

## Role of the NGO

Clear mandate to engage civil society, businesses, and the public sector can help Romania to tackle environmental and educational issues more successfully through crossing barriers such as a lack of understanding about role in civil society and public perception that the government alone is responsible for the well-being of its citizens and residents.

“Preocupati de Viitor” NGO is playing a crucial role in helping to plug gaps by conducting research to facilitate environmental policy development, building institutional capacity and facilitating independent dialogue with civil society to help people live more sustainable lifestyles.

## Partner Identification Form

| Organisation                      |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>OID</b>                        | E10000749   |
| <b>PIC</b>                        | 898115726   |
| Legal name                        | Asociatia Preocupati de Viitor                        |
| Legal name (National Language)    | Asociatia Preocupati de Viitor                        |
| Acronym, if applicable            |   |
| National ID number, if applicable | 23533100  |
| Department, if applicable         |   |
| Address                           | Bld. Nicolae Grigorescu, No. 105, Sector 3, Bucharest |
| Country                           | Romania   |
| Region                            | SE  |
| P.O.Box                           |   |
| Postal code                       | 030444  |
| CEDEX                             |   |
| City                              | Bucharest   |
| Web site                          |   |
| Email                             | danut@preocupatideviitor.ro                           |
| Telephone 1                       | +4 0766 287 411                                       |
| Telephone 2                       |   |
| Fax                               |   |

| <b>Legal representative</b>        |                             |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Title                              | Mr.                         |
| Gender                             | Male                        |
| First name                         | DANUT                       |
| Family name                        | STANCIU                     |
| Department                         | ADMINISTRATION              |
| Position                           | PRESIDENT                   |
| Email                              | ong@preocupatideviitor.org  |
| Telephone                          | +4 0747 121 232             |
| Fax                                |                             |
| Same address as the organisation   | YES                         |
| <b>Contact person</b>              |                             |
| Title                              | Mr.                         |
| Gender                             | Male                        |
| First name                         | Dănuț                       |
| Family name                        | Stanciu                     |
| Department                         |                             |
| Position                           | President                   |
| Email                              | danut@preocupatideviitor.ro |
| Telephone                          | +4 0747 121 232             |
| Fax                                |                             |
| Same address as the organisation   | YES                         |
| <b>Profile of the Organisation</b> |                             |
| Type of organisation?              | NGO                         |
| Is organisation a public body?     | NO                          |
| Is organisation a non-profit?      | Yes                         |

| <b>Has the organisation received any type of accreditation before submitting this application?</b> |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| Accreditation Type   | Accreditation Reference |
|  |                         |
|  |                         |

## Background and Experience

### Organisation briefly presentation

“PREOCUPATI DE VIITOR” (Involved for the Future) is a non-governmental, non-profit, independent association with public benefit, constituted for an undetermined period, based in Bucharest, Romania.

The NGO has clear mandate to engage civil society, businesses and the public sector can help Romania to tackle environmental and educational issues more successfully through crossing barriers such as a lack of understanding about role in civil society and public perception that the government alone is responsible for the well-being of its citizens and residents.

“ Preocupati de Viitor” NGO is playing a crucial role in helping to plug gaps by conducting research to facilitate environmental policy development, building institutional capacity and facilitating independent dialogue with civil society to help people live more sustainable lifestyles.

The purpose and main activity of “PREOCUPATI DE VIITOR” NGO is to promote the interests of the youth through specific actions on a local, national and international level in order to involve them actively in the social and cultural life of the community, the promotion of intercultural dialogue and non-formal learning, European cooperation between youngsters, to raise environmental awareness among volunteers and project partners, the promotion of new public policies concerning the interests of the youth, promotion for the integration of young people with disabilities in the community, the development of young people’s civic conscience.

Promotion of environmental activities such as environmental education, outdoor activities, organic farming, involvement of local Community and the municipalities as well as other institutional bodies, having awareness campaign which gave detailed information on EU policies and opportunities thus encouraging young people to take initiatives for protecting biodiversity by sustainable development projects in rural areas, voluntary work of more than 50 young people only in field of environmental protection, environmental awareness of thousands of people by the events realized in international festivals, creating publications of explanatory informative material.

