



**Civitas**

Fundația - Alapítvány - Foundation

# Annual Report

2021



# Cuprins

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# 29 YEARS close to people in local communities

For almost 30 years we have been working continuously to make a difference in the daily lives of people in local communities. **A long-standing presence comes with the natural challenge of the big changes that the passage of time brings. In 2021, we learned that these changes bring with them a valuable lesson about adaptation and resilience.**

In a year marked by the COVID pandemic, the instability of national policies and political institutions, we reassessed our priorities and rethought our plans for the future. We have adapted to respond to current needs and remain close to the communities around us, but we have remained consistent in our values and principles.

We continued to create development opportunities, turn initiatives into projects and propose impactful Programs in the four key areas of our work: rural economic development, entrepreneurship and social economy, community development and good governance, and strengthening civil society.

In 2021, we encouraged the rural economy and local producers through our work with food hubs and agricultural colleges. We increased entrepreneurial initiatives through integrated Programs and offered our support to social economy structures. We have taken forward our community outreach work in rural areas and prepared new projects to help develop a more sustainable NGO sector and bring the Smart Village concept closer to small towns in Romania.

As always, our fulfilment came from the successes of the people we worked with. Together with them, we have learned the lessons of this year. **We have gained more courage, because 2021 required us to be resilient, and trying to adapt gave us more confidence. In ourselves, in the communities around us and in the changes for the better that we work for every day!**

Civitas Team

# About us

## **We are the Civitas Foundation for Civil Society**

We run programs and projects in the field of local and regional development. We build innovative, sustainable and impactful models of intervention in society. The structure of our Organization comprises two regional offices, located in the North-West and Center regions of Romania, in Cluj-Napoca and Odorheiu Secuiesc.

We are one of the market leaders in the NGO sphere, a leader small enough to be accepted locally and large enough to play the role of a strategic partner for large funders.

## **Mission**

To increase the capacity of communities to develop by generating successful models that bring wealth.

## **Vision**

We strongly believe that people in local communities can make a difference to their everyday lives when they engage in innovative, sustainable and impactful Programs in society. We believe in the power of community, civic engagement and that citizens and authorities must be brought together to turn initiatives into projects, plans into reality and development opportunities into prosperity.

## **Areas of work**

Our Programs and projects are in the field of regional and local development, falling into four sub-areas:

- Entrepreneurship and social economy
- Rural economic development
- Community development and good governance
- Strengthening civil society





# Team

## BOARD



Gábor KOLUMBÁN  
Președinte



Smaranda ENACHE  
Membru



Péter ECKSTEIN KOVÁCS  
Membru



Csaba HAJDÓ  
Membru



Miklós BAKK  
Membru



Árpád ORBÁN  
Membru

## CLUJ-NAPOCA OFFICE



Balogh Márton  
Director



Ciobanu Carmen  
Director programe



Filip Valentin  
Director programe



Lupea Gabriela  
Director economic



Badea Cristina  
Expert contabil



Bakó Annamária  
Economist



Bene Partenie  
Economist



Kiss Emese Reka  
Economist





Viziteu Roxana  
Economist



Árkosi Mariann  
Manager project



Şargov Ana  
Manager project



Augustin Alina  
Manager project



Csorba Zsuzsanna  
Manager project



Odobleja Anca  
Manager project



Gancea Carmen  
Manager project



Bartiş Simona  
Manager project



Incze Zsuzsanna  
Manager project



Nae Alexandra  
Manager Project



Demian Gabriela  
Manager project



Ciobanu Paula  
Manager project



Bulai Daniel  
Manager project



Giurgiu Paula  
Manager project



Căluşer Monica  
Manager project



Sîrbu Simona  
Asistent project



Szabó Csaba  
Facilitator comunitar



Halasz Brigitta  
Secretar administrativ



Ferencz Maria  
Secretar administrativ



Bordas Daniela  
Expert grup ţintă



**ODORHEIU SECUIESC OFFICE**



**Dénes Lajos-Géza**  
Director executiv și financiar



**Orbán Árpád**  
Manager proiect



**Kis Zoltán**  
Director de programe



**Molnár Judith**  
Director de programe



**Báakai Magdolna**  
Manager proiect



**Bartha-Pál Csaba**  
Coordonator consiliere



**Bálint Mária-Magdolna**  
Consilier



**Mihály István**  
Consilier



**Szotyori Ana-Maria**  
Asistent proiect



**Bara Erzsébet**  
Asistent proiect

**CUMSECADE STORE**



**Debreci Orsolya**  
Director magazin



**Csíki Kinga Katalin**  
Vânzătoare



**Kovács Nagy Katalin**  
Vânzătoare

# ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SOCIAL ECONOMY

**We are promoters of entrepreneurship and social economy in Romania. We are developing sustainable social economy structures and we support them to help them face challenges.**

—  
CURS DE FORMARE  
ANTREPRENORIALĂ

—  
CONCURS DE PLANURI  
DE AFACERI

NOI  
ANTREPRENORI

# NewEntrepreneurs. A PLUS for START UPs in the North-West Region

---

**Duration:** January 2018 - April 2021

**Budget:** 8.900.412,34 RON

**Financier:** European Social Fund through the Human Capital Operational Program, POCU 2014-2020

**Civitas role:** applicant

**Office:** Cluj-Napoca

**Partners:** Development Consultancy Group DCG, Center for Public Policy (CENPO)

**Beneficiaries:** the project is addressed to people interested in opening a business in a city in Bihor, Bistrița-Năsăud, Cluj, Maramureș, Satu Mare and Sălaj counties. The project offered the opportunity for 307 people (employees, self-employed, unemployed and inactive) to participate in an entrepreneurial training, business plan competition, internships, business development consultancy and mentoring, and networking within a community of entrepreneurs who can be a support group for each newly created business.

The project, by its full name **A PLUS for START UPs in the North-West Region**, has been running for more than 3 years, during which time more than **300 people have participated in entrepreneurial training courses** and, through a business plan competition, **38 of them have received funding of around €40,000**, as well as advice, mentoring and support to implement their entrepreneurial dream.

In spring 2021, we invited students enrolled in our bachelor's, master's and PhD Programs to take part in an **article competition about the entrepreneurial environment in Romania**. Enrollees were given a database of information collected from the entrepreneurs supported by the project to analyze in the articles (statistics, financial data, transcripts of interviews conducted individually with entrepreneurs and more). In order to analyze the information collected based on this research, we challenged interested students to write 3-5 page articles. The first 10 selected articles were awarded prizes, with a total prize fund of 5,000 lei, and the results reflected the seriousness with which the students treated the writing of the materials.

Another result we were pleased with was the development of a **social innovation toolkit**, 10 in number, tools to support entrepreneurs and direct their attention to the social/community component they could add to their businesses. These tools can be used and downloaded from the Foundation's website.

