

# connect inspire transform

**BRAN, ROMANIA | JUNE 12-20**



**partnership building activity  
under Erasmus+ Youth**



TAVOEUROPA

**Erasmus+**

Enriching lives, opening minds.



EUROPEAN  
YOUTH  
VILLAGE



DEVOLTARE ACTIVA



**RURAL TRAINING SERIES**

by @europeanyouthvillage

## INTRODUCTION

**„From Rural to Plural: Connect-Inspire-Transform” is a Partnership Building Activity organized under the European Youth Village umbrella, which aims to strengthen the capacity of youth workers and youth organisations active in rural areas across Europe to collaborate, develop, and implement high- quality [Erasmus+] projects that support the participation, inclusion, and empowerment of rural youth.**

The activity is designed for youth workers, youth leaders, project coordinators, and representatives of youth organizations active in rural areas across Europe. Participants should have direct experience working with young people from rural communities and a strong interest in developing new international projects that foster youth participation, inclusion, sustainability, and digital transformation in rural settings. The target group includes both experienced and emerging organizations seeking to strengthen their capacity, exchange good practices, explore the European Youth Village model, and build long-term strategic partnerships under the Erasmus+ programme in the field of youth.

During the mobility, participants will explore challenges and good practices in rural youth work across Europe, exchange youth work methodologies, deepen their understanding of key Erasmus+ priorities such as youth participation, inclusion, and diversity, digital youth work, and green practices. They will discover and connect to the European Youth Village model as a structured ecosystem for empowering youth, reflect on the role of rural youth in European policy frameworks, and work together to identify common priorities and build concrete action plans for future collaborations. The mobility will also strengthen participants’ capacity to apply quality standards in rural youth work, promote international partnerships, and support the development of sustainable, high-impact Erasmus+ projects for rural communities.

The partnership building activity will take place in Bran, Braşov County, Romania, between 12th and 20th of June 2025 (travel days included), being organized within the project “From Rural to Plural,” reference no. 2024-1-RO1-KA151-YOU-000270586.

The project is co-funded by the European Union and implemented within the framework of Active Development Association’s ERASMUS+ Accreditation for mobilities in the field of youth, Accreditation 2022-1-RO1-KA150-YOU-000110433.

The activity is open to participants from EU Member States and third countries associated with the Erasmus+ Programme, namely: Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the Republic of North Macedonia, the Republic of Turkey, and the Republic of Serbia.

**Eligible partner organizations:** Partner organizations must be legally established in one of the eligible countries. Additionally, all they must hold a valid organisation ID (OID), issued through the European Commission’s Organisation Registration System. Having an OID is mandatory to take part in Erasmus+ activities. Furthermore, each selected partner organization will be required to sign a partnership agreement with the project coordinator. This agreement will outline the roles, responsibilities, and financial and administrative conditions related to the project implementation.

This infopack includes a detailed description of the mobility, including context, objectives, agenda, target groups, logistics, responsibilities, deadlines, and other relevant information for both partners and participants. For further information about the mobility, logistics, or specific needs, please contact us on e-mail at [devoltare.activa@gmail.com](mailto:devoltare.activa@gmail.com)



## CONTEXT OR THE “WHY”

Across Europe, rural youth face specific and persistent challenges: geographic isolation, limited access to quality education and employment, fewer opportunities for civic engagement, and often a lack of youth-friendly infrastructure and services. Despite these obstacles, rural communities are rich with potential and innovation, and young people living there are key actors for their sustainable development. Yet many rural youth workers and organisations struggle to access European partnerships and resources that could amplify their local efforts. There is a growing need to connect, strengthen, and empower those working for and with rural youth at the European level.

The Erasmus+ Programme, through its focus on inclusion, participation, digital transformation, and sustainability, offers powerful opportunities to tackle these challenges. However, developing strong, high-quality partnerships that are rooted in the real needs of rural youth requires time, trust-building, and the exchange of good practices. The European Youth Village (EYV) model has demonstrated that by creating ecosystems of collaboration at local and national levels, rural youth can drive meaningful change. Expanding this approach across borders by connecting like-minded organisations can increase the impact and visibility of rural youth work Europe-wide.

This Partnership Building Activity is therefore designed to bring together youth organisations committed to rural development, to share their experiences, explore innovative methodologies, strengthen their capacities, and co-create future projects. By linking their work to the European Youth Village approach and to the Erasmus+ priorities, the participants will not only improve their local activities but also contribute to building a stronger, more inclusive European network for rural youth empowerment. Through dialogue, mutual learning, and collective action, we aim to lay the foundations for long-term partnerships and new initiatives that will give rural youth a louder voice and more opportunities to thrive.

