



Welcome to Harghita County!
One of the most unique corners of culture in Europe

On behalf of Harghita County Council we are pleased to send you our 6th international newsletter

News about the successful steps made in implementing the Robinwood Plus project

We welcome you all to read about international conferences, experience - and best practice exchanges and news about the successful implementing process of the RobinwoodPlus project such as call for subproject proposals, conference on sustainable management, FLEGT Action Plan – the European Union’s response to illegal timber, the 2nd Annual European Bio-energy Conference and Exhibition, FOREST EUROPE – Ministerial Conference on the protection of forests in Europe- and further on.



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New Cohesion Policy for proper alignment: Recommendations made by Harghita County Council regarding the conclusions of the Fifth Economic and Social Report

Proposals to the development of the European Union's Cohesion Policy, which should be applied after 2013, were made by Harghita County Council, the Romanian National Association of County Councils and the Ministry of Finance of Romania. Harghita County Council supports the development of a Cohesion Policy, which pays more attention to those regions that have similar economic and social characteristics, urban- and spatial structures to those of Harghita County. Therefore, the council emphasized the need for a reassessment regarding the role played by small and medium sized urban areas in regional development and cohesion politics.



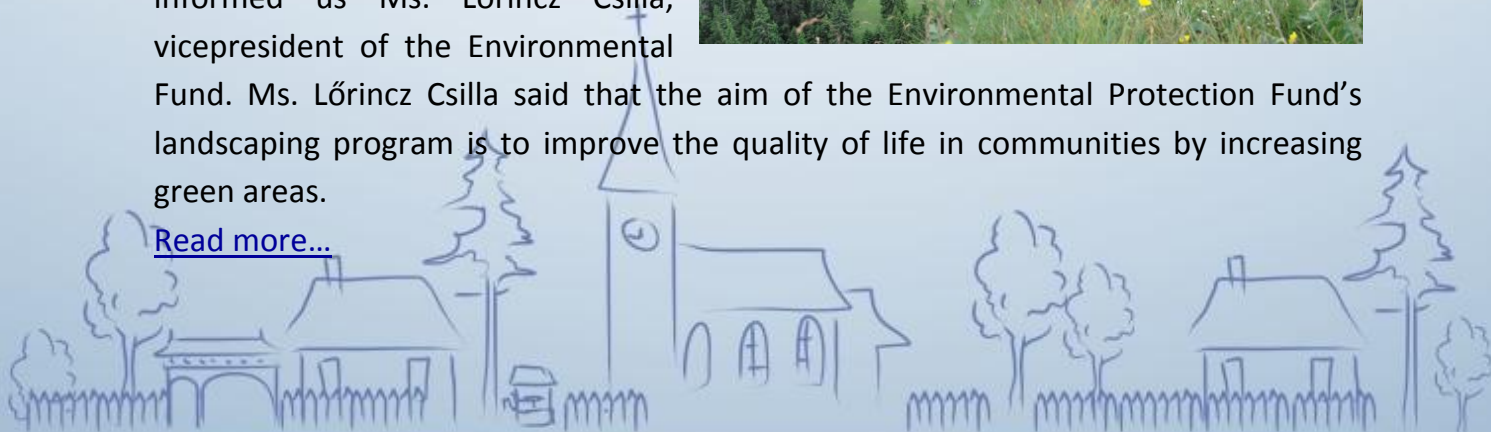
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With green areas for a better life: this year the Romanian Government decided on financing the landscaping plant of 5 municipalities of Harghita County

There have been sent more than 1000 landscaping plans for the call announced by the Environmental Protection Fund in 2009. At their meeting held on 9th of February the Government approved the financing of 285 plans from these, including 5 projects from Harghita county - informed us Ms. Lőrincz Csilla, vicepresident of the Environmental Fund. Ms. Lőrincz Csilla said that the aim of the Environmental Protection Fund's landscaping program is to improve the quality of life in communities by increasing green areas.



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Fish Farming Conference in Harghita County: The Fish Farming Association of Szeklerland has been founded this year

A conference entitled *The Possibilities of Fish Farming in Transylvania* was held in Odorheiu Secuiesc (Székelyudvarhely) at the beginning of this year, organized by the Hungarian Aquaculture Organization and a fishing institute from Hungary in collaboration with Harghita County Council.