The activities necessary for fulfilling the purpose are:

- to clearly define the role and status of the youth in society and to identify their problems
- to organize and/or participate in projects, seminars, conferences based on the purpose and the objectives of the association
- evaluations of youth policies in Romania in comparison to international youth policies

- the promotion of youth structures, services and programs
- to adhere to other national and international associations whose objective is the promotion of young people
- to participate in programs and international seminars promoted by the EU through the programs of the European Committee for youth
- developing programs specific for prevention of alcohol, tobacco or harmful substances consumption among the youth
- developing a national and international network for young people participating in environmental activities through specific actions
- promotion of active youth involvement in civil society and in decision making concerning young people
- facilitating access to information for young people as well as accurate and equidistant information for youth
- environmental awareness for long-lasting social and economic phenomena
- individual civic engagement and even higher employment
- developing a system for cultural, educative and leisure time benefits for youth
- ensuring human rights and especially youth rights
- proposing measures for the integration of handicapped children and youth in the community through programs in cooperation with partner NGOs
- encouraging volunteering among the youth

**We have more goals:**

1. INTEGRITY: We want to become more responsible for the commitments we make and we want to communicate openly about their fulfillment. We want to approach the surrounding reality through a systemic and harmonious thinking.
2. TRANSPARENCY: We want to promote the transparency of internal processes, proposed objectives and their achievement through access to information and dialogue with any interested party.
3. OWN EXAMPLE: Every member and every activity of the organization must become a living example of putting the concept of sustainable development into practice, based on a continuous learning process.
4. CONSULTATION WITH INTERESTED FACTORS: The solutions proposed through the activities we will be based on open dialogue with stakeholders and integrate, balance and capitalize on various points of view and objectives.
5. PERSONALIZED, PRACTICAL AND LONG-TERM APPROACH: Each individual, target group or project will be approached taking into account the uniqueness, specificity and needs, impact and long-term influence. Ideas must be of practical relevance.
6. REPLICABILITY: The programs and projects carried out will be designed to be successfully extended on a large scale (geographically, in terms of volume) in order to take place in several places at the same time and to address global problems locally.
7. PROMOTING A BALANCED AND HARMONIOUS LIFE: Promoting a healthy, balanced, harmonious and responsible lifestyle for oneself, for those around me and for everything around us. Our slogan for this value: "Enjoy life to the fullest!".

**Activities and experience of the organisation in the areas relevant for this application:**

“ Preocupati de Viitor” NGO is working to **raise awareness, among the rural communities of Giurgiu county** and the general public, emphasizing on the importance of conservation of High Nature Value and the benefits they get from nature, through education as is an important compound of our activities; we aim to educate the younger generation, to bring them closer to nature and teach them more about caring for their precious landscape and community. We wish to involve the broader community as well to become supporters of our initiatives.

The surface of the Giurgiu county is 3526 km<sup>2</sup>, representing 1.5% of the country's surface.

The county residence is the city of Giurgiu, located 64 km from the capital of the country on the route Bucharest-Sofia-Athens or Bucharest-Istanbul.

Documentary certificate from the 14th century, the city of Giurgiu was the host of some technical premieres: the first railway line in Romania (Bucharest-Giurgiu), the first telegraph line and the bridge over the Danube.

Giurgiu is an important border crossing point for the traffic of goods and people. Giurgiu is one of the most important Romanian ports on the Danube.

Belonging to the Romanian Plain, the county's surface is made up of forests and arable land.

Giurgiu county has a municipality, two cities, 51 communes and 167 villages.

The population of Giurgiu county represents 1.3% of the population of Romania.

In Giurgiu county economy, it is distinguished as activities like, agriculture, industry and trade things which made this area to belong more to a disadvantaged area without any strong developed economy.

The organization successfully educate children and adults on topics related to climate change and sustainable development through activities and small projects across kindergartens, schools and public institutions.

**Integrated public policies for efficient and transparent management of municipal waste**

The specific objectives of the project were:

- Increasing the capacity of NGOs to get involved in the formulation and promotion of integrated public policies for efficient and transparent management of municipal waste and reported data on municipal waste; This objective were achieved within a period of 16 months of implementation,

- Contribute to the capacity building for the 2 partner NGOs through activities aimed at training 75 representatives in the field of waste management and 25 representatives in the field of public policy and the participation of 5 representatives of NGOs in international conferences on management. Waste,

- Improvement of public policies regarding public services for municipal waste management.

