

TOBAGO COASTAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY AND BEACH RISK ASSESSMENT FOR MILFORD BAY AND PIGEON POINT

| Name of legal entity | Country | Overall project value (EUR) | Proportion carried out by candidate (%) | No of staff provided | Name of client | Origin of funding | Dates (start/end) | Name of partners if any |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|---|----------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Sustainable Seas Ltd | Trinidad and Tobago | 15,000 | 100% | 1 | Smith Warner international Ltd | Tobago House of Assembly | 1.1.121 to 1.12.21 | N/A |

Detailed description of project

Until recently, there have been no international standards for beaches and very little guidance on beach management for operators. As a result, many beaches have not been developed or managed in a sustainable way, often resulting in bad experiences for beach users and to the detriment of the beach environment. With specific reference to new Pigeon Point beach experience, a new management scheme can be introduced that is flexible enough to adapt to visitor demands in the same way as any other business or service. Having such a management system in place will seek to ensure that the beach remains safe and enjoyable for all users (Tobagonian and tourist) now and in the future. ISO 13009, "Tourism and related services — Requirements and recommendations for beach operation", has just been published by the International Standards Organisation (ISO). This is the first standard that provides beach operators with the information and guidance needed to manage beaches effectively, anywhere in the world. The ISO13009 brings a range of important elements together that could offer guidance to help sustain a hotel or resorts economic future.

An "ISO Beach Management Scheme" is hereby recommended to be prepared as a specific Environmental Action Plan. As well as general beach management, this would include initial guidance on beach safety, beach cleaning and waste removal, beach access, infrastructure, beachfront planning, stakeholder communication, beach promotion and commercial services (vendors etc). Therefore, assisting the tourism sector to comply with ISO 13009 is likely to help significantly towards generating both media and public interest within resorts and beach fronted hotels. This in turn may help secure public funding for future improvements to the surrounding beach area.

Type of services provided

SSL were employed to submit the following services/deliverables:

- A site-specific risk assessment (to include all recreational activities taking place on the beach and to assess real against perceived risks);
- An overview legal gap analysis and civil liability review, considering relevant bylaws and related issues;
- A review of current stakeholder experiences and options for the future (through a participatory stakeholder workshop);
- Production of a specific beach management scheme framework.