

Berbești, County Vâlcea, RO

Social economical analysis

Proposal for social investments

Patrick Van den Nieuwenhof, Cristina Zamfiroiu
RESET – Asociația pentru dezvoltarea comunității Berbești

Version 3.0, 20160821



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under Grant Agreement No 649447

This report constitutes Deliverable D3.1-A', for Work Package 3 of the RE-InVEST project.

August 2016 (Version 3.0 20160821 based on version 1.0 20160411 and version 2.0 20160511)

© 2016 – RE-InVEST, Rebuilding an Inclusive, Value-based Europe of Solidarity and Trust through Social Investments – project number 649447

General contact: info@re-invest.eu

p.a. RE-InVEST
HIVA - Research Institute for Work and Society
Parkstraat 47 box 5300, 3000 LEUVEN, Belgium

For more information patrick.nieuwenhof@hotmail.com

Please refer to this publication as follows:

Berbești, county Vâlcea, RO. Social economical analysis. Proposal for social investments

Information may be quoted provided the source is stated accurately and clearly.

This publication is also available via <http://www.re-invest.eu/>

This publication is part of the RE-InVEST project, this project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under Grant Agreement No 649447.

The information and views set out in this paper are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the official opinion of the European Union. Neither the European Union institutions and bodies nor any person acting on their behalf may be held responsible for the use which may be made of the information contained therein.

TABLE OF CONTENT

1. Summary.....	4
2. Introduction.....	6
2.1. History of Berbești.....	7
2.2. Population of Berbești.....	7
3. Methodology.....	16
3.1. Literature, report and policy review.....	16
3.2. Preparatory meetings.....	16
3.3. In depth analysis.....	16
3.3.1. Quantitative data.....	16
3.3.2. Qualitative data.....	17
A biography.....	18
4. Berbești (County Vâlcea, RO): setting the scene.....	20
4.1. Local Human Development Index.....	20
4.2. Regional disparities in the county of Vâlcea.....	22
4.3. The transition of mono-industrial activities.....	23
4.4. Development potential.....	24
4.5. Provisional observations.....	24
5. Educational analysis.....	26
5.1. Structure of Romanian school system.....	26
5.2. Early Childhood Education and Care.....	26
5.3. Kindergarten.....	27
5.4. Gymnasium and Lyceum “Preda Buzescu” Berbești.....	28
5.4.1. Students attending school.....	28
5.4.2. Admissions for Lyceum.....	29
5.4.3. Baccalaureate.....	29
5.5. University.....	32
5.6. Level of education Berbești.....	33
5.7. Educational cost and support by the government.....	34
5.7.1. Estimated costs primary and secondary school and university studies.....	34
5.7.2. Crèche.....	35
5.7.3. Kindergarten and primary school.....	35
5.7.4. Gymnasium and lyceum.....	36
5.7.5. Family support.....	36
5.7.6. Scholarships.....	36
5.8. Children – social orphans.....	37
6. Social medical analysis.....	38
7. Social economical analysis.....	41
7.1. Agriculture.....	41
7.2. Mine Berbești.....	43
7.3. Companies and employment.....	43
7.4. Poverty and vulnerability.....	46
7.5. Future infrastructure plans.....	49
8. Governability and civil society.....	51
8.1. Local authority.....	51
8.2. Civil society.....	53
8.3. Local authorities and NGO’s partners in developing services.....	54
8.4. A strong and historical collaboration with Herselt (Belgium).....	54
9. SWOT analysis and matrix.....	55
10. The way forward - RESET social investment objectives.....	56
10.1. RESET Young Potentials: support for children, youngsters and students.....	56
10.2. RESET Social medical center.....	56
10.3. RESET Facilitating agricultural initiatives.....	56
10.4. RESET Reconversion expertise exchanges.....	56
11. RESET Structure and planning.....	57
12. RESET Budget Outline.....	58

1. Summary

The process of mapping the needs, problems, challenges, strong and weak points of Berbești started in the summer of 2015. This was because of a reorientation of the collaboration between Berbești (County Vâlcea, RO) and Herselt (County Antwerp, BE). This report fits into the framework of the European Horizon 2020 project: ReInVEST - Rebuilding an Inclusive, Value-based Europe of Solidarity and Trust through Social Investments. The project aims to study the impact of the crisis of 2008-2009 and to formulate answers in the form of social investments. This project is conducted through a partnership of 11 universities and 4 NGO's dealing with poverty issues. The research is explicitly not only a theoretical one, but makes a strong connection with the working field. Therefore The Open Network for community development (TON), a Flemish Romanian foundation based in Romania and partner in ReInVEST, decided to take Berbești as one of the case studies in the project. The report has a combined approach: besides the analysis of the social economical situation in Berbești, it also formulates proposals for social investments. Some of the proposals will be put into practice during the upcoming months and years.

The research started with a literature review on the social economical developments in the South West Region of Romania (Berbești – Vâlcea is part of this region). Together with the literature, statistical data were collected. The first conclusions were formulated and feedback was requested from the Belgian and Romanian partner in the summer of 2015. The result of this exercise was the need to create **a new mixed Romanian-Belgian NGO, which was named RESET - Asociația pentru dezvoltarea comunității Berbești. The main purpose of this NGO is community development.** Specific attention goes to:

- Identification of local needs
- Growing of local (economical) capacities
- Supporting social inclusion
- Facilitating civil society
- Developing community development projects
- Promoting social investments en protection
- Facilitating rural and reconversion projects
- Promoting decentralized cooperation RO-BE

After the feedback sessions, the search for information and data was refined. The next step was the organization of focus groups in Berbești. 26 persons were selected for interviews and for mapping their life stories. The past, present and future of their personal life and the situation in Berbești during these times were discussed. All this information (literature, statistics, personal time lines) lead to the following priorities for development:

- Job creation. Because of the declining job opportunities at the mine of Berbești, people from Berbești will most likely be unemployed in the future. This leads to a high degree of emigration in the city.
- Development of agricultural initiatives. In the past, associations were stimulating collaborations between producers. Today people are working more on a individual base, but the scale is too small to go the market.
- Development of a social medical center. There is a modest supply of medical services in Berbești. For example, the need for home care is high, but no services are foreseen. By bringing together different disciplines and a participation of the population in this structure, the medical services can improve their supply.
- Development of initiatives to support children, youngsters and students. The support of the Romanian government is in most cases not enough to fully empower youngsters. In the near future additional support can be developed.

At the end of the report proposals are formulated on how this challenges can be transformed in concrete objectives and actions:

- Objective A – RESET Young potentials
- Objective B – RESET Social medical center
- Objective C – RESET Agricultural initiatives
- Objective D – RESET Exchange of experiences on reconversion

In the same part a structure is designed for RESET with:

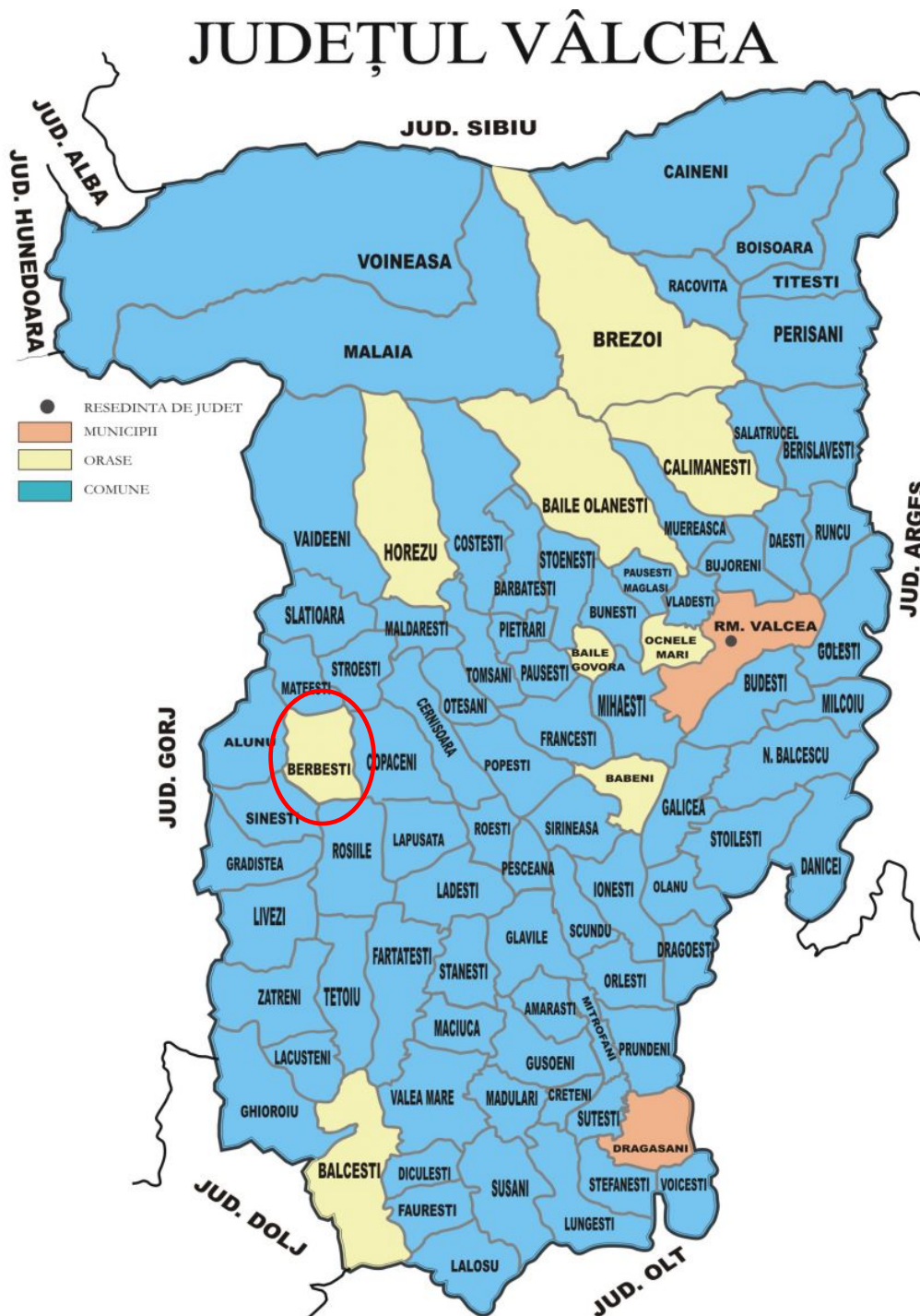
- A mixed RO-BE general assembly of 13 members
- A mixed RO-BE board of directors of 3 member
- RESET professional and voluntary collaborators
- A godmother and godfather
- Strategic partners
- RESET captains

To conclude, some financial strategies are formulated. The report will be the base for further discussion and will facilitate the decision making process.



2. Introduction

Berbești is a town located in Vâlcea County, Romania, about 78 km southwest from Râmnicu Vâlcea, the county capital. The town administers six villages: Berbești, Dămțeni, Dealu Aluniș, Roșioara, Târgu Gângulești and Valea Mare. The town Berbești has 2 parishes: Berbești and Slăvești. Berbești is bordered by Mateești commune to the north, Sinești commune to the south, Alunu to the west and Copăcenii to the east.



2.1. History of Berbești

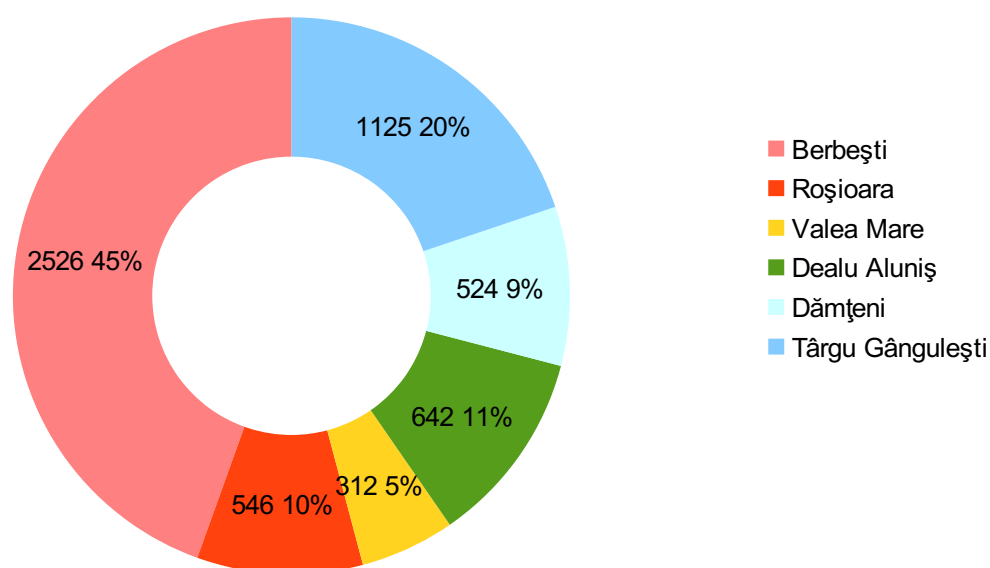
Berbești town was an ancient trading crossroads between the hills, covered with huge forests near the riverbanks of the Târâii bordering the east and west. A weekly fair took place since 1765. The landscape of Berbești had an important role in the life and history of the people, offering them good conditions for food, shelter, and defense. Berbești is part of the wider area in which anthropological and archaeological findings were of great importance for the history of Romania. Written documents concerning the prove of settlements in the town of Berbești appear in the 15th century. Evidence has been found that in 1423 there was a wooden church in the village of Valea Mare, today part of Berbești. The village also appears in a decree made by Michael the Brave at February 24 1598. In 1488 Targul Gângulești (before commune Slăvești) is mentioned on a stone cross which remained on the former church. The village is mentioned in the Frederich Schwartz cartographic map of 1722. During the Austrian and Cuza rule Berbești and Slăvești were not united. This was the case after 1950. The main occupation of the inhabitants of Berbești was agriculture and animal breeding. Arable land was cultivated with mainly crops (corn, wheat) and to a lesser extent with potatoes and sunflowers. Part of the population has been working in orchards: apples, plums, raspberries and grapes. Before the start of the coal mine (1978) Berbești did have traditional handicrafts such as weaving, woodcarving, carpentry, coopers and wheelwrights. Since the mine opened, the craftwork is in decline; craftsmen were giving up their work in favor of the coal mining activity.¹ More information about the mine is integrated in chapter 7.

In 2003 (October 17) Berbești was declared a town (oras), so in this way Berbești was upgraded from a comuna toward a oras. Interesting in the process of becoming a town was, besides the administrative procedures, a referendum that was hold on December 29 2002. In this referendum citizens could express if they were pro or contra the upgrade of Berbești. In total 4344 persons could vote: 2536 participated (57,78%) and 2510 voted pro (98,97%).²

2.2. Population of Berbești

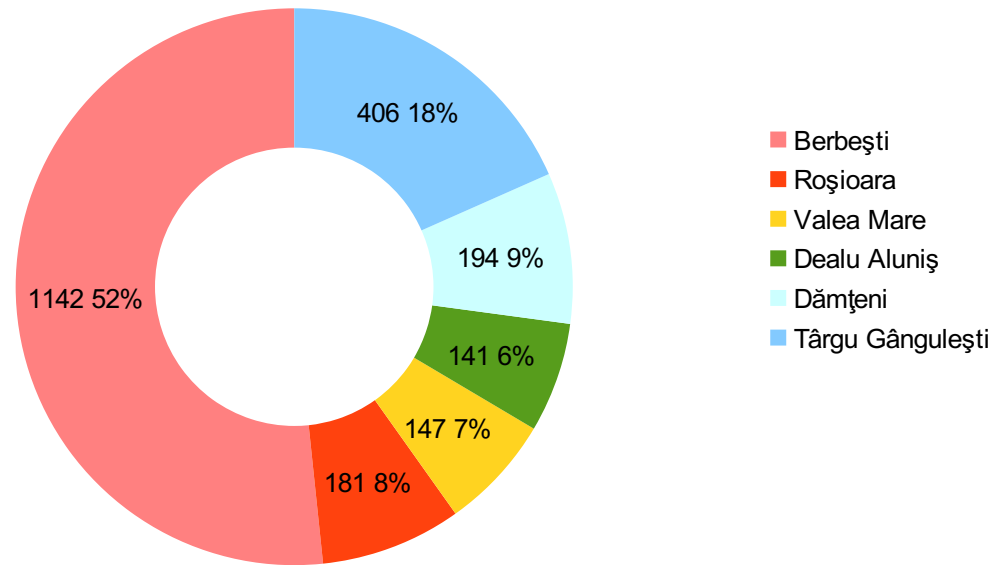
To make an overview of the population in Berbești, a clear distinction has to be made between the population by domicile (having an address in Berbești but not necessary living in Berbești) and the population by residence (actual living in Berbești). For the last category, the results of the census of 2011 is used.³ At that moment 4836 people were registered as living in Berbești. On the other side 5841 people were having a domicile in Berbești in 2011. This means a difference of 1005 people not living in Berbești but having an official address in Berbești. Later, more information is provided concerning migration. The first graph gives an overview of the share of the population of the different villages in Berbești.⁴

Number and % of persons by domicile Berbești 2016 (N=5675)



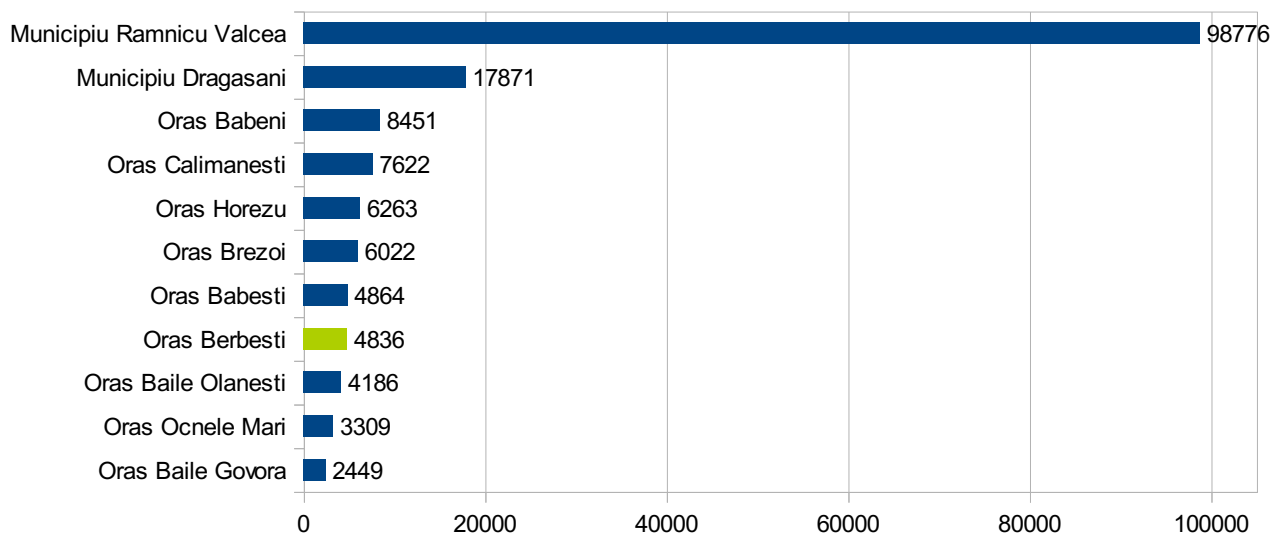
In 2013 according to the National Institute of Statistics 2596 housing units were counted, of which around 33% are apartments in housing blocs and 66% are houses.⁵ The following graph indicates how much households there are and what villages they live in.⁶

Number and % of households villages Berbești 2002 (N=2211)



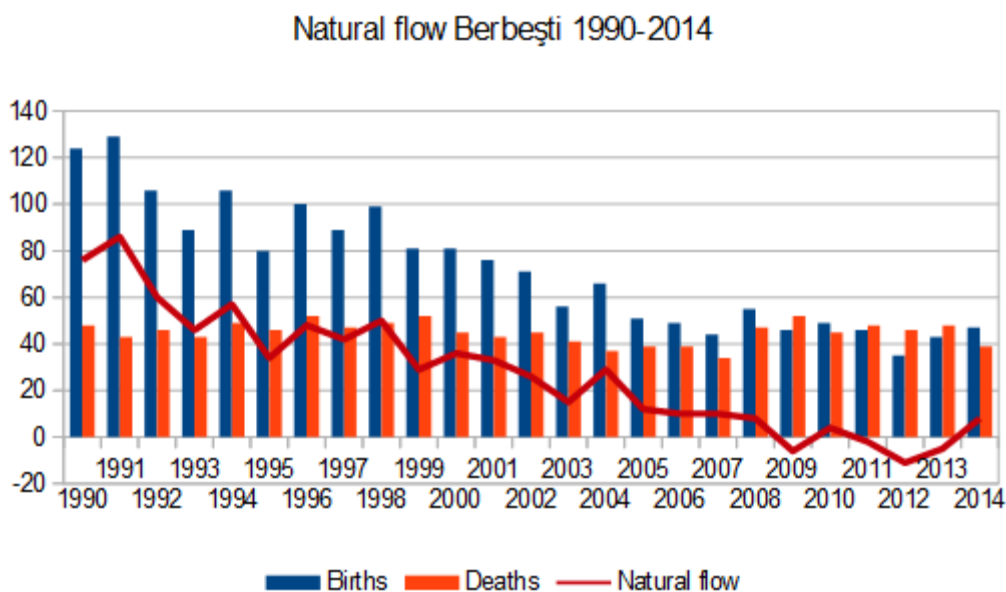
Each household counts an average of 2,9 persons. The highest number of persons for an household can be found in Dealu Aluniș with 4,5 persons, the lowest in Valea Mare with 2,1 persons. The graphic below gives an overview of how Berbești is related to other towns and cities.

