



ENVIRONMENTAL  
**PARTNERSHIP**  
FOUNDATION

10

ANNUAL REPORT

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ANNUAL REPORT

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# ANNUAL REPORT 2008

TEN YEARS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT  
AND THE COMMUNITY



## FUNDERS OF REPF DURING THE 1999 - 2008 PERIOD:

Charles Stewart Mott Foundation  
German Marshall Fund of US  
Rockefeller Brothers Fund  
King Baudouin Foundation  
MOL Romania  
Apemin Tusnad SA.  
Trust for Civil Society in CEE  
Stichting DOEN  
TOYOTA  
Arcanum Foundation  
Department for International Development

EU Phare  
The Royal Netherlands Embassy in Bucharest  
USAID  
EU DG Environment  
Peace Corps  
The Prince's Charities Foundation  
Tectum Company Rt.  
US Peace Corps  
Vodafone  
EEA Financial Mechanism

## PARTNERS OF REPF DURING THE 1999 - 2008 PERIOD:

Hungarian Environmental Partnership Foundation  
Slovak Environmental Partnership Foundation  
Polish Environmental Partnership Foundation  
Czech Environmental Partnership Foundation  
Bulgarian Environmental Partnership Foundation  
Groundwork Blackburn  
Groundwork UK  
Tatum Networks Ltd.  
INEM-KÖVET Hungary  
National Center for Sustainable Development  
Municipality of Miercurea Ciuc  
King Baudouin Foundation  
Carpathian Foundation  
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Edelweiss Association -Cluj  
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MOL Romania  
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ARS TOPIA Foundation  
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World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)  
Civil Society Development Foundation

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## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Environmental Partnership Foundation is celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Since our establishment in 1999, through the implementation of eight grant-making and seven operational programs, we have tried to generate positive changes in fields such as environmental protection, community development, heritage protection and sustainable tourism. Our strategies to achieve these changes were to create long lasting partnerships, develop constructive relationships, and cooperate with most of the stakeholders of society, such as NGOs, local communities, central and local authorities, companies and the media. We did this because we truly believe that partnership is essential, and without it we would remain an inefficient, isolated and marginal entity. Our successes would not have been possible without the TEAM, composed of partners, the different boards of the foundation and the members of the staff. Thanks to everyone for their commitment and hard work. If we were to show what we achieved during the last ten years simply by using statistics and figures, then the easiest way would be to mention the 370 projects funded in envi-

ronmental protection, community development, heritage protection and sustainable tourism through our grant-making programs, and to point out the thousands of individuals involved in our operational projects. Despite these impressive facts, we truly believe that showing such dry figures do not suffice to explain all the activities and results of the last decade. The picture would not be comprehensive enough, because statistics, by themselves, are incapable of reflecting the enthusiasm, the sacrifice, and the hard work that characterized the last ten years.

At the same time we believe that the most authentic evaluators and analyzers of our achievements are our funders and partners, the representatives of the organizations that we supported over the years, and everybody else who followed with interest the development of the foundation.

Therefore, on the following pages we present some of the thoughts and opinions of funders, partners, funded NGO representatives, journalists and friends, extracted from the interviews included in a book published with the 10th anniversary of the Environmental Partnership Foundation.

László Potozky  
director

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized, flowing letters that appear to be 'László Potozky'.



"In the collaboration with the Environmental Partnership Foundation, besides the outstanding professional results, I really appreciated their humanity, their constructive problem solving skills, the trust and the respect towards each other."

**Éva Csog**, *PR coordinator – MOL Romania*



"In solving the environmental problems, which are urgent and need immediate action, I could describe two important roles of the Environmental Partnership Foundation. On the one hand it can join and mobilize the „green” organizations due to its prominently widespread multi-layer relationships and recognition. On the other hand its funding system is so flexible and easy that any green organization can easily obtain the indispensable financial backing which is needed to take immediate action in any kind of urgent environmental problem. Moreover, I can assert that a project funded by the Environmental Partnership Foundation legitimizes the granted organization. I could not mention one single phantom-, fair-weather- or obliquely money-oriented organization which was funded by the Foundation."

**Kovács Csongor**, *President - Green Transylvania Association*



"The Environmental Partnership Foundation is the only non-governmental organisation in the country, which, through its different type of programs, managed to develop and to maintain an integrated environmental vision. The benchmark of the organization is shown by the high level of the beneficiaries of the programs and by the involved communities as well."

**Lorena Stoica**, *Director - Carpathian Foundation*



"The Environmental Partnership Foundation has been filling a gap in the Romanian environmental protection. It has a double role in fact – its funding role is more familiar, but it has a significant active role as well, as the staff of the organization takes part actively in the Romanian environmental protection activities. This way they know the problems and the movement itself at close quarters, and they can exactly specify the needs, and this makes the work of the Foundation more efficient. I would also like to emphasize that the Environmental Partnership Foundation is an honest and - within the law - a non-bureaucratic funder. In the past ten years the Foundation proved that it does not know favoritism and never breaks the rules."

**Papp Tamás**, *President – MILVUS Group*



"Without the Environmental Partnership Foundation's grant-making the green movement would be much smaller, less effective and less independent. As a result of the foundation's support to the NGOs greater environmental protection, greater public participation and greater environmental justice has been provoked. Tell me of any other Romanian environmental foundation with an equally impressive record?"

**Stephanie Roth**, *Alburnus Mayor Association*



"The Environmental Partnership Foundation was the first funder of our activities (since 2002) and it still supports us in the conservation of the natural and cultural heritage of Maramures County. At the same time the Foundation contributed to the staff capacity building of the EcoLogic organization. It made possible for us to take part in different trainings and seminars."

**Pop Edit**, *President - EcoLogic Association*



"I consider that the activity of the Environmental Partnership Foundation in the past ten years proves that it is a successful non-governmental organization, esteemed by its partners and its funders as well."

**Susana Geangalău**, *President - Ecoforest Association*



"The Environmental Partnership Foundation was the first funder of our activities along the Tur River. Within the confines of those activities we assessed

the natural values of the area and prepared the documentation necessary to proclaim the area protected. Later on, as the administrators of the protected area, we got support from the Environmental Partnership Foundation regularly, in the form of funding, training and experience exchange. Looking back on the past seven years we can assert that the funding system of Environmental Partnership Foundation assured the most stable resources for the development and maintenance of the protected area and the greenway."

**Márk Nagy János**, *Director - Transylvanian Carpathia Society, Satu Mare*



"Laszlo and his team all bring so much enthusiasm to their work. They have such a positive sense of "mission" -- that they are going to be agents of change in a country that faces many environmental challenges. And they are making a real difference. There are many other non-governmental organizations that are enthusiastic about their work, but none more so than the Environmental Partnership."

**Michael Guest**, *former Ambassador of the United States in Romania*



"The Environmental Partnership Foundation has a flag-carrying role in the field of environmental protection in Romania. The Foundation has the capacity to work and act as a catalyst of the green civil society and to formulate the joint, professionally sustainable and strong standpoints towards the authorities."

**Korodi Attila**, *Former Minister of the Environment and Sustainable Development*



"The Environmental Partnership Foundation is one of the most crucial organizations of the civil society in our town and in our region. This place was built through the teamwork of committed people; it is a refuge for everything that is „green“, where one can experience the true meaning of the word „partner“."

**Ráduly Róbert**, *Mayor of Miercurea Ciuc*



"The Environmental Partnership Foundation had a pioneering role in the Romanian environmental protection. During the past ten years it has been following up and reacting on the different environment damaging activities in Romania. The conservationists from every part of the country got to know the Foundation as being a trustworthy partner."

**Gina Ștefan**, *journalist - AGERPRESS*



"There are many efficient NGOs in our region, but perhaps none of them succeeded to work so efficiently and professionally as the Environmental Partnership Foundation. I consider that the attitude, the focus on values, the effectiveness-centred mentality that I experienced at the Environmental Partnership Foundation should be embraced not only by the civil society but also by the enterprises and governmental institutions as well."

**Sarány István**, *journalist*



"The Environmental Partnership Foundation is a serious organization, and through its work and working methods it opens new perspectives in environmental protection, not only for the society of today but for future generations as well. If you allow me to use a metaphor, I imagine that ten years ago a child was born, who grew in ten years what would take others in thirty."

**Aurelia Iluț**, *journalist - Adevărul Harghitei*



"I really appreciate the way how they succeeded to help and assist both the experienced and inexperienced colleagues from the movement in difficult situations....Even if during the last ten years there were significant changes in the public life, the main strength of REPF consists in maintaining its civic character."

**Daczó Dénes**, *journalist - Csíki Hírlap*

# WHO WE ARE?

The Romanian Environmental Partnership Foundation (Fundatia pentru Parteneriat) was established in 1998 as an independent foundation and is part of the Environmental Partnership for Sustainable Development (EPSD), which supports community based environmental improvement projects in Romania, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia. The six foundations are focused on stimulating awareness and participation regarding environmental problems in the region. In order to be more effective on regional level the six Environmental Partnership Foundations established in 2004 the EPSD

Association as a regional organization. The Environmental Partnership for Sustainable Development ([www.environmentalpartnership.org](http://www.environmentalpartnership.org)) is playing a serious role in building bridges of cooperation between people and organizations, and across all sectors in building civil societies and sustainable communities in Central Eastern Europe. Using a flexible mixture of small grants, technical assistance, networking, training activities, and special programs, the Environmental Partnership foundations empower individuals, organizations, and communities to participate actively in environmental decision making.



