

Harghita County Council is partner of the SEEMIG international project

The goal is to discourage migration

Within the framework of the SEEMIG EU-funded project, during next year Harghita County Council's duty will be to organize trainings and roundtable discussions on issues related to migration. Among others, this was the topic of the meeting of the South Eastern Europe – Managing Migration and its Effects in South-East Europe (SEEMIG) project, organised in Belgrade between 19-20th of September. At the meeting the representatives of Harghita County Council were Mrs. Juliánna Bodó, expert and Mrs. Erika Dobos, project manager.

In the course of the project meeting new goals of the program strategy were set up. The national migration summary and the related study are now finished, so the next step will be to conduct a national foresight. On the meeting the methodology of this research was introduced and during smaller trainings the participants got acquainted with the point of it. Moreover, it was decided that every partner must organise this research in their own country during the next three months. In Romania Harghita County Council will organize this program in collaboration with the Mayor's Office of Sfântu Gheorghe, Covasna County and with the National Minority Institution. This will be a complex operation during which the population will be surveyed about the effects of long- and short-term migration.

In the first months of 2014 Harghita County Council will need to organise trainings and roundtable discussions. Notably, the goal of these is to revise, optimise and improve the existing databases. The roundtable meetings will be delivered together with advocacy representatives in order to improve and update the strategy of Harghita County by taking into account the current demands also.

Subsequent to evaluating the results of the foresight research and the roundtable discussions, the project partners' responsibility will be to elaborate

a document contributing to the update of the county level strategy. Furthermore, during the meeting a lot of migration-linked projects from South-East Europe were presented as best practices. Concerning the roundtable discussions, it offered the possibility for representatives of local governments to ask questions, discussing also problems related to financial and management issues.

The project SEEMIG is aimed at expanding the existing databases, hereby providing assistance to political decision makers to make the best decisions regarding strategy developments.

A consortium was set up involving universities, statistical departments, research facilities together with local governments from eight countries (Hungary, Italy, Romania, Austria, Bulgaria, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia) and research observers from other three countries (Albania, Georgia, Ukraine) toward better understanding of the movement of human capital and the different demographical tendencies in South-East Europe, as well as the effect of these on the labour market and on the national and regional economies.

Miercurea Ciuc, 20th of September 2013

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