We closed the project in April with an online conference, adapting to the conditions of the pandemic. It was a marathon conference, which included thematic panels with experts from the fields of public policy, entrepreneurship and social economy. In **civitalks #1 New Entrepreneurs. New Opportunities and Challenges**, they presented on funding sources, networking and investor networks, and opportunities for early stage entrepreneurs to grow their businesses. **The conference was organized under the aegis of civitalks, the first in a wide-ranging series of events, a discussion platform where experts from the foundation's fields of activity address relevant topics, contributing to the development of the changemaker community.**

””

*Really awesome activities we ran during the last months of the project, from the article competition, which produced great material from the students who entered the program, to the social innovation tools that confirmed that we need innovation and facilitation tools, support for the process itself, and the online conference we ended the project with was a joy, we were especially happy to have a number of relevant guests from the entrepreneurship and social economy sector.*

Carmen Ciobanu, Project Manager

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# SELC - Social Entrepreneurship in Local Communities



**Duration:** December 2019 - July 2022

**Total budget:** EUR 226 229

**Financier:** National Agency for Community Programs in Vocational Education and Training, Cooperation for Innovation and Exchange of Good Practice, KA204-063879 Strategic Partnerships - Adult Education through Erasmus+ Program

**Civitas role:** Applicant

**Office:** Cluj-Napoca

**Partners:** Danis Foundation for Management Development (Cluj-Napoca), Association Center for Nonprofit Legislation CNLR (Bucharest), Consorzio Materahub Industrie Culturali e Creative (Matera, Italy), Synthesis Center for Research and Education Limited (Nicosia, Cyprus), Diesis Network (Brussels, Belgium)

**Beneficiaries:** Organizations wishing to train their employees to provide social business incubation services and entrepreneurial adults who have a social business idea they would like to develop.

We believe that social entrepreneurship offers the opportunity for job creation, contributing to social cohesion, economic growth and the well-being of local communities. So together with our project partners, we have created incubation models for social impact businesses, which will later become operational at national level in Romania, Italy and Cyprus. In addition, we have developed two apprenticeship Programs, innovative tools for partner Organizations to train their employees, and then 60 adults with an entrepreneurial profile to be selected from Romania, Italy and Cyprus.

The project also aims to create an online platform to give visibility to social business ideas, validate the best of them and provide the possibility of community funding.

**By the end of 2021, we have managed to complete 6 intellectual products out of the 7 planned.** Following research in Romania, Italy and Cyprus, initiated already in the first year of implementation, we have created three social business incubation models that match the specific needs identified in each country and three public policy briefs containing recommendations on social entrepreneurship and funding for national central authorities and European institutions. We then produced an integrated guide from the three, including working tools for incubators and examples of good practice from across Europe. On the other hand, we produced two learning plans with innovative working tools for experts providing training either for employees of (future) social incubators or for adults with entrepreneurial initiatives. **Moreover, we have started to develop a transnational crowdfunding platform, which will crown our efforts, alongside our other intellectual products!**

**In 2022, we are going to provide international training for 60 adults in 3 countries, develop together with social entrepreneurs 12 crowdfunding campaigns that will run on the international crowdfunding platform we will launch.**

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*We are still struggling to align things in the new context created by the pandemic. International mobility is a cornerstone for these types of projects, and we have been deprived of precisely this component. While face-to-face transnational meetings could be supplemented by more Zoom meetings, this year we had to start transposing other activities into virtual space: webinars, multiplier events, even a training course. We started to feel more time pressure, the project was slowly coming to an end, and the only way left was to get out of our comfort zone, promoting the project activities to the general public beyond the partnership.*

Mariann Kinga Árkosi, Project Manager

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## Entrepreneurship in Gherla

**Duration:** 20 September 2021 - 23 December 2023

**Budget:** EUR 700 000

**Financier:** Project co-financed by the Human Capital Operational Program 2014-2020. Priority axis 5 - Local development under community responsibility

**Civitas role:** Applicant

**Office:** Cluj-Napoca

**Beneficiaries:** People from Gherla Municipality, including Hășdate, Silivaș and Băița, who are unemployed or inactive, over 18 years old, from the Marginalized Urban Area.

425,000 euros are available under the project for 17 new business ideas in Gherla. In 2022, 17 non-agricultural businesses will be funded with 25.000 euro to start their activity in Gherla. **Entrepreneurship in Gherla is designed as a 12-step pathway for beneficiaries to follow to become entrepreneurs.** In 2021, they have already gone through the steps of information, group counselling, individual counselling, and some of those with a specific profile for starting a business have been guided towards vocational training.

The objectives of the project are to assess the professional skills of 250 people in the target group and to develop entrepreneurial skills for 63 people who intend to set up a business in Gherla. The project also aims to increase employment in the labor market by supporting local entrepreneurs and supporting the establishment and operation of 17 startups. We aim to create the prerequisites for sustainability and adaptation of the 17 established businesses to the changes and needs of the local environment and to improve the image of the area among the inhabitants of the municipality.



Antreprenoriat  
în Gherla





# Transylvanian Moviepreneurs

**Duration:** September 2020 - May 2022

**Budget:** RON 951 820

**Financier:** Project funded by EEA grants 2014-2020 under the RO-Cultura Program

**Civitas role:** Applicant

**Office:** Cluj-Napoca

**Partners:** 23 FILM STUDIO & MEDIA SRL (Romania), Projects ehf (Iceland)

**Beneficiaries:** The direct beneficiaries of the project are professionals from the cultural and creative industries sector, who want to develop their skills in the creative and entrepreneurial field, and the final beneficiaries are the public interested in cultural activities.

Transylvanian Moviepreneurs is an entrepreneurial education project aimed at young professionals working in the cultural and creative industries, and its main objective is to create connections between top professionals and entrepreneurs in the creative industries, with a focus on business models.

The Transylvanian Moviepreneurs team learned from Projects Iceland how to innovate in the creative and cultural industries. Five experts from the project participated in an exchange of experience with the Icelandic company, which provides consultancy and services for complex national and international productions: films, TV shows, documentaries, animations. This study visit was also a valuable experience for the entrepreneurial skills training courses that took place in April and May.

”

*We have a huge community of professionals in the cultural-creative industries sector, a community with talent, but also with needs, desires and many creative, even life-saving ideas in some situations. We have started to get to know some of this community through cultural entrepreneurship training programs. It's a joy to see that we can have an impact in their work as well, and we want to broaden this community to create something even more valuable for all of them.*

Carmen Ciobanu, Project Manager

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**The project had two components: cultural entrepreneurship courses for young people and a Film Bootcamp, entitled How to make a film in 12 days.**

The entrepreneurship courses, attended by **39 people**, involved moments of awareness raising, reflection and making business plans based on Design Thinking principles. We prototyped and were surprised by the ideas of the participants.

The film bootcamp, entitled **How to make a film in 12 days**, brought together **18 young people** from the cultural-creative industries who, after the 12 intense days of bootcamp, closed the experience with the making of a short film, which was disseminated to 700 people. For more details, go to the project website,

[www.transylvanian-moviepreneurs.ro](http://www.transylvanian-moviepreneurs.ro)



## Start-Up@CENTRU

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**Duration:** January 2018 - May 2021

**Total project budget:** 11.887.011,47 RON

**Financier:** European Social Fund through the Human Capital Operational Program, POCU 2014-2020

**Civitas role:** Partner

**Office:** Cluj-Napoca

**Partners:** Development Consulting Group DCG (Partnership Leader), Iceberg Consulting SRL, Alba Iulia Municipality

**Beneficiaries:** Start-ups of the project beneficiaries are materialized in various sectors of activity: alternative therapy, HoReCa, bakery, landscaping, consultancy and recreational and entertaining services dedicated to children.

Implemented in the Central Region, the project aimed to support the entrepreneurial, start-up ecosystem through entrepreneurial training, mentoring and grants for **48 start-up businesses**, 8 of them supported by Civitas Foundation.

The last months of the project have meant reflection and analysis of the entrepreneurial ecosystem in the Center Region, carried out with our partners. We have a wide range of start-ups developed through this Program, operating in different fields: HoReCa, bakery laboratory, landscaping, consultancy, recreational and entertainment services dedicated to children. We hope that the businesses will endure and find the energy and courage to grow.