## THE MISSION OF THE FOUNDATION:

To support the improvement of the environment and the development of the communities in Romania by contributing to the formation of a sustainable society that enhances democratic values.

## OBJECTIVES:

- To promote sustainable development through the strengthening of environmental NGOs and civic activities;
- To strengthen the Romanian NGO sector through capacity building;
- To encourage civic participation in planning and decision making;
- To promote cross-sector partnerships for solving environmental and community - based problems;
- To provide financial and technical support to Romanian NGOs;
- To involve citizens in the process of identifying, preventing, and solving environmental and community-based problems.

# I. GRANTMAKING

The grant-making activities of the foundation were implemented through five different programs. The programs were:

- **Green Spaces**
- **Environmental Partnership**
- **Speak Up and Get Involved**
- **Greenways**
- **Small Grants Scheme of the EEA Financial Mechanism - Romanian NGO Fund**

Through the five programs **209 applications** were received and evaluated. **71** were granted with a total amount of **\$ 489,769**. The average grant size was \$ 6,898. These are the highest figures in the grant-making history of REPF.



## I.1. GREEN SPACES

For the third edition of the program over 80 proposals were received and 28 received funding, with a total value of **\$ 73,398**. The projects were quite successful, mainly due the large number of participants in the projects, almost 400/project. This fact is demonstrated by the cumulative results of the program:

- **43,074 m<sup>2</sup>** of green spaces created/rehabilitated
- **11,028** individuals participated in the implementation of the projects
- **6,879** trees planted
- **5,713** ornamental plants and flowers planted

The program had excellent media coverage. Over 100 articles, radio and TV broadcasts were published and released about the projects implemented in the framework of this program.



## I.2. ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP

In 2008, the program focused on the following issues: protected areas management, urban ecology, ecotourism and sustainable rural development. REPF has kept these issues as grant-making priorities over the last few years for two main reasons:

- The above-mentioned issues are currently still among the most important ones from environmental point of view in Romania.
- To assure a healthy continuity that will increase the impact of the funded projects in the targeted fields.

The program received 57 applications in 2008, and 9 grants were awarded with a total amount of **\$ 70,077**.

## I.3. SPEAK UP AND GET INVOLVED

The second year of the program saw the awarding of 10 grants with a total value of **\$ 60,063**.

A special emphasis was placed on cooperation and coalition-building activities among the grantees, mainly through networking (meetings and e-mail lists). The first networking meeting was organized over 2 days in Sumuleu Ciuc, with the participation of 18 people from different organizations. The purpose was to enhance experience-sharing and knowledge transfer on one hand, and on the other hand, to developing future advocacy strategies related to the most burning issues in the fields of environmental protection: monitoring of legislation implementation and unsustainable environment-damaging development initiatives.



The networking meeting also served to increase the cohesion of the NGO coalitions when advocating and watchdogging.

The second networking meeting took place in Sighisoara in November with the purpose of establishing the future steps needed for the proper implementation of the Natura 2000 network in Romania.

## I.4. GREENWAYS

During 2008, continuous support was provided for the development of the greenways. Ten grants were awarded to the organizations responsible for the development of greenways. The total awarded amount was **\$ 40,491**.

At the beginning of the year a brochure titled "Explore the Romanian Greenways" was produced in two languages – Romanian and English. The publication presented 7 developed greenways. In the second half of the year, a new greenway was initiated, called the Saxon Greenway, which is the 8<sup>th</sup> greenway established with the support and technical assistance of REPF.

### **A) Saxon Greenway**

In the southern part of Transylvania, the Mihai Eminescu Trust established a new greenway called the Saxon Greenway – Transylvanian Saxon Heritage Trail. Using county and local roads, as well as old carriage lanes, the Saxon Greenway is the best way to understand and enjoy – at a slow pace – the landscapes of high aesthetic and conservation value in the Sighișoara - Târnava Mare area, an area recently included in the European Natura 2000 ecological network.

The Saxon Greenway ([www.saxongreenway.ro](http://www.saxongreenway.ro)) starts from the picturesque medieval citadel of Sighișoara, a UNESCO World Heritage site recognized as an outstanding example of a small fortified city. The trail passes through a number of traditional Saxon villages, renowned for their castle-like stone churches and colorful houses with lime-washed facades and tiled roofs. The villages nestle among narrow valleys, wooded hills and rich flower meadows. The official launching of the greenway took place on the 20th of April,



when World Heritage Day and Earth Day were celebrated together through a thematic trip and nature-orientation exercises for school children from Sighisoara.

The greenway initiative brought together different stakeholders from the region. Collaboration agreements with local partners were used.

The new greenway participated in the European Mobility week events by organizing excursions, contests and distributing promotional materials.

At the same time new contacts were made with representatives from other localities with the aim of creating partnerships with them as the project develops in the future.



### ***b) Salt Way***

Several activities were organized and implemented in 2008 on the Salt Way as well. The very first major activity, which involved a lot of people from the local communities, was on the 25th of April when the Salt Way Days were prepared and organized by Focus Eco Center in partnership with "Tündérlona" Pension, Salamont and Niraj Microregional Association. During the Salt Way Days, four trails were set up to be hiked on. The activities were organized by Focus Eco Center volunteers. There were approximately 250 participants, most of them children with their parents/teachers, but

local people and local authorities also participated. The Salt Way Day was widely promoted in the local mass media (TV, radio, newspapers, WebPages). Then, in August a very successful camp was organized for interested local people who declared their intention to become Salt Way Trail guides. Ten people from the surrounding villages participated in the 4 day camp, during which the Salt Way trail was remarked and the 10 guides got to know the trail itself.

The events designed by Focus Eco Center for Mobility Week were held on 20th September. A bicycle contest, a tale-telling contest and a salt-carrying contest were organized. 26 bicyclists subscribed for the bicycle contest. At the same time the tale-telling contest was organized for children in the local school. The children told local tales and the best three were chosen. The final event was the salt carrying contest. It was a difficult contest; participants had to walk 5 kms to the finish carrying as much salt as possible. The finish line was established at the old salt office, where the salt was weighed and the jury decided upon the winners.



### ***c) Maramures Heritage Trail***

The main goal in 2008, regarding the Maramures Heritage Trail, was the improvement of tourism offerings in the area, the encouragement of sustainable development of the region, and the support of healthy lifestyles. Implemented activities focused on the improvement of the interpretation infrastructure within the villages, improvement of the quality of provided services, and building the data base of traditional products available at local producers along the trail.

In order to achieve these objectives the greenways team provided capacity building to the local housing suppliers (rural pension owners) regarding the best practices in ecotourism development and for the interpretation infrastructure inside of the communities.

At the same time the data base of local producers and traditional products from the perspective of future promotion was built. In this way they tried to maintain the current use of traditional crafts along the greenway by ensuring a promotion and selling framework for products designed by local artisans, thus contributing to the preservation of cultural heritage. A collection and distribution network for products was established. Today, the producers of local handicrafts along the greenway have an additional motivation to continue their activities thanks to the new possibility of selling their products.

Also, for the diversification of communication and promotion related to Maramures Greenway an interactive web page was created and launched.

### ***d) Tur River Nature Reserve Greenway***

The Transylvanian Carpathia Society contributed to the promotion of the tourism potential of the Tur River Greenway, by organizing three promotional events which covered the whole tourism season.

The opening event was the so called "Tour de Tur" – the bicycle competition along the Tur River, organized in May. This bicycle tour was organized for the third time. Most of the participants were motivated not only by the announced prizes but also by the natural beauty of the landscape. An 80 km distance had to be navigated through the natural reserve using a map. So, good orientation ability and speed were required skills for contestants to reach the checkpoints in good time. The circuit crossed the major parts of the Tur River Natural Reserve alongside the Tur River, near the most beautiful parts of the natural reserve.



The second important event was the fair of local products in Turterebeș village. The fair offered great opportunities for the local producers to promote and sell their traditional and homemade food and craft products. Local people together with the large number of guests and visitors have enjoyed the presentations of local folklore groups. During the fair traditional crafts such as: pottery, iron work by blacksmiths, saddle-making or basketry were presented through live demonstrations. During the European Mobility Week we organized the International „Car free day” on the River Tur’s Greenway. On that

day a large convoy, devoid of motor vehicles, made its way from the center of Satu Mare city to the Tur River Natural Reserve. Although the weather was not the best, children and older people enjoyed the journey from wagons. Some people came on horseback but most of them rode a bicycle.

## I.5. SMALL GRANTS SCHEME OF THE EEA FINANCIAL MECHANISM - ROMANIAN NGO FUND

In 2008 REPF partnered with the Civil Society Development Foundation and the Carpathian Foundation, and applied to implement the NGO Fund program within the framework of the EEA Financial Mechanism. The joint proposal of the three partners won the bid and the NGO fund was launched in July 2008.

