



UNIVERSITATEA DE ȘTIINȚE AGRONOMICE
ȘI MEDICINĂ VETERINARĂ – BUCUREȘTI



Magazine of the „Agropuzzle 3 project – Issus II

Project

„Agropuzzle 3 - Puzzle for businessmen in agriculture carrying business in a permanently maintainable way III – 2016-1-CZ01-KA202-023864”

Program: ERASMUS PLUS

Key Action: Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices

Action Type: Strategic Partnerships for vocational education and training

Faculty of Agriculture – USAMV Bucharest

21st – 25th May 2018



Erasmus+

ABOUT THE PROJECT

“Agropuzzle 3 - Puzzle for businessmen in agriculture carrying business in a permanently maintainable way III” is a project of partnership in the Erasmus plus program, Key Action: Cooperation for innovation and exchange of good practices, Action Type: Strategic Partnerships for vocational education and training aimed at developing, updating and supplementing profiles specific skills and training in sustainable agriculture and agribusiness.

The coordinator is: *Masarykova střední škola zemědělská a Vyšší odborná škola Opava*, Czech Republic. There are partner organisations from: Poland - *Agrarian Chamber of Opole*; Portugal - *Regional Agency for Rural Development*; Spain - *Asociación Escuela de Negocios del Pirineo*; Romania - *University and Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest USAMVB*; Bulgaria - *University of Ruse*, and Czech Republic – *Natura Opava Organization*.

This project prepares relevant conditions and encourages individuals in the field of agribusiness and farming. Also, targets the exchange of experiences as well as the increase of practical self-confidence, promotion of professional development and growth of the participants who will work together on issues such as farming, support of rural environments, agro-business in selected small family farms, their stories and background. It is expected to identify examples of good practice for all participating countries as serve as source of inspiration for people in different regions, as well as local or regional communities of seven partner organizations.

The *“Agropuzzle 3”* project is generally aimed at keeping the topic of agriculture alive. Agricultural production provides us with our daily bread. It is really necessary to appreciate everyone who nowadays deals with real work that feeds all of us. It is really necessary to teach the next generation to follow those principles. The next generation should be given the opportunity to learn about new trends and innovations from other EU countries so that the young people can compare these aspects and use the experience as inspiration for their own work. Another goal is about linking the know-how of partners from the EU countries, the professional diversity and specificity of individual countries, exchange of experience, possibility to compare the level of supporting the agriculture and farming, working conditions and marketing strategy.

The spectre of partners is stacked in such way that the organizations mutually discuss and inspire each other; there are representatives of educational institutions (e.g. theoretical organizations) as well as representatives of professional organizations (e.g. those from open practice area). This project can perfectly gather the interdisciplinary knowledge and experience of the participants to the profit of the partner organizations and their entire local communities.



UNIVERSITATEA DE ȘTIINȚE AGRONOMICE ȘI MEDICINĂ VETERINARĂ – BUCUREȘTI



PROGRAM OF ROMANIAN MOBILITY

21st-25th of May 2018



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Monday

21st of May

09:00

Visit at vegetable organic farm - *Happy Vegetables* – Tartasesti village, Dambovita County

Visit at organic products shop and processing unit - *Rawboost Smart Food* – Targoviste city

Visit at organic blue berry farm - *Merry Berry* – I.L Caragiale village

Lunch

Accommodation at Radsor hotel and Waldburg Pension - Rasnov city, Brasov County

Dinner at Radsor hotel

Tuesday 22nd of May

08:45

Departure from Radsor hotel to City Hall Rasnov

Meeting at *Rasnov City Hall*

Rasnov Citadel Visit

Lunch at trout farm *Valea Glajeriei*

Trout farm visit – *Valea Glajeriei*

Visit the *Rasnov Ski Jump in Sports Complex*

Visit of *Valea Cetatii* Cave – The Philharmonic of Brasov concert

Wednesday 23rd of May

09:00

Departure to Bran Castle

Visit of *Bran Castle*

Visit of Codlea region – *animal husbandry farms* (cows for milk, for meat, turkeys) -

Visit the turkey farm – “*Penes curcanul*”

Visit the bulls for meat “*Oxville*”

Lunch

Visit at units of milk processing, traditional products, traditional products tasting -

Visit the cows of milk farm “*Nemeth Attila*”