”

*In a time of some of the most challenging trials for our country's economy, we kept the 8 start-ups we mentored close over a period of more than 18 months. Together with them, we found solutions to adapt to new economic and social realities.*

Annamária Bakó, Business Monitoring Expert

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# Integrated social services for the communities of the Țara Năsăudului LAG

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**Duration:** May 2021 - December 2023

**Budget:** RON 4 639 106,64

**Financier:** European Social Fund through the Human Capital Operational Program, POCU 2014-2020

**Civitas role:** Partner

**Office:** Cluj-Napoca

**Partners:** Association GAL Țara Năsăudului, HEKS Foundation/EPER Romania

**Beneficiaries:** The target group of the project includes 250 people (125 young/adults and 125 elderly people) from the territory of GAL Țara Năsăudului (13 communities) at risk of poverty and social exclusion.

Through this project, we aimed to promote integrated measures addressed to a number of 250 people in the communities that form the Țara Năsăudului LAG, in order to reduce the number of people at risk of poverty and social exclusion.

The project started in spring 2021, but our work is due to start in 2022. Civitas Foundation has taken on the entire entrepreneurship component for the beneficiaries in the territory of LAG Țara Năsăudului, i.e. a series of accredited entrepreneurial skills courses for 45 participants, mentoring activities, running a business plan competition, selecting and funding 10 business ideas from the territory. All this is due to happen in 2022.

During 2021, our partners have been present in the territory, carrying out information and counselling activities and recruiting people for the preparation of the entrepreneurship courses to follow.

”

*We know from almost 30 years of Civitas Foundation experience that integrated activities and initiatives lead to impactful community development. This is also the example of this project, which starts with an ambitious mission for marginalized people in the territory of LAG Țara Năsăudului.*

Carmen Ciobanu, Project Manager

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**Duration:** 1 December 2020 - 30 November 2022

**Total budget:** EUR 256 804

**Civitas budget:** EUR 25 337

**Financier:** Erasmus+ Program

**Civitas role:** Partner

**Office:** Cluj-Napoca

**Partners:** Monomyths Association (Romania), Nuorisokeskus Piispala (Finland), Sdruzhenie Walk Together (Bulgaria), Terram Pacis (Norway), Inter College APS (Denmark), Asociacija Tavo Europa (Lithuania), Entrepreneurship and Social Economy Group (Greece).

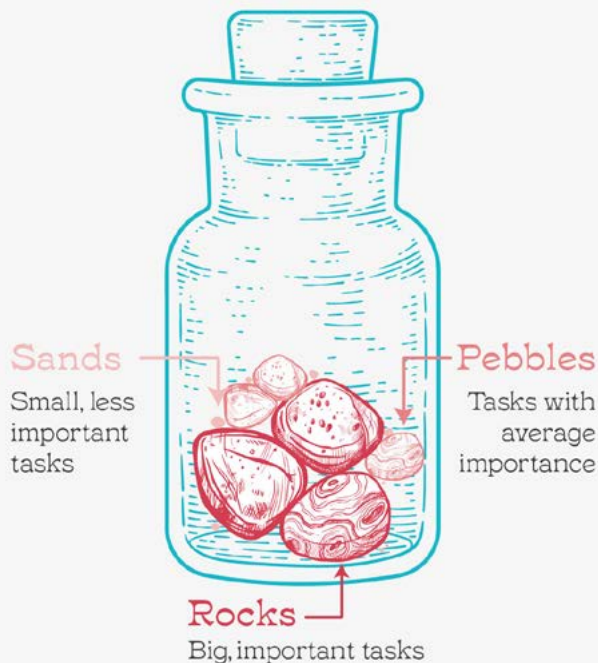
**Beneficiaries:** Youth and young entrepreneurs from the 7 countries included in the project.

Youth Finance Academy aims to produce a collection of **3 financial education tools** to be used in learning activities. The 3 financial education tools, which will be developed during the 2 years of project implementation, will provide young people and young entrepreneurs with the key knowledge and skills needed to achieve high quality financial literacy.

In February-March 2021, our priority has been to conduct research to help us identify the needs of young entrepreneurs with regard to financial literacy. Through the questionnaire we administered, we aimed to harness the experience of entrepreneurs in managing their own financial resources and the challenges they face. We also analyzed their attitude/approach to financial decision-making.

Another important activity of the project was the production of the [Financial Well-being of Generation Z report](#), which has as its main objective to analyze the challenges and needs of young people and young entrepreneurs in terms of financial education and to provide the necessary methodological support in developing specialized tools for financial education. It can be consulted free of charge on our website: [www.civitas.ro](http://www.civitas.ro).

D1 S1 Wellbeing Jar of priorities



**One of the financial education tools that we have set out to create through the Youth Finance Academy is a training toolbox, with guide materials for organizing learning activities for young people and young entrepreneurs.** In 2021, we have created the working methodology and started the research and groundwork part of the activities that we will include in the training design, and will then turn them into a complete toolkit that will be able to guide trainers in organizing financial education trainings for youth and young entrepreneurs.

# SPEED - Towards an Efficient and Expanded Economy

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**Duration:** January 2018 - January 2021

**Budget:** RON 10 683 494

**Financier:** Financed by the European Social Fund through the Human Capital Operational Program (POCU 2014-2020)

**Civitas role:** Applicant

**Office:** Odorheiu Secuiesc

**Partners:** Association Innovation and Business Incubation Center.

The general objective of the project is to increase the living standards of the population in the Central Region of Romania, by developing entrepreneurial capacity, supporting the creation of new innovative non-agricultural businesses in urban areas, and promoting the creation of new sustainable and quality jobs.

The main activities carried out under the project are:

● Informing the public about the project, the benefits of participation and the expected results. We organized information events in **Braşov, Alba, Harghita, Covasna, Mureş and Sibiu counties**.

● Conducting 8-day entrepreneurial training courses, which included modules: Be an entrepreneur!, Starting a business, Business accounting, Business communication, Marketing, Business plan elaboration and a complementary ICT module.

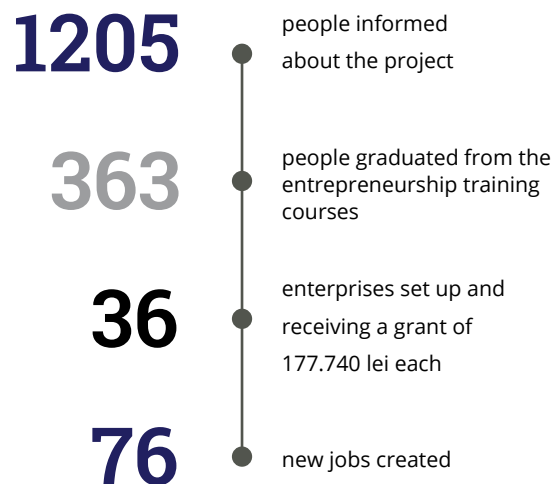
● Organization of the business plan competition. The submitted business plans went through an evaluation process, carried out by an objective and rigorous jury. In the end, the jury selected **36 business plans for funding**.

● The winners were awarded **internships** (40 hours) in establishments whose activity is similar to the activity foreseen in the business plan.

● Establishment of the companies registered as SRLs and signing of financing contracts, which provided for a total non-reimbursable grant of 177,740 lei each. The condition for the grant was, among other things, the **creation of at least two new jobs/firm** and their maintenance until the end of a sustainability period.