The objective of the NGO Fund is to strengthen civil society in Romania by supporting projects in five areas within the priority sectors of the EEA Financial Mechanism.

- Consolidating democracy
- Children and youth opportunities for community involvement
- Social inclusion and access to social services
- Environment
- Cultural heritage

During the 2008 – 2011 period, REPF is responsible for the design and the implementation of the Environmental Small Grants Scheme of the EEA Financial Mechanism - Romanian NGO Fund. Two calls for proposals are planned and the maximum grant amount is 15,000 Euro/project (19,000 USD). The budget of the program is 450,000 Euro (540,000 USD).

In response to the first call for proposals, REPF received 28 applications. After the evaluation of the proposals 11 organizations were granted with the total amount of **\$ 209,059**.

## II. OPERATIONAL PROGRAMS

### II.1 TRANSYLVANIA AUTHENTICA

The Transylvania Authentica program seeks to establish ways in which to ensure the survival of Transylvania's incredibly rich agrarian culture, and its traditional foods and agricultural products by bringing together the region's smaller producers and manufacturers.

2008 represented the second year of the program. During this period the program staff succeeded in finalizing all the necessary steps in order to make Transylvania Authentica operational. As a result the following tools and documents were developed in three languages (EN, RO, HU):

- Visual Identity Guidelines
- Eligibility standards – Accommodation
- Eligibility standards - Arts & Crafts
- Eligibility standards – Food & Drink
- Eligibility standards - Experiences
- The scoring system for all the four eligibility standards
- License agreement
- The Operational Rules

The multilingual website of the program ([www.transylvania-authentica.ro](http://www.transylvania-authentica.ro)) was finalized. Contacts were made with the newly established National Office for Traditional Products (governmental agency). The talks were focused on discussing the ways of cooperation between the two organizations. The Office for Traditional Products expressed its willingness to cooperate with the TA program in the future.

Further steps were taken in order to inform our target audience about the launching of the program, namely publicizing the news about the program launch that took place in conjunction with TurdaFest, a traditional event in the city of Turda that includes workshops, meetings and a two day fair of traditional products.

During the last quarter of 2008, immediately after the official program launch, 12 complete applications were received for use of the Transylvania Authentica trade mark.

These applications came in the following categories:

- 3 applications for the Food & Drink category,
- 7 for the Arts & Crafts category,
- 2 for the Experiences category.



In November the program partnered with the traditions-preserving Artera Foundation and the County Council of Harghita in organizing a conference about handicraft products. The program was presented to possible TA members – producers of handicrafts and artisans, and the eligibility standards were presented and discussed one by one in order to demonstrate the scope of the TA program's applicability.

The TA program was presented in seven conferences in different villages and towns to different small producers as a way to make their products known and demanded in the market. The conferences were organized by the county council of Harghita, which seems to be very interested in cooperating with the program as well.

## II.2. MINERAL WATER TRAIL GREENWAY

The Mineral Water Trail has been developed since its establishment by REPF with the help of several partners and stakeholders. In 2008, the main activities were designed for and implemented during Earth Day and during European Mobility Week.

With the occasion of Earth Day, in partnership with Green Szeklerland Association, the following activities were organized:

- A drawing and collage contest for pupils regarding the protection of the environment and Earth, and a two-level environmental knowledge contest
- A trash statue competition and exhibition
- NGO market with the presentation of different NGOs from the town of Miercurea Ciuc
- Different ability contests for the pupils
- A session about the destructive effect of aggressive consumer advertising - The Night of the Consumer Commercials.

In September REPF organized the European Mobility Week for the third time along the Mineral Water Trail. In order to assure the widest community participation REPF involved several partners: The Town Hall, 5 local NGOs, two companies, 4 media partners (2 radio stations, one TV, a local newspaper) and several schools.



Over 4 days, activities that mobilized over 5% of the town's population were organized.

The main activities were:

- Environmental Photo Contest
- A bicycle exhibition (old and new bikes)
- An excursion on bikes along the Mineral Water Trail
- A Biking Marathon (of 46 km) along the Mineral Water Trail
- Different sports contests for children under the age of 14
- "Discover your town" – orientation and walking contest
- "Fitness for All" (gymnastics and fitness exercises in the main square of the town with over 450 participants).

We were very excited and honored that the first ever Romanian medalist of the Paralympics Games participated in the bike marathon only a few days after he won the Silver Medal at the Beijing Games.



## OTHER ACTIVITIES

REPF also remained involved in activities aimed at improving the implementation and enforcement of environmental legislation in Romania. In 2008 we initiated two campaigns/actions against initiatives that did not comply with environmental legislation.

### **a) REPF and its partners stopped the Central Europe Dakar Rally in Romanian Natura 2000 sites**

After canceling the original Dakar Rally due to terrorist threats, the organizers decided to move the rally to Central Europe, namely to Romania and Hungary. Checking the route of

the rally we realized that it would cross several Natura 2000 protected areas, which would be illegal and very damaging. More than that, the most environmental damaging round of the rally was planned for the date of 22<sup>nd</sup> of April, Earth Day. REPF mobilized the Natura 2000 coalition and as a result 50 organizations signed a letter sent to the Rally Director. At the same time we informed the media and the Ministry of Environment about the threat, raising awareness about the following facts:

- Part of the rally would run in a Natura 2000 site that according to the Romanian legislation is a protected area;
- The date of the rally in the protected areas was the day of the international celebration of Earth Day.

A rally organized during such a day would have a very negative message when the whole world is concerned about global warming and other similar issues about sustainable development and use of the Earth.

At the same time the organizers were asked to consider the possibility of contributing to the celebration of Earth Day by stopping the rally on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April, and by rescheduling the rally that would be run inside the protected area to the next day and on another route.

The letter warned the organizers about the fact that if the request of the NGO coalition was not accepted, the NGO network would develop a campaign emphasizing that a major polluting event was more important for the rally's supporting companies than contribution to nature conservation. We also reminded both the organizers and the authorities that Article 52.d from Law 265/2006 bans access outside of public roads in protected areas for sport purposes for any vehicles using fossil fuels. After the letter was received by the organizers, negotiations started between the parties. Finally the rally organizers made a commitment to change the route of the rally in order to avoid protected areas. In the end the rally was shortened in distance and it took place mostly in Hungary, having just a one-day round in Romania during which no protected areas were entered.

**b) REPF stopped the building of a hazardous waste incinerator in Harghita County**

After an unsuccessful attempt to build a hazardous waste incinerator in Brasov County without proper permits, some investors in the incinerator project tried to move the project to Harghita County. They convinced the mayor of a village to host the project. Everything that they did was done without public participation and transparency. As we found out about the project in time, we publicly asked, through the media, that the investors and the local council of the respective village inform the population of the area about the investment and about the potential hazards. REPF also warned about the potential danger due to the location for such an incinerator in the Ciuc basin which is known for its meteorological inversion conditions, conditions totally inappropriate for such a project. Finally, after experiencing public pressure, both the investors and the local council gave up the idea.

# III. FOUNDATION DEVELOPMENT, RECOGNITION AND FUNDRAISING

## III.1. STAFF CAPACITY BUILDING

Three members of the staff, Laszlo Potozky (foundation director), Ajnácska Gáll (Transylvania Authentica Program Manager) and Enikő Bándi (Transylvania Authentica Program Assistant) made an experience-exchange visit to the United Kingdom. The goal was to visit the Peak District Quality Mark project, which is a regional branding initiative with many similarities to the Transylvania Authentica program. Small farms and handicraft shops and other projects developed in the area of the Peak

District National Park were visited and members of the PDQM project were met with in order to gather experience for the Transylvania Authentica program.

At the same time Deputy Director Csilla Dániel and Transylvania Authentica Program Manager Ajnácska Gáll participated in a one week training related to accessing and managing EU funds (presentation of EU structural funds, proposal writing, etc), organized by the Civil Society Development Foundation.

## III.2. RECOGNITION AND VISIBILITY

2008 was also the year when REPF activities received notable recognition. REPF won awards at the most important contest designed for recognizing the work of NGOs in Romania. REPF won the first prize at the Civil Society Gala in the Social and Economic Development category, and also a special mention in the Environmental Protection category. Throughout 2008, we succeeded in increasing significantly the visibility of the foundation. The press coverage of REPF grew significantly,

proven by the increased number of articles in the printed media. The same was true for electronic media presence. The most important TV presences were a 25-minute-long movie on the Duna (Danube TV) about REPF, and two interviews with the REPF director on the Money Channel (the Romanian Business Channel) on the Business Responsibility show about non-profit – for profit partnerships and about the activities of the foundation.





### III.3. FUNDRAISING

2008 also represented a successful year from the point of view of fundraising. We continued to maintain and cultivate our relationships with corporate sponsors. More than that, REPF signed a new agreement with Vodafone, which funded the activities developed by REPF and its partners related to European Mobility Week (16-22 September). With that, the number of corporate funders that sponsored REPF's activities in 2008 increased to 4 (Toyota, MOL, Apemin Tuşnad SA and Vodafone). The financial contributions provided by these funders represented over 22% of the 2008 budget. Funding contracts are already renewed for 2009 with MOL and Apemin Tusnad SA. It is a significant success that in the case of MOL Co. the amount of funding was almost

tripled for 2009 (60,000 Euro in 2008, 175,000 Euro for 2009).