## OBJECTIVES OR THE “WHAT”

- **Facilitate the creation of new partnerships** among youth organisations committed to supporting rural youth, by providing space for networking, sharing of experiences, and trust-building.
- **Enhance the understanding of rural youth challenges and solutions** across Europe by exchanging realities, analysing obstacles, and mapping successful interventions already applied in different rural contexts.
- **Strengthen youth work practices** by sharing, experiencing, and developing non-formal education methodologies, tools, and approaches tailored to rural youth, especially those tested and refined within the European Youth Village program.
- **Promote quality standards and policy frameworks** for rural youth work by exploring best practices, existing national and European policy frameworks, and the integration of Erasmus+ Quality Standards into project design and implementation.
- **Deepen the understanding of key Erasmus+ priorities** — Inclusion and Diversity, Digital Transformation, Participation in Democratic Life, Environmental Sustainability — and explore their specific application in rural youth work and the European Youth Village model.
- **Support participants in designing future collaborative projects** through identification of common priorities and joint action planning, addressing rural youth needs.
- **Strengthen the dissemination, visibility, and sustainability capacity** of rural youth projects by developing concrete follow-up strategies, communication actions, and tools for wider impact.
- **Promote the European Youth Village model** as a transferable and scalable approach for empowering rural youth and fostering inclusive, participatory rural communities across Europe.

## THE AGENDA OR THE "HOW"

| DAY                         | 1ST WORKING SESSION<br>10:30 – 11:50   | 2ND WORKING SESSION<br>11:50 – 13:30                             | 3RD WORKING SESSION<br>15:30 – 16:50   | 4TH WORKING SESSION<br>17:10 – 18:30                 | 18:30 – 19:30                        | EVENING ACTIVITY<br>21:00 – 22:30 |
|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ARRIVAL DAY<br>12/06/2025   | Participants should arrive at the hotel before dinner<br>Check in between 14:00 and 19:30 on June 12th |  |  |  |                                      | Welcome and introduction          |
| DAY 1<br>13/06/2025         | Connecting the Dots:<br>Meet, Play, Build the Team   |  | Setting the Compass:<br>Expectations and Common Ground   | Unlocking Erasmus+: a gateway to European youth work | Reflection groups / Daily evaluation | Teambuilding games                |
| DAY 2<br>14/06/2025         | NGO marketplace:<br>From local stories to European visions*  |  | Learn, connect, lead under the European Youth Village program                                      |  |                                      | Intercultural evening (1)         |
| DAY 3<br>15/06/2025         | On the ground: challenges and solutions in rural youth work**  |  | Our Toolbox: Sharing rural youth work methodologies***   |  |                                      | Free evening                      |
| DAY 4<br>16/06/2025         | Empowering rural voices:<br>Youth participation under Erasmus+ and EYV                                 | Best Practices for rural youth participation****                 | Zooming Out: Rural youth in the European policy landscape  | Best Practices in Rural Youth Policymaking****       |                                      | Intercultural evening (2)         |
| DAY 5<br>17/06/2025         | Inclusion and Diversity under Erasmus+ and EYV   | Best Practices for inclusion and diversity in youth projects**** | Digitalization and green practices in digital youth work under and green Erasmus+ projects EYV**** |  |                                      | Free evening                      |
| DAY 6<br>18/06/2025         | Quality standards in rural youth work (at local level and in Erasmus+)******                           |  | From Rural to Plural: Priorities and joint plans for the future                                    |  |                                      | Romanian intercultural evening    |
| DAY 7<br>19/06/2025         | INSPIRE: From Partnership to Action  |  | Harvesting our learning: Youthpass and beyond  | Final evaluation                                     |                                      | Youthpass ceremony                |
| DEPARTURE DAY<br>20/06/2025 | Participants’ departure after breakfast<br>Check out before 12:00 on June 20th                         |  |  |  |                                      |                                   |

*The agenda can still suffer changes. Details about the study visits will be provided prior the event.*

## HOW TO PREPARE BEFORE THE MOBILITY:

\* In this session, participants will bring their organisations to life through an interactive **NGO Marketplace**. Each partner organisation will have their own "corner" in the room, where they can creatively present who they are, their main activities, success stories, and their connection to rural youth work. Participants are encouraged to prepare engaging, visual materials — such as flyers, posters, project showcases, or interactive elements — to make their stand inviting and memorable. During the fair, everyone will be able to move freely around the room, discover the work of others, ask questions, exchange experiences, and build the first connections that could lead to future collaborations.

\*\* For this session, we will dive into the real-life challenges faced by youth workers and organisations active in rural areas across Europe. Before the mobility, participants are invited to reflect on the key challenges they encounter when working with rural youth — whether related to participation, inclusion, mobility, digital access, sustainability, or other local realities. Participants are also encouraged to think about and bring examples of solutions they have applied or tested to overcome these obstacles. During the session, we will create an open space for sharing these experiences, exchanging ideas, and identifying patterns and innovative practices that can inspire future collaborations. By learning from each other's journeys, successes, and lessons learned, we aim to build a stronger, collective understanding of rural youth work and move towards more effective and impactful actions. \*\*\* This session is dedicated to

exchanging the non-formal education tools, methods, and approaches that participants use in their rural youth work. Before the mobility, participants are encouraged to reflect on and select one or more **special methodologies** they apply when working with young people in rural areas — whether it's an innovative workshop method, a creative engagement tool, a participatory technique, or a locally adapted practice. During the session, each participant will have the chance to briefly present and demonstrate their chosen methods, allowing others to experience, discuss, and collect new ideas for their own work. The goal is to build a rich, shared "toolbox" of rural youth work methodologies that participants can adapt and apply in their future projects across Europe.