The project also carried out a study involving entrepreneurs from the project as well as representatives of businesses outside the project. We analyzed the situation of the business environment in Romania in general, but especially in the Central Development Region.

## SPEED means:



# Purchasing with social and environmental impact

**Duration:** April 2021 - March 2023

**Total budget:** EUR 237 634,36

**Financier:** Active Citizens Fund Romania Program, funded by Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway through EEA Grants 2014-2021

**Civitas role:** Partner

**Office:** Cluj-Napoca

Low environmental impact procurement and procurement that could reduce poverty levels for vulnerable people are regulated at European level and transposed into national legislation, but are too little used in practice. The majority use of the lowest price criterion, the limited knowledge of how to carry out social and green procurement, the lack of rapid mechanisms to identify eligible entities for reserved contracts, the lack of information and education activities on the effects of these types of procurement on society mean that they are implemented at an extremely low level in Romania.

**The Social and Environmental Procurement** project emerged as a response to the above problems and seeks to facilitate the transposition of legislative provisions in the field of procurement through the use of social and environmental clauses. It kicked off with a conference, where we put on the table the objectives and mission of this initiative for the social economy sector. While we set out to produce a public policy report, we also undertook specific activities to arrive at this report, namely a series of interviews with public administration actors, social enterprises and their employees, as well as companies and professionals in the field. **We tried to analyze the state of play of the**



**Partners:** Association Center for Nonprofit Law, Ateliere Senza Frontiere Association.

**Beneficiaries:** Social NGOs, environmental NGOs, social enterprises, protected units, federations/coalitions, public administration, companies.

**social economy sector in order to act accordingly.**

**The project will include:**

- Conducting a study on social and environmental impact procurement,
- Actions to promote such procurement by public institutions and companies,
- Launching a competition to stimulate social and environmental procurement,
- Conducting an advocacy campaign to facilitate the allocation of a minimum level of the procurement budget to social and environmental procurement,
- Obtain incentives for such procurement.

It also aims to contract social insertion enterprises, through which the social inclusion of people from vulnerable groups, the quality of work of employees, including young people and Roma, and the quality of life of the population can be improved by reducing negative environmental impacts.

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*We are working on several levels of intervention to support the social economy sector. From training activities, developing social business models and grants, to influencing legislative initiatives. Adopting social and environmental procurement can be a huge opportunity for the sustainability and development of social enterprises. Social and environmental procurement is a solution for sustainable development.*

Carmen Ciobanu, Project Manager

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# RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**We help rural communities by supporting local initiatives. Our aim is to make members of these communities aware of their resources and use them responsibly.**

## Food Hub II. Developing a model of integrator center for local products

**Duration:** 28 July 2017 - 31 January 2022

**Budget:** 431.952 USD

**Financier:** Romanian-American Foundation

**Civitas role:** Applicant

**Office:** Cluj-Napoca

**Partners:** Center for Mediation and Community Security (Iasi), Civitas Foundation for Civil Society (Odorheiu Secuiesc Office), Open Fields Foundation (Cluj Napoca), World Vision Romania, Romanian Center for European Policies (Bucharest).

**Beneficiaries:** food producers from the partners' area of activity, consumers from all over the country



The project aims to set up pilot **Food Hubs in 5 regions** of the country. NGOs active in the field of rural development have set up food hubs that take over part of the marketing activity of small local agri-food producers.

**Five Food Hub centers** have been set up through the project:

- **Nod Verde** - supported by Civitas Foundation, in Cluj-Napoca
- **Helyénvaló** (Cumsecade) - supported by Civitas Foundation, in Odorheiu Secuiesc
- **Nord Natural** - supported by Open Fields Foundation, in Câmpulung Moldovenesc
- **Roade și Merinde** - supported by the Center for Mediation and Community Security in Iasi
- **Merindar** - supported by World Vision Romania in Criș (project that had honey as the only product promoted and marketed and was part of the Program until 2020).

Food hubs deliver food from local producers within a radius of 75-150 km, verified, licensed and inspected. The products included in the offer can be ordered online at each food hub, with home delivery, found at agri-food events and, in some cases, in physical shops.

Food hubs in Romania sell both fresh and processed products: fruit and vegetables, dairy, honey, meat and sausages, bakery products, herbs, oils and wine. In 2021, we worked intensively to support and develop the activity of the network and the established food hubs, participated in a series of events, where we promoted this innovative concept and,

together with our partners, we released a report including the main conclusions. **Even though it has been a period of great uncertainty, we have constantly worked to find the most sustainable ways to bring local producers and products closer to consumers.**

**Over the project period, we have recorded:**

- **An increase in turnover of up to \$650,000.**
- **A tripling of the number of individual customers, from 5,992 in 2018 after the first year of the Program to 17,720 in 2020**
- **A 60% increase in the number of producers, from 213 producers in 2018 to 342 in July 2021**

**Food hubs mean healthy food from local farmers, available online, with home delivery. Together we develop sustainable communities and consume responsibly.**

Zsuzsa Incze, Project Manager

## Crasna - Pericei Householders Cooperative

**Duration:** 27 February 2020 - 26 November 2022

**Budget:** EUR 99.840

**Financier:** Project financed by the Agency for Rural Investment Financing (AFIR) through the Local Action Group (LAG) Valea Crasna and Barcăului

**Civitas role:** Applicant

**Office:** Cluj-Napoca

**Beneficiaries:** Farmers from the Crasnei and Barcăului Valley LAG area

The project aims to set up an agricultural cooperative of vegetable farmers to support the development of the vegetable sector in the territory of the Local Action Group Valea Crasnei and Barcăului. The aim is to better integrate farmers into the agri-food chain, increase their bargaining power and obtain added value for agricultural products, promote them on local markets and within short supply chains.

The project has set up an agricultural cooperative with 8 members at the time of its creation. The role of the cooperative is to facilitate the sale of products, joint marketing of vegetables through a shop, contracts with retailers and economic agents, so that farmers can concentrate on production. With the help of a manager, through study visits and joint meetings, the cooperative also has the role of helping members to develop their farms and increase profitability.

## The Transylvanian Plain LAG Animal Breeders' Cooperative

**Duration:** 13 May 2019 - 12 August 2021

**Budget:** EUR 99 800

**Financier:** Project financed by the Agency for Rural Investment Financing (AFIR) through the Local Action Group (LAG) Câmpia Transilvaniei

**Civitas role:** Applicant

**Office:** Cluj-Napoca

**Beneficiaries:** Cattle, goat and sheep farmers in the area of Câmpia Transilvaniei LAG

The project aimed at developing the livestock sector in the territory of the Local Action Group Plain Transylvania through the development of an associative structure for the optimal valorization of milk production.

In the framework of this project, an agricultural cooperative was set up consisting of 5 cattle, goat and sheep farmers. The cooperative managed to develop a business relationship with a dairy processor in the Cluj area and to market its products in local shops in Cluj-Napoca and the Transylvanian Plain LAG area.