Civic Education of children in Rasnov city

Farwell Dinner at *Promenada* restaurant, Rasnov city

Thursday 24th of May

09:00

Departure to Brasov city

Visit of *Brasov County Council*

Visit of *Transilvania University from Brasov, Faculty of Forestry and Forestry Exploitation, Zoological Museum/ Hunting Museum, Dendrometry Lab*

Lunch

Free time in Brasov – Visit to the *Black Church, City Hall Square, First Romanian School from Scheii Brasov*

Visit of *Poiana Brasov* (Optional)

Friday – 25th of May

08:45

Visit at *Bear Reservation of Zarnesti*

Visit at *Panicel Agropension and Equestrian Center - Rasnov*

Lunch

Departure to Bucharest

ABOUT THE HOST ORGANIZATION



UNIVERSITY OF AGRONOMIC SCIENCES AND VETERINARY
MEDICINE OF BUCHAREST
FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE

The Faculty of Agriculture of the University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest (USAMVB) was established in 1852 and is the oldest and the most prestigious higher education institution in Agronomic sciences in Romania, with a rich experience in teaching and scientific research activities, both on national and international levels.



This faculty organizes and provides high level of Bachelor, Master and Doctorate studies, training specialists in the fields of **Agronomy, Forestry and Biology**. The scientific research activities focus on the fields of agriculture, food safety and security, environment, forestry and biology.

Training of students at Bachelor cycle is carried out in two curricula developed through **full time and part-time courses** for **Agriculture and Forestry specializations**, with a 4-year study duration. After the final examination, graduates obtain **Diplomas of Agriculture Engineer and Forestry Engineer**.

The third specialization is **Biology**, developed through **full time and part-time courses** with a 3-year study duration and after final examination graduates obtain the title of **Bachelor in Biology**.



Graduates have the opportunity to continue their studies within a 2-year **Master Cycle** in four study programs: **Sustainable Agriculture, Agricultural Extension, Management and Expertise of Land Fund, Protection of Agroecosystems and**



Phytopathology Expertise. After graduation, they receive the title of **Master of Sciences.**

Studies can be pursued within a 3-year **Doctoral (PhD) Training Cycle**, at the end of which the PhD candidates defend their PhD thesis and receive the scientific title of **Doctor in Agronomy.**



The graduates of the Faculty of Agriculture acquire skills that help them meet labour market requirements for the following sectors of activity: farming, services, scientific research, secondary and tertiary education, expertise and consulting, agribusiness, insurance, administration and integrated management of agricultural production, forestry and rural space.



The Faculty of Agriculture is located within the university campus in Bucharest, which includes several education and

scientific research facilities (auditoriums, laboratories, seminar rooms), thematic museums, libraries, didactical collections (field crops, vegetables, fruit, vines), sports hall, hostels for students.

The faculty laboratories are equipped with modern, specific and necessary equipment for a good development of practical activities, scientific research and technological development.

For practical training activities and scientific research purposes, the Faculty of Agriculture benefits from the University training and experimental farms, with a total area of 8200 ha.

The Faculty of Agriculture experimental fields enjoy different pedoclimatic conditions which enable the development of research programs and field checking of laboratory-obtained results.



*Training and experimental farms of the
University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Bucharest*



| | | |
|----------|----------------------------|-----------|
| 1 | Pietroșani (Teleorman) | - 665 ha |
| 2 | Băneasa (București) | - 340 ha |
| 3 | Moara Domnească (Ilfov) | - 595 ha |
| 4 | Belciugatele (Călărași) | - 1600 ha |
| 5 | Drumul Subțire (Călărași) | - 2200 ha |
| 6 | Fetești (Ialomița) | - 1380 ha |
| 7 | Pietroasele–Tohani (Buzău) | - 420 ha |

Total = 8200 ha



The assumed missions of the Faculty of Agriculture in Bucharest are education and scientific research through advanced study programs at all

undergraduate and postgraduate levels in order to meet the challenges of a developing society.



In achieving its mission, the Faculty of Agriculture in Bucharest ensures the education and training of specialists, so that they can use scientific, technical, cultural and humanistic knowledge allowing them to contribute to the technological, economic, social and cultural development of the Romanian society.

Thus, our Faculty seeks to generate knowledge through research, development, innovation and technology transfer, high level training and by attracting best specialists and young people with a high potential for training and scientific activities.

