

PARTNERSHIP BUILDING ACTIVITY

organised under the framework of the Active Development Association's Erasmus+ Accreditation for mobilities in the field of youth

FROM RURAL TO PLURAL 3.0

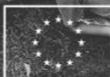
EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIPS FOR STRENGTHENING
RURAL YOUTH WORK

SIMON (BRAN), BRASOV, ROMANIA

MARCH 23 - APRIL 1, 2026



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Enriching lives, opening minds.



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INTRODUCTION

“**From Rural to Plural 3.0 – Building European Partnerships for Rural Youth Work**” is an international Erasmus+ Partnership Building Activity designed to strengthen cooperation among organisations and youth workers committed to advancing rural youth work across Europe. **The activity will bring together up to 28 youth workers, organisational staff, and rural youth practitioners** who are actively involved in youth work in rural or semi-rural contexts and are interested in building sustainable European cooperation, strengthening governance models, and positioning rural youth work as a priority within local, national, and European agendas.

Throughout the 8-day activity, participants will explore rural youth work from multiple interconnected perspectives, while collaboratively building a shared European ecosystem for cooperation. The programme will provide space to:

- analyse structural challenges affecting young people in rural areas across Europe,
- exchange concrete practices and governance models in rural youth work,
- explore sustainability mechanisms and power dynamics within rural communities,
- strengthen communication and advocacy skills for positioning rural youth work,
- develop cooperation pathways and thematic working clusters,
- articulate a shared European vision through the “European Rural Youth Work Declaration”.

The European Youth Village programme will be explored as one structured case study within the broader rural youth work ecosystem, offering participants the opportunity to critically reflect on participation models, governance mechanisms, and adaptation potential without prescriptive replication.

The Partnership Building Activity will take place in Şimon, Bran (Braşov County), Romania, between 23 March and 1 April 2026 (23 March – arrival day, 1 April – departure day). It is organised within the project “**From Rural to Plural 3.0**”, reference no. 2025-1-RO01-KA151-YOU-000300668, and implemented under the framework of the Active Development Association’s Erasmus+ Accreditation for mobilities in the field of youth, Accreditation no. 2022-1-RO01-KA150-YOU-000110433. The project is funded by the European Union through the Erasmus+ Programme. **The activity is co-organised with Go Free Association.**

This infopack provides all essential information needed to prepare for the activity, including project context and objectives, programme structure, practical arrangements, participants’ roles and responsibilities, deadlines, and travel and reimbursement procedures. Should you need any additional information regarding logistics, travel, or specific needs, please do not hesitate to contact us at dezvoltare.activa@gmail.com.

Note: There is no participation fee for attending this activity. The organisers fully cover all costs related to accommodation, food, and programme activities. Travel costs will be reimbursed in accordance with Erasmus+ rules (please refer to the travel section of this infopack for detailed information regarding budget limits and reimbursement procedures).

WHAT IS THE CONTEXT & WHY WE DECIDED TO DO THIS

Across Europe, rural areas are home to millions of young people whose realities remain underrepresented in public discourse, policy priorities, and youth work strategies. While rural communities are often portrayed as peaceful, cohesive, and rooted in tradition, young people growing up in these contexts frequently face structural challenges that limit their opportunities for participation, self-expression, and influence.

Geographical isolation, limited access to educational and cultural infrastructure, reduced public transport, fewer employment opportunities, and restricted youth spaces continue to shape the everyday experiences of rural youth. In many communities, young people are rarely involved in decision-making processes and often lack safe, meaningful spaces to express their ideas, concerns, and aspirations. This can contribute to disengagement, outward migration, and a weakened sense of belonging.

At the same time, youth workers and organisations operating in rural contexts face their own structural constraints. Youth work in rural areas often relies on small teams, limited funding, and informal structures. Cooperation between municipalities and youth organisations is uneven across Europe, and sustainable governance models for rural youth participation are still developing in many countries. As a result, rural youth work frequently depends on isolated initiatives rather than systemic approaches.

Despite these challenges, rural areas also hold strong potential. Close-knit communities, intergenerational connections, and local identity can become powerful foundations for participation and innovation—if young people are supported through structured, sustainable, and inclusive youth work frameworks.

Over the past years, various initiatives across Europe have attempted to address these realities through participation models, youth councils, networks, local programmes, and community-based interventions. Among them, the European Youth Village programme emerged as one structured response, demonstrating how youth-led initiatives, municipal partnerships, mentorship systems, and visibility mechanisms can strengthen rural youth participation. However, no single model can respond to the diversity of rural contexts across Europe. What is needed is not replication, but cooperation.

We believe that strengthening rural youth work requires moving beyond isolated projects and towards European ecosystem-building. It requires spaces where youth workers, organisational staff, and practitioners can critically analyse governance models, exchange practices, address sustainability challenges, and build long-term cooperation pathways.

“From Rural to Plural 3.0 – Building European Partnerships for Rural Youth Work” was created in response to this need. The activity recognises that rural youth work is not only about activities, but about structures, legitimacy, sustainability, and shared responsibility at the European level. By bringing together practitioners from different countries, this Partnership Building Activity aims to create a collaborative space where rural youth work can be positioned as a strategic priority, supported through cooperation, and strengthened through shared learning and collective action.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The overall aim of “**From Rural to Plural 3.0 – Building European Partnerships for Rural Youth Work**” is to **strengthen European cooperation among youth workers and organisations committed to advancing rural youth work by fostering shared understanding, governance literacy, sustainable practices, and long-term partnership-building across borders.**

Through this Partnership Building Activity, we aim to:

1. **Increase participants’ understanding of the structural realities affecting young people in rural areas across Europe**, including participation gaps, governance challenges, sustainability constraints, and policy limitations.
2. **Strengthen knowledge of diverse rural youth work models and participation structures**, exploring how initiatives can evolve into sustainable systems through governance mechanisms, institutional cooperation, and community legitimacy.
3. **Enhance participants’ competences in analysing power dynamics and governance models** within rural communities, including youth–municipality relations, decision-making processes, and risk management.
4. **Develop participants’ capacity to position and advocate for rural youth work** at local, national, and European levels, through strategic communication, narrative-building, and policy-oriented dialogue.
5. **Foster critical reflection on structured participation programmes**, including the European Youth Village model as a case study, examining transferability, adaptation potential, and ecosystem integration without prescriptive replication.
6. **Support the formation of thematic European working clusters and cooperation pathways**, encouraging participants to move from exchange to concrete joint actions within 6–12 months following the activity.
7. **Promote the development of a shared European vision for rural youth work**, articulated through the co-creation of the *European Rural Youth Work Declaration*.
8. **Strengthen participants’ roles as multipliers and promoters of rural youth work**, equipping them with practical tools and confidence to facilitate workshops, engage stakeholders, and build support within their own communities and organisations.
9. **Encourage sustainable follow-up and partnership continuity**, ensuring that cooperation initiated during the activity evolves into long-term collaboration beyond the mobility itself.

TRANSVERSAL OBJECTIVES:

Promote inclusion and equal opportunities



Ensure an inclusive learning environment where all participants, regardless of background, experience, or organisational context, can actively contribute. The activity supports reflection on reducing structural barriers faced by rural young people and promoting inclusive approaches within rural youth work systems.

Foster participation in democratic and community life



Strengthen participants' capacity to support meaningful youth participation in local decision-making and community life, with a focus on youth–municipality cooperation and democratic engagement in rural contexts.

Develop key competences for lifelong learning



Support the development of key competences such as communication, collaboration, leadership, critical thinking, and problem-solving through experiential and reflective non-formal learning processes.

Enhance digital competences and media awareness



Encourage the responsible and strategic use of digital tools for communication, advocacy, and cooperation in rural youth work, while fostering critical awareness of media representation of rural communities and young people.

Reinforce European values and international cooperation



Promote intercultural learning, solidarity, and cooperation among participants from different countries, strengthening shared European values through partnership-building and exchange of practices.

Encourage sustainable and environmentally responsible practices



Integrate environmentally responsible practices throughout the activity and encourage reflection on sustainability and long-term community development within rural youth work.

Support well-being and healthy youth work practice



Promote well-being, reflective practice, and healthy working dynamics as essential elements of sustainable youth work and long-term cooperation.