Population Berbești related to other towns in the county Valcea

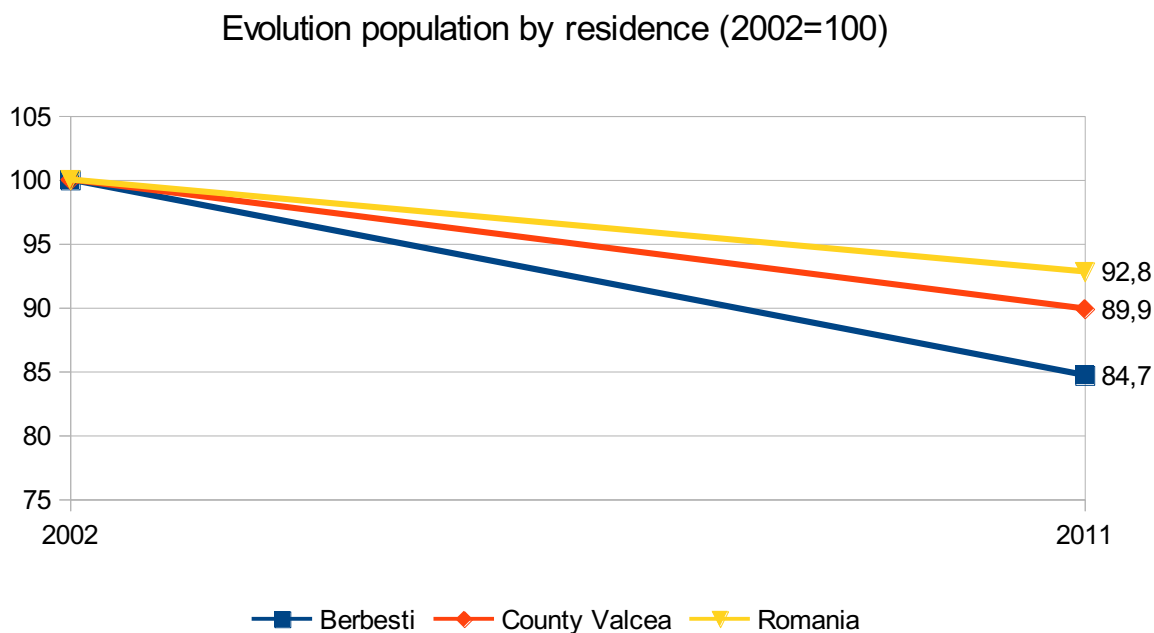


Berbești is representing 1,3% of the population of the county Vâlcea and 2,9% of the urban population of the same county.

The birth rate is decreasing, while the death rate is staying stable.⁷ This results in a slowing down of the natural growth which was a characteristic until 2005.



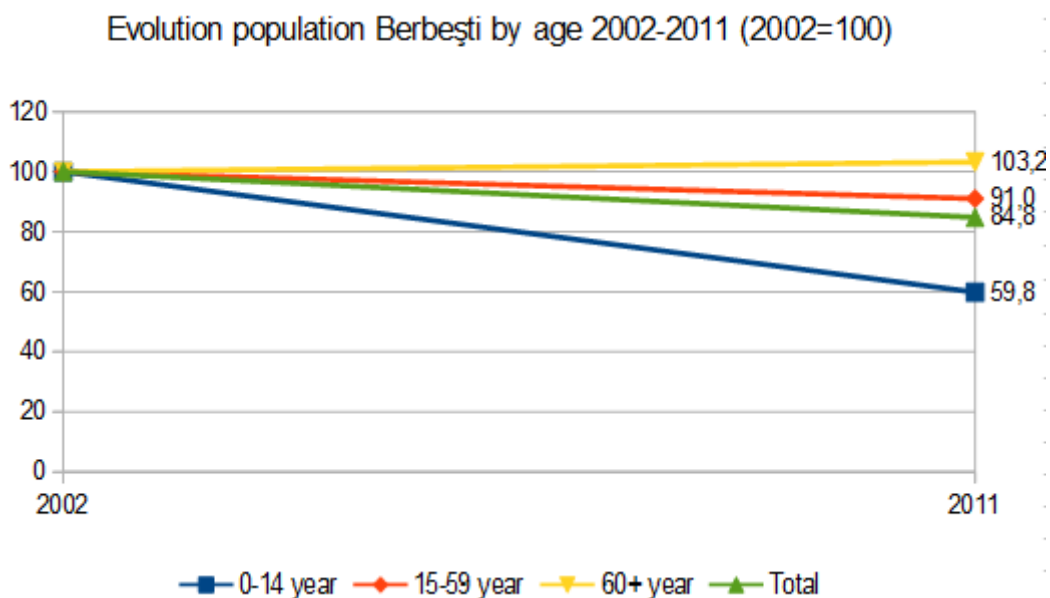
This decline in birth rate is one of the reasons why the resident population is declining quickly. In comparison to the census of 2002, the resident population of Berbești decreased with a little more than 15% from 5704 persons to 4836. This decline is bigger in comparison with the county and country level.



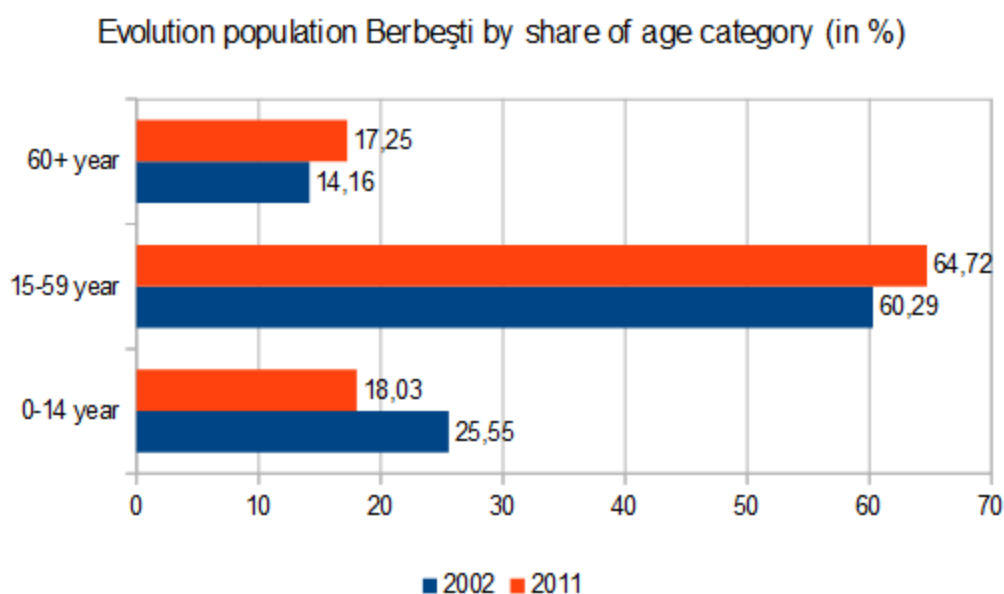
In 2014 the resident population was further declining to 4591.⁸ This decline has a different impact on different age groups. Firstly, a decline of 40% of persons aged 0-14 years can be observed between 2002 and 2011 and a decrease in active population can be observed with 9%.⁹

Evolution of population of Berbești between 2002 and 2011		
	2002 (absolute numbers)	2011 (absolute numbers)
0-14 year	1.457	872
15-59 year	3.439	3.492
60+ year	808	834
Total	5.704	4.836

To have a better understanding of the evolution by age, the numbers of 2002 are taken as a reference (2002=100). This results in the following graph.



This graph also shows, besides the decrease in the young and active population, a small increase in the share of the 60+ population. This trend can also be illustrated by the following simplified demographic pyramid.

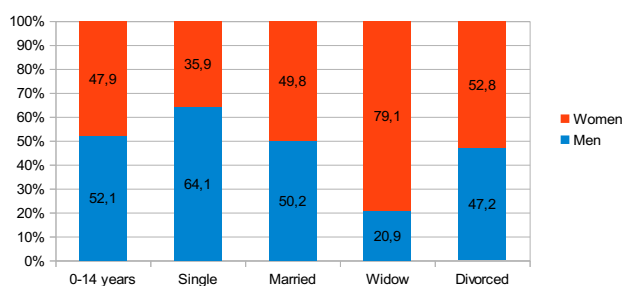


The share of youngsters has declined from 25 to 18% in only 10 years. Although the active population (15-59 years) is decreasing, their share in the total population is growing with 4%. The same can be observed in the share of the 60+ population. Their share is 17,25% and rather low in comparison to other Romanian regions, where the share is going up to 25-30%. This results in a rather young community with a potential in the active population group.

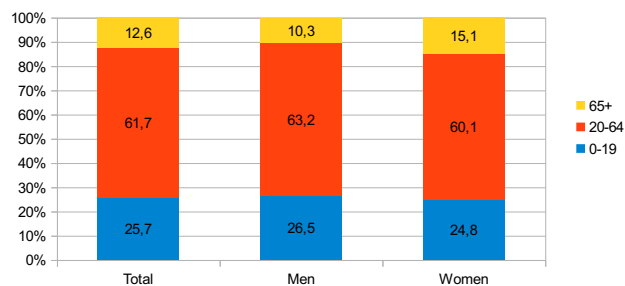
Dependency ratio census 2011	Berbești	Urban Vâlcea	Vâlcea	Romania	EU27
Green pressure variant 1 (0-14 y to 100 15-64 y)	26,0	21,0	22,5	23,3	23,4
Green pressure variant 2 (0-19 y to 100 20-59 y)	44,9	34,1	37,8	37,9	38,3
Gray pressure variant 1 (65+ to 100 15-64 y)	18,2	17,4	28,4	23,7	26,7
Gray pressure variant 2 (60+ to 100 20-59 y)	30,2	30,9	47,1	39,6	43,4
Internal gray pressure (80+ to 100 60-79 y)	19,7	15,7	19,9	19,3	NA
Family care index (80+ to 100 50-59 y)	24,5	16,2	30,5	26,1	NA
Dependency ratio variant 1 (0-14 & 65+ to 100 15-64 y)	44,2	38,4	50,8	47,0	50,2
Dependency ratio variant 2 (0-19 & 60+ to 100 20-59 y)	75,2	65,0	84,9	77,6	81,7
Flow ratio (10-24 y to 100 50-64 y)	136,3	76,7	81,8	88,6	NA
Aging of active population (15-39 y to 100 40-64 y)	103,5	88,3	88,2	99,9	NA

Based on this table a green pressure can be noted: for 100 persons from the active population (20-59 year old), there are almost 45 young (0-19 year old) persons, this is above the average. Throughout time, a group of youngsters will replace the current active population. But if the activity rate keeps on decreasing (see paragraph 7.3), this will cause a problem for the new generation. This requires care and investment for the older population. On the other hand the grey pressure is still under the Romanian and county average. Nevertheless, slowly the ageing of the population starts to manifest itself as it can be seen in the internal gray pressure and family care index. This ageing trend seems to feminize. This can cause some specific (social medical) needs on the longer term.

Civil Status Berbesti 2011 in %

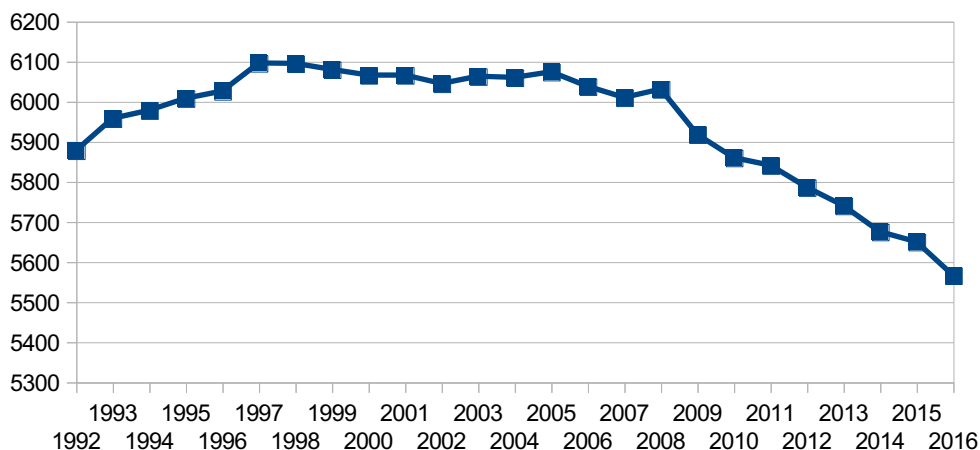


Active - non active population Berbesti 2011 in %



Until now the data are based on the numbers of person residing in Berbești. As mentioned above in 2011 1005 persons do have a domicile in Berbești, but are living elsewhere. These group represents almost 1/5 of the population with a domicile in Berbești. In 2002 this was only 6%. The decline in population by domicile is less than by residence: -10% in comparison to -15%, which can mean that people living outside of Berbești have an possible intention to return to Berbești by keeping an official address.¹⁰

Evolution population Berbești by domicile 1992-2016

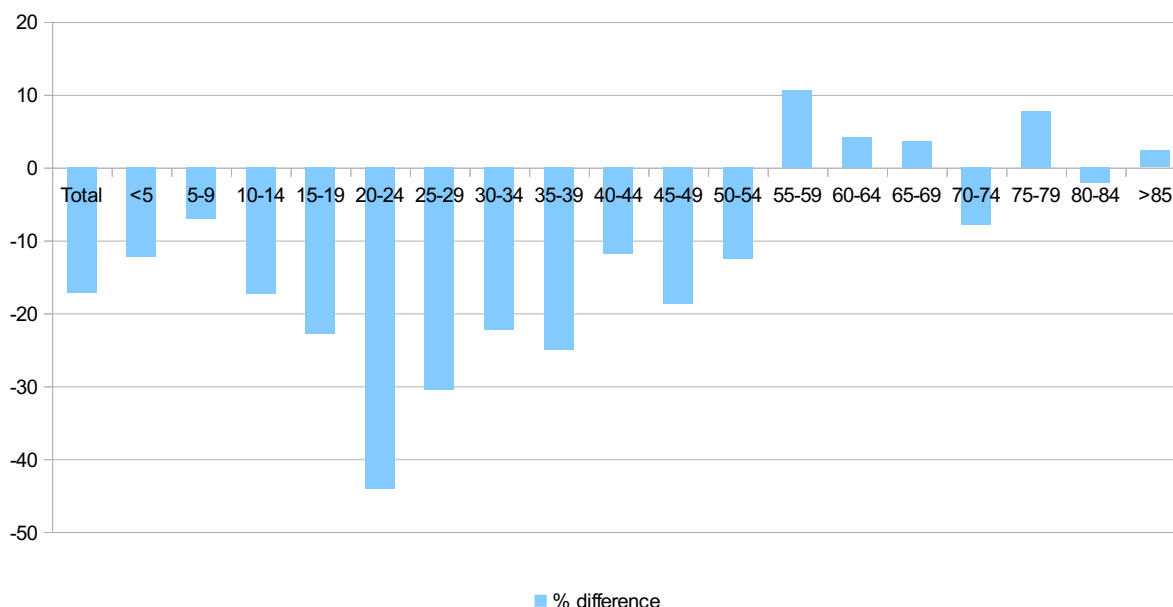


Living elsewhere is therefore another possible explanation for the declining population trend. This number of 1005 can be further refined by category:

- Around 500 persons are living and working permanently outside the country
- Around 100 persons are working outside the country by a season based contract
- The remaining group lives elsewhere in Romania.¹¹

The difference between domicile and residence is very apparent in certain age categories. The biggest group not present in Berbești is the young active population. This could partly be explained by the low amount of job opportunities in the region of Berbești.¹²

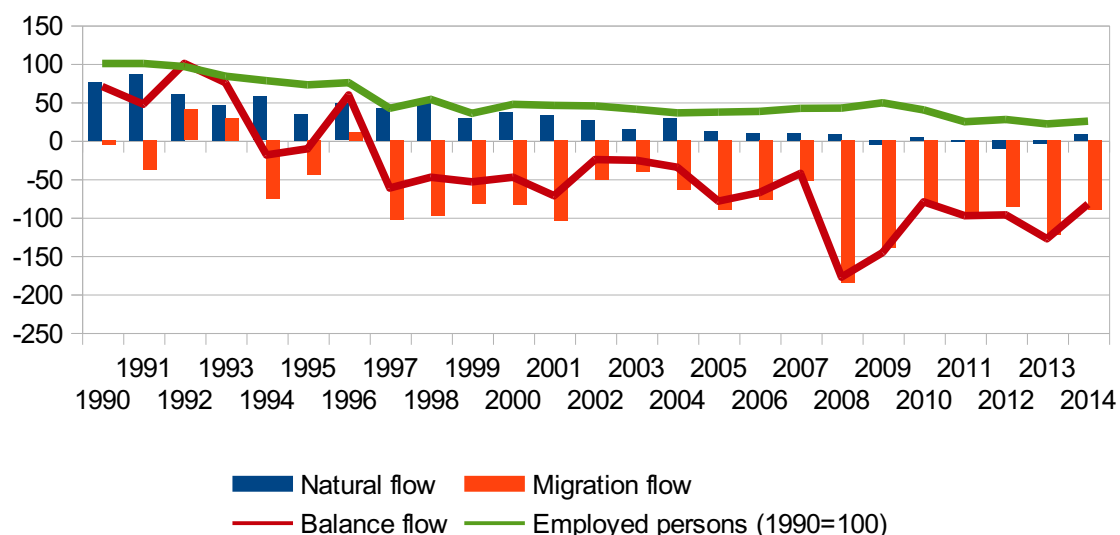
Difference % domicile - residence Berbești 2011



Based on these numbers some provisional conclusions can be drawn:

- The population of Berbești is decreasing sharp and fast
- The trend can be explained by a lower birth rate and emigration¹³
- This last one on its turn is the result of less job opportunities and services in the region.

Evolution population and employment Berbești (1990-2014)



To conclude this paragraph, James Bluemel, director of Channel 4's three-part series 'The Romanians Are Coming' is cited: "The fundamental right to free movement for EU citizens is important, correct and valuable, but let's not be blasé. Leaving your family and friends behind as you move 2,000 miles across Europe in the hope of finding a job is not a decision that anyone takes lightly. It's a scary and painful thing to do. It rips families apart and it destroys communities. It is not something that should have to happen. For many of the Romanians I met, the phrase "freedom to move" is contradictory, as where is the freedom in having no choice but to leave your country to search for work? It's important and correct that we have that right to free movement, but let's not confuse the life of a migrant worker with freedom."¹⁴

The next paragraphs will deal with the following research questions:

1. What is the impact of the 2008-2009 crisis on these trends?
2. Are there other factors?
3. Is Berbești an isolated town or can the same trends be observed in the broader region?
4. How do people from Berbești experience these trends?
5. And how can realistic solutions be formulated through social investments and decentralized cooperation?



3. Methodology

3.1. Literature, report and policy review

A first orientation about (the region of) Berbești could be made by using three articles about the social economic situation in the region of Berbești:

- POPESCU Ramona Florina, UNGUREANU Emilia, Attenuation scenarios of social-economical inequalities at rural level South-West Oltenia region, In: The USV annals of economy and public administration, 2012, vol 12, 1, 15, p.46-54.
- BULEARCA Marius, POPESCU Catalin, Gas and coal extractive industry during the socialist industrialization period (1948-1989), In: Annals of the Constantin Brancusi university of Targu Jiu, Economy series, Special issue ECO-TREND 2015, p. 394-398.
- COCHECI Radu-Matei, Individualization of deprived areas in Romania's South West region, In: Journal of urban and regional analysis, 2015, vol VII, p. 161-176.

To acquire a general insight in the evolutions in Romania, the documents produced by the European Commission in the context of the European semester were consulted together with the publications of the European Social Policy Network, more specifically POP Luana, ESPN Thematic report on social investment Romania (2015).