The endowment building campaign continued according to plans, and it was successful, too. During 2008 the amount raised was 142,674 RON (50,474 USD), plus 6,250 USD from regional fundraising. The total raised amount in the 2007-2008 reaches the sum of 96.501 USD, which represents 48.25% of the targeted 200,000 that will have to be raised until the end of 2010 in order to be matched by the C.S. Mott Foundation. In 2009, a small part of the endowment was invested into a heritage house with a 2,800 m<sup>2</sup> orchard in a traditional village proposed to become a UNESCO World Heritage site.

## IV. GRANTS LIST AND GRANT STATISTICS 2008

Total proposals received: **209**  
Total grants awarded: **71**  
Total amount awarded: **278,710 USD + \*209,059 USD = 487,769 USD**  
Average grant size: **\$6,898**

*\*The grants awarded in the framework of the EEA Financial Mechanism - NGO Fund – Environmental protection – small grant scheme are managed and awarded by REPF, but the transfer of funds is being done from the account of the NGO Fund (CSDF)*

### **Environmental Partnership Program**

Total proposals received: **57**  
Total grants awarded: **9**  
Total amount awarded: **70,077 USD**

### **Green spaces**

Total proposals received: **81**  
Total grants awarded: **28**  
Total amount awarded: **73,398 USD**

### **Greenways**

Total proposals received: **12**  
Total grants awarded: **10**  
Total amount awarded: **40,491 USD**

### **Speak up and get involved**

Total proposals received: **29**  
Total grants awarded: **11**  
Total amount awarded: **60,063 USD**

### **EEA Financial Mechanism - NGO Fund – Environmental protection – small grant scheme**

Total proposals received: **28**  
Total grants awarded: **11**  
Total amount awarded: **209,059 USD**

### **Other Grants**

Total grants awarded: **2**  
Total amount awarded: **34,681 USD**

## IV.1. ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM 2008

(Financially supported by C.S. MOTT Foundation and Apemin Tusnad SA)



### **„Bate Şaua să Priceapă lapa” Association, Bucharest / Bike-revolution in Schools/II**

The project's aim is to continue the “Bike-revolution in Schools/II” campaign through:

- the amplification and multiplication of the target groups of the communication campaign;
- to perform a study about the use of the bicycle among the youth of Bucharest.

**\$ 7,983**

**CasApold Association – local initiative group for intercultural actions, Apold / We live in nature; we create the future – ecological education in the benefit of the Apold community, Mures County**

The goal of the project is to make children and young people aware of the importance of nature and environmental problems and to initiate a civic engagement through the involvement of local/regional actors. **\$ 7,213**

**Milvus Group Association, Tg. Mures / The saving of natural values of Mures County by designating the Natura 2000 sites based on the Habitats Directive**

The project's goal is to complete the Natura 2000 list in Romania, making it work as a European-level ecological network by designating new Natura 2000 sites in Mures County, based on the Habitats Directive. **\$ 8,186**

**Csorgó-patak Association, Madaras-Ciuc, Harghita County / How to live together with the environment in Madaras-Ciuc**

The project's goal is the protection of the environment through eco-conscious education, to attract young people in the public life and the development of ecotourism. **\$ 8,139**



**Green Seklerland Association, Miercurea-Ciuc / Waste-free area**

The aim of the project is to motivate the young people of Miercurea-Ciuc to an active participation in the environmental protection; to promote the selective waste collection and eco-conscious shopping among the citizens of the city. **\$ 6,887**

**Association for the Conservation of Biological Diversity, Focsani / Participative measures for the protection of the amphibians of the Putna-Vrancea Natural Park**

The goal of the project is the long term conservation of the endangered amphibian species of the Putna-Vrancea Natural Park by reducing the fragmentation of habitats and by making local actors aware of the ecological role and importance of these species in the ecosystem. **\$ 7,245**

**Association for Bat Protection in Romania, Satu Mare / Protected Areas' management – key point in the protection of bats**

The project intends to provide favorable conditions for the conservation of bat population in the protected areas of Romania. **\$ 8,191**

**Green Transylvania Association, Cluj Napoca / Choose the eco-conscious shopping, choose the protection of the environment**

The goal of the project is to modify the attitude of the consumers through the promotion of an eco-conscious behavior in order to diminish the pollution and reduce the urban house-hold waste quantity. **\$ 8,082**

**Green Valley Association, Sighetu Marmației / The promotion of amphibians' conservation in the Izei Valley**

The project intends to improve the protection of the amphibians by making the local inhabitants aware of them and their ecological value, and by better collaboration with the authorities and by volunteer patrols which will supervise the breeding areas. **\$ 8,151**

## IV.2. SPEAK UP AND GET INVOLVED PROGRAM 2008

(Co-financed by Trust for Civil Society)

**"Bate Saua sa priceapa iapa" Association – Bucharest / NATIONAL VELOURITION**

The aim of the project is to develop a national promotional campaign related to the use of the bicycle as a tool of sustainable transportation in urban areas of Romania. The NGO started its activities in 2004 and after that became a strong promoter of the bicycle in Bucharest. In the last year it established the Romanian Bicyclist Federation together with eight NGOs from different cities of Romania. Compared to other EU countries, very few steps have been taken in Romania for the promotion of the use of bicycle as urban transportation vehicle. Also, the NGO and its partners are developing national campaign activities taking in consideration the following aspects: The severe environmental problems caused by traffic in the large cities; that public transportation is chaotic and inefficient; that local authorities don't encourage and enable bicycle transportation and pedestrians in concordance with the strategies of European transportation; and the lack of information and awareness about the importance of the bicycle as an significant factor in solving many environmental issues. **\$ 6,880**



**TERRA Mileniul III Foundation – Bucharest / Monitoring of the sustainable use of the Structural Funds and of the Cohesion Fund in Romania**

The goal of the project is to raise the decisional transparency and responsibility regarding the sustainable absorption of the structural funds. In the past the foundation was involved in dif-

ferent projects regarding the domain of the programming of the European Union funds. Due to the fact that there are no NGO representatives in any monitoring body of the Operational Sectorial Programs and that there is no correlation with the representatives of NGOs which are members of monitoring committees on national level, there is a need for a better collaboration between them for a better monitoring of the use of the EU funds.

**\$ 6,863**

**ARIN Association – Braila / “Synergy for tomorrow” – civic involvement in prevention of disasters provoked by deforestations**

The scope of the project is to involve the people from poor areas (mountain and hilly) of Romania in the prevention of disasters caused especially by deforestations. They will be involved through expansion and capacity building of two NGO networks and through development of direct activities as the type of “activism”. Through this project the NGOs will try to raise the involvement level of the population in the defense against deforestation and in general to prevent the disasters.

**\$ 6,821**



**Association for Environment and Nature Protection PRO BICICLO URBO - Tg. Mures / Visible attitude**

The aim of the project is to change the local authorities’ attitude regarding of the urban environment through imposing more transparency. The municipality of Targu-Mures is paying a very limited attention to environmental aspects in the decision-making. A lot of petitions submitted by the NGOs remained without any result. The NGO intends to change this situation through bringing the environmental issues more directly to the citizens.

**\$ 5,591**

**FOCUS ECO CENTER – Tg. Mures / Monitoring of the implementation of the water basin management plan (Water Framework Directive)**

The goal of the project is to raise awareness of the Mures River Basin Management Plan Office about the involvement of the stakeholders in the development of the Basin Management Plan. Currently, the only activity of the Basin Management Office from Mures is to transpose the European legislation into Romanian legislation, and it does so without taking in consideration the opinion of other stakeholders. Also, the management plan for the hydrographic basin of Mures River is intended

to be developed according to the EUs Water Framework Directive and to the International Commission for the Protection of Danube River. Unfortunately the management is avoiding using the best practices from EU countries. As of the end of 2008, the final version of the management plan has to be developed. This requires public involvement and the project is aiming to enforce this aspect. **\$ 4,515**

**Independent Center for the Development of Environment Resource Association – Cluj Napoca / Public participation and access to justice in the case of the Kronospan/Sebes project**

The goal of the project is to advocate for public participation, access to information and

justice for the inhabitants directly affected by the wood processing industrial facilities in Sebes. Here the Kronospan Sebes (the largest such type of factory in South-Eastern Europe) is using hazardous chemicals for producing wooden laminated plates, without respecting the legislation regarding the environmental protection permit, environmental impact assessment, and authorization of the construction works. At the same time their activities are having a serious impact on the health of the Sebes town's population. The formaldehyde generated during the manufacturing presents a major risk to the development of cancer according to the World Health Organization. / **\$ 6,777**

**Green Transylvania Association – Cluj Napoca / Saving the Faget Forest - a Natura 2000 site threatened by the extension of Cluj**