It was achieved through the formulation and promotion of five alternative public policies to the Government's policy on municipal waste management and the development and

implementation of a monitoring and evaluation software for the implementation of the policy, on municipal waste management,

- Building consensus in order to adopt changes to the proposed public policies - this objective was achieved by establishing and operating a cooperation and dialogue platform on municipal waste management and holding 5 meetings to build consensus on the policy proposed by NGOs,

Target group of the project: 85 representatives, employees of ADI ( Inter community Development Association ) organizations implementing the Integrated Waste Management System (SMID); 10 representatives of the central authorities; 30 representatives of local public authorities; 5 representatives of other NGOs interested in waste issues.

### **Activities carried out between 31 Aug 2019 - Present**

We designed a 7 days YE (Youth Exchange) program close to Bucharest **-2020-1-RO01-KA105-079746**, focusing on selective collection of waste and with a diverse methodologic approach, following the concepts of non-formal education and stakeholder-based learning with a great local support from private and public bodies in Bucharest and surrounding communities in order to empower the young generation towards a positive environmental attitude.

#### **The objectives were:**

- Increased awareness of the connection between selective collection of waste and self-exclusion for 35 participants by the end of the YE.
- Authentic healthy attitude of selective collection and a deep understanding of its impact on community's life for the 35 participants, by the end of the YE.
- Increased visibility of the selective collection of waste in all the participants' communities, facilitated by all the participants in the YE, within the end of project's implementation.

#### **Focus on:**

##### **1. Citizenship competences Attitudes:**

- Waste selective collection can improve one's and the community's image.
- Active interest in the social and political developments of the community.
- Confidence towards societal evolutions in the community.
- Confidence in their ability to bring positive change in the community.

#### **Skills of:**

- Identifying effective systems for selective collection of waste.
- Searching examples of good practice in environmental education.
- Recognizing the level of implementation for the laws regulating selective collection of waste.
- Active listening and contributing to decision-making processes.
- Managing risks and limited resources in planning a campaign.

**Knowledge of:**

- The materials used in packing industry and how they can be selective collected.
- The ecological impact on one's social status created by ineffective selective collection systems.
- Benefits of environment-related education in the smaller and larger communities.
- How to promote a positive and motivating message in their communities.

**Behaviors:**

- Stimulating others to enrich their knowledge of the materials used in packing industry.
- Buying products with sustainable packaging materials.
- Searching the adequate bins for different types of packaging materials.

**2. Cultural awareness and expression.**

**Attitudes:**

- Belief in the power of intercultural cooperation for European topics.
- Searching for positive alternatives in a multi-cultural context.
- Confidence in the youth ecological youth movements.
- A feeling of safety in cooperating with youngsters from EU and non-EU countries.
- Permanent interest in understanding the impact of selective collection's impact in smaller and bigger communities.

**Skills of:**

- Searching for national and international ecological movements.
- Designing and delivering a presentation with the national regulations on selective collection of waste.
- Comparing different international practices related to waste management in the EU and non-EU countries.

**Knowledge of:**

- The concept of self-exclusion
- Cultural differences concerning the selective collecting.
- The concept of sustainable society.
- Different practices related to selective collection of waste.
- EU and national regulations for waste management.
- The impact created by the living environment on the level of ecology education.
- International terminology used for selective collection of waste.
- Basic elements for running a business in the field of selective collection of waste.

**Behaviors:**

- Checks the origin of a product and what amount of non-recyclable packaging materials it contains.
- Verbalize the need to have coherent EU and European policy in collection of waste.
- Search and exemplifies examples of good practices from other countries.

These competences are approached as the key outcomes of the learning process. The other six key competences indicated by the Youthpass certificate are also approached, but to a lower extent and it would be irrelevant to mention all of them since we are focusing on these two throughout the whole week.