In the context of this report, several national strategies were consulted:

- Strategy development of Romanian territory 2014-2020 ¹⁵
- Strategy for social inclusion and reduction of poverty 2014-2020 ¹⁶
- Strategy for health 2014-2020 ¹⁷

Going from the national level towards the regional and county level, the following development plans were consulted:

- Agenția pentru Dezvoltare Regională Sud-Vest Oltenia, Development Plan 2014-2020
- Judet Vâlcea, Strategy for economic development 2015-2022
- A new Local Action Group (GAL Cerna Oltet, Berbești is 1 of the 18 villages) was created and is developing a plan for the inter communal cooperation

More detailed information based on articles is integrated in the specific paragraphs.

3.2. Preparatory meetings

Because of the collaborations between Berbești (Romania) and Herselt (Belgium), the research started with preparatory meeting with persons involved in this collaboration. During these meetings (August 2015 and March 2016) a first baseline could be developed. Together with the literature and statistical data, the outcomes of the meetings provided the basis for a qualitative research in April 2016.

3.3. In depth analysis

3.3.1. Quantitative data

Data published on websites of Eurostat and the Romanian National Institute for Statistics are used.

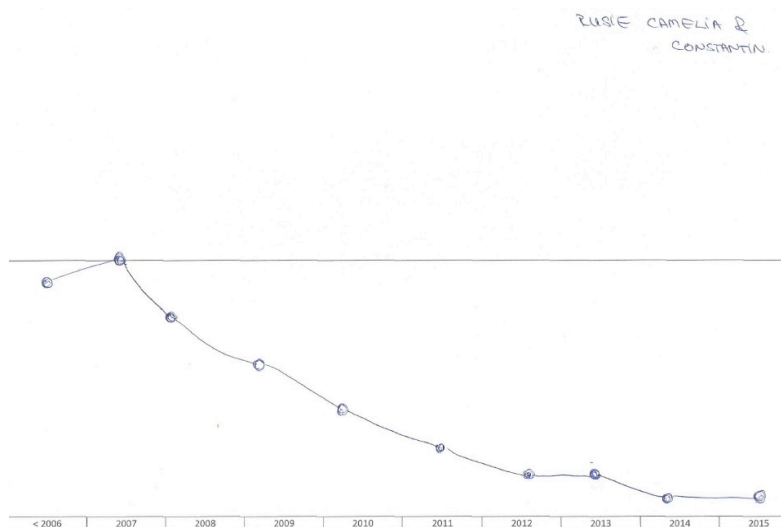
3.3.2. Qualitative data

An in depth qualitative analysis was conducted in April 2016. In total 26 persons were interviewed. To structure the interview, people could draw their own personal timeline starting from 2006. The evolution of how they perceived their personal life is presented in the following table. Parts of the interviews will be used to illustrate some societal trends.

Name	Profession	Gender	Age	Migration abroad	Relatives abroad	< 2008	2008-2012	2015	Salary < 2008	2015
AMZULOIU Simona	Teacher Geography/History	F		No	Yes	Satisfactory	Good	Very good	200	NA
CATRINA Marius	Bank Manager	M	41	No	Yes	Good	Good	Very good	175	800
CEBOTARI Liliana	Deputy director school Teacher English	F	40	Yes	No	Good	Satisfactory	Good	NA	NA
CHELCEA Mariana Nadia	Jurist Town Hall	F	36	No	NA	Very good	Bad	Very bad	300	250
CUMPANASOIU Milorad Ioan	Manager Mine	M	48	No	NA	Satisfactory	Bad	Very good	NA	NA
DAL POS Luigino	Company manager	M	72	Yes	Yes	Satisfactory	Good	Bad	NA	NA
DINCA Melania Ramona	PR Town Hall	F	39	No	NA	Very bad	Very bad	Bad	300	220
DINICA Mihaela	Teacher French	F		Yes	Yes	Very good	Satisfactory	Very good	300	480
GIOGA Dumitru	Vice Mayor	M	65	No	No	Bad	Very bad	Satisfactory	NA	NA
GULICA Florea	Forest Engineer	M	56	No	Yes	Good	Good	Bad	1300	550
GULICA Silviu	Consular Identity Cards	M	35	No	Yes	Very good	Very bad	Very good	300	500
MATEESCU Adina	Teacher primary school	F	38	Yes	No	Bad	Very bad	Satisfactory	220	500
MATEESCU Lucia	Doctor	F	60	No	No	Satisfactory	Bad	Bad	800	400
MATEIESCU Alexandru	Public Achisitions inspector	M	29	NA	NA	Satisfactory	Bad	Satisfactory	300	200
MATEIESCU Sebastian	University assistant PhD	M	32	Yes	No	Good	Good	Very good	NA	NA
MUTU Iuliana	Unemployed	F	28	Yes	Yes	Very bad	Good	Good	300	0
PARAUSANU Rodica	Unemployed	F	47	No	No	Good	Bad	Very bad	220	100
PETRESCU Adrian	Ambulance driver	M	30	No	No	Satisfactory	Good	Good	150	200
PETRESCU Ana-Maria	Bank Officer	F	28	No	No	Satisfactory	Good	Very good	0	210
RADUCAN Mirel	Team Chef Mine	M	45	No	Yes	Bad	Satisfactory	Very good	600	900
RUSIE Constantin	Unemployed	M	39	Yes	Yes	Bad	Very bad	Very bad	NA	NA
RUSIE Mihaela	Referent Identity Cards	F	38	NA	NA	Very bad	Very bad	Bad	150	220
STANICA Ana-Maria	Teacher French	F		Yes	Yes	Satisfactory	Very good	Good	NA	NA
ZAMFIROIU Adina	Personal Assistant Mayor	F	26	Yes	Yes	Bad	Very bad	Very good	220	220
ZAMFIROIU Cristina	Inspector Identity Cards	F	30	No	No	Satisfactory	Good	Satisfactory	NA	250
ZAMFIROIU Silvia	Nurse	F	60	No	No	Good	Bad	Good	220	400

A biography

1996, the year of huge reorganizations in the mine, is also the year where the life story of C. R. starts. His timeline and his perception of his personal development is constantly on the negative side and declining permanently.



C. R. (Interview April 2 2016) born in 1977 and living for 20 years in Berbești: “Because I lost my job in 1996, I was looking for new possibilities. These I couldn’t find in Berbești or in the region because of the restructuring of the total mine industry. In that time we heard that Greece was in need for low skilled labor. More specifically, workers were needed in construction, in agriculture for collecting olives and oranges, as well as in restaurants. In other words, it needed low skilled people. In 1996 I left Berbești together with a group from our region, not exactly knowing what would come but with a hope for a better future. Some parts of the way to Greece we did by feet other parts we did by train or car. We went by train through the former Yugoslavia Republic of Macedonia (FYROM). We got off the train 5 or 6 stops before the customs point. It was quite far from the border, the closer we got to it, the more frequent the control was. We crossed the border in Macedonia and then we took a taxi to the Greek borderline. The taxi drivers were very nice and they showed us how to go from there. we got here illegally. It was me who came first, then my wife in 1999. After a bit more than one week I arrived to my destination, a small village near Thessaloniki.” Immigrants who came to Greece before 1998 legitimized their stay owing to the presidential decrees of 1997 which inaugurated the first regularization program, or within the framework of the second regularization program, under law 2910/2001. It appears that the initiative of ‘doing their papers’ belonged to the immigrants and that there were instances in which the employed immigrants were supported by their employers with the necessary procedures. This was for C. R. certainly not the case during the first years of his stay in Greece: “We were perceived as slaves. We had to work in the orange garden without contract and not being sure that we were getting paid. The owner instead of paying for our work was putting the police on us as if we were thieves. Living in a house without a decent roof and the risk to be captured by the police was our life during the first 2 years. In 1998 things started to change, finally I could start working for a good manager, he protected us from the police but still we had to work without papers. One year later my wife came to Greece. Our living conditions didn’t improve: living with 25 persons in the same house, daily work agreements and dependent on seasonal work. Only in 2002 we arranged our papers, but the man who helped us with the papers asked us to work for him for free as a compensation for his help. Almost in the same period Greek banks were offering credits. It was very easy to get a loan, because the only thing needed was an identity card. We took a loan in order to buy a small house. In 2006 my wife got pregnant and in 2007 our son R. was born. During this period my wife couldn’t work officially and took some bad paid jobs as cleaner or housekeeper. All of this on the black market, so she was working without papers. And the child allowance was only 80 euro a year. On top of this the crisis affected Greece very hard: loss of jobs, more hours for less money.... During these times our problems started to pay back the loan to the bank. After doing some smaller jobs, we decided to go back to Romania in 2013. But also here troubles were growing in Romania: we experienced difficulties to reintegrate in our ‘own’ home place. Certainly our son has difficulties in the school to be accepted by other children. By the end of 2015 I was engaged by Govora, the mine company, but they pay my salary only on an irregular basis. So I could not keep this job. And still our loan needs to be paid back in Greece. We do not see much possibilities anymore for the future: our son needs to go to school and our grandmother is very ill and needs personal assistance. But we do not have resources to help our own family.”. The day after our interview (April 3 2016) the couple left Romania again for Greece to find a solution for their financial duties in Greece, leaving their son and their ill grandmother behind not exactly knowing when they can return to Romania.

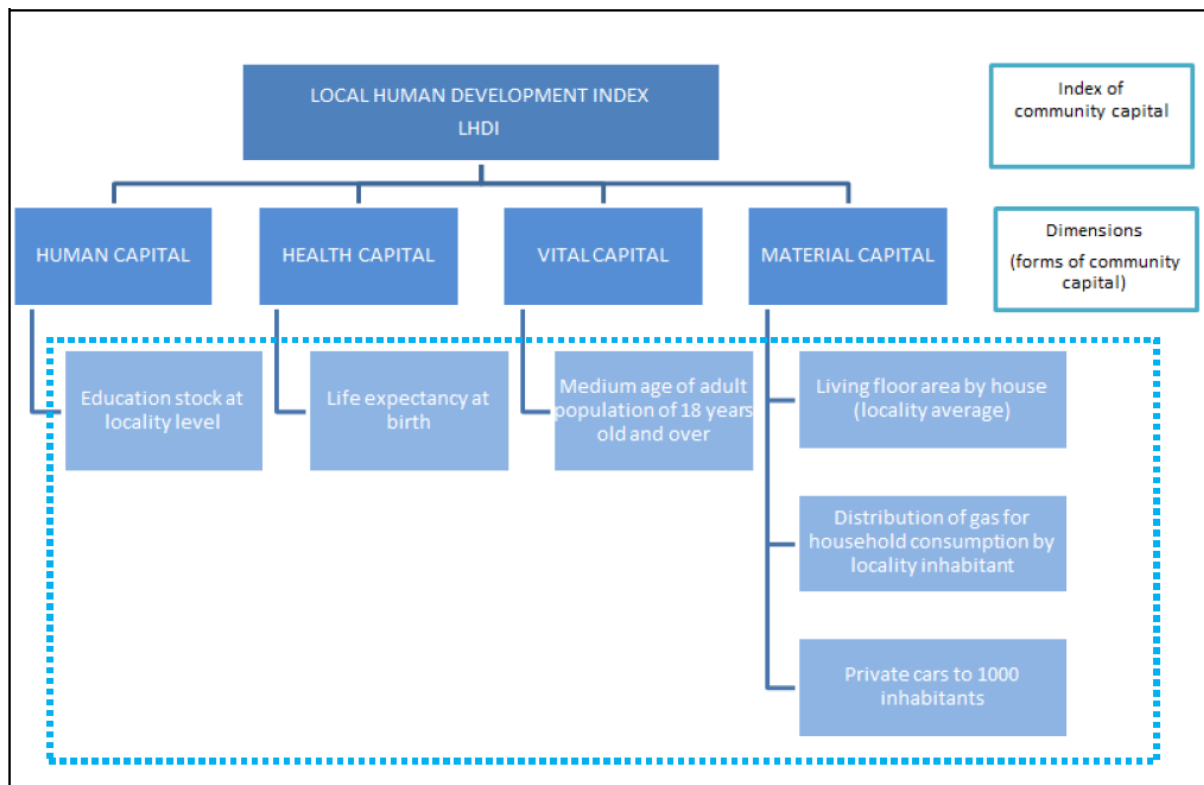


4. Berbești (County Vâlcea, RO): setting the scene

To understand the position of Berbești in the county Vâlcea and in a broader sense in Romania, it's necessary to identify the status quo of Berbești with regard to development. We refer her to 'development as 'changes and opportunities for people to grow'.

4.1. Local Human Development Index

The index of local human development measures the total capital of localities, looking in particular at four dimensions: human capital, health capital, vital capital, and material capital. Single indicators are used to measure each of the first three stocks. Material capital is assessed as a factor score of three specific indicators that focus on living standards: dwelling space, private cars to 1000 residents, and distribution of gas for household consumption in the particular territorial unit. The aggregation of the four measures of the dimensions of community capital is achieved by another factor score. One of the key advantages of LHDI is that it allows for comparison of very different localities, urban or rural, small or large. The LHDI is similar to the Human Development Index (HDI) used by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The factor score aggregating the four LHDI indicators for the four forms of community capital is converted to take a variation from about zero to about 100.¹⁸



For Romania this results in the following table, based on data of 2011 and calculations of 2013.

Development level	County	Local Human Development Index (LHDI)					
		RURAL		URBAN		TOTAL	
		2002	2011	2002	2011	2002	2011
upper developed	BUCURESTI (B)			76	102	76	102
	ILFOV (IF)	57	81	68	99	58	89
	BRASOV (BV)	54	66	77	95	71	87
	CLUJ (CJ)	44	62	79	99	68	87
	SIBIU (SB)	53	64	79	94	70	84
developed	TIMIS TM	50	66	74	94	64	83
	CONSTANTA (CT)	43	60	64	84	57	77
	PRAHOVA (PH)	49	63	72	90	61	77
	ALBA (AB)	49	60	73	87	63	76
	ARGES (AG)	46	60	77	94	60	76
	MURES (MS)	49	62	74	89	62	76
upper-middle developed	HUNEDOARA (HD)	47	60	64	80	60	75
	ARAD (AD)	48	61	67	84	58	74
	IASI (IS)	39	54	75	94	57	73
	MARAMURES (MM)	45	58	67	83	57	73
	DOLJ (DJ)	37	49	73	92	55	73
	GORJ (GJ)	48	60	73	87	58	73
	GALATI (GL)	40	53	68	87	56	72
	BISTRITA NASAUD (BN)	48	59	77	93	58	72
	SATU MARE (SM)	43	58	73	87	56	72
	BRAILA (BR)	38	48	65	84	55	72
	HARGHITA (HG)	49	61	70	84	59	71
	BIHOR (BH)	43	57	67	85	54	71
	VALCEA (VL)	42	58	72	87	54	71
	COVASNA (CV)	46	56	74	85	60	71
	DIMBOVITA (DB)	47	63	75	88	55	71
	CARAS-SEVERIN (CS)	44	56	66	81	56	70
	middle developed	SUCEAVA (SV)	47	60	70	82	54
SALAJ (SJ)		41	54	73	90	54	69
BACAU (BC)		40	53	69	87	53	68
NEAMT (NT)		42	56	70	86	53	68
VRANCEA (VR)		41	54	68	86	51	66
BUZAU (BZ)		40	52	69	85	51	66
TULCEA (TC)		41	51	60	78	50	65
MEHEDINTI (MH)		37	48	66	81	50	65
OLT (OT)		40	50	68	83	51	63
IALOMITA (IL)		36	46	66	79	48	61
lower middle developed	VASLUI (VS)	33	44	68	83	47	60
	BOTOSANI (BT)	32	44	67	81	44	60
	CALARASI (CL)	35	48	57	77	43	59
	GIURGIU (GR)	36	50	58	77	42	58
	TELEORMAN (TL)	33	45	62	79	42	56
TOTAL	43	56	71	90	58	75	
DISPARITY (MAX-MIN)		25	38	21	25	33	44

In these calculations, the county of Vâlcea can be categorized in the group of upper middle developed counties and takes place 24 of 41+1 counties. A more detailed analysis for each city can be found in another report of 2013. Big disparities can be seen between towns and cities in the county of Vâlcea as shown in the table below. Berbești is categorized as a middle developed city.¹⁹

			LHDI 2002	LHDI 2011
Upper developed	Râmnicu Vâlcea	Municipiu	77	94
	Drăgășani	Municipiu	71	84
Upper middle developed	Băbeni	Oras	59	73
	Călimănești	Oras	57	72
	Horezu	Oras	59	72
	Băile Olănești	Oras	51	71
Middle developed	Berbești	Oras	54	67
	Brezoi	Oras	52	62
	Bălcești	Oras	44	61
Disparity (max-min)			33	33

4.2. Regional disparities in the county of Vâlcea

Several studies have been conducted to map the regional differences in the county of Vâlcea.²⁰ In the context of this report a visualization of the development rate of demarcated region in the county of Vâlcea is given. A study of 2013 clearly distinguishes 7 regions with a different development speed.²¹ A summary of the potential and difficulties for each region is presented.

Developed region 1 (map D1 red): Râmnicu Vâlcea – Băile Govora – Băbeni area

This area includes a total of nine localities, three of which are towns (Ocnele Mari, Băile Govora and Băbeni) and one is the seat of Vâlcea County (Râmnicu Vâlcea city). Also, this area includes the most developed village (Mihăești) and several villages which have recorded high values for the main analyzed indicators (Vlădești, Bunești). D1 development area includes a growth pole of regional importance (Râmnicu Vâlcea) and three potential concentration poles of local importance (Ocnele Mari, Băile Govora and Băbeni), which strongly contribute to socioeconomic development of the area and influence the balanced development of rural surroundings. The area is characterized by the predominance of services, trade and industry in the structure of economic activities. D1 area is the most developed of the three existing developed areas in the county.



Developed region 2 (Map D2 dark purple): Horezu - Călimănești - Brezoi area

This is the largest developed region with regard to the size (177,739 ha) though development is somewhat discontinuous. It includes nine localities, four of which are towns (Brezoi, Călimănești, Băile Olănești and Horezu), and several fairly developed villages (Voineasa, Vaideeni, Costești). Because this area occupies the mountain area of the county, the basic economic activity is tourism, visited especially for mountain landscapes (Voineasa, Călimănești), spa treatments (Băile Olănești and Călimănești) and for the famous monasteries from Horezu. Besides tourism, there are also remarkable: business and commercial activities, information and communication. The four towns have potential for local growth poles, particularly through their natural resources and financial capital obtained from tourism, which positively influences the development of neighboring villages.

Developed region 3 (Map D3 green): Drăgășani area

This area is located in the southeastern part of the county, on the lowest surface, compared to all other areas (17,203 ha). It has only five moderately developed localities, the four villages being strongly influenced by Drăgășani city, which also represents the local growth pole. The basic economic activities are industry and agriculture, the region being recognized for its vast vineyards.

Underdeveloped area 1 (Map S1 light purple): Bălcești - Berbești area

This area contains the largest number of localities of all existing areas. Of the 29 localities, two are the **Bălcești and Berbești towns**, that are a little more developed in comparison with the surrounding rural areas and they have some influence over them because many people are migrating to these two towns. S1 area is the largest of the four underdeveloped areas, with a total area of 148,297 hectares, stretching from the foothills area to the Sub Carpathian hills and close to the Carpathian mountains (Bărbătești, Stoenesti villages). The population is mainly employed in agriculture, focusing on gardening, horticulture and animal husbandry, but also in industry, especially in the two towns. The two towns could represent poles of attraction for other settlements in the neighborhood, especially because it offers more opportunities compared to those offered by rural municipalities.

Underdeveloped area 2 (Map S2 pink): Southern area

This has 19 localities, all represented by municipalities and villages. The surface of this area is 77,933 ha, being the second largest underdeveloped area, after S1 area. The total population is 45,500 inhabitants, with more people than even have some of the developed areas (D2 and D3). This area is among the poorest areas of the county, especially because there is no city/town - potential development pole in this area. Also, the area includes some of the poorest municipalities.

Underdeveloped area 3 (Map S3 yellow): Eastern area

This area includes a relatively small number of localities (9), all municipalities and villages, spread over a relatively small area (only 46.407 ha). The S3 area also records a small number of inhabitants (29.723 inhabitants), being the penultimate of the areas in this respect. The S3 area has the advantage of proximity to the most developed area of the county (D1), the concentration poles Râmnicu Vâlcea - Băile Govora – Băbeni being able to influence the overall economic growth and development of this disadvantaged area.

Underdeveloped area 4 (Map S4 blue): North-Eastern area

The mountainous area offers the opportunity of tourism development (especially in the villages Căineni, Boișoara and Titești), the population is employed both in tourism activities (employees in restaurants and tourist accommodation establishments, however, insufficient in number) and in agriculture, with emphasis on livestock. The quality of life of people in the area is very low.

