

Announcement

The Euracademy Association and the Carpathian Foundation (Ukraine Office)

invite you to take part in the

Summer School

“Developing Sustainable Rural Tourism – Capacity Building for Rural Development Leaders”

to be held in the city of Yaremche, Ukraine

on 12 – 21 May 2006

Background and Aims

The TACIS Institution Building Partnership Programme (IBPP)/Support to Civil Society and Local Initiatives strand, supports the Summer School in the context of its overall aim of encouraging exchange of experience and cooperation among Ukrainian and EU organisations and promoting sustainable development.

Within this framework, the Summer School aims to assist local and regional organisations of the public and voluntary sectors, as well as entrepreneurs in rural areas of Ukraine to build their capacity as leaders of rural development. The Summer School will provide opportunities to the participants to “learn how to learn” and to start acquiring the necessary skills and competences to plan, manage and animate the development of sustainable rural tourism projects. It will also provide plenty of space to meet other professionals from Ukraine and the European Union, share experiences and develop ideas about developing sustainable rural tourism.

The Target Group: Existing and Prospective Rural Tourism Leaders

The Summer School addresses in particular managers and animators of rural development in the tourism sector, working in local/regional authorities, local development agencies, NGOs, Farmers’ or Business Associations, Chambers of Commerce etc, as well as entrepreneurs and managers of rural tourism enterprises.

If you are an entrepreneur, a local authority officer, an NGO representative, a middle to higher level employee within the broad tourism sector, this announcement is of particular interest to you. You are invited to share your experiences, to acquire new knowledge and skills and to prepare to set up your own pilot actions in your area of work. Group dynamics and building the capacity of entrepreneurs, managers and animators of tourism development, so that can take new initiatives in their areas, are at the core of this Summer School.

What to expect

As a Summer School participant you will:

- Take part in lectures and workshops that will help you valorize your existing experience in rural tourism development and get further knowledge from “good practice” in other countries
- Take part in a study trip so that you can visit rural tourism projects in the Carpathian region and discuss them with the people that are in charge of the projects and with your fellow participants, lecturers and tutors.
- Have the chance to be offered technical support and advice further to your Summer School participation, if you are prepared to set up a rural tourism pilot action in your own area based on sustainable development principles.

The courses will be held in both Ukrainian and English with simultaneous translation to and from both languages. Certificates of attendance will be issued to all participants who have successfully completed the full schedule described below.

Schedule: Ten-day session with open space, lectures, study trip and panel discussions

The 10-day Summer School will be held in Hotel Karpathy, Yeremche, starting on Friday, May 12th, through to Sunday, May 21st (inclusive). The core training activities include:

- a first-day open-space, welcoming session, providing the participants with all the necessary practical information to guide them through the schedule and to get to know the trainers and the fellow participants.
- 4 days of lectures, small group discussions and plenary discussions
- a 3-day study-trip to surrounding areas of particular rural tourism development interest
- a 2-day summing up session dedicated to panel discussions, conclusions, networking and organisation of draft plans for local rural development initiatives

Course support: Thematic Guide and Participants' Handbook

Course material will be provided before and during the Summer School in printed and electronic format. This includes a Thematic Guide titled: "Developing Sustainable Rural Tourism" to be used as reference material; and a Participants' Handbook, offering practical advice on the organisation of the training activities of the project and detailing the training methodology as well as tasks for participants to prepare before coming to the course.

The Location

The town of Yaremche lies in the northern edge of the Carpathian Mountain Range, in the Prut river valley, within the Ivano-Frankivsk region. The population in 2001 was measured at 21,400 inhabitants. It was founded in 1895, and incorporated the villages of Yamna and Dora, which date back to the end of the 16th century. In 1963 Yaremche was granted city status. Situated 665 m above sea level and surrounded by mountain peaks, the town is famous for its recreational and health resorts. A third of its inhabitants are employed in the tourism industry. There are 2 tourist bases, a youth camp, 6 rest homes, and 2 sanatoriums specializing in the treatment of tuberculosis, rheumatism, and nervous disorders.

The Costs

Participation to the Summer School is free of charge. Also, all travel, subsistence and accommodation costs are fully subsidised for up to 40 participants. To become eligible for subsidy, if you are an employee, you should submit a written approval from your employer, certifying that you are allowed and encouraged to take part in the course.

The Application

If you wish to apply for the Summer School, please write to tetyana.pashchenko@cfoundation.org to be sent the application forms. The application deadline is the 15th April 2006.