The goal of the project is to reduce the human impact to the Faget Forest through the monitoring of the enforcement of legislation regarding the protected areas and raising awareness about the importance of green spaces around Cluj Napoca. Cluj needs a new General Urbanism Plan; this is on the list of projects for 2008. Despite the existing initiative of the local administration to facilitate the development of the city in a systematic way, it can be observed that the human impact pressure on the green spaces is continuously growing. In 2007, the Natura 2000 list for the sites of Community Importance (SCI) was approved through a statutory order of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development. This order officially lists the "Fagetul

Clujului – Valea Morii" as a Natura 2000 site. In this situation any construction or other major intervention needs special environmental permit. However, the investment pressure in this area creates problems in the enforcement of the newly approved law regarding the Natura 2000 sites. / **\$ 6,855**



**National Center for Sustainable Development – Bucharest / Natural capital in the context of development process of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development of Romania – public debate with the environmental NGOs**

The goal of the project is to enhance a better public debate at national level about the National Strategy for Sustainable Development, and to assure involvement of the NGOs in this process. / \$ 2,168

**Regional Ecological Surveillance Center – Oradea / The One and Only Padis. Natural!**

The goal of the project is to keep in natural state the special conservation area of the Padis-Lazuri Zone by stopping any kind of activities that intend to transform the area in a Sustainable Development Zone/ sustainable management zone of human activities, accordingly to the 57/2007 Urgent Statutory order. The main problem is the methodology of the initiation of a “development” project in Padis area of the Apuseni Natural Park, and

the decision-making process at the level of the local, county, regional and national authorities. The intention of the authorities is to develop the area according to the Superski in the Carpathians program. The project’s intention is to create a frame for public consultations and to make possible the participation of the people and the civil society, starting with the development phase of the projects, \$ 6,744

**WWF – Danube Carpathian Program Association – Bucharest / Legal ski in the protected areas of Romania**

The goal of the project is to increase the information level and the necessary capacity of the Natura 2000 NGO coalition for the prevention of a major negative impact of the “Superski in the Carpathians” program on the natural protected areas. This program was developed without any coherent planning and without any analysis. Therefore there is the risk that the investments will endanger at least 7 National Parks in Romania.

/ \$ 6,849

## IV.3. GREEN SPACES 2008

(Financially supported by MOL Romania)

**I.L. Caragiale Association Maramureş, Baia Mare/ My outdoor playground**

The goal of the project is to create a playground that provides permanent surveillance and safety for children under school age and pupils of the school. \$ 3,022

**Linişor Association, Hunedoara / Recreational environment improvement campaign for the citizens of the Micro VI neighborhood and pupils of the General School nr.12 of Hunedoara.**

The project intends to improve the recreational environment for the citizens of the Micro VI neighborhood and pupils of the General School nr.12 of Hunedoara by involving the local authorities, students and citizens. \$ 3,022





**„Petőfi Sándor” Cultural Educational Association, Tg. Secuiesc / Green space for a new school**

The aim of the project is to arrange the green space of the Petőfi Sándor General School of Tg. Secuiesc, Covasna County and to endow it with park furniture. **\$ 2,874**



**Green Echoes, Cluj Napoca / Small natural habitats in the schoolyard**

The project's goal is to repair and utilize a damaged space of the Gheorghe Lazar National Pedagogic School schoolyard of Cluj Napoca in order to offer a recreational and educational frame for the students. **\$ 2,919**

**Ex Nobili Officio Association, Oradea / A palm of green space – the garden of our dreams**

The goal of the project is the complete rehabilitation of the environment situated on the territory of the Nicolae Balcescu School, in the center of Oradea, in a high traffic intersection and without any vegetation. **\$ 3,022**

**Arcada - Arkad – Arkade, Tg. Mures, / School Park rehabilitation**

The project intends to rehabilitate an area situated on the territory of Tg. Mures “C. Brancusi” School for a better use and for the creation of a recreational place. **\$ 2,358**



**Maica Precista Association, Petrosani / The revitalization of the green space of the Petrosani University Campus with the purpose to rebalance the ecosystem**

The aim of the project is to involve the community of Petrosani in the revitalization activities of the Bradet green space area of the Petrosani University Campus with the purpose to rebalance the ecosystem of Petrosani, Hunedoara County. **\$ 2,836**

**Kozmutza Flora Association, Cluj Napoca / The MOL Park – The modern park offers peace**

The project intends to arrange a green space with flowers and bushes, an alley for bicycles, a recreational place for children with disabilities–Special School for Deaf. **\$ 3,022**



**Iuventa Association – the association of students of the Pedagogic High School, Ploiesti / OZZONE**

The project's goal is to design the school garden, creating a natural frame for recreational purposes, for phonic protection around the school and for fresh air, and involving the students, teachers and parents in active protection of the environment. **\$ 3,022**

**Sustianable Sighisoara Association, Sighisoara / Green fortress**

The goal of the project is the ecologically improving of the school's yard and of some access stairs and paths in the vicinity of the School from the Hill (Joseph Haltrich High school) of Sighisoara by mobilizing students, teachers and local citizens in ecological activities. **\$ 1,334**

**Green Seklerland Association, Miercurea-Ciuc / Together for green spaces II**

The aim of the project is to create several green spaces by planting flowers and bushes around the waste bins in the neighborhoods of Miercurea-Ciuc through the active participation of the young people from the target group and members of the community. **\$3,022**

**Foundation for Kids, Miercurea-Ciuc / The small garden of the "Little Prince" Kindergarten**

The project's goal is to develop a more isolated, aesthetic and vandalism-protected garden for the kindergarten. To create an environmental friendly playground that respect aesthetic standards and where metallic toys are totally excluded. **\$ 2,417**

**Romanian Maltese Relief Service – Aiud branch, Aiud / Partner for green spaces**

The goal of the project is to create a recreational place in a natural environment, the improvement of the landscape of the area between the Ecaterina Varga, Spitalului and Ion Creangă streets. **\$ 3,022**

**Harmonia Association, Odorheiu Secuiesc / "Villanytelep" Green Kindergarten – a space for the future**

The project's aim is to arrange an existing green space; to create an accessible, healthy, safe and environmental-friendly small park,

and to teach children to be more sensitive towards the environment, and to respect the rules and laws of the nature. **\$ 2,417**

**Step by Step Parents Association, Tg. Secuiesc / Kids protecting the environment**

The project intends to transform an unused space, to turn an unaesthetic, dirty place from nearby the school into a friendly area, accessible by students, parents and visitors in order to promote the European model of the selective waste collection. **\$ 2,871**



**Micimacko Association, Miercurea-Ciuc / Kids for the Micimacko ecological park**

The goal of the project is ecological education in the kindergarten and improvement of the kindergarten's park. **\$ 3,022**

**Federation of NGOs of Maramures, Baia Mare / The green gate of the Old City – Baia Mare**

The aim of the project is to transform the school's parcel and the surrounding green areas of the Octavian Goga School into a green park for educational, public activities and for recreation. **\$ 2,691**

**Association of the Young Hungarians of Covasna, Sf. Gheorghe / Green heart in the center of Sf. Gheorghe**

The project's goal is the rehabilitation and design of the playground, to fence in the area by planting trees, bushes and flowers, the rehabilitation of the sidewalk and the existing parking place, and the creation of a new parking place in the area situated in Godri Ferenc street, between blocks nr. 4 and 5 in Sf. Gheorghe. **\$ 335**

**Association for Environmental and Nature Protection Rhododendron, Tg. Mureş / Green perimeter for a centenary school**

The project intends to raise the aesthetic and hygienic level of General School nr. 7 of Tg. Mures by the rehabilitation of the tree alignment. **\$ 1,855**

**ECO-ORA Association, Orăstie / Pro Natura!**

The goal of the project is the rehabilitation of the green area of the Dominic Stanca general School of Orastie by planting trees, bushes, flowers and grass. **\$ 1,855**



**National Council of Private SMSs from Romania – Arad branch / A drop of green space for the kids**

The project's aim is to extend the playground of the Kindergarten nr. 14 of Arad to a size in accordance with the great number of children of the kindergarten. **\$ 2,906**

**“Hope of Children” Christian Foundation, Arad / ECO School**

The project's goal is to arrange the park of the school into a pleasant playground for the students of Dimitrie Țichindeal Pedagogic High school in order to offer them place for environmental education and recreational activities. **\$ 3,022**

**CARITAS Organization – Petrosani branch, Petrosani / Creation of a school park**

The project's aim is to create a green space for the students of Dimitrie Leonida School, Petrosani for recreational purposes. **\$ 2,158**

**Happy Children Foundation, Cluj Napoca / Eco-park – a park created from recyclable/ recycled materials**

The goal of the project is to offer for almost 2,000 children around the school the possibility for spending free time in an attractive, environmental-friendly place created with recyclable and recycled materials. **\$ 3,022**

**Association “Always Close by You”, Bucharest / We learn to become responsible – protecting the nature and the environment**

The scope of the project is to help children to know about the environmental problems of the city and to learn how to protect the environment. **\$ 2,417**

**Proscoala 3 Carei Association, Carei / Enthusiasm for a green school, for green hearts**

The project's goal is to develop a nice, harmonious, clean environment on the whole green space of the school by creating a garden with aroma-plants in the front of the sport hall, an ecologic corner with wooden elements, and a living hedge face to the blocks. **\$ 3,022**

