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Summer Field School [Online] on
MOUNTAIN ECOSYSTEMS AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
Ivano-Frankivsk Region, Ukraine: 19-28 September 2021

DELEGATE PARTICIPANT'S PROFILE

	**Prof. Dr. Gabriel Gorghiu** *Professor* Teacher Training Department *& Director* Centre for Scientific Research and Innovation in Educational Sciences "I.T. Radu" Valahia University of Targoviste Targoviste, Romania Tel.: +40-245-220694 (office) Email: ggorghiu@gmail.com
Highest Education	Ph.D. (Engineering)
Personal Statement	Dear colleagues! Here are several words about me, as a delegate participant for the forthcoming *Summer School on Mountain Ecosystems and Resource Management*. I graduated from the Polytechnic University of Bucharest, Faculty of Engineering and Management of Technological Systems, and Valahia University of Targoviste, Faculty of Sciences and Arts, specialization: Mathematics-Informatics. I have two Master's degrees: in Project Management, and Mathematics-Didactics, both obtained at Valahia University of Targoviste. I am a Professor at the Teacher Training Department, Valahia University of Targoviste, having as an area of interest educational technologies (e-learning, interaction and virtual communication, web-based learning platforms, using ICT for educational purposes). I acted/act as the local coordinator and member of the research teams in various European projects, most of them

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	being oriented on education (European Programs: Socrates Comenius 2.1, LLP, Erasmus+, FP7, Horizon 2020). I am also the Director of the *Centre for Scientific Research and Innovation in Educational Sciences "I.T. Radu"*, within ICSTM (Scientific and Technological Institute of Multidisciplinary Research of Valahia University of Targoviste).
Paper/Presentation Title (Unpublished Research or Review or Field Work)	*An Educational Approach Related to Rewilding in Several Romanian Schools*
Keywords	Science Education; Science Action; Rewilding; Habitat; Responsible Citizens
Abstract (100-300 words)	The major goal of science education is to help students understand science, to be scientifically literate, but at the same time, to bring them closer to science, offering also to them the opportunity to prepare for a STEM career. In this respect, teachers can introduce *science actions* in formal and non-formal educational activities dedicated to science, as a set of activities that integrate a current scientific problem, selected from real life, in a topic proposed by the national curriculum. In the beginning, the proposed problem provides motivational support to students, who become familiar with and learn scientific concepts, but at the same time, the activity determines them to discuss related scientific aspects with their families and friends. During the *science action*, the designed activities help the students to apply scientific ideas in new contexts. In this sense, researchers, scientists, or engineers are involved, interacting directly with students. In the end, realistic challenges await students, who propose solutions, using their acquired knowledge and skills, thus becoming part of the community of responsible citizens, caring for the environment and nature. The paper presents the educational approach of *rewilding*, designed as a *science action* implemented in several Romanian schools in the spring and summer of 2021. Rewilding is a way of ecological restoration that targets to reintroduce extinct animal species back into ecosystems, becoming increasingly

	common around the world. Coming to the educational approach, the *science action on rewilding* aims to prepare students for planning a campaign that must convince the community to reintroduce an animal into its former habitat. Students use their scientific knowledge, but also their investigative skills, weighing all the evidence to support the campaign. The science action on rewilding is designed to integrate different activities, which can be adapted around existing science lessons. The paper presents also conclusions and proposes ways for plaiting formal activities with non-formal ones, to make students aware of environmental problems. Acknowledgment This work is funded through the Project "*CONNECT - Inclusive open schooling through engaging and future-oriented science*", in the frame of the HORIZON 2020 - EU.5.d. Programme - "*Encourage citizens to engage in science through formal and informal science education, and promote the diffusion of science-based activities, namely in science centres and through other appropriate channels*", Topic: "SwafS-01-2018-2019-2020 - *Open schooling and collaboration on science education*", Grant agreement ID: 872814. The CONNECT project's goal *is to create an inclusive, sustainable model that will facilitate the adoption of open schooling by a large number of secondary schools through implementing science-action gamification projects in the core curriculum*.
More Information (weblinks)	Web of Science ResearcherID: U-3349-2019