routes, and territorial development. They will be familiar with the local and regional context, including the characteristics of the walking routes involved and the socio-economic environment of the territory, allowing them to assess proposals in a contextualised and informed manner.

Evaluators will be selected by the consortium partners in each country based on their merit, professional experience, and sectoral knowledge. Selection criteria will include demonstrated experience in project evaluation, tourism development, innovation, or business support, as well as a strong understanding of local tourism ecosystems. A common template will be used to evaluate the candidacies of the evaluation committee, which should be based on the CVs of the candidates. The evaluation committee will be fully formed one month before the deadline of the call for collaborative projects.

Internal staff of the DETOUR consortium will not take part in the scoring of proposals. Their role will be limited to administrative coordination of the process and ensuring compliance with the admissibility check. The final scores will be based exclusively on the assessments provided by the external evaluators.

All evaluators will be required to declare any potential conflict of interest prior to their appointment and to adhere to principles of confidentiality, transparency, and equal treatment of applicants.

Examples: family involvement in procurement: An SME owner awards a contract to a family member's company without fair competition; Personal financial gain: An employee responsible for purchasing chooses a supplier that gives them personal gifts or commissions; Dual roles: A manager works as a consultant for a competitor or partner company, affecting impartiality; Board member conflict: A board member votes on decisions that directly benefit their own business or investments; Hiring decisions: Recruiting a close friend or relative without transparent selection processes.

All evaluators must:

- Have relevant professional experience under at least one of the following fields: sustainable tourism, digital transformation, SME innovation and support, cross-sector collaboration, or EU-funded project evaluation.
- Must possess the practical knowledge and competence necessary to assess project relevance, and feasibility.
- Sign the Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest Declaration before accessing any application.

Each evaluator will record his/her individual opinion of each application on the attached evaluation form. In each country the national evaluators will then meet or communicate together to prepare a single consensus form for each application, representing opinions and scores on which the evaluators agree and which they will sign. Using the overall scores for each application, the evaluators will generate a ranked list per each participating country, or several ranked lists if the call is in different parts.

The Award Criteria evaluation is based on the following criteria:

1. Relevance: minimum threshold: 3/5

This criterion assesses the degree to which the proposal aligns with the objectives and priorities of the DETOUR project and EU twin transition. Evaluators will consider how well the proposed action addresses the needs of SMEs operating along (or in buffer zones) walking routes, contributes to sustainable and resilient tourism development, and responds to the specific challenges identified in the project framework. Proposals should demonstrate a clear connection to slow tourism, innovation, sustainability, digitalisation, or risk mitigation.

2. Quality: minimum threshold: 3/5

Quality refers to the coherence, clarity, and robustness of the proposed project. Evaluators will assess the soundness of the concept, the consistency between objectives, activities, and expected results, as well as the overall methodology. Particular attention will be paid to the level of innovation, the relevance of the proposed solutions, and the professionalism of the project design.

3. Feasibility: minimum threshold: 3/5

This criterion evaluates whether the project is realistic and achievable within the proposed timeframe and budget. Experts will examine the operational plan, the adequacy of financial resources, and the capacity of the applicants to implement the project. The experience, skills, and organisational structure of the SME(s) involved will be taken into account, as well as potential risks and mitigation measures.

4. Impact: minimum threshold: 3/5

Impact measures the expected short- and medium-term benefits of the project. Evaluators will consider the potential contribution to business development, job creation, environmental sustainability, and local value generation along walking routes. Proposals should clearly describe how results will be sustained over time and how they may contribute to broader territorial development or be replicated by other SMEs.

The threshold required to pass is 12 points. Consortia will receive 1 additional point if at least one applicant has participated in the DETOUR SME training programme.

The evaluation process will take a maximum of 6 weeks. In line with EU transparency and accountability standards, the results of this Call will be published on the DETOUR website - <https://detour-eu-project.eu/> on 13 July 2026.

Proposals will be ranked based on their overall scores within each participating country. It is aimed that a minimum 7 and maximum 12 highest scoring proposals in each country will be selected for funding (depending on the budgets requested by the consortia). In case of equal scores, priority will be given to proposals with the highest score for feasibility, then quality.

