

ORGANISATION	
OID number	E10174299
PIC number	-
Legal name of the organisation	Kaptárkő Természetvédelmi és Kulturális Egyesület // Kaptárkő Nature Conservation and Cultural Association
Address	Kallómalom utca 32. III./9.
City	Eger
Postal code	3300
Region	Heves
Country	Hungary
Website	<a href="https://www.kaptarko.hu/">https://www.kaptarko.hu/</a>
Facebook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/kaptarko">https://www.facebook.com/kaptarko</a>
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PROFILE	
Type of organisation	Non-governmental organisation/association
Main sector of activity	Offering guided tours
Public body?	No
Non-profit organisation?	Yes
VAT payer?	No
Does the organisation reclaim VAT?	No

## BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE

### **Please briefly present the organisation / the group.**

Our association was created by the shared passion of professionals and young enthusiasts deeply committed to nature conservation and preserving our beautiful landscapes. Since its establishment the scope of our activities has expanded significantly, from organizing educational lectures and courses on various scientific topics to engaging in environmentally conscious mentoring and offering cultural enriching leisure programs.

One of our top priorities is nurturing an eco-friendly mindset. For years, we have been focused on educating young people about the environment. We understand the importance of a healthier and livelier world, so we regularly host forest school programs, educational talks, guided tours, courses and special events. These happen every week or month, and our main goal is to help high school students and older folks better understand nature conservation efforts in Hungary and across the European Union.

Right now, we have around 200 members and volunteers who share our passion. We are especially grateful for our strong partnership with Eszterházy Károly Catholic University. Many students do their required professional internships with us. Plus, we are a host organization that gives students the chance to fulfill their mandatory school community service. We are proud to work with several local secondary schools too, strengthening our community's commitment to environmental education and conservation.

### **What are the activities and experience of the partner organisation in youth work? Please provide information on your organisation's / group's regular youth work activities at local level.**

At the core of our dedication to environmental education lies a diverse range of activities that we enthusiastically organize. These encompass forest school programs, educational camps, captivating tours and interactive social events. While our primary focus revolves around the realms of nature and environmental preservation, our mission transcends these boundaries. We aspire to ignite a sense of voluntary involvement within the younger generation, nurturing their awareness not only of the environment but also on the broader societal context.

We firmly believe that authentic comprehension of nature flourishes not within the confines of a classroom but amidst the vibrant and living natural world. That is why one of our objectives is to acquaint individuals with the marvels of our natural and cultural heritage. This goal materializes through the creation of education trails, the development of tourist routes, the installation of informative signage, the publication of enlightening materials, and the orchestration of lectures, excursions, and educational journeys.

Cultivating an environmentally conscious mindset holds paramount significance for us. We have been ardently engaged in environmental education for numerous years, driven by the pursuit of a healthier and more habitable environment. To this end, we offer forest school programs, informative lectures, expert-guided tours, courses, and workshops. All of these initiatives are steered by educators possessing specialized qualifications.

Beyond our steadfast commitment to nature and environmental protection, our central mission revolves around kindling voluntary engagement in these pivotal causes. We stand resolute in our dedication to educating local communities, with a particular emphasis on the younger generations, about the profound importance of environmental awareness and social responsibility.

As a host organization, we extend opportunities for fulfilling mandatory school community service, which involves obligatory participation in activities linked to environmental and nature conservation. This collaborative venture has enabled us to cultivate fruitful partnerships with numerous local secondary schools. Volunteers encouraged to take part in various facets of our work, encompassing the upkeep of educational trails and hiking paths, the preservation of forest resting areas, the painting of tourist signage, the collection of waste, and active involvement in the execution of our events and programs.

Our collective endeavors are meticulously aimed at engaging, connecting, empowering, and nurturing the active participation of young individuals in civic and democratic life, all while epitomizing the essence of voluntary commitment and solidarity. We wholeheartedly believe that, together, we can leave an indelible mark on both our environment and society.

**Please give information on the key staff/persons involved in this application and on the competences and previous experience that they will bring to the project.**

Norbert Havasi - President - Established Kaptárkő Nature Conservation and Cultural Association when he was just 18 years old. He has remained a passionate and dedicated organizer within the organization ever since. Over the years, he has actively participated in numerous Erasmus+ youth exchanges, serving as both a tour guide and program leader. During these exchanges, he introduced the association's nature and environmental activities, generously shared the knowledge and best practices accumulated by the organization with the youth, and served as a shining example of the significance of volunteering and active social engagement.

Bence Balla - Project Manager - He first came into contact with the association in 2022 during a hiking event organized by the association, then he participated in Erasmus+ youth exchanges in which the association took part as a partner. Since then, he has participated in several