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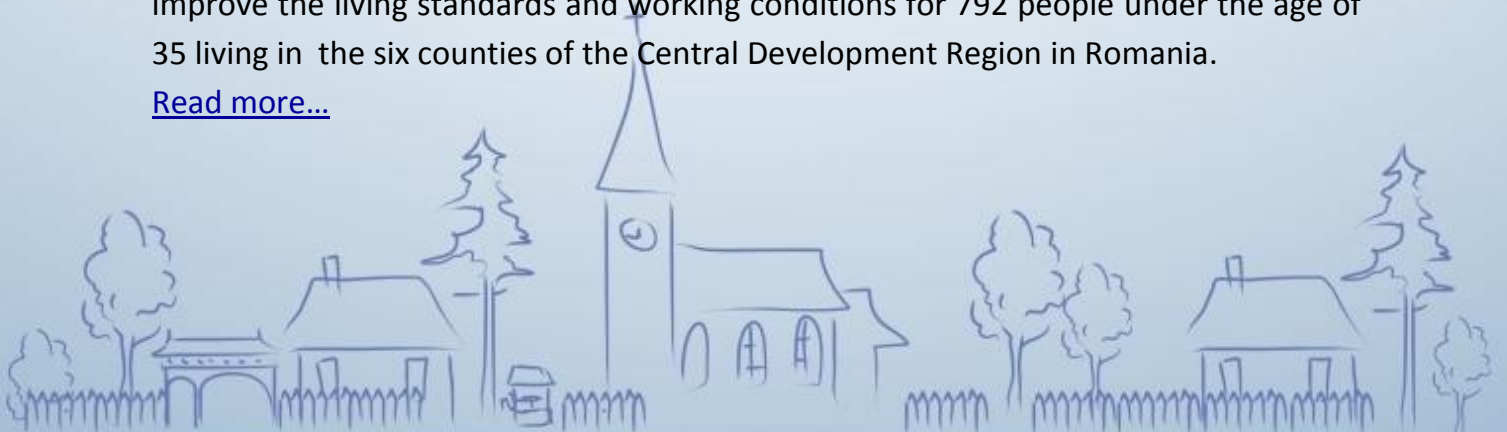
Telework opportunities for the youth in rural areas: The participants of the Telework project went on a study visit to Italy

The participants from Harghita County of the European project Telework took part on a four days study journey to Italy starting on the 6th of July as part of the Romanian partners. The implementation of this project concerning the promotion of telecommuting is carried out by Harghita Council Council in partnership with Harghita County Human Resources Placing Centre. The aim of the project entitled "Applying new opportunities for rural inhabitants trough Telework" is to



improve the living standards and working conditions for 792 people under the age of 35 living in the six counties of the Central Development Region in Romania.

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Szeklerland's prominent volunteers were rewarded: The "Orbán Balázs" prize was handed out for the first time at Târgu – Mureş (Marosvásárhely)

At the occasion of the 2nd Szeklerland's Days and based on the initiative of Harghita County Council, the County Councils of Harghita, Covasna and Mureş handed out for the first time the "Orbán Balázs"-prize for those personalities who worked for the development of Szeklerland, for undertaking activities in the native land and for the preservation of community values.



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Press conference on the Cho Oyu Expedition 2011

Members of the expedition Cho Oyu 2011 are the first Hungarians from Transylvania who had reached the 8000 m altitude. The golden rule of these expeditions is that human weakness can't fool taking too big risks. Everybody has to be healthy both physically and mentally before and during such expeditions. The goal of these is to conquer the highest peaks of seven continents, which are higher than 8000 meters.



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The president of Harghita County Council, Mr. Csaba Borboly's open letter addressed to Mr. Johannes HAHN, European Commissioner.

The suggestion regarding territorial reorganization which would replace the current division of 41 counties with an 8 region system in Romania gave birth both to pro and contra arguments this year. One of the most decisive arguments used by those who urge the implementation of this initiative, emphasizes the need to create an administrative system which is in accordance with the development system and policy of the European Union. Therefore, Mr. Csaba Borboly, president of Harghita

County Council considered that it is hightime to contact the person who is the most competent in questions concerning development issues, thus he asked Johannes Hahn, European Commissioner responsible for regional policies to offer his opinion about the case.

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Szeklerland Representation Office opened in Brussels

The main objective of the office, according to which the Councils of Harghita and Covasna counties are going to run their work, consists in promoting the particular interests of the area, as well as the regional economic and turistic opportunities on European decision-making institutions and forums in order to facilitate the effective development of the region.



