

Project Information Sheet
Conference Project Brief number (PBN): 4



Whole Village Project

Regional Model & Pilot Project: Hosman

Description:	Sustainable Economic Development & Conservation of natural and built heritage
Beneficiaries:	Inhabitants of Romanian villages
Project Implementer:	Kulturland s.r.l.
Co-implementer:	MET
Timespan:	Immediate 12 months – Long-term: 5 years
Estimated Cost:	Establishment cost: 26,000 Euro; project cost: 391,000 Euro
Partners:	Local councils, village inhabitants, Romanian Government, many other MET collaborators and donors, in training and skills.
Origin:	This project originated through a partnership of the MET, Horizon Foundation, Packard Humanities Institute, Caroline Fernolend and Kulturland Srl: it is a model that has been refined through its application in the 14 villages from Richis in the west, to Viscri in the east of “the triangle”.

1. Title of the Project

Whole Village Project (WVP): Hosman

2. Location of the Project and Area of Coverage

- a. **Regional:** The area under consideration is naturally delineated by mountains, rivers and national roads. It contains most of the Saxon villages of Transylvania as well as the city of Sighișoara. Its natural and cultural heritage and its social and economic conditions, combine to make this a unique region. WVP aims at promoting development built on the wealth of the region, and each specific village): their built and natural heritage, their history, their similarities between all its villages, their natural resources (rich agricultural land, streams, flora and fauna), the possibilities of 'ecological' agriculture and tourism, the know-how of its inhabitants, the interest of the international community. The typical Saxon village has 10% Saxon, mostly old people, 50% Roma and 40% Romanian.
- b. **Pilot Project:** The village of **Hosman** is located between the cities of Sibiu and Agnita in Transylvania, Romania. Approximately 20 km away from Sibiu, the village is situated in the South of the Hârtibaci Stream. The geographical coordinates of the Lutheran parish house are N 45° 49,902', E 24° 25,574' by 426 metres above sea level. Public buses are going four times per day to Sibiu and Agnita. The station is where the way to Hosman is branching off the public road No. 106. Hosman's center is approximately 1.5 km beside the road. Until 1968, Hosman was a independent commune. Since that time the village belongs to the Nocrich commune which is 10 km away from Hosman.



3. Justification

In the villages basic infrastructure is missing, basic facilities are urgently needed and **the economy is dying**. There is a lack of income generation activities, and the physical and institutional tools do not exist to enable it to develop. Access to markets, to credit or to investments, to electricity and even to know-how is poor, while the roads linking the villages to the national network are in poor condition. This creates a situation where the towns are able to continue their economic activities and eventual growth while the villages of Transylvania are being neglected and forgotten. The Saxon Villages are a poverty stricken area surrounded by cities connected to the country's economy.

State-owned farms, which provided most local employment, have collapsed. There is high unemployment in the area. Most villagers live on the poverty line, relying on subsistence farming. Privatisation and market economy are bringing the possibility of economic growth to the region: the area is ideal for cultural and eco-tourism and organic agriculture. The WVP has been refined into the most appropriate model in the regeneration of a sustainable rural economy for the villages.

There is a chronic lack of income generation activities. At the moment, poverty may determine inhabitants to sell their land and leave for the cities. Active WVPs would discourage that by providing an impetus to such environmentally friendly activities as ecotourism, organic agriculture and traditional crafts.

4. Objectives of the Project

a. Long-term objectives:

- Creation of a sense of belonging to a common region through the establishment of a network of cooperating cities and villages in the region, driven by cultural and natural heritage, sharing similar issues, problems and possibilities.
- Conception, development and implementation of a mechanism providing capacity building, training and the necessary sets of organisational tools for the betterment of the economic, social, cultural and environmental conditions of the region and its constituent villages;
- Sustainable development through the appropriate use of heritage – cultural and natural – of the region and the effective operation of programmes and projects and of private ventures in the region.

b. Immediate objectives

- to initiate the Hosman Whole Village Project – operate a mill, restore a guesthouse, start training and a Village Association (or similar legal entity)
- to be a working pilot for other villages leaders to start, fund and manage initiatives
- to create and incorporate income generating initiatives in Hosman for the benefit of Hosman's inhabitants.