The Faculty of Agriculture is made up of two departments:

- Department of Soil Sciences, with a total of 23 teachers and the following divisions: Soil Sciences, Agronomical Engineering, Agrochemistry, Agricultural Mechanization, Forestry;
- Department of Crops Sciences, with a total of 28 teachers and the following divisions: Field Crops Production, Genetics and Plant Breeding, Plant Protection, Biology.

The relations within external partnerships with similar institutions abroad made possible European program mobility of students and teachers by European programs such as Tempus, PHARE, PECO INCO-FAIR, INCO-COPERNICUS,

Leonardo da Vinci, FP5, FP6, FP7, Socrates, Erasmus, Erasmus plus, Content, e-Content plus, actively participating in the development of the European Higher Education Space. Development of a strong scientific school in the field of agriculture at the level of contemporary performance, participation in projects of high scientific interest and contribution to the affirmation of original and effective international system of values is a priority task of the Faculty of Agriculture from Bucharest.



“HAPPY VEGETABLE” ORGANIC FARM



The first farm visited was the organic farm "*Happy vegetables*" located in Tartășești, Dâmbovița County. The family Bulegoaia has presented us the activities of farm, the greenhouses with vegetables (tomatoes, pepper, onion, asparagus, potatoes, etc), also the races produced on the farm and aromatic plants.



The farmer access EU funds for modernization and develop of activities. On the farm work the family and 5-6 seasonal workers from the commune. The production it's used only for local market by selling directly and fresh to customers who came at farm, or by Internet.

We tested some products of farmer, juice of sambucus, and gem of strawberry. The products were very appreciated by the participants.

RAWBOOST SMART FOOD SRL



The next stop of our visits was RAWBOOST SMART FOOD SRL. It is a family business with organic products, located in Targoviste, Dambovită County. The owner told about the products he has them on sale. The unit produce nutritional supplements, detoxification products, ecological products, superfoods. Also, process and sell these products online, creating their own recipes for a healthy lifestyle.

The idea of setting up this type of store came after the owners went to Tibet and seriously documented the benefits of these types of food. Owners aim to restructure the lifestyle specific to the place we live in; to bring it up to date, to adapt local natural ingredients to the latest scientific discoveries about nutrition.

During the visit the participants were able to taste the products, such as hot chocolate from coconut and cocoa flakes, as well as banana flakes, dried fruits and coconut butter.



MERRY BERRY FARM



The farm Merry Berry is situated in Mija village, Dambovită County. It is the largest organic cranberry farm in Romania, in the first year of certification. The MerryBerry farm has entered the conversion period to organic farming in 2017. It is certified by the Certrom inspection and certification body. It currently owns 100 ha of blueberries, which make this farm the largest plantation in Romania. Until 2019, they want to increase their surface by cultivating another 100 ha. The farm was set up by accessing European funds, both for the implementation of the irrigation system, but also for the establishment of the plantation. Three young horticulture engineers work on the farm, and seasonal workers come from the villages adjacent to the farm. As a perspective, the farm wants to set up a plantation of about 50 ha with raspberries and also build a fruit storage space.

The participants the participants were very interested to learn about the blueberries technology of cultivation, about the access to European funds, and also, about the problems encountered with the finding of the qualified workforce in the area, as well as those related to the construction of the storage areas.



RASNOV TOWN



After the three organic vegetable farms were visited, the participants continued their journey to Rasnov. Râșnov is a town in Brașov County, Romania with a population of 15,466. It is located about 15 km from the city of Brașov and about the same distance from Bran, on the road that links Wallachia and Transylvania.

The surface of Rasnov is 15,140.71 ha, of which the urban area currently occupies only 7.37%. After land use, the largest area is occupied by forests (48%), followed by arable land (15%). The town of Râșnov is part of the Central Region, whose main feature is the variety of relief, predominantly mountainous, with a high potential for tourism and development of animal husbandry, but also with areas of plateau and meadow suitable for agricultural crops. As regards the contribution by economic sectors to the turnover, the largest share is held by the Manufacturing (49.82%), followed by Trade (25.42%) and Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (7.29%). Tourism development has led to significant increases in specific and related sectors: hotels and restaurants, entertainment, cultural and recreational activities, construction activities and real estate agencies.



RASNOV CITY HALL



Tuesday morning began with a visit to the Rasnov City Hall. The participants were received by the mayor Liviu Catalin Butnariu and vice-mayor Mariana Ducar. They provided us some information about the Rasnov City, the activities and concerns of the local administration, but also the problems they face.

