

# Connecting and empowering Local authorities with Research capacities to unlock the full potential of Circular economy

## Viscri – sustainable community development

Caroline Fernolend/Romania- Mihai Eminescu Trust

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# What is our aim and common goal in Viscri/Romania ?

To improve the inhabitants' **quality of life and living conditions** by:

- The valorization of the village/community authenticity.
- The revitalization of the traditional crafts (plasterer, carpenter, roof maker, tile maker, blacksmith, weaving...)
- The restoration of the village houses and local monuments with local materials (clay, sand, stone, slaked lime, local wood).
- Turning traditional houses into bed-and-breakfasts.
- Developing horse and cart itineraries for tourists.
- Encouraging agriculture, the use of home grown organic vegetables and promoting the local gastronomy.



# Viscri/Romania - 2014- best practice example accepted by the CoE

- The first mission of the experts from the COE wrote in the report about Viscri community:  
“..... The drive for "coexistence" as a common asset shared by all the villagers is a particularly good illustration of one of the Faro Convention's principles.”
- 2016 CoE recommended drafting a **social contract/agreement** for the village of Viscri that could in future be adapted by the COE to other places in Europe.



# Faro Convention Principles( 2005)

**Developing democratic participation and social responsibility**

**Improving the living environment and quality of life**

**Managing cultural diversity and mutual understanding**

**Enhancing more cohesive societies**



# Informal parliament in Viscri

- The strategic action plan and **the social contract/agreement** has been created together with and for the community members.
- **Each group of interest** involved in the development of this documents knows that the results need to be a **realistic, proactive and interactive** agreement which stays open to revision.
- The social contract/agreement, represents a pact for the Viscri community, includes an informal parliament, is discussing and agrees upon stipulations and arrangements before any new measures are implemented and in which all different village groups of interest are represented.





# Monthly meetings of the informal parliament in Viscri



# Co-operation between community members and villages

- The sustainable economic development the local community from Viscri has seen over the past 30 years is based on a **high level of solidarity and co-operation** between the **community members**.
- The new, **pluri-ethnic community** from Viscri, along with the **Mihai Eminescu Trust's(MET)** progress and projects, as well as the established agricultural practices, have all contributed to the development of sustainable tourism activities and traditional local crafts into a prosperous economic environment.
- In 20 years of activity(1267 implemented projects) the MET team has acquired great experience in engaging the community members in **46 villages** to preserve the cultural heritage, thus contributing to the sustainable development of the community by valorizing the local cultural and natural heritage.





