



World Summit on Accessible Tourism

Destinations for All

Brussels 1-2 October 2018

TOURISM FOR ALL IN LEBANON

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LUPD previously LPHU

- LUPD is a human rights, non-sectarian, non-profit organization founded in 1981.
- Aims to promote the participation of persons with disabilities in society and the shift from the concept of charity/philanthropy to claim rights and inclusion.
- 7 branches and over 1200 associate member.
- Many programs including Inclusive Tourism, protection, socio-economic inclusion programs in Lebanon and the Arab world.
- A specialized team in the different fields of inclusion, in addition to a group of experts and consultants, business advisors and economists.

Inclusive Tourism Project



- A project funded by the European Union and managed by the office of State for Administrative Reform.
- Two year project that began in 2016 and will end 27th October 2018.
- Partnership with the European Network for Accessible Tourism ENAT.



Project funded by the European Union



Project at a glance

- Project at a glance



PILOT AREAS

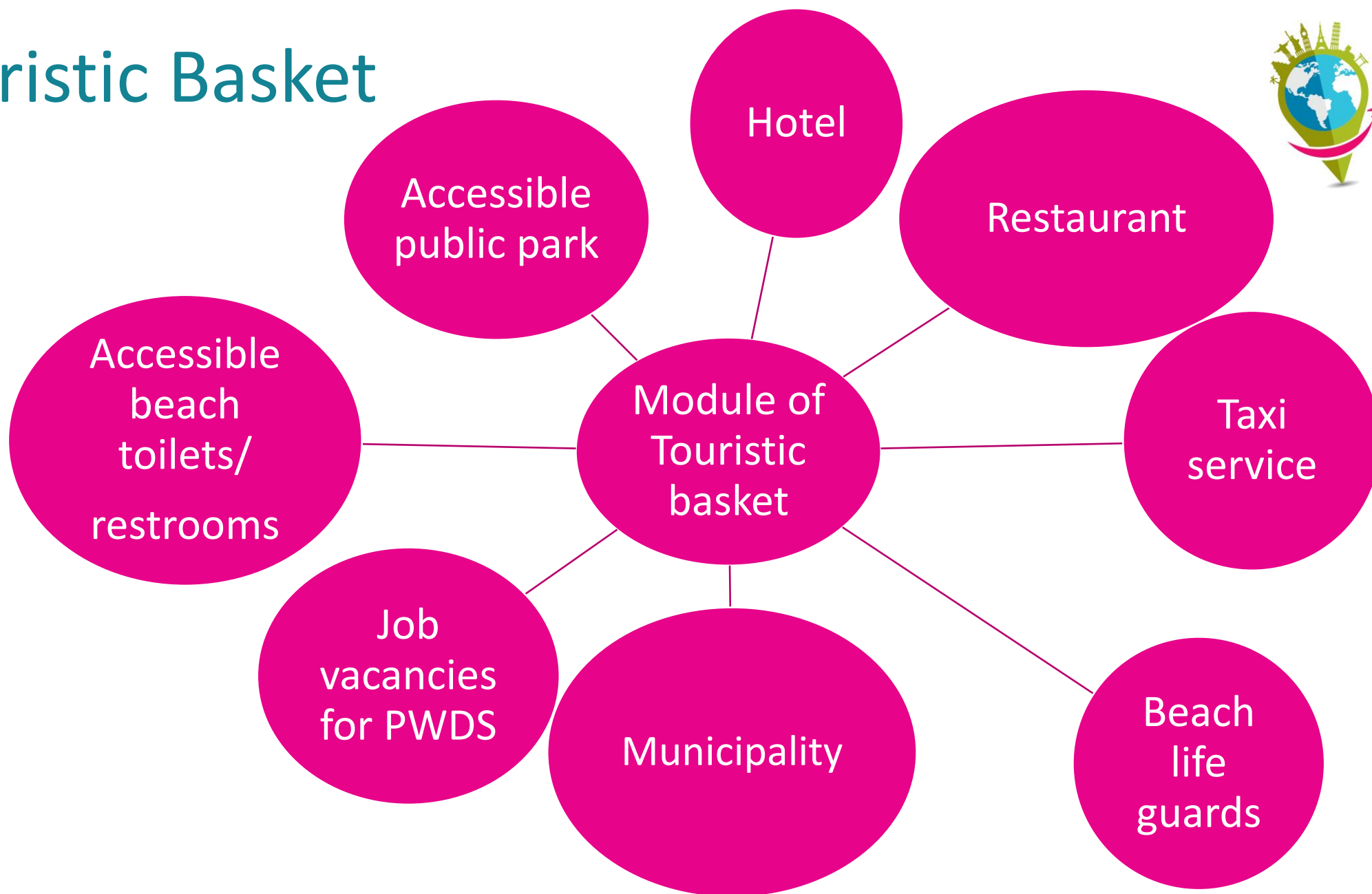


Essence of Project



- Enhancing the role of the tourism sector as an important asset for socio-economic development, with a view to adopting a methodology for the inclusion of persons with disabilities in Lebanon.
- Providing various services and tourist activities without any prior discrimination.
- Creating opportunities so that PWDs would enjoy their country's natural and historical heritage.
- Providing employment opportunities for PWDs thus supporting hundreds of families.