**Members of the cooperative produce and market primary dairy products - processed milk, obtained from an aggregate number of 83 cattle, 51 sheep and 16 goats from livestock farms spread over 50 hectares in the communes of Căianu and Mociu, as well as cheese such as telemea and curd.**



## Wine Cooperative on the territory of the Crasna and Barcăului Valley LAG

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**Duration:** July 2019 - October 2021

**Budget:** EUR 99 944

**Financier:** Project financed by the Agency for Rural Investment Financing (AFIR) through the Local Action Group (LAG) Valea Crasnei și Barcăului

**Civitas role:** Applicant

**Office:** Cluj-Napoca

**Beneficiaries:** Winegrowers in the territory of LAG Valea Crasnei and Barcăului.

Through this project, we aimed to support the establishment of a cooperative of winegrowers in the territory of the Crasna and Barcăului Valley LAG. In addition to the creation of the cooperative, we have set as specific objectives to increase the reputation of wines from the wine-growing area of Șimleu and to improve the quality of the products made by the farmers.

**The project made it possible to bring together 5 winegrowers from the Crișana CDO (Controlled Designation of Origin) wine-growing area, namely Fort Silvan, Agoston, Blaga, Szekrenyes and Nagy.** Thanks to numerous joint meetings we had with the 5 partners and a sales manager, the brand ***Cramele Ulm*** was created, a brand that gave a new reputation to the Romanian wine industry. With the help of the sales manager hired through the project, we managed to help the winegrowers to develop business relationships with specialized wine shops in Zalău and Cluj-Napoca.

Another important activity of the project was the Organization of a study visit for the members of the cooperative to the most developed wine region in Romania - Dealu Mare. The team visited several wineries at different stages of development and participated in a discussion about the difficulties and advantages of entering the bottled wine market. We also provided technical assistance to the cooperative, which led to the presentation of winery reports for obtaining CDO (Controlled Designation of Origin) and GI (Geographical Indication) certifications and compliance with the requirements imposed by them.





# Sânpaul Cooperative of Animal Breeders

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**Duration:** 26 August 2019 - 26 May 2022

**Budget:** EUR 97 085

**Financier:** Project financed by the Agency for Rural Investment Financing (AFIR) through the Someș-Nadăș Local Action Group ((LAG)

**Civitas role:** Applicant

**Office:** Cluj-Napoca

**Beneficiaries:** Cattle, beef and sheep farmers in the Someș-Nadăș LAG area

The project aimed at developing the livestock sector in the territory of the Someș-Nadăș Local Action Group, through the development of an associative structure for the optimal valorization of milk production.

In the framework of the project, an agricultural cooperative was set up consisting of **26 farmers of bubaline, cattle and sheep**. With the help of a manager, through study visits and joint meetings, the cooperative has created business relationships through which the milk obtained is marketed to major Romanian processors at a favourable price.

Co-operative members jointly own about 4400 sheep, 200 cattle and 160 bubalus, with herds fluctuating from year to year.



# Helyénvaló Shop

**Duration:** September 2017 - January 2022

**Budget:** USD 295 403

**Financier:** Romanian-American Foundation

**Civitas role:** Civitas Foundation in Odorheiu Secuiesc is the owner of the social enterprise, responsible for the implementation of the project and the operation of the food hub

**Office:** Odorheiu Secuiesc

**Partners:** Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture

**Beneficiaries:** Small local producers from the Odorheiu Secuiesc area

The Helyénvaló (Cumsecade) shop is a point of sale for local products, a meeting point for small producers and buyers, an advice center, and a relaxation point for tourists and consumers in the area. The food hub operates as a short distribution chain through different channels: shop, webshop, local events. By creating the food hub, we want to develop a responsible attitude towards the environment and the community.

**We try to highlight, through different activities, the importance of healthy local produce: we organize tastings, farm visits, presentations to schools and local NGOs.**

The business is not yet sustainable, but monthly losses are steadily decreasing. Two Civitas employees constantly support the shop in managing pre-orders and marketing activities.

**Helyénvaló shop means:**

- 108 local producers
- A range of 1600 local products
- 4 employees
- Sales worth RON 531,552 in 2021, up 13% on 2020



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*The Cumsecade store is an oasis in the desert of consumer society.*

Kolumbán Gábor,  
President of Civitas Foundation for Civil Society

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## CoopNet 2.0: Learning and growing together

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**Duration:** January 2020 - October 2022

**Budget:** USD 216,040

**Financier:** Romanian-American Foundation

**Civitas role:** Coordinator

**Office:** Cluj-Napoca

**Partners:** Romanian Center for European Policies (CRPE), Center for Mediation and Community Security (CMSC)

**Beneficiaries:** More than 20 leaders of agricultural cooperatives (managers and presidents) set up through the associative measures launched by the Local Action Groups throughout Romania.

CoopNet 2.0 aims to educate and develop a community of leaders leading agricultural cooperatives already established through Local Action Groups (LAGs).

The program is actually a series of 3 projects initiated back in 2013. In the pilot phase (2013-2016), we facilitated the establishment and development of an agricultural cooperative in Cluj county with 13 producer members and an intervention model for the development of agricultural consultancy in Romania. In phase II (2017-2019), we managed to form a community of facilitators that we united into a network of over 80 members (LAGs, NGOs, agricultural cooperatives), providing training to members and continuing with lobbying and

advocacy activities.

**We see the whole project as a “mini-MBA” where we focus on growing, especially at the skills level, the community of agricultural leaders:** we organize mentoring sessions, study visits at home and abroad, an extensive training Program for representatives of agricultural cooperatives and more. With this project, we are targeting only a quarter of the extended network and playing the role of a link between different stakeholders through dedicated activities, so as to bring together business partners, local authorities, cooperative members and the community for the development of the agricultural sector.

”

*Cooperatives have come to have a negative reputation in Romania, although it is a handy way for small producers to stay active and competitive in the market. Our efforts target more than 20 associative structures across the country, primarily through continuous training of farmers (courses) and offering support through various services: mentoring, promotional events, legal advice, etc.*

Mariann Kinga Árkosi – Project Manager

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# Carpathian Basin Community Development Facilitator Program

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**Duration:** 1 October 2018 - 30 June 2022

**Budget:** HUF 34 060 000

**Financier:** Ministry of Agriculture of Hungary

**Civitas role:** Project coordinator

**Office:** Odorheiu Secuiesc

**Beneficiaries:** Small local agricultural producers in the Odorheiu Secuiesc region

The network of local facilitators specialized in agriculture is a viable concept in Hungary. With the help of the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture, we are trying to implement this concept in the Odorhei region as well, helping farmers through personalized advice.

Civitas Foundation has always made it its task to support community-based agricultural activities. The aim of the program is to strengthen relationships with farmers, to initiate new links and to strengthen farmers' development skills. Our facilitators act as a two-way contact person between the Civitas Foundation and the farmers in the area and can facilitate the flow of information and the dissemination of best practice examples.

**The facilitator is a specialist agricultural adviser whose task is to complement the work of the institutions in the field. They can offer solutions in sustainable agriculture, help farmers navigate the maze of bureaucracy and provide information on training and funding opportunities.**

Facilitators provide advice to farmers on topics such as: obtaining financing, obtaining herbal processor permits and product verification, registration and verification of herbal cosmetics, organic/eco production conditions, herbal production, product development, online sales, etc. They also constantly inform farmers in Civitas Foundation programs about setting up cooperatives and new possibilities for product valorization.

