

“Access to Structural Funding Information for Rural Communities”

Talia Delgado Culebras, president of ALTER ECO and Mihaela Frunzeti, Vice-president of ALTER ECO participated as speakers in the Seminar “**Access to Structural Funding Information for Rural Communities**” organized by *Regional Association for Rural Development (RARD)* on **17TH of March 2007** in Hotel Gorj, Tirgu Jiu - Romania.

“**Access to Structural Funding Information for Rural Communities**” has been the first of a series of Seminars initiated by RARD and aimed to analyze the communication problems within Rural Communities from the district of Gorj, related to European funding access.

The objectives of the Seminar were focused on:

- Increasing the knowledge and information database of Local Mass Media regarding the main components, areas of action and intervention of the Sectorial Operational Programs 2007-2013 financed by European Structural Funds and specially addressed to Rural Communities.
- Analyzing the role of mass media in supporting the communication and informational process in Rural Communities as well as the identification of possible solutions aimed to improve the access to information related to European Funding in the area.

The seminar gathered the participation of Chief Editors, Directors of local Mass Media, radio and television from Gorj District as well as representatives of NGOs and representatives from Communication with Rural Communities Departments of Local and Regional Public Institutions.

The speakers team was integrate by:

- Nicoleta Rață - Deputy Director, **Fundația Parteneri pentru Dezvoltare Locală (FPDL)**
- Ancuța Vameșu – Expert in Advocacy
- Mircea Toma - **Agenția pentru Monitorizarea Presei**
- Talia Delgado - Director, **ALTER ECO-Comunicând prin Media**
- Mihaela Frunzeti – Vice-president, **ALTER ECO-Comunicând prin Media**
- Ovidiu Popescu - Director, **Radio Târgu Jiu**
- Florin Păsătoiu - Director, **Asociația Regională pentru Dezvoltare Rurală (ARDR)**
- Toader Pasti Cristian – Mayor. **Târgu Cărbunești**
- Ceocea Ion –Mayor **Bustuchin**
- Cîrstea Gheorghe –Mayor **Hurezani**

ALTER ECO-Communicating through Media Association and the Regional Association for Regional Development with the support of Partners Foundation for Local Development proposed a model of integrated solutions called *Regional Media and Communication Centre Gorj* aimed to approach the problems identified with the cooperation of all civil actors in the area.