AGENDA¹

DAY	1 ST WORKING SESSION 10:30 – 11:50	2 ND WORKING SESSION 12:10 – 13:30	3 RD WORKING SESSION 15:30 – 16:50	4 TH WORKING SESSION 17:10 – 18:30	18:30 - 19:00	EVENING ACTIVITY 21:00 – 22:30
ARRIVAL DAY 23/03/2026	<i>Participants should arrive at the hotel before dinner</i> Check in between 14:00 and 19:30 on March 23 rd					Welcome and Introduction
DAY 1 Foundations: trust, context and partnership framework	Welcome, context & why we are here	Human connections & rural identity lab	Expectations, contributions & representation	Building our working framework & partnership principles	Reflection groups / Daily evaluation	Teambuilding & networking games
DAY 2 Rural realities & the EYV case study	State of rural youth in Europe: challenges & patterns	Rural youth work responses: what are we already doing?	The EYV programme: philosophy & structure	Critical reflection: EYV as a tool within rural youth work		Intercultural dinner (1)
DAY 3 Practices, models & system thinking	Practice marketplace: what happens on the ground?	Thematic deep dives: structural patterns across Europe	From initiative to structure: sustainability & governance	Designing better rural youth work systems		Free evening
DAY 4 Governance, power and sustainability	Youth & power in rural communities	Governance models in rural youth work	Sustainability & funding beyond projects	Risk & crisis scenarios lab		Intercultural evening (2)
DAY 5 Communication, narrative & advocacy	Breaking the rural narrative	Storytelling for structural change	Advocacy & policy positioning	Multiplier lab		Free evening
DAY 6 Building the European rural youth work ecosystem	What do we want to build together?	Working clusters formation	3-6-month action roadmap	Cooperation canvas: from idea to commitment		Romanian intercultural evening
DAY 7 Positioning rural youth work in Europe	Mapping the European rural youth ecosystem	Drafting the European Rural Youth Work Declaration	Promoters in action: pitch lab	Public commitment & 6-month milestones		Free evening
DAY 8 Evaluation, learning and follow-up	Final sharing & personal reflection	Follow-up confirmation	Youthpass & competence mapping	Evaluation lab		Youthpass ceremony & goodbye party
DEPARTURE DAY 01/04/2026	Participants' departure after breakfast Check out before 12:00 on April 1 st					

¹ Please check Annex 1 – at the end of the infopack - for the detailed Agenda.

LEARNING AND RECOGNITION

From Rural to Plural 3.0 – Building European Partnerships for Rural Youth Work is designed as a structured learning experience based on non-formal education principles. Learning takes place through active participation, peer exchange, critical reflection, collaborative problem-solving, and practical cooperation design.

Participants are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning journey, define personal objectives, and continuously reflect on their development as rural youth work practitioners and European partners.

Throughout the activity, learning is supported through:

- Experiential workshops and analytical exercises
- Thematic working groups and cooperation labs
- Peer learning and exchange of governance models and practices
- Structured reflection moments and competence mapping
- Concrete action planning and follow-up design

The mobility is designed not only as a space for discussion but as a catalyst for long-term cooperation and professional growth.

Youthpass – recognition of learning

At the end of the activity, all participants will receive a Youthpass certificate, recognising their participation as a meaningful educational experience within the Erasmus+ Programme.

Youthpass is the official recognition instrument for European youth programmes. It supports participants in:

- Reflecting on what they have learned
- Identifying competences developed during the activity
- Structuring and articulating learning outcomes
- Communicating their learning to organisations, institutions, and professional environments

During the mobility, participants will be guided through the Youthpass reflection process. Dedicated time will be allocated for competence mapping and individual reflection. Final Youthpass certificates will reflect both key competences for lifelong learning and specific competences related to rural youth work, governance, advocacy, and European cooperation.

Key competences for lifelong learning

The learning outcomes of this activity can be connected to the **8 Key Competences for Lifelong Learning**, as recognised at European level and integrated in the Youthpass framework. Each Youthpass certificate reflects the individual learning path of each participant.

1. Multilingual competence



Participants communicate and collaborate in an international environment, strengthening their confidence in expressing professional ideas and negotiating cooperation across languages and cultural contexts.

2. Personal, social and learning to learn competence



Through reflection, group dynamics, and systems analysis, participants strengthen self-awareness, adaptability, resilience, and the ability to critically reflect on their professional practice.

3. Citizenship competence



The activity directly supports understanding of democratic participation, youth–municipality cooperation, and civic engagement in rural contexts. Participants deepen their awareness of their role in strengthening participatory governance.

4. Entrepreneurship competence



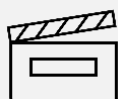
Participants develop initiative, strategic thinking, and problem-solving skills by designing cooperation pathways, drafting action roadmaps, and transforming ideas into realistic European collaboration.

5. Cultural awareness and expression competence



Through intercultural exchange and narrative work, participants strengthen their understanding of cultural diversity, rural identity, and responsible representation of young people across contexts.

6. Digital competence



Participants explore strategic communication, narrative framing, and responsible use of digital tools for advocacy, visibility, and European cooperation.

7. Literacy competence



Participants practice articulating complex structural challenges, drafting joint declarations, preparing advocacy pitches, and expressing professional insights in a structured and impactful way.

8. Mathematical competence and competence in science, technology and engineering



Although not central, participants strengthen analytical thinking, planning, and structured problem-solving when designing governance models, sustainability strategies, and action roadmaps.

In addition to the key competences, participants are expected to develop **specific competences related to rural youth work and European cooperation**, such as: analysing rural youth challenges from a systemic perspective; understanding governance models and youth–municipality cooperation mechanisms; designing sustainable rural youth work structures; managing risks and navigating power dynamics; positioning rural youth work through strategic communication and advocacy; building and maintaining European partnerships; designing realistic short-term cooperation actions; acting as multipliers and promoters of rural youth participation.



PARTICIPANTS' PROFILE – WHO IS THIS PBA FOR?

This Partnership Building Activity is designed for youth workers, organisational staff, and practitioners who are actively involved in rural youth work and interested in strengthening European cooperation in this field.

The programme is suitable for participants with different levels of experience — from practitioners developing rural youth initiatives locally to those coordinating structured programmes, networks, or governance models. No prior experience with specific participation models is required. However, **participants are expected to have a genuine professional interest in rural youth work and the motivation to contribute to long-term European collaboration.**

Participants must be 18 years old or above and actively engaged in youth work through non-governmental organisations, informal groups, community initiatives, or municipal structures, particularly in rural or semi-rural contexts.

The activity is addressed to:

- Youth workers and youth leaders
- Project managers and coordinators in youth organisations
- Community organisers working with young people
- Representatives of organisations involved in rural youth participation
- Practitioners involved in governance, participation structures, or rural youth initiatives
- Multipliers and promoters of youth participation models

Participants should be motivated to:

- Strengthen rural youth work structures and governance models
- Engage in European cooperation and partnership-building
- Explore sustainability, advocacy, and positioning strategies
- Contribute to long-term ecosystem development beyond isolated projects

Participants are expected to:

- Be actively involved in rural youth work or youth participation structures
- Be open to critical reflection, systems thinking, and collaborative work
- Actively contribute to discussions, group work, and cooperation design
- Attend the entire duration of the activity (23 March – 1 April 2026)
- Be willing to engage in follow-up actions after the mobility
- Have a working knowledge of English, as the activity will be conducted in English

Participants should ideally be active members, collaborators, or regular volunteers of their sending organisations. Each partner organisation may be represented by up to two participants, depending on the partnership structure.

WHAT DO WE MEAN BY “YOUTH WORKER”?

In the context of this activity, a **youth worker** is a person who works with and for young people (usually aged between **13 and 30**) in order to support their **personal, social, educational, and civic development**.

Youth workers create learning opportunities outside formal education and support young people to express themselves and be heard, develop confidence, skills, and critical thinking, participate in community life and decision-making, and explore their identity, interests, and aspirations. Youth work can take place in many settings, such as youth organizations and NGOs, community centres and youth centres, informal youth groups and initiatives, schools and educational projects (non-formal activities), local community and cultural spaces.

Youth workers may work directly with individuals or with groups, facilitate activities and projects, support young people through challenges, and create safe spaces for dialogue and participation. Their role often combines **facilitation, mentoring, coordination, and reflection**, rather than teaching in a traditional sense.

THIS PBA IS NOT DESIGNED FOR PARTICIPANTS WHO ARE PRIMARILY LOOKING FOR:

- **A funding marketplace or project matchmaking event:** The focus of this mobility is ecosystem-building, strategic reflection, and structured cooperation — not immediate project drafting or transactional partnerships.
- **A passive learning experience:** The programme requires active engagement, critical thinking, and contribution to discussions, group work, and cooperation design. Participants are expected to share their experience and actively shape outcomes.
- **A purely exploratory or touristic experience:** This activity is intended for practitioners committed to strengthening rural youth work and engaging in follow-up cooperation beyond the mobility.
- **A purely theoretical discussion space:** The programme combines reflection with practical cooperation planning. Participants should be ready to move from analysis to concrete commitments.
- **Short-term networking without long-term intention:** The activity aims to initiate structured cooperation and thematic working clusters. Participants are expected to engage in at least one follow-up action after the mobility.
- **Participants who cannot commit to the full duration of the activity (23 March – 1 April 2026):** Continuity and group cohesion are essential for meaningful exchange and partnership-building.
- **Individuals without prior experience in rural youth work:** A minimum level of practical involvement in rural youth initiatives is required to ensure relevant contribution and peer-level exchange.

SELECTION PROCESS

Each partner organisation is responsible for **selecting its own participants** in line with the profile described in this infopack. Partner organisations are kindly asked to take the following aspects into account when selecting participants:

- **Relevance to rural youth work practice:** The extent to which the activity responds to the candidate's current role, experience, and involvement in rural youth work or youth participation structures.
- **Experience in rural youth work (minimum requirement):** Participants must have prior and active experience working with young people in rural or semi-rural contexts, or within rural youth governance or participation initiatives.
- **Motivation for European cooperation:** The candidate's interest in partnership-building, ecosystem development, and long-term collaboration beyond isolated projects.
- **Commitment and availability:** Participants must be available for and committed to attending the entire duration of the activity (23 March – 1 April 2026) and to actively participating in all sessions, including cooperation design and follow-up planning.
- **Follow-up capacity:** The participant should realistically be able to contribute to at least one post-mobility cooperation action (e.g., working cluster, webinar, mapping initiative, policy dialogue, etc.).
- **Language competence:** Participants should have a sufficient command of English, as the working language of the activity will be English.
- **Gender balance:** Partner organisations are encouraged to aim for balanced gender representation within their national teams, where possible.
- **Age range:** The activity is open to participants aged 18 years and above.
- **Geographical background:** To ensure a strong rural focus, participants should either come from rural or semi-rural areas or be actively working with young people in such contexts.

