

Sea Turtle Recovery - Engaging guests at AIG



Our Friends

Engaging guests



HI Association

AIG - Italy

Hostels involved

Ostello diffuso di Bisceglie & Baia del Corallo Hostel

SDG Contribution



Summary

AIG - Sailing is a project born from young people's passion for sailing and the preservation of the planet. It is promoted by AIG HI ITALY and it involves the Ostello Diffuso di Bisceglie and the Baia del Corallo Hostel.

It is estimated that about 150,000 sea turtles every year are caught in fishing gear in the Mediterranean and that over 40,000 of them die. At the AIG Ostello Diffuso di Bisceglie, guests can live the unique experience of delivering these magnificent creatures to the water.

Objectives

1. Promoting sustainable tourism through an amazing travel experience.
2. To show and inform our guests about the extinction of sea turtles.
3. Educate guests to respect the beauty of wild sea.

Economic

Supporting the local community

Social

People development
Experiential education

Environmental

Environmental awareness



Methodology

The project has succeeded thanks to the close collaboration with the reality of the territory and the passion of the locals for their land.

Reach:

Local/National/Regional/International

Partners involved:

WWF “Sea Turtle Recovery Center”
of Molfetta

BARI UNIVERSITY (Valenzano - Puglia
- Italy)

SAILING (Bisceglie – Puglia - Italy)

The AIG team is available to implement a similar a project anywhere. AIG operators are specialised in these activities thanks to their experience in the field.



Guidelines and steps:

1. Local sailors' involvement
2. Specialised local centre for animals (like veterinary), authorised by the government to save and assist the sick turtles
3. Local associations with available ships to provide for the liberation of the turtles at the end of their stay in specialised centres
4. Utilisation of these best practices to inform and sensibiliser the other sailors to save other turtles the same way



How exactly are the guests involved in this experience?

The guests are involved in an intensive way in all processes: from when the turtles are saved until the end of their period in the specialised centres. They are involved in the last step as well: releasing them back into the sea.



Who is funding the project? Is there a participation fee for the guests? How often is the activity happening?

Sailing is the name of the AIG partner, AIG propose a special travel package including accommodation and activities. The period of activities is October/April

Could you estimate the number of HI guests involved in this experience so far?

To involve the guest is very simple: each NA could inform their community members or involve their national or private Universities (better private because they usually react faster than the public sector). The mission of the project is to involve HI Guests like protagonists of these experiences in all phases (from October until April). AIG is also working to establish partnerships between Italian and foreign Universities to develop the project in the best way, involving students from all around the world too.

Would you like to know more about this initiative?

Contact: (+39) 0694359397

Email: viaggi@aighostels.it



Italian Association of Youth Hostels/ Associazione Italiana Alberghi per la Gioventù



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Read more about AIG Italy [here](#)