The projects with high scores which haven't been selected for funding, will be placed in the reserve list in order of their score in case of eventual availability of funds.

In case of drop-outs or lower number of approved projects per eligible country (Italy, Greece, Bulgaria, Türkiye), an additional call for applications can be launched. The DETOUR Committee will make the final funding decisions based on the ranking lists for each country.

All evaluations will be documented using:

- Admissibility Form (pass/fail)
- Evaluation Report (qualitative justification)

An Evaluation Summary Table will be compiled per country, detailing:

- All evaluated proposals
- Final scores
- Funding decisions (selected, reserve list, or not selected)

12. Processing of personal Data

All personal data collected through the DETOUR Call will be handled in line with the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR) and relevant national laws. Data will be used only for managing and monitoring the application, evaluation, and implementation of the DETOUR project. Information and data will also be shared with the contracting authority (European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency - EISMEA), who may also publish general information accordingly.

13. Examples of collaborative projects

Themes for collaborative projects should encompass a spectrum of sustainable, digital and resilient tourism practices. The goal is to encourage diverse and impactful projects that contribute to the long-term sustainability and economic vitality of the trail tourism ecosystem.

Projects should demonstrate:

- Clear relevance to walking routes and trail-based tourism;
- Tangible benefits for SMEs and local territories;
- Long-term sustainability beyond the funding period
- Genuine collaboration (joint design, shared resources, or coordinated implementation);

The themes might be as follows:

Digitalisation:

- Making more services available by mapping them on digital applications,
- Presenting the service providers more attractively online,
- Creating and/or implementing digital platforms for stakeholder collaboration
- Developing user-friendly online booking systems
- Strengthening data protection measures
- Utilizing data analytics for marketing performance monitoring
- Integrating chatbots for customer service on digital platforms
- Technology for smart governance or e-business
- Developing or upgrading websites and mobile applications;
- Investment in relevant hardware and software for digital infrastructure, operational efficiency and customer experiences
- Investment in cybersecurity measures and data protection solutions
- Integrating e-commerce solutions into existing systems, setting up online sales platforms, eCommerce services for B2B and B2C
- Investment in secure payment gateways and online transaction management tools
- Development of augmented reality
- Intellectual property development and protection

Example of a collaborative project:

A group of accommodation providers, local guides, and food producers along a walking route jointly develop a shared digital platform integrating:

- mapping of services along the trail,
- online booking for accommodation and experiences,
- secure payment gateways,
- multilingual content,
- shared data analytics to monitor visitor flows and marketing performance.

The platform is jointly governed, maintained after the project, and integrated into existing regional tourism systems.

Strong proposal – example evaluation comment

“The proposal demonstrates strong collaboration among multiple SMEs, with a shared digital solution that addresses a clearly identified market gap. The platform supports long-term visibility, service integration, and improved visitor experience along the walking route.”

Weak proposal – example evaluation comment

“The proposal focuses mainly on upgrading a single company’s website, with limited collaboration and no clear benefit for the wider trail ecosystem.”

Marketing:

- Development of digital content,
- Communication and social media campaigns
- Website optimisation for improved visibility in search engines (SEO)
- Developing influencer and bloggers partnerships

- Online advertising
- Digital marketing tools and analytics platform

Example of a collaborative project

Several SMEs and a local tourism organisation co-create a joint digital marketing campaign for off-season walking tourism, including:

- shared storytelling content,
- Coordinated social media and influencer partnerships,
- SEO optimisation for the walking route as a destination,
- shared performance monitoring using digital analytics tools.

Strong proposal – example evaluation comment

“The project presents a coherent joint marketing strategy involving multiple stakeholders, with clear objectives, target markets, and measurable indicators.”

Weak proposal – example evaluation comment

“The proposal lacks a joint strategy and appears as a collection of individual promotional activities without coordination or shared impact.”