\*\*\*\* For the following sessions — **Best Practices for Rural Youth Participation, Best Practices in Rural Youth Policymaking, Best Practices for Inclusion and Diversity in Youth Projects, and Best Practices in Digital Youth Work and Green Projects** — participants will have the opportunity to present their work and experiences. Each session will feature **2 to 3 organisations**, who will share one or more best practices related to the session's theme. Participants who wish to present are invited to **book their spot in advance** by expressing their interest with at least one week before the mobility. The presentations should be practical, inspiring, and highlight concrete methods, activities, or projects that could be transferred or adapted to other rural contexts.

\*\*\*\*\* This session invites participants to reflect on and share what **quality standards** mean in the context of rural youth work, both at the **local level** and within **Erasmus+ projects**. Before the session, participants are encouraged to think about key aspects that ensure the effectiveness, impact, and sustainability of their work with rural youth — whether related to project management, youth participation, inclusion, communication, evaluation, or any other area that strengthens the quality of youth initiatives. During the session, we will explore together how maintaining high standards can enhance the experience and outcomes for young people in rural communities. Participants will be able to present tools, practices, and lessons learned that have helped them deliver more meaningful, inclusive, and well-organized youth activities, aiming to inspire others and contribute to raising the overall quality of rural youth work across Europe.

## PARTICIPANTS' PROFILE OR THE "WHOM"

**The Partnership Building Activity is designed for youth workers, project coordinators, youth leaders, and other professionals in the field of youth from non-governmental organisations active in rural areas.**

Participants must be youth workers or other professionals (including community organizers, project managers, facilitators, volunteer coordinators, or young volunteers taking active roles in their organisations), aged 18 or above, who are motivated to strengthen their capacity to work with rural youth, develop international collaborations, and co-create new projects within the Erasmus+ framework.

They should be committed to exploring rural youth realities, sharing best practices, and engaging actively in peer learning experiences linked to youth participation, inclusion and diversity, digital transformation, green practices, and rural youth empowerment. Participants are expected to attend the entire duration of the Partnership Building Activity and to contribute to follow-up actions, including the development of new project ideas and partnerships. A good command of English is required, as all activities will be conducted in English.

**Participants must be active members or close collaborators of their sending organisations. Each partner organisation will be represented by 2 participants, depending on the agreements established with the coordinator.**

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### WHAT IS A YOUTH WORKER?

*Youth workers work with young people aged 13-25, encouraging them, providing them with support and helping them to achieve their potential. The primary focus of youth work is on the personal, social, cultural, and educational development of young people. Youth workers may also, on occasion, provide help, support, and guidance to people as young as 13, and as old as 25. These people are mainly employed in places such as (youth) organizations, council-run community centres, youth centres, youth groups, schools, colleges, and other educational institutions.*

*Youth workers may work directly with individuals on their personal issues, assessing their needs, listening to their problems, establishing goals, counselling them, and supporting them through tough times. They may also get involved with organising community-based projects, which provide young people with avenues to express themselves, raise concerns and discuss their aspirations. It's all about empowering youths and giving them opportunities that they would otherwise miss out on. These programmes of support enable participants to make choices about their present and future options, regarding education, health, careers, drugs, sex, and social situations.*

*Youth work also has a more administrative side to it, and youth workers are regularly required to draft reports and maintain administrative records, which detail the progress of the young people in their caseload.*

**Recommended youth workers' profile:** The youth worker has interpersonal and communication abilities; has a strategic thinking and is focussed on results thinking; has a positive and supporting attitude; has team spirit; pays attention to details and promotes a positive attitude among the participants; has coordinating, planning and organizing abilities; has English speaking skills (at least medium level); has experience in volunteering, non-formal education and youth working; is a good mediator; has facilitating abilities; has evaluating abilities.

## SELECTION PROCESS

Each partner organisation is responsible for the selection of their participants. We, the **Active Development Association**, as the hosting organisation, will supervise the overall selection process to ensure that the selected participants fully meet the participants' profile established for this Partnership Building Activity. We highly recommend that during the selection process, partner organisations take into consideration the following aspects related to the candidates' profile:

### INTERESTS AND MOTIVATION:

- Individuals with a strong interest in **strengthening rural youth work** through international partnerships and Erasmus+ projects.
- Participants motivated to **exchange good practices**, develop new project ideas, and contribute to the empowerment of rural youth at both local and European levels.
- Those who wish to engage in **networking, peer learning, and mutual support** within a European community of rural youth practitioners.
- People eager to **initiate or enhance rural youth projects** in their communities and actively connect their local work with European frameworks, such as the **European Youth Village** model.
- Participants interested in becoming part of long-term **strategic partnerships** and **future Erasmus+ collaborations** targeting rural youth empowerment.

### SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE:

- We are looking for participants who have **at least basic experience** in youth work, project coordination, volunteer management, or non-formal education, ideally with a focus on rural youth. Participants should be **actively involved** in their organisations' youth activities, particularly in rural settings, so they can directly apply the connections, methodologies, and project ideas generated through this activity.

Participants must be **committed to long-term collaboration**, to building new European projects and networks, and to applying the learnings by strengthening their organisation's rural youth initiatives.

Participants should be ready to **embrace the values of the European Youth Village initiative**, bringing a participatory, inclusive, and community-driven approach back to their local contexts.

### IMPORTANT ASPECTS REGARDING THE SELECTION PROCESS:

- To provide a balanced representation and enrich discussions on rural youth challenges we are aiming that at least **half of all participants to come from rural areas**. Thus, the selection process will prioritize achieving a diverse mix of participants from both rural and urban settings, fostering mutual learning and understanding.
- The mobility emphasizes diversity and **encourages applications from underrepresented groups**, including LGBTQ+ youth and minorities, ensuring a variety of perspectives. Efforts will be made to create an inclusive environment where different voices and experiences contribute to the dialogue on rural youth work.

All participants must be selected and confirmed before 1st of June 2025.

## PARTICIPANTS' PREPARATION

The preparation of participants for the training course should be handled directly by the **sending organizations**. After the selection process, sending organizations are responsible for ensuring participants are well-prepared at three main levels:

### LOGISTIC PREPARATIONS

- **Information sharing:** The sending organizations must provide participants with all relevant details about the project, including the agenda, location, and timeline.
- **Travel arrangements:** Support participants in organizing their travel to Romania, including finalizing travel plans, booking tickets, and obtaining medical insurance. Ensure participants understand their travel itinerary and required documentation.
- **Confirmation of understanding:** Sending organizations should confirm that participants are fully informed about all logistical details and feel confident about their travel and accommodation arrangements.

### LEARNING PROCESS

- **Setting personal learning objectives:** Sending organizations should guide participants in defining their personal learning objectives for the training course. Encourage them to reflect on what they hope to gain, such as new knowledge, skills, or experiences.
- **Awareness of learning goals:** Ensure participants understand that the training course is a structured learning experience designed to equip them with practical skills in youth policy-making and media advocacy.
- **Task preparation:** Participants will have some tasks to complete before the training and the sending organizations should ensure these are clearly communicated and well-organized.

### SOCIAL AND CULTURAL PREPARATIONS

- **Cultural awareness:** Provide participants with information about the cultural context of Romania and the intercultural aspect of the training. Discuss the importance of respecting cultural differences and embracing diversity during the mobility.
- **Group dynamics:** Facilitate cooperation, dialogue, and team building among participants from the same national group prior to the mobility. Encourage tolerance, solidarity, and inclusivity within the group.
- **Code of conduct:** Inform participants about the group rules and expected behavior during the project. Emphasize the importance of creating a respectful and supportive environment.



## PARTICIPANTS' TASKS BEFORE THE PARTNERSHIP BUILDING ACTIVITY:

### 🧩 NGO Marketplace preparation:

- Prepare a short, interactive presentation about your organisation.
- Bring visual materials (flyers, posters, banners, videos, etc.) for your "corner".
- Highlight any projects related to rural youth work.

### 📢 Register for best practices sessions:

- Choose one of two best practices session you want to contribute to:
  - *Rural Youth Participation*
  - *Inclusion and Diversity*
  - *Rural Youth Policymaking*
  - *Digital Youth Work and Green Projects*
- Register your interest one week before the mobility.
- Prepare examples, methods, or project stories to share.

### 🌍 Get ready for the intercultural evenings:

- Bring cultural items (traditional clothing, small treats, flags, etc.).
- Prepare a short cultural presentation or activity (optional but encouraged!).

### ✈️ Travel and practicalities:

- Confirm travel arrangements and share details with the organisers – don't buy your tickets before having the organisers' confirmation.
- Check weather forecast and pack suitable clothing (layers, waterproofs).
- Bring any personal medication and valid travel insurance.

### 📁 Goodbye gift:

- Bring a small gift or symbolic item from your country for the Goodbye Party exchange.



## DISSEMINATION AND FOLLOW UP RESPONSABILITIES:

Participation in dissemination and follow-up activities is a key responsibility for both participants and partner organisations. By actively promoting and sharing the project's results, participants and organisations contribute to strengthening rural youth work across Europe and expanding the impact of the European Youth Village approach. Dissemination helps ensure that the knowledge, practices, and partnerships developed during the activity reach a broader audience and inspire future initiatives. Below are the expectations for dissemination before, during, and after the mobility:

### Before the mobility:

- Partner organisations and selected participants should promote the project on their **social media channels, websites**, or other communication platforms.
- Suggested content includes posts about the **project's objectives**, the **participants' selection**, and its focus on **building partnerships** and **strengthening rural youth work** through the Erasmus+ programme and the European Youth Village model.

