

Dealurile Clujului LA – Romania, cross-visit to the Burren, Ireland

Visiting LA: Dealurile Clujului Est

HNV-Link partner: USAMV Cluj-Napoca Romania

Host LA: Gort & Kinvara, Co. Galway, The Burren, Ireland.

Dates: 24th -28th of October 2018

1. Participants in the cross-visit:

Between 24th-28th of October 2018, a group of 5 stakeholders from Dealurile Clujului LA, Romania visited the The Burren Area in Ireland. The group consisted of researchers and LAG representatives, (see the list of participants from Romania, Annex 1).

2. The objectives of the cross-visit were:

- to learn from the Burren experience how to associate different stakeholders around the HNV farming concept;
- to see and to understand how to develop regional/local HNV Life projects;
- to learn from the Irish experience about the management of the environment-result based payment schemes (Pillar 2);
- to see and understand inspiring HNV innovations (alternative income sources).

3. The Programme of the visit (See Annex 2):

1st Day of the CROSS-Visit: 24th of October 2018

8:30pm – 10pm it was an informal meeting with the local facilitators and other HNV Link cross-visit participants (France and Sweden). Our hosts realised an introduction to the area, the actors involved and some innovations around stakeholder engagement from the Burrenbeo Trust.

2nd Day of the CROSS-Visit: 25th of October 2018

9.30am -4pm the Romanian stakeholders participated to the **Teagasc National Agri-environment conference** with the main topic: *From Burren Beginnings to Locally Led EIP's* (Figure 1, from the left).

7.30- 9.30pm Session 1: **HNV LINK – sharing European innovations** in the **Burren Winterage School**



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A brief presentation of the Dealurile Clujului Est LA with some HNV innovations that have worked for the region, and the challenges that the Romanian LA most urgently need to address in future (Figure 1, from the right). The presentations from France, Sweden, Romania and other visiting regions were followed by a chaired discussion.



Fig. 1 Participation in Teagasc National Agri-environment conference and the HNV LINK session in the Burren Winterage School

3rd Day of the CROSS-Visit: 26th of October 2018

Meeting farmers and other stakeholders from the Burren Programme. It is a 'locally led' agri-environment schemes that include a results-based payments approach. The Romanian stakeholders learned about the history of the programme, the management process but also the main challenges that had to be tackled by farmers. Some innovative HNV farming techniques were presented (watering systems; shrubs management etc) (Figure 2).



Fig. 2. Visiting the Burren locally led agri-environment scheme

In the afternoon the Romanian stakeholders were hosted by the *Hen Harrier Life Project*. Some of the pasture's management practices were explained in a grass-based meat cow farm.



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There was also presented a feed supplement innovation that improves the grass-based system efficiency.



Fig. 3. Visiting the Hen Harrier locally led agri-environment scheme

7.30pm -9.30pm: Farming for Nature Innovation Fair. It was a farming meeting that aimed to look at innovations in animal health, breeding and nutrition as well as discussion and demonstrations on the use of new technologies in managing livestock on high nature value farmland. Main innovations: Livestock breeding and management for rough pastureland; Animal nutrition – supplementary feeding options to optimise foraging ; High Tech solutions to livestock management on HNV farmland (Figure 3).



Fig. 4 Visit the Farming for Nature Innovation Fair

4th Day of the CROSS-Visit: 27th of October 2018

Participation in session 4 Burren Winterage Schoo: **Farming for Nature: the broader context**. In the morning there were several interesting presentations:

Annabelle Williams (RISE Foundation) – A Safe Operating Space for Livestock Farming in Europe

Kevin Hanrahan (Teagasc) – Brexit: Potential Implications for High Nature Value farmers



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John Sweeney (NUI Maynooth) – Winners and Losers in Agriculture as Climate Changes.

