

## CSR activities report

2020

2020 pandemic required adapting the CSR activities planned to be implemented in Corbu. A string of challenges came also with the new context, impacting the development of potential activities:

- Quarantine restricted travel and direct meetings
- Schools closed for more than one semester and all activities involving direct contact were halted. Many regular educational activities could not be any longer implemented.
- As classes moved online, many pupils in Corbu, from poor social backgrounds, could not attend classes as they lacked access to internet or devices (tablets).
- Vadu beach popularity among tourist increased significantly in 2020 and in consequence the no. of tourist and their negative impact on the beach and surrounding wildlife. Even though the no. of tourists reached a never-before-seen peak of 25.000 in a weekend by August, there are still not sustainable measures taken to ensure lower tourism impact in 2021.

Considering the challenging year we have succeed to implement a range of impactful activities for the community, responding in this way to the newly emerged needs pandemic brought:

### *1. Advocating for improved measures to protect Vadu beach*

In 2020 we continued our efforts to connect with relevant stakeholders involved in protecting Vadu beach. The most important action in this direction was to start discussions with one of the main environmental NGOs working for protecting Romanian shores, Mare Nostrum Association. Together with Mare Nostrum we debated the main environmental challenges and solutions for Vadu beach, and we agreed on a string of potential actions that could be implemented in 2021. One of them will be an awareness campaign among tourists and campers on the beach.

We informed ARBDD about our intentions to develop projects aiming to protect Vadu ecosystem and we shared with the new leadership of the institution (appointed in December 2019) our proposals.

Together with our partner, AUDITECO, we assessed and discussed potential awareness measures to be implemented together with local and national authorities to protect wildlife in Corbu. Among them are installing informative boards in various points in the reservation on the road connecting Vadu village with the beach, informing tourists about the ecosystem and warning them about overspeeding impact in the reservation.

Together with Raluca Serban (Auditeco) we followed the road to the beach and draw an imaginary road map of protected species (like turtles). Based on the current ARDD boards distributed on the cars road, we decided to propose ARBBB to place new boards with relevant signs (Attention turtles, Drive carefully, Description of protected species) at various points along the road to the beach. For each of this point Auditeco will present an information board proposal to be discussed with ARBDD and the Corbu Town Hall.



## 2. Support to Vadu school in implementing BSOG grant

The start of the project UBUNTU, implemented by Corbu school with a 12.000 euro grant from BSOG, was marked with the beginning of pandemic in 2020. Therefore, we discussed with the project team to adapt the activities though keep in mind the objectives of the project.

The main activities implemented by the school in 2020 included:

- Counselling sessions with pupils and parents
- Online drawing contest for pupils *A friendly school*
- Movie and theatre viewing on bullying thematic for pupils
- Training for teacher's development.

## 3. Improving access to online education for all pupils in Vadu kindergarten and school

In October 2020 awarded a sponsorship of 6380 Euro to Save the Children Romania to provide 46 Alcatel tablets connected to internet for 24 months, for all pupils attending Vadu kindergarten and primary school. The donation was publicly endorsed by Omid Ghanadi, the architect for one of the most popular TV social shows in Romania.

Due to Covid-19 protection measures, the ceremony was organized outside the school yard and no children were present. The tablets were given to the School Mayor and teachers and were provided to children after they were carefully disinfected.

The ceremony organized on October 7<sup>th</sup>, was attended by 5 BSOG 5HDD site and office staff, including Ana Maria Pericleanu, Save the Children personnel, including Gabriela Alexandrescu, director, Omid Ghanadi, school Mayor and teachers.



Media mentioning of BSOG donation:

- <https://www.protv.ro/evenimente/omid-ghannadi-sustine-campania-salvati-copiii-romania-de-dotare-a-scolilor-cu-tablete-pentru-cursuri-la.html>
- <https://www.agerpres.ro/comunicate/2020/10/07/comunicat-de-presa-salvati-copiii--586842>
- <https://spotmedia.ro/stiri/educatie/salvati-copiii-doteaza-scoala-din-vadu-cu-tablete-si-acces-la-internet-alte-40-de-scoli-inca-mai-au-nevoie-de-ajutor>
- <https://stirileprotv.ro/stiri/social/zeci-de-copii-sarmani-din-vadu-au-primit-tablete-pentru-scoala-de-la-salvati-copiii-si-omid-ghannadi.html> (no direct, but BSOG colleagues were part of the story)
- <https://copaculcufaptebune.ro/uncategorized/salvati-copiii-doteaza-scoala-din-vadu-cu-tablete-si-acces-la-internet/>
- <https://romaniaresponsabila.ro/salvati-copiii-romania-doteaza-scoala-din-vadu-cu-tablete-si-acces-la-internet/>

4. *Preserving local traditions and history by supporting the creation of Corbu 1<sup>st</sup> monography.*

In 2020 we also awarded a sponsorship of 5000 RON (approx. 1000 EURO) for the publishing of Corbu 1<sup>st</sup> monography. The launching event, organized on March 7<sup>th</sup> at Cherhana Moesia in Vadu, brought together the authors as well as other local KOLs who presented the importance and value of this document for the local community.



Media mentioning of BSOG donation:

- <https://www.tvlitoral.ro/monografia-comunei-corbu/>
- <https://www.cugetliber.ro/stiri-social-istoria-comunei-corbu-publicata-intr-o-ampla-monografie-397603>
- <https://www.ziuaconstantina.ro/stiri/cultura/eveniment-editorial-monografia-comunei-corbu-o-calatorie-prin-istorie-713238.html>
- <https://www.facebook.com/centrulculturalcorbu/posts/2757300281018667>

5. *Christmas gifts to Vadu school pupils*

2020 was the fourth year in a row when BSOG became Santa for Vadu school pupils, despite the pandemic restrictions which did not allow direct interaction with the children. Gifts consisting of a puzzle adequate to the age group, book, sweets, toy, personalized wooden globe, MGD bag, were delivered to Vadu school teachers who went with a dressed Santa home to each of the Vadu pupils to offer them. All were delighted to see that BSOG Santa reached them in the pandemic year.

