

# Lesson Plan 2

## Target Audience

VET Trainers

## Goal (50-60 words)

This lesson plan leads the trainees through a process of understanding sustainable waste management practices and in the design of effective waste management plans for the tourism sector. The trainers will support the learners to design and implement sustainable waste management strategies that integrate best practices and innovative solutions that reduce environmental impact in tourism.

## Objectives (1-3 Objectives)

Upon completion of this lesson, your trainees will be able to:

- Identify best practices in sustainable waste management, including recycling, composting and biodegradable materials, and comment on their varying effectiveness in different tourism scenarios.
- Formulate a waste management plan for a tourism business, including ways to reduce, separate and properly dispose of waste, based on the best practices and case studies presented.
- Propose concrete and feasible steps for the implementation of sustainable practices in the tourism industry, taking into account the specific problems and opportunities identified in the discussions and analyses.

## Optional Theoretical Background (200-400 words)

Reuse and recycling are significant aspects of waste management for sustainable tourism. Reuse involves considering how products could be used again in order to decrease demand for new resources. Recycling refers to the processing of materials, such as plastic, paper, and metal, into new products. The trainer needs to understand the kind of wastes most often produced from the tourism activities: food wastes, packaging, and plastic products. How these could be either reused or recycled should be understood.

Familiarity with sustainable practices concerning the tourism sector is also required. Sustainable tourism works towards reducing the environmental footprint of tourism operations and helping the local communities. It ranges from adopting such practices as composting, in which organic waste is converted into nutrient-rich soil, to waste-to-energy technologies, wherein wastes are converted into usable energy and landfills reduced. The trainers should be able to discuss case studies of successful sustainable tourism businesses, applying practices such as the use of biodegradable products, zero-waste policies, and eco-friendly infrastructure.

### Lesson Plan Details

Lesson Plan title	Analysing alternative solutions
21st Century Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Critical Thinking (evaluating the effectiveness of sustainable practices)</li><li>● Problem-solving (designing waste management plans)</li><li>● Collaboration (group analysis and peer review)</li><li>● Communication (presenting findings and discussing plans)</li><li>● Creativity (propose innovative ideas for implementing sustainable practices)</li></ul>
Duration	<p>Total Duration: 70 minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Activity 1: 25 minutes</li><li>● Scenario: 45 minutes</li></ul>

Classroom setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Activity 1: Groups</li> <li>● Scenario: Groups</li> </ul>
Required material/resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Activity 1: access to online resources</li> <li>● Scenario: flipcharts or digital whiteboard for planning and access to online resources</li> </ul>
Prerequisites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Understanding of basic waste management principles.</li> <li>● Familiarity with sustainable practices in the tourism sector.</li> <li>● Completion of Lesson Plan 1 or equivalent foundational knowledge.</li> </ul>
Final Assessment (if applicable)	<p>Multiple choice quiz on the effectiveness of sustainable practices and the components of a waste management plan.</p> <p>1. Which of the following is considered a sustainable waste management practice in the tourism sector?</p> <p>A) Incinerating all waste  B) Composting organic materials  C) Dumping waste into the ocean  D) Burying plastic waste  <i>Correct answer: B) Composting organic materials</i>  <i>Composting organic materials is a sustainable practice because it reduces landfill waste and creates useful compost for soil enrichment.</i></p> <p>2. What is the main goal of a waste management plan in the tourism sector?</p> <p>A) Increase waste production  B) Reduce, reuse, and recycle waste  C) Store waste until it can be incinerated  D) Export waste to other regions  <i>Correct answer: B) Reduce, reuse, and recycle waste</i>  <i>A waste management plan focuses on minimizing waste by reducing, reusing, and recycling, which is essential for sustainable tourism.</i></p> <p>3. Which of the following best describes the benefit of using biodegradable materials in tourism?</p> <p>A) They last longer than regular plastic.  B) They decompose naturally and reduce environmental pollution.  C) They are cheaper than other materials.  D) They increase the amount of waste produced.  <i>Correct answer: B) They decompose naturally and reduce environmental pollution.</i></p>

