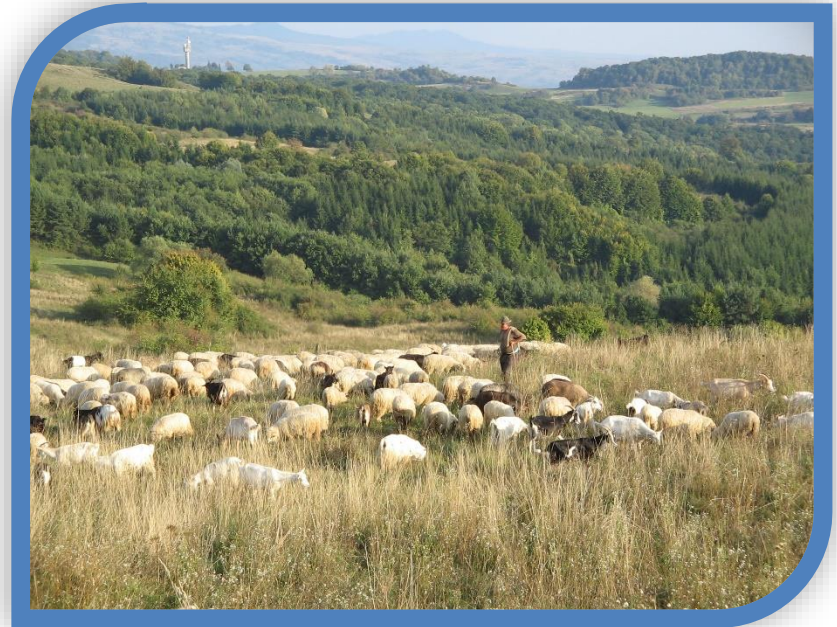


FINAL CONFERENCE

"EU4Shepherds" Project INNOVATIVE TRAINING FOR SUSTAINABLE SHEPHERDS

Lunca Ilvei,
Bistrița-Năsăud

14 June 2023



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Presentation of AGROM-RO

AGROM-RO ASSOCIATION was founded in 1999 as part of the cooperation program between Switzerland and Romania.

Well-recognized association for education training program (**Vegetable farmer and livestock farmer, Farm and organic household worker , Agritourism household worker, Entrepreneurial skills, Mountain shepherd , etc**) in collaboration with sheep breeder organizations and federations, introducing professional/occupational code for Mountain shepherds in Romania.



Context of the situation of extensive pastoralism in Romania

- Although in 2020, Romania was in second place among the Member States of the European Union in sheep and goat herds (according to the data communicated by the National Institute of Statistics), the interest in practicing this occupation has decreased and the sheep breeding based on extensive shepherding decreases alarmingly from year to year.



Context of the situation of extensive pastoralism in Romania

- are fewer and fewer mountain shepherd who know the old occupation, many of them have disappeared, are elderly or have health problems, and young people are not attracted to this activity for various reasons



- Mountain shepherding becomes an unprofitable occupation, it also involves enormous sacrifices materialized in the high degree of isolation of those who practice it, in risks in the face of nature phenomena specific to the mountain, or in the risks in front of predators excessively multiplied in recent years.



Existing training offers related to extensive livestock farming in Romania

- The territory proposed by AGROM-RO ASOCIATION for carrying out this analysis at the country level is the mountainous area of Romania, which comprises 27 counties, located in 7 Development Regions.



- Regard to the initial vocational training in a MARD communique, from September 2020, the list of 56 technological high schools with a predominantly agricultural profile was published, of which 35 high schools are located in the counties of the mountain area.

Existing training offers related to extensive livestock farming in Romania

According to a study published in February 2021 by the Romanian Centre for European Policy (CRPE), the number of students enrolled in vocational and dual agricultural education in the school year 2020-2021 in Romania was 8,161 students, in the following qualifications:

Qualification	Students
Farmer field crops	1641
Sericcultor beekeeper	99
Mountain farmer	191
Horticulturist	1056
Organic farming worker	412
Agritourism worker	1073
Agricultural mechanic	3253
Zootechnist	436
Total	8.161

Source: Study "How we revitalise agricultural vocational and technical education in Romania", February 2021

Existing training offers related to extensive livestock farming in Romania

Continuous vocational training is organized by training providers, public and private. At the date of this analysis, 2021, the situation of vocational training providers from the 27 counties in the mountain area, authorized in the period 2017-2021, with authorizations valid, from the 7 development regions was:

Agricultural training providers	Numbers
NORTH-EST Development Region	4
SOUTH-EST Development Region	7
SOUTH Development Region	5
SOUTH-VEST Development Region	8
VEST Development Region	13
NORD-VEST Development Region	12
CENTRU Development Region	13
Total	62

Existing training offers related to extensive livestock farming in Romania

Their authorizations is valid for 4 years from the date of authorization, and can organize courses in the agricultural field related to livestock farming, according to the records from National Register of Vocational Training Providers published by each County Agency for Payments and Social Inspection

Qualification

Plants cultivation worker

Animal breeding worker

Farmer in vegetable crops and animal breeder

Worker in agriculture and in ecological household

The introduction in the Romanian Occupations Code and in the Nomenclature of Qualifications of the occupations of Mountain shepherd, Mountain sheep breeder, Mountain sheepman and Mountain Herder, gave the possibility to sheep breeders to follow authorized qualification courses, which were organized by the AGROM-RO Association.

MULTIPLIER EVENT

- Held on Lunca Ilvei on June 11, 2023.
- 35 participants, shepherds, farmers, representatives of cooperatives and local associations
- presentation of project results (shepherds curriculum, manual for trainers, the training platform)
- discussions about the association, cooperation and professional training of shepherds, the possibilities of financing their activities through specific national programs



Thank you for your attention!

**Dana Ruța,
Asociația AGROM-RO**



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