Diversity and inclusion

The PBA is built around the principles of **inclusion, equal opportunities, and respect for diversity**.

- Partner organizations are encouraged to support the participation of individuals who may face **social, economic, cultural, or geographical barriers**.
- Applications from **underrepresented groups**, including LGBTQ+ youth workers and youth workers from ethnic minorities, are strongly encouraged.
- Particular attention will be given to creating a **safe, supportive, and respectful learning environment**, especially as the activity involves creative expression, reflection, and work with potentially sensitive topics.
- The organizers and trainers are committed to ensuring that all participants feel **valued, heard, and respected**, and that discrimination or exclusion of any kind is not tolerated.

Selection deadline: All participants must be **selected, confirmed, and communicated to the organisers by 15th of March 2026**.

PARTICIPANTS' PREPARATION

After the selection process is completed, participants' preparation should take place at three complementary levels. As this is a Partnership Building Activity for rural youth work practitioners, both participants and sending organisations play an important role in ensuring meaningful engagement and realistic follow-up capacity.

1. Logistical Preparation

Participants, with the support of their sending organisations, are responsible for preparing all practical aspects related to the mobility. This includes:

- Carefully reading this infopack and familiarising themselves with the objectives, agenda, timeline, and expectations of the activity.
- Organising travel to and from Romania, including ticket purchase, travel insurance, and required travel documents.
- Understanding arrival and departure procedures, accommodation arrangements, and daily programme structure.
- Informing the organising team in advance about any specific needs (health, dietary, accessibility, etc.).

2. Preparation for the Learning & Cooperation Process

This activity is designed as a structured, participatory learning experience. Participants are encouraged to prepare intellectually and professionally before arrival by:

- Reflecting on their current role in rural youth work and identifying concrete challenges, governance questions, or cooperation needs from their context.
- Reviewing existing rural youth participation structures or initiatives they are involved in, and being ready to share examples.
- Clarifying internally (with their sending organisation, if relevant) what level of decision-making mandate they hold for potential cooperation.
- Being ready to engage actively in discussions, systems thinking exercises, and cooperation design processes.

3. Social & Intercultural Preparation

As the activity brings together practitioners from different countries, cultures, and governance realities, social and intercultural awareness is essential. Participants are encouraged to:

- Reflect on their own cultural background, communication style, and professional assumptions.
- Approach discussions with openness, curiosity, and respect for diverse rural realities across Europe.
- Be prepared to engage in group processes requiring trust, shared responsibility, and constructive disagreement.
- Commit to contributing to a safe, inclusive, and respectful learning environment throughout the week.

PARTICIPANTS' TASKS BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:

To ensure a meaningful and effective cooperation process, participants are kindly asked to complete several preparation tasks before arriving in Romania. These tasks aim to support reflection on participants' rural youth work context, strengthen the quality of peer exchange, and increase readiness for structured partnership-building.

1. REFLECT ON YOUR LOCAL RURAL YOUTH WORK CONTEXT

Before the activity, participants are invited to reflect on their own community and professional reality, particularly in relation to:

- The main challenges faced by young people in rural or semi-rural areas in their context.
- Existing youth participation structures (youth councils, informal groups, municipal mechanisms, networks, etc.).
- The relationship between young people and local authorities.
- Sustainability challenges affecting rural youth initiatives.
- Governance gaps or structural barriers that require cooperation or innovation.

Participants are encouraged to bring concrete examples, case studies, or dilemmas they are comfortable sharing during group discussions.

2. CLARIFY YOUR COOPERATION MANDATE

As this is a Partnership Building Activity, participants are asked to clarify internally (with their sending organisation, if relevant):

- What level of decision-making capacity do they hold regarding future cooperation?
- Whether they can commit to follow-up actions (e.g., working clusters, joint initiatives, webinars, research contributions, advocacy steps).
- What type of cooperation is their organisation realistically interested in pursuing?

Clear mandates and expectations will strengthen the quality of cooperation during and after the mobility.

3. DEFINE YOUR PERSONAL LEARNING & PROFESSIONAL GOALS

Participants are invited to reflect in advance on:

- What they would like to strengthen in their rural youth work practice (e.g., governance knowledge, advocacy skills, sustainability planning, cooperation capacity).
- What they hope to gain from the European-level exchange.
- How could this experience contribute to their long-term professional development?

These reflections do not need to be formally written, but participants should come prepared to share their learning objectives during the first days of the activity.

4. PREPARE FOR THE INTERCULTURAL EXPERIENCE

The activity will bring together practitioners from different countries, cultures, and governance contexts, creating a rich intercultural environment.

Participants are encouraged to:

- Prepare something small to share during the intercultural evenings (a short story, game, song, tradition, or symbolic representation of their region or community). Typical food or drinks can also be brought, preferably non-perishable and easy to share.
- Bring a small symbolic item from their country or rural community to exchange with other participants.
- Approach the experience with openness, curiosity, and respect for diverse rural realities across Europe.

Intercultural moments are designed to strengthen trust, connection, and mutual understanding.

5. PRACTICAL CHECKLIST

Before travelling, participants should ensure they have:

- A valid travel document (ID card or passport) and any required official documents.
- A visa, if required. Participants needing a visa must inform the organising team as soon as possible to receive supporting documents in due time.
- All travel tickets and proof of travel required for reimbursement (boarding passes, invoices, train/bus tickets, etc.).
- Medical travel insurance covering the full duration of the mobility.
- Any personal medication they may require.
- Comfortable clothing suitable for full-day indoor sessions and group work.
- Warm clothing appropriate for late March conditions in Şimon, Bran (a mountainous area near the Carpathians), where temperatures may still be low, especially in the mornings and evenings.

While the organising team will provide guidance and support, each participant is responsible for being fully prepared before the mobility.

DISSEMINATION AND FOLLOW-UP RESPONSABILITIES

Dissemination and follow-up are essential components of this Partnership Building Activity. As the mobility focuses on strengthening rural youth work ecosystems and initiating structured European cooperation, participants and partner organisations share responsibility for ensuring that the outcomes extend beyond the week in Romania. Below you can find the expectations for dissemination **before, during, and after the mobility**.

Before the mobility	During the mobility	After the mobility
<p>Partner organisations and selected participants are encouraged to communicate their involvement in the activity through their existing channels (social media, website, newsletter, internal networks).</p> <p>Suggested actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announcing participation in <i>From Rural to Plural 3.0</i>. • Introducing the topic of rural youth work and European cooperation. • Sharing current challenges or opportunities in their rural context. • Highlighting expectations regarding partnership-building or ecosystem development. <p>This stage helps prepare local stakeholders and positions the activity as part of a broader rural youth work conversation.</p>	<p>During the activity, participants and organisations are encouraged to share updates reflecting the learning and cooperation process, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photos or short updates from sessions (respecting consent and privacy). • Reflections on rural youth work challenges discussed. • Insights about governance, sustainability, or cooperation models explored. • Milestones such as working clusters formation or the adoption of the European Rural Youth Work Declaration. <p>Dissemination during the mobility should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on rural youth work, participation, governance, and European cooperation. • Be respectful, accurate, and responsible. • Always respect consent, privacy, and group agreements. • Avoid misrepresenting the activity as a funding event or project-writing space. 	<p>After returning home, participants and partner organisations are expected to implement at least one dissemination or follow-up action in their local or national context.</p> <p>Possible actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A social media post, article, or newsletter presenting key insights from the activity. • A presentation or internal debrief within their organisation. • A local roundtable with youth workers or municipal representatives. • A workshop introducing rural youth governance models discussed during the mobility. • Engagement in one of the thematic working clusters established during the activity. <p>Dissemination and follow-up should highlight:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was learned about rural youth work systems and governance. • What cooperation steps were initiated. • How the experience contributes to strengthening rural youth participation locally.

KEY REMINDERS

All dissemination and follow-up activities must remain aligned with the core values of this project: participation, inclusion, transparency, democratic engagement, cooperation, and respect.

Participants must:

- Always ask for and respect consent before sharing photos, videos, or personal contributions of others.
- Avoid sharing sensitive discussions related to governance, political contexts, or partnership negotiations without explicit agreement.
- Represent the project, the hosting organisation, and the Erasmus+ Programme in a responsible, accurate, and respectful manner.
- Clearly communicate that the activity focuses on strengthening rural youth work ecosystems and European cooperation.

Dissemination should strengthen the credibility of rural youth work — not oversimplify or misrepresent the activity.

PROOF OF DISSEMINATION & FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

All participants are expected to actively contribute to dissemination and follow-up actions after the mobility.

Partner organisations will be asked to send the organisers:

- Proof of dissemination (photos, screenshots, social media links, website articles, short video recordings, etc.).
- A short written description of the activity, including:
 - What activity took place;
 - When and where it happened;
 - Who was involved (target group and number of participants).