4.3. The transition of mono-industrial activities

During the communist period, investments were made in the heavy industries. This resulted in the development of mono-industrial centers. The Oltenia region was characterized by investments in coal industry. The year 1956 corresponds to the opening of the first coal mines in the mining basin of Oltenia (Berbești mine: 1978). Starting with 1960, once with the opening of the great surface quarries and underground pit-mining for lignite transportation to large consumers, were built six “railroads of coal”, as follows: Strehaia - Motru (31 km), built in 1962; Târgu Jiu -Turceni - Filași (77 km), built in 1967; Turceni - Dragotești (28 km), built in 1967; Amaradia - Bârsești (8 km), built in 1967; Cărbunești - Albești - Seciuri (23 km), built in 1983; and Băbeni - Berbești - Alunu (44 km), built in 1988. Instead of tractors and threshing machines, huge earth-moving rotary conveyors of all kinds emerged in that area. These brought dislodged coal at collecting points where coal was loaded into railroad cars. Mining sector development strategies in Romania before 1990 were based on the concept of economic self-support focused on providing the necessary mineral raw materials. Because mining wages in this branch were relatively high and enjoyed a number of social facilities (especially in providing housing) in coalfields areal a heterogeneous workforce was transferred, coming from across the whole country. Workers from the Moldova region migrated to the region of Oltenia. Thus, the situation emerged as such that a mining sector developed which was more developed than it would be appropriate considering the under mineral reserves potential of the country. In that sense, it was economically unjustified as well. In 1989, the Romanian mining branch reached its maximum development when 278 underground pit-mines and quarries were running and 350.000 people were employed directly and another 700.000 people were employed indirectly in the mining industry. After the Romanian revolution in 1989, reorganization measures were implemented because of financial and efficiency considerations. The industrial decline which characterized Romania after 1990 has affected an important number of cities in the region, especially the ones which relied on a single industrial activity. As a consequence ‘old’ industries were shut down or are on the way to be closed. This also leads to the closing of mine supplying companies.²² Due to the dependency on this single industry, unemployment sparked. In the following map an overview is given about active and declining industries. Berbești belongs to the category of declining.²³



4.4. Development potential

The previous studies were more focused on the actual situation, a report from 2010 was calculating the potential of localities in the South East region of Romania.²⁴ Towns and cities are divided in:

National development poles are represented by urban settlements with the highest polarization capacity from the development regions, accomplishing the functional connection with the capital, and having the role of coordinating and distributing information from the capital level to the entire regional space level.

Regional development poles are urban settlements with a polarization capacity which is inferior to national poles polarization, consolidated by administrative functions held in time. This category is represented by the present county seats, which, due to their administrative function, imposed themselves totally within the urban county systems.

Intraregional development poles are represented by urban settlements which benefited by a regional context of advantages, which contributed to the increase of their polarization capacity, becoming comparable to county seats.

Local development poles are the urban settlement with an important role in the functioning of county networks, contributing to the spreading of development from the level of intraregional and regional poles, towards the local level. The importance of these poles is given by their function of information redistribution within the subordinated rural area. In this report the town of Berbești is categorized on the lowest potential level, namely as a local development pole depending very much on the developments in Râmnicu Vâlcea and Craiova.

4.5. Provisional observations

Based on data and literature presented in the paragraphs 2 en 4, Berbești and the broader county of Vâlcea is in a more vulnerable position in comparison with other counties and regions of Romania. We can observe that the city of Berbești can be considered as a vulnerable community characterized by:

- A high level of insecurity which can be seen in the way people see their development
- Depopulation as a consequence of emigration and ageing of population

- High level of unemployment
- Low or middle development potential
- Social tensions because of mine reorganizations
- Reconversion needs

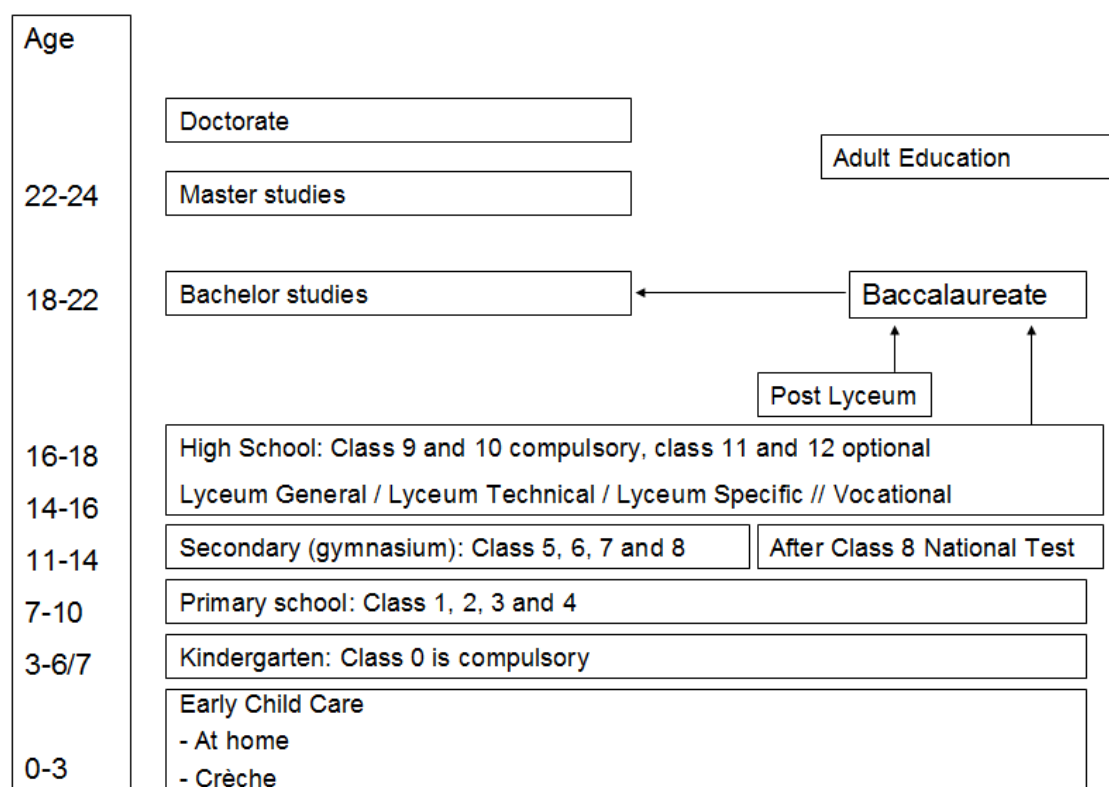
These general provisional observations will be further detailed in the next paragraphs with specific attention for certain domains and individual needs/challenges.



5. Educational analysis

5.1. Structure of Romanian school system

Romania, like all Eastern European countries, changed radically with the end of the communist era. The Romanian education system has undergone many transformations, which started with the removal of political education in 1990. Education in Romania is tuition-free and based on an egalitarian system. Access to free education is guaranteed by Article 32 in the Constitution of Romania. Education is regulated and enforced by the Ministry of National Education. Each part of the educational system has its own form of organization and is subject to different laws and directives. The scheme below gives an overview of the structure of the Romanian education system.



5.2. Early Childhood Education and Care

Childcare services (for children less than three years old) are scarce, unevenly developed, and entirely missing in many rural areas. In the county Vâlcea 18 crèches could be identified²⁵:

- Babeni (urban, 8.451 inhabitants): 2
- Dragasani (urban, 17.871 inhabitants): 2
- Horezu (urban, 6.263 inhabitants): 1
- Râmnicu Vâlcea (urban, county seat, 98.776 inhabitants): 13

In Berbești there is no crèche available. Even when available, they do not seem to represent an acceptable alternative for many families; some parents complain about the quality of the services, others cannot afford to pay the costs. On the Romanian level, the number of children younger than and facilities for ante-preschool education increased steadily over the last 5 years, as did the proportion of children enrolled in ante-preschool education and care. Despite this increase, rates continue to be extremely low. In 2013 ante-preschool enrolment varied between 3.1% and 4.6% (2013), depending on the chosen reference.²⁶

Table 1 ROMANIA: Proportion of children younger than 3 in formal ECEC (crese)

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
As a % of children population up to 3 years	2.6%	2.7%	2.7%	2.7%	2.9%	3.1%
As a % of children 1 and 2 years old	3.9%	4.1%	4.0%	4.0%	4.3%	4.6%

Data source: Calculations are based on the NIS data, Tempo-online, SAN103A, POP101C

Besides the low availability and the high costs, the Romanian system of parental leave can also provide an explanation. The parental leave scheme in Romania is one of the most generous and lengthy across Europe. The maternity leave adds up to 126 days (63 before and 63 days after the birth, with only 42 being compulsory) and the indemnity is 85% of the average work income of the previous 6 months. This expenditure is supported by the social insurance fund. The child-rearing leave and indemnity (111/2010), up to the age of two complements the maternity indemnity, and is offered to either of the two parents. The child rearing indemnity has been a significant support for working parents in the absence of a day care system. The benefit is ranging from 67% to 378% of the minimum gross wage, depending on previous income and the option chosen. In 2011 two options have been introduced: (a) a two year option, with a lower cap, ranging from €135 to €269 (December 2014) and (b) one year of indemnity (varying between €135 and €763) followed by a year of insertion stimulus of €112.

Evidence shows that the big majority of persons using the parental leave scheme are mothers. Some of the Romanian fathers also decide to stay at home and take care of their newborns. Some 4.5% of the total employees who took time off to take care for their newborn babies between 2012 and 2014 were men.²⁷ In most cases, fathers who choose to stay home with the children because the mothers' revenue is higher, or the mothers don't want to halt their careers.

During the interviews women indicated in their personal life timeline that this period of maternity leave was not always the best period: lower income and a slowdown of career opportunities. Returning and reintegrating in the job after two years can cause obstacles because of changing rules and procedures. One of the main reasons that this almost 100% female parental leave is the societal expectation that a woman is supposed to raise her children.

The proposed National Strategy for Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction (January 2015) specifies the need to increase child assistance, particularly for rural women, in order to increase their access to formal employment and to offer a higher level of targeted support to low work intensity households. RESET can also anticipate these developments by facilitating the development of a crèche in Berbești.

5.3. Kindergarten

Children start to attend kindergarten from the age of three years old and can stay there until they are six or seven years old. Public kindergartens are free, while private kindergartens are quite expensive for average families. Usually, children spend three to four hours a day in kindergarten. There are some public kindergartens which provide food (which must to be paid for), and after-lunch sleeping periods. Few kindergartens have all-day programs, if they do most of them are private institutions.

At this moment there are two kindergartens for 130 children in Berbești. They are located in apartments of housing blocs. A new kindergarten is planned for 100 children. This project was initiated by the city council and will be co-financed by the World Bank.²⁸



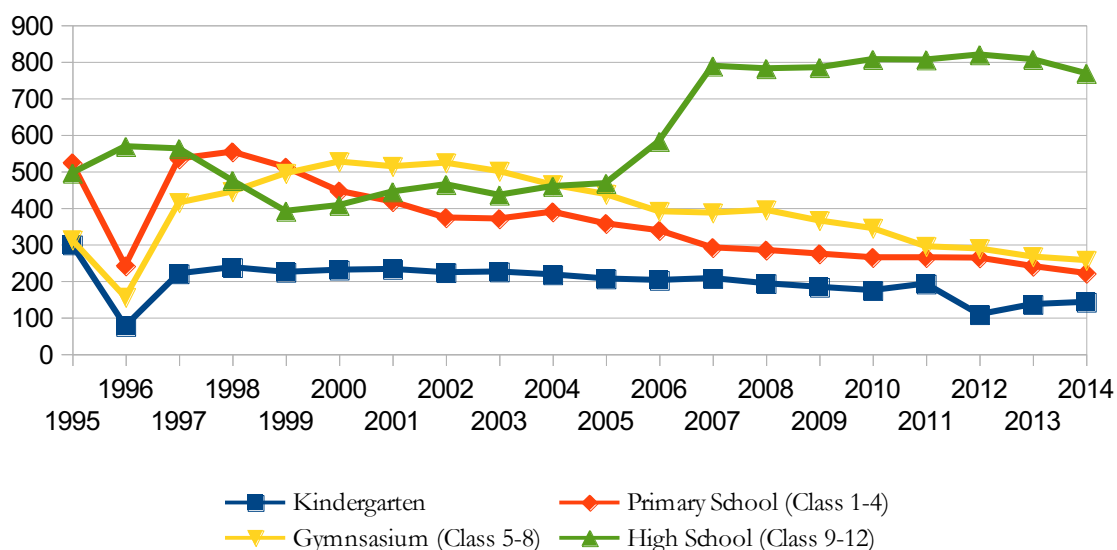
5.4. Gymnasium and Lyceum “Preda Buzescu” Berbești

A founding of the school dates back to 1838.²⁹ The school provides preschool, elementary, gymnasium, lyceum and professional training. Education in Romania is compulsory until the age of 16. In practice, given that most Romanians start school at the age of 6, the first ten years have been made compulsory by the ministry. Recently, schools started to be renovated and expanded.

5.4.1. Students attending school

The evolution of subscribed students is presented in the graph below.³⁰

Students inscribed in schools Berbesti



The students subscribed in kindergarten, primary school and gymnasium is declining. The downward trend is due to the lower amount of newborns in the same period. Very remarkable for example is the decline in kindergarten in 2012. Taken that children attend kindergarten at the age of 3, they are born in 2009. This year shows a decline in births: 55 in 2008 and in 2009 46. This could be a result of the financial crisis 2008-2009. Potential parents were postponing their child wish because of financially difficult times. Also the years after, a decline in births can be seen. So in the near future this will have an impact on school attendance. This can have a serious impact on the amount of teachers. The Romanian system is based on: minimum 15 and maximum 30 children in a class. Having 29 or 30 children can make the difference between 1 or 2 classes.

5.4.2. Admissions for Lyceum³¹

A selection and direction is done for students who want to attend high school (lyceum). As mentioned before, after the 8th class, students have to do a national test. This test counts for 75% of the average of the admission average. The 25% is counted based on the results of class 5, 6 and 7.³² The graph below shows the evolution of the admissions for the lyceum in Berbești.

Admissions Liceul Preda Buzescu Berbesti



In 2014 there were 152 students admitted in the lyceum of Berbești. When the school of origin is taken into consideration, the regional role of the Lyceum Berbești can clearly be seen.

2014		
Sending schools to Liceul Preda Buzescu	Number	Total students from sending schools
Liceul Preda Buzescu	61	63
Scoala Gimnaziala Alunu	48	50
Scoala Gimnaziala Sinesti	20	23
Scoala Gimnaziala Mateesti	12	22
Scoala Gimnaziala Tina	5	18
Other schools	6	119
	152	

5.4.3. Bacalaureate

High school students graduating from a College, Liceu or Grup Școlar must take the National Bacalaureate Exam. The result can be found on a website from the Ministry of Education.³³ To be successful, it is necessary to have an average of 6/10 and for each part at least 5/10.

Candidates Liceul Preda Buzescu Berbești 2015				County Vâlcea
Round 1: 235 candidates		% all	% present	% present
Succeeded	112	47,66	53,59	66,34
Not succeeded	97	41,28	46,41	33,66
Not present	26	11,06		

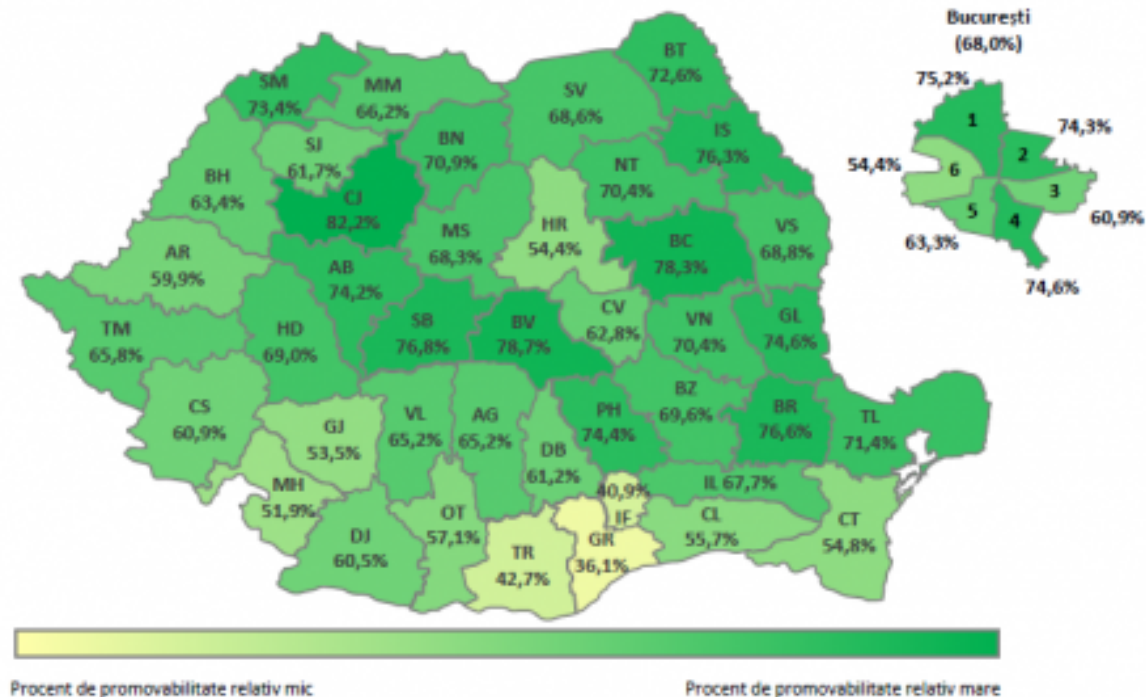
Round 2: 54 candidates				
Succeeded	11	20,37	28,21	24,71
Not succeeded	28	51,85	71,79	75,29
Not present	15	27,78		

In comparison to country level: in the first round 66,41% succeeded in the Bacalaureate in Romania. The lowest number can be found in the county Giurgiu with 36,1%, the highest in the county Cluj with 82,2%.³⁴

First round bacalaureate 2015

Rată promovare Bacalaureat

Sesiunea iunie-iulie 2015



Second round bacalaureate 2015

In the second round 25,67% succeeded for the bacalaureate.

NAME	AVERAGE on 10 Lyceum admission 2011	AVERAGE on 10 Baccalaureate 2015
IAGURA I. Elena Luiza	9,64	9,53
STANCA M. Elena Bianca	9,63	9,73
TELEIMAN J. Diana Marinela	9,57	9,78
MARIN M. Madalina Ionela	9,55	9,90
BURLEANU C. Cristina Maria	9,51	9,55

More changes in results and succeeding can be seen in Natural Sciences and Mechanics. Electricity seems to be the lowest in succeeding students for the baccalaureate.

Other remarkable results from the baccalaureate 2015 for Berbești:

- Difference in gender:

- Round 1 2015: 112 candidates succeeded: 39 men and 73 women, the top 20 of best scoring averages: 18 women and 2 men.
- Round 2 2015: 11 candidates succeeded: 6 men and 5 women
- Based on this numbers 63,5 women and 36,5 men succeeded in the baccalaureate 2015

This is in line with the study choice of students, but this is also directed by the results during the years of the gymnasium (see average admission on 10). For the admissions of 2011 this means;

- Mathematics-IT: 21/30 are girls
- Philology: 28/30 are girls
- Natural Science: 13/30 are girls
- Mechanics: 25/60 are girls
- Electricity: 26/60 are girls

5.5. University

The Baccalaureate is a requirement when enrolling in a university, because, technically, without passing it, the student is not a high school graduate, but, usually it counts for almost nothing in the admission scores (in most universities, 0-20% is the norm). Higher education in Romania is less centralized than in many countries in Western Europe. Every university has its own internal policies regarding admission, exams and conditions for graduation.

After finishing high school, it is important to know where the successful baccalaureate students are going. Connected to this question, another one comes up: namely how students can participate in university studies. There are two main categories of participating: the first one is paid by the state budget and the second one by payment (cu taxa). The places are limited in both cases, but the conditions to be applicable for studying on the state budget are severe. In most cases having an average of at least 9/10 is necessary. In the context of this report, some successful students were tracked.