Green transition:

- water usage/optimisation (grey water recycling for use in greenhouses, drilling for groundwater, rainwater collection and purification)
- energy efficiency/consumption (solar power electricity generation to supplement the grid,
- installing alternative heating to replace use of firewood)
- waste management (composting of food waste, circular economy practices, zero-waste tourism events, recycling programs, partnering with local farms for food waste composting initiatives)
- fight against single use plastics;
- decrease of carbon footprint (Carbon Footprint Tracking and Offsetting)
- sustainable mobility mitigation measures;
- Conducting environmental impact assessments

Sustainable mobility:

- Developing partnerships for bike-sharing services
- Creating initiatives offering discounts for sustainable transportation
- Implementing carpooling apps for tourists
- Implementing efficient methods of baggage transfer

Example of a collaborative project

Tourism SMEs collaborate with local transport providers to create:

- integrated bike-sharing services,
- baggage transfer systems for walkers,
- incentives for low-carbon transport,
- digital tools promoting carpooling and public transport access to trails.

Strong proposal – example evaluation comment

“The project addresses a key barrier for walkers—mobility and logistics—through a coordinated and innovative solution involving multiple stakeholders.”

Weak proposal – example evaluation comment

“The proposal mentions sustainable mobility but does not explain how services will be implemented or coordinated among partners.”

Certifications :

- certification schemes compliance relevant to sustainability, digitalisation and resilience,
- obtaining certifications,
- adaptation for certification schemes,
- expert’s analysis of certifications

Product development and Diversification in the tourism offer:

- tackling seasonality and fluctuations in seasonal tourist flows, be it throughout the year or throughout the territory;
- targeting different market segments, such as types of clients, origin of clients and sources of income;
- local community involvement (establishing tourism models involving local communities, innovation hubs for collaboration, partnerships with local authorities)
- Developing eco-friendly tour packages
- working with an increased variety of suppliers
- canoe and trek tours, mix and match cycling and trekking tours,
- workshops and production of women’s handcrafts (e.g. carpets, honey, jams, etc.), performance
- arts or storytelling projects on ancient sites, development of new walking tours on little-used routes, adding value to the trails by developing botanic or historical tours.
- Gastronomy and wine: gathering/cooking with edible plants, cooking and breadmaking
- workshops, revival of local gastronomy, development of wine tours, teaching restaurants.

Business Development and Innovation:

- Engaging expert consultants for tailored market analysis
- Developing comprehensive business plans for decentralized tourism experiences
- Designing and promoting unique tourism packages for under-visited regions
- Creating partnerships with local businesses to enhance service offerings
- Implementing community-based tourism initiatives that empower local stakeholders
- Market Research and Analysis, Data collection and analysis
- Development and analysis of business plans

Example of a collaborative project

A cluster of SMEs jointly conducts the following research:

- market research on emerging walking tourism trends,
- development of shared business models,
- creation of new partnerships with local authorities and service providers,
- innovation hubs for collaboration and knowledge exchange.

Strong proposal – example evaluation comment

“The proposal demonstrates a strategic approach to business development, with strong potential for scalability and replication.”

Weak proposal – example evaluation comment

“The business development activities are vague and not sufficiently linked to concrete implementation.”

Climate change preparedness and resilience:

- Climate Risk Mapping
- Climate Smart Digital Tools
- Nature-Based Climate Adaptation
- Business Continuity Planning Workshops
- Fire risk precautions
- Joint risk management programmes with forestry or other land management authorities

Annex 1. List of tourism-related NACE codes

| Tourism-related NACE codes include (but are not strictly limited to): | Sector Description |
|--|--|
| I5510 | Hotels and similar accommodation |
| I5520 | Holiday and other short-stay accommodation |
| I5530 | Camping grounds, recreational vehicle parks, and trailer parks |
| I5610 | Restaurants and mobile food service activities |
| I5630 | Beverage serving activities |
| N79 | Travel agency, tour operator reservation service, and related activities |
| R90 | Creative, arts, and entertainment activities |
| R93 | Sports activities and amusement and recreation activities |