Where applicable, a scanned participants' list or other relevant supporting documentation.

Documentation helps demonstrate the broader impact of the activity and contributes to the quality and transparency requirements of the Erasmus+ Accreditation framework.

**Deadline for sending proof of dissemination and follow-up activities:
15th of May 2026.**

LOGISTICS

All accommodation and food costs are fully covered by the Erasmus+ Programme for the entire duration of the mobility, which will take place between 23th of March and 1st of April 2026. For the reimbursement of the travel costs, please check the next pages.

ACCOMMODATION AND VENUE

Participants will stay at **Pensiunea Mama Cozonacilor**, located in **Şimon village (Bran)**, a quiet rural area surrounded by mountains and nature. The location is approximately **5 km from Bran Castle** and offers a calm and comfortable environment, suitable for learning, reflection, and group activities.

Accommodation will be provided in **shared rooms for 2 or 3 participants**, depending on availability. Room layouts may vary and include:

- rooms with one shared (matrimonial) bed.
- rooms with one shared (matrimonial) bed and one single bed;
- rooms with one shared (matrimonial) bed and two single beds.

Check-in at the accommodation is available after 14:00 on the arrival day, while check-out should be completed before 12:00 on the departure day.

Participants who wish to get a better sense of the accommodation and surroundings can check the following resources:

- [Official website of the accommodation.](#)
- [Presentation video of the hotel and the surrounding area.](#)

ACCESSIBILITY AND SPECIFIC NEEDS

The **training room is located on the first floor**, while accommodation rooms are spread across the **first, second, and third floors**. The restaurant is situated on the **ground floor**. Access between floors is only possible via stairs, with approximately **16–20 steps per flight**, each step being **17–20 cm high**. Please note that the building does not have an elevator.

Participants with mobility challenges or other accessibility needs are kindly invited to contact the organizing team in advance. We will do our best to provide support and explore possible solutions together.

FOOD, MEALS & DAILY BREAKS

Participants will be provided with **three meals per day: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**. Meals are served **buffet-style**, offering a variety of options, including **vegetarian and vegan dishes**. On the arrival day, dinner is included. On the departure day, breakfast and lunch are included.

In addition, **two coffee breaks** are included each day. **Water, coffee, and tea** will be available throughout the day, including during breaks and working sessions.

Participants with **food allergies, intolerances, or specific dietary requirements** (e.g., vegetarian, vegan, halal, allergies) are kindly asked to inform the organisers in advance so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

The daily programme follows a **structured and balanced rhythm**, which generally includes the following meal and break times:

- **Breakfast:** 09:00 – 10:15
- **First coffee break:** 11:50 – 12:10
- **Lunch & lunch break:** 13:30 – 15:30
- **Second coffee break:** 16:50 – 17:10
- **Dinner:** 19:00 – 20:00

This schedule allows sufficient time for rest, informal exchange, and recovery between working sessions. Please note that **minor adjustments to the timing of meals and breaks may occur**, depending on the flow of the programme and group needs, while always ensuring adequate rest and meal times.

HEALTH AND INSURANCE

A **First Aid Kit** and basic medication will be available during the activities. Nevertheless, all participants are strongly encouraged to have a **valid medical travel insurance** covering the entire stay in Romania.

Participants from European Union countries are advised to bring the **European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)**, which provides access to medically necessary, state-provided healthcare during a temporary stay in EU countries, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Switzerland, under the same conditions as insured residents of the host country.

VISA INFORMATION

Participants who need a visa are kindly asked to **inform the organising team immediately after selection** and **well in advance**, so that the necessary invitation letters and supporting documents can be prepared on time. Please note that visa procedures can take several weeks, and early communication is essential. Any questions related to visa requirements should be addressed to the organisers as soon as possible after selection.

MONEY & PERSONAL EXPENSES

There is **no participation fee** for this activity. All costs related to **accommodation, food, and programme activities** are covered by the Erasmus+ Programme.

Participants are advised to bring a small amount of **cash (Romanian Lei – RON)** for personal expenses (e.g. souvenirs, snacks, personal items). While card payments are widely accepted, **cash may be useful in rural areas** or small local shops. Participants are responsible for covering any personal expenses not related to the programme.

STAYING LONGER IN ROMANIA

Participants who wish to arrive earlier or stay longer may do so for up to **2–3 days before** and **2–3 days after** the mobility. All costs related to extra days—including accommodation, food, local transportation, or personal activities—must be covered by the participants themselves.

HOUSE RULES & SHARED SPACES

To ensure a comfortable, safe, and respectful environment for everyone, participants are expected to respect the house rules of the accommodation and shared spaces.

Key points to keep in mind:

- **Smoking is not allowed inside rooms or indoor common areas.** Smoking is permitted only in designated outdoor areas.
- Participants are asked to respect **quiet hours**, especially during the night, to ensure rest for everyone.
- **Shared spaces** (training rooms, dining area, corridors) should be kept clean and tidy.
- **Towels and bed sheets** will be changed **upon request at the reception**, in line with the accommodation's **environmental sustainability policy**. Participants are encouraged to use resources responsibly.
- Any damage to rooms or facilities caused intentionally or through negligence may need to be covered by the participant responsible.

Respect for the venue, staff, and other participants is part of the **code of conduct** and contributes to a positive group experience.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

To ensure smooth logistics for everyone, participants are asked to carefully follow the travel guidelines below.

All participants must arrive at the accommodation **no later than 20:00 (Romanian time, GMT+2)** on the arrival day, and may leave **no earlier than 00:01 (Romanian time, GMT+2)** on the departure day.

Before purchasing any travel tickets, **sending organizations are required to submit the travel plans of all participants for approval** by the organizing team.

All travel tickets must be purchased **no later than March 17th, 2026**, after receiving confirmation.

[A] INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL | From your country to Romania

Participants traveling by plane can choose between the following airports:

- **Bucharest Henri Coandă International Airport (OTP)**
- **Braşov–Ghimbav International Airport (GHV)**

Although Braşov Airport is geographically closer to Şimon (Bran), it is a newly opened airport (June 2023) with **limited flight connections**. For this reason, we generally recommend **flying to Bucharest**, which offers better accessibility, more flight options, and more flexible schedules.

For smoother logistics, participants are encouraged to:

- arrive in **Bucharest on the morning of the arrival day**, and
- depart in the **evening of the departure day**.

This timing allows enough time for the internal transfer from the airport to Şimon (Bran), Braşov County, which will be coordinated by the organizers.

In line with our green travel approach, participants are encouraged—whenever possible—to choose environmentally friendly means of transportation, such as trains or buses, especially for shorter distances.

[B] INTERNAL TRAVEL | How to get to Şimon (Bran), Braşov County

Part I – From Bucharest to Braşov

If you land in Bucharest, the easiest and cheapest way to reach Braşov is by train.

Step 1: Take a direct train from Otopeni Airport to Gara de Nord (which is the main train station in Bucharest). You can easily find the train station at the airport from the Arrivals terminal. You can buy the train ticket when you arrive there in cash or by card (the price of the ticket is about 10 RON, which is around 2 EUR). The trip takes around 30 minutes. You can check the departure hours here: [Home - CFR Calatori](#)

Note: When checking the timetable, please introduce the following information for departure and arrival: for departure, please introduce “Aeroport Henri Coanda,” and for Arrival, please introduce “Bucureşti Nord”.

Step 2: From Gara de Nord, you should take a train to Braşov. You can buy the train ticket online, in advance, or you can buy the train ticket from the counter when you arrive at the train station. The price for a ticket is around 60 – 75 RON (approximately 12-15 EUR). There is a train leaving from Bucharest Nord almost every hour. You can check the departure hours here: [Home - CFR Calatori](#)

Note: When checking the timetable, please introduce the following information for departure and arrival: for departure, please introduce “Bucureşti Nord,” and for Arrival, please introduce “Braşov”.

Other options to travel from Otopeni Airport to Braşov or directly in Simon:

- There are also direct buses from Otopeni Airport to Braşov. In case you want to choose a bus, you can check the available buses here: [airport Otopeni Aeroport - Braşov | Autogari.RO](#) The bus prices are somewhere between 100-150 RON [20 – 25 EUR].
- At the same time, there is also the option of renting a private 8-person van to take you from Otopeni Airport straight to the accommodation in Simon. The price is around 1000 RON (200 EUR). <https://jetcab.ro/en/>

If you choose to travel by train or bus, we recommend you buy your tickets in advance.

Part II – From Braşov to Şimon (Bran)

Option 1: the easiest, but a bit more expensive [around 30 EUR per ride]

From Braşov train station (or, if you come by bus, any place in Braşov), you can take a Bolt/Uber directly to the venue (MAMA COZONACILOR in Şimon, Bran). The price for a trip is around 150 RON (30 EUR) per ride. If you are 3 people sharing a ride, then the price per person is around 10 EUR/person.

NOTE: When introducing the destination in the Uber/Bolt app, please be sure that the address is the right one. The name of the hotel is: Pensiunea Mama Cozonacilor, and the address is the following: Str. Iancu Gontea, Nr. 376, Şimon (Bran).