BURLEANU C. Cristina-Maria:

- Average admission lyceum Berbești 2011: 9,51
- Average baccalaureate 2015: 9,55/10 (Mathematics-IT)
- Polytechnic University Bucharest, succeeded in admission exams (place 16; 9,31/10) and on budget of state³⁵

PAUN A. Andrea Elena

- Class 1-8 Scoala Tina (Comuna Livezi)
- Average admission lyceum Berbești 2011: 8,97/10
- Average baccalaureate 2015: 9,38/10 (Mathematics-IT)
- University Sibiu ICT, succeed in admission exams (place 17; 9,15/10) and on budget of state³⁶

IAGURA I. Elena Luiza:

- Class 1-8 Scoala Berbești

- Average admission lyceum Berbești 2011: 9,64/10
- Average baccalaureate 2015: 9,53/10 (Mathematics-IT)
- University Sibiu ICT, succeed in admission exams (place 27; 8,82/10) and on budget of state³⁷

STANCA M. Elena Bianca:

- Class 1-8 Scoala Urzica (Sinesti)
- Average admission lyceum Berbești 2011: 9,63/10
- Average baccalaureate 2015: 9,73/10 (Mathematics-IT)
- Polytechnic University Timisoara, succeed in admission exams (place 140; 8,34/10) and ?³⁸

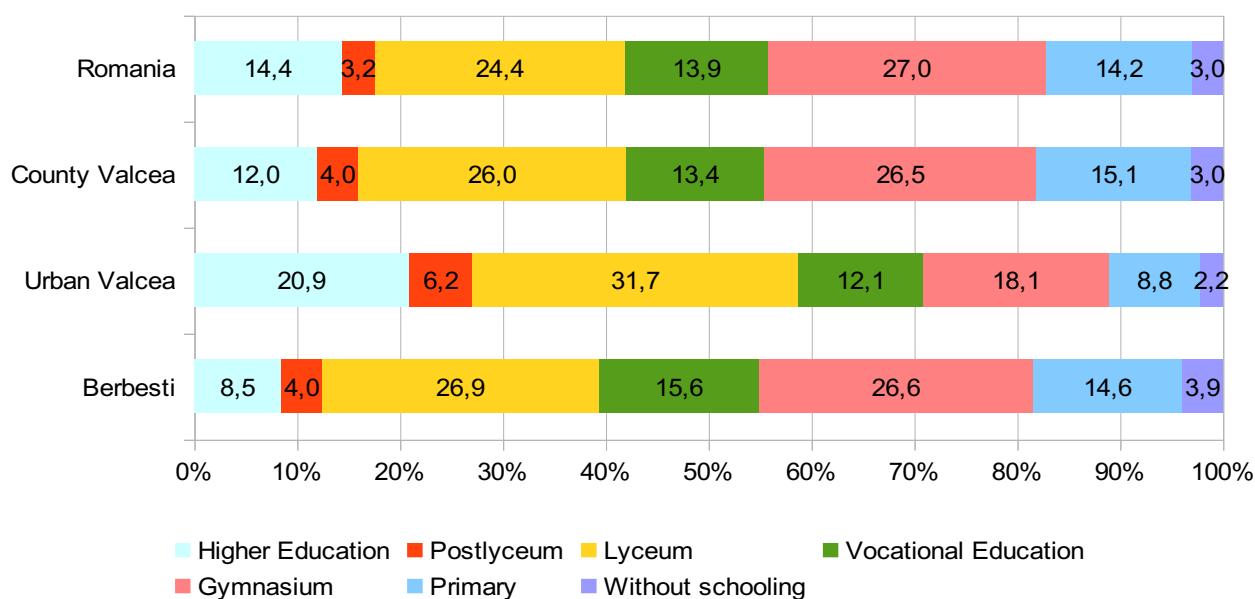
DUMITRU C. Petronela-Cristina:

- Average admission lyceum Berbești 2011:
- Average baccalaureate 2015: 9,31/10 (Philology)
- University Sibiu Journalism, succeed in admission exams (place 5; 9,10/10) and on budget of state³⁹

5.6. Level of education Berbești

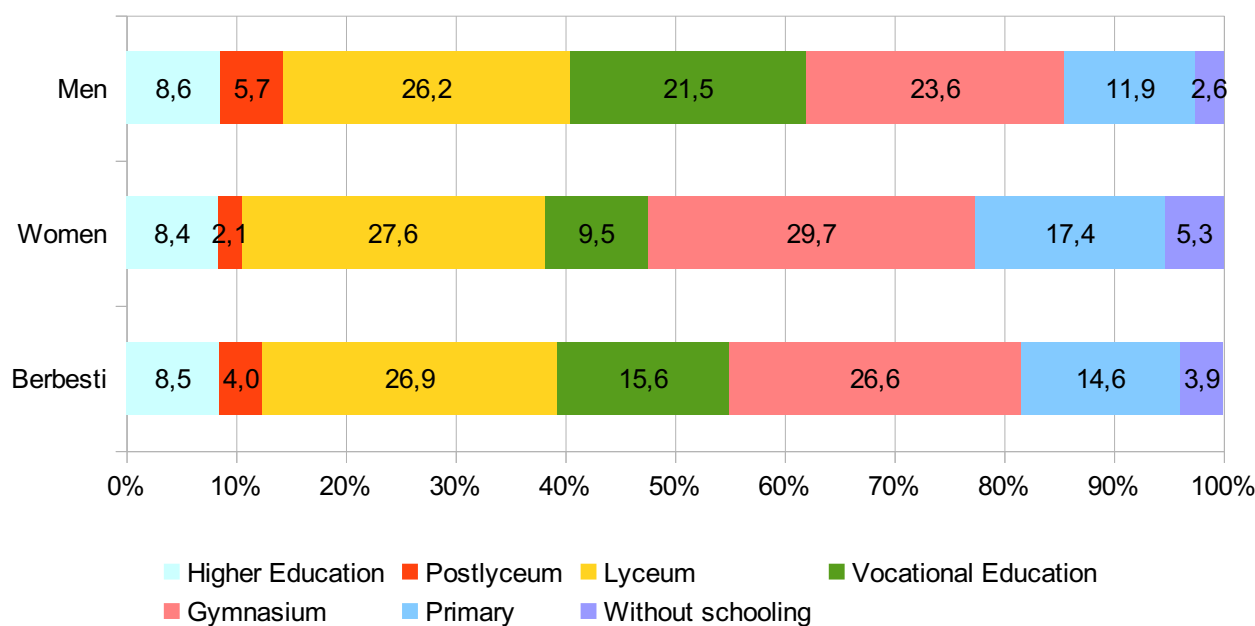
The level of education is comparable with the rates on the national level. Compared with urban Vâlcea the level is lower.

Level of education Berbesti 2011



The differences between men and women living in Berbești can be found in the lower levels of education. More women do not have any schooling or primary schooling than men. More men are in vocational training whereas women end up in gymnasium or manage to finish the lyceum level.

Level of education men women Berbesti 2011



5.7. Educational cost and support by the government

A first screening was done based on literature and interviews. When the principle of supporting students is discussed and agreed, refining will be necessary. The purpose is to have a first insight in the existing supporting systems.⁴⁰

5.7.1. Estimated costs primary and secondary school and university studies

According to the constitution, pre-university education in Romania is free. However, a series of costs – formal and informal - are still covered by parents. The free – principle is based on a basic cost and on the assignments by the government for each student per year. To have an idea on the assignments of the state, a summarized scheme can be found below. ⁴¹

State assignment to schools for a student per year 2016				
	Urban		Rural	
	In Lei	In Euro	In Lei	In Euro
Kindergarten	2018	459	2206	501
Primary School (Cl. 1-4)	2322	528	2766	629
Gymnasium (Cl. 5-8)	3043	692	3499	795
Lyceum Theoretic	3043	692	3043	692
Lyceum Technologic	3146	715	3146	715

Ante-preschool education requires a contribution from parents of between 5% and 20% of the average monthly cost for a child in a public facility, depending on the parents' income level. Preschool facilities only charge costs related to meals (around 10 lei/ day, i.e. €2.5/ day). The government decision 1252/2012 establishes the functioning and organizational methodology for ante-preschool educational facilities. Parents with a cumulative gross income higher than around €150 (700 Lei) pay 20% of the child's food costs (10% if there are siblings), 10% if the parents' income is between €50 (225 Lei) and €150 (respectively 5% per child, if there are more siblings). Parents with a lower cumulative income than €50 are waived from any contribution. However, there are a series of additional informal costs. Almost all kindergartens and elementary schools demand contributions for supplies (from hygiene products to painting and

coloring supplies). Transport of students is foreseen and organized by the local authorities. Based on calculations of 2013 the minimum yearly cost can be seen below.⁴²

Minimum yearly cost for a student financed by parents (2013)		
	In Lei	In Euro
Supplies	200	45
Materials	60	14
Uniform (Jacket)	30	7
Class Fund (Fondul Clasei)	50	11
School Fund (Fondul Scolii)	50	11
School bag	100	23
Clothes	200	45
Shoes	100	23
Gym suit	50	11
Sport shoes	50	11
Handbooks	100	23
Presents	100	23
TOTAL	1090	248

For some families, also depending on how many children they have, these costs will cause financial difficulties. A mapping and refining of costs for students in Berbești is needed.

For university students a monthly cost of between 800 and 1300 lei has been calculated.⁴³ In these costs, the following is taken into account: housing, public transport, supplies and meals. The capital Bucharest is the most expensive one and Cluj seems more affordable. In this cost the admission fee is not counted. Some students will benefit from a place financed by the state budget; others will have to pay a fee. The last one is depending on the chosen studies and the university directives.

5.7.2. Crèche

Tickets for crèches (ante-preschool facilities) are granted since 2006 (L193/2006). These are granted only to employees, and only if the employer decides to grant this type of extra-salary benefit. The benefit is received only for children between 0 and 3 years old, who attend crèche and if the parents are not recipients of any child rearing indemnity. The value of a ticket increased from 370 RON in May 2012 to 440 RON in May 2015 (€100 /month).⁴⁴. Systematic data on the number of crèche tickets is not available, but due to their restricted nature, their impact was limited. The 2011 education law put in place two types of benefits aimed at increasing support for low income families for (ante)-preschool education: (a) the social coupon, to replace the crèche ticket, and (b) a €500 educational coupon for new-borns. But the implementation of the law with regard to these benefits was delayed. These were planned to be implemented in 2015-2016 either.

5.7.3. Kindergarten and primary school

The law no. 248/2015 (Government Decision 15/2016) turns the pilot program ‘**Each Child in Kindergarten – Fiecare Copil in Gradinita**’, initiated in 2010 into a national program. The objectives of the program are to reduce school drop-out and the number of persons at risk of poverty and social exclusion. More concrete, ‘Each Child in Kindergarten’ encourages the enrollment in preschool education of children aged 3 to 6, born in families with a monthly income lower than RON 284 per family member, by granting a social ticket of 50 Lei per month for each child attending kindergarten. For the 2016-2017 period, the requests for social tickets are to be given by families to the city halls until December 20. Based on a centralization made by the city halls and the approval of local fiscal administrations, the Government will then allot the necessary sums from the state budget to the local city hall budgets.

The acquisition, distribution or return of the kindergarten social tickets is handled by local city halls. A network of shops is created to accept the products specific to the law: food, hygiene products, clothes and shoes, school supplies.⁴⁵

The universal **'Milk and Croissant'** program, which has a higher impact on low-income families than any other cash targeted benefits for pre-university students. This is a national program benefiting all preschool and school children in primary and secondary school attending a form of education. This program was developed as a tool for reducing social inequalities among vulnerable children being, the group most exposed to social risks. The program is offering daily dairy products (milk and milk products such as yogurt, kefir and buttermilk) and one bakery product, to all children in secondary schools and kindergartens in Romania.

5.7.4. Gymnasium and lyceum

'Money for high school – Bani de Liceu', is a program aimed at supporting low-income families to keep their children in high school. This had a lower impact, as many children in high-risk situations had already abandoned school or were close to abandoning school.⁴⁶

The **'Euro 200'** program is a money support for acquiring a computer for children from low income families.⁴⁷

5.7.5. Family support

The **universal child allowance**, the main child benefit in Romania, had by far the highest impact, especially for families with children less than 2 years old. For these families, the child allowance increased four times in 2007. For children older than two years old, the benefit level remained unchanged for the last seven years, thus its value deteriorated in real terms, and relative to the minimum wage and relative poverty threshold. Despite the depreciation, the child allowance represented the most important cash support for families with small children, especially for those not eligible for child raising indemnity (i.e. parents not in previous formal employment, mostly in rural areas or in poor households). At least 5.1% of the total number of households benefit from the allowance for children younger than two years old. Until 2015 the amount was 42 lei, after that it became 84 lei.⁴⁸

The second most important family benefit is the **targeted family support allowance**. The redesign of the benefit, from an administrative income-tested to a means-tested one (L277/2010) decreased the number of beneficiaries from 805.000 in 2010 to 325.000 in 2011. Its coverage decreased in 2013 to 3.5% of Romanian households, and to 13% of the total number of children receiving universal child allowance.

The **parental leave system and child-rearing leave and indemnity** were already described in 4.2.

5.7.6. Scholarships⁴⁹

There are four main systems of **scholarships**:

- A performance scholarship: for those who reached the 1st, 2nd or 3rd place at the national competition or can attend an international competition
- A scholarship based on school results: for those who reached the 1st, 2nd or 3rd place at the county competition or had an average of at least 8,5/10.
- Study scholarships: for students in families who had for the last three months a salary lower than the minimum income and had an average of at least 7/10.
- Social scholarships: in case of illness or social difficult situations.

5.8. Children – social orphans

Emigration became a destabilizing factor for the family especially when children are left in Romania. This evolution has brought changes with regard to the functions of the family. Children often find themselves responsible for tasks usually completed by the adult members of the family (such as housework and even agricultural work in the case of children from rural areas), leaving aside their obligations to attend school. According to official statistics, over 80.000 children living in Romania have at least one parent working abroad. However, numerous NGO's in Romania argue that the actual size of this phenomenon is still unknown, despite the fact that efforts are made by the public authorities to determine the real number of children living in this country and having at least one parent who works abroad. The biggest concern is that of children who remain in their home country are completely deprived of parental care. In literature the term 'home alone generation' or 'left behind children' are used. According to UNICEF-Alternative Social Association (AAS) (data 2008) estimates, Romania has some 350.000 so-called children left behind. The number of left behind minors amounts to 7% of the total Romanian population between the ages of 0 and 18 years. 157.000 children have only fathers working abroad, while 67.000 have only mothers working abroad. More than one third, however, or some 126.000 children, have been deprived of both parents. Some 400.000 children have experienced that particular form of solitude for at least part of their lives. In other words, out of a total of 5 million Romanian children, some 750.000 of them have been affected to a greater or lesser extent by the departure of their parents. 52% of these so-called children left behind, in other words 180.000 children, live in rural areas where it is more common for mothers to go away, unlike in the larger cities where it is more common for fathers to leave. Half of the left behind children are younger than 10 years old. Of this group, more than half are between two and six years old and 4% of them are less than one year old. 16% of these children have spent more than one year of their young lives far away from their parents. Indeed, 3% of them have been left for more than four years. This has an impact on the mental well-being of children: being bullied, being in conflict, depression, being sexual abused, being ill and even suicide is more present in the group of children left behind. They cannot offer them the psychological family balance of their biological parents. Furthermore, they often drop out of school, thus the level of illiteracy and/or under-education has become alarming in the contemporary Romanian society.

In the school of Berbești, teachers are also noticing this phenomenon, around 25-30% of the children are confronted with one or both parents working abroad. The children are well aware of this. In 2013 a project called 'a solidarity story' was conducted in the school. By drawings, children choose to tell about how they could help a boy which parents were working abroad.



6. Social medical analysis

Information concerning medical services are taken from the Casa Județeană de Asigurări de Sănătate Vâlcea: <http://www.casan.ro/casvl/>. In Berbești the following medical services are provided.

Medic de familie

Denumire	Nume doctor	Adresa	Telefon	E-mail	Website
C.M.I. Dr. PIRVANESCU DAN-CONSTANTIN	PIRVANESCU DAN-CONSTANTIN	Berbești	0371355730		
C.M.I. Dr. MATEESCU FLORICA-LUCIA	MATEESCU FLORICA-LUCIA	Berbești	0250869003		

Farmacie

Denumire	Nume doctor	Adresa	Telefon	E-mail	Website
S.C. FARMACIA GEORGE SRL	-	Berbesti, sat Dealu Alunis, bl. A22, sc.B, ap. 1	-		
S.C. FARMACIA FLORINA SRL	-	Berbesti, str. Principala, nr. 3	0250/869336		

In an interview with Dr. Mateescu (April 3 2016) some data were added. In total 5 assistants are working in the doctor cabinets. According to the doctor she has 2.100 patients on the list, of which 200 without insurance. This amount is likely grow if the mine has less employees. Since the emigration is growing, the amount of patients is declining, for example students going to study in another city take another doctor. Earlier data already showed a decline in newborns as a result of the financial crisis 2008-2009. The doctor confirmed this trend, because in 2006 there were 30 pregnant women, in 2016 only 5. In the future she foresees specific diseases for mine workers. In the county Vâlcea there are 12 hospitals.

UNITATI SANITARE CU PATURI / 2016

Nr.c rt.	Denumire furnizor servicii medicale	Localitate	Adresa	Nr.fax/telefon	Reprezentant legal
1	SPITAL JUDETEAN DE URGENTA VALCEA	municipiul Rm.Valcea	Str. Calea lui Traian, nr. 201	fix 0350/405951, fax 0250/746989	Dr. Aleodor Dan Ponoran
2	SPITAL MUNICIPAL DRAGASANI	orasul Dragasani,	Str. Dr.Bagdasar, nr. 2	fix 0250/812201, fax 0250/810161	ING. MARIAN PIRVA
3	SPITAL ORASENESC HOREZU	orasul Horezu,	Str. A.I.Cuza, nr. 4	fix 0250/860620 fax 0250/860231	EC. CONSTANTIN POPESCU
4	SPITAL ORASENESC BREZOI	ORASUL Brezoi	Str. Fabricii, nr. 2	fix 0250/778220/230 fax 0250/778161	DR. VASILE CERBU
5	SPITAL PNEUMOFTIZIOLOGIE MIHAESTI	com. Mihaesti	Str. Principala, nr. 150	fix 0250/768282 fax 0250/768045,	EC. MARIUS CTIN LUMINEANU
6	SPITAL PSIHIATRIE CRONICI DRAGOESTI	com Dragoesti,	Str. Spitalului, nr. 1	fix 0250/762331	DR. EDWARD STANCA
7	SC INCARMED SRL	orasul Calimanesti,	Str. Calea lui Traian nr 734	tel / fax 0250/751854	DR. CONSTANTIN DUMITRESCU
8	SC AMAMED SRL	com Barbatesti		fix 0250/864814, fax 0250/738268	DR. MALVINA GRIGORIE
9	SC CLINICA RAPITEST	Rm.Valcea,	Str.V.Olanescu nr. 11	fix 0250/736363, fax 0250/736363	DR. ELENA FRANTU
10	BALNEOMED CENTER	Rm.Valcea,	Str.Carol I nr 17	telefon /fax: 0350/431697	EC. LOREDANA TIMOFTE
11	SC DOINAMED SRL	com Dragoesti,	Str. Principala, nr.45	fix/mobil 0744395176	DOINA BARBU
12	SC SANMED SRL	Rm.Valcea	Str. Calea lui Traian, nr. 203	fix 0250/741974 fax 0250/719104	DR. ANISOARA ANTONESCU

For Berbești the nearest hospital is Horezu (35 km) and a point of the hospital of Horezu in Sinesti (10 km, 10 beds, chronic diseases). The mine has an ambulance service.

Home care is not provided in Berbești. In total five home care providers are registered in the county of Vâlcea. For Berbești, Horezu is the nearest provider.

LISTA FURNIZORILOR DE SERVICII MEDICALE DE INGRIJIRI LA DOMICILIU IN ANUL 2016

Nr. Crt	FURNIZOR	NR. CONT. R.	REPREZENTANT LEGAL	LOCALITATE	STRADA	NR.	BL.	JUDET	TELEFON	Adresa e-mail
1	ASOCIATIA PRO DEZVOLTARE DAESTI	7	DOBRE ALINA	Daesti, pct lucru Rm.Valcea				VALCEA	0727 / 279018	dobre_alina_val@yahoo.com
2	SC MEDICHOR SRL	8	POPESCU ALINA NARCIZA	HOREZU	C-tin Brancoveanu	3		VALCEA	0250 / 861082	medichor@gmail.com
3	SC LE MEDICIN SRL	9	STANCU RODICA ADRIANA	PERISANI		150		VALCEA	0745 / 635808	adriana_stancu61@yahoo.com
4	SC PUFMED SRL	10	CONSTANTINESCU ADRIANA LORENTINA	BALCESTI	CRAIOVEI	19		VALCEA	0745 / 640862	pufuadi33@yahoo.com
5	SC GINMED SRL	11	RUSU CIPRIAN	RM.VALCEA	B-dul Nicolae Balcescu	34	O 4	VALCEA	0729 / 963796	rusu.ciprian.vl@gmail.com

Nevertheless, there is a big need to develop home care services. An estimation of 1,4% (Caritas theoretical model) of the population needs home care: this means 70-100 persons. This need will only grow considering the ageing of the population and considering the phenomenon of orphaned elderly. The lack of care is felt by the elderly who remain in Romania, often having to take up the parents' responsibilities. Care-giving for these persons is even harder to find than it is for the minors who are left at home by migrating parents. Few women in Romania are willing to offer care-giving services considering the possibility of performing the same job abroad, for a higher wage. Good home care practices in Romania can be found on the following website:

http://www.seniorinet.ro/library/files/catalog_bune_practici_seniorinet.pdf

To conclude, there is a need for a social medical center providing different services such as home care, a service for loaning materials, a dentist.... Together with the medical services social services can be provided such as after school, pre school....