Annex 2. Selected Sections of Project Routes and Associated Buffer Zones

- Via Francigena stretch from Pavia to Rome, Italy with a buffer zone of 10 km. from the route (the route map and buffer zone can be found following the link <https://www.viefrancigene.org/en/home>).
- [Sultans Trail](#): stretch in Thrace Tourism Region and the entire Thrace Tourism Region, Bulgaria, as defined by the Ministry of Tourism under the Tourism Act of the Republic of Bulgaria¹².
- Greek routes in the area of Mounts Olympos, Kissavos and Mavrovouni including Municipalities (Dimoi) of Larisa, Elassona, Tempa, Riga Feraiou, Agia, Dios Olympou, and Municipal unit of (Dimotiki enotita) Petras.
- [Lycian Way](#) from Fethiye to Antalya in Türkiye with a buffer zone of 3 km from the main route and its extensions.

¹² The center of Thracian Tourist Region is in Plovdiv and includes areas of Pazardzhik, Stara Zagora, Haskovo, Sliven and Yambol region. The region includes 35 municipalities: Bratya Daskalovi, Brezovo, Galabovo, Dimitrovgrad, Elhovo, Kaloyanovo, Krichim, Lesichovo, Lyubimets, Maritsa, Mineralni Bani, Nova Zagora, Opan, Pazardzhik, Perushtitsa, Peshtera, Plovdiv, Parvomay, Radnevo, Rakovski, Svilengrad, Septemvri, Simeonovgrad, Stamboliyski, Stambolovo, Stara Zagora, Straldzha, Saedinenie, Topolovgrad, Tundzha, Harmanli, Haskovo, Chirpan and Yambol.

Annex 3. Application form

DETOUR: Development of resilient tourism ecosystems along Mediterranean walking routes

Call for financial support

Application form

Section 1: General Information

| LEAD PARTNER INFORMATION | |
|---|---|
| Legal name <i>(Lead Partner)</i> | |
| Date of establishment | Click or tap to enter a date. |
| Country | |
| Relevant NACE code <i>Please indicate the category the drop-down menu applicable to your entity. If your organisation is not officially registered under a NACE code, please indicate the code corresponding to its main economic activity.</i> | I5630 Beverage serving activities |
| Contact E-mail | |
| Contact Phone number | |
| Website <i>If applicable</i> | |
| Geographic area of operation <i>Please, mark all the relevant fields</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> I confirm that the partner DOES NOT operate within or contribute to the tourism sector along the project's walking routes. <input type="checkbox"/> I confirm that the partner operates within or contribute to the tourism sector along the following project's walking route (<i>choose one below</i>): Choose an item. |
| Type of partner <i>Please, mark all the relevant fields</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> This partner IS a tourism SME (<i>check fields below if applicable</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The enterprise has fewer than 250 employees <input type="checkbox"/> Annual turnover does not exceed €50 million <input type="checkbox"/> Balance sheet total does not exceed €43 million |

| | |
|--|---|
| | <input type="checkbox"/> This partner IS another tourism business/entity (e.g. DMO, national authority, larger company, a regional association, sole-trader , etc), specify _____ <input type="checkbox"/> This partner IS a Business/entity / SME/ sole-trader from other ecosystems and cross-sectors (e.g. culture, agri-food, digital entertainment, textiles, IT service provider, public body etc.), specify _____ |
|--|---|

COLLABORATIVE PROJECT INFO

| | |
|---|--|
| Project Title | |
| Project total grant amount requested <i>Indicate a total amount up to 25,000 EUR (but not less than 15,000 EUR)</i> | |
| Project duration <i>Projects with a duration longer than 9 or shorter than 6 months will be considered as not eligible.</i> | |

PARTNERS INFO¹

PARTNER 1

| | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| Legal Name | |
| Date of establishment | Click or tap to enter a date. |
| Country | |
| Relevant NACE code <i>Please indicate the category the drop-down menu applicable to your company. If your organisation is not officially registered under a NACE code, please indicate the code corresponding to its main economic activity.</i> | I5630 Beverage serving activities |
| Website <i>If applicable</i> | |

¹ Each collaborative project must be implemented by a partnership of minimum 2 to maximum 5 independent legal entities, of which at least 50 % must be tourism SMEs. Partnerships of 3 must include at least 2 tourism SMEs; partnerships of 5 must include at least 3 tourism SMEs.