Option 2: a bit more complicated, but cheaper: bus from Brasov to Bran [around 9-10 EUR per person]

Step 1: From Braşov train station, you should take a **Bolt/Uber to Autogara 2 Braşov (Transbus)** [Codreanu 2 Bus Station], which is in Braşov, on *Avram Iancu Street, no. 114*. The price is around 10-15 RON/ride (which is around 2-3 EUR)

Step 2: From Autogara 2 Braşov, you should take a **bus to Bran** (the bus station near the Bran/Dracula Castle). There are buses every hour. You can find the bus schedule here: [Curse Brasov - Bran \(mersulautobuzelor.ro\)](http://mersulautobuzelor.ro). The price for 1 bus ticket is around 30 RON (6 EUR).

Step 3: We will **pick you up by car from the bus station near the castle**, and we will drive you to the accommodation. We will need to know in advance your arrival time in Bran.

Travel tips about using BOLT/UBER:

Please note that ride-hailing apps such as **Bolt** and **Uber** use **dynamic pricing**, which means that prices can increase during peak hours. In Braşov, higher prices usually appear during **rush hours**, typically: in the morning between **07:00–08:30**, and in the evening between **16:30–18:30**.

Under normal conditions, the price for a ride between **Braşov and the accommodation in Şimon (Bran)** is usually around **30–35 EUR**. If you notice that the price is significantly higher, we recommend the following:

- Wait for **5–10 minutes** and check again, as prices often drop once demand decreases.
- Compare prices between **Bolt and Uber** before booking, as the cost can differ between platforms.
- If your schedule allows, try to **avoid travelling during peak hours**.

These tips can help you manage travel costs and make informed decisions when planning your journey.

If you have any questions or uncertainties related to travel planning, visas, or routes, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are happy to support you in organizing your journey.

TRAVEL COSTS

Travel costs are budgeted according to Erasmus+ conditions, using the distance calculator² from the city/village where the participant is starting their trip to the city where the mobility will take place.

DISTANCE	NON-GREEN TRAVEL COST/PAX <i>Flight, Car etc.</i> COST/PAX	GREEN TRAVEL COST/PAX* <i>Train, bus, sharing car etc.</i> COST/PAX
<i>Between 10 and 99 KM:</i>	28 EUR	56 EUR
<i>Between 100 and 499 KM</i>	211 EUR	285 EUR
<i>Between 500 and 1999 KM:</i>	309 EUR	417 EUR
<i>Between 2000 and 2999 KM:</i>	395 EUR	535 EUR
<i>Above 3000 KM</i>	580 EUR	785 EUR

*To be able to fit your travel to GREEN travel, more than half of the travel distance must be done with green means of transportation. Moreover, below 500 km, participants will, as a general rule, travel with low emissions means of transport. For more details, please consult the Erasmus+ Program's Guide, available [here](#).

WHAT DOCUMENTS PARTICIPANTS NEED FOR REIMBURSEMENT

For the reimbursement of the flight ticket:

1. **The electronic ticket with the travel plan** or the e-mail confirmation of your flight (the e-mail received when the ticket was bought).
2. **All boarding passes in original** [including the return ones – which can be sent after the mobility].
3. **An invoice** from the travel agency/website/airline company from where the flight ticket was bought. The email confirmation of the flight does not replace the invoice.
4. **The payment confirmation:** If you paid through a bank (credit card, bank transfer, online payment, etc.), you need a bank extract or a printed statement released by your bank showing the payment/transaction.

For any other travel tickets (buses, trains, ferry, etc.):

- If you buy your tickets from an office, in cash, then you need the hard copy of the ticket with the price on it or the ticket and a receipt (if the ticket has no price on it).
- If you buy your tickets online, then you need the electronic ticket and the payment confirmation (same as above).

Note: If you are unsure about what documents you need based on the means of transportation you are traveling with, please contact us at dezvoltare.activa@gmail.com.

² <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/resources-and-tools/distance-calculator>

REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURES

To ensure a smooth reimbursement process, please carefully follow the steps below and respect the indicated deadlines. Reimbursements can only be processed if **all required documents are complete and submitted on time**.

STEP 1 – Sending travel documents [Deadline: 25th of April 2026]

After returning home, **all participants must send their travel documents** (including return tickets and boarding passes) to the hosting organization.

Required documents may include:

- return boarding passes (plane),
- bus or train tickets,
- invoices issued by official travel companies.

Important notes:

- Invoices must be issued by **official travel agencies or transport providers**, not by sending organizations. Invoices issued by sending organizations are **not eligible**, as they are not travel agencies.
- **Only original travel documents** are accepted for reimbursement.
- For electronic tickets or boarding passes, **PDF files or original electronic documents** are required. **Screenshots or print screens are not accepted.**

STEP 2 – Preparation of reimbursement forms [Deadline: 25th of May 2026]

After receiving all travel documents, the hosting organization will:

- Check and centralize the documents,
- Prepare an individual **reimbursement form for each participant**.

These reimbursement documents will then be sent by email to:

- the participant, and
- the sending organization (as the reimbursement receiver),

for **signature and official stamp** (where applicable).

STEP 3 – Sending signed reimbursement documents [Deadline: 10th of June 2026]

The sending organization is responsible for sending back:

- the reimbursement documents **signed by the participant**, and
- **signed and stamped by the legal representative** of the sending organization.

Documents should be sent **by email** to the hosting organization.

STEP 4 – Reimbursement payment [Deadline: 30th of June 2026]

After receiving all signed documents, the hosting organization will proceed with the **bank transfer**.

Reimbursements can be made:

- to the **bank account of the sending organization**, or
- directly to the **bank account of the participant**, if requested in advance (in this case, the participant agrees to cover any bank transfer fees).

FINAL NOTE: Please note that the deadlines above may be **earlier**, depending on how quickly documents are submitted, but **cannot be later than 31 July 2026**, when the project officially ends, and no further payments are eligible. We kindly encourage all partners and participants to respect deadlines and keep copies of all documents for their own records.

THE EXCHANGE RATE FOR OTHER CURRENCIES RATHER THAN THE EURO

According to the funding agreement with ANPCDEFP (Romanian National Agency) **the exchange rate used for the costs calculations (in EURO) must respect the following rule:** Beneficiaries whose general accounting is carried out in a currency other than the euro must convert the costs recorded in their accounts into EUR, using the average of the daily exchange rates published in *Series C of the Official Journal of the European Union*, calculated for the corresponding reporting period. If no daily exchange rate is published in the Official Journal for the currency in question, the conversion of these costs should be carried out based on the average of the monthly accounting exchange rates published on the European Commission website [[InforEuro](#)], calculated for the corresponding reporting period.

COMMON MISTAKES TO AVOID (IMPORTANT!)

To ensure that your travel costs can be reimbursed without delays or complications, please carefully avoid the following common mistakes:

- **Buying travel tickets before receiving approval** of the travel plan from the organizing team.
- **Sending screenshots instead of original documents.** Screenshots or print screens of emails, apps, or booking platforms are **not accepted**. Please always send the original electronic documents (PDF files) or physical tickets.
- **Missing boarding passes.** Boarding passes (especially return boarding passes) are mandatory for reimbursement when traveling by plane.
- **Invoices issued by sending organizations.** Invoices must be issued by official travel companies or transport providers. Invoices issued by sending organizations are not eligible.
- **Forgetting return tickets.** Both outbound and return travel documents must be submitted. Missing return documents will delay or block reimbursement.
- **Not respecting deadlines.** Late submission of documents can result in reimbursement delays or, in some cases, ineligibility.
- **Unapproved route changes.** Changing travel routes or dates without informing and receiving approval from the organizing team may affect reimbursement.
- **Incorrect personal details on tickets or invoices.** Please check that your name is clearly visible and correctly written on all travel documents.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The following terms and conditions aim to ensure a clear understanding of **rights, responsibilities, and expectations** for both participants and organisers. Participation in this activity implies acceptance of all the points below.

Participation and signatures

- All participants are required to **sign the Participants' List and Participant Statement** at the end of the mobility, confirming their full participation in the activity.
- These signatures are mandatory for the validation of participation under the Erasmus+ Programme.

Individual report (mandatory)

- **All participants are required to complete an individual online report** in the **Beneficiary Module** after the mobility.
- Completing this report is a **mandatory Erasmus+ requirement**.
- Failure to submit the individual report may affect **travel reimbursement** and the validation of participation.

Travel reimbursement

- To be eligible for the reimbursement of travel costs (and **visa fees, if applicable**), participants must provide **all required travel documents**, as described in the Travel & Reimbursement chapter.
- These documents include: original tickets, boarding passes, invoices, receipts, and any other relevant proof of travel.
- Travel reimbursement will be processed **only if**:
 - The participant attended the full activity,
 - All required documents are submitted correctly and on time.
 - The individual Erasmus+ report has been completed.

Early departure policy

- Participants are expected to attend the **entire duration** of the activity.
- If a participant leaves the activity earlier than scheduled, they may be required to **cover the costs of accommodation and food for the remaining days**, due to contractual obligations with the accommodation provider.
- Participants who attend **less than half of the activity** may be required to cover **all costs related to accommodation, food, and travel**, in line with Erasmus+ eligibility rules.
- Exceptions may be considered **only in cases of force majeure**, such as serious illness or family emergencies, and must be communicated immediately to the organisers.

Commitment to full participation & code of conduct

- Participants commit to **actively taking part in all scheduled sessions**, workshops, group work, reflection activities, and evaluations.
- Participants must respect and adhere to the **Code of Conduct**, which will be presented and signed on the first day of the activity.
- Respectful behaviour, openness, and responsibility towards the group and learning space are essential elements of participation.

