



**Welcome to Szeklerland!**

**One of the most unique corners of culture in Europe**

*On behalf of Harghita County Council, one of the three Szekler counties represented in Brussels under the common brand of Szeklerland, we are pleased to send you our 7<sup>th</sup> international newsletter*

## News

**The best ambassador is our product: Mr. Csaba Borboly held an open discussion in the representation office in Brussels.**

In Brussels Representation Office of Szeklerland on the 6<sup>th</sup> of December, Mr. Csaba Borboly, president of Harghita County Council presented the Szekler Product, where the participants could taste a large number of honey specialities. Csaba Borboly spoke about the role of the office which was opened with the collaboration of Covasna, Maros and Harghita Councils.



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## About the Szekler Products in Brussels: Mr. Csaba Borboly, president of Harghita County Council met with Mr. Jerzy Buzek, president of the European Parliament

On 5th of December, Mr. Csaba Borboly met with Mr. Jerzy Buzek, president of the European Parliament and with Mr. Martin Kamp, Secretary General of the EPP in Brussels. The next day, the president of the county council also met with other European Parliament deputies and heads of national delegations. The president of the county council presented to the officials he met the priorities and objectives of the traditional Szekler Product promotion on international level and also those products he brought to Brussels.

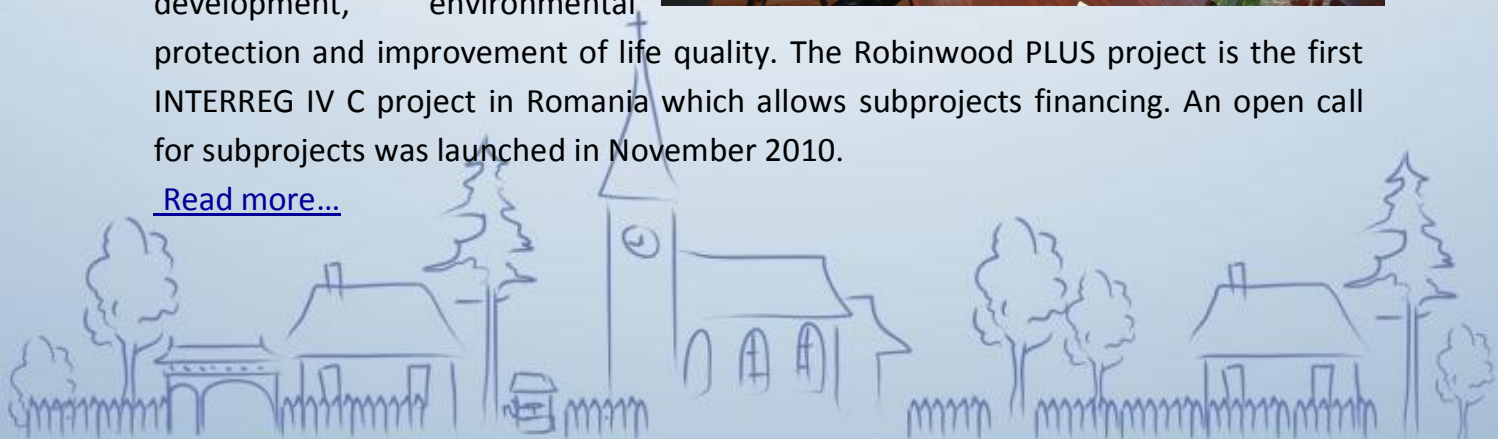
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## Robinwood PLUS Miniprogramme: Successful subproject financing contracts with local authorities of Harghita County

The **INTERREG IV C "Robinwood PLUS"** is a Miniprogramme between Liguria Region (Italy, project leader) and Regional Council of Limousin (France) Regional Council of Kainuu (Finland), Regional Council of Harghita (Romania), Regione Calabria (Italy). The theme is FORESTRY as key resource for development, environmental protection and improvement of life quality. The Robinwood PLUS project is the first INTERREG IV C project in Romania which allows subprojects financing. An open call for subprojects was launched in November 2010.

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## We can influence the financial programming of the European Union: A meeting in Miercurea Ciuc about EU development strategies for 2014-2020

On 15th November 2011, representatives of “Centru” Regional Development Agency, specialists of Harghita County Council and representatives of several decentralized institutions met in Miercurea-Ciuc at the county hall in order to discuss the EU development strategies for 2014-2020. According to Mr. József



Birtalan, county manager, “We must elaborate a consulting plan that serves the interests of the citizens of the county and we must take all measures within our power and possibilities that our ideas and proposals to be taken into consideration”.

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## The First Conference on Hunting in Szeklerland

The I. Conference on Hunting in Szeklerland was organized by Harghita County Council and by the “Nimród” Hunting Association on 11-12 of November at Dănești, Harghita County in the Gáll Lajos sports hall. The event attracted participants from all corners of Szeklerland, so there were invited hunters from both Mureș and Covasna counties as well as from Harghita county. [Read more...](#)



## Trust and good cooperation in our everyday life: Forum on the situation of Roma people

A three day public forum was held at Băile Tușnad in Harghita County on the situation of Roma people, organized by Harghita County Council and the Association for

Harghita County (Harghita Megyéért Egyesület). Roma youngsters from the county, members of youth associations and many of the mayors were invited to the meeting. Borboly Csaba, president of the county council held discussions about education, healthcare and the question of job opportunities with the representatives of the Roma community. In his opinion we have to begin the work of improving the situation with those problems that can be solved and can give a boost to resolve the tougher ones. [Read more...](#)

### **Traditional and bio honey, as one of the most successful Szekler Product**

The Szekler Product brand was initiated as a program of Harghita County Council to serve the interest of Szekler communities in producing and sell of traditional and bio products. It also helps to evaluate and develop possibilities to provide these healthy and traditional products not only in Szeklerland, but in all Romania and in Europe as well. Also through this program Harghita County Council wants to contribute to the competitiveness in the region, to guarantee the quality of the products, and to give aid to the producers for a fair competition. There are more than 24 producers who are using the brand on a total of 272 products.