**Our facilitators are in continuous contact with approx. 200 small producers in the Odorhei area, providing professional advice to about 40 farmers.**

**In 2021, we organized 6 training meetings for 76 local producers on topics such as: setting up a cooperative, product development, fruit tree pruning, herb picking, cultivation and processing, online trade.**

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

**We bring public authorities  
and citizens together to design  
and implement initiatives that  
generate prosperity.**

**Duration:** 4 September 2017 - 28 May 2021

**Budget:** 10.201.483,22 RON

**Financier:** Project co-financed from the Human Capital Operational Program 2014-2020. 4.2. 101785.

**Civitas role:** Applicant

**Office:** Cluj-Napoca

The project aims at the development of two marginalized communities in the Transylvanian Plain: the communes of Geaca and Cornești. It aims to give people in a precarious situation better access to education and the labor market, as well as to medical and social services. **We started this project with the confidence that we can reduce the number of people at risk of poverty in the two communities.**

In the beginning, it was an idea! Then, we met and it became a project through which the inhabitants of Geaca and Cornești communities in Cluj county could benefit from various programs, could participate in integrated activities in areas such as education, vocational training, entrepreneurship, social, medical, and socio-medical services, legal assistance or could benefit from measures to improve housing conditions.

Statistics:

With the help of the project teams, more than **60 children** benefited

”

*Our partners are known by the people in the communities, not necessarily by the name of the organization they represent, but by their first names: Maria, Irina, Ioana - TAU Cornești, Georgeta, Adriana - TAU Geaca, Mihaela, Tunde, Melinda, Anna, Ildiko, Timea, Hajnalka, Norbert - Diakonia Foundation, Alexandra, Mariann, Alina, Paul, Andreea, Silvana, Daniela - Civitas Foundation.*

*These are our colleagues and they are just a few of those who brought us from the field the most beautiful stories about the important steps they took every day, with each person. Behind them are around 40 people who have worked to have such positive examples now at the end of the project.*

Simona Bartiș, Project Manager

”

30

**Partners:** Cornești and Geaca Municipalities, Diakonia Christian Foundation, Geaca School, Center for a Sustainable Society Association

**Beneficiaries:** Over 700 people at risk of poverty in the communes of Geaca and Cornești

from books, toys, educational materials, attention, and daily experiences in **School After School** programs or extracurricular activities through participation in the Educational HUBs.

More than **60 elderly and over 70 sick people** were constantly visited and received support, care, and socio-medical treatment at home in the surrounding villages.

More than 150 people understood the importance of participating in vocational courses: electrician, baker, hairdresser, security guard, construction worker, cook's assistant, English language courses, entrepreneurial skills, and computer skills.

Counseling and mentoring have led to the establishment of **11 local small businesses.**

You can find out more on the project website [www.antrenoriat-rural.ro](http://www.antrenoriat-rural.ro)



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*We knew from the beginning that we could only achieve this goal with the help of our partners because we needed more voices to give confidence and meaning to the work of the people who made it happen.*

Márton Balogh, Director of Civitas Foundation (Cluj-Napoca Office)

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# Agricultural High Schools prepare tomorrow's farmers

**Duration:** 1 January 2021 - 31 December 2023

**Budget:** 300.000 USD

**Financier:** Romanian-American Foundation

**Civitas Role:** Partner

**Office:** Cluj-Napoca

**Partners:** World Vision Romania, Romanian Center for European Policies (CRPE), Junior Achievement Romania (JAR)

**Beneficiaries:** Students and teachers from agricultural high schools

The project Agricultural High Schools Prepare Tomorrow's Farmers is part of the Growing through Agricultural Education program, in which we aim to bring agricultural education, new technologies and the business environment to the same table to support the performance of high school teachers and managers. Together with them, we are enhancing the reputation of agricultural education, both among students and private partners. We support agricultural high schools to provide educational Programs relevant to the local economy, focused on training future farmers and small and medium-sized agricultural entrepreneurs, and to create models of good practice that can be extended across the country.

To achieve our goal, we organize an annual project competition for agricultural high schools in the country. In 2021, **10 grants were offered, for 10 projects** (5 study tours and 5 outreach campaigns) totaling approximately \$13,600. With the help of these grants, **8 agricultural high schools in Romania organized study visits for students and promotional campaigns for their study programs.** More than 30 teachers were involved in their implementation and

8

agricultural high schools in Romania have received grants so they can offer a different kind of education to their students and promote their curricula

99

students participated in study visits and activities to promote agricultural education among young people

almost 100 students benefited from the projects' activities.

At the same time, 2021 came with two pilot traineeship Programs, on which we will build a new type of grants. We have also prepared new resource materials, including topics in the field of precision technology (Agriculture 4.0) and bringing the agricultural education system in Romania closer to the present.

”

***As far as the students involved in the project are concerned, they have set clearer educational and professional goals after participating in the study visit. Some of them have expressed a desire to open an agricultural business or to develop their parents' business!***

Testimonial from a teacher involved in the project

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# YOUCooperATE.

## Youth Cooperation for Agricultural Renewal through Education

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**Duration:** 1 December 2020 - 31 December 2021

**Total budget:** 238.866 EUR

**Civitas budget:** EUR 31 225

**Financier:** European Commission

**Civitas role:** Partner

**Office:** Cluj-Napoca

**Partners:** Romanian Center for European Policies (Romania), National Agricultural Research and Innovation Center NAIK (Hungary), Farmers Parliament Latvia, IRECOOP (Italy), National Union of Small Family Farmers and Producers Association NUSFFP (Bulgaria)

**Beneficiaries:** Young people aged 15-17 involved in agricultural vocational training (T-VET) Programs in Romania, Hungary, Bulgaria, Latvia and Italy.



The YOUCooperATE (Youth Cooperation for Agricultural Renewal through Education) project aims to strengthen the knowledge and skills of young people aged 15-17 involved in agricultural vocational training (T-VET) Programs in Romania, Hungary, Bulgaria, Latvia and Italy.

**Through modern teaching techniques, including e-learning, young people have gained more knowledge about cooperative business values and model.** Moreover, the project supports the acquisition of knowledge for students, encouraging the involvement of agricultural cooperatives in the project through mentoring, simulation Programs and study visits in order to promote good practices and tools related to cooperative entrepreneurship in agro-VET schools in the five countries. The ultimate goal is the development of the agricultural sector by the next generation of farmers in the project countries.

In July 2021, a national study visit was organized in the framework of the project with **24 participants, both teachers and students from 4 agricultural high schools in Sibiu, Geoagiu, Ciumbrud and Miroslava.**

The study visit was adapted to be accessible also online, offering the possibility for all students to participate. Thus, a new event took place, this time online, in November. The role of the Civitas team was to

provide technical support to the Romanian Center for European Policy by hosting the online visit and providing the interpretation function. We also wanted to have a speaker from a Romanian cooperative to inspire young people. In this context, we invited the representative of the Gospodarii Agricultural Cooperative from the Crasna Valley, Florin Gavriluț. Florin is a young cooperative manager who presented to the students the experience of his journey from student to entrepreneur in a cooperative.

The year 2021 brought a new type of activity to the project -**Train of trainer**, designed to help teachers from agricultural high schools to better understand how to use the youcooperate.eu platform and how they can include the modules on the platform in their courses. In total, we trained 31 teachers from the high schools involved in the project (2 teachers from Ciumbrud, 7 teachers from Geoagiu, 20 teachers from Sibiu and 2 teachers from Miroslava).

In order to take the results of the project further, we organized a series of dissemination events, succeeding in bringing the topic of cooperation in agriculture to the attention of another 60 students. Towards the end of the project, we were pleased that the dissemination events attracted two more teachers to the Train of trainer Program.