### During the mobility:

- Partner organisations and participants are encouraged to post **regular updates** from the activity, such as **photos, short videos, participant impressions**, and **key moments** from sessions and networking activities.
- Posts should highlight the project's emphasis on **partnership building, sharing rural youth work methodologies**, and **creating future collaborations** for rural youth empowerment.

### After the mobility:

- Each partner organisation and participant must prepare a **report, article, or blog post** reflecting their experience, the learning outcomes, and the project's results. These should be shared on local, national, or international dissemination channels (e.g., websites, newsletters, media outlets).
- Participants should organise a small dissemination event (e.g., presentation, workshop, info session) within their organisation or local community to share the best practices, project ideas, and learning gained through the mobility.

### Key reminders:

- All dissemination efforts should align with the project's themes: **rural youth empowerment, partnership development, and strengthening the quality of rural youth work**.
- Use **creative, accessible formats** (e.g., videos, infographics, short articles) to reach and engage diverse audiences.
- Always **obtain consent** from people featured in photos or videos before publishing content.

## PROOFS OF THE DISSEMINATION AND FOLLOW UP ACTIVITIES:

It is very important that all participants to be involved in the dissemination and follow up activities after the mobility Also, you must send us proof (pictures or links), a small report (what happened, when happened, where happened and who participated) and a scanned copy of the participation list before **31st of July 2025**.

## ACCOMMODATION, FOOD & OTHER LOGISTICS

**The accommodation and food are 100% covered by Erasmus+ Program, between 12th and 20th of June 2025. The check-in is after 14:00 on the Arrival Day; the Check-out is before 11:00 on the Departure Day. There is NO PARTICIPATION FEE for attending the mobility**

During the mobility, participants will be hosted at Pensiunea Mama Cozonacilor from Şimon Village (Bran). Here you can find the [hotel's website](#). The rooms will be shared between 2 or 3 people. Some of the rooms have 3 beds, others 1 matrimonial/shared bed and a single bed, others have a matrimonial/shared bed and 2 single beds. The hotel is situated 5km away from Dracula's Castle in Bran.

***Additional information for participants with specific needs:*** *The training room is located on the first floor, while the accommodation rooms are spread across the first, second, and third floors. The restaurant is situated on the ground floor. Access between floors requires using stairs, with approximately 16–20 steps per flight, each step being 17–20 cm high. Please note that there is no elevator in the building, so participants with mobility challenges should take this into consideration when deciding to join. If you have specific accessibility needs, feel free to contact us, and we will do our best to assist and find suitable solutions.*

**Participants will enjoy three meals per day (breakfast, lunch, and dinner), along with two coffee breaks daily.** The arrival day includes just the dinner, and the departure day includes both breakfast and lunch. All meals are organized as a buffet, with different options, including dishes suitable for vegans and vegetarians. For food restrictions or specific dietary needs, participants should announce in advance. Water, coffee and tea will be provided 24/7 to all participants.

**During the activities we will have a First Aid Kit and some general medicines in case someone ask for it. Yet, we highly recommend all participants to you have a medical travel insurance for your staying in Romania.**

***Note:*** *For participants that are part of the European Union, we recommend to take the European Health Insurance Card, a free card that gives you access to medically necessary, state-provided healthcare during a temporary stay in any of the 27 EU countries, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland under the same conditions and at the same cost (free in some countries) as people insured in that country.*

***Note:*** *If any participant wants to stay longer in Romania, this is possible up to 2-3 days before and 2-3 days after the mobility. All costs related to the extra days (for food, accommodation, trips, local transportation, or other types of costs who were not made for the project) must be covered by the participants themselves.*

## TRAVEL INFORMATION

All participants must arrive at the accommodation **NO LATER** than 20:00 (Romanian time, GMT+3) on the arrival day and must leave from the accommodation **NO SOONER** than 00:01 (Romanian time, GMT+3) on the departure day.

**Before buying the tickets, the sending organization must send the travel plan of all participants for approval. All participants must buy their tickets before 1st of June 2025.**

### [A] INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL | From your country to Romania

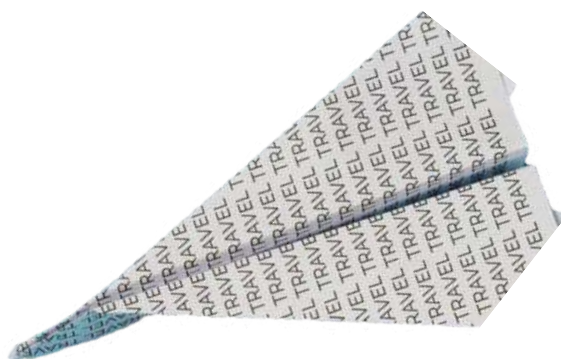
If you choose to travel by plane, you can book flights to **Bucharest Otopeni Airport (OTP)** or **Braşov Airport (GHV)**. While Braşov Airport is closer to Şimon (Bran), the location of the youth exchange, it is a newly opened airport (June 2023) with limited flight options. For this reason, we recommend flying to Bucharest for better accessibility and flight variety.