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Geographic area of operation Please, mark all the relevant fields</p> | <p><input type="checkbox"/> I confirm that the partner DOES NOT operate within or contribute to the tourism sector along the project's walking routes.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I confirm that the partner operates within or contribute to the tourism sector along the following project'S walking route (<i>choose one below</i>): Choose an item.</p> |
| <p>Type of partner Please, mark all the relevant fields</p> | <p><input type="checkbox"/> This partner IS a tourism SME (<i>check fields below if applicable</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The enterprise has fewer than 250 employees <input type="checkbox"/> Annual turnover does not exceed €50 million <input type="checkbox"/> Balance sheet total does not exceed €43 million <p><input type="checkbox"/> This partner IS another tourism business/entity (e.g. DMO, national authority, larger company, a regional association, sole-trader , etc), specify _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This partner IS a Business/entity / SME/ sole-trader from other ecosystems and cross-sectors (e.g. culture, agri-food, digital entertainment, textiles, IT service provider, public body etc.), specify _____</p> |
| PARTNER 2 (if applicable) | |
| <p>Legal Name</p> | |
| <p>Date of establishment</p> | <p>Click or tap to enter a date.</p> |
| <p>Country</p> | |
| <p>Relevant NACE code Please indicate the category the drop-down menu applicable to your company. If your organisation is not officially registered under a NACE code, please indicate the code corresponding to its main economic activity.</p> | <p>I5630 Beverage serving activities</p> |
| <p>Website If applicable</p> | |

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Geographic area of operation Please, mark all the relevant fields</p> | <p><input type="checkbox"/> I confirm that the partner DOES NOT operate within or contribute to the tourism sector along the project's walking routes.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I confirm that the partner operates within or contribute to the tourism sector along the following project walking route (<i>choose one below</i>): Choose an item.</p> |
| <p>Type of partner Please, mark all the relevant fields</p> | <p><input type="checkbox"/> This partner IS a tourism SME (<i>check fields below if applicable</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The enterprise has fewer than 250 employees <input type="checkbox"/> Annual turnover does not exceed €50 million <input type="checkbox"/> Balance sheet total does not exceed €43 million <p><input type="checkbox"/> This partner IS another tourism business/entity (e.g. DMO, national authority, larger company, a regional association, sole-trader , etc), specify _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This partner IS a Business/entity / SME/ sole-trader from other ecosystems and cross-sectors (e.g. culture, agri-food, digital entertainment, textiles, IT service provider, public body etc.), specify _____</p> |
| PARTNER 3 (if applicable) | |
| <p>Legal Name</p> | |
| <p>Date of establishment</p> | <p>Click or tap to enter a date.</p> |
| <p>Country</p> | |
| <p>Relevant NACE code Please indicate the category the drop-down menu applicable to your company. If your organisation is not officially registered under a NACE code, please indicate the code corresponding to its main economic activity.</p> | <p>I5630 Beverage serving activities</p> |
| <p>Website If applicable</p> | |

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Geographic area of operation Please, mark all the relevant fields</p> | <p><input type="checkbox"/> I confirm that the partner DOES NOT operate within or contribute to the tourism sector along the project's walking routes.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I confirm that the partner operates within or contribute to the tourism sector along the following project walking route (<i>choose one below</i>): Choose an item.</p> |
| <p>Type of partner Please, mark all the relevant fields</p> | <p><input type="checkbox"/> This partner IS a tourism SME (<i>check fields below if applicable</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The enterprise has fewer than 250 employees <input type="checkbox"/> Annual turnover does not exceed €50 million <input type="checkbox"/> Balance sheet total does not exceed €43 million <p><input type="checkbox"/> This partner IS another tourism business/entity (e.g. DMO, national authority, larger company, a regional association, sole-trader , etc), specify _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This partner IS a Business/entity / SME/ sole-trader from other ecosystems and cross-sectors (e.g. culture, agri-food, digital entertainment, textiles, IT service provider, public body etc.), specify _____</p> |
| PARTNER 4 (if applicable) | |
| <p>Legal Name</p> | |
| <p>Date of establishment</p> | <p>Click or tap to enter a date.</p> |
| <p>Country</p> | |
| <p>Relevant NACE code Please indicate the category the drop-down menu applicable to your company. If your organisation is not officially registered under a NACE code, please indicate the code corresponding to its main economic activity.</p> | <p>I5630 Beverage serving activities</p> |
| <p>Website If applicable</p> | |

