



## MINUTES

PROJECT NAME: NEXT DESTINATION BALKANS: AGRITOURISM LANDSCAPES DEVELOPMENT (LANDS)

PROJECT NUMBER: 585833-EPP-1-2017-1-RS-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

DATE: 24-26.09.2019.

VENUE: TRANSILVANIA UNIVERSITY BRASOV, Faculty of Food and Tourism,  
148 Castelului Str., BRASOV, ROMANIA

### **Day 1 (24<sup>nd</sup> of September 2019)**

The meeting started on time at the Faculty of Food and Tourism, University *Transilvania* of Braşov. Project Coordinator Nebojsa Zlatković welcomed and thanked the participants for coming to the meeting. He presented the meeting plan and the work schedule from the prepared agenda. After that he gave the word to the meeting host Prof. Carol Csatos, Dean of Faculty of Food and Tourism, who presented the expert guests and their lectures in the field of agrotourism. Then, Prof. Vasile Pădureanu, director of the Department of Food and Tourism was invited by the project coordinator to present some aspects referring to the activity of the department in the field of agri-tourism and oenology.

In the first part of the meeting Mr. Nebojsa Zlatković invited Ioana Sonia Comănescu to present the first lecture regarding the educational offer of the Faculty of Food and Tourism in the field of agri-tourism. The lecture focused on the BSc. Study program Engineering and Management in Food Service and Agri-tourism, and the MSc. Program Eco-Biotechnology for Agriculture and Food Industry. The BSc. Program is developed in the field of engineering and management in agriculture and rural development. The duration of the studies is 4 years (240 ECTS credits). After completing this study program, the young people will be able to elaborate and interpret the technical, economic and managerial documentation of the enterprises of food service and agri-tourism. Also, the students acquire knowledge regarding the planning of flows and processes for technical, economic and financial systems in the units of food service and agri-tourism. The perspectives after completing studies being specialist in the hotel industry, in agri-tourism, tour guide, etc. The MSc. has a duration of 2 years (120 ECTS credits). Students acquire skills in designing and developing equipment and technologies for processing and controlling agricultural and food products, in assessing the impact of bioprocesses on the environment, in applying regulations and policies in the agricultural and food field. Completion of this program of studies allows the graduates to apply the advanced methods in the design, construction and operation of machinery and installations for agriculture and the food industry and to identify the national and international programs and entities involved in financing agricultural and rural development measures.



The presentation also referred to the internationalization objective, the University developing cooperation with 536 partner institutions, from 71 countries, in the frame of Erasmus+ program.

The presentation was followed with the questions from the audience and discussions.

After that Mr. Nebojsa Zlatković invited Mrs. Diana Foris to present the situation and development of agri-tourism and rural tourism in Romania. It was emphasized that agri-tourism must respect a number of criteria relating to consumers, such as: accommodation in the rustic households, consuming of agricultural products obtained in that household, participating at the various activities of the household, whenever it is possible. Agri-tourism was initially practiced by peasants who had additional accommodation and since then, this form of tourism is constantly expanding and has also become a direction for action in order to achieve a sustainable development of the countryside. Agritourism is directly linked to agricultural activities, being practiced by small farmers and these activities carried out in their own household are the main source of income. Some statistical facts were put in discussion: the numerical evolution for tourist boarding houses and agro-tourist boarding houses in Romania, the tourists' accommodation capacity - tourist boarding houses and agro-tourist boarding houses - in Romania, the number of tourist arrivals in tourist boarding houses and agro-tourist boarding houses in Romania and their increasing trend. In conclusion, Romania is actually following the successful models developed in Western Europe, where agrotourism occupies a leading position in the tourists preferences That is given to the fact that it is among the countries with a real agrotourism potential, and it has become more and more visible at the European level in the latest years, especially thanks to the landscapes and the wild nature, to which the modern people now want to return. The presentation was followed with the questions from the audience and discussions.

In the end of the first part of the meeting, the project coordinator Mr. Nebojsa Zlatković presented the current state of the project and some facts regarding the future meetings from Nitra (28 -31 October 2019) and Niš (November 2019).

