

POLITICAL STATEMENT OF THE MINISTERS

We, the Ministers responsible in the field of culture and religious affairs; environment and sustainable development; agriculture and rural development; small and medium enterprises, commerce, tourism, and liberal professions; education, research and youth; economy and finance; development, public works and housing; interior and administrative reform; labour, family and equal opportunities; and I, the President of National Prognosis Commission,

Sign this Political Statement expressing our common willingness and priority to elaborate a „Strategy of Sustainable Local Development for Cata commune, Rupea-Cohalm Region, Brasov County” and a „ Programme of Sustainable Local Development for Cata commune, Rupea-Cohalm Region, Brasov County”.

We agree to implement our project together with the Council of Europe, as part of the operational framework proposed within the „Local Development Pilot Project” Component of the „Regional Programme for Cultural and Natural Heritage in South East Europe”.

We admit and accept that the agreed destination of the local development pilot project – the Ensemble of the Evangelic Fortified Church, Drauseni, Cata commune, Brasov county – represents a first study perimeter that can be widened so as to reach a mass of critical elements that permit the inclusion of the project into the general objectives of the „Local Development Pilot Project” Component, as defined by the Council of Europe.

We confirm through this Political Statement that the objectives and commitments that we are ready to assume during programming, elaboration, implementation, monitoring and evaluation periods are:

- ❖ To sustain the accomplishment of a local development pilot project, of national and European importance, in Rupea-Cohalm region, making use of integrated and multidisciplinary local development practices that permit economic and social development of this area based on the cultural, natural heritage and human resources of the territory;
- ❖ To initiate and support the formation of management mechanisms and structures that will secure the performance and management of the project at the local level, accompanied by complementary actions for the promotion and support of the project at county, regional and national level, involving all stakeholders;

- ❖ To adopt the terms of reference of the local development pilot project elaborated by the Interministerial Commission in close collaboration with the local level management structures;
- ❖ To prioritise and support actions initiated at the local level, within the framework of the project, for the insertion of the selected territory within the specific programmes and projects relevant to the field of action of each signatory, according to its particularities and main directions of action developed within the local development pilot project;
- ❖ To sustain and actively participate in the implementation, monitoring and periodic evaluation of the local development pilot project;
- ❖ To provide the necessary resources for the programming, elaboration, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the local development pilot project, with emphasis on human and information resources, according to the available resources and identified needs at the local level;
- ❖ To acknowledge and promote religious, ethnic and cultural diversity of the territory as a local sustainable development resource and as advantage and a strength point for dialogue and progress in general and to ensure an equitable treatment to all the community groups present in Rupea-Cohalm region;
- ❖ To prevent the deterioration in the future of the cultural and natural heritage of the territory and to adopt a protection, preservation and administration policy with the scope to value and emphasise the cultural and natural resources and to develop and promote cultural tourism in the region;
- ❖ To comply with and to implement the democratic principles promoted by the Council of Europe, all along the project, for the social, personal and economic development, for the preservation and valorisation of the cultural and natural heritage and for the improvement of the living conditions of the inhabitants of the territory:
 - To promote and support a multidisciplinary cooperation among the governmental, non/governmental and local administrative organisations, as well as the public private sector partnerships;
 - To promote dialogue, consultation and active participation of all the project stakeholders and in the first instance of the inhabitants irrespective of their religion, language, gender or ethnic minority that will secure an assumed sustainable development localised as close as possible to the community;
- ❖ To promote nationally, as well as internationally, the local development pilot project and the attained results within the sustainable development process through this project.

Bucharest, April 2007

Ministry of Culture and Religious Affairs
Adrian Iorgulescu
Minister

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Ministry of Economy and Finance
Varujan Vosganian
Minister

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Ministry of Labour, Family and Equal Opportunities
Paul Păcuraru
Minister

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Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Decebal Traian Remeş
Minister

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Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reform
Cristian David
Minister

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Ministry of Education, Research and Youth
Cristian Adomniței
Minister

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Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
Attila Korodi
Minister

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Ministry of Development, Public Works and Housing
Laszlo Borbely
Minister

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**Ministry of Small and Medium Enterprises,
Commerce, Tourism, and Liberal Professions**
Ovidiu Silaghi
Minister

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National Prognosis Commission
Ion Ghizdeanu
President

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