

# **DT4.1.2.**

## **Implemented trainings on participative governance**

### **Project region**



ERDF PP3 -CLUSTERO  
ERDF PP8 -MEET  
ERDF PP13 -Ghelinta  
December 2021

## Project Information

Project Title: GoDanuBio - 'Participative Ecosystems for fostering the revitalization of rural-urban cooperation through governing Danube Circular Bioeconomy'

Project code: DTP3-471-4.1

Lead partner: BIOPRO Baden-Württemberg GmbH

Start of the project: 01/07/2020

Duration: 30 months

<http://www.interreg-danube.eu/approved-projects/godanubio>

## Deliverable Information

Author/-s: ERDF PP3 -CLUSTERO;ERDF PP8 -MEET;ERDF PP13 - Ghelinta

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### *Disclaimer:*

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## General information about the trainings on participative governance

Date of training	22.09.2021
Location	Sfantu Gheorghe, Covasna County
Project partner(s)	ERDF PP3 -CLUSTERO;ERDF PP8 -MEET;ERDF PP13 - Ghelinta
Format of the training	physical
Topic of the training	Participative governance
Guiding question of the training	what is the participative governance model at the regional level
Number of participants	41
Type of participants (Target groups) <sup>1</sup>	41 participantsn who belong to the following target groups: Local public authority : 3 National public authority: 1 Regional public authority: 5 Higher education and research: 2 SMEs: 4 Business support organisation: 4 General public: 7
Cooperation with experts (i.e. speakers, external moderators, politicians...)	Speakers: partners' experts; Politician: manager of Covasna County Council;

### 1. Agenda of the training

Programme		
09:30	Registration and welcome coffee	
10:00	GoDanuBio <i>Project presentation</i>	Ruxandra Popovici, MEET
10: 20	Participative Governance Concepts, actions, international experience	Christina Leucuta, CLUSTERO Tihamér Sebestyén, Ghelinta
11:30	Ways forward for Covasna Region Moderated discussion	Daniel Cosnita, CLUSTERO
13:00	Lunch	
14:00	Ways forward for Covasna Region Moderated discussion	Daniel Cosnita, CLUSTERO
15:00	Coffee Break	
15:30	Conclusions and next steps	All participants
16:00	End of event	

<sup>1</sup> Please group the target groups according to the ones listed in page 42 of the Application Form and include the names of the organisations



## 2. Was a methodology presented at the training and if so, which one?

The methodology used to deliver training on participative governance was the stakeholder meeting.

The meeting began with welcome speeches of the manager of Covasna County Council, manager of Rural Development Agency, Covasna office, and the mayor of Ghelinta Commune.

Mrs. Ruxandra Popovici from MEET presented GoDanuBio project and what our expectations from the implementation of the GoDanuBio project are.

Mrs. Christina Leucuta from CLUSTERO and Mr. Tihamér Sebestyén from Ghelinta Commune informed participants about the concept of the governance participative (definition, objectives, advantages and limits, level of participation, target groups) and also presented the exchange of good practices regarding new business models and governance at European level (ECO-Partner projects<sup>2</sup>, BIOVOICES<sup>3</sup>, Be Rural<sup>4</sup> project, AgriGo4Cities<sup>5</sup> project etc), national (UrbanWings<sup>6</sup> project, BIOPartner<sup>7</sup> etc) and regional (BIOBUILD<sup>8</sup> project) and local (1 village 1 MW<sup>9</sup> project).

Mr. Daniel Cosnita presented „Ways forward for Covasna Region” focused on the following subjects:

- Circular economy and connection with sustainable development objectives (redefining the governance of the circular economy to support strategic and intersectoral transition) (e.g.; Be-Rural project);
- Circular approach to economic sectors (e.g.; local agriculture, textile sector);
- Development of strategies for bioeconomy and governance and opportunities for rural-urban cooperation (e.g.; GoDanuBio project , Be-Rural project).

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.interregeurope.eu/policylearning/good-practices/item/5376/ecopartner-public-private-partnership-for-innovation-in-promoting-the-circular-economy/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.biovoices.eu/about-us/the-scope-/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://be-rural.eu/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.interreg-danube.eu/approved-projects/agrigo4cities>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.urbanwins.eu/>

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.genesisbiopartner.ro/>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.asimcov.org/activities/business-incubator>

<sup>9</sup> <sup>9</sup> <https://www.greencluster.ro/english/one-village-1-mw-concept.html/>

## **Conclusions of the workshop:**

**Covasna County serves as a guide for other regions that initiate similar multi-level governance models:**

- to use bioeconomy as a tool that requires the integration of a large number of actors working together to increase the attractiveness of rural areas;
- to create synergies with other projects (Be Rural, FORSEDA<sup>10</sup>, DanuBioValNet etc);
- to cooperate with BIOEAST initiatives for rural development;
- to create training schemes for participatory governance and an action plan with an impact on demographic change.
- to provide best practice examples in circular economy sector on small-and medium scale

### **3. How does this capacity building activity contribute to the upcoming co-creation workshops?**

The co-creation workshops will be developed by project partners together with the local/regional administration, to find identifiable opportunities for rural development at local and regional level for tackling demographic changes.

