26 October 2018

**Press Release**

**International Multiplier Event for the European Project**

**«Employer Programme for Hospitality and Tourism»**

The international Multiplier Event for the dissemination of the results of the European project “Employer Programme for Hospitality and Tourism” (EPHT), organised by the Higher Hotel Institute Cyprus (HHIC), took place with great success on 17th and 18th October 2018.

The project (EPHT) was approved in 2016, within the framework of the Erasmus+ Programme Key Action 2 for Higher Education (Collaborations for Innovation and Good Practice Exchange). It is a two-year project bound to be concluded at the end of October 2018, and it is fully funded by the European Union. Seven partners from five countries across Europe, namely Cyprus, Greece, Finland, Spain and Italy participated in this project with HHIC acting as the coordinator.

The aim of this project is to develop and systemise collaboration, and incrementally, strategic partnership among hospitality and tourism enterprises, tertiary-level educational institutions offering programmes of study in hospitality and tourism and their students. The benefits of the EPHT are manifold and directed to all three main stakeholders, namely hospitality and tourism industry enterprises; tertiary-level educational institutions; students and graduates of tertiary-level educational institutions.

The whole project will be facilitated through an online platform specifically designed for this purpose.

The purpose of the two-day workshop was to disseminate the deliverables / results of the project to representatives of higher educational institutions from both Cyprus and abroad. Cypriot tourism officials and the Foundation for the Management of European Programs and Lifelong Learning (IDEB) also attended. Participants were informed about this innovative programme, its philosophy and goals, its deliverables, and had the opportunity to exchange views and ideas for its successful implementation.

The evaluation of both the workshop and the project outcomes by the participants was excellent, indicating that the work undertaken thus far sets the basis for further investment in this area.

The workshop was introduced by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Labour, Welfare and Social Insurance, Mr. Christos Malikkidis who congratulated HHIC and its partners on their outstanding initiative as well as their creativity, hard work and dedication with which they approached this demanding work, bringing it to a successful end. Concluding, he expressed the conviction that the benefits derived from the project are multiple for hospitality / tourism businesses as well as for higher educational institutions and their students pursuing a career in this sector.













