

Youth Empowerment Program (YEP)

Overview of YEP

The Youth Empowerment Program (YEP) is to establish an innovative county and local partnership of the independent, public and private sectors targeting at disadvantaged children and youth and the communities they live in.

It is a joint effort designed as the fruitful cooperation in between the Regional Association for Rural Development, Gorj County Council, Gorj Prefecture, Youngsters without Borders, UK Youth Parliament–Eastern Region and Norfolk County Council-Norfolk Children's Services.

The program approach is based **on the logic of inter-territoriality and clustering approach** as effective tools to ensure sustainability in youth governance. The whole design facilitates the **creation of youth community clusters** created to ensure a balanced social, geographical and cultural distribution giving equal opportunities for all youths. It draws heavily on the international and European recommendations to which Romania is a signatory, such as: **Revised European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life, European Commission White Paper - A New Impetus for European Youth, the European Youth Pact**, and also **Article 12 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, or UNCRC**.

Youth Empowerment Program Description:

<http://www.aradr.ro/projects/ongoing/YEPWhy.pdf>

The current program is co-financed through the European Union Program, Youth in Action http://ec.europa.eu/youth/yia/index_en.html managed in Romania by the National Agency - Agentia Nationala pentru Programe Comunitare in Domeniul Educatiei si Formarii Profesionale (ANPCDEFP)- <http://www.anpcdefp.ro/> the Council of Europe http://www.coe.int/T/E/Cultural_Co-operation/Youth/ and National Agency for Supporting Youth Initiatives- ANSIT <http://www.ansitromania.ro/>