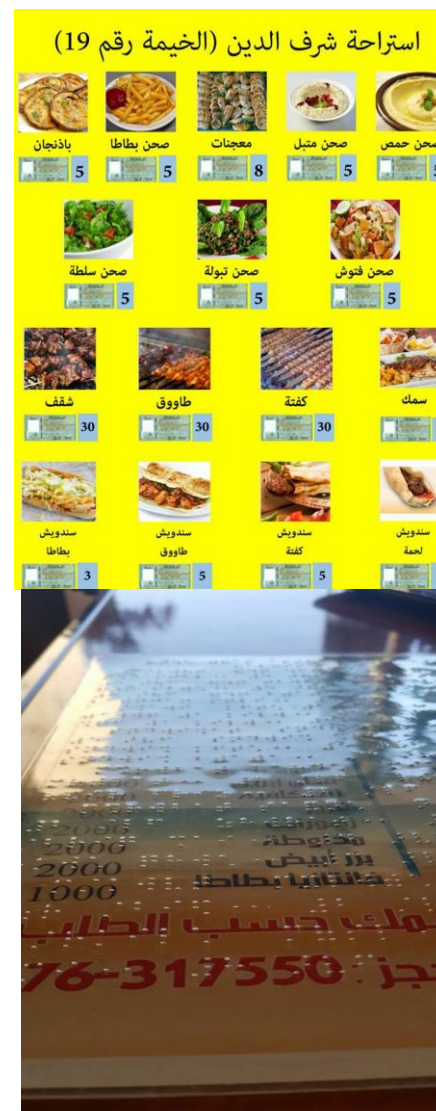
Touristic Basket



What did the modules lead to:

- A change in the perspective, culture and the mentality of the local society and stakeholders when it comes to inclusion.
- 10 Signatures of Major stakeholders (National Platform) including Ministry of Tourism, Syndicates of Tour guides, municipalities etc., on Beirut Declaration which is a commitment to inclusive tourism and its development.
- Assessment and signature of inclusive tourism protocol by 12 companies (Tourism related).
- Accessible locations in different areas in Lebanon (Shrine in Baalbeck, Public Beach in Tyre, Trail in Shouf Biosphere Reserve and Boat Trip in Byblos).
- 1 toolkit with 3 components and 8 modules, 2 per pilot/region

Accessible beach & Resto#19- Tyre



Accessible Shrine



Accessible Services



Accessible service



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Some of our Impacts

- 68 internships/jobs/opportunities. Self businesses for a number of PWDs.
- The socio-economic impact on enterprises, touristic venues and individuals in each area all over Lebanon.
- The motivation and interest that is reflected by how many venues and enterprises are requesting accessibility assessment from LPHU/LUPD, in addition to providing job opportunities to PWDs.

Wael Gamloush have always been fond of going to the beach, were he and his friends would walk around and relax. After his accident, he became physically disabled; since then he was deprived of going to the beach except for the few times where his friends would carry him. Yet, it were not the same as before, because he had to stay in one spot and could not reach the water and also had to cut the trip short when he needed to use the bathroom. This made him feel deprived of his independence. Now through the “Inclusive Tourism project in Lebanon”, Tyre beach became accessible. Now he’s back to visiting the beach as he used to do before and can even invite some of his friends with disabilities to the beach that has become available for all from the architectural accommodation, services, customer relation and even trainings to receive PWD.



Life Quotes



Funds, Challenges & Sustainability



- This project is funded by the EU and managed by the Office of Minister of State for Administrative Reform.
- Yet, insufficient funds to adapt and accommodate the selected locations.
- The cultural barriers that LPHU team had to break to be able to ensure job opportunities for PWDs.
- Creating a fully accessible Arabic/ English website for the project in Lebanon using local firms. * +
- Sustainability is achieved when stakeholders decide to take initiative and commit to improving and continuing this path.
- The dedication of the PWDs in their newly acquired jobs to prove their potential.

What Next?

- More pilots to increase the area of accessibility in Lebanon.
- Ensure the commitment of the Platform to the agreement
- Target more stakeholders to better disseminate the concept of accessibility in all sectors, directly and indirectly related to Tourism.
- Encourage other municipalities, especially those with touristic characteristics to become accessible and inclusive. (already begun)



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Thank You

LUPD

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