



A Romanian Workplace Health Promotion Programme for rural enterprises

Romtens Foundation (NCO Romania) and its four partners - University of Perugia, DAD Expertise, Euro DSM Management and Consulting, Human Development Europe Association - launched their new project "*Human Resources Development in 19 Rural Communities in the Centre, South-East and South-Muntenia Regions - PSCR2*" (ID126095) with a kick-off conference. The project will unfold over a period of 18 months and, as its name states, will approach 19 local communities from three Romanian regions, covering 19 of the 42 Romanian counties (so almost 50% of Romania).



The event took place in Bucharest, on September 11th, and represented a good opportunity to expose and promote the project's objectives and activities. The project has been designed as a combination of two major components, namely Workplace Health Promotion and Community Development. The project is a large and strategic one, hence it includes a broad range of activities, such as counselling and support, training, mediation, information and promotion, exchange visits (with the Italian partner – University of Perugia), and knowledge transfer workshops.

As part of its integrated services the project offers to managers, employees and unemployed persons from the 19 rural communities, the possibility to develop their professional competences in non-agricultural fields by attending free training courses amongst which there are also offered courses for the "Occupational Safety and Health Inspector", and "Occupational Safety and Health Specialist".

The project also includes a very large workplace health campaign, conducted as Health Fairs and with OSH Caravans in each of the 19 communities within the project, for an estimated number of 95 companies (around 5000 employees). These two types of activities (Health Fairs & OSH Caravans) are proposing two approaches. The Health Fairs are meant to promote a healthy lifestyle (with a series of materials / presentations / promotional products addressing factors such as smoking, alcohol, nutrition, exercise etc.). On the other hand, the OSH Caravans are dealing with workplace health, in an attempt to convince managers & employees of rural enterprises about the need for both sound OSH practice and integrated workplace health promotion programmes. A peculiar aspect of this second component is the fact that besides enterprises located in rural areas, the OSH Caravans also aim at addressing individual households employed in subsistence agriculture.

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