For smoother logistics, we recommend landing in **Bucharest** on the **morning of the arrival day (January 17th)** and departing **in the evening of the departure day (January 26th)**. This will allow sufficient time for the internal travel from the airport to Şimon (Bran), Braşov County.

**In line with our green policies, we encourage participants to opt for environmentally friendly means of transportation to Romania wherever possible.**

### VISA Requirements:

If you require a visa or an invitation to travel to Romania, please inform us as soon as possible so we can assist you with the visa application process. We are here to support you in planning your journey—feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns!





## [B] INTERNAL TRAVEL | How to get to Șimon (Bran), Brașov County

### Part I – From Bucharest to Brașov

If you land in Bucharest, the easiest and cheapest way to reach Brașov 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 5 RON, which is around 1 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 “**București Nord**”.

**Step 2: From Gara de Nord, you should take a train to Brasov.**

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 55 – 60 RON (approximatively 11-12 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 “**București Nord**” and for Arrival please introduce “**Brașov**”.

**Other options to travel from Otopeni Airport to Brașov:** There are also direct busses from Otopeni Airport to Brașov. In case you want to choose a bus, you can check the available busses here: [airport Otopeni Aeroport - Brașov | Autogari.RO](#) The bus prices are somewhere between 90 – 120 RON [18 – 24 EUR].

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### Part II – From Brașov to Șimon (Bran)

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

From Brașov train station (or, if you come by bus, any place in Brașov) you can take a Bolt/Uber directly to the venue (MAMA COZONACILOR in Șimon, Bran). The price for a trip is around 125-150 RON (25-30 EUR). If you are 3 people sharing a ride, then the price per person is around 8-10 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, Șimon (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 Brasov, on the *Avram Iancu Street, no. 114*. The price is around 10-15 RON/raid (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 busses every hour. You can find the bus schedule here: [Curse Brasov - Bran \(mersulautobuzelor.ro\)](https://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 hour in Bran.

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### **Travel tips about using BOLT/UBER:**

*In case there are still some of you that do not know yet about Uber/Bolt or other riding apps raising the price of the ride on the rush hours (usually in the morning between 7:00 and 8:30 AM and in the evening between 16:30-18:30), here is some information to help you. The normal price between Braşov and the hotel in Şimon (Bran) is around 30-35 EUR. If the price it is much more expensive, my recommendation is to wait a bit longer and search again for a new ride in 5-10 minutes. Also, you can check both Uber and Bolt and compare the prices before choosing your ride.*

*Here is what Uber says about it: "So, during periods of excessive demand or scarce supply, when there are far more riders than drivers, Uber increases its normal fares with a multiplier whose value depends on scarcity of available drivers. This so-called surge pricing uses microeconomics to calculate a market price for riders and drivers alike. The goal of surge pricing is to find the "equilibrium price" at which driver supply matches rider demand and riders' wait time is minimized. Studies show that surge pricing achieves what it was designed to do: it brings more drivers online, and it allocates available rides to those who value them more. So, if the rate is a bit higher than you'd like and you don't need to ride immediately, you can wait for surge to drop".*



## TRAVEL COSTS

Travel costs are budgeted according to Erasmus+ conditions, using the distance calculator<sup>1</sup> from the city where each sending organization it is registered to the city where the mobility will take place.

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

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## WHAT DOCUMENTS PARTICIPANTS NEED FOR REIMBURSEMENT

### For the reimbursement of the flight ticket:

- **The electronic ticket with the travel plan** or the e-mail confirmation of your flight (the e-mail received when the ticket was bought).
- **All boarding passes in original** [including the return ones – which can be sent after the mobility].
- **An invoice** from the travel agency/website/airlines company from where the flight ticket was bought. The email confirmation of the flight is not replacing the invoice.
- **The payment confirmation:** If you paid through 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 (busses, 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:** Invoices must be released by official travel companies/offices and not by the sending organizations. The invoices released by any sending organization does not count, as the sending organization is not a travel agency. Only the original travel documents are taken in consideration for the reimbursement. Please be sure that participants bring all the requested documents with them in Romania during the activity, as without them we cannot make you the reimbursement. For electronic documents, screen shots/print screens are not considered.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/resources-and-tools/distance-calculator>

## REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURES

**Step 1:** All the return documents (return boarding passes, return bus tickets, etc.) or any other missing travel documents will be sent by all participants by post.

**Deadline: 15th of July 2025**

**Step 2:** We will collect all your travel documents from you (including the return ones) and we will centralize them in one reimbursement document for every each participant. Then, we will send this reimbursement documents back to you, by email to sign them (also your sending organization - as the receiver of the reimbursement - will sign and stamp them).

**Deadline: 10th of August 2025**

**Step 3:** Your sending organization will send us by email the reimbursement documents, signed by all participants and by its legal representative.

**Deadline: 20th of August 2025**

**Step 4:** After receiving the signed reimbursement documents, we will make the money transfer through bank in the bank account of the sending organization or in the bank account of the participant if he/she/they request this and agrees to pay the bank transfer tax.

