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University Lifelong Learning to Live a Better Life — Continuing Education for Sustainable Quality of Life in Europe

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Strand: Active Citizenship and Humanity Engagement

Entrepreneurship for the community – training programs at Babes Bolyai University as support for professional development

Creating the sense of belonging and granting support to citizens for community involvement might address the continuous erosion of solidarity taking place in Romanian local communities.

Babes Bolyai University, as a world class oriented university, aims to reach three main missions: knowledge creation, through academic research, knowledge transfer, through teaching and learning and knowledge use, through innovative transfer and outreach the community, for sustainable development at local level.

The poster will reveal a pilot project based on the partnership between Babes Bolyai University and The Prince of Wales Foundation Romania, a project focused on easing the transition from military career to civil life for Romanian career officers, through entrepreneurship training courses. The course addressed also the needs for professional development for people involved in developing local businesses in rural areas, as those communities lacked labour force and skills.

Despite the challenges induced by the diversity in terms of age, experience and career prospects of the participants, sharing experiences and knowledge led to the development of a highly added value programme. The trainers' expertise, the innovative tailor made structure, the interactive learning methods, the participants' genuine commitment, the follow up initiatives (starting new businesses, the creation of new NGOs) granted the success of the program, a pilot one that asks for continuation.