**OTHER OF OUR ACTIVITIES FOR THE COMMUNITY**

1. Training courses about Communication and organisational culture + Video Participative + Waste management addressed for more than 400 people in Bucharest
2. Promoting separate collection of recyclables at platforms in rural areas
3. Window glass collection pilot project, including carpentry
4. Promoting the yellow bag in rural areas



5. Drawing up and signing partnership agreements to promote the separate collection of waste in schools and high schools
6. Preparation and signing of partnership agreements with City Halls for the promotion of separate waste collection, distribution of information materials and bags for separate waste collection
7. Providing free specialized waste management advice to owners 'and individuals' associations
8. Preparation of minutes on the occasion of events to promote the separate collection of waste carried out in localities
9. Information and research studies on the composition of municipal waste: emptying bins, sorting the composition of waste on each type (household, recyclable, biodegradable), weighing, reporting
10. Rural information campaigns on the separate collection of biodegradable waste
11. Edit text and create images for campaign information materials, collection graphics, and stickers for separate collection bins.

**Partners and beneficiaries of the services of the APV:**

- City Halls: Bucharest Municipality, Bolintin Vale, Adunații Copaceni, Vărăști, Crevedia Mică, Vânătorii Mici, Ghimpați

Environmental profile non-governmental associations: Ecotic, Ecotic Bat, Recolamp, Axial Logistics, etc.

Private companies: Ecogreen Construct SRL, Saint Gobain Construction Romania, Saint Gobain Glass Romania, Glasscorp SA, Park Lake Shopping SA, etc.

**Notable results:**

- 1 hour sessions of ecological education and waste management adapted for over 2000 children from grades 0-12

- distribution over 3000 pcs. flyers to the rural population by the partner's staff and by the volunteers of the APV about the Future;

- distribution over 200 pcs. posters by display in public places, bus stations, large intersections and shops that have agreed to apply these materials

- awarding volunteers: pens, backpacks, umbrellas, portable audio devices, diaries, special office boxes for collecting batteries and accumulators - prizes from sponsors and partners

- organizing street campaigns with 2 tables and 2 chairs installed during the campaigns to promote and send various messages to the population for WEEE collection. Result 600 KG collected in a 5-day campaign

- organization of online campaigns, on the promotion channels of the Association Concerned about the Future

- organization of campaigns in the field, with the physical presence and with spokespersons on the car that went at low speed (6-10 KM / h)

**Evaluation of public policies regarding the programs to support the waste sector and respectively the increase of the quantities of waste of separate packaging - questionnaire the opinions of the stakeholders, operators on the packaging waste management chain:**

The questionnaire covered 5 categories of aspects, as follows:-

1. Institutional and regulatory;
2. Operational;
3. Transparency and communication;
4. Financial and economic instruments;
5. Education and involvement.

**ACTION PLANS AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES:**

- carrying out actions and activities to promote the separate collection of waste addressed to residents living in blocks of flats and houses,

- carrying out actions and activities to promote the separate collection of waste addressed to commercial and non-commercial companies wishing to be involved in the project,

- identification of waste management in relation to the needs of the community, according to the law

- raising the awareness of staff employed in state institutions on the need for separate waste collection and support for environmental protection activities inside and outside institutions,

- interaction with and involvement of educational institutions in extracurricular activities, with a view to ecology, the protection of the environment and natural resources, including social inclusion,

- provision by the organizer and partner of materials such as: separate collection bags, information leaflets on household composting, labels to properly mark recyclable and municipal waste bins and other materials necessary to meet the general objectives,

- information sessions in physical and electronic format for all interested people - information will be provided throughout the implementation of the project, on electronic channels and through the distribution of informal materials,

- promoting the image of local institutions: school / high school, town hall and local council, waste collection operator, profile associations, through the proposed activities,
- interactive conferences for children and adults on environmental protection
- thematic visits to the local collector and to the recyclers
- encouraging young people to get involved in civic activities
- awarding volunteers with digital tools and urban mobility devices
- attracting Owners' Associations in local greening projects
- creation and implementation of pilot projects to reduce the amount of waste destined for disposal

### **Campaigns to raise awareness of the effects of climate change**

About 700 secondary school students from 11 schools from counties from SE Romania and Bucharest have designed and implemented several campaigns to raise awareness of the effects of climate change. They have thus joined the global movement, which is trying to convey a clear message to the decision-makers.

The means by which the children together with their teachers tried to convey the message that protection against the effects of climate change is a necessity covers a wide range of activities, from letters addressed to local authorities, through the organization of waste collection points in their own schools and until to real protest marches against the lack of active measures of the authorities.

