

Agricultural Development and Environmental Protection in Transylvania,

Agricultural Development and Environmental Protection Foundation (ADEPT)

The project of the Agricultural Development and Environmental Protection Foundation (ADEPT) was implemented in the period between May 2006 and March 2009, financed under the Darwin Initiative and co-financed by Orange Romania and the UK Government (Defra). The project was initiated in the Târnava Mare area as a response to the threats to the semi-natural landscapes in Southern Transylvania which stemmed both from land abandonment and agriculture intensification as well as from lack of recognition. The goal was to facilitate the conservation and traditional management of the Târnava Mare semi-natural landscape, while increasing local benefits through the sustainable use of ecosystems. The project met its targets and developed a wider significance, with an impact on national and EU policy towards High Nature Value Farmland (HNVF) areas.



The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project. This project on Agricultural Development and Environmental Protection in Transylvania is of interest as it combines economics and ecology. The aim is to perpetuate an agricultural system which promotes biodiversity. The approach adopted presents a level of integration which would deserve to be increased. The ADEPT Foundation has involved several participants and brought national and European, public and private partners into action. Ultimately, this project should be able to incorporate landscape quality objectives.