7. Social economical analysis

7.1. Agriculture

Contemporary Romania is to a large extent a rural state. 93.7% of the Romanian territory is rural and hosts 47% of the Romanian citizens. Although 40% of the labor force is employed in activities located in rural areas, this amounts in 2013 to the GDP for only 6.4%.⁵⁰ Romania counts around 3.9 million agricultural holdings, of which around 74% are smaller than 2ha and 18% between 2 and 5ha. Around 70.4% of these farms have an income of less than 2.000 euro a year. The situation in Berbești is confirm this trend. Data for Berbești are based on the agriculture census of 2010.⁵¹ In total, Berbești counts 5434 ha of which 49% or 2678ha can be used for agricultural purposes. Out of this 2678 ha almost 1972ha is effectively used agricultural surface: so 74% of agriculture grounds and 34% of the total Berbești surface. In total there are 1240 agricultural holdings, of which 1217 are conducting agricultural activities. This means an average surface of 1,62ha for each agricultural holding (Vâlcea average is also 1,62).

	<0,1ha	0,1-0,3ha	0,3-0,5ha	0,5-1ha	1-2ha	2-5ha	5-10ha	10-20ha	TOTAL
Subtotal	126	160	100	185	275	309	56	6	1217
% of total	10,4	13,1	8,2	15,2	22,6	25,4	4,6	0,5	100,0

In Berbești almost half of the agriculture holdings are having less than 1ha agricultural ground. In total 2.574 persons are involved in agriculture of which 1.323 men and 1.251 women. With 'Involved', we refer to 'working in agriculture without having a juridical entity: mostly working for their own'.⁵² One man has a juridical entity under the control of town hall. A further distinction can be age groups of persons involved in agriculture.⁵³

	15-24 year	25-34 year	35-44 year	45-54 year	55-64 year	> 65 year	TOTAL
Subtotal	207	283	590	425	405	665	2575
% of total	8,04	10,99	22,91	16,50	15,73	25,83	100,00
Men	115	141	304	247	211	306	1324,00
% of men	8,69	10,65	22,96	18,66	15,94	23,11	100,00
Women	92	142	286	178	194	359	1251
% of women	7,35	11,35	22,86	14,23	15,51	28,70	100,00
% women by age	44,44	50,18	48,47	41,88	47,90	53,98	48,58

This table shows an ageing group of persons involved in agriculture: 1/4 of the agricultural population is more than 65 years old and extra attention needs to be given to women which are more than 65 years old because they represent 14% of the total agriculture population and 54% of the age category 65+. In terms of time used for agriculture activity: 3/4 of the agricultural population is involved for 25% or less of a fulltime equivalent in agriculture. In this comparison there is no significant difference in gender.

TIME	0-25%	25-50%	50-75%	75-100%	100%	TOTAL
Subtotal	1929	518	110	17	1	2575
% of total	74,91	20,12	4,27	0,66	0,04	100,00
Men	984	270	60	10	0	1324
% of men	74,32	20,39	4,53	0,76	0,00	100,00
Women	945	248	50	7	1	1251
% of women	75,54	19,82	4,00	0,56	0,08	100,00
% women by time	48,99	47,88	45,45	41,18	100,00	48,58

In terms of agricultural usage: 1068 farmers have a mixed production of crops and animals, 149 only crops and 23 only animals.

The census of 2010, also gives an idea on how many animals are living in the agricultural holdings.

Cattle	Sheep	Goats	Pigs	Poultry	Horses	Donkeys	Rabbits	Bee families
598	73	84	1.441	15.326	74	4	45	3.252

The production of crops is shown in the table below.

	Number of holdings	Total ha	Average ha per holding
Wheat	463	282,12	0,61
Barley	1	1,00	1,00
Oat	74	29,46	0,40
Corn	816	507,92	0,62
Fodder	223	101,79	0,46
Potatoes	30	2,17	0,07
Apples	13	3,74	0,29
Pears	2	1,30	0,65
Plums	70	15,76	0,23
Peaches	1	0,10	0,10
Grapes	73	4,89	0,07

Based on this data and graphics the conclusion for the agriculture is:

- agricultural holdings are small of scale
- The people involved in agriculture activities are ageing
- There is a small amount of holdings involved in fruit growing

This self-sustaining agriculture does not have to be seen as a threat for sufficient food supply. On the contrary: small scale farms have an important role in providing food to localities and wider families, ensuring local employment, reducing the ecological food print and preserving traditional craftsmanship. The newly created organization RESET can take the opportunity to upgrade the virtues of small scale agriculture through the stimulation of cooperative projects. To develop and implement this aim, some opportunities can be explored:

- Collaboration with existing cooperatives in Berbești such as ALBIAPI COOPERATIVĂ AGRICOLĂ, SOCIETATEA AGRICOLĂ "UNIREA" DEALUL ALUNIȘ and CONSUMCOOP BERBEȘTI SOCIETATE COOPERATIVĂ.⁵⁴
- A collaboration with the Romanian-Belgian fruit growing company in Vâlcea.⁵⁵ The apples grown in Copaceni village in Vâlcea are exported to Belgium. The seedling plants are also brought from Belgium and the fruits are exported back to this country. Once famous for their high productivity, the orchards of Copaceni, Vâlcea were abandoned due to land retrocession's, but now investors have revived them, creating a "fruitful" business. The initiative dates back several years ago, when six investors joined their forces and replanted apple trees in this area. It is the third year of production and the crop is 60-70 tons per hectare. 20 locals are permanently employed, but 70 seasonal workers are working here during crop time. The farm includes a storehouse of 500 tons capacity and a cleaning line.
- The Rural Development Program (RDP) for Romania 2014-2020 focuses mainly on three priority areas: promoting competitiveness and restructuring in Romania's large agricultural sector; environmental protection & climate change; and stimulating economic development, job creation and a better quality of life in Romanian villages, where the situation is frequently well below both EU and average national levels. Under the first of these priorities, '**Competitiveness of the agricultural sector and sustainable forestry**', the RDP will help modernize nearly 3.400 farms and cooperatives, support the development of more than 30.000 small farms, and help more than 9.400 young farmers to start up. Under the priority '**Restoring, preserving and enhancing ecosystems related to agriculture and forestry**', more than 1.3 million ha (over 10%) of agricultural land and more than 800.000 ha (12%) of forests will benefit from payments to support biodiversity and promote environmentally-friendly land management practices. A further 4.7 million ha will receive support in order to prevent land abandonment and soil erosion. Skills in the agricultural sector will be reinforced by some 18.000 training places, under the above two priorities. Under the priority '**Social inclusion and local**

development in rural areas', almost 27.000 jobs will be created in rural areas and the setting up and development of 3.000 non-agricultural businesses will be supported.

- New possibilities are recently created by an amendment to the cooperative law. The bill sets up the legal framework for the establishing, organizing and operation of agro-food cooperatives, regulating the possibility for individual and family enterprises to be members of agricultural cooperatives. The bill also provides for an exemption from the profit tax for the first five years in the life of agricultural cooperatives processing agricultural produce.⁵⁶
- The Government cut the VAT rate on agricultural inputs and services from 20% to 9% starting from August 2016 to stimulate the agricultural sector.⁵⁷

7.2. Mine Berbești

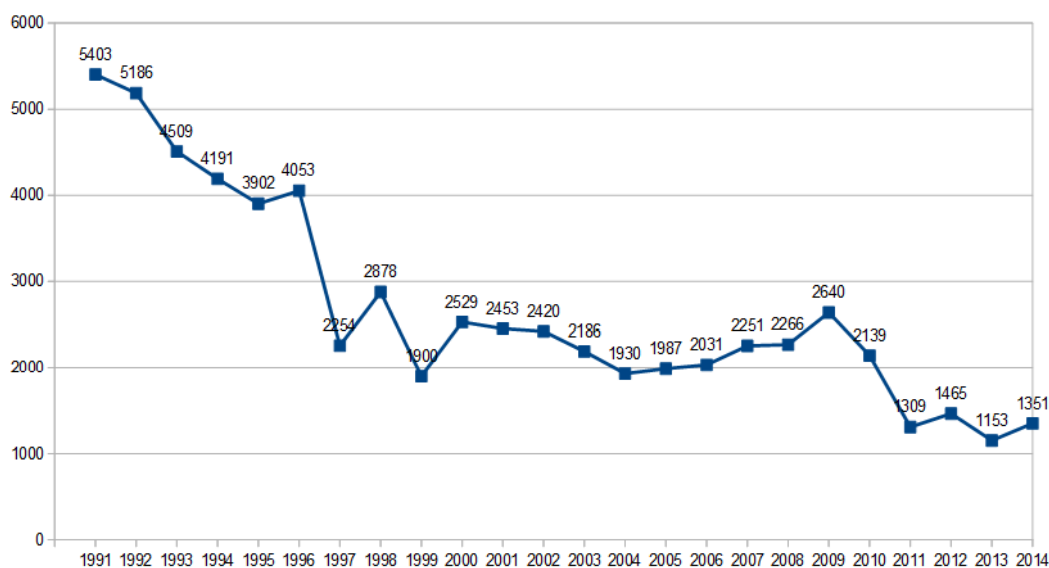
The year 1956 corresponds to the opening of the first coal mines in the mining basin of Oltenia (Berbești mine: 1978). The mine of Berbești underwent a huge transformation in 1996: reorganization and job losses. This can be clearly seen in the decrease of persons with a monthly salary in Berbești. In 1989, the region around the mine counted 12.000 employees and a productivity of 4.000.000 ton a year, in 2015 the amount declined to 1.100 employees and a productivity of 2.000.000 ton a year. Besides the direct job loss in the mine, suppliers also went bankrupt: for example the sewing company for mine uniforms in the center stopped their activity. It is unclear how long the mine will still be operating. Estimations are from two or five till ten years. In May 2016 there were social tensions because of this uncertainty. In order to be prepared, reconversion programs and exchanges of expertise (Belgium, UK) could be initiated be started.



7.3. Companies and employment

The number of employed persons or people with a monthly salary in Berbești is declining since 1991. One major explanation of this trend is the reorganization of the mine and the consequent job loss at suppliers. In the meantime, no alternatives emerged.

Evolution persons with monthly salary, Berbești



The relative low contribution of the county of Vâlcea in terms of turnovers are shown in the next table in which a comparison is made between the rate of contribution of the county of Vâlcea to the general Romanian economy and the role of Berbești in the county of Vâlcea.⁵⁸

	2014 (in lei)	2014 (in euro)	
Turnover Romania	1.152.664.860.851	261.969.286.557	
Turnover County Vâlcea (26/40)	9.297.033.296	2.112.962.113	0,81 % Romania
Turnover Berbești	59.005.189	13.410.270	0,63 % Vâlcea

BUCUREȘTIUL PIERDE TEREN, DAR RĂMÂNE LIDER DETAȘAT

Topul județelor în funcție de cifra de afaceri a companiilor în 2014 și dinamica față de 2008

Județ	Cifra de afaceri a companiilor în 2014 (lei)	Dinamică față de 2008	Număr de companii în 2014	Dinamica numărului de companii vs. 2008	Județ	Cifra de afaceri a companiilor în 2014 (lei)	Dinamică față de 2008	Număr de companii în 2014	Dinamica numărului de companii vs. 2008
Municipal București	433.716.445.798	-37%	138.544	-4.646	Dâmbovița	10.758.947.885	+73%	8.273	-661
Ifov	68.042.678.781	+151%	21.217	7.186	Hunedoara	9.775.271.547	+17%	11.378	-629
Timiș	46.288.425.367	+96%	28.772	-12	Neamț	9.444.080.981	+27%	10.706	-1.302
Constanța	45.764.676.995	+109%	27.739	175	Bistrița-Năsăud	9.371.765.838	+60%	7.641	-610
Argeș	45.374.470.461	+198%	17.362	-559	Vâlcea	9.297.033.296	+42%	10.053	-20
Cluj	42.295.169.766	+57%	35.602	2.440	Marghita	8.542.441.896	+23%	8.549	-1.087
Brayov	37.667.143.606	+80%	23.094	-2.082	Cluj-Măraș	7.712.337.617	+69%	5.295	-368
Prabova	36.294.413.013	+82%	22.107	-216	Braila	7.484.035.577	+11%	7.523	-991
Sibiu	29.868.922.560	+145%	13.736	-1.169	Teleorman	7.266.246.824	+91%	5.703	-135
Bihor	24.932.104.118	+59%	23.791	214	Goș	6.957.712.055	+65%	7.928	235
Mureș	24.794.531.117	+113%	16.034	-748	Ialomița	6.885.434.430	+58%	4.928	-4
Arad	24.415.811.342	+123%	14.303	-1.132	Sălaj	6.581.262.024	+68%	5.948	-308
Doj	20.176.569.138	+85%	17.720	-370	Tulcea	5.964.248.757	+70%	6.148	87
Galați	19.605.038.245	+72%	13.680	-1.310	Vrancea	5.899.563.844	+20%	8.290	143
Iasi	18.228.675.768	+23%	17.743	-2.833	Botoșani	5.286.892.619	+22%	4.791	-556
Bacău	16.099.075.128	+62%	14.282	-717	Vaslui	5.189.856.150	+29%	5.606	-477
Buzău	14.183.761.491	+64%	10.610	-802	Caras-Severin	5.176.034.512	+34%	5.214	-1.109
Alba	13.937.993.024	+110%	9.806	-208	Covasna	5.071.655.838	+21%	4.603	-1.011
Suceava	13.511.725.957	+43%	14.056	527	Giurgiu	4.652.464.737	+5%	5.250	402
Satu Mare	13.218.398.568	+78%	8.928	-821	Mehedinti	2.617.647.742	-13%	3.806	-1.042
Maramureș	12.917.310.642	+49%	11.979	-1.687	TOTAL	1.152.664.860.851	+6%	647.149	-17.758
Cluj	11.396.585.797	+101%	8.411	455					

Different websites can be used to identify companies in Berbești: around 560 companies are registered in Berbești. 38 out of 560 companies published their financial results for 2014. The other 500 are in most cases PFA's or single person companies with a juridical entity. It is not clear how active these PFA's are. It is a common practice in Romania to create a PFA in order to make invoices for some economic activities. For 2014 the 38 'bigger' companies employed 319 persons. We do have to keep in mind that these persons are not automatically living in Berbești and that the

employment of the mine is not counted in this data. In the next table an overview is given of the top ten of companies active in Berbești for 2014.⁵⁹

Name	Domain	Since	Turnover (in lei)	% turnover	Employees	% Employees
Taria 94 SRL (Maxi Market)	Retail stores food, beverages, tobacco	1994	22.310.478	37,8	80	25,0
Olimpic SRL	Retail stores food, beverages, tobacco	1992	10.404.344	17,6	44	13,8
Panitrans	Manufacture of bread, cakes and pastry	1997	9.058.047	15,4	75	23,5
Farmacia Florina SRL	Pharmacy	1992	5.477.192	9,3	18	5,6
Transalbina SRL	Transport	2001	2.421.017	4,1	9	2,8
Regata SRL	Retail stores food, beverages, tobacco	1994	1.210.468	2,0	10	3,1
Silviu Stefan SRL	Retail stores food, beverages, tobacco	2014	927.317	1,6	6	1,9
Fair Play SRL	Transport	1992	890.669	1,5	4	1,2
Nizarom Construct SRL	Plastic materials for construction	2006	653.662	1,1	7	2,2
Derik 98 Impex SRL	Construction	2003	584.984	1,0	7	2,2
Others			5.074.446	8,6	59	18,5

It's very difficult to formulate conclusions concerning the general evolution of the economic activity and to measure the impact of the crisis. As shown in the table below, the ten top companies of Berbești have different evolutions in turnovers. Strong growing companies such as Farmacia Florina, Regata and Taria seem to do better after the crisis. On the other hand, other companies such as Derik98, Fair Play and Transalbina, active in construction and transport, experience a negative growth.

Turnover in lei	2008	2010	% 2008-2010	2014	% 2010-2014	% 2008-2014
Taria	10.453.825	22.585.894	116	22.310.478	-1	113
Olimpic	7.995.523	5.116.838	-36	10.404.344	103	30
Panitrans	5.341.477	10.077.109	89	9.058.047	-10	70
Farmacia Florina	1.806.314	2.317.677	28	5.477.192	136	203
Transalbina	3.735.262	4.824.907	29	2.421.017	-50	-35
Regata	548.498	643.143	17	1.210.468	88	121
Silvia Stefan	1.003.557	1.084.624	8	927.317	-15	-8
Fair Play	1.341.286	834.914	-38	890.669	7	-34
Nizarom	451.382	272.574	-40	653.662	140	45
Derik 98	1.279.865	877.185	-31	584.984	-33	-54
Total Top 10	33.956.989	48.634.865	43	53.938.178	11	59

The growth numbers do not immediately implicate that those companies will hire more employees. A strong growth in turnover does not automatically mean a strong growth in employment: other investments such as in infrastructure and goods need to be taken into account. The exception is Farmacia Florina. A negative growth does have a big impact on the declining of employment.

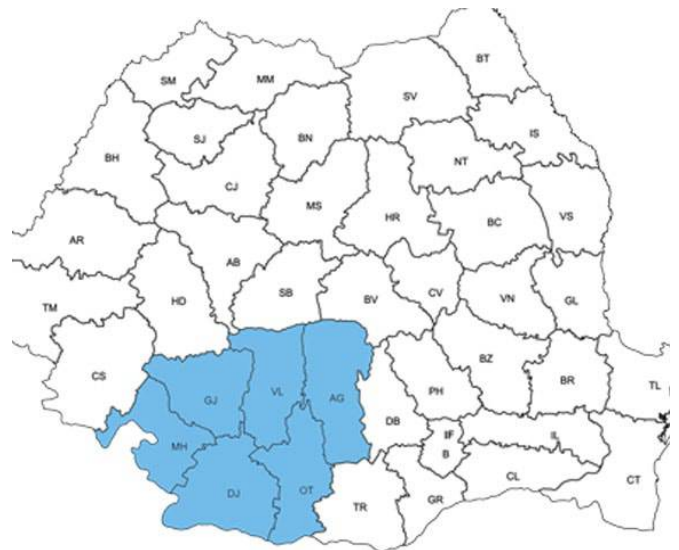
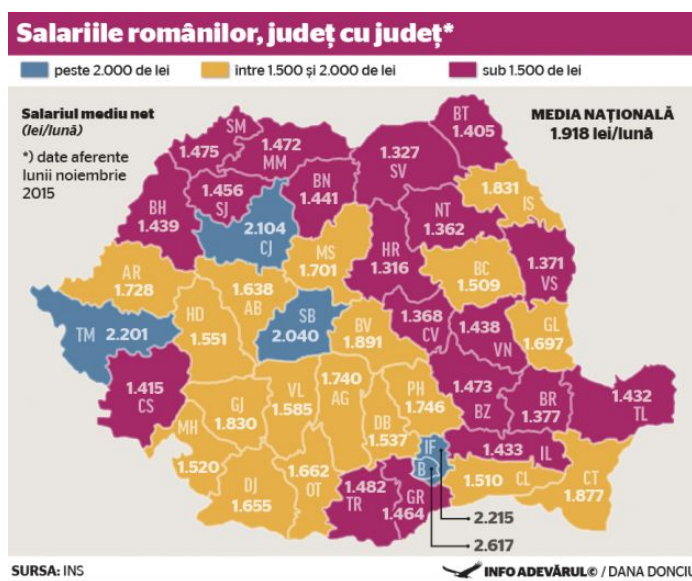
Employees	2008	2010	% 2008-2010	2014	% 2010-2014	% 2008-2014
Taria	61	85	39	80	-6	31
Olimpic	37	21	-43	44	110	19
Panitrans	62	72	16	75	4	21
Farmacia Florina	6	10	67	18	80	200
Transalbina	11	12	9	9	-25	-18
Regata	6	6	0	10	67	67
Silvia Stefan	9	9	0	6	-33	-33
Fair Play	9	4	-56	4	0	-56
Nizarom	7	7	0	7	0	0
Derik 98	19	10	-47	7	-30	-63
Total Top 10	227	236	4	260	10	15

Other trends that can be seen in the economical development of Berbești:

- The reorganization of the mine of Berbești and the loss of jobs in the mid 90's had a direct negative impact on the 'internal' consumption: closing down of small shops, bars and restaurants. Also service providers seem to be affected by these reorganizations.
- The accession of Romania to the EU in 2007 stimulated the creation of new business in the production of industrial goods. Nevertheless, this small initial growth was reverted by the 2008-2009 financial crisis. Some of the companies which did survive the crisis managed to grow over the last years because of the availability of European funds for infrastructure projects (mostly in construction of public infrastructure).

7.4. Poverty and vulnerability

The level of net wages in the second part of 2015 received by employees of Oltenia (county Vâlcea is part of this region) is below the national average of 1.918 lei a month (435 euro). For Vâlcea the average is 1.585 lei (380 euro). Employees in most counties of Oltenia cashing in on average around 1.500 lei (363 euro).⁶⁰



The degree of poverty and vulnerability is difficult to define at the city level of Berbești. Data and indicators need to be analyzed in a combined way. As seen before, the rate of employment is low. On the other hand, unemployment seems to be low (only persons having a social benefit). This report only uses the more general data of the county level to have an indication. The number of registered unemployed persons and the unemployment rate in 2015 is demonstrated in the following table.