In all these campaigns, the students made use of the knowledge gained during the implementation of the project through special courses on climate change, dedicated to teachers and students. Within the same project, guides and application manuals were developed along with an online course, all complementing the school syllabus which at the moment presents a gap in climate change education.

### **The issue of food waste from youth perspective**

The project is addressed to students between the ages of 10 and 18 years. The project aims to raise awareness regarding the food waste of students from 6 schools in Giurgiu County and to transmit this message to the community.

During the school year, the partners intend to hold a 4-lesson "Food waste education" course in each selected school. In total, it aims to achieve more than 30 hours of "Food waste education", which will benefit about 300 students.

Within the same school a creative contest will be initiated whereby students are invited to design a campaign to promote the "5 steps against food waste" through artistic means (painting, drawing, collage, video, etc.).

Steps against food waste promoted within the project are:

- Make a well-calculated shopping list.
- Think well about what you want and what you want to buy because this helps you save and keep fresh food at home all the time.
- Store your food at home so you don't forget about them.

- Get more perishable food out in front.
  - Use the scraps. Vegetables left over from a soup can become a tasty salad.
  - Freeze what you will not use the next day.
- Composte! Remember, the food scraps you throw at the trash can become fertilizer for other foods.

**Information on the key staff/persons involved in this application and on the competences and previous experience that they will bring to the project.**

“ Preocupati de Viitor” NGO is working with a key staff having experience in preparation, organisation and implementation of local, national and international projects regarding environmental awareness and social issues. Staff as youth workers, underwent numerous and diverse educations and trainings and were focused on acquiring a variety of specific knowledge in different areas of education and rehabilitation of people with disabilities and EU projects.

**Danut Stanciu**, the President of the NGO, is project coordinator for this application; he is member of the original NGO founded in 2007; he participated in more than 20 Erasmus programmes with the purpose to find out more about youth role in european culture and future. He was participant of a big diversity of programmes such as: Grundtwig workshop, training courses, youth exchanges, study session and I focused more on non formal education exchanges. All of them puted an fingerprint on his character and education and motivated to continue to get implicated in youth education and interaction with public institutions.

He is environmental engineer since 2012, master in biotehnologies in environmental protection and trainer since 2014. He has competences in organizing workshops, team building, sessions of guiding volunteers and making partnership with other NGOs. He will also use skills & knowledges acquire in his professional life because he is trainer and waste manager specialist. One of his activity is to promote and help organisations to acquire and respect documentation according the Environmental National Agency and for this to happen, he is presenting national and european applicable environmental laws to the company personnel in order to separately colect all waste and respect all environmental protection outlines.

Volunteers of NGO are comming mostly from youth clubs and hightschools/ faculties wishing to develop interpersonal skills and to give what they have the most at this time of their life: joy, positive thinking, to spend time writing projects and to learn about European youth strategies.

**NGO Member: Rodica Purcel** - She is environmental engineer interested in energy efficiency and sustainability. Passionated about new technologies, science and decentralized economy. Strongly promoting active lifestyle and gender equality. She is helping NGOs to find out about Environmental, Social and Governance about ticking a box. It’s about making a difference - for the world and for daily activities. It’s about creating sustained outcomes for environmental and societal good. And governing own activities responsibly and inclusively to build long term resilience. Rodica is passionate member of a community of solvers and she os

ready to put in the work with you among environmentalists, sociologists, economists, strategists and technologists.

| <b>Travel information</b>                   |   |
|---|---|
| Means of transport (car, bus, train, plane) | Train, Bus, Airplane                                |
| City of departure                           | S-E Romania ( Bucharest and surroundings ), Romania |
| Airport (name of the city)                  | Otopeni   |
| Do you need visa? How much for Romania?     | No  |

| <b>Person with disability? If yes, give number, which type of disability and needed support (sign language interpreter, accompanying person.... etc.) Or from disadvantaged backgrounds, minorities, refugees?</b> |
|--|
| Disadvantaged backgrounds: students, youth coming from mono-parental family, rroma, youth from rural area.   |

For more and updated informations, please check our website ( Romanian language ), LinkedIn ( English Language ) and also Youtube. **All active links are in the footer.**