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Geographic area of operation Please, mark all the relevant fields</p> | <p><input type="checkbox"/> I confirm that the partner DOES NOT operate within or contribute to the tourism sector along the project's walking routes.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I confirm that the partner operates within or contribute to the tourism sector along the following project walking route (<i>choose one below</i>): Choose an item.</p> |
| <p>Type of partner Please, mark all the relevant fields</p> | <p><input type="checkbox"/> This partner IS a tourism SME (<i>check fields below if applicable</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> The enterprise has fewer than 250 employees <input type="checkbox"/> Annual turnover does not exceed €50 million <input type="checkbox"/> Balance sheet total does not exceed €43 million <p><input type="checkbox"/> This partner IS another tourism business/entity (e.g. DMO, national authority, larger company, a regional association, sole-trader , etc), specify _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This partner IS a Business/entity / SME/ sole-trader from other ecosystems and cross-sectors (e.g. culture, agri-food, digital entertainment, textiles, IT service provider, public body etc.), specify _____</p> |
| PARTNER 5 (if applicable) | |
| <p>Legal Name</p> | |
| <p>Date of establishment</p> | <p>Click or tap to enter a date.</p> |
| <p>Country</p> | |
| <p>Relevant NACE code Please indicate the category the drop-down menu applicable to your company. If your organisation is not officially registered under a NACE code, please indicate the code corresponding to its main economic activity.</p> | <p>I5630 Beverage serving activities</p> |
| <p>Website If applicable</p> | |

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Geographic area of operation Please, mark all the relevant fields</p> | <p><input type="checkbox"/> I confirm that the partner DOES NOT operate within or contribute to the tourism sector along the project's walking routes.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I confirm that the partner operates within or contribute to the tourism sector along the following project walking route (choose one below): Choose an item.</p> |
| <p>Type of partner Please, mark all the relevant fields</p> | <p><input type="checkbox"/> This partner IS a tourism SME (check fields below if applicable)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The enterprise has fewer than 250 employees <input type="checkbox"/> Annual turnover does not exceed €50 million <input type="checkbox"/> Balance sheet total does not exceed €43 million</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This partner IS another tourism business/entity (e.g. DMO, national authority, larger company, a regional association, sole-trader , etc), specify _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This partner IS a Business/entity / SME/ sole-trader from other ecosystems and cross-sectors (e.g. culture, agri-food, digital entertainment, textiles, IT service provider, public body etc.), specify _____</p> |

Cross-sectoral partners and link to tourism (if applicable):

If the partnership includes partners from sectors other than tourism², please explain how they are linked to tourism in the project. If all partners belong to the tourism sector, please leave the field empty:

Click or tap here to enter text.

I confirm that all project partners are independent legal entities and that no partner is legally linked or controlled by another partner within this consortium.

I confirm that none of the partners participating in this application will be a beneficiary in more than one project submitted under this call, and that no partner participates in more than two applications in total.

Section 2: Project description

² The cross sectoral partners must demonstrate a link to tourism.

RELEVANCE

Project summary

Max 300 words

Please describe the proposed project and its main activities, clearly explaining how they contribute to the objectives of the DETOUR project.

In your description, please address the following points:

What specific problem(s) or need(s) of SMEs operating along walking routes does the project address? How does the proposal contribute to sustainable and resilient tourism development?

Click or tap here to enter text.

QUALITY

Proposed Activities

Max 300 words

Briefly describe the key activities planned, including a timeline and key results.

Note: Projects must include activities aligned with the categories listed in the call for DETOUR financial support – 6. Activities that can be funded.