# Future Builders. Active learning in the workplace through business internship Programs

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**Duration:** October 2020 - February 2023

**Budget:** RON 2 349 237,49

**Financier:** European Social Fund through the Human Capital Operational Program (POCU 2014-2020)

**Civitas role:** Partner

**Office:** Odorheiu Secuiesc

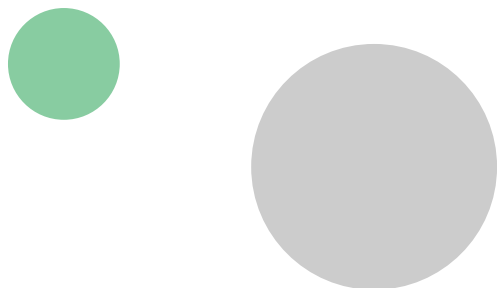
**Partners:** Association Innovation and Business Incubation Center

**Beneficiaries:** 184 students from classes IX, X, XI and XII, studying in the technological stream, technical profile, commercial field, specializations: technician in commercial activities, technician in economic activities, respectively technician in administration, from four high schools in Harghita county.

The general objective of the project is to facilitate the labor market insertion of future upper secondary school graduates in the field of retail trade. We want to achieve this objective through career counselling activities and providing participation in apprenticeship Programs in a potential workplace.

The activities start from the analysis of the personal profile of the participants, by completing Thomas-type tests. The finding that these tests are an excellent means of measuring an individual's personality was fully confirmed during the project. The feedback from the students is proof of this. After going through his personal profile report, one of the students asked our fellow counsellor in surprise: "Did you talk to my mother?"

**The target group includes 184 students, of which:**



## RuralNet

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**Duration:** 15 February 2021 - 14 February 2024

**Total budget:** EUR 249 987,70

**Civitas budget:** EUR 142 583,55

**Financier:** Active Citizens Fund Romania Program, funded by Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway through EEA Grants 2014-2021

**Civitas role:** Applicant

Office: Cluj-Napoca

**Partners:** Center for Mediation and Community Security, Foundation for the Development of Social Economy, Furim Instituttt

RuralNet is a network of NGOs active in Romania in the field of community development. Through this network, we aim to increase the quality of services provided by the 13 Organizations involved and harness their skills and resources. **RuralNet is based on our expertise in community and rural development. The network supports a School of Rural Community Development Experts and is involved in academic work.**

The project is built on two dimensions: **organizational development** of the RuralNet network and the **development of an advocacy campaign** for a youth-inclusive National Strategic Plan (NSP) promoting equal opportunities and rural sustainability, in response to the lack of a relevant actor bringing together national-level organizations with experience in rural development.

The RuralNET network was revitalised with the launch of the project funded by the Active Citizens Fund Romania. In 2021, together with RuralNET members, we updated the operating methodology and focused on expanding the network by attracting new members. In this context, in September, we also organized the first workshop of the network.



## The role of social economy in community development

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**Duration:** October 2021 - December 2022

**Budget:** USD 50 000

**Financier:** Open Society Foundations

**Civitas role:** applicant

**Office:** Cluj-Napoca

Through this project, we aimed to work on strengthening Civitas Foundation's capacity to participate in working groups with ministries representing the NGO sector and supporting social economy structures to increase their resilience through education, awareness raising and funding schemes.

For the next programming period, our interest is to monitor the evolution of funding lines in several major areas: education (with a focus on disadvantaged rural education and vocational education), social economy, rural development and entrepreneurship. Through this project, we aim to promote at the level of decision-makers the most consistent allocation of resources in the above-mentioned areas in order to respond to the needs identified at the level of the target groups we represent.

We have already started a series of discussions, workshops on the social economy sector, consultations in the monitoring committees of the operational programs related to the new programming cycle 2021-2027. For the support activity in the development of the National Strategic Program in the field of rural development in 2021 we have undertaken several actions. In the context of the consultation process for the preparation of the 2021-2027 programming period, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, through the Managing Authority for the National Rural Development Program (AM-NRDP), conducted a series of online consultations with the public and private entities involved in the development of the **National Strategic Plan**. Thus, we analyzed and provided feedback to the Ministry of Agriculture on three measures of the National Strategic Program: **associativity, LEADER and the acquis communautaire**, where we insisted that agricultural high schools become eligible for all these measures.

We ended the year with a meeting with the Ministry of Agriculture on our proposals for the new National Strategic Program, with the organization of a conference on rural development, attended by the Minister of Agriculture, and we applied for membership of the European Community of Practice for Partnership 2021-2027\_ECoPP.

# Nutrition for a healthy lifestyle

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**Duration:** January 2021 - December 2021

**Budget:** 2021: 22.059 RON

**Financier:** Bethlen Gábor Alapkezelő Zrt, Municipality of Odorheiu Secuiesc, Harghita County Council

**Civitas role:** Applicant

**Office:** Odorheiu Secuiesc

**Beneficiaries:** The direct beneficiaries of the project were pupils from general schools in Odorheiu Secuiesc and accompanying teachers, the indirect beneficiaries were the families of the pupils who participated in the project.

The most important task of the project is to raise awareness among young people about the importance of nutrition and healthy lifestyle. We run this project annually to raise awareness about eating locally produced food, promoting local fruit varieties, local processing methods and recipes.

As part of the project, we organized **7 workshops**, providing practical information for **170 students** and **7 teachers from 7 general schools**.

Students gained knowledge about medicinal plants by making herbal spiced salts. They also learned different ways of using and preparing herbs, their beneficial effects and how to use certain kitchen utensils by cooking vegetable and fruit salads.

**As part of the project, we made 5 videos, which proposed a virtual visit to 5 local producers:** 2 fruit producers, a producer who processes vegetables and fruit, a livestock farmer and a cheese producer, as well as a baker. The 5 videos were offered to schools and can be viewed on our online platforms.

We also organized a **4-day camp for 5th-8th grade students** for 13 pupils who were eager to learn more about medicinal and aromatic plants. The programs the students participated in included: testing and using plant recognition applications, recognizing and collecting wild and cultivated herbs, effects and uses of collected plants, observing methods of drying plants and distilling essential oils, making vinegar and spice oil, making spiced salts, calculating ecological footprint and more.



# Partnership for the delivery of work-based learning Programs for tourism students

**Duration:** September 2020 - October 2023

**Total budget:** RON 2 405 362,31

**Financier:** European Social Fund through the Human Capital Operational Program (POCU 2014-2020)

**Civitas role:** Partner

**Office:** Odorheiu Secuiesc

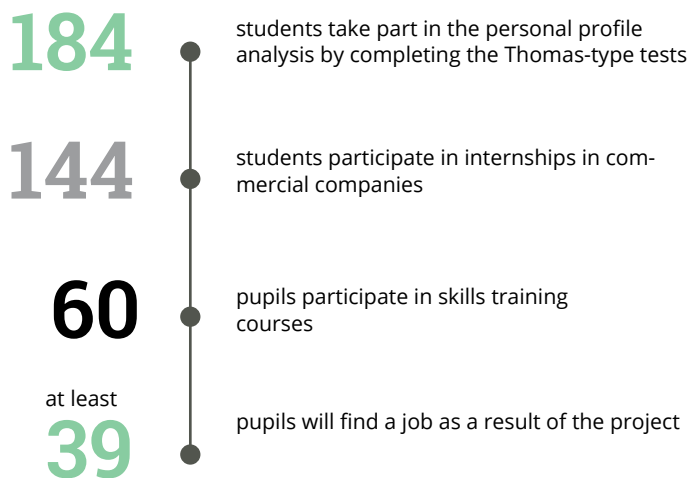
**Partners:** REGA Egyesület Association, Develoconsult SRL (Project Coordinator).

