



# Sustainable regional development model project in the Carpathian Region



„Sustainable regional development model project in the Carpathian Mountains“



# Basic requirements

- Important region in terms of biodiversity
- Living traditional land-use techniques
- Good knowledge of the area
- Already developed relations with local opinion leaders





# The initial villages selected

- Micloșoara
- Iod
- Dumbrăvioara
- Rigmani
- Sînsimion
- Chinești



All of the villages are situated in pSPA designated by the Milvus Group

„Sustainable regional development model project in the Carpathian Mountains“



# Further considerations in the selection procedure

## Practical considerations

- Distance from Tg.-Mureș
- Already existing, “environmentally sound” local initiatives (short project period)
- Attitude of local opinion leaders
- Strong commitment of local authorities towards the development of target communities





# The selection of the project site

After the pre-selection, each of the 5 villages were evaluated according to a detailed questionnaire developed by Dr.Iván Gyulai (president of the CEEWEB), at the Institute for Sustainable Development in Hungary. The questionnaire contained 169 questions regarding several relevant sectors for sustainable development, including:

- Social issues
- Local economy
- Agriculture
- Natural resources
- Nature and environmental conservation
- Infrastructure
- Tourism

After analyzing the gathered data we selected Neaua commune with a special focus on two of the villages from it, namely Rigmani and Sinsimion.

**„Sustainable regional development model project in the Carpathian Mountains“**



# Future vision

For the successful implementation of the project it is essential to build upon the ideas of the community members and in the same time to raise the awareness of the whole community with regards to the project.

In this respect the Environmental Partnership Foundation – Romania, together with the Milvus Group organized a series of events, called the “Neaua – workshop for the Future”. To ensure the success of the process we involved two professional facilitators in the team.





# Future vision – phase 1

We evaluated the opinion of the community regarding the main problems, main strengths and development opportunities. These questions were answered both on the level of their own village as well as on the level of the whole commune. The opinion poll was carried out and the preliminary analysis was undertaken by 2-3 previously trained villagers in each village, since we considered they will receive more honest answers. In total 130 persons from the 5 villages were questioned.





# Future vision – phase 2

Afterwards, a two day workshop was held. The invited opinion leaders from each village started to build up the future vision, based on the results of the opinion poll. During the two days, we identified 5 main development streamlines: Nature Conservation, Tourism, Agriculture, Social-Cultural-Youth and Infrastructure. These 5 issues were developed by the participants of the workshop, and as a result a list of priorities and wishes was born.



# Future vision – final phase

In the last phase we organized a public debate of the vision. In the commune every household received a written invitation and as a result approximately 80 persons attended the event. During the public debate new ideas were risen and new potential participants in the implementation were identified.





# Study trip in Hungary

After the future vision training, the most active participants took part on a study trip in Hungary between 10 and 17 September 2005. 16 villagers came to Hungary assisted by coordinators from Milvus Group and CEEWEB. Local people saw positive examples of sustainable rural development and also heard some presentations on sustainable development - they have learned the basics of sustainability.



„Sustainable regional development model project in the Carpathian Mountains“



# Where we stand now

## What will follow

- We draw up the sustainable development strategy of the region
- We agreed on the sub-projects to be implemented in line with the strategy
- Preparation of the Operative Plan (for the implementation of the sub-projects)
- Fine tuning of the Plans (round table mini conference in Romania) and sustainability assessment with the involvement of experts from CEEWEB and other professional NGOs
- Presentation of the Plans to the local community
- Start of the implementation



**Thank you for your attention!**

**„Sustainable regional development model project in the Carpathian Mountains“**