



Join the AER Tourism network!

And benefit from a wide range of services and activities.

The AER tourism network is the core platform of AER activities in the field of sustainable and social tourism. The main tool provided by this platform is the AER web portal on sustainable tourism. But a wider range of services and activities will be proposed in the coming months to enrich your participation in this network.

- **Web portal:** this tool is a perfect one for your Region to display its tourism features to potential partners (other regions, companies, agencies...) and complete your AER visiting cards with a focus on tourism. The AER visiting cards and the tourism web portal are now linked and the procedure to create and amend your data are similar. The working language on the web portal is English, to allow your data and profile to be accessible by the highest possible number of potential partners.
- **Peer reviews:** Should there be interested regions and a sufficient budget, peer reviews could be organised by the AER secretariat and hosted by members of the tourism network, with experts coming from other member regions and partner organisations.
- **Training sessions:** One training sessions could be planned each year, on specific topics linked to tourism, according to your needs and requests. The first one could address the financing opportunities and how to build a successful tourism project in the context of European programmes.
- **Cultural heritage network and activities:** Being a member of the AER tourism network would be a way for you to get a privileged access to the cultural heritage network, recently created by AER Committee 3.
- **Partnership pool:** being a member of the AER tourism network will give you a privileged access to the partnership pool, which will allow you to share best practices and projects, but above all look for partners on specific tourism projects.
- **Newsletters:** Regular newsletters will be sent to you, including the latest financing possibilities and most interesting upcoming events in the field of sustainable tourism. In each newsletter, a focus on a specific region will give you an opportunity to learn more about other practices and strategies, according to the territorial specificities of each region in Europe.
- **International Bureau of Social Tourism (BITS):** Being a partner in the AER tourism network will allow you to get a privileged access to BITS activities and events. You will also have the opportunity to be sent as a speaker to one of these meetings, according to the topics of the meetings and your regions' area of expertise.

- **Lobbying activities:** 2 meetings should be organised every year with the competent authorities in Brussels, to know more about upcoming EU initiatives, financing opportunities, consultation processes and to voice concerns or requests that the members of the tourism network will have communicated to the AER secretariat.

Cost of joining the AER tourism network

2008 has been declared as a “free” year for tourism activities.

From January 2009 onwards, the fees to join the Tourism network will be 800€. This is a single entrance contribution. There is no annual fee.

What will this money be used for?

Most of the activities carried out for the tourism network will be covered by usual AER budget. However, specific actions linked to the web portal (approximately every two year, it is necessary to work out on a new design and take advantage of new technical possibility to improve its functioning) but also the peer reviews, which cannot be financed within the AER Committee 1 budget, will be financed thanks to the webportal entrance fees. A yearly financial report will be provided by the members of the network.

How to join the AER tourism network?

- **Until end of 2008:** please, send an email to the AER Committee 1 secretariat - Estelle Delangle (e.delangle@aer.eu) – who will send you the documents to be filled in. These are also available under: <http://www.aertourismnetwork.org/become-partner.html>
- **From January 2009:** please send the letter of intent available under: http://www.aertourismnetwork.org/fileadmin/user_upload/SiteTourisme/General_data/Document-A.doc Once the transfers has been processed, you will receive the documents to take part in the web portal.

For more information on the AER tourism Network, please contact:

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The link to the web portal is:

<http://www.aertourismnetwork.org>