	<p><i>Biodegradable materials break down more easily and are less harmful to the environment, making them a key component of sustainable tourism practices.</i></p> <p>4. What is the primary benefit of using waste segregation in tourism facilities?</p> <p>A) It reduces the amount of space needed for landfills.  B) It makes waste disposal faster and easier.  C) It helps separate different types of waste for proper recycling and disposal.  D) It increases the amount of waste collected.</p> <p><i>Correct answer: C) It helps separate different types of waste for proper recycling and disposal.</i></p> <p><i>Waste segregation ensures that recyclable and compostable materials are separated from non-recyclable waste, allowing for better waste management.</i></p> <p>5. Which of the following is a key component when designing a sustainable waste management plan for a tourism business?</p> <p>A) Identifying ways to maximize profits  B) Developing strategies for waste reduction, segregation, and disposal  C) Expanding facilities to handle more waste  D) Encouraging tourists to bring more disposable items</p> <p><i>Correct answer: B) Developing strategies for waste reduction, segregation, and disposal</i></p> <p><i>A sustainable waste management plan focuses on reducing waste, separating recyclable materials, and ensuring safe and eco-friendly disposal methods.</i></p> <p>6. Why is it important to incorporate case studies when analysing sustainable tourism practices?</p> <p>A) They provide real-life examples of what works and what doesn't.  B) They are legally required for waste management plans.  C) They make the lesson longer.  D) They focus only on failed attempts to manage waste.</p> <p><i>Correct answer: A) They provide real-life examples of what works and what doesn't.</i></p> <p><i>Case studies offer practical insights and lessons learned from actual tourism businesses, helping trainees understand the effectiveness of various sustainable practices.</i></p>
Additional resources	<p>Study guide – Eco-lodges: <a href="https://library.fiveable.me/key-terms/introduction-to-hospitality-and-tourism/eco-lodges">https://library.fiveable.me/key-terms/introduction-to-hospitality-and-tourism/eco-lodges</a></p>

References	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="https://sustainabletourism.net/case-studies-for-sustainable-tourism/">https://sustainabletourism.net/case-studies-for-sustainable-tourism/</a></li> <li>• <a href="https://zerowastecities.eu/working-towards-zero-waste-in-touristic-destinations/">https://zerowastecities.eu/working-towards-zero-waste-in-touristic-destinations/</a></li> </ul>

## Lesson Plan for Activities

### Activity 1: Evaluating sustainable practices

In this activity, trainees are asked to evaluate whether or not waste management practices such as recycling, composting and the use of biodegradable materials are sustainable.

**Step 1 (5 minutes):** present various waste management practices in tourism - using examples based on actual case studies (see references for sustainable tourism examples).

**Step 2 (10 minutes):** divide trainees into small groups and assign a specific practice for discussion, such as recycling, composting, and waste-to-energy. The groups will then discuss the practice in terms of its effectiveness in a tourism context.

**Step 3 (10 minutes):** each group presents their findings on the various benefits and challenges of implementing a specific practice in the tourism industry.

### Scenario: Sustainable eco-lodge development

A remote village in a beautiful natural area is planning to develop an eco-lodge to attract tourists. The goal is to boost local employment and promote cultural heritage while minimizing environmental impact. However, the community is facing several challenges, including limited infrastructure, lack of waste management facilities, and concerns about the environmental impact of increased tourism.

#### Learning assignment

Learners will work in groups to analyse the specific problems the village faces, such as limited infrastructure and lack of waste management facilities. Groups will develop a strategy to create a sustainable eco-lodge, including community-driven initiatives like local composting and waste segregation systems. Their strategy can also include:

- Environmentally friendly construction methods and materials.
- Innovative waste management solutions for both guests, by changing tourist behaviour to adopt more sustainable practices, and the lodge itself.
- Plans for local community involvement and education on sustainability.
- Strategies for marketing the eco-lodge as a green destination.

Each group creates a step-by-step action plan for implementing the proposed strategies, taking

into account the main characteristics of eco-lodges (see *Additional resources* for more information) and detailing the resources needed, responsible parties, and timelines. They then present their plan to the class for feedback.