Use of photographs and videos

- During the activity, photos and videos may be taken for dissemination and reporting purposes.
- Participants will be asked to provide **informed consent** regarding photography and videography.
- Personal boundaries and consent will always be respected, especially in relation to creative and reflective activities.

Data protection and privacy

- Participants will be asked to give consent for the collection and processing of personal data in accordance with **European data protection regulations**.
- Personal data will be processed by the beneficiary organisation and relevant authorities in line with **Regulation (EU) 2018/1725** on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by EU institutions and bodies.

Health and safety

- Participants must inform the organisers **in advance** about any health conditions, dietary restrictions, or specific needs, in order to ensure appropriate support.
- All participants are responsible for arranging their own **medical travel insurance**, including health and accident coverage, for the entire duration of the mobility.

Responsibility for personal conduct

- Participants are expected to uphold the values of **mutual respect, inclusion, non-discrimination, and solidarity**.
- Any form of harassment, discrimination, or serious violation of the Code of Conduct may result in **appropriate measures**, including possible exclusion from the activity at the participant's own expense.

Environmental responsibility

- Participants are encouraged to adopt **eco-friendly practices** during the activity, such as reducing waste, saving energy, and respecting environmental guidelines at the venue.
- Sustainable behaviour is considered part of the learning experience and shared responsibility.

Post-activity engagement

- By participating in this activity, participants commit to **using and sharing the skills, methods, and knowledge gained** in their local youth work practice.
- Participants are encouraged to remain connected with the group and the organising team and to contribute to follow-up activities, dissemination, and future collaborations.

CODE OF CONDUCT for participants during the mobility³:

This Code of Conduct applies to **all participants, trainers, organisers, guests, and volunteers** involved in the activity. Its purpose is to ensure a **safe, respectful, inclusive, and supportive learning environment** for everyone.

By participating in this mobility, all participants agree to respect and follow the principles outlined below.

PARTICIPATION AND ENGAGEMENT

1. **Be present and engaged:** Participants are expected to take part in all scheduled activities, sessions, workshops, and reflection moments throughout the entire duration of the activity (23 March – 1 April 2026), unless otherwise agreed with the organisers.
2. **Follow the programme schedule:** Participants are expected to respect the daily schedule, including session times, meals, breaks, arrival, and departure arrangements. Punctuality supports the group learning process and mutual respect.

RESPECT, INCLUSION, AND SAFE SPACE

3. **Respect others:** All participants are expected to treat others with dignity and respect, regardless of gender, age, nationality, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, abilities, or any other personal characteristic. Discrimination, harassment, exclusion, or disrespectful behaviour will not be tolerated.
4. **Inclusive and supportive environment:** The activity involves creative, reflective, and sometimes personal processes. Participants are expected to contribute to a learning space based on trust, empathy, openness, and mutual support.

BEHAVIOUR, WELLBEING, AND SAFETY

5. **Alcohol, drugs, and substances:** The use of illegal drugs is strictly forbidden. Alcohol is **not allowed during activity hours** and should never interfere with participation, safety, or group well-being.
6. **Personal and group safety:** Participants must avoid any behaviour that could endanger themselves or others. In case of conflict, participants are encouraged to address it calmly and respectfully, and to seek support from the organising team if needed.
7. **Responsibility for personal conduct:** Participants are responsible for their actions and their consequences. Any form of harassment, intimidation, or harmful behaviour may result in appropriate measures, including possible exclusion from the activity at the participant's own expense.
8. **Health and well-being:** Participants are expected to take care of their own physical and mental well-being and to inform the organisers promptly if they experience health issues or need support during the activity.

³ All participants will sign the code of conduct, in original, in the first day of the mobility.

ACCOMMODATION AND PROPERTY

9. **Respect for the venue and property:** Participants are responsible for treating the accommodation, training spaces, equipment, and facilities with care. Any damage caused intentionally or through negligence may need to be covered by the person responsible.
10. **Accommodation rules:** Participants must respect the accommodation rules, stay in their assigned rooms, and respect quiet hours. Non-participants are not allowed in participants' rooms without prior agreement from the organisers.

PRIVACY, MEDIA, AND CONSENT

11. **Respect privacy and consent:** Participants must ask for explicit consent before taking or sharing photos or videos of others. Recording or sharing content during sensitive moments, personal reflections, or emotional exercises without permission is strictly prohibited.
12. **Confidentiality:** Personal stories, experiences, or information shared by others during the activity should be treated with confidentiality and not shared outside the group without consent.

REPORTING AND SUPPORT MECHANISMS

13. **Reporting concerns:** Any form of inappropriate behaviour, harassment, discrimination, or violation of this Code of Conduct should be reported to the organisers or trainers as soon as possible. Reports will be treated seriously and confidentially.
14. **Support during the training:** Members of the organising team will be available throughout the mobility to provide support related to wellbeing, safety, health, or group dynamics.

FEEDBACK AND LEARNING CULTURE

15. **Feedback and evaluation:** Participants are encouraged to provide honest and constructive feedback during and after the training, contributing to a positive learning culture and continuous improvement of future activities.

FINAL NOTE

Respecting this Code of Conduct is a **shared responsibility** and an essential part of creating a meaningful learning experience for everyone. By signing the Code of Conduct at the beginning of the training, participants confirm their commitment to these principles.

ABOUT US | ACTIVE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Active Development Association (ADA) is committed to **promoting sustainable and active development initiatives that improve the quality of life and build a responsible and active society.** Our mission is **to empower and engage young people, particularly those from rural areas and vulnerable communities, to drive cultural, educational, social, and environmental development.** We aim to do this through **community organizing, youth-led activities and events,** identifying and addressing local, national, and European issues, providing training and education, promoting social inclusion, and developing partnerships with public and private sector organizations. With a focus on international mobility, youth policy and civic engagement, environmental awareness, and community development, **ADA strives to create meaningful opportunities for young people to lead change and shape their communities.**

“We envision a world where youth are at the forefront of societal transformation, advocating for inclusivity, environmental sustainability, and civic engagement. We believe in a future where young people are recognized, heard, and actively participate in shaping policies at local, national, and European levels, ensuring a brighter, more inclusive future for all”.

[ADA’s vision]

Our vision is that **young people are the present and their development and participation in decision-making should be a priority on the public agenda.** We believe that **young people can change the world if given the opportunity and support to do so.** Thus, **our projects aim to empower and organize young people and equip them with the skills and tools they need to become social change agents** and active citizens in their local communities and at both national and international levels. Furthermore, we strive to support young people who face difficulties in participation due to their vulnerability, lack of opportunities, or exclusion.

OUR INTERVENTION PLAN IS FOCUSED ON:

- **International mobilities (exchanges) of young people and youth workers** (both hosting and sending) aiming to develop the young people from our community and the youth workers from our NGO and our region. So far we have implemented more European projects, founded even through Youth in Action Programme, even though Erasmus+ Programme, in six main fields of action: (1) entrepreneurship & career guidance, (2) youth policies, youth participation and European citizenship, (3) cyberbullying, critical thinking, fake news and internet safety, (4) human rights, discrimination, exclusion and inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities (including minorities, refugees and immigrants) through different methods (including performing arts, policies or campaigns), (5) environment and health and (6) strategic development of youth organizations.
- **Structured dialogue, youth policy, and civic engagement projects and activities** in order (1) to empower and support young people’s participation in the decision-making process at local, regional, national, and European levels, and (2) to produce systemic changes in Romania and at the European level.
- **Community organizing and community building** – empowering young people from rural areas to organize their communities and change perspectives at the local level, regional, national, and European levels.

ADA is part of the European Community Organizing Network ECON and one of the founders of the NGO RURAL PLATFORM (2023).

Since 2023, ADA is an accredited organization in the field of YOUTH under Erasmus+.

ABOUT OUR PARTNER | GO FREE ASSOCIATION

Go Free – Asociația pentru Sprijinirea Societății Civile is an NGO based in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, working with young people from both urban and rural areas. The organisation is committed to developing a culture of participation among young people, strengthening democratic behaviour, promoting social justice, and fostering respect for diversity at local, national, and European levels.

Go Free's mission is to increase the level of education, civic culture, and democratic engagement within civil society. Through youth participation initiatives, media education, community organising, and advocacy projects, the organisation empowers young people to actively engage in their communities and to influence decision-making processes that affect their lives. A strong focus is placed on inclusion, anti-discrimination, and amplifying the voices of underrepresented and vulnerable groups.

Go Free works consistently to promote and protect human rights, with extensive experience in engaging Roma youth, rural youth, LGBTQ+ young people, and other vulnerable or disadvantaged groups. The diversity of the Go Free team — composed of volunteers and youth workers from different ethnic, social, and cultural backgrounds — reflects the organisation's core values of inclusion, equity, and representation.

OUR INTERVENTION PLAN IS FOCUSED ON:

- **Strengthening rural youth participation and representation.**

Since 2018, Go Free has co-coordinated, together with Active Development Association (ADA), the European Youth Village (EYV) programme — a community organising programme for rural youth in Romania. Through EYV, Go Free leads external communication, coordinates the Rural Newsroom (Redacția Rurală), manages the Informal Rural Youth Network (RITM), and ensures the inclusion dimension of the programme. The initiative fosters structured dialogue between rural youth and local authorities and promotes youth-led development at the community level.