Liam McHale (Irish Farmers Association, Brussels Office): Global trade deals, evolving CAP discussions and the potential impact for HNV farmers



Fig. 5 Burren Winterage School: Understanding farmers' views about things.' & Networks for Nature

Between 11.30 - 1pm the Romanian stakeholders participated to Session 5: '**Understanding farmers' views about things.'**

Speaker: Frank Vanclay, Department of Cultural Geography, Faculty of Spatial Sciences, University of Groningen, The Netherlands

Followed by a Q&A with Frank Vanclay and a panel of invited guests, chaired by Dr. Aine Macken Walsh (Teagasc)



Fig. 6. Bord Bia National Farming for Nature Award 2018

2 – 3pm Session 6: Farming for Nature – Stories from the land

Chair: Brendan Dunford (Burren Programme) Format: **Five short films on farming for nature followed by a chaired Q&A session with some 2018 Farming for Nature Award Nominees**



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3.15 – 4.45pm Session 7: Networks for Nature (figure 5)

Chair: (Burren Farmer)

Speakers: Fabrice Gouriveau (HNV LINK Project) – HNV-Link: Networking for High Nature Value farming innovation

Liam Lysaght (National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC)) – How the work of the NBDC can support farming for nature. Tilman Disselhoff (European Land Conservation Network- ELCN) - Farmers and conservation organisations as partners – lessons from two continents

8 - 9:30pm Bord Bia National Farming for Nature Award 2018 (Figure 6)

During the cross-visit in Burren (Ireland), Irina Muresan (manager of the Local Action Group Somes-Transilvan, Cluj County) shared during an interview that “it was an excellent opportunity to participate to this event to see examples of good practice in sustainable agriculture and rural development. We will communicate to the local actors and farmers that their actions have a great impact on biodiversity and environment. Moreover, we will also communicate the importance of cooperation between all stakeholders in the area.”

The USAMV Cluj - Napoca research team wants to express its gratitude to the cross-visit hosts Burrenbeo Trust and to all participants from Romania.



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Annex 1.

**HNV-Link CROSS-Visits (Dealurile Clujului LA – Romania, cross-visit to LA
Western Stara Planina, Bulgaria)**

04th-07th of July 2018

Cross-visits participation list from Romania

No.	Name and surname	Professional orientation	Organisation	Email adress	Phone
1.	Irina MUREȘAN	Local Policy Maker	Somes Transilvan Local Action Group	irina.muresan@yahoo.com	+40742177543
2	Laura INCZE	Adviser	Somes Transilvan Local Action Group	lauraincze@gmail.com	+40729038274
3.	Diana DUMITRAȘ	Researcher	HNV-link; USAMV Cluj	ddumitras@usamvcluj.ro	+40745549320
8	Mugurel JITEA	Researcher	HNV-link; USAMV Cluj	mjitea@usamvcluj.ro	+40745942122
12	Valentin MIHAI	Researcher	HNV-link; USAMV Cluj	valentin.mihai@usamvcluj.ro	+40766245404



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Annex 2.

HNV-Link CROSS-Visits (Dealurile Clujului LA – Romania, cross-visit to LA Gort & Kinvara, Co. Galway, The Burren, Ireland.)

24th -28th Oct 2018

Programme

Wednesday, 24th October 8:00pm-10pm Lady Gregory Hotel, Gort

8:30pm – 10pm Welcome (Informal Meet and Greet with facilitators+ Introduction to the area, the actors involved and some innovations around stakeholder engagement from the Burrenbeo Trust)

Thursday, 25th October 9.30am-5pm Lady Gregory Hotel, Gort

Pre-conference event on Thursday 25th October:

9.30am -4pm Teagasc National Agri-environment conference

From Burren Beginnings to Locally Led EIP's

Venue: Lady Gregory Hotel, Gort.

Thursday, 25th October 7.30pm-10pm Lady Gregory Hotel, Gort

6pm – 7.30pm Burren Winterage School - Registration & Welcome

7.30- 9.30pm Session 1: HNV LINK – sharing European innovations

Chair: James Moran (Galway Mayo Institute of Technology - GMIT)

Presentations: High Nature Value (HNV) Landscapes from across Europe (Sweden, France, Romania, Estonia, the UK) present a brief insight into their region, some HNV innovations that have worked for them, and the challenges that they most urgently need to address in future. See www.hnvlink.eu for more information.

