



Project summary

2015-1-HU02-KA105-000778

Our Erasmus+ youth exchange program (dubbed „Gazda(g)ság Zöld Utakon” - Economy on Green Paths) has taken place between 10.15 - 10.31, 2015 in Noszvaj-Várkút. The program gathered the youth from Transylvania, Upper Hungary and Hungary to learn from - and about - each other in an exceptionally gorgeous environment. Our international group was accommodated by Kóborló Panzió in Várkút, where we spent eight unforgettable days.

The host of the project was Kárpátikum public benefit fund, which utilized numerous programs organized by its own volunteers, ready to entertain and engage members of the other organizations. Three organizations combined (the host, Kárpátikum fund; Gömör Youth League from Rozsnyó and its surroundings; Turulmadár Youth Bureau from Sepsiszentgyörgy) to a grand total of 42 participants with each side sending 12+2 people (12 participants and another 2 to accompany each group).



The project aimed to mobilize the people between the ages 16-30, making them acquainted with the essence and importance of green economies, the approach of an entrepreneur, plenty of good examples to follow and the great opportunities offered by the Erasmus+ program itself. Using non-formal and informal educational methods, participants learnt the how-tos of building and sustaining green economies. They also got a behind-the-scenes glimpse of how family based entrepreneurs operate with renewable energy sources.

Participants also had the chance to observe how a grape seed oil processing factory works. The machines were designed, built and put to work by a young man just like them, showing the group that even the unthinkable can be within their reach.



Apart examining the machines, the group also learnt more about usage and effects of the grape seed oil itself. This particular program motivated the participants greatly as they could see with their own eyes how a good idea - paired with humble, hard work - can create healthy bio products.



The group also visited a blacksmith, where participants could try their luck with this interesting profession. Estonian-born blacksmith Anti Antik showed the group around in his workshop and while showing his works, he shared the story about the long road that led him there. Some of the braver participants joined Anti at the anvil and hammered their very own wrought iron decorative pieces.

Anti, who also works as a wine-grower, led the group to his vineyard where he shared his experience starting from the early steps of growing grape all the way to the days of harvest and bottling the wine. The group had the chance to try harvesting grapes, and Anti rewarded their

efforts with a cup of delicious and healthy bio wine, and invited everyone for a traditional Estonian dinner.

As part of the „good example” programs, during the visit to Eger, the group had the chance -with the help of Eszterházy Károly College’s faculty of natural sciences— to learn more about how researchers at the labs of Agra Innorégió Tudáscentrum and Egerfood work.



Apart from visiting green economies and other businesses, the program also focused on learning more about the cultural and natural values. Thus the group

visited the hive-stones of Szomolya and also climbed atop the Kövesdi-lookout tower to marvel at the view. During the stroll around Noszvaj, the group explored a settlement, which buildings were carved into rhololit tuff in the 19th century. After visiting these cave-homes, the group tasted exquisite, home-made mermalade-based sweets in „Gazdaház” . To wrap up the day,the group walked the aisles of the mighty De la Motte castle with a guide and got to know the interesting facts and fables about the building.

Participants also held plenty of presentations, took part in team-building activities, workshops, and innovational talks and excursions. The presentation advertising the Erasmus+ program and the briefing about the week were held on the day of arrival. Following this, each organization introduced themselves and their past



exchange activities. Members took part in various groupwork activities, workshops and quizzes where they could prove their knowledge about

green enterpreneurship and organizational skills, too. Each day was finished with self-evaluation within the group.

Another major component was to get our guests more acquainted and accepting towards each other and their

different backgrounds. Evenings were spent in a culturally versatile atmosphere. Participants learnt about each others' traditions and cuisine, too. The latter was introduced with the help of specialities from Hungary, Upper Hungary and Transylvania.



Participants from Upper Hungary prepared some curdled ewe-cheese „sztrapacska”, while the Transylvanian group served home-made meals, including cheese, cottage cheese, bacon, sausage, vegetables, pálinka and chocolate, too. This way our guests

ensured that great presentations would be followed by a similarly pleasing dinner. Through the course of the exchange program we paid extra attention to buy and prepare only local and healthy food, and we also carefully recycled the garbage.

Participants gained experience, useful skills and knowledge throughout the programs. Friendships were made, creating a strong foundation for designing and carrying out future projects. We honestly hope to continue these projects in the future - together.



„This project was carried out with the support of the European Committee. Contents and elements of the project do not necessarily reflect the European Committee’s or the Hungarian National Bureau’s opinion. Aforementioned institutions bear no responsibility towards the project.”

