

## Rural Experience Hub Kick-off Event in Romania

May 30th - June 2nd at [Dupa Gard](#)



### What

From May 30th - June 2nd, Forum Synergies is organising the first Rural Experience Hub in Posaga de Jos in Romania. The aim is to facilitate a space for intergenerational exchange for rural development - something we have dubbed the Rural Experience Hub. The idea is to jointly identify concrete activities and approaches, in other words; a strategy, about how to best advocate for youth and intergenerational exchange in rural development.

We will do this by a participatory workshop approach, involving the input of all stakeholders. We would love you to participate and share your experiences, thoughts and suggestions. We would also like to get to know like-minded people, creating networks and connections and start building momentum for not only youth participation in development - but intergenerational co-creation.

At the end, we hope to

- i) demonstrate how such a hub can look like and
- ii) create a strategy to advocate for youth and inter-generational learning in rural development.

### Background

Rural communities face considerable changes. One of the outputs of these challenges is that young people are going away and leaving rural communities with a drain of inhabitants, cultural life and public services as a result. Paradoxically, many of Europe's rural development movements are driven by an older generation, where issues concerning youth often occupy a fringe position within the movement. To ensure a resilient movement in the future, we must be able to combine knowledge between generations and to create spaces for genuine co-creation and collaboration in setting agendas for rural development.

As a rural development organisation, we at Forum Synergies share an obligation to ourselves and our movements to facilitate change and transition towards a more intergenerational rural development. We also have an opportunity to lead and demonstrate our work to the wider movement.

Theories of transitions highlight the importance of niches - in this case doing something different. If you do something different and can demonstrate its utility, it can create transitional pressures. In this case, we suggest creating a new rural development space for governance carried out by young people's initiatives and intergenerational learning.

This intergenerational challenge culminated in the creation of a **Rural Experience Hub** concept through dialogues and webinars hosted by Forum Synergies. It was then officially presented at the European Rural Parliament Mid-Term Event in Brussels (January 2025) and at the PREPARE annual meeting in Prague (March 2025). The concept has been hailed as an important step for intergenerational justice and resilience for the rural development movement around Europe - meaning that there is an opportunity here to create momentum and drive meaningful change.

## The Event

We need to physically get together to jointly share our thoughts, develop and set a precedent and path for talking about intergenerational issues in rural development.

We also hope that the hub will serve as a preparation for the role of our intergenerational group and how we can position ourselves to push for change at the upcoming ERP (European Rural Parliament) in Scotland in October 2025.

## About Dupa Gard, our Host in Romania



Read more about our host here:

<https://scholarship2021670650963.wordpress.com/2023/04/27/dupa-gard-transilvania-romania/>

## Registration and contact

Please use the online registration form: <https://forms.gle/FCrvyN3M7vNZF1PB7>

In case of any questions, please come back to:

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