Followed by a chaired discussion

Friday, 26th October, 9am-5pm Starting from Lady Gregory Hotel, Gort

9am-10am Welcome and Field Trip Briefing. (Registration desk also open)

10am- 5pm Session 2: HNV Field Trips to the Burren and Slieve Aughty regions

Visits to two 'locally led' agri-environment schemes, both of which include a results-based payments approach

Leaders: Burren Programme – Sharon Parr www.burrenprogramme.com

Hen Harrier Project – Caroline Sullivan www.henharrierproject.ie

5.30pm -7pm Dinner (chance to discuss informally any emerging questions on results based payment schemes)

Venue: Lady Gregory Hotel, Gort.



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Friday, 26th October, 7.30pm – 9.30pm Gort Livestock Mart, Gort

7.30pm -9.30pm Session 3: Farming for Nature Innovation Fair

A hands-on look at innovations in animal health, breeding and nutrition as well as discussion and demonstrations on the use of new technologies in managing livestock on high nature value farmland.

Chair: Michael Davoren (Burren Farmer)

Themes: Livestock breeding and management for rough pastureland

Animal nutrition – supplementary feeding options to optimise foraging

High Tech solutions to livestock management on HNV farmland

10pm - late Farming and nature - songs from the land

An unforgettable night of songs at Whelan's Pub, Shanaglish, Gort.

Saturday, 27th October 9am – 5pm Kinvara Community Centre, Kinvara

9 - 11am Session 4: Farming for Nature: the broader context

Chair: (Burren Farmer)

Speakers: Annabelle Williams (RISE Foundation) – *A Safe Operating Space for Livestock Farming in Europe*

Kevin Hanrahan (Teagasc) – *Brexit: Potential Implications for High Nature Value farmers*

John Sweeney (NUI Maynooth) – *Winners and Losers in Agriculture as Climate Changes.*

Liam McHale (Irish Farmers Association, Brussels Office): *Global trade deals, evolving CAP discussions and the potential impact for HNV farmers*

11 – 11.30am Tea & Coffee Break

11.30 - 1pm Session 5: 'Understanding farmers' views about things.'

Chair: Aine Macken Walsh (Teagasc)

Speaker: Frank Vanclay, Department of Cultural Geography, Faculty of Spatial Sciences, University of Groningen, The Netherlands

Followed by a Q&A with Frank Vanclay and a panel of invited guests, chaired by Dr. Aine Macken Walsh (Teagasc)

1– 2pm Lunch provided at Merriman Hotel, Kinvara.

2 – 3pm Session 6: Farming for Nature – Stories from the land

Chair: Brendan Dunford (Burren Programme) Format: *Five short films on farming for nature followed by a chaired Q&A session with some 2018 Farming for Nature Award Nominees*

3.15 – 4.45pm Session 7: Networks for Nature

Chair: (Burren Farmer)

Speakers: Fabrice Gouriveau (HNV LINK Project) – *HNV-Link: Networking for High Nature Value farming innovation*

Liam Lysaght (National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC)) – *How the work of the NBDC can support farming for nature.* Tilman Disselhoff (European Land Conservation Network- ELCN) -

Farmers and conservation organisations as partners – lessons from two continents

4.45 - 5pm Conference Summary and Close

Brendan Dunford, James Moran, Michael Davoren

5.30pm -7:30pm Dinner

Venue: Keoghs, Kinvara.



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Includes HNV-Link Debrief: Review of learnings over the Burren visit and planning of next steps (Closing workshop; possibility to have additional meeting on Sunday morning with visiting groups who are not departing early)

(replaces general winterage school event: Community event featuring children's art competition

Includes music, wine reception and light refreshments)

8 - 9:30pm Bord Bia *National Farming for Nature Award 2018*

Visit www.farmingfornature.ie for more information

Compere: Ella McSweeney

Guest Speaker: Mairead McGuinness (MEP)



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