Rasnov is the third resort of national interest in Braşov county after Poiana Braşov and Predeal. The city obtained this status on the basis of fulfilling mandatory criteria of attestation such as the location in a natural environment without pollution, the existence of urban-utitarian utilities, the existence of



tourism information and promotion services, as well as the fulfillment of additional criteria for attestation of the tourist resort, such as the existence of theaters, cinemas, parks, sports facilities, tourist information centers, tourism, cultural, and sports events.

The development strategy of the Rasnov City Hall is focused on improving the lives of its inhabitants: modernizing and expanding the communication ways, providing the best infrastructure and, last but not least, promoting the town at national and international level. For this, City Hall considers it a duty and the highlight of some extremely important values for the image of a community and not only. Also, the City Hall promote true history, multiculturality of places, but also finding ways to respect the tourist's right to fun. Thus, tourism becomes an investment area that the City Hall places in the highest priority area. Even in the vicinity of a commercial myth, Dracula, Râșnov wants to offer its citizens something else.

Also, the City Hall development projects with internal and external financing include: improving the urban environment and preserving, protecting and sustainable valorisation of cultural heritage, preserving and protecting, promoting and developing the natural and cultural heritage; increasing the contribution of the Rasnov Citadel to the economic development of Rasnov and Brasov in general by attracting an increased number of visitors with an annual rate of 7%; capitalizing on Rasnov Citadel by asserting and presenting historical and cultural significance, using specific cultural marketing strategies and tools.



The objectives resulted from this visit were: the importance of decision-makers in the development and promotion of existing resources and local traditions, permanent concern for initiating new business ideas for small entrepreneurs, as well as a permanent connection with the rural community and the civil society in the area; encouraging the development of local entrepreneurship that can help increase productivity and, on this basis, increase the standard of living of the inhabitants of the visited areas; capitalizing on existing opportunities in the area that can increase profits for economic activities.

RÂȘNOV CITADEL



To reach the Rasnov Citadel, the participants climbed the sloping slope built from Rasnov City Hall Funds. The participants deserved the visit to see the history of the fortress and the surrounding area, plus the city views. Râșnov Citadel is a historic monument and was built as part of a defence system for the Transylvanian villages exposed to outside invasions. A decisive aspect for building the citadel on the actual location was the route of the invading armies which were coming from the Bran pass and were passing through Râșnov, on their way to Burzenland. The only chance of survival for the inhabitants of the area, inclusively from Cristian and Ghimbav, was the refuge inside the citadel. Compelled to stay there for decades, the people of Râșnov and the nearby villages turned the fortification into a dwelling.

Today, inside the citadel there is a museum which briefly presents slices from the local history, the area's habits and crafts, and also gathers pieces and weapons from the inhabitants past. The exhibition contains the following sections: document photocopies, weapons, tools, stamps and period objects.



RASNOV SKI JUMP IN SPORTS COMPLEX RASNOV



At Rasnov was inaugurated the largest ski jumping trampoline in Romania, in 2012. The investment of the City Hall and other companies was 15 million euros, and the trampoline is in the complex on Cărbunari Valley, one of the sports facilities where the Olympic Youth Olympic Festival.

The whole ski jumping complex consists of four hills, with K-points of 90, 64, 35 and 15 meters, respectively.

These trampolines for ski jumping built in this area, will bring Romania back to this kind of competitions in the world.



