

2022, ERA 53. Conference, Summaries of ERA Documents

01 2022-09-30 Boris Micic - Projects Programmes

This document outlines ERA's approach to projects and programs. Projects are defined as temporary activities that result in a product, whereas programs are ongoing and focus on specific areas. Three models of project partnerships are identified: ERA as leader, initiator, or inspirer. The document also discusses possible public funding sources such as local/national grants and EU funds like Erasmus+ and Interreg. ERA aims to build a network of partners, focusing on projects in areas like environment, training, and trail systems. Projects should align with ERA's strategic goals to build its reputation and expertise.

02 2022-09-30 Steen Kobberoe-Hansen - LQT-BE, Day Walk

This presentation focuses on the LQT-BE (Leading Quality Trails - Best of Europe) Day Walk initiative. It outlines the criteria for certifying trails, such as natural soil covering, landscape variety, and signage quality. Two trails in Luxembourg have been certified under this system. The goal is to certify 500 trails over the next 10 years. The presentation also highlights the role of ERA experts, who will act as inspectors and conduct trail evaluations in various countries.

03 2022-09-30 Tim Schnelke - LEADER-Projekt Qualitéitswanderregioun Éislek

This document details the efforts to optimize the hiking infrastructure in the Éislek region of Luxembourg. Key aspects include restructuring and reducing the number of trails, coordinating with partners to ensure sustainability, and developing uniform signage. The project involves collaboration with local tourism organizations, private forest owners, and government bodies. It also focuses on creating hiker-friendly accommodations and developing comprehensive public relations efforts through online and offline channels.

04 2022-09-30 Boris Micic - European Walking Day

The European Walking Day was launched by ERA in 2022 as part of broader European initiatives like the European Mobility Week and European Week of Sport. This annual event aims to promote walking events across Europe and enhance ERA's visibility. The first weekend after the European Week of Sport is designated as European Walking Day, followed by the World Walking Day organized by TAFISA. ERA uses this event to foster engagement in urban walks and promote physical activity.

05 2022-09-30 Sophie Chipon - Rating System 2022 - FFRandonnée

This presentation discusses the need for a unified hiking trail rating system in Europe. Currently, only 54% of organizations surveyed have an in-house rating system, and there is a divergence in the criteria used. The document suggests a European-wide grading system to improve the hiking experience across borders, with support from the Erasmus+ project.

06 2022-09-30 Boris Micic - ERA RECOMMENDS

ERA RECOMMENDS is a quality label given to outdoor gear, accommodations, and trails that meet ERA's quality standards. The label is based on long-term testing by ERA members. The document outlines the evaluation process, collaborations with CEN, and pricing for certification. ERA intends to expand this initiative by including various service providers and developing specific criteria for accommodation and gastronomy.

07 2022-09-30 Sophie Chipon - Mon GR Préféré - Season 6

Mon GR Préféré is a public competition that selects 'hikers' favorite GR' from a list of eight pre-selected trails. The competition is complemented by a web series and a public vote, which is held for three weeks in November. The event is promoted through various media channels, including social media, press campaigns, and partnerships with tourism organizations.

08 2022-09-30 Angelo Latorre - Walk Leader Program

This presentation focuses on the Walk Leader Program, which aims to harmonize the training of walk leaders across Europe. The program is designed in three levels—Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced—each with specific training hours and competencies. The initiative is aligned with the European Qualification Framework (EQF) and aims to improve the quality and safety of walk leaders, enhancing cross-border collaboration.