

I am happy to inform about our partner organization's Youth Exchange project in Romania. We have a great possibility to send to this project 7 people from Slovenia between 18 – 25 years and one group leader, age 20 - 40.

If you are interested in this opportunity or looking for more information, please contact me, I am happy to give you more information about the project and the procedure of practical arrangements. Please contact me in English.

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RURAL TOURISM - A Sustainable Idea for You, Rural Communities and for the Environment!

Date: 3-11 July 2015 (arrival & departure: 2 – 12 July 2015)

Locations: Cristuru Secuiesc, Romania

Venue: Kolping Center

Partner countries: Romania (ASOCIATIA DE TINERI DIN ARDEAL), Slovakia (Ad hoc), Slovenia (KM Medvode), Belgium (JOETZ vzw), France (EUROCIRCLE)

Costs: Exchange costs are covered for all participants, (flight ticket costs up for 170€)

#### Project summary

The Youth Association from Transylvania will organize a Youth Mobility between 2 -12 of July 2015, involving 35 unemployed youngsters from the rural area in the theme of rural and agro tourism. I will involve youngsters from 5 different countries: Romania, Slovenia and Slovakia from East Europe, Belgium and France from West Europe.

During the exchange the participants will visit 6 villages which have very different touristic profile: Dârju has a fortified church included in the Unesco World Heritage, Porumbenii Mari a nature reserve lake, Ruganesti an ethnographic museum, Firtănuș the ruins of a castle, Saschiz as a Saxon Village with multicultural endowments (ruins, church, pottery) and Avrămești is an ideal place for agro tourism (tourists experiencing the rural lifestyle: eating local food, doing tasks related to agriculture).

During 6 activity days, in the mornings the participants will visit 1-1 village, will analyze and evaluate the touristic potential and the situation of the village, will dialogue with the members of the local community, with the local entrepreneurs and with the representatives of the local authorities. In the afternoons they will work out a different rural tourism profile and strategy for that locality. The strategies will be included in

a brochure which will be disseminated in all the participating countries and presented at a presentation which will be held for the mayors and inhabitants of the villages. During the project the participants will develop their entrepreneurial skills, will acquire information and competences, which will be useful for them in the future in working out and implementing their own rural tourism concepts and ideas in order to ensure an income source, a way out from the disadvantaged situation they are in (unemployed in the rural area, living in families with small income). Through developing the rural tourism strategies for the villages, the participants will recommend income sources for the locals based on their possibilities, will contribute to the sustainable development of the rural area, to the elimination of common concerns of the European community like unemployment, economic disparities between different areas, marginalization.

The youngsters will also take part in an intercultural and intergenerational dialogue during the mobility by participating in a large variety of cultural programs with the other participants (night of national foods and drinks, of traditions and habits, of folklore songs and dances, of gastronomy) and by taking part in a "spinning night" event with the inhabitants of a village, during which the participants will listen to the local folk songs and will experience local needlework activities.

The competences gained by the participants during the mobility will be included in their Youthpass Certificates. To make more effective the learning and development process of the participants, they will daily evaluate their personal development goals set in the first day of the project with the help of the My diary logbook applied by our association with success during past youth projects.