**Eco Alba Iulia, Alba Iulia / The green island**

The aim of the project is the formation of a responsible behavior of the students, the promotion of activities that are improving the conservation capacity of biodiversity and to encourage an eco-conscious attitude. **\$ 2,891**

**Association of Young Hungarians of the Tarnavei Mici Valley, Tarnaveni / A green oasis for everybody's health**

The project aims to involve the local community in the maintenance and use of the Balcescu neighborhood's green space; to create a park and a playground on this area in order to increase the quality of the air and to integrate it into the green spaces circuit of the town. **\$ 3,022**

## IV.4. GREENWAYS PROGRAM 2008

(Financially supported by TOYOTA, DOEN and VODAFONE)

### **EcoLogic Association, Baia Mare / The development of the “Maramures Heritage greenway”**

The project proposes the improvement of the tourism-offerings along the Maramures Heritage trail. Enhancement of the services offered for the tourists within the 7 communities approached by the greenway will be assured by capacity building of the local housing suppliers (rural pension owners) in best practices toward ecotourism development; target of this activity being to reduce the footprints of tourism on nature among the greenway. **\$ 11,221**



### **Transylvanian Carpathia Society, Satu Mare / Promoting events of the Tur Greenway**

The Transylvanian Carpathia Society in the 9 months of the project aims to contribute to the promotion of the tourist potential of the River Tur's Greenway, through organization of three promotional events, which will cover all the tourism season. The opening event will be the so called “Tour de Tur” – the bicycle competition along the Tur River in May, than follows a market of local products in August, and as final event will be organized an equestrian competition in September. **\$ 5,909**

### **Focus Eco Center, Tg. Mures/ The promotion of the Salt Way Greenway**

The goal of the project is to open the season by organizing the “Salt Way Days”, to instruct 10 guides to guide the tourists and to make aware citizens about the benefits of the existing ecological tourism on the Salt Way. **\$ 5,910**

### **Mihai Eminescu Trust, Sighisoara/ The Saxon Greenway**

The Saxon Greenway project aims to initiate, develop and promote sustainable transport for local communities and tourists, by integrating existing natural and cultural heritage conservation activities from this area into the framework of the European Greenways initiative. **\$ 5,910**



### **Green Sekler Region Association, Miercurea-Ciuc / Earth Day on Mineral Water Trail 2008**

The project's goal is to organize several events with the occasion of the Earth Day to make citizens aware of the importance of environmental protection, of people's responsibility towards the environment. **\$ 1,318**



## MOBILITY WEEK ON GREENWAYS 2008

### **Green Seklerland Association, Miercurea-Ciuc / Mobility Week 2008**

The goal of the project is to organize activities that promote a healthy life style while making citizens aware of the importance of environmental protection in order to keep a harmonious relationship between man and nature. **\$ 1,350**

### **County Association "Sport for Everybody", Miercurea-Ciuc / Mobility Week**

The project intends to promote the bicycle and the Mobility Week. **\$ 436**

### **Transylvanian Carpathia Society, Satu Mare / Car Free Day on the Tur Greenway**

The aim of the project is to organize several activities in order to promote the Mobility Week and to make citizens aware of the importance of the environmental protection.

**\$ 2,780**

### **Focus Eco Center Association, Tg. Mures / Mobility Week on the Salt Way**

The project's goal is to promote the bicycle as a healthy life style and the Mobility Week.

**\$ 2,839**

### **Mihai Eminescu Trust Foundation, Sighisoara / Mobility Week on the Saxon Greenway**

The scope of the project is the inauguration of the Saxon greenway with the occasion of the Mobility Week and the organization of several activities in order to promote the importance of the protection of the environment. **\$ 2,818**

## IV.5. ENVIRONMENTAL SMALL GRANTS SCHEME OF THE EEA FINANCIAL MECHANISM - ROMANIAN NGO FUND

### **Association for the Conservation of Biological Diversity, Focsani / Together for the protected areas and sustainable development**

The project's goal is the sustainable development of rural communities from Milcov Valley through the rehabilitation and promotion of the "Focul Viu" protected area and of another Natura 2000 site as tourism destination. **\$ 18,799**

### **Association of the Bio-agriculture in Romania BIOTERRA, Luna de Sus / Pollution reducing in the small and medium size farms**

The goal of the project is to inform small and medium size farmers about solutions with which they can solve the existing problems; the problem solving process must pass from the informing level to the effective solving of the problem. **\$ 19,624**

### **Ecotop Foundation for Culture and Ecological Education, Oradea / Bottom drawer - a new approach of the biodiversity protection problem in the Padurea Craiului Mountains**

The aim of the project is the promotion of ecotourism as an alternative for the sustainable development of the communities from the south-central area of the Padurea Craiului Mountains. **\$18,614**

### **Unesco Pro Natura Ecological Club, Bucharest**

The project aims to assure the favorable conservation status for Gradistea-Caldaruseni-Dridu Natura 2000 site based on the improvement of stakeholder's communication and through the planning and the implementation of a participatory biodiversity conservation management system. **\$ 19,418**

### **ECOVAS Association, Vaslui / One tree, one life**

The goal of the project is to improve the involvement level of the younger generation in the development of community activities in order to raise awareness about the negative effects of the deforestation. **\$ 19,442**

### **HERO Regional Organization for the Health of the Environment, Cluj Napoca / CO<sub>2</sub>nnect**

The project's aim is to implement the CO<sub>2</sub>nnect initiative in Romania in order to involve children and young people in dialog with the community and researchers, allowing the profound study of problems that affect their environment as the result of climate changing caused by pollution. **\$ 16,506**

### **Arin Association, Braila / From Eco Job to Eco Business – the promotion of environmental jobs and businesses**

The aim of the project is to mitigate environmental problems (especially in mountains) by identifying "environmental friendly" economical activities and to promote correspondent jobs, in order to ensure a sustainable development of the communities in their regions.

**\$ 19,584**

**Bat Protection Association in Romania, Satu Mare / Young people for the environment – protection of birds and bats in urban area**

The goal of the project is represented by the involvement of young people in conservation of birds and bats in urban area. **\$ 19,650**

**ACCENT Organization, Brasov / Community partnership for the promotion of ecotourism in the Csomad-Balvanyos micro-region**

The project's goal is the promotion of ecotourism in order to bring incomes and resources without damaging the natural landscape, to increase the respect for its values and to incorporate the cultural and traditional values of the Csomad-Balvanyos micro-region.

**\$ 18,574**

**Sikerkulcs Foundation, Odorheiu Secuiesc / School in the forest**

The project aims to contribute to the sustainable development of the Harghita Mountain region by maintaining and improving the environment's quality. **\$ 19,519**

**G.I.L. Corona, Braşov / From EMO to ECO**

The aim of the project is to promote among the younger generation, in a friendly, interactive manner, ecological awareness as a conscious communitarian value, in order to stimulate the genuine interest and commitment of the representatives of this generation for the conservation of the natural environment. **\$ 19,329**

## **IV.6. OTHER GRANTS**

(Financially supported by Austrian Government and own funds)

**Terra Mileniul III Foundation, Bucharest / Education regarding nuclear threat for the young generation**

The proposed project aims to both educate and interest pupils and teachers in complex environmental and social issues. The project will tackle a series of issues related to nuclear energy production and use and also concerning the risk and uncertainty around the management of nuclear waste, disposal options, and decision-making under uncertain conditions. **\$ 24,793**

**Environmental Partnership for Sustainable Development Association/ Support for regional cooperation \$ 9,888**

# V. FINANCIAL REPORT

## INCOMES

Source	Incomes		
	RON	Foreign currencies	
		USD	EUR
C.S. MOTT Foundation	242,210.00	100,000.00	
Trust for Civil Society	178,355.49	74,996.00	
MOTT via Ecopolis Foundation (Challenge grant)	12,077.82	48,522.74	
Stiching DOEN	158,246.30		42,000.00
Ökotárs Alapítvány	42,147.07		11,450.00
The Prince's Charities Foundation	110,102.48		30,289.00
Toyota via EPSD	42,647.39		11,986.00
DG Environment via EPSD	7,820.41		1,980.00
Austrian F. Ministry via Ökotárs Alapítvány	38,566.07		9,812.00
Interest, other Incomes	632,936.16		
<b>Total incomes</b>	<b>1,569,109.19</b>	<b>223,518.74</b>	<b>107,517.00</b>

1USD = 2,83 RON  
1EUR = 3,98 RON  
AT 31.12.2008

## EXPENSES

Budget chapter	Grant-making programs RON	Operational programs RON	Total RON
Grants	677,682.76		677,682.76
Salaries	157,006.50	94,549.50	251,556.00
Utilities	957.67	7,794.65	8,752.32
Communication	6,723.77	7,749.20	14,472.97
Office supplies	3,567.57	8,833.33	12,400.90
Publications, marketing	1,007.62	27,736.55	28,744.17
Equipment		1,334.00	1,334.00
Travel	20,025.77	24,416.25	44,442.02
Board	1,255.23		1,255.23
Others	16,707.41	168,474.72	185,182.13
Indaco, Soft		1,209.57	1,209.57
Training grantees	6,021.64	150.30	6,171.94
Training staff	583.59	583.58	1,167.17
Projects, cotracts	638.00	12,964.22	13,602.22
Staff representative	1,752.75	760.35	2,513.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>893,930.28</b>	<b>356,556.22</b>	<b>1,250,486.50</b>

