

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

(To be filled in and uploaded as deliverable in the Portal Grant Management System, at the due date foreseen in the system.

 Please provide one sheet per event (one event = one workpackage = one lump sum).)

PROJECT	
Participant:	Harghita County Council (Consiliul Județean Harghita)
PIC number:	944391225
Project name and acronym:	Connecting Rural Europe: Networking and development in small towns Rural EU

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	8 (WP8)
Event name:	Rural Intercultural Festival – Rural Youth Festival Mission
Type:	Rural Intercultural Festival
In situ/online:	In situ
Location:	Harghita County, Romania (main activities in Odorheiu Secuiesc)
Date(s):	26–29 June 2026
Website(s) (if any):	https://hargitamegye.ro/olasz-spanyol-es-horvat-fiatalok-hargita-megyeben/
Participants	

Female:	54		
Male:	57		
Non-binary:	0		
From country 1 [Romania]:	95		
From country 2 [Italy]:	2		
From country 1 [Croatia]:	2		
From country 1 [Spain]:	2		
Total number of participants:	101	From total number of countries:	4
Description <i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			
The four-day international Rural Intercultural Festival was organised by Harghita County Council within the framework of the CERV-funded project “Connecting Rural Europe: Networking and Development in Small Towns” (Rural EU). It brought together young participants from Italy, Spain and Croatia with local participants in Harghita County, creating a practical European exchange focused on the future of rural communities, youth participation, active citizenship and the strengthening of local civil society. The programme combined professional learning, participatory and community-building activities, intercultural exchange and local cultural experiences. A central activity was the interactive “Rural Youth Festival Mission” in Odorheiu Secuiesc. Working in mixed international teams, young participants explored the town, discovered active civil society initiatives and local craftspeople, engaged in intergenerational conversations and reflected on the opportunities and challenges faced by young people in rural areas. The practical challenge culminated in the creation of one-minute videos addressing the question “Why is it good to be young in Szeklerland?”, giving participants a creative way to present their observations and perspectives. The event created opportunities for direct networking between young people, local actors and European project partners, encouraged the exchange of experiences and good practices, and strengthened participants’ understanding of the role of civil society and youth engagement in rural development. It also increased the visibility of Harghita County and its local initiatives within a wider European network. Through its international, participatory and hands-on format, the festival supported the project objectives of building lasting links between rural communities, encouraging active			

youth participation, promoting intercultural dialogue and identifying ideas that can contribute to more attractive, resilient and sustainable rural communities.

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).