

## Submitted Abstract

ID IMC22-FSAbstr- 629

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<b>Country</b>	Romania
<b>Region</b>	Eastern Europe
<b>Title</b>	Governance In Mountain Areas. The Role And Contribution Of The National Agency For The Mountain Area, To The Sustainable Development Of The Mountain Areas In Romania.
<b>Keywords</b>	National Agency For The Mountain Area, Mountain Development Centres, Mountain Development Offices, Mountain Area, Delimitation Of The Mountain Area, Mountain Product
<b>Type</b>	List Of Focus Session
<b>Focus Session ID</b>	24

## Abstract

The Romanian mountain area covers a third of the country's total area and is a special territory of national interest, with huge economical, social, cultural and environmental potential. This area needs a specific policy, well defined, according to the sustainable development principles and to the European policies.

According to the delimitation established by the joint Order of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development no. 97/2019 and the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Administration no. 1332/2019, the mountainous area of Romania includes 948 localities (947 UATs and 1 belonging locality): 30 municipalities; 83 cities; 835 communes, classified in 27 counties that have a mountain area, comprising 38.31% of the national territory, and 4,891,145 inhabitants live here, representing 21.97% of the Romanian population.

To this purpose, the National Agency for the Mountain Area has been created (NAMA), according to the provisions of the Mountain Law no. 197/2018 and the Government Decision no. 1036/2018 for the reorganizing and functioning of the National Agency for the Mountain Area, through the restructuring of the Mountain Area Agency, and for the establishing measures concerning the regional centres and offices for mountain development.

The Agency is directly subordinated to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, is located in Vatra Dornei, Suceava county, and also in the mountain territory.

At mountain territory level, there is a number of 7 mountain development regional centres (CRDM) and 32 mountain development offices (ODM), each of them operated by one Agency specialist. Each CRDM has a variable number of ODMs subordinated, in its activity range. Every ODM has a number of settlements assigned to it, for the most part corresponding to two mountain basins.

The main activities are related to professional forming for adults, mountain environment innovation, specialized consultancy services, creating projects for normative acts concerning the socio-economic development and the protection of the mountain area, promoting and authorising the right to use the optional quality term „mountain product”, developing specific best practice guides, organizing databases for the mountain area, creating and organizing scientific and cultural events, fairs and exhibitions, representing the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in international organisations (Mountain Partnership, Euromontana, NEMOR, Carpathian Convention).