For the second part of the meeting it was organized a study visit to the Research and Development Institute of Transilvania University of Brasov, which was developed between 2009 and 2013 within a project financed by European structural funds, national funds and university funds. The 11 buildings of the Institute are designed to be energetically autonomous. They host a modern and complex research infrastructure consisting of integrated lines of high-tech equipment for advanced research in the broad field of sustainable development. Given these endowments, the Institute can conduct large-scale national and international research projects and actively collaborate with the economic, industrial and institutional environment in Brasov, as well. Thereby the Institute fosters the competitiveness of Transilvania University in the international research. By means of the multi- and interdisciplinary activities of its 29 research centers, the exploitation of the underlying multidisciplinary synergies, as well as by integrating Ph.D. and



postdoctoral activities into the high-level research conducted within the research centers, the Institute aims at becoming a major pillar of research, development and innovation in the field of sustainable development.

Prof. Habil. Liviu Gaceu presented the research center of the Faculty of Food and Tourism, Center 06 - EBIOTEFA which activates within the ICDT - Research & Development Institute of Transilvania University / Campus GENIUS - Laboratory 10, in the interdisciplinary field «Agriculture, biotechnologies, food and tourism development» and its mission is research of excellence, certification and approval in the direction of agri-food bioprocesses and prototyping, optimization and realization of high-tech bio-food products and equipment, approaching the objectives through the methods of ecological biotechnologies (ecobiotechnologies). The specificity of the Center's research is focused on the study of foods designed in the base eco-biotechnologies, namely those in the sanogenic food group (functional foods, nutraceuticals, supplements, etc.) or from the group of composite foods (preparations of classic or excellence cuisine). In this sense, the valuation is aimed at biodiversity, especially of plant organs, by biological and biotechnical methods, but also by traditional non-polluting and non-destructive technological processes in the agri-food field.

The visit ended with questions addressed to the coordinator of the research center and discussions.

The first working day was over at 18:30.

### **Day 2 (25<sup>rd</sup> of September 2019)**

The project coordinator has started the meeting with the presentation of the Agenda for the second day and invited Mr. Daniel Dănilă to present the e-learning platform (based on Moodle technology) from the faculty of Food and Tourism. Within the lecture was highlighted the importance of the platform for the access of the enrolled students to courses, to recommended references. It was presented the way the students get their homeworks, the way they can stand up exams (multiple choice tests), the possibility to receive the marks. The platform includes also a section for questions and discussion.

The presentation was followed by discussions.

The second part of the meeting was dedicated to a study trip to one of the most developed agri-tourism region in Romania, 30 km far from Brasov, namely Bran – Moeciu, with a population of over 5000 inhabitants, mostly animal breeders. The trip included the visit of a successful agri-tourism business – Vila Bran.

The second working day was over at 17:30.



### **Day 3 (26<sup>th</sup> of September 2019)**

During the third day a study visit was organized at the teaching base Gârcin (25 km far from Brasov) of the Transilvania University of Brasov. It was presented the Gârcin hunting fund with a structure by land use categories: - 7,611 ha forest - 1,021 ha arable land, meadows - 1,609 ha pastures and marshes - 900 ha mountain goals - 195 ha glossy water, totaling 11,336 ha productive hunting land - and 393 ha of non-productive hunting land, resulting in a total area of 11,729 ha. The following entities were presented: the laboratory with the profile of fish farming and salmon farming, including specific equipment for these activities, such as: incubators for fish, equipment for sampling and analysis of fish samples - industrial fishing nets, various types of sports fishing rods, microscopes, scales and analytical scales, kits laboratory for the analysis of fish and fish waters, etc. Here, specialized practical work is carried out on the study of the characteristics and analysis of fish waters, the study of the morphology and anatomy of freshwater fish, as well as of the methods and techniques of sport and commercial-industrial fishing; the equipment based on three photovoltaic panel systems, and a hydraulic turbine system that ensures electrical independence. These endowments, representing a true research area, allow the diversification of the activities of practical works and research.

The third working day was over at 17:30.



### Conclusions

1. The next meeting will be held in Nitra, Slovakia from the 28<sup>th</sup> till 31<sup>st</sup> of October 2019,
2. A project meeting will be organized in Brasov, Romania, in April 2020.
3. A brochure with summary results of all four reports should be printed by spring 2020.
4. WEBIN will publish surveys (results), made by Dragan Brković, to the official website of the project.
5. The revision of current work and finances on the project will take place by the end of October 2019.
6. It is planned that the final meeting (conference) of the project will take place in Leskovac (Serbia) in autumn 2020.

Minutes led and written by: Dr. Eng. Ioana Sonia Comănescu

Supplemented and confirmed by the coordinator:  
Dr. Nebojša Zlatković