- **Developing informal and national youth networks.**

Go Free coordinates RITM – the Informal Network of Rural Youth, currently bringing together over 150 young people from rural communities across Romania. Through projects such as RITM UP (2023–2024), the organisation has strengthened rural youth representation at the national level, engaging hundreds of young people and decision-makers in structured dialogue processes.

- **Community journalism and media advocacy.**

Go Free has developed community journalism as a tool for civic engagement and democratic participation. Through initiatives such as “StReEt – School of Community Journalism” and the Rural Newsroom, young people are trained to identify community issues, create responsible multimedia content, combat hate speech, and promote positive examples from their local contexts. Earlier projects in this field received national recognition and awards for civic activism and human rights engagement.

- **Structured dialogue, youth policy, and inclusion projects.**

The organisation has implemented youth participation and policy dialogue initiatives focused on social inclusion, particularly for young people with fewer opportunities. Projects such as “DiaLOG Inclusiv” contributed to the development of local youth strategies and inclusion frameworks.

- **International cooperation and European projects.**

Go Free has participated in Erasmus+ and Europe for Citizens projects and is currently involved in international partnerships focused on human rights, democracy, and youth engagement.

Through its programmes and partnerships, Go Free contributes to strengthening rural youth ecosystems, building democratic culture, promoting media literacy and advocacy, and creating sustainable structures for youth participation at local, national, and European levels.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE EUROPEAN YOUTH VILLAGE PROGRAM

The European Youth Village program is a strategic initiative aimed at transforming rural communities into vibrant, youth-led hubs of innovation, diversity, and sustainable development. Coordinated by the **Active Development Association and Go Free Association**, this program envisions rural areas across Europe becoming robust ecosystems where young people play a central role in community development and policymaking.

The European Youth Village program employs a comprehensive approach to rural youth development, incorporating several key components to create a vibrant and inclusive [rural] youth ecosystem.

The primary component is the **European Youth Village title**, which recognizes and supports villages committed to youth empowerment and participation. Complementing this are the **White Charter of Rural Youth**, a policy recommendation document, the **National and European Rural Youth Summit**, two strategic events for advocacy, dialogue with decision makers and collaboration among rural youth. The program also includes the **Rural Youth Awards**, which celebrate achievements in rural youth work, and the **Informal Network of Rural Youth (RITM Network)**, which enhances youth representation in decision-making processes. Additionally, the **NGO Rural Platform** provides support to youth organizations, while the **Rural Youth National Day** fosters advocacy and visibility for rural youth issues. Further support is provided through the **European Youth Villages Alumni Network**, the **EU values ambassadors**, and the **Rural Newsroom**, ensuring ongoing engagement, promotion of EU values, and media representation of rural youth perspectives.

The European Youth Village title is awarded to villages that demonstrate a commitment to significantly enhancing the lives of their youth by addressing local challenges and aligning with the program's main priorities. The title is granted for one year, during which the awarded village works to implement a detailed action plan driven by youth participation and leadership. This initiative not only boosts youth involvement in local processes but also fosters a culture of participative democracy and community development.

Key benefits of holding the title include local youth ecosystem development by establishing a supportive environment for youth to engage in community-building activities; fostering better communication and cooperation between young people and decision-makers; highlighting the efforts and contributions of young people in rural areas; and providing young people with the tools, training, and support needed to implement their projects and initiatives. The application process involves young people, with the support of local authorities, planning and submitting their village's application, ensuring that the initiative is youth-led and that local authorities support and share in the young people's efforts.

“Through our Erasmus+ Accreditation in the field of youth and our strategic events at European level (including the European Rural Youth Summit) we aim to extend the program's impact beyond national borders by sharing best practices, promoting youth participation, and integrating the European Youth Village concept into as many European countries as possible, while creating a more friendly European Union towards young people from rural areas”

(Victor Toma, President of ADA and Coordinator of the European Youth Village program).

CONTACTS & USEFUL LINKS

If you have questions before, during, or after the training course, feel free to reach out or consult the following resources.

Organisers

Active Development Association (ADA)

- **Website:** www.dezvoltareactiva.ro
- **Facebook:** @AsociatiaPentruDezvoltareActiva
- **Instagram:** @dezvoltare.activa

Go Free Association (co-organiser of this event and part of the EYV Governance):

- **Website:** www.gofree.ro
- **Facebook:** @AsociatiaGoFreeCluj
- **Instagram:** @asociatiagofree

European Youth Village

- **Website:** <http://europeanyouthvillage.eu/>
- **Facebook:** @europeanyouthvillage
- **Instagram:** @europeanyouthvillage
- **Instagram (European Rural Youth Summit):** @erysummit

Youthpass & learning recognition

- What is Youthpass: <https://www.youthpass.eu/en/about-youthpass/about/>
- Why Youthpass: <https://www.youthpass.eu/en/about-youthpass/why-youthpass/>

Venue & accommodation

- Accommodation website: <https://mamacozonacilor.ro/>
- Presentation video of the venue and surroundings:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TQ1cvSXiuFc>

Final note

We encourage all participants to stay connected, follow the project partners online, and continue sharing learning, inspiration, and good practices from the project beyond the mobility itself.

Annex 1:

WHAT WILL ACTUALLY HAPPEN DURING THIS PBA⁴

ARRIVAL DAY (23/03/2026): PARTICIPANTS' ARRIVAL & CHECK-IN

Participants arrive at the venue and check in between 14:00 and 19:30. This time allows space to settle in, rest after travel, and become familiar with the location before the programme begins. Participants are kindly asked to arrive before dinner.

Evening activity – Welcome & Informal Networking

A relaxed opening evening to welcome participants, introduce the trainers and organisers, and present the overall flow of the Partnership Building Activity. The session supports first connections within the group and creates a friendly and open atmosphere from the very beginning.

DAY 1 (24/03/2026): FOUNDATIONS: TRUST, CONTEXT & PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK

1st working session – Welcome, Context & Why We Are Here

The activity officially opens with a welcome and an introduction to the Erasmus+ Accreditation framework. Participants are guided through the objectives and overall flow of the week, with a clear explanation of the purpose of this mobility: strengthening cooperation and building a European ecosystem for rural youth work. Participants briefly reflect on their motivations for joining and what rural youth work means in their own context.

2nd working session – Human Connections & Rural Identity Lab

Through interactive games and small-group conversations, participants introduce themselves beyond their organisational roles. Reflecting on their personal “rural stories”, they explore what rural identity means to them and why this work matters. The session builds trust, openness, and a shared understanding of diverse rural realities across Europe.

3rd working session – Expectations, Contributions & Representation

Participants reflect on their expectations, potential contributions, and the role they represent within their organisation or community. A visual mapping exercise creates transparency around different mandates and levels of decision-making power, helping to establish realistic cooperation from the start.

⁴ **Please note:** The programme presented in this infopack is indicative. This training course follows a non-formal education approach based on participants' needs and group dynamics. For this reason, the agenda and methodology may be adjusted during the training course in response to the needs of the group, the learning process, or contextual factors, while keeping the overall objectives and learning outcomes of the project unchanged.

4th working session – Building Our Working Framework & Partnership Principles

The group co-creates a shared framework for collaboration, including agreements on respect, inclusion, transparency, and participation. Participants define the principles that will guide their work throughout the week and set the tone for constructive European partnership-building.

Evening Activity – Teambuilding & Networking Games

An informal evening dedicated to strengthening group cohesion, encouraging interaction, and creating a positive and collaborative atmosphere for the days ahead.

DAY 2 (25/03/2026): RURAL REALITIES & THE EUROPEAN YOUTH VILLAGE CASE STUDY

1st working session – State of Rural Youth in Europe: Challenges & Patterns

The day begins with a structured exploration of the realities faced by young people in rural areas across Europe. Working in country groups, participants identify key challenges such as participation gaps, youth migration, lack of youth spaces, weak dialogue with authorities, and issues related to wellbeing and isolation. A plenary synthesis highlights common European patterns as well as important national differences.

2nd working session – Rural Youth Work Responses: What Are We Already Doing?

Building on the morning discussion, participants shift focus to existing responses. In mixed groups, they explore current youth work structures and initiatives in their contexts — from informal youth groups to municipal mechanisms and networks. The session encourages honest reflection on what works, what struggles, and where structural gaps remain.

3rd working session – The European Youth Village Programme: Philosophy & Structure

In the afternoon, the European Youth Village (EYV) programme is introduced as a structured case study within rural youth work. Participants explore its core pillars, governance levels, and the logic behind its development. The emphasis remains on understanding how a structured participation model can respond to systemic challenges, without presenting it as a universal solution.

4th working session – Critical Reflection: EYV within Rural Youth Work

The day concludes with a critical analysis of the EYV model. In small groups, participants reflect on which rural challenges it addresses effectively, where limitations may appear, and which elements are transferable or adaptable to other contexts. The session positions EYV as one possible tool within a broader rural youth work ecosystem.

Evening Activity – Intercultural Dinner (1)

Participants are invited to share food, traditions, and stories from their countries. The evening promotes intercultural dialogue, informal exchange, and deeper connection within the group.

