



The Norwegian Cooperation

Project Promoter: Fundatia ADEPT Transilvania

Main partner: NorgesVel

Other partners: INTBAU

Actual project duration: 01.06.2009 – 30.04.2011

Total actual project cost: EUR 727.400

Grant amount disbursed: EUR 605.000

Grant rate: 81%

Project title:

Promoting sustainable production for small-scale farming communities a Natura 2000 landscape in Transilvania.

Project description:

The Tarnava Mare area is a natural landscape of European importance for its biodiversity and as a model for small scale farming communities providing ecosystem services for society at large. This project gave significant assistance to the survival of the communities and the landscape. It directly benefited hundreds of people and provides a model for future European rural development.

Results achieved:

- 8 milk collection centres rehabilitated and equipped with milk-testing equipment
- 1 independent small milk processing unit
- 10 km of mountain bike trails – the only one of this kind in Romania
- 16.000 ha of forest under pre-certification and evaluation - FSC (Forest Stewardship Council)
- 200 farmers and rural area inhabitants trained in milk hygiene, certification and organic agriculture
- 2 farmers' markets established which meet frequently (ASTRA Sibiu - twice a month and Turda once a month)
- 2 farmers' markets randomly held (Sighisoara, Medias)

Lessons learnt:

A major lesson learnt is the contribution that local partnerships can make in solving complex cross cutting issues: social, economic, environmental. The key is direct contact at grassroots level with farmers and other stakeholders and creating

imaginative links between their problems and local and national institutions that can solve them.

Improved communication solves problems and often all sides are welcoming a solution offered by a local partnership.

Although we were focused on practical activities and results, we learnt that it is essential to find systematic solutions to legal problems which otherwise can block implementation.

Projects can be much more effective if the donor has a flexible approach to respond to changing conditions: Innovation Norway is a very good example of this constructive approach.