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### **Symposium on the successful regional autonomy of South Tyrol, Italy**

The symposium's primary goal – according to Mr. Joseph Komlóssy – was the introduction of the political, economic and legal history of the multilingual and autonomous Province of Bolzano-South Tyrol – Alto Adige, for the audience in Romania. The planned



symposium focuses in detail on those international, bilateral, local and legal processes which, over the years, helped to turn a region overloaded with political tensions into an exemplary and successful region of Europe. [Read more...](#)



## 60 schools have participated on the Wandering in Szeklerland project this year

The staff of Harghita County Council's Mountain Rescue Civil Service have visited more than 50 schools during the Wandering in Szeklerland project. They have trained the students for their camps and also for orientation competitions. The mountain rescue staff paid special attention to the children to become acquainted with the basics of the safe mountain tourism.

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## Szeklerland presented at the touristic exhibition Romexpo in Bucharest

A great interest was shown again toward the Szeklerland stand on The Tourism Fair of Romania in the TTR, which was organized in Bucharest in Romexpo exhibition hall, organized for the 26<sup>th</sup> time. The stand represented a common promotion of Harghita, Covasna and Mures counties between 3-6 november 2011. The Szeklerland



stand had its unique design this year as well and on a total surface of 90 squaremeters 12 entrepreneurs and local authorities presented their touristical attractions and free time offers from the above mentioned Szekler counties.

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## Conference and experience exchanges on alternative energy in Austria

The conference was organized in the framework of the “WidetheSEEbySuccMod” project, which objective is to widen the domestic usage of solar energy in the partner regions. One of the project partners is the Harghita Energy Management Public Service (HEMPS) of Harghita County Council. Among the attendants, near the project partners, were present the representatives of local entrepreneurs and the representatives of the local press. The aim of the conference was to present the experiences gained during the campaign organized in the framework of WidetheSEE project, but near this more local entrepreneurs introduced themselves, their activities and also the Enterprise Europe Network. [Read more...](#)

## Csaba Borboly held a work discussion with deputy of the European Parliament, Csaba Sógor

Csaba Borboly, president of the Harghita County Council was in Brussels between 4-6 October this year on a meeting on civil protection and disaster prevention as part of the EU project CIVPro. As the Romanian partner representative of the project, the president of the County Council met with the European Parliament's deputy of the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania, Csaba Sógor and his co-workers in Brussels. At the meeting there were also present the advisers of EU deputy, Gyula Winkler. [Read more...](#)



## Harghita county is a good place for investments: The tourism minister visited Harghita County

Ms. Elena Udrea, the Regional Development and Tourism Minister visited Harghita county on September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011. In Miercurea-Ciuc, after the salaam, Csaba Borboly presented to the minister the





council's winning projects, such as POR 5.3 and 5.2 projects: Legendary Szeklerland, The path of the Szekler gates, The path of the mineral waters, mountain rescue and safe mountain tourism development and the recovery of the traditional popular baths.

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### **Promising survey results in entrepreneurship: Harghita county is on the top regarding the number of SMEs in small towns in Transylvania**

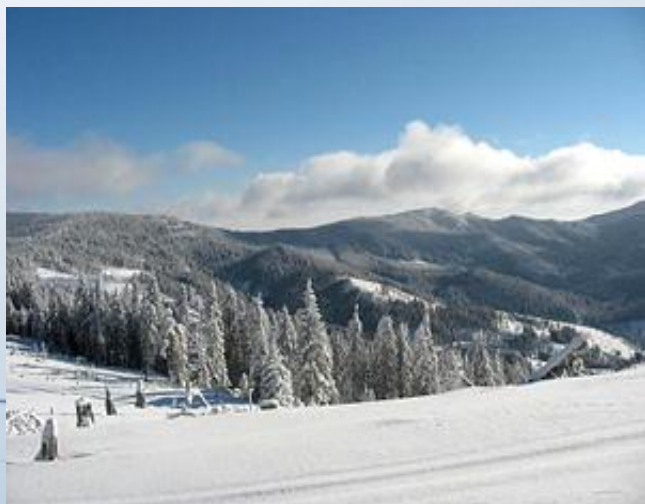
In Transylvania both the entrepreneurship and the business activity is higher than the countries average, however the lack of investment capital due to the crises, the rising tax levels and the inconsistency of the regulation are many obstacles in the development of the local SMEs – these facts were turned out by the research which was carried out in the frame of the project called Integrated Business Development model in small towns of three development regions.



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### **Harghita County – The Land of Winter Sports**

Due to its particular climate Harghita county has a long-standing tradition in winter sports, being the cradle of ice hockey in Romania. The teams of Miercurea Ciuc and Gheorgheni brought home several championship titles, achieving remarkable results. Our athletes have outstanding achievements also in speed skating, nordic skiing, biathlon, and bobsled. The best-known ski tracks are in



Harghita Băi, Harghita Mădăraș, Izvoru Mureș and Homorod Resort. Harghita Băi, which administratively belongs to Miercurea Ciuc, is the favorite ski resort of the locals, winter sport enthusiasts being able to choose from several modern ski tracks. The resort also offers a variety of accommodation possibilities.

For further information visit Harghita county's official website:

[www.harghitacounty.ro](http://www.harghitacounty.ro)



**On behalf of Harghita County Council we wish you a happy and successful  
New Year!**



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