## BALANCE SHEET AS OF 31.12.2008

<b>Fixed assets</b>	<b>779,923.52</b>	<b>Initial Capital</b>	<b>2,911,047.55</b>
Tangible assets	760,105.52	Contributions	200
Intangible assets	19,818.00	Carry-over result	694,924.03
<b>Circulating assets</b>	<b>2,131,124.03</b>	Tangible assets fund	457,181.09
Accounts in foreign currency	159,526.10	Other reserves	1,576,000.00
Advance in currency, other	2,822.37	Tangible assets amortization	162,924.43
Accounts in banks - RON	2,347,988.29	Intangible assets amortization	19,818.00
Cash - RON	8,797.49	<b>Total passive</b>	<b>2,911,047.55</b>
Debts (committed grants - installments to be paid to grantees)	- 397,426.22		
<b>Other tangible assets</b>	<b>9,416.00</b>		
<b>Total activ</b>	<b>2,911,047.55</b>		

# VI. REPORT OF THE AUDITOR

## Chapter II

### Report of the Auditor

As the result of the verification of the financial bookkeeping, in order to verify and certify the account assets and liabilities for year 2008, the auditor's opinion is that the Annual Financial Statement for year 2008 is in complete concordance with the present Romanian Law. It was performed with honesty guaranteeing a true, clear and complete picture of the Environmental Partnership Foundation's financial position at the end of year 2008.

#### Final conclusion:

The Environmental Partnership Foundation's income totals 1.514.546,69 RON of grant payments and other incomes.

The total value of expenses was 1.231.438,39 RON, of what 677.682,76 RON were offered as grants for NGOs.

At the end of year 2008 the Foundation had a budget excess of 283.108,30 RON from which 176.000,00 RON were allocated to the foundation's reserve/endowment fund and the rest of it to the 2009 year's budget.

In year 2008, the Environmental Partnership Foundation had incomes from economical activities that total 54.562,50 RON and the expenses connected to these activities were 19.048,11 RON that result a 35.514,39 budget excess which was reallocated to year 2009.

Ec. Mihály Melinda  
Certified auditor registered  
under the code 10/163 11.01.2002-03-26  
CF 272101819133



# 10 YEARS

## STATISTICS AND FIGURES

Grantmaking programs	8
Received proposals (funding requests)	1.353
Funded projects (nr. of grants)	366
Funded organizations	201
Funded educational institutions	10
Volunteers involved in projects' activities	24.144
Planted trees	50.187
Number of protected areas targeted by the funded projects	Over 100
Total surface of created/ rehabilitated green spaces	119.292m <sup>2</sup>
Assisted and funded Greenways	8
Involvement/ support/funding of environmental campaigns	6
Trainings, workshops for NGO representatives	17
Trained NGO representatives	Over 400

Grantmaking Programs	Operational Programs
Environmental Partnership (1999-)	Dialog (1999-2004)
Enhancing NGO Cooperation in the Tisza River Basin (2000-2002)	Eco-Business (2000-2007)
Living Heritage (2001-2004)	Agenda 21 (2001-2004)
Greenways (2003-)	Mineral Water Trail (2003-)
Strengthening Partnerships for Nature Conservation and Tourism in Romania (2006-2007)	Partnership for People and Development (2005-2006)
Green Spaces (2006-)	Transylvania Authentica (2007-)
Speak Up and Get Involved (2006-2010)	Campaigns (2000-)
NGO Fund - EEA Financial Mechanism (2008-2010)	

## FINANCIAL REPORT 1999-2008

INCOMES 1999-2008		EXPENSES 1999-2008	
Type of income	RON	Type of expenses	RON
Grants	9,731,183	Grants	5,356,153
Donations	113,291	Salaries + benefits	1,885,111
Sponsorship	741,534	Utilities, rent	63,576
Bank interest	713,091	Communication	226,318
Exchange rate difference	281,329	Publications, marketing	209,088
Selling foundation assets	274,727	Office supplies	106,704
Membership fees	3,679	Protocol, meetings	51,159
Participation fees	2,110	Real estate, equipment	705,934
Other incomes (VAT recovery, etc.)	383,546	Travel	445,147
<b>Total non-profit incomes</b>	<b>12,244,490</b>	Staff capacity development	29,865
Economic activities	90,637	Board	38,746
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,335,127</b>	Projects, grantees training	395,943
		Awards + regional cooperation	46,878
		Other	487,539
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,048,161</b>

ENDOWMENT at 31.12.2008 1,626,000

## VII. GRANTEEES OF REPF 1999-2008

AGORA - Grup de Lucru pentru Dezvoltare Durabilă, Odorheiu Secuiesc • Alpin Club, Sibiu • Asociația Alitudine, Arad • Amoeba Eco Center, Gheorgheni • Asociația Arcada - Arkad – Arkade, Târgu Mureș • ASMEA - Acțiuni Sociale prin Metode Educative Active, Ocna Mureș • Asociația Abeona, Orăștie • Asociația Alburnus Maior, Roșia Montana • Asociația Amicii Salvamont, Târgu Jiu • Asociația ARIN, Brăila • Asociația Artiștilor Populari Maghiari din România, Odorheiu Secuiesc • Asociația ASSOC, Baia Mare • Asociația Bate Șaua să Priceapă Iapa, București • Asociația Bioagricultorilor din România "Bioterra", Luna de Sus • Asociația CasApold - grup de inițiativă locală pentru acțiuni interculturale, Apold • Asociația Centrul Independent pentru Dezvoltarea Resurselor de Mediu, Cluj Napoca • Asociația Comunicare, relatii, dialog – CORDIAL, Adjud • Asociația Consiliul Local al Copiilor și Tinerilor, Sibiu • Asociația CREATIV, București • Asociația Csorgó-patak, Mădăraș Ciuc • Asociația Culturală Educativă Petőfi Sándor, Târgu Secuiesc • Asociația Culturală Eufonia, Sfântu Gheorghe • Asociația Culturală Kólik, Satu Mare • Asociația Culturală Nagy Mózes, Târgu Secuiesc • Asociația Culturală Nyires Grup, Joseni • Asociația de Dezvoltare Microregională Alcsík, Sânmartin • Asociația de Ecoturism din România, Zărnești • Asociația de Părinți Step by Step, Târgu Secuiesc • Asociația de Sprijin Comunitar Provident, Ploiești • Asociația de Turism Montan Eco-Turțudan, Brezoi • Asociația de Turism și de Ocrotirea Naturii, Miercurea Ciuc • Asociația de Turism și Ecologie DIANTHUS, Mediaș • Asociația Depresiunea Horezu • Asociația Descoperă Natura, Cluj Napoca • Asociația Eco Plus, Brașov • Asociația Ecoforest, Piatra Neamț • Asociația Ecologică și de Turism Năsăpiște, Cugir • Asociația Ecolifelva, Bacău • Asociația EcoLogic, Baia Mare • Asociația Ecologistă Floarea de Colț, Cluj Napoca • Asociația Ecologică Lumea Verde, Cluj Napoca • Asociația Ecologică Sângele Voinicului, Bălan • Asociația Ecomoldavia, Pângărați • Asociația ECO-ORA, Orăștie • Asociația Ecosilva Retezat, Hunedoara • Asociația Ecotopia Română, Timișoara • Asociația Ecouri Verzi, Cluj Napoca • Asociația ECOVAS, Vaslui • Asociația Ex Nobili Officio, Oradea • Asociația Grupul Milvus, Târgu Mureș • Asociația Hagymányórző Székely Huszárezred, Odorheiu Secuiesc • Asociația HAI-HUI pentru Turism, Sport și Ecologie, Târgu Jiu • Asociația Halit Eco Club, Praid • Asociația Harmonia, Odorheiu Secuiesc • Asociația I.L. Caragiale Maramureș, Baia Mare • Asociația Inimi Verzi MET, Odorheiu Secuiesc • Asociația IRIS, Botoșani • Asociația Iuventa - Asociația elevilor din Liceul Pedagogic, Ploiești • Asociația Kogayon, Costești • Asociația Kozmutza Flora, Cluj Napoca • Asociația KUCKÓ, Odorheiu Secuiesc • Asociația Linișor, Hunedoara • Asociația Măgura Cislădie, Cislădie • Asociația Maica Precistă, Petroșani • Asociația Mereu Alături de Tine, București • Asociația Micimackó, Miercurea Ciuc • Asociația Microregională Eco-NaTur, Turulung • Asociația Microregională Felső Homorodmente, Lueta • Asociația Microregională Hegyalja, Zetea • Asociația Microregională Pogány-havas, Miercurea Ciuc • Asociația Milioane de Prieteni, Brașov • Asociația Muzeul Sândominic • Asociația pentru Conservarea Diversității Biologice, Focșani • Asociația pentru Dezvoltare Durabilă Focul Viu, Focșani • Asociația pentru Parteneriat Comunitar, Focșani • Asociația pentru Protecția Liliacilor din România, Satu Mare • Asociația pentru Relații Comunitare, Cluj Napoca • Asociația pentru Turism Rural-Verde "Életfa", Satu Mare • Asociația Prietenii Avrigului, Avrig • Asociația Pro Șinca Nouă • Asociația Profesională GeoMMed, Baia Mare • Asociația Proscuala 3, Carei • Asociația Rangerilor, Cluj Napoca • Asociația Regiunea Cristuru Secuiesc • Asociația pentru Protecția Mediului și a Naturii Pro Biciclo Urbo, Târgu Mureș • Asociația pentru Protecția Mediului și a Naturii Rhododendron, Târgu Mureș • Asociația Pro Ruralis, Cluj Napoca • Asociația Salvamont Dancuras, Gheorgheni • Asociația Sighișoara Durabilă - grup de inițiativă civică, Sighișoara • Asociația SMART Vaslui • Asociația SpeleoTeam, Timișoara • Asociația Speologică Exploratorii, Reșița • Asociația Speologică PRUSIK, Timișoara • Asociația Speo-Turistică Lumea Pierdută, Baraolt • Asociația Ștefan cel Mare, Botoșani • Asociația Szív, Miercurea Ciuc • Asociația Tinerilor Maghiari din Covasna, Sfântu Gheorghe • Asociația Ținutul Secuiesc Verde, Miercurea Ciuc • Asociația Transilvania Verde, Cluj Napoca • Asociația Trascău Corp,