### **4. Do you think the participants of the training are likely to attend the co-creation workshops and why?**

The participants of the training will be interested to attend co-creation workshops, because:

- the regional clusters are strongly involved in the national and international projects focused on circular economy, bioeconomy renewable energy, etc;
- the bioeconomy projects will be financed by the new Regional Operational Programmes, as well as, by the National RDI Plan.

### **5. Do you already have plans for the regional co-creation workshops?**

We planned the 3 co-creation workshops to be organized in the period March – July 2022 (depending on the pandemic constraints) as follows:

- 1 workshop in Center Development Region

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<sup>10</sup> <https://www.interreg-danube.eu/approved-projects/foresda>

- 1 workshop in North-East Development Region
- 1 workshop in South – West Development Region

**6. Did the region in which the training was organised have already a tradition/culture for participative governance? If so, name an example.**

The training on participative governance was organized in Covasna County, which is involved in participative governance.

Covasna represents the cradle of the clustering process in Romania. Several clusters (Pro Wood, Green Energy, Transylvania Textile & Fashion, AgriFood Covasna etc.) are in the Business Incubator of Sf. Gheorghe which, in turn, represents the main innovation actor in the region.

Romania does not have a national bioeconomy strategy, but the clusters from Covasna County have introduced bioeconomy in the Smart Specialization Strategy of the Central Region 2021-2027.

Smart Specialization Strategy of the Central Region (2021 – 2027) addresses 5 cross-sectoral themes, including the theme of sustainable economy, with the following three subdivisions: a) collaborative economy, b) circular economy, c) Local value chains, d) renewable energy based local energy communities.

In addition, references to the bioeconomy are made in the Regional Development Plan of the Region Centru 2021 – 2027.

**7. Do you think that the training can have any positive effect in regard to a bottom-up approach on policies and regulations related to the circular bioeconomy in your country / region? Please explain.**

Training can have a positive effect in regard to a bottom-up approach on policies and regulations related to the circular bioeconomy in Romania.

Covasna County was chosen as a pilot region for “Bio-based strategies and roadmaps for enhanced rural and regional development in the EU”- BE- rural project financed by Horizon 2020. One of the objectives of BE- rural project was to increase awareness, education, and understanding of the bioeconomy.

Another objective was to generate new knowledge on the effective development of regional bioeconomy strategies and roadmaps. The bioeconomy policy document was developed within the BE-Rural project for Covasna county. The strategy development process was based on a participatory approach relying on the involvement of the local/regional stakeholders having thus a strong qualitative character, based on the principle that “peers” know better the relevant aspects of their own



competence field and region than statistical data which bear the disadvantage of being already old by the time they are needed. Nevertheless, they have not been neglected and have been used to validate the qualitative results. The strategy builds upon a bottom-up approach, activities will be mainly carried out by the regional stakeholders gathered in several PPP initiatives concerning business infrastructure, financing of joint projects, and capacity building measures including international transfer of good practices. In that regard, a stronger cooperation with the Coavsna County Council and the City Hall of Sfantu Gheorghe is of highest importance.

## **8. Problems occurred and lessons learnt**

### **Lesson learnt:**

- to strengthen institutional capacities to co-develop and co-implement demographic strategies training in the field of bioeconomy-sustainable development;
- enlarge the mindsets among the local decision makers to be more receptive on circular bioeconomy principles
- to support and promote young entrepreneurs from rural-urban areas (eg those from Ghelinta commune, Estelnic commune, Cernat commune, who attended the meeting);
- to promote bio-innovators at various events (eg pop-up stores)

## **9. Annexes**

Including invitation of the training, pictures of your training (if possible) and press releases in your own language if published so far.