**Beneficiaries:** 184 upper secondary school students (classes IX, X, XI and XII), studying in high schools and vocational schools with specializations related to tourism in less developed regions of Harghita County (Central Region)

The general objective of the project is to facilitate the labor market insertion of future upper secondary school graduates in the field of tourism and catering through professional counselling and ensuring their participation in apprenticeship Programs at a potential workplace during their internship.

As a partner, Civitas Foundation provides counselling and career guidance services for 184 students from classes IX, X, XI and XII in Harghita county.

**The target group includes 184 students, of which:**



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***It is important to be with young people in the field of tourism. Even in times of crisis, or especially because there is a crisis, we need to pay more attention to the development of young people, so that we all have a more secure future. The energy of young people is a source of inspiration for the entrepreneurs with whom they work. For Civitas, the project comes with the opportunity for continued work in the personal development of young people with the Thomas test method, a method increasingly sought after by educational and social institutions, as well as by the business world.***

Orbán Árpád, Director of Civitas Foundation (Odorheiu Secuiesc Office)

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# MENTORED ORGANIZATIONS





Civitas Consulting was established in 2008 by the Civitas Foundation for Civil Society, with business consulting as its main field of activity. The company's profits are directed to the foundation, supporting the realization of projects for local and civil society development.

### **The year 2021 meant for Civitas Consulting:**

- **22 applications for funding** submitted: 10 public beneficiaries (for the Administration of the Environment Fund (AFM) Program on energy efficiency of public buildings and efficiency of the public lighting system and the National Rural Development Program) and 12 private beneficiaries (National Rural Development Program).
- **23 projects under implementation** for 4 private beneficiaries and 19 public beneficiaries
- public procurement consultancy services for **4 procurement procedures**

# Garden of Medicinal Plants in Ardeal

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The Garden of Medicinal Plants of Transylvania Association was established in 2017 with the aim to support and promote sustainable cultivation, collection and processing of medicinal and aromatic plants. Through the association's programs, we contribute to environmental protection and sustainable development, revitalize traditions related to the use of medicinal plants and highlight the intangible heritage of Transylvania in the field of traditional gastronomy and folk medicine.

**For the Garden of Medicinal Plants, 2021 meant:**

- **A 3-module course on the cultivation, collection and processing of medicinal plants** organized in collaboration with the University Center of Odorheiu Secuiesc.
- **4 nature tours and 12 practical activities** organized on the processing of medicinal plants
- 12 volunteers involved in fundraising
- A workshop furnished and equipped for practical activities
- **More than 500 participants** in the association's events
- **2 brochures edited and printed**



## Riding center for the partnership of generations in the village of Dârjiu

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The riding center aims to bring more well-being to a small community - Dârjiu, but famous for its UNESCO World Heritage-listed church-city. Located next to the famous church, it aims to contribute both to the economic development of the village and to solving a social problem - the lack of primary social services for the elderly.

The social aim of the business is to set up a day center for socialization and leisure for the elderly in the village of Dârjiu, providing primary social services to prevent and limit situations of difficulty or vulnerability. The financing of these social activities is ensured through the economic activity carried out by the Kanthaka Association (certified social enterprise), through the Riding Center with recreation and socialization programs for all generations. The center challenges us to slow down to one horse power through activities such as: trail rides, hikes and themed nature circuits, horseback riding, riding sessions, complex Programs including presentations, horse-assisted professional and personal development Programs, horse therapy.

**90% of the profits of the riding center go towards social purpose.**

**In 2021, 31 seniors have already benefited from the services of the day center, participating in a total of 32 activities.**



# Financial Results

## Financial report for the year 2021 Civitas Foundation for Civil Society

### Revenue (RON)

<b>Total income</b>	
Non-refundable funds from public sources	
Donations, sponsorships from individuals and companies, interests	
Income from economic activities	
dividends	
Other incomes	

### Cluj-Napoca

### Odorheiu Secuiesc

<b>4,832,157</b>	<b>1,020,368</b>
4,083,076	840,575
522,691	57,841
44,968	62,441
148,015	0
33,406	59,511

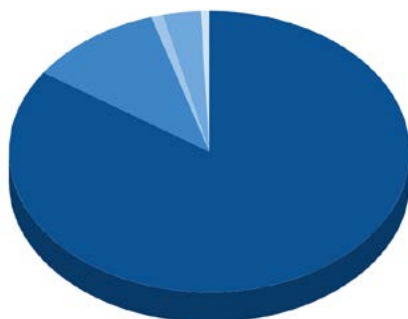
### Expenses (RON)

<b>Total expenses</b>
Project development expenses
Administrative costs

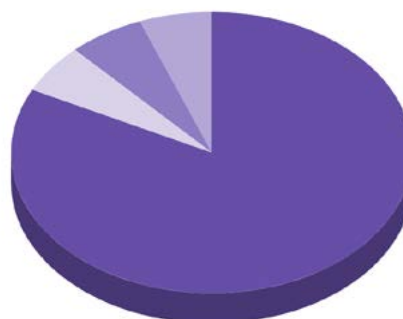
<b>4,795,914</b>	<b>919,659</b>
4,379,990	895,221
415,924	24,438
<b>36,243</b>	<b>100,709</b>

### Net result (RON)

Revenue Cluj-Napoca



Revenue Odorheiu Secuiesc



- Non-refundable funds from public sources - 84.5%
- Donations, sponsorships from individuals and companies, interest - 10.8%
- Income from economic activities - 0.9%
- Dividends - 3.1%
- Other income - 0.7%

- Non-refundable funds from public sources - 82.4%
- Donations, sponsorships from individuals and companies, interest - 5.7%
- Income from economic activities - 6.1%
- Dividends - 0%
- Other income - 5.8%

# PARTENERS



## National Partners

- Workshops Without Borders Association
- The Center for Innovation and Business Incubation Association
- Center for Non-Profit Law Association (CNLR)
- Center for a Sustainable Society Association
- Association LAG Țara Năsăudului
- Monomyths Association
- Community Mediation and Security Center (CMSC)
- Center for Public Policy (CENPO)
- Romanian Center for European Policies (CRPE)
- Municipalities of Cornești and Geaca
- Diakonia Christian Foundation
- Danis Foundation for Management Development
- HEKS/EPER Romania Foundation
- Open Fields Foundation
- Foundation for the Development of Social Economy
- DCG Development Consulting Group
- Iceberg Consulting SRL
- Junior Achievement Romania (JAR)
- Municipality of Alba Iulia
- Geaca School
- World Vision Romania
- 23 FILM STUDIO & MEDIA SRL

## International Partners

- Asociacija Tavo Europa (Lithuania)
- Consorzio Materahub Industrie Culturali e Creative (Matera, Italy)
- Diesis Network (Brussels, Belgium)
- Entrepreneurship and Social Economy Group (Greece)
- Farmers Parliament Latvia (Latvia)
- FURIM Institutt (Norway)
- IRECOOP (Italy)
- Inter College APS (Denmark)
- Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture
- National Agricultural Research and Innovation Center NAIK (Hungary)
- National Union of Small Family Farmers and Producers Association NUSFFP (Bulgaria)
- Nuorisokeskus Piispala (Finland)
- Projects ehf (Iceland)
- Sdruzhenie Walk Together (Bulgaria)
- Terram Pacis (Norway)



# Civitas

Fundația - Alapítvány - Foundation

## Annual Report 2021

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