Click or tap here to enter text.

| WORK PLAN | | | |
|---|--|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Activity | Brief description (max. 300 words) | Timeline expected | Expected results |
| <i>Ex. Certification and implementation costs for schemes relevant to sustainability, digitalisation and resilience</i> | <i>XXX Green certification scheme purchase</i> | <i>1 - 31 OCT 2026</i> | <i>Audit certificate obtained</i> |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

FEASIBILITY

Risks and challenges

Max 300 words

Identify the main risks and challenges that could affect the project implementation and how you plan to reduce or overpass them (for example coordination challenges between SMEs, unequal partner engagement, financial or administrative delays, limited digital skills, and seasonal market fluctuations; solutions: clear roles and timelines, regular meetings, simple shared tools, basic training support, and flexible plan) :

Click or tap here to enter text.

Partnership

Max 300 words

Explain the roles or contribution of each partner in the partnership (this will help justify the participation of each organisation). Mention any possible external support to the partnership (professional, local authorities, etc.)

You can add letter(s) of support to the present proposal.

Click or tap here to enter text.

IMPACT

Max 300 words

What impact will the project generate for your business and the local community, and how will its results be sustained over time and after the funding period?

Click or tap here to enter text.

Section 3: declarations

By submitting this application, I confirm that:

- The information provided in this form is accurate and complete.*
- The requested funding will be used solely for the proposed project activities.*
- No conflict of interest exists with DETOUR partners or evaluators.*
- I understand that incomplete or inaccurate applications may be rejected.*
- I agree with the conditions of processing of personal data:*

All personal data collected through the DETOUR Call will be handled in line with the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR) and relevant national laws. Data will be used only for managing and monitoring the application, evaluation, and implementation of the DETOUR project. Information and data will also be shared with the contracting authority (European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency - EISMEA), who may also publish general information accordingly.

Lead Partner

Name:

Organisation:

Date:

Signature: _____

Annex 4. Budget template

| Project title | <i>Insert title</i> | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | Legal name | Tourism SME (Yes/No) | Budget allocated | % of Total budget |
| Lead Partner | <i>Insert legal name</i> | Yes | 13000 | 57% |
| Partner 2 | <i>Insert legal name</i> | No | 2000 | 9% |
| Partner 3 (if applicable) | <i>Insert legal name</i> | Yes | 7000 | 30% |
| Partner 4 (if applicable) | <i>Insert legal name</i> | No | 1000 | 4% |
| Partner 5 (if applicable) | <i>Insert legal name</i> | No | 0 | 0% |
| TOTAL | | | EUR 23000 | 100% |

**the numbers provided in cells are an example*

| Nº | Activity description | Beneficiary (partner) | Cost Type ¹ | Month Start | Month End | Milestone (result or deliverable) | Weight (%) | Budget (€) |
|----|---|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|------------|------------|
| 1 | XXX Green certification scheme purchase | XXX | Certification | | | | #DIV/0! | |
| 2 | Attendance of the XXX tourism fair | YYY | Travel, accommodation and subsistence | | | | #DIV/0! | |

¹ See Section 9 of the Call – Eligible costs (minimum of three activity types required).



Co-funded by
the European Union

| Nº | Activity description | Beneficiary (partner) | Cost Type ¹ | Month Start | Month End | Milestone (result or deliverable) | Weight (%) | Budget (€) |
|--------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| 3 | | | | | | | #DIV/0! | |
| | | | | | | | #DIV/0! | |
| | | | | | | | #DIV/0! | |
| | | | | | | | #DIV/0! | |
| | | | | | | | #DIV/0! | |
| | | | | | | | #DIV/0! | |
| | <i>add more rows if needed</i> | | | | | | #DIV/0! | |
| | | | | | | | #DIV/0! | |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | #DIV/0! | ,0 € |



Co-funded by
the European Union

Annex 5. Declaration of Honour

DETOUR: Development of resilient tourism ecosystems along Mediterranean walking routes

Applicant's Declaration of Honor (DoH) on eligible requirements

The undersigned _____, as legal representative of the organisation _____, with address _____, phone _____, e-mail _____, website _____ that participates in the call for DETOUR financial support with the collaborative project _____ (project title),