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The Austrian Way is a Guide for Farmers of Harghita County

This year, Mr. Borboly Csaba, president of Harghita County Council, has had negotiations in Vienna and Tyrol Region about Szekler Products, cooperation, promotion and further collaboration possibilities. The president discussed with Dr. Johannes Abentung, president of Austrian Farmers Association. Mr. Abentung said that most of the products in Austria are sold mostly in



supermarkets and just a small number of such products are sold directly by farmers or in little specialized shops on distribution of local goods. There are a lot of organizations protecting the farmers' interest and these are vital for them. The Austrian representatives proposed to organize exchanges of experiences about rural tourism and farming with farmers from Szeklerland, through the Twinning program or by establishing twining relationships between counties and regions. [Read more...](#)

Good example for future generations: UNESCO prize for Mr. Ágoston Páll, potter from Harghita County

On the 21st May this year the new community center of Corund (Korond) hosted the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage Award investiture ceremony in the honor of Mr. Ágoston Páll, craftsman from Corund (Korond), Harghita county. Mr. Csaba Borboly, president of Harghita County Council pointed out in his speech that Mr. Ágoston Páll's life and work should be hold up as model for the future generations.



“We are delighted that our county has a person decorated with an award of high international recognition. This proves that we have values, value-creating people and communities in Szeklerland.” [Read more...](#)

Cultural values and Leisure Environments Accessible Roundly – for All (CLEAR) Another international project partnership of Harghita County Council

CLEAR aims to serve as a kick-start mechanism for generating a better attitude towards Cultural Values (CVs), rendering them accessible to all and seen as assets to local development. CLEAR wishes to make everyone aware of the possibilities represented by an increase in accessibility to CVs and to give different stakeholders (governments, tourist representatives, cultural operators etc.) tools and practical experiences to improve full accessibility to local CVs, thus transforming obligations into an asset and proposing market accessibility as a winning strategy for producing long-lasting beneficial effects in economic trends & social cohesion.

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2nd CivPro Interregional Conference on disaster prevention organized in Miskolc, Hungary

In 22-24 of June an interregional conference was organized in Miskolc, Hungary on disaster prevention, experience and best practice exchange by the CivPro project partners. The major goal of the project is to prevent the potential emergencies and damages affecting the population, properties, the environment and society through development regional policies. The main principle of organizing the conference in Miskolc, Hungary was the fact that last year the county town and its sub-region have been stricken by both natural and manmade emergencies and disasters several times.



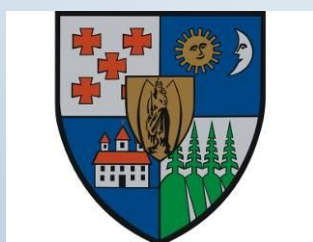
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Harghita County Council contributed with its proposals to the elaboration of a Joint European Roma Strategy

Based on the successful twinning cooperation with Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County Government, Hungary, Harghita County Council was requested to contribute with its proposals and opinions in order to elaborate a new Joint European Roma Strategy that will reflect the Roma population's situation in several European countries, will be presented and proposed for its adoption by the Assembly of European Regions (AER) this year in November and furthermore to be presented to European Union institutions.

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For further information, news and contact coordinates related to Harghita County Council's activity please visit the links mentioned below:



Harghita County Council

Official webpage of Harghita County Council:

www.harghitacounty.ro

Webpage of Harghita TV:

www.hargitatv.ro

Facebook page:

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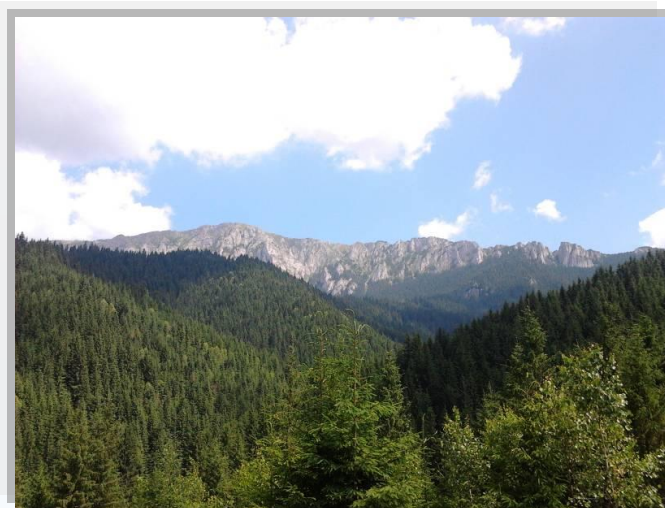
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