Zlatna • Asociația Valea Bradului, Bicazu Ardelean • Asociația Valea Verde, Sighetu Marmației • Asociația WWF Programul Dunăre Carpați, București • Asociația Youth Hostel Romania, Cluj Napoca • Centrul de Consultanță Ecologică Galați • Centrul de Ecologie și Turism Maramureș, Sighetu Marmației • Centrul de informare asupra OMG - Info OMG, Cluj Napoca • Centrul KARST LIFE, Cluj Napoca • Centrul Național pentru Dezvoltare Durabilă, București • Centrul pentru Arie Protejate și Dezvoltare Durabilă Bihor, Oradea • Centrul Regional de Inițiative pentru Cetățeni PROCIVIC, Buzău • Centrul Regional de Supraveghere Ecologică, Oradea • Cercul Ecoturistic CAR-PATES, Botoșani • Clubul Floarea Reginei, Sinaia • Clubul Speologic Norbert Casteret, Mioveni • Clubul Agricultorilor Ecologici din Transilvania, Făgăraș • Clubul ALTEEA, Sibiu • Clubul de Ecologie și Turism Montan Albamont, Alba Iulia • Clubul de Cicloturism Napoca, Cluj Napoca • Clubul de Ecologie și Turism MOLDAVIA, Pașcani • Clubul de Speologie Montana, Baia Mare • Clubul de Speologie Omega, Cluj Napoca • Clubul de Speologie Politehnica, Cluj Napoca • Clubul de Speologie și Ecologie Amonit, Piatra Neamț • Clubul de Turism Veniți cu Noi, Bacău • Clubul Ecologic BIOS, Sibiu • Clubul Ecologic Origini Verzi, Suceava • Clubul Ecologic Transilvania, Cluj Napoca • Clubul Ecologic Unesco Pro Natura, București • Clubul Montan Apuseni, Cluj Napoca • Clubul Montan Român, Piatra Neamț • Clubul Piatra Altarului, Cluj Napoca • Clubul Sportiv Excelsior, Sibiu • Composesoratul Crăciunel • Consiliul Național al Întreprinderilor Private Mici și Mijlocii din România -filiala Arad • Eco Alba Iulia • Eco Zlatna • Federația ONG-urilor din județul Maramureș, Baia Mare • Focus Eco Center, Târgu Mureș • Fundația Academică Idei și Fapte pentru anii 2000, Iași • Fundația András Alapítvány, Miercurea Ciuc • Fundația Artera, Odorheiu Secuiesc • Fundația Biotop, Miercurea Ciuc • Fundația Carpați, Brașov • Fundația CIVITAS, Odorheiu Secuiesc • Fundația Copii Fericiți, Cluj Napoca • Fundația Creștină RCE Speranța Copiilor, Arad • Fundația Culturală First, Timișoara • Fundația Culturală Negru Vodă, Făgăraș • Fundația de Dezvoltare Locală Speranța, Târgu Neamț • Fundația de Ecologie și Turism Potaissa, Turda • Fundația de Speologie Club Speo Bucovina, Suceava • Fundația Eco Montan 2000, Mioveni • Fundația Eco-Generosus, Piatra Neamț • Fundația Edelweiss, Sibiu • Fundația Inimă pentru Inimă, Râmnicu Vâlcea • Fundația József Attila, Miercurea Ciuc • Fundația Kisgyermekért, Miercurea Ciuc • Fundația Mihai Eminescu Trust, Sighișoara • Fundația Naturland, Gheorgheni • Fundația pentru Cultură și Educație Ecologistă Ecotop, Oradea • Fundația pentru Dezvoltare Locală Partener, Târgu Neamț • Fundația pentru Inițiative Comunitare-Cojocna • Fundația pentru Renașterea Satului Românesc, Bacău • Fundația PRO ANIMALIA, Miercurea Ciuc • Fundația Pro Natura, Boroșneu Mic • Fundația Sikerkulcs, Odorheiu Secuiesc • Fundația StrawberryNet, Sfântu Gheorghe • Fundația Terra Mileniul III, București • Fundația Transilvania Trust, Cluj Napoca • Fundația Zamolxes, Câmpina • Grupul de Inițiativă Locală CORONA, Brașov • Grupul Ecologic de Colaborare Nera, Reșița • Grupul Grădinarilor Biodinamici, Târgu Mureș • Hobby Club Jules Verne, Buziaș • IPIMEA Brașov • Liga Pro Europa, Târgu Mureș • Mare Nostrum, Constanța • Organizația CARITAS Alba Iulia punct de lucru Petroșani • Organizația de Tineret ECOS, Tulcea • Organizația Ecologică GAEA, Bacău • Organizația GeoEcologică ACCENT, Brașov • Organizația Națională Cercetașii României - filiala Vâlcea • Organizația Națională Cercetașii României - Miercurea Ciuc • Organizația Neguvernamentală de Mediu ECOTUR, Sibiu • Organizația Regională pentru sănătatea Mediului HERO, Cluj Napoca • SCUT VERDE, Onești • Serviciul de Ajutor Maltez în România - Sucursala Aiud • Societatea Apáthy István, Cluj Napoca • Societatea Ecologică AQUATERRA – filiala Iași • Societatea Carpatină Ardeleană - Satu Mare • Societatea de Istorie Naturală Nymphaea, Oradea • Societatea Lepidopterologică Română, Cluj Napoca • Societatea Maghiară de Cultură din Transilvania, Baia Mare • Societatea Ornitologică Română, Cluj Napoca • Societatea pentru Educație și Cultură "Kurutty", Sândominic • Societatea Română de Herpetologie, Cluj Napoca • Tinerii Prieteni ai Naturii, Timișoara • Administrația Parcului Natural Porțile de Fier, Orșova • Administrația Parcului Național Cozia, Călimănești • Primăria Cârțișoara • Universitatea București - Administrația Geoparcului Dinozaurilor Țara Hațegului • Școala Generală Jókai Mór, Băile Tușnad • Școala Generală Geo Bogza, Bălan • Școala Generală Imets Fülöp Jákó, Tușnad • Școala Generală Zöld Péter, Siculeni • Grupul Școlar Venczel József, Miercurea Ciuc • Grupul Școlar Liviu Rebreanu, Bălan • Școala cu clasele I-VIII nr. 2 Arany János, Sântimbru • Grup Școlar Petőfi Sándor, Dănești • Școala Generală nr. 3 Cserei Mihály, Racu.

# VIII. HUMAN RESOURCES

## Board of the Foundation

Ádám Vígh - President • Entrepreneur

Gyárfás Kurkó - Member • General Manager, Apemin Tuşnad SA

Erika Stanciu - Member • WWF DCP - Team leader

Zsuzsa Foltányi - Member • Hungarian Environmental Partnership Foundation

László Potozky - Member • Director, Romanian Environmental Partnership Foundation

## Members of Grant Selection Committies

Cătălin Gheorghe

Dana Andrea Pârtoc

Lorena Stoica

Csilla Dániel

Éva Csog

Gyöngyvér Mara

Radu Mititean

Cristian Remus Papp

## Staff of the Foundation:

László Potozky - Director

Csilla Dániel - Deputy Director

Ajnácska Gáll - Program Manager

Zsuzsanna Orbán - Accountant

Erzsébet Kovács - Office Coordinator

Botond Forró - PR / Marketing Assistant

Enikő Bándi - Program Assistant

Julia Szekeres - Program Coordinator

**Part-time Consultant:** Daczó Katalin - Journalist

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