DAY 3 (26/03/2026): PRACTICES, MODELS & SYSTEM THINKING

1st working session – Practice Marketplace: What Happens on the Ground?

The day begins with a dynamic exchange of real experiences from participants' contexts. Through a rotating "marketplace" format, participants share one rural youth initiative they are proud of, one that struggled or failed, and one structural challenge they are currently facing. The session moves beyond "best practices" and creates space for honest dialogue about complexity, limitations, and lessons learned in rural youth work.

2nd working session – Thematic Deep Dives: Structural Patterns Across Europe

Participants self-select into thematic groups (such as youth–municipality cooperation, participation structures, inclusion and wellbeing, funding and sustainability, or youth spaces). Together, they analyse recurring patterns across countries and identify systemic gaps as well as transferable elements. The plenary synthesis highlights cross-European trends and shared challenges that require cooperation rather than isolated solutions.

3rd working session – From Initiative to Structure: Sustainability & Governance

In the afternoon, the focus shifts from individual initiatives to systems thinking. Through guided input and group analysis, participants explore the difference between projects and sustainable programmes, and between informal enthusiasm and structured governance. The session invites reflection on what makes rural youth initiatives survive beyond one funding cycle and what risks may arise when models become formalised.

4th working session – Designing Better Rural Youth Work Systems

In mixed-country groups, participants work with a realistic scenario of a rural region with weak participation structures. They design a one-year intervention, including governance elements, sustainability mechanisms, and youth involvement strategies. The exercise encourages practical application of systems thinking and highlights that effective rural youth work requires legitimacy, cooperation, and long-term vision.

Evening Activity – Free Evening

Participants have time to rest, reflect informally, or continue discussions in a relaxed setting.

DAY 4 (27/03/2026): GOVERNANCE, POWER & SUSTAINABILITY

1st working session – Youth & Power in Rural Communities

The day opens with an exploration of power dynamics in rural contexts. Through interactive mapping exercises, participants analyse who holds formal and informal power in a typical rural community and where young people are positioned within these structures. The session highlights that youth participation is not only about activities, but about legitimacy, influence, and relationships within local governance systems.

2nd working session – Governance Models in Rural Youth Work

Participants examine and compare different governance approaches, from informal youth collectives to structured programmes and municipality-supported models. In small groups, they reflect on strengths, limitations, and sustainability potential. The discussion encourages nuance: when does formalisation empower young people, and when might it restrict flexibility?

3rd working session – Sustainability & Funding Beyond Projects

Shifting from governance to long-term impact, participants explore why rural youth initiatives often disappear and what makes some survive. The session addresses financial sustainability, institutional support, leadership succession, and community ownership. In groups, participants design strategies to ensure continuity beyond short-term funding cycles.

4th working session – Risk & Crisis Scenarios Lab

Participants work with realistic rural youth work crisis scenarios, such as political changes, funding cuts, or leadership transitions. They analyse possible responses and preventive mechanisms, including how European cooperation can provide support during challenging moments. The session strengthens resilience thinking and reinforces the importance of structured cooperation.

Evening Activity – Intercultural Evening (2)

A creative and informal intercultural evening where participants share elements of their cultures, strengthening dialogue, mutual understanding, and group cohesion.

DAY 5 (28/03/2026): COMMUNICATION, NARRATIVE & ADVOCACY

1st working session – Breaking the Rural Narrative

The day begins with a critical exploration of how rural areas and rural young people are portrayed in media, policy, and public discourse. Participants reflect on dominant narratives such as “left behind”, “passive youth”, or “declining villages”, and analyse how these frames influence funding, legitimacy, and participation. Together, the group works toward reframing rural youth work from a deficit-based narrative to one centred on agency, potential, and leadership.

2nd working session – Storytelling for Structural Change

Participants explore the difference between promotion and strategic storytelling. Through practical exercises, they learn how to craft narratives that highlight youth leadership, systemic challenges, and long-term impact. The session emphasises ethical communication and avoiding “saviour” or tokenistic narratives, strengthening participants’ ability to position rural youth work in a coherent and empowering way.

3rd working session – Advocacy & Policy Positioning

Building on storytelling, participants develop short advocacy pitches tailored to different audiences, such as mayors, national agencies, or European institutions. The focus is on identifying convincing arguments, relevant data, and emotional hooks depending on the stakeholder. The session strengthens confidence in speaking to decision-makers and positioning rural youth work as a strategic priority.

4th working session – Multiplier Lab

In small groups, participants design a workshop format that they can replicate in their home context. Each workshop includes an overview of rural youth challenges, one structured participation example (such as youth councils, networks, or structured programmes), and an interactive element. The session ensures participants leave not only with ideas, but with practical tools to multiply the impact of the mobility.

Evening Activity – Free Evening

Participants have space for informal conversations, rest, or continued networking in a relaxed setting.

DAY 6 (29/03/2026): BUILDING THE EUROPEAN RURAL YOUTH WORK ECOSYSTEM

1st working session – What Do We Want to Build Together?

After several days of analysis and exchange, the focus shifts from reflection to construction. Participants reflect on what feels most urgent for rural youth work in Europe and where cooperation could create the greatest added value. Through structured discussions, possible directions emerge — from communities of practice and joint trainings to advocacy coalitions, research initiatives, or model development. The session marks the transition from individual perspectives to a shared European vision.

2nd working session – Working Clusters Formation

Participants self-select into thematic clusters based on their interests and strengths. Each group defines its purpose, target audience, and the added value it can bring at the European level. This process allows natural leadership to emerge and ensures that cooperation is based on genuine motivation and alignment rather than obligation.

3rd working session – 3–6 Month Action Roadmap

Each cluster develops a realistic short-term roadmap, identifying one concrete action to be implemented within the next three to six months. Responsibilities, communication channels, and coordination roles are clarified. The emphasis is on feasibility and ownership — moving beyond abstract intentions toward tangible next steps.

4th working session – Cooperation Canvas: From Idea to Commitment

Participants form smaller partnership groups to define specific collaboration pathways, timelines, and roles. The session encourages clarity around commitment levels and follow-up capacity, ensuring that cooperation initiated during the mobility has a concrete foundation.

Evening Activity – Romanian Intercultural Evening

An evening dedicated to exploring elements of Romanian culture and local context. The activity supports cultural exchange, informal dialogue, and connection with the hosting community.

DAY 7 (30/03/2026): POSITIONING RURAL YOUTH WORK IN EUROPE

1st working session – Mapping the European Rural Youth Work Ecosystem

The day begins with a large-scale visual mapping exercise. Participants collectively map local, national, and European actors involved in rural youth work — from youth groups and municipalities to networks, agencies, and institutions. By physically positioning themselves within this ecosystem, participants reflect on where they currently operate, where they want to contribute, and where structural gaps exist. The session strengthens awareness of collective capacity and shared responsibility.

2nd working session – Drafting the European Rural Youth Work Declaration

Building on the ecosystem mapping, participants co-create a short “European Rural Youth Work Declaration – March 2026”. In small groups, they draft key elements such as why rural youth work matters, which challenges require urgent attention, and which principles should guide youth participation in rural communities. The outcome is a shared document that captures a collective voice and vision.

3rd working session – Promoters in Action: Pitch Lab

Participants step into the role of advocates. In small groups, they prepare and practice short pitches tailored to different audiences — mayors, national agencies, European institutions, or rural youth themselves. The focus is on clarity, confidence, and strategic positioning, reinforcing participants’ role as promoters of rural youth work beyond mobility.

4th working session – Public Commitment & 6-Month Milestones

The thematic clusters formed on Day 6 reconfirm their first concrete actions, coordination roles, and online meeting dates. The group formally adopts the Declaration and agrees on at least one visible European follow-up moment.

The session consolidates momentum and transforms ideas into public commitment.

Evening Activity – Free Evening

DAY 8 (31/03/2026): EVALUATION, LEARNING & FOLLOW-UP

1st working session – Final Sharing & Personal Reflection

The final day begins with a space for personal and professional reflection. Participants look back at the week and identify key insights, perspective shifts, and moments of learning. Through guided reflection and small-group dialogue, they explore how their understanding of rural youth work, governance, and European cooperation has evolved — and what this means for their practice.

2nd working session – Follow-Up Confirmation

Before moving into evaluation, the group reconfirms the commitments made on Day 7. Thematic clusters briefly revisit their first actions, coordination roles, and communication channels. This session ensures clarity around next steps and reinforces that the mobility marks the beginning — not the end — of cooperation.

3rd working session – Youthpass & Competence Mapping

Participants reflect on the competences developed throughout the activity, including cooperation, communication, systems thinking, leadership, and advocacy. They draft their Youthpass reflections and connect their learning to their professional role in rural youth work, strengthening awareness of transferable skills.

4th working session – Evaluation Lab

The activity concludes with a structured evaluation process. Participants provide feedback on the content, methodology, group dynamics, and overall impact of the mobility. The session allows space for honest reflection and helps ensure quality and continuous improvement in future activities.

Youthpass Ceremony & Goodbye Party

The mobility closes with an informal celebration marking the end of the shared learning journey. Participants receive their Youthpass certificates, acknowledge collective achievements, and celebrate the partnerships and friendships formed during the week.

DEPARTURE DAY (01/04/2026)

Participants will check out after breakfast.

Please note that check-out must be completed before 12:00. Departure arrangements should be planned accordingly.