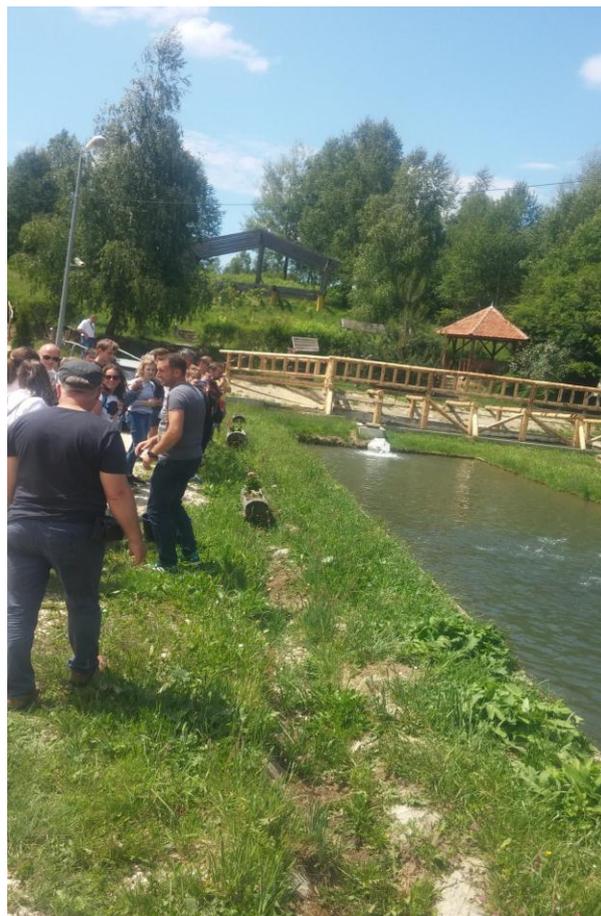
GLAJERIA VALLEY TROUT FARM

The next farm visited was a trout farm, from Glajeriei Valley. The owner is a young enthusiast who has developed his own business, and is still at the beginning.

The farmer specified to us that to install a trout, the essential prerequisite condition is the presence of adequate water, both qualitatively and quantitatively. It must contain oxygen (7mg / liter), have a pH 7, without much iron. The feeding of trout basins should provide total water replenishment, several times a day, and the water temperature to be 8-10 degrees for juveniles, and for 18-degree growing trout.

The all production goes to local market. Clients come from all over the country for live trout in any quantity, rainbow or fountain of the best quality and at the best price! Take into account the proper nutrition needed for the proper development of these cold-blooded animals, their reproduction and maturity in a propitious environment and in mountain water.

Participants have tasted the traditional products obtained from the trout, respectively, smoked trout in their own smoked fish, fish soup and trout brine.

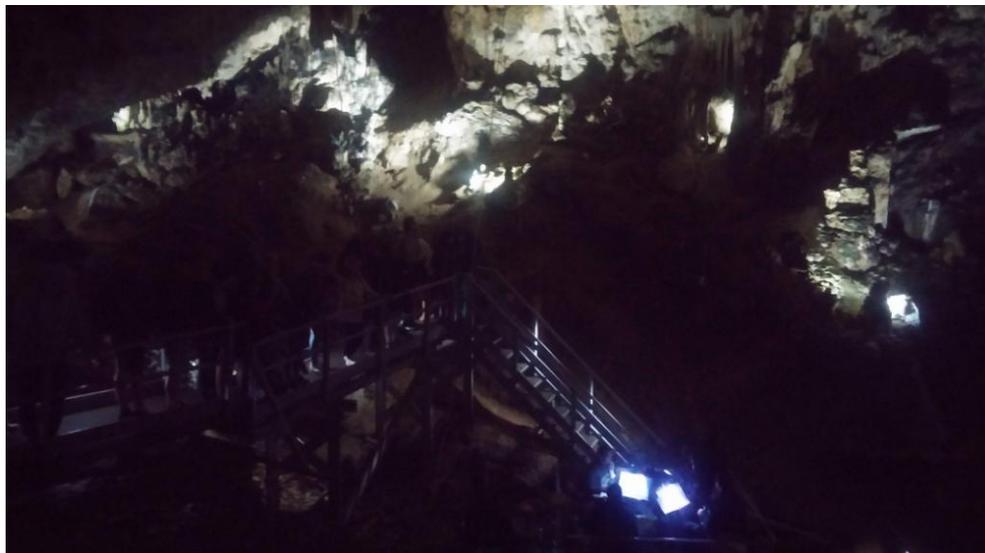


THE VALEA CETATII CAVE



The Valea Cetatii Cave (within the natural protected area with same name) is an outstanding touristic attraction located only minutes away from the Râșnov Citadel, 1.5 Km away from the Râșnov city and 7.5 km from Poiana Brașov (very famous touristic station).

During the visit to the fortress cave, administered by the Rasnov City Hall, the participants had the great opportunity to listen to a concert held by the instrumentalists of the Symphonic Orchestra in Brasov.



BRAN VILLAGE BRAN CASTLE



Bran is located in the north-eastern part of Brasov County, at the entrance to the Rucar-Bran corridor and has altitudes between 700-900 m.

Nowadays, the Bran has started to develop rapidly, all this evolution gravitating around the Bran Castle, the place that gave so much interest, considering that here would be the vampire's place, the place where Vlad Tepes, surnamed Dracula.