Unemployment rate	%	Persons county Vâlcea divided by benefit	%
Romania	4,90	75% of reference social indicator: 2.257	29
South-West Region	7,93	50% of reference social indicator: 798	10
County Mehedinți	8,79	Unpaid: 4.671	61
County Dolj	8,16	Total registered unemployed: 7.726	
County Gorj	7,00		
County Olt	6,39		
County Vâlcea	4,40		

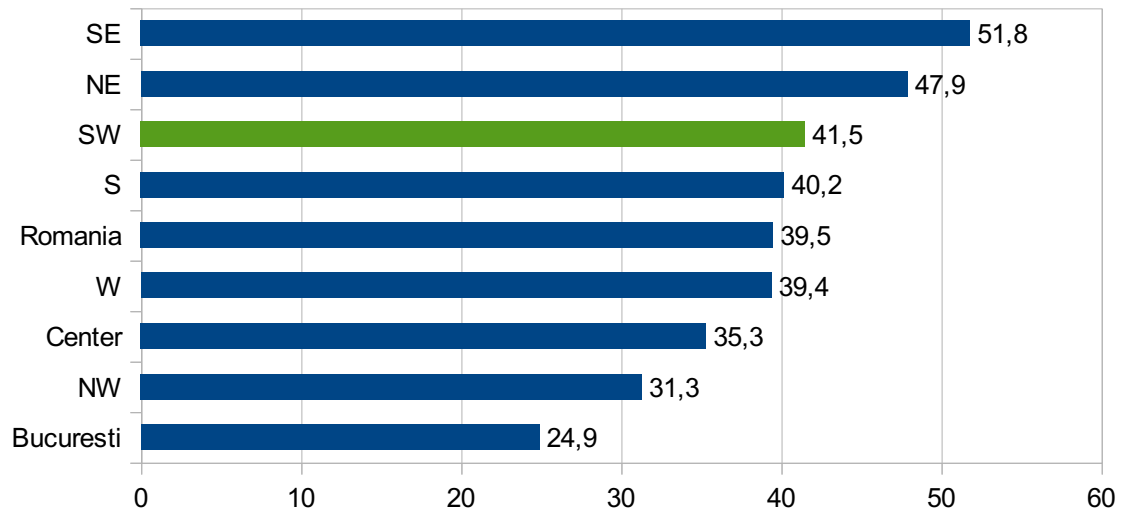
In 2015 in the county of Vâlcea there was 1,46 retired person for 1 employee with a salary. On the country level the county of Vâlcea is at 28th place of 42.⁶¹

Judete	Numarul mediu al pensionarilor de asigurari sociale de stat	Numarul mediu al pensionarilor agricultori	Total pensionari de asigurari sociale de stat + agricultori in 2015	Efectivul salariatilor dec. 2015	Nr. de pensionari la un salariat
Bucuresti	486.019	1.068	487.087	901.641	0,54
Ifov	72.313	3.783	76.096	120.687	0,63
Timis	149.564	7.458	157.022	225.227	0,70
Sibiu	95.407	3.657	99.064	123.089	0,80
Cluj	165.109	13.136	178.245	218.887	0,81
Constanta	142.357	6.868	149.225	177.291	0,84
Arad	101.505	7.889	109.394	128.289	0,85
Brasov	142.108	2.577	144.685	169.596	0,85
Bihor	147.730	10.128	157.858	158.952	0,99
Covasna	44.953	2.976	47.929	47.682	1,01
Bistrita-Nasaud	57.276	5.790	63.066	62.665	1,01
Satu Mare	76.725	8.113	84.838	78.180	1,09
Alba	84.816	5.110	89.926	82.287	1,09
Gorj	76.696	4.716	81.412	73.794	1,10
Tulcea	44.513	4.776	49.289	44.381	1,11
Arges	147.326	9.073	156.399	138.898	1,13
Hunedoara	125.398	3.586	128.984	111.995	1,15
Iasi	147.588	25.643	173.231	150.191	1,15
Mures	134.082	14.443	148.525	128.510	1,16
Maramures	112.181	6.468	118.649	100.675	1,18
Prahova	196.096	9.498	205.594	172.136	1,19
Harghita	73.769	4.742	78.511	65.195	1,20
Galati	125.837	15.824	141.661	111.553	1,27
Braila	79.865	11.307	91.172	66.093	1,38
Salaj	55.948	8.333	64.281	46.368	1,39
Caras-Severin	75.407	2.385	77.792	55.304	1,41
Dolj	152.761	28.107	180.868	124.348	1,45
Valcea	100.554	9.889	110.443	75.635	1,46
Bacau	141.519	15.160	156.679	105.640	1,48
Vrancea	68.842	12.540	81.382	54.479	1,49
Buzau	108.675	19.598	128.273	82.131	1,56
Mehedinti	58.984	7.838	66.822	42.676	1,57
Ialomita	57.113	12.451	69.564	44.004	1,58
Suceava	137.897	19.268	157.165	98.731	1,59
Dambovita	112.041	10.782	122.823	74.984	1,64
Neamt	115.562	15.079	130.641	79.573	1,64
Calarasi	63.257	10.765	74.022	43.395	1,71
Olt	93.406	22.631	116.037	65.823	1,76
Vaslui	81.600	18.966	100.566	52.782	1,91
Botosani	77.958	24.748	102.706	52.258	1,97
Giurgiu	57.808	11.921	69.729	33.812	2,06
Teleorman	94.059	24.537	118.596	54.133	2,19

Ordonarea s-a facut dupa numarul de pensionari la un salariat. *Sursa datelor:* Institutul National de Statistica, calcule proprii.

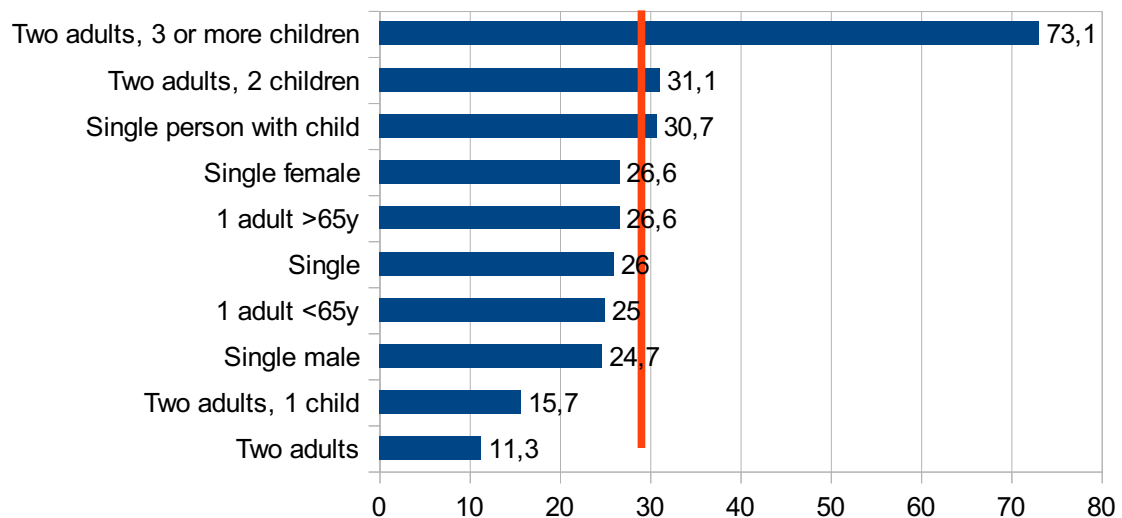
Low employment, relative low salaries, a low amount of social benefits, a low degree of people with a monthly salary and a growing number of retired people is putting a higher pressure on the active population which is at the same time migrating to find a job abroad. The remaining population is highly vulnerable: persons who are at risk of poverty or severely materially deprived or living in households with very low work intensity. At risk-of-poverty are persons with an equalized disposable income below the risk-of-poverty threshold, which is set at 60 % of the national median equalized disposable income (after social transfers). For 2014 the percentages are as follows.⁶²

% at risk of poverty 2014



The degree of persons at risk of poverty in the south west region of Romania is 41,5%. This is a higher risk than the national percentage and this region is at the 5th place out of eight. On the national level, a comparison can be made by household type.⁶³

% at risk of poverty by household type 2014



Specific attention needs to be paid to households with more than two persons and singles with children. This trends are also reflected in data from the Raffaisen bank Berbești. For 2015 the following data can be given:

- Clients: 2551 clients
- Medium deposit: 4.305 lei
- Medium credit: 2.477 lei
- Medium profit per client per month: 28 lei

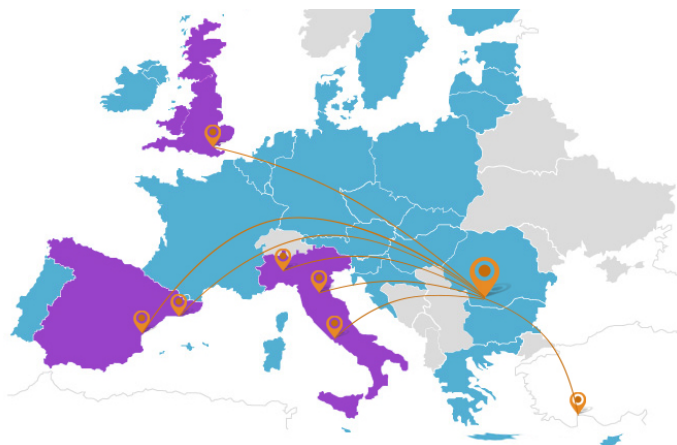
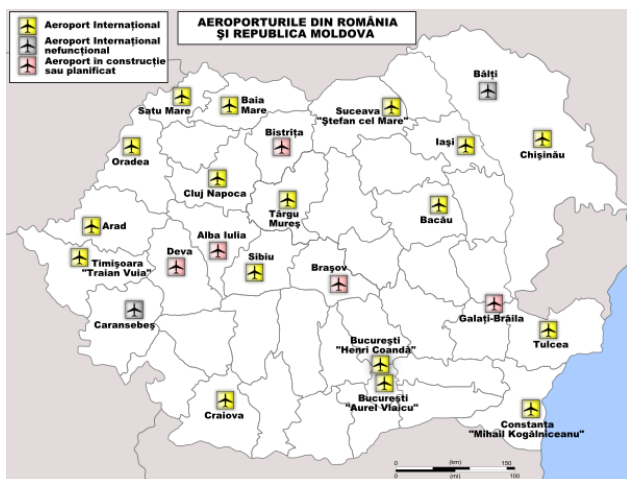
Concerning the profile of clients:

- 6 premium clients: at least 40.000 euro on account or 2.000 euro every month
- 1329 house clients (more than 1 product):
 - Employees with monthly salary: 788 (Berbești: 31%, Region: 36%)
 - Pensioners: 418 (Berbești: 16%, Region: 14%)
 - Students: 123 (Berbești: 5%, Region: 2%)
- 1216 potential clients (1 product)

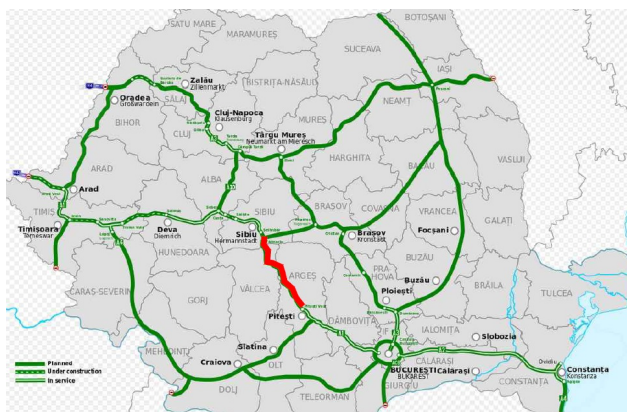
- Persons with credit: 182 (Berbești: 7%, Region: 16%)
- Only deposit: 227 (Berbești: 9%, Region: 11%)
- Only account: 807 (Berbești: 33%, Region: 21%)

7.5. Future infrastructure plans

One of the challenges to attract new investments to Berbești is the improvement of the accessibility. On the regional level (nearby) future projects can offer potential opportunities. The first one is the development of the Craiova airport.



Craiova airport (+/- 50 km from Berbești) will play an important role in the improvement of the accessibility of the South West region of Romania. At this moment flights are operating from Italy, Spain, UK and Turkey to Craiova. A possible broadening of the flight options can create opportunities for Berbești. The second future project is the construction of the highway between Sibiu and Pitesti.



One of the issues in the development of this highway is the position of Râmnicu Vâlcea, because of the connection Sibiu-Râmnicu Vâlcea-Pitești.



8. Governability and civil society

Some studies mention the problems NGO's (working at different levels) are experiencing in developing and implementing civil society actions and organizations, among them⁶⁴:

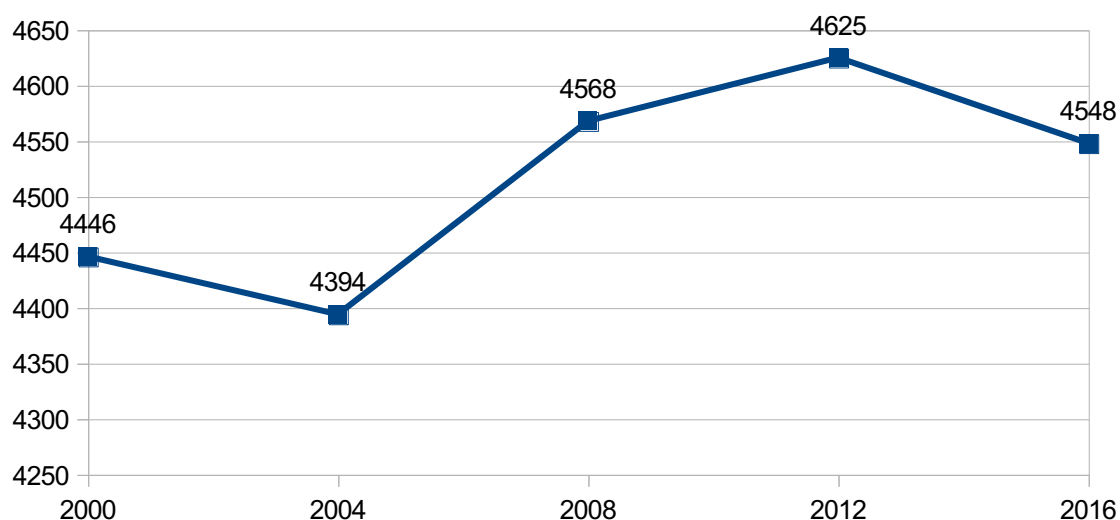
- The problem of finding volunteers while developing an NGO, because of lack of financial resources. Few job opportunities, the necessity to have more than one job and consequently time restrictions, emigration... make it difficult to be involved,
- there is a certain distrust in the work of NGO's because of Romania's history,
- The relationship between NGO's and (local) authorities is not very well defined and the role of NGO's is not clear. The question on how NGO's can be involved in the societal decision making processes remains unanswered.

The situation in Berbești is in this sense comparable to other cities and regions in Romania. Before starting up an NGO, it is good to know the actual status quo.

8.1. Local authority

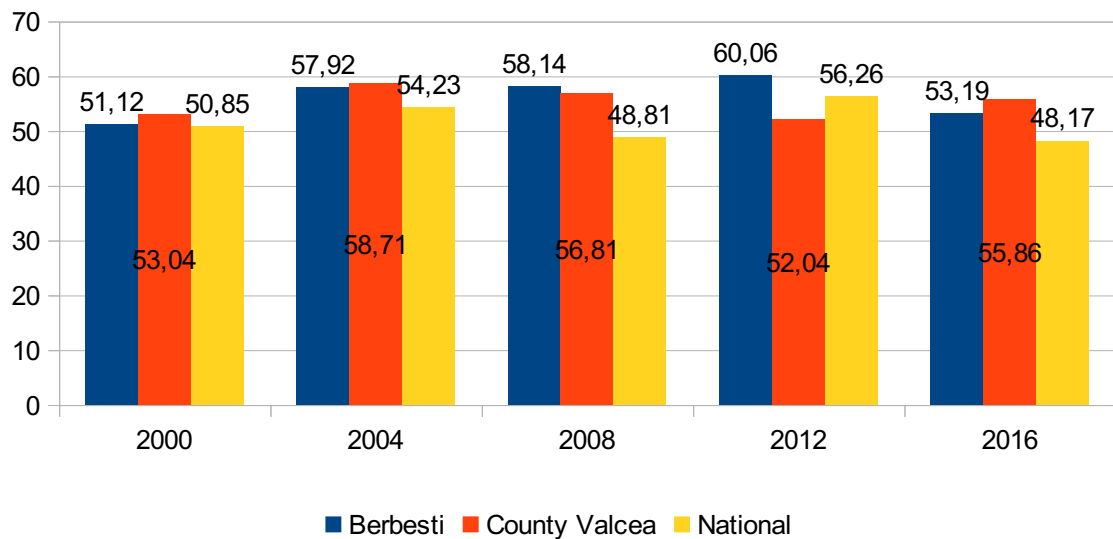
The most important form of political participation within the citizen's reach is the vote. Despite being fundamental, a vote is not an indicator for the subtlety of political participation. That is to say, citizens' presence before ballot boxes is essential, but not at all sufficient seen in the light of a demanding advanced democratic political culture. Voting can be equally seen as a political participation tool, and a means of expressing political opinion. The decision to cast a vote is an intentional act and has an intentional grounding. Of importance for the election system is that the voters find voting of importance to them or see it as a civic duty. Generally, the voting act is not defined as a long-term objective. Despite these reservations, the following graphics and data give an impression on the local political and policy trends. In a first stage local elections are analyzed, afterwards a short comparison is made with national and European elections. One of the first interesting and remarkable observations is the fact that between 2008 and 2016, the amount of registered voters almost stays the same.

Evolution of total registered voters Berbesti 2000-2016



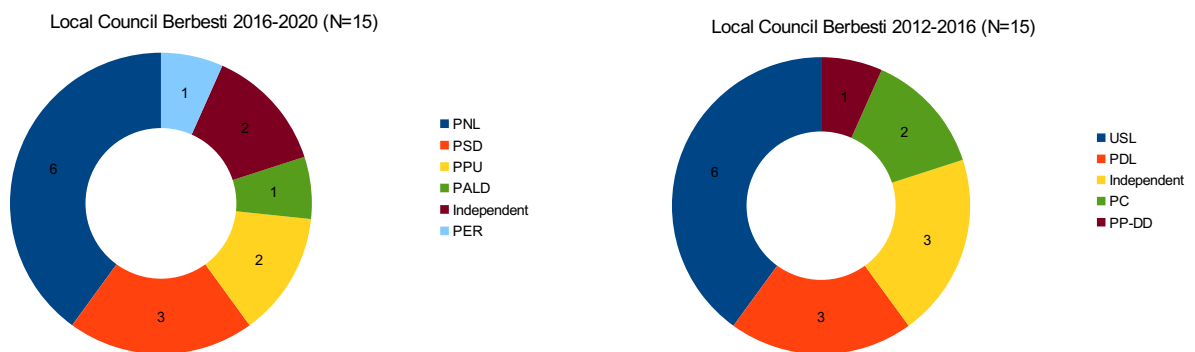
This outcome can be surprising, taken into account the decline of the population in that same period. This again can refer to the fact that people are still registered in Berbești (domicile) but live somewhere else (residence). Partly this can also refer to a higher rate of participation in voting, because there is no obligation to vote.

Evolution participation rate vote for local elections 2000-2016



Between 2000 and 2012 the participation rate was increasing from 51% to 60%. This increasing trend was not continuing during the last local elections of 2016: 53% participated in the elections. Perhaps more important is to compare the rate of participation with other elections at different levels. During the parliamentary elections of 2012 56,26% of voters in Berbești participated, in the first round of the presidential elections 47,65% and in the second 57,15%. These rates are still comparable with the local elections rate of participation. A very much lower participation can be seen during the European parliament elections of 2014: only 34%. A possible explanation can be the mental distance between Europe and Berbești and the fact that these elections are not combined with more regional or local elections.

During the last local elections of June 5 2016: the former mayor, Chelcea Vintila, was reelected with 70%. The local council is composed as follows (with a comparison of former composition).



As mentioned besides political relations and balances, it is important to have an understanding of the presence of civil society organizations.

8.2. Civil society

Overview of associations

In total five associations active in the field of community development could be identified in Berbești.⁶⁵

Name	Date	Number	Adress
ASOCIATIA CLUBUL FEMINA BERBEȘTI	2008	8090/A/2008	Berbești, BLOC A23,SC C,APART 2
Founders BADOIU CAMELIA BALANA DORINA GEORGESCU CONSTANTINA GIOGA VICTORIA GINGU NICOLETA MATEESCU FLORICA LUCIA POPESCU MARIA SILVAS DESPINA	Board of directors BALANA DORINA GEORGESCU CONSTANTINA GINGU NICOLETA SILVAS DESPINA		Scope Improving family life in material, cultural and moral terms and support for family life as a key factor of all social actions at individual, group and community level.