**Deadline: 31st of August 2025**

**NOTE:** The deadlines can suffer changes, depending on how fast you send the documents. It can be much earlier, **but not later than 31/08/2025**, when the project officially ends, and no payment is eligible anymore.

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## THE EXCHANGE RATE FOR OTHER CURRENCIES RATHER THAN 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.



## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

*These terms and conditions ensure a clear understanding of responsibilities, participation requirements, and expectations for both the participants and organizers.*

**Participating in this mobility means agreeing with the following terms and conditions:**

### **Participation and Signatures:**

- All participants are required to sign a Participant Statement and the Participants' List at the end of the mobility to confirm their participation in the mobility.

### **Individual report:**

- At the end of the mobility, each participant is responsible for completing a report on the Beneficiary Module website within 30 days of the mobility's conclusion, following Erasmus+ guidelines.

### **Travel Reimbursement:**

- To be eligible for the reimbursement of travel costs (and visa fees, if applicable), participants must provide all travel documents as described in the previous pages. This includes original tickets, boarding passes, receipts, invoices, and any other relevant travel documentation.
- Reimbursement will be processed only after the full participation in the program, submission of all required documents, and completion of the mobility report by the group leader.

### **Early Departure Policy:**

- If a participant decides to leave the mobility earlier than scheduled, they will be responsible for covering the costs of accommodation and food for the remaining days. This is due to pre-existing agreements with the accommodation provider, where costs are incurred regardless of the participant's presence.
- Participants who do not attend at least half of the mobility must cover all costs related to accommodation, food, and travel. This is in accordance with the eligibility criteria outlined in the Erasmus+ program guide. Exceptions to this rule will only be made in cases of force majeure (e.g., serious illness, family emergencies).

### **Commitment to Full Participation:**

- Participants agree to take part in all scheduled activities, workshops, and discussions. Active engagement is expected throughout the entire duration of the exchange.
- Participants must adhere to the project's CODE OF CONDUCT by signing a declaration on the first day of the mobility exchange. You can find the code of conduct in the following pages.

### **Use of Photographs and Videos:**

- Participants will be asked for consent regarding photography and videography during the mobility.

**Data Protection and Privacy:**

- Participants will be asked for consent and must agree with the collection of personal data in accordance with European Commission regulations. The data will be stored and processed by the beneficiary organizations and the ANPCDEFP under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons regarding the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices, and agencies, and on the free movement of such data.

**Health and Safety:**

- Participants must inform the organizers of any health conditions, dietary restrictions, or specific needs before the start of the exchange to ensure proper arrangements can be made.

Participants are responsible for arranging their own travel insurance, including health and accident coverage, for the duration of the exchange.

**Responsibility for Personal Conduct:**

- Participants are expected to uphold the values of mutual respect, non-discrimination, and inclusion. Any form of inappropriate behaviour, harassment, or violation of the code of conduct will result in appropriate measures being taken, which may include dismissal from the program at the participant's expense.

**Environmental Commitment:**

- Participants are encouraged to adopt eco-friendly practices during the exchange, including waste reduction, energy conservation, and participation in any green initiatives promoted during the program.

**Post-Mobility Engagement:**

- By participating in this exchange, participants commit to applying the skills and knowledge gained during the mobility in their local communities. They are encouraged to act as ambassadors for human rights and youth empowerment, and to stay in touch with other participants and the organizing team for potential future collaborations.

**Please note:** In line with our internal policies and commitment to ensuring accessible participation, there is no participation fee required for this project or any other ADA projects. All costs related to accommodation, meals, and programme activities are covered by the project through Erasmus+ funding.

## CODE OF CONDUCT for participants during the mobility<sup>2</sup>:

To make sure everyone has a great time, we've put together a Code of Conduct that everyone (including participants, facilitators, organizers, guests, and volunteers) needs to follow. This is all about keeping things safe, fun, and respectful for everyone involved.

### Participation

- Be present and engaged: You need to join all the activities and sessions during the event from 12th to 20th June 2025. Make sure you're active and involved, unless you've discussed otherwise with the organizers. Participate in discussions, workshops, and other activities in a positive and constructive way.
- Follow the schedule: Stick to the event schedule, including arrival and departure from Simon (Bran), session times, meals, and breaks.

### Respect and inclusion

- Be respectful: Treat everyone—participants, organizers, facilitators, guests, and volunteers - with respect and dignity, regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or any other personal characteristic. We're all about creating an inclusive, welcoming environment. No discrimination or exclusion allowed.
- Special rules for minors: If you're under 18, you need a signed parental consent form to join. Minors cannot consume alcohol, drugs, or other illegal substances, and cannot leave the event location or hotel without permission from the organizers or their accompanying person.

### Behaviour and safety

- No drugs or alcohol: These are forbidden for everyone. Alcohol isn't allowed during activity hours. Minors should not use tobacco, alcohol, or drugs.
- Stay safe: Don't do anything that could harm yourself or others. If there's a conflict, try to resolve it calmly and respectfully. If needed, ask organizers for help. Report any harassment, discrimination, or inappropriate behavior; breaking rules can result in removal from the event.
- Be honest and responsible: Act with honesty and integrity in all activities. You're responsible for your actions and their consequences.
- Health rules: Follow health guidelines, including personal hygiene and physical distancing if applicable. If you have health issues, inform the organizers immediately so they can assist.