DECLARE

- I enjoy civil and political rights in the State of my nationality or origin;
- I have not been convicted of any criminal offence (even if an amnesty, pardon or judicial pardon);
- I am not subject to provisions concerning the application of preventive measures, civil decisions and administrative measures entered in the judicial record pursuant to current legislation;
- I am not the subject of criminal proceedings;
- I am in full and free exercise of rights;
- The organisation is not bankrupt, in voluntary liquidation, subject to insolvency or winding up procedures; its assets are not being administered by a liquidator or by a court, it is not in an arrangement with creditors, its activities are not suspended or it is not in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure provided under national legislation or regulations.
- The organisation and its legal representative are in possession of every license, permit, authorisation, qualification and anything else that is provided for by the regulations in force for the regular performance of the activity;
- That all the information required as a condition for participating in the Call for DETOUR financial support is correct to the best of my knowledge;
- That no essential information was hidden about the organisation or the implementation plan whose knowledge could influence the evaluation of the application;
- The authorisation to process personal data for the purposes of the call as it is set out in Article 13 of the GDPR (EU Regulation 2016/679).

I commit:

- To follow the implementation of the collaborative project as submitted, in case it is approved.
- To implement one or more activities among those deemed suitable, aligned with the Call for DETOUR financial support.
- To avoid any potential conflict of interest with the selection process and during the implementation of the project.
- To not be receiving any financial support under another Call for Proposals under SMP-COSME-2023-TOURSME
- To promote the action and give visibility to the EU funding as well as the reached results

Place and date:

Signature of legal representative:



Annex 6. Confidentiality and conflict of interest declaration

DETOUR: Development of resilient tourism ecosystems along Mediterranean walking routes

Confidentiality and conflict of interest declaration

I the undersigned declare that, in participating as an independent expert in the evaluation of proposals received in the SMP open call for DETOUR financial support:

I undertake to treat as confidential all information contained in the proposals which I am asked to evaluate, both during the evaluation and afterwards.

I will not reveal to any third party the identity or any details of the views of my fellow evaluator(s), neither during the evaluation nor afterwards.

I do not, to the best of my knowledge, have any interest in any of the proposals submitted in this call, I have not been involved in their preparation and I do not benefit either directly or indirectly from the eventual selection. Should I discover a conflict of interest during the evaluation, I undertake to declare this and to withdraw from the evaluation.

Name:

Signature:

Date:



Annex 7. Evaluation form

DETOUR: Development of resilient tourism ecosystems along Mediterranean walking routes

Evaluation form

Title of the project:

Lead Partner:

| CRITERION | SCORE | COMMENTS |
|---|---|----------|
| Relevance (Minimum threshold 3/5) | <i>Note¹: when a proposal only partially addresses the topics, this condition will be reflected in the scoring of this criterion</i> | |
| Quality (Minimum threshold 3/5) | | |
| Feasibility (Minimum threshold 3/5) | | |
| Impact (Minimum threshold 3/5) | | |

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge, I have no direct or indirect conflict of interest in the evaluation of this proposal.

Name:

Signature:

¹¹ 0 The proposal fails to address the criterion under examination or cannot be judged due to missing or incomplete information; 1 Poor The criterion is addressed in an inadequate manner, or there are serious inherent weaknesses; 2 Fair While the proposal broadly addresses the criterion, there are significant weaknesses; 3 Good The proposal addresses the criterion well, although improvements would be necessary; 4 Very good The proposal addresses the criterion very well, although certain improvements are still possible; 5 Excellent The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion in question. Any shortcomings are minor.

Annex 8. Acknowledgement of receipt

DETOUR: Development of resilient tourism ecosystems along Mediterranean walking routes

Acknowledgement of receipt

Dear XXX,

Thank you for submitting your application for consideration to receive financial support in the frame of the SMP action XXX. This evaluation will take place in the next few weeks. You will be notified as soon as possible after this of whether your application has been successful or not. On behalf of the consortium of the project XXX I would like to thank you for your interest in our activities.

Yours sincerely,

DETOUR Consortium