5. Activities of the Project (see appendix I for its immediate application to Hosman)

- a. Establishing an Srl.
- b. Baseline Studies & Local council support
- c. Fundraising: for component parts of the programme
- d. Village Association establishment (or Fundatia relevant to the Village development)
- e. Commercial Activity (using a heritage resource)
- f. Restoration of priority buildings, water sources and street restitution
- g. Drinking-water-supply (see PBN 31) sewage system installation (see PBN 29)
- h. Training for skills, crafts and sustainable agriculture/gardening
- i. Village-preserving measures
- j. Educational contributions (partly integrated in school programme)
- k. Regional spreading activities (educational and coordination work)

6. Inputs

- a. Human management
 - 1 project coordinator
 - 1 village leader and Srl administrator owner other part-time team members
 - occasional accounting and legal advice
- b. Financial and non Financial requirements
 - Integration into the MET/CIBT diploma training programme
 - Integration into the MET/ Landmark Trust guesthouse tourism programme
 - Integration into the Pro MET SRL organic produce programme
 - Establishment cost of 26,000 Euro

7. Requirements from outside the project

The support of the local councils and the approval of the Ministry of the Environment and Ministry of Culture. Funding from public and private sector donors.

8. Calendar of Activities

Activity	Oct 04	Nov 04	Dec 04	Jan 05	Feb 05	Mar 05	Apr 05
Establishing an Srl							
Baseline Study & Local council support							
Fundraising: for component parts of the programme							
Village Association establishment							
Commercial Activity (using a heritage resource) started							
Restoration of priority buildings, water sources and street restitution							
Drinking water supply, sewage system installation							
Training for skills, crafts and sustainable agriculture/gardening							

9. Budget

Activity	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Establishing an Srl	500				
Baseline Study & Local council support	500				
Fundraising: for component parts of the programme	500				
Village Association establishment	9000				
Commercial Activity (using a heritage resource) started	15,000	15,000	15,000	10,000	5,000
Restoration of priority buildings, water sources and street restitution	500	30,000	15,000	15,000	15,000
Drinking water supply, sewage system installation		190,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Training for skills, crafts and sustainable agriculture/gardening		10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000

TOTALS **26000** **245000** **45000** **40000** **35000**

in Euros

Grand Total over 5 years:

391000

Appendix I

Notes on the Hosman specific activities:

- 1. Establishing an Srl:** a suitable legal entity for transparent, auditable accounting and legal employment with a commercial capacity. (8/2004 -9/2004)

2. **Baseline Studies** (covering geography, demographics, employment, education and transport etc) and support from the Local councils for scope of activities
3. **Fundraising: for component parts of the programme:** through the Stakeholders' Conference and through other sources
4. **Village Association** "Hosman Durabila – MET Village Association" establishment or a Fundatia of a similar name, membership and function.
5. **Commercial activity:** restoration and opening of the old mill, guesthouse to join with the MET's Landmark Trust initiative, bee-keeping to join the MET organic agricultural brand etc

6. Restoration and training programme

(11/2004 – 05/2005) **Restoration and re-opening of the Old Mill/Moara Vechi**

(10/2004 – 09-2006) **New building of a Saxon house – str. Bisericii 235,**

(03/2005 – 09 2005) **Continuing restoration site – str. Bisericii 234,**

(05-2005 – 2008) **Restoration of the Teacher's House – str. Bisericii 131,**

(The house is a property of the Lutheran Church. Talks, preparation etc.: 2005 –)

7. Training for crafts and sustainable agriculture (2006 – 2008)

Organic bee-keeping and honey production, handicrafts, and building and restoration diplomas so that builders can become self-employed

- Training of bricklayers, carpenters, joiners and other, for the whole village needed crafts
- Workshops for sustainable agriculture and gardening: mowing and grafting of fruit trees, organic fertilizer, selection of sorts and breeds, organic bee-keeping, setting up of a „forest school“ for children

8. Drinking-water-supply, sewage system installation

(2005 – 2009) (see PBN 33 and 35)

9. Village-preserving measures

(2005 – 2009): support of house-leaseholders/owners in correct restoration; cleaning and care of the streams and brooks in and around Hosman; repair, paving and regular care of local streets and the belonging drains; repair and earth-laying of cables; contribution to the preservation of historic and sacral buildings.

10. Educational contributions (partly integrated in school programme)

(2007 –): local history; regional and international languages and culture

11. Regional spreading activities

(not scheduled): Transylvania Agency/Siebenbürgen Büro – conception of a programme to revitalize abandoned Fortified Churches and the belonging buildings/soil by supporting settlement in coordination with church and state institutions; Mobile School – setting up of a approved educational programme (2 – 3 hours per week) for children with one parent of German/Hungarian native language to (re-)activate polyglottery; participation in the efforts to reviatlize the narrow gauge Sibiu-Agnita-Sighisoara (see PBN 23)

Appendix II

Photographic Support by KulturLand Srl

A Programme for the Integrated Development of Sighisoara and the Saxon Villages of Transylvania by Gaia Heritage Sal & MET

The Saxon villages of Transylvania, Romania – A future for the Mediaeval Landscape by Kim Wilkie & MET