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<sup>2</sup> All participants will sign the code of conduct, in original, in the first day of the mobility.

### Hotel and property

- Respect property: Take care of hotel rooms and event spaces. Pay for any damages or missing items. Do not damage equipment or facilities.
- Accommodation rules: Follow the schedule set by the organizers and stay only in your assigned room. No strangers or non-participants in your hotel room.

### Social media and privacy

- Respect privacy: Do not post pictures or videos of others without explicit permission, especially during free time or private moments. Ask before sharing visual content of others' personal information.
- Respect intellectual property: Don't share or use materials from others (including facilitators) without permission, and give proper credit.

### Reporting and support

- Reporting issues: There will be a form available for reporting inappropriate behavior or other incidents during the summit.
- Health support: Organizers will assist with health issues or emergencies as needed.
- Feedback: At the end of the event, there will be a feedback form to help improve future Summits and ensure a safe experience for everyone.





## 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; 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.**

## 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 level, and (2) to produce systemic changes in Romania and at European level.
- **Community organizing and community building** – helping young people from rural areas to organize their communities and change perspectives at local level.

**ADA is part of the European Community Organizing Network ECON and one of the founders of BACAU YOUTH FEDERATION (2017) and the NGO RURAL PLATFORM (2023).**

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

## ABOUT GO FREE ASSOCIATION

### THE ORGANIZATION WE SHARE THE EUROPEAN YOUTH VILLAGE GOVERNANCE

Go Free - Association for the Support of Civil Society is an NGO based in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, which works with young people (from urban and rural areas) and which aims to promote respect for diversity and dialogue between different communities. **The purpose of the organization is to increase the level of culture, education and democracy in civil society in Romania.** Among its objectives are the support of democratic values and principles, the support of minorities and the promotion of cultural diversity in the national and European framework, the creation of opportunities to develop young people - through social responsibility projects. Go Free has constantly assumed, in practice, the promotion and respect of human rights, having experience in working with Roma children and youth, rural youth, LGBTQ+ youth, vulnerable/disadvantaged communities.

**Go Free, together with the Active Development Association (ADA), forms the Governance of the European Youth Village program. Within the European Youth Village program, Go Free coordinates the external communication with both rural youth and the public in general and it is in charge with the Informal Network of Rural Youth and the Rural News[room] – two of the program's main components.**

**Go Free brings a wealth of experience in media and media advocacy.** From 2010 to 2018, they led a youth newsroom initiative. In the years 2024-2025, they plan to establish the Rural Newsroom as a component of the European Youth Village program through a participation project under Erasmus+. This project is designed to empower young individuals to pinpoint issues within their communities, create responsible multimedia content, and enhance the visibility of these issues. It aims to cultivate their role as watchdogs and their capacity for media advocacy on subjects related to democratic processes, social injustices, discrimination, and more. Additionally, it encourages them to produce content that highlights positive examples from their communities.

**Community journalism is a community involvement tool, developed by Go Free** in the pilot project - Community Journalists for Social Solidarity (2015-2016) financed by Norwegian Grants, implemented in 5 multi-ethnic rural communities in Transylvania. It was designated the Volunteer Project of the Year 2016 in the field of Civic Activism and Human Rights.

**Recognition of the involvement of the Go Free team:** in 2022 Go Free received the Special Award for Youth offered by ANPCDEFP within the Public Participation Awards Gala (CeRe) and the Award for the activities organized within the European Year of Youth for the mobilization of young people within the European Youth Village program. At the same time, in 2023, their project RITM UP was designated "Project of the year for the development of young people from Rural Areas" in the Romanian Youth Awards.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

European Youth Village

Website: <http://europeanyouthvillage.eu/>

Facebook [@europeanyouthvillage](#)

Instagram [@europeanyouthvillage](#)

Instagram EYRS: [@erysummit](#)

Active Development Association

Facebook [@AsociatiaPentruDezvoltareActiva](#)

Instagram [@dezvoltare.activa](#)

GO FREE Association

Facebook [@AsociatiaGoFreeCluj](#)

Instagram [@asociatiagofree](#)

## JOIN NOW WITH TAVO EUROPA!

### Educator Pass 2025

You are welcome to join our new educational programme for 2025! Dive into non-formal learning exploration for a 75 euro fee that will unlock your potential to join all training courses, professional study visits, events in Lithuania and abroad until the end of the year, and also supports us to find new exciting and exclusive opportunities for community members! Please do not pay any fee until you receive a confirmation letter to join the programme. If you want to join the project, please fill the application form, whether you have already participated or not. Bear in mind that Tavo Europa keeps the right to send the most suitable and motivated participants to all of our projects.

For more projects: Explore the world and learn together with the help of Tavo Europa. Join the group with more opportunities:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/186132221744993>

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