

Young people return to Dorna region and revitalize mountain agriculture

BOCANICI Mioara
Chambery, 2012, EUROMONTANA



Why would young people stay or come to Dorna Basin?

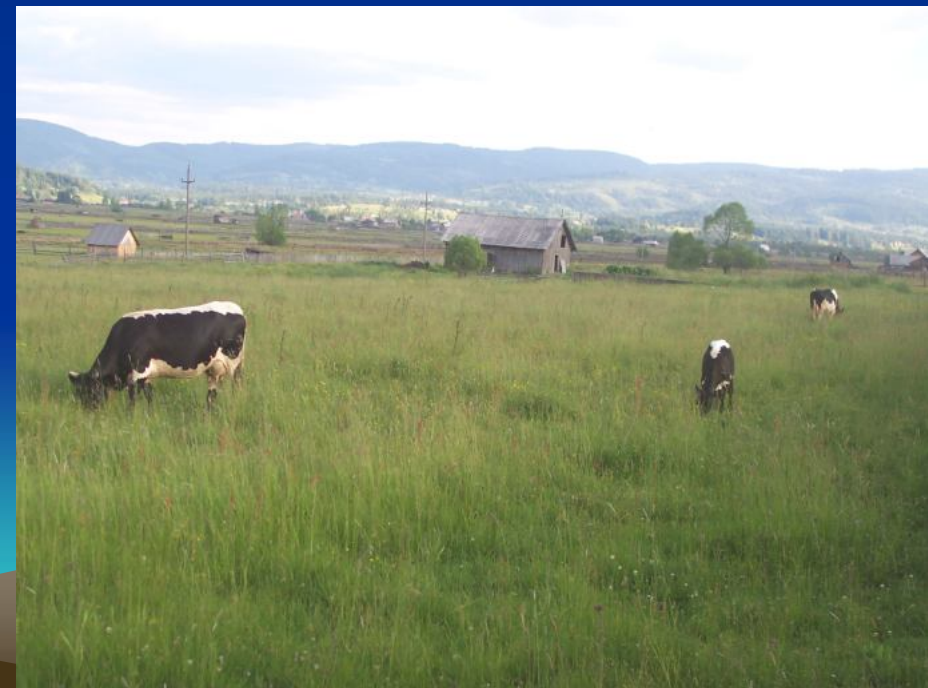
- For whoever comes from other parts of the world, Dorna area is different from the rest of the country and the first thing that one notices is the landscapes. What is outstanding is the farms, beautiful and well-taken care of, which perfectly fit the natural landscape, made out of pine-tree forests and mountain grasslands.
- Dorna's households are situated in such a manner as the ground and the vegetable garden are situated just below.
- One of Dorna Basin's strong points is definitely the well-preserved nature, as well as the existence of some special natural elements, from ecologic, scientific and cultural points of view;
- Most of the agricultural lands are covered by grasslands and pastures, whose existence supports the development of livestock sector and the industry of dairy products;
- Employing a high number of households in livestock activities represents an opportunity for development of agri-tourism and integration of local natural products into tourism offer.







Breeding cattle in a traditional system in Dorna basin



Breeding cattle in a modern system in Dorna basin



Convingere proprie:

- The young farmers in rural areas are the cornerstone of Romania's past and will be the cornerstone of the future of our country, in this time was more and more people are convinced to get involved in projects aimed at them. The projects for young people show more and more creativity.
- Thus, we shall present 3 relevant study cases:



Trout farm - COZAN Petru, Șaru Dornei commune, 37 years old

- The trout farm is located in Saru Dornei commune, near one of the entrance gates in Călimani National Park, where during winter time there is a ski slope and where several rural guesthouses began to emerge, guesthouses that attract tourists with the natural landscapes of great beauty.



Present



The vision and objectives for the future

- Investments in a plant for processing and filtrating water so that it can be recycled;
- Expansion of capacity of producing and selling consumption trout;
- Investments in a new hatchery that would meet the market demand for brood;
- Starting with this year he will incubate and produce: indigenous trout, brook trout and rainbow trout, by collaborating with companies from Germany;
- For indigenous trout he is concerned with the idea of a partnership with Călimani National Park and Romsilva, in order to populate the hydrographic pools in the region, where accidents due to pollution and irrational fishing have occurred and this species is endangered;
- Processing consumption trout is also a feasible option in 2 years from now.



„VALEA Dornelor” guesthouse, Dorna Arini commune,

Radu Simionescu (27 years old) married with Andreea (23 years old)



Prezent

The activities they carry out are defined by an agricultural component: about 10 ha of pastures and hayfields, 2 dairy cows, poultry (chickens, turkeys, quails, pigeons) and cyprinids and trout pools for sportive fishing. The products obtained are capitalized through the agri-tourism guesthouse.



Vision and objectives for the future

- Attracting European funds for expanding the livestock business: breeding and processing cows and pigs, in order to ensure food consumption for tourism activity;
 - Investments in producing and processing traditional products;
 - Develop a larger farm, in order to breed quails;
 - Identification of market demand and contracting, in order to sell the quail eggs for therapeutic cures;
 - Build and arrange a hall for receptions and ceremonies: weddings, family events, local festivals.



**PETRESCU Dragomir and Mihaela, Fărcașa commune, Dairy farm, trout farm,
tourism sheepfold, guesthouse
PRESENT**

- Two young persons from Farcasa commune - Dragomir, a graduate of the Faculty of Forestry, Mihaela a graduate of the Faculty of Tourism Economics and Trade, have started with a company for logging and processing wood and they have inherited some of the agricultural lands, renting and buying other lands necessary for agricultural activities and for building.
- They started investing in tourism in Durau, where they built a rustic wooden and stone guesthouse and 4 bungalows .
- They own: dairy farm, trout farm, agri-tourism guesthouse, tourism sheepfold.





Vision and objectives for the future

- Basically, on the agricultural side, they now add value to the products, by selling them within the guesthouse and the sheepfold and this is what attracts tourists like a magnet. They also provide: leisure, good quality food, return to traditions.
- To create value added for the products obtained in the farm;
- To process and sell traditional products specific to the area.



CONCLUSIONS

In the Romanian mountain area:

- There are young people living in the rural area;
- The young people promote pluri-activity;
- The Romanian young people are dynamic and creative;
- One may say that our young people think like this:

“We plant a thought and harvest a deed, we plant a deed and harvest a custom, we plant a custom and harvest a character, we plant a character and harvest a faith”,.....the faith of young people being to continue what we’ve started.