Name	Date	Number	Adress
ASOCIATIA SFANTA VARVARA BERBEȘTI	2009	11773/A/2009	SAT DEALUL ALUNIS NR 276
Founders CHELCEA C-TIN ALEXANDRU PETRE VÂLCEA MARIA	Board of directors ALEXANDRU PETRE VÂLCEA MARIA		Scope Improving living conditions.

Name	Date	Number	Adress
ASOCIATIA SOCIO-CULTURALA "SFANTUL IOAN BOTEZATORUL" BERBEȘTI	2010	13168/A/2010	SAT TG. GANGULESTI NR 303
Founders GEORGESCU CLAUDIU IULIAN GEORGESCU NADIA MADALINA CEBOTARI LILIANA	Board of directors GEORGESCU NADIA MADALINA CEBOTARI LILIANA		Scope Adult education

Name	Date	Number	Adress
ASOCIATIA GRUP DE ACTIUNE LOCALA CERNA-OLTET	2014	19582/A/2014	Berbești, STR PRINCIPALA NR 265
Founders CHELCEA VINTILA IGNATESCU ION DUTA ELENA RAMONA	Board of directors IGNATESCU ION DUTA ELENA RAMONA		Scope Implementing of local development plan. In June 2015 a budget from the European Rural Development Program of 14.683 euro was approved to elaborate the local development plan. ⁶⁶

Name	Date	Number	Adress
ASOCIATIA AJUTAM SA ZAMBEASCA	2015	20913/A/2015	Damteni 3
Founders AVRAM IONUT VALENTIN GIULICA SILVIU CONSTANTIN AVRAM VIOLETA	Board of directors GIULICA SILVIU CONSTANTIN AVRAM VIOLETA		Scope To help and defend the rights of people with a disability and elderly people.

There were no foundations found in Berbești. In and around the mine two trade unions are active, namely:

- SINDICATUL MINIER BERBEȘTI, 1990
- SINDICATUL CARIEREI BERBEȘTI, 2003

Besides formal NGO's, also an informal youth movement is active in Berbești: Grup Local de Tineret Together Romania Berbești.⁶⁷ This group is integrated in the national umbrella organization AGLT (Asociația Grupurilor Locale de Tineret, which has a strong relation with Flanders.



8.3. Local authorities and NGO's partners in developing services

The autonomy of local governments in Romania has increased notably since the fall of the communist regime. A legislative package related to local governments expanded the responsibilities of local councils in finance, property ownership and other areas. Although local governments have received increased responsibilities, local governments lack the capacity or authority to perform their new functions. This can clearly be seen in one of the 2008-2009 anti-crisis measures: namely transferring the financial burden to the local government authorities by creating the social security fund, 30% from the state budget and 70% of local budget amounts, resulted in the widening of the gap between the poorer and richer areas of Romania. Given limited public resources, local governments and service providers, including schools, have increasingly turned to households and civil society organizations for funds. Donor organizations and NGO's have become involved in financing child protection activities and services for the poor and disabled. In education, schools have relied increasingly on parents for support. In many of the local governments, parents have become involved in financing school expenditures, or providing in-kind labor to support schools. In other words: NGO's have become particularly active in social assistance and education, and there is potential for further involvement in collaboration with local authorities. Local governments have an important role to play in working with non-governmental organizations, as well as with other civil society actors such as churches, community organizations, donors and other partners in the service delivery. This role can have a number of dimensions ranging from attracting resources, including donor support and project resources, to the locality, to contracting, monitoring and evaluating services, and referring beneficiaries to the appropriate service providers. The implications of increasing involvement of NGO's in service provision are complex and influence the level, quality and effectiveness of social service provision at the local level in many ways. NGO's have the potential to complement, or substitute public services. Especially in times of severe budget constraints, the presence of NGO's might provide a way for local governments to off-load some of their responsibilities and effectively give rise to a "crowding out" of public services. Greater participation of the population at large in local affairs and in the delivery of social services can contribute to improvements in the quality and responsiveness of services. Through active participation, citizens are able to signal their preferences and shape services to local needs.

8.4. A strong and historical collaboration with Herselt (Belgium)

In 2002 a first group of volunteers and members of the local council went to Berbești in order to develop collaborations projects. One of the first activities was the start of an youth exchange and summer camps. This resulted in Herselt in the creation of HUT (Herselts UitwisselingsTeam). After a while a women movement started.

9. SWOT analysis and matrix

	<p>Opportunities</p> <p>European Funding Engaged and involved people Inter local collaborations (GAL...) Implementing national and international strategies Good practices elsewhere in Romania TON (Romania) ADR (Belgium) Other Belgian-Romanian collaborations in the region: - Costesti – NONA Belgium⁶⁸ - Ladesti and Lapusata⁶⁹ (GLT) – Balen Belgium Tourism connections to other cities National attention for diaspora Progress in infrastructure Brain gain Attention for social economy</p>	<p>Threats</p> <p>Continuation emigration Less jobs at mine and no alternative Regional problems and needs Care drain: left behind children and elderly Brain drain Ageing of population Demand for specific social medical assistance will grow</p>
<p>Strengths</p> <p>Young and educated population BE-RO collaboration since 2002 Existing NGO's and informal groups High level functioning school Steps towards local civil society Creation of GAL Investments in kindergarten and school Flexibility</p>	<p>Erasmus+ Europe for citizens Regional meeting with Belgian Romanian groups from the region Facilitating civil society development</p>	<p>Looking for jobs in the region Investments in apples and grapes. See f.ex. Balen collaboration with Dragasani winery. Involving diaspora</p>
<p>Weaknesses</p> <p>Lack of jobs Infrastructure: accessibility of city Water supply and waste Low availability of resources for social services Volunteering can be developed more Involvement / Engagement: do people feel connected to Berbesti, why stay? Perspective ? Difficulties to obtain (EU) funding</p>	<p>System of social investment Creation of social mix center Connecting to other initiatives Reconversion programs</p>	<p>Developing strategies in setting up collaborative and alternative job opportunities Making connections between economic and social domain</p>

10. The way forward - RESET social investment objectives

The chapters 10-12 are intentionally not very well elaborated. Based on the data provided in the previous chapters, a discussion between stakeholders from Berbești and Herselt need to be conducted in order to come to a community based action. In this stage it has to be clear that investments can not be done in a 1 way direction. RESET will be, taken into account the opportunities, a project leader, partner or facilitator. Once there is a consensus on what can be done, a concrete action plan will be written and implemented.

10.1. RESET Young Potentials: support for children, youngsters and students

Despite some social benefits, there is still a need for developing a support framework for students. RESET can develop this framework. This can be done in collaboration with the school, the local authorities and the board of directors. By doing this a pool of RESET Young Potentials can be formed.

Objective A.1 Identifying and mapping needs: families with financial problems to cover school costs

Objective A.2 Support framework for students

Based on the conclusions of objective A.1 a support framework for students can be designed. For example:

- Scholarships
- Student loans
- Broadening the system of social tickets

The risk can be that those not eligible for support, feel deprived. Transparency in the rules and decisions are necessary.

Objective A.3 Stimulating BE-RO collaborations

Action A.3.1. E-twinning

Action A.3.2. Scoala Altfel

Action A.3.3. AGLT

Action A.3.4. Erasmus+ programs

10.2. RESET Social medical center

Objective B.1. The development of social medical center (a Herselt MIXX look-a-like)

Cabinet doctor

Cabinet dentist

Therapy room

Office for home care

Can be combined with f.ex. a crèche / meetings rooms

10.3. RESET Facilitating agricultural initiatives

Objective C.1. Stimulating and/or initiating collaborations in agriculture

10.4. RESET Reconversion expertise exchanges

Objective D.1. Study travel concerning reconversion

A link can be made towards the Forum Decentralized Collaboration Belgium Romania in the 2nd part of 2017, which will be held in Belgium. A major topic will be reconversion.

11. RESET Structure and planning

Structure

Direction and follow-up

- General assembly – 13 members
- Board of directors – 3 members

Daily work

- Co - Coordinator (RO)
- Co - coordinator (BE)

Collaborators and working groups – AGLT, Women association...

Ambassadors for RESET

- Godmother (f.ex. Kathleen Helsen) and Godfather (Alexandru Stoian, dentist Horezu and member of TON)
- RESET captains (f.ex. Manager mine, Mayor, Vice Mayor, Director bank, Manager apple tree company Copaceni, Madalina Georgescu, Director of school...)

Strategic partners

- Orthodox church <http://map.patriarhia.ro/index.php>
- GAL Cerna-Oltet
- County Vâlcea
- ADR South West
- Other Belgian Romanian collaborations in the region (Ladesti, Costesti)
- Societatea Centrul de Afaceri Flandra – Valcea S.A. (Rm Valcea)⁷⁰
This association was created in collaboration with the Flemish Government in the late 1990's. Today it helps starters and small/middle sized businesses.

Planning 2016

1. July-September 2016

- Final decision on structure of RESET and start up of work
- Final decision on projects / actions / activities

2. October-December 2016

- Development of multi annual working plan 2017-2020
- Meeting to be scheduled

3. 2017

- Start of implementation of working plan 2017-2020

12. RESET Budget Outline

WHAT	POSSIBILITIES
Funding	Europe (Erasmus+, Europe for citizens, Regional and Rural funds) ADR South West (Agentia de Dezvoltare Regionala) GAL Verna-Oltet County Vâlcea
Membership contribution	In a direction of mutual work
Sponsors and donors	
Corporate Partner	
Project account Foundation King Baudouin	For specific projects and time limited, but those who give money receive a fiscal attest. Can be used for example for construction projects.
Crowd funding	
Private funded projects	Raffaisen, Mol, Vodafone...

The points 10-12 need to be elaborated more, once RESET took a fundamental choice for the kind of projects and activities to be developed the coming years. After the meeting at the end of August 2016 this can be developed by the board and collaborators until the end of the year 2016.



- ¹ http://bibliotecivalcene.bjai.ro/www.bibliotecivalcene.ro/biblioteca_detalii82bd.html?b=6
- ² http://www.cdep.ro/proiecte/2003/000/90/2/leg_pl092_03.pdf and <http://www.senat.ro/legis/PDF%5C2003%5C03L290EM.pdf>
- ³ <http://www.recensamantromania.ro/>
- ⁴ Data provided by the City Hall of Berbești, April 1 2016.
- ⁵ Tempo-Online: LOC101B - Locuinte existente la sfarsitul anului pe forme de proprietate, judete si localitati
- ⁶ <http://www.Berbești-Vâlcea.ro/Berbești.html>
- ⁷ Tempo-online: POP201D - Nascuti vii pe judete si localitati, POP206D - Decedati pe judete si localitati
- ⁸ Unofficial data base don <http://orasul.biz/harta-Berbești-vl/>
- ⁹ The numbers of 2002 are based on http://www.edrc.ro/recensamant.jsp?regiune_id=1407&judet_id=1746&localitate_id=1760
- ¹⁰ Tempo-Online: POP107D - POPULATIA DUPA DOMICILIUL la 1 ianuarie pe grupe de varsta, sexe, judete si localitati
- ¹¹ Numbers provided by the Mayor of Berbești, April 1 2016
- ¹² Tempo-Online: FOM104D - Numarul mediu al salariatilor pe judete si localitati
- ¹³ For migration numbers: Tempo-Online: POP304B - Stabiliri de resedinta pe judete si localitati, POP305B - Plecari cu resedinta pe judete si localitati, POP307A - Stabiliri cu domiciliul (inclusiv migratia externa) pe judete si localitati, POP308A - Plecari cu domiciliul (inclusiv migratia externa) pe judete si localitati
- ¹⁴ <http://www.newstatesman.com/politics/2015/02/many-romanian-migrants-phrase-freedom-move-contradictory>
- ¹⁵ <http://www.sdtr.ro/44/Strategie>
- ¹⁶ <http://www.mmuncii.ro/j33/index.php/ro/transparenta/proiecte-in-dezbatere/3654-2014-12-29-proiecthg-incluziunesociala>
- ¹⁷ <http://www.ms.ro/?pag=13>
- ¹⁸ Competitive Cities. Reshaping the economic geography of Romania, 2013, 272 p.
- ¹⁹ Indicele dezvoltari umane locale, 2013.
- ²⁰ COCHECI, Radu-Matei, Individualisation of deprived areas in Romania's South West Region, In: *Journal of Urban and Regional Analysis*, vol. VII, 2, 2015, p. 161 – 176. This article gives a good and comprehensive overview of historical data concerning deprived towns and cities.
- ²¹ ANTONESCU, Raluca-Mirela, Analysis of Regional Disparities in the Development of Human Settlements in Vâlcea County, In: *Acta Universitatis Danubius. Economica*, 2013, Vol 9, No 4, p. 367-376.
- ²² BULEARCA, Marius; POPESCU, Catalin, Gas and coal extractive industry during the socialist industrialization period (1948-1989), In: Annals of the „Constantin Brâncuși” University of Târgu Jiu, Economy Series, Special Issue ECO-TREND 2015 – Performance, Competitiveness, Creativity, 9. 394-398.
- ²³ SAGHIN, Irina, *Perception of the industrial areas conversion in romanian cities - indicator of human settlements sustainability*, 48th ISOCARP Congress 2012, 12 p.
- ²⁴ PEPTENATU, Daniel, e.o., The role of rural settlements occupying a central position in the elaboration of the strategies of territorial management. Case study the Southwestern development region, In: *Revista Română de Geografie Politică*, 2010, Year XII, no. 2, p. 411-427.
- ²⁵ <http://www.util21.ro/invatamant/crese-si-gradinite-din-Vâlcea.htm>
- ²⁶ POP, Luana, ESPN Thematic report on social investment Romania, 2015, p.
- ²⁷ <http://www.romania-insider.com/most-parents-in-romania-take-just-one-year-off-for-parental-leave/165082/>
- ²⁸ <https://arenaVâlceana.ro/2016/03/04/au-inceput-lucrarile-la-noua-gradinita-din-Berbești/>
http://www.romaniatv.net/gradinite-in-apartamente-de-bloc-intr-un-oras-din-judetul-Vâlcea_147105.html
- ²⁹ <http://predabuzescu.ro/istoric/> [consulted 08/04/2016]
- ³⁰ <http://www.insse.ro/cms/> Tempo Online: SCL103D - Populatia scolara pe niveluri de educatie, judete si localitati
- ³¹ <http://admitere.edu.ro/2015/> [consulted 07/04/2016]
- ³² <http://www.admitereliceu.ro/calculati-medie-admitere-liceu>
- ³³ <http://static.bacalaureat.edu.ro/2015/>
- ³⁴ http://www.romaniatv.net/rezultate-bacalaureat-2015-edu-ro-notele-obtinue-de-elevii-de-clasa-a-xii-a-la-bac-2015_230609.html#n en <http://www.edu.ro/index.php/pressrel/23481>
- ³⁵ Word document: UNIVERSITATEA POLITEHNICA BUCURESTI, REZULTATE PRELIMINARE ADMITERE IULIE 2015, FACULTATEA DE ENERGETICA
- ³⁶ <http://www.ulbsibiu.ro/ro/admitere/inginerie/documente/Situatia%20repartizarii%20pe%20sali%20a%20candidatilor%20-%20Inginerie.pdf> in list see nr. 153
- ³⁷ Ibidem
- ³⁸ <http://admitere-ac.ro/files/2015-07/R1/6L---bac---runda-1.pdf>
- ³⁹ http://www.ulbsibiu.ro/ro/admitere/rezultate/documente/socio-umane/Rezultate_SocioUmane_licenta_iulie_2015.pdf
- ⁴⁰ <http://www.edu.ro/index.php/articles/c163>
- ⁴¹ <http://m.zf.ro/eveniment/taxele-in-Invatamantul-privat-ar-urma-sa-scada-daca-si-statul-vine-cu-bani-cum-a-promis-15096253>
- ⁴² http://www.gandul.info/stiri/scoala-noua-cat-de-mult-ne-costa-Invatamantul-de-stat-gratuit-de-ani-de-zile-parintii-crediteaza-educatia-cu-milioane-de-euro-11381167?utm_source=Gandul&utm_medium=Click%2BCitesteSi+200&utm_campaign=CitesteSi%2Bgandul
- ⁴³ http://adevarul.ro/educatie/universitar/cat-mai-costa-viata-student-romania-1_542ade0a0d133766a88dcdf6/index.html
- ⁴⁴ http://www.avocatnet.ro/content/articles/id_40694/Ce-valoare-au-tichetele-de-cresa-incepand-cu-luna-mai-2015.html
- ⁴⁵ <http://fiecarecopilingradinita.ro/> and http://www.avocatnet.ro/content/articles/id_40965/Tichetele-sociale-pentru-gradinita-se-acorda-din-acest-an-Cererile-parintilor-pot-fi-depuse-pana-in-aprilie.html and http://www.vl.edu.ro/images/info_Legea_FCG.pdf
- ⁴⁶ <http://banideliceu.edu.ro/>

-
- 47 <http://www.euro200.edu.ro/>
- 48 <http://www.mediafax.ro/politic/iohannis-a-promulgat-legea-care-dubleaza-alocatiile-de-stat-pentru-copii-de-la-42-la-84-de-lei-14377583>
- 49 An example of financial support can be found on <http://www.edu.ro/index.php/articles/23545>
- 50 <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NV.AGR.TO.TL.ZS/countries>
- 51 <http://rga2010.djsct.ro/>
- 52 <http://rga2010.djsct.ro/inceput.php?cod=79&codj=38> and <http://rga2010.djsct.ro/inceput.php?cod=88&codj=38>
- 53 <http://rga2010.djsct.ro/inceput.php?cod=91&codj=38>
- 54 <http://www.madr.ro/docs/agricultura/structuri-asociative/cj-Vâlcea-legea-145-.pdf>
- 55 <http://www.romaniajournal.ro/romanian-belgian-fruit-growing-investment-in-Vâlcea/>
- 56 <http://www.nineoclock.ro/chamber-passes-amendment-to-cooperative-law/>
- 57 http://www.romania-insider.com/romania-sees-third-vat-rate-cut-last-18-months/?utm_source=Romania+Insider+Daily+distribution+list&utm_campaign=e5535e552b-RI+Newsletter+June+30+2016+28+2016&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_ecc3d6d4cf-e5535e552b-405646237&mc_cid=e5535e552b&mc_cid=bd20430b6b
- 58
- <http://www.infoziare.ro/stire/4391227/Topul+jude%C5%A3elor+%C3%AEn+func%C5%A3ie+de+cifra+de+afaceri+a+comp+aniilor+%C3%AEn+2014+%C5%9Fi+dinamica+fa%C5%A3%C4%83+de+2008>
- 59 <http://www.topfirme.com/judet/Vâlcea/localitate/Berbești/cifra-de-afaceri/>
<http://www.listaфирme.ro/Vâlcea/Berbești/o1.htm>
<http://www.firme.info/Vâlcea/Berbești.html>
- 60 <http://www.voceavalcii.ro/32445-valcenii-cel-mai-mic-salariu-mediu-net-din-oltenia.html>
- 61 <http://www.analizeeconomice.ro/2016/04/harta-raportului-pensionarisalariati-in.html>
- 62 http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/tgm/table.do?sessionId=9EGr6ML4sIm1JQcQ_GXRb2BBjUpm6Zdhba_CeKDzcLsCte0alRkOl-1610507484?tab=table&plugin=1&language=en&pcode=tgs00107
- 63 http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/en/web/products-datasets/-/ILC_LI03
- 64 POP, Luana, Autonomy of Local Government Administration in Romania, 2000.
- Local Democracy Barometer 2014-2015, <http://www.hss.ro/pages/articole-media/item/270-local-democracy-barometer>
 - Raport de cercetare, Analiza calității implicării ONG-urilor locale în procesul de consultare publică, promovarea bunei guvernări și a calității democrației la nivel local, 2015 <http://www.apd.ro/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Raport-de-cercetare.pdf>
 - Study of Volunteering in the European Union Country Report Romania, http://ec.europa.eu/citizenship/pdf/national_report_ro_en.pdf
- 65 <http://www.just.ro/registrul-national-ong/>
- 66
- <https://portal.afir.info/Uploads/Rapoarte%20de%20EVALUARE/Raport+Evaluare+19.1/Raport%20EVALUARE%2019.1+S01+25martie+05iunie+2015.xls>
- 67 <https://www.facebook.com/groups/504902796202031/>
- 68 <http://www.nonamechild.eu/proiecten.htm>
- 69 <https://www.facebook.com/L%C4%83pu%C8%99ii-GLT-ComL%C4%83pu%C8%99ata-JudV%C3%A2lcea-460547960749450/>
- 70 http://www.flandra-valcea.ro/?page_id=5