Big Foot. Crossing Generations, Crossing Mountains

Intergenerational Learning as a tool for sustainable community development

Tamara Mitrofanenko
CCIC Meeting
Vienna, 5-7 December 2012

www.bigfoot-project.eu
Rural Mountain Community Challenges

- lack of opportunities to valorize knowledge and skills of the younger and older residents for sustainable community development
- migration of younger people to urban areas
- socio-cultural marginalization of elderly people, loss of their role as promoters of the local knowledge and traditions
BIG FOOT project aims:

- Finding creative solutions for sustainable local development
- Combining traditional knowledge and natural heritage with modern communication tools and expertise
- Valorizing skills and knowledge of older and younger generations
- Encouraging intergenerational learning and dialogue in mountain areas

www.bigfoot-project.eu
Participants:

- Local administrations, organizations, families, and other stakeholders
- Elderly people: as heritage trainers
- Younger people: as heritage travelers
- Community stakeholders: as heritage beneficiaries

www.bigfoot-project.eu
Results and deliverables:

- Training possibilities for the younger and older;
- Proposed and tested solutions for the elderly to be socially involved and economically active;
- A Tool Kit: transferring the project experience to the Carpathian communities – printed and digital;
- Project Website, Communities Livelihood Platform and Facebook Page
- Guides on intangible heritage: printed and digital
Expected long-term impact

- Promotion of culture, local heritage and traditions

- Valorization of human capital

- Economic development

- Sustainable management of natural resources, such as through improved dialogue between the community and protected area managers;
Project Partners

Gouré s.r.l
IT, management, www.goure.it

Comune di Gubbio
IT, testing
www.comune.gubbio.pg.it

Menon Network
BE, intergenerational communication, www.menon.org

Association Européenne des Elus de Montagne
FR, communication, www.promote-aem.net

Centre for Development of North-West Bulgaria
BG, quality evaluation, www.centrebgfoundation.org

Trikala Development Agency S.A.
GR, participatory mapping
www.kenakap.gr

UNEP Regional Office for Europe Carpathian Convention
AUT, capitalization
www.unep.at

CNR- Institute for international legal studies
IT, learning interventions www.isgi.cnr.it
Participating Communities

Gubbio, ITALY

Trikala, Greece

Berkovitsa, Bulgaria

www.bigfoot-project.eu
UNEP Role in the project:

- Linking Intergenerational Learning with sustainable community development

- Communicating the Big Foot process and results to a wide stakeholder community of the Carpathian countries
  - Transferability Tool Kit
  - The Project Website, Facebook
  - The Community Livelihood Platform (under development)

www.bigfoot-project.eu
Innovative approach to Mountainous Regions sustainable development – using intergenerational learning as a tool and a target

- Intergenerational Learning linked with Protected Area Management, Cultural Heritage and Tourism development

- **Community Livelihood Platform** useful for the Carpathian stakeholders

- Using Carpathian examples and in the Transferability Tool Kit and the final conference (June 2013)

- Using and transferring project results as a policy platform

www.bigfoot-project.eu
Protected Areas and Intergenerational Community

- Strengthening stakeholder participation
- Acceptance
- Traditional and professional knowledge and skills of older inhabitants
- Volunteers (young and old)
- Education - in cooperation with schools, local museums, pensioners, other associations
- Sustainable Tourism Development
- Innovative approaches in the Carpathian Region!!!
Community Development Platform

• Linked with Carpathian Convention website
  cultural heritage and traditional knowledge

  – Thematic areas and their inter-linkages:
    • Tourism Development, Cultural Heritage, Protected Area Management, ESD

  – Case-studies, examples and links from the Carpathian communities

  – Base for awareness and participation, of the Carpathian stakeholders (photo contest, comments and communication, new project presentation)
Thank you!

www.bigfoot-project.eu