The beautiful villas, carefully arranged, the homes permanently prepared for the guests offer tourists unforgettable days. An important tourist attraction is the castle with the same name, an architectural monument of great historical value. Rural settlements in the immediate vicinity and preserves of old ethnographic and folk traditions such as Simon, Moeciu, Cheia, Fundata and Sirnea offer the opportunity to know the hospitality of the Romanian people.

Bran Castle (located in the centre of Bran) - is home to the Bran museum, which lies on the 4 floors of the castle. The participants could see ceramic, furniture, weapons and armour collections and the village museum, located in the courtyard of the castle.



THE OXVILLE CATTLE MEET FARM



The Oxville Family Company started its activity in 1994. It has expanded its activities in the field of livestock and poultry breeding, and since 2015 the bulls have started to grow for meat production, thus diversifying the production of the companies that are part of this group. Also here was the production of compound feed for various farm animal species.

The group's activity is complemented by the tourist services it provides to those interested in the Bran guesthouses.

Over the years, each activity has been developed through the upgrading and upgrading of production capacities through investments amounting to several million euros, from own sources, as well as from European funds. The Oxville farm from Codlea benefited from a budget of over 1.5 million euros. The farm owns 80 heads and administers in an organic system 80 hectares of land supplying livestock. The acquisition for the first popular farm was made exclusively from Romania. The breed is the Siemental type. Animals on sale reach the weight of over 600 kg.

The animals are slaughtered in specialized slaughterhouses and the meat is destined for export to the Arab countries, the USA or Germany.



BRADCOD COMPANY - TURKEY MEAT -

This company is the largest turkey meat producer in Romania. The director of farm present us the shelters for turkeys. The turkeys are grown with cereals, forage fodder and vegetable oils, which ensures a great quality of meat.

Farm capacity reaches 1,200,000 head per year, which means approx. 17,000 tons of live meat per year. The company also has partnerships with other farms in the county for approx. 4000 tons of meat per year, farms with the same feeding conditions, sanitary veterinary monitoring by authorized persons of our company.

The company is expanding the staff considerably, as soon as the company will recruit (hired) farms and slaughterhouses, with priority for the inhabitants of Codlea municipality.

The company is concerned with the welfare of birds on each link in the production chain: the growth and fattening of turkeys, the transport to the slaughterhouse and the actual slaughtering process.

For this purpose, besides the forage transport machines combined with pneumatic unloading, we also purchased specialized machines for transporting turkeys from farms to the slaughterhouse.



FAMILY FARM “NEMET ATTILA” - FARM OF COWS FOR MILK



The farm was set up in 2011 through a European-funded project.

He holds 40 cows, the Holstein-type Bălțată Românească.

On the farm work is a family of three people and sometimes a seasonal worker.

Feed is produced on the 40 ha farm property, grown with corn grain, corn for silo, lucerne, fodder legume, wheat and oat. The basement has a capacity of 80 cows and is equipped with curtains, cuticles and plows.

The farm is equipped with milking equipment with automatic retreat and washing unit.

Mulch is performed by one person twice a day.

The milk production is about 30 litres / day / per head of animal.

After milking, the milk is introduced directly into the cooling tank without getting in contact with the air, which eliminates the risk of contamination with the external environment.

Milk is redeemed directly from the farm, kindergartens and schools in the area, as well as processed products.

The range of processed products includes traditional products such as cumin cheese, or herbs and peppers, or smoked cheeses. The participants have possibilities to taste these products, and appreciated very much the taste of these products.



BRASOV CITY AND CONSEIL COUNTY



Thursday began with a visit to the county council of Brasov. The president of the county council and the spokesperson presented us some aspects about Brasov county and the most impressive city, Brasov city, as well as the vision for the development of the county.

The development perspectives of the county are focused on the development of human capital, a economic activities, the implementation of basic infrastructure to quality standards and function in accordance with the development needs of the county's inhabitants.

Also emphasized the focus on the most efficient use of all existing physical and human resources, respecting the principles of sustainable development, in order to achieve economic development and which will lead to the long-term increase in the quality of life of the population of Brasov County. The basic orientation is the valorisation of the strong points (natural, vast frame cultural heritage, prepared human capital, university center of tradition) using the identified growth opportunities (existence of non - reimbursable funds) and reducing the weaknesses (lack of major transport infrastructure, lack of utilities) base, high unemployment rate, migration of the young domestic and foreign population) thus minimizing in the long run the negative effects that can block development (population aging, large numbers of social benefits, lack of new investments, departure investors).



THE COUNCIL SQUARE

Brasov's showpiece Piata Sfatului (Council Square), known to the Saxon population as the Marktplatz, is one of the most beautiful main squares of Romania. Fully pedestrianised, the square was refurbished a couple of years ago. It has never looked better.

All around the square are sturdy houses with high lofts for storing goods, though few - if any - are still lived in. In the middle of the square is the Old City Hall, dating from 1420.



Elsewhere in Piata Sfatului you will find a number of places to eat and drink (all of which have terraces in summer), and the startling Romanian Orthodox Cathedral at No. 3. The square hosts the Carpathian Stag Music Festival (once the city's biggest annual event, but now held infrequently) and there is usually some kind of craft market too. No bargains, but plenty of good souvenir fodder.

THE BLACK CHURCH

The Black Church is the most photographed building in Romania and has more than 250,000 visitors every year. Besides its history and its imposing dimensions, it also has some unique attractions. The most important piece of the interior of the Black Church is the Buchholz organ, which has turned 179 years old. The Black Church is the largest bell in Romania, a bronze bell weighing 6,300 kilos.



FIRST ROMANIAN SCHOOL MUSEUM



Housed on the grounds of St. Nicholas Church, this was for centuries one of the leading learning centres of the Romanian people. The printing press that opened here in 1556 produced some of the first books written in Romanian.

The museum hosts a compelling legacy: more than 4,000 rare books (many printed or copied by hand right here), several hundred rare documents, the oldest Bible (printed on goat's skin) and much more.



TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY OF BRASOV
THE FACULTY OF FORESTRY AND FOREST EXPLOITATION IN BRASOV



The participants received information about the Faculty of Forestry, about the projects and specializations of the faculty, about the importance of this specialization in the area of Brasov.

They have also provided useful information about the efforts and efforts of this faculty to raise students' awareness of the preservation and appreciation of local and international cultural and scientific values. There are several research projects that include specialists from the University Library and the Faculty of Forestry, whose purpose is to capitalize on the old collections of this faculty (especially old-fashioned collections, plants, technical objects, dendrological collections, cinegetic collections).



ZARNESTI RESERVATION OF BEARS - LIBEARTY BEAR SANCTUARY



During the visit, the participants could find information about this reservation, which is not a zoo.

Established in 2005, the sanctuary was opened from time to time to the public in 2008. The Reservation stretches over an area of 69 hectares of lush forests, paries and ponds located on the territory of Zarnesti, a town located at the foot of the Carpathians, near Brasov. It is the first natural reserve for captive bears in Romania.

The Libearty sanctuary was created in the memory of the Maya bear and is home to many European brown bears and an Asian black bear, all bears being saved from a cruel and abusive life of captivity.

Most of the bears in the reserve have been saved from the most miserable and tiny cages, being just a fun motive for restaurants, hotels, factories, gas stations, circuses or even monasteries.

A large central sanctuary building contains staff areas, storage and preparation areas for food for the bears, the veterinary clinic and a number of quarantine dens for new or sick bears. Although the bears feed on the vegetation, nuts and berries available in the forest, they do need additional food and the sanctuary staff distribute over a tonne of fruit and vegetables a day around the sanctuary enclosures.

The sanctuary has CCTV cameras on all fences so the staff can monitor the behaviour of the bears and also keep an eye on any visitors to the sanctuary.



PANICEL AGROPENSION AND EQUESTRIAN CENTER

On the last day of mobility, the participants could admire the natural beauties of the Panicel Agropension, located on the valley of the same name. They were also able to find interesting information about horses growing in the farm and about other agro-tourism or entertainment activities that the complex offers to those interested.

Among the facilities and services offered by Panicel we can mention: a dining room with a bar equipped with solid wood furniture, a fireplace and an audio installation. Tourists can enjoy dinner consisting of organic products obtained in the own farm of the complex, sauna, terrace, gazebo, children's playground, wireless internet, conference room, smokers, table tennis, billiards, ping-pong, darts and bar, and guarded parking.

The Equestrian Center started its activity a few years ago. It has a covered horse riding arena, which is a new, unique construction in the area, built up to international standards. The center works with eight horses, two Fresian fingers and three ponies.