- Invitation
- Press release:
- Pictures of your training





MINISTERUL ECONOMIEI, ANTREPRENORIALITĂȚII  
ȘI TURISMULUI



Interreg



Danube Transnational Programme  
GoDanuBio



Well-Governed  
Danube Region

Stimată Doamnă / Stimate Domn,

Avem deosebită plăcere de a vă invita **miercuri, 22 septembrie, ora 10.00, hotel Park, municipiul Sfântu Gheorghe, județul Covasna**, la **evenimentul** având ca temă **Guvernanța Participativă**, organizat în cadrul proiectului **GoDanuBio "Ecosisteme participative pentru stimularea revitalizării cooperării rural-urban prin guvernarea bioeconomiei circulare în regiunea Dunării"**. Evenimentul va fi susținut de cei 3 parteneri români ai proiectului:

- **Ministerul Economiei, Antreprenoriatului și Turismului (MEAT)**
- **Asociația Clusterelor din România (CLUSTERO)** și
- **Comuna Ghelița.**

*Trainingul intenționează să identifice principalele abordări ale conceptului de guvernanță participativă aplicabilă în județul Covasna, în vederea identificării unor noi forme de cooperare rural-urban.*

În cadrul **Programului de Cooperare Teritorială InterReg Danube V-B**, începând cu data de 29.06.2020 - Comisia Europeană a aprobat finanțarea proiectului în care Ministerul Economiei, Antreprenoriatului și Turismului (**MEAT**) este membru partener în cadrul consorțiului proiectului, asigurând derularea activităților alături de ceilalți parteneri (19 parteneri de proiect și 7 parteneri asociați) din 9 state membre UE și unul în curs de aderare. Liderul consorțiului este institutul BioPro Baden-Württemberg GmbH.

**Obiectivul principal** al proiectului GoDanuBio este abordarea în mod activ a schimbărilor demografice prin revitalizarea zonelor rurale, folosind cooperarea participativă la mai multe niveluri de guvernare.

Proiectul își propune să realizeze o platformă comună, a cărei funcționare va continua după finalizarea acestuia (*platforma Danube Circular-Bioeconomy Brain Trust*). Bioeconomia circulară va fi folosită ca sistem de regenerare, care va pune accentul pe zonele rurale și va reduce diferențele printr-o cooperare reînnoită rural-urban.

Pentru mai multe informații cu privire la Proiectul GoDanuBio, vă rugăm să accesați <http://www.economie.gov.ro/proiectul-godanubio-ecosisteme-participative-pentru-stimularea-revitalizarii-cooperarii-rural-urban-prin-guvernarea-bioeconomiei-circulare-in-regiunea-dunarii-cod-dtp3-471-4>.

În acest sens, vă trimitem anexat Agenda evenimentului și vă rugăm să ne confirmați, până la data de 20.09.2021, prezența la eveniment a unui reprezentant al dumneavoastră, la adresele de email: [politici\\_industriale@economia.gov.ro](mailto:politici_industriale@economia.gov.ro) și [office.noscegroup@gmail.com](mailto:office.noscegroup@gmail.com).

Cu deosebită considerație,

**Mirona Veronica DAIA**

Director

Direcția Politici Industriale și Competitivitate

Ministerul Economiei, Antreprenoriatului și Turismului

**Daniel COȘNIȚĂ**

Președinte

Asociația Clusterelor din România

## Training *Guvernanta participativa*

22 septembrie 2021, Sfântu Gheorghe. Județul Covasna

Locație: Hotel Park, str. Gabor Aron nr. 12-14

**Scop:** Trainingul intenționează să identifice principalele abordări ale conceptului de guvernanta participativă aplicabilă în județul Covasna, în vederea identificării unor noi forme de cooperare rural-urban

Program		
09:30 – 10:00	Inregistrarea participanților si welcome coffee	
10:00 – 10:20	GoDanuBio Prezentarea proiectului	Ruxandra Popovici, MEAT
10:20 – 11:30	Guvernarea participativă Concept, acțiuni, experiență internațională	Christina Leucuța, CLUSTERO Tihamér Sebestyén, Ghelinta
11:30 – 13:00	Următorii pași pentru județul Covasna Discuție moderată	Daniel Coșniță, CLUSTERO
13:00 – 14:00	Pauză prânz	
14:00 – 15:00	Următorii pași pentru județul Covasna Discuție moderată	Daniel Coșniță, CLUSTERO
15:00 – 15:30	Pauza de cafea	
15:30 – 16:00	Concluzii	Toti participanții
16:00	Sfârșitul evenimentului	

- Press release:

<http://www.economie.gov.ro/images/politici-industriale/DanuBioValNet/Training%20Guvernan%C8%9B%C4%83%20participativ%C4%83%20-%20Eveniment%20Sf.%20Gheorghe%2C%20Covasna.pdf>;  
<http://clustero.eu/comunicat-de-presa-training-guvernanta-corporativa>

- Pictures







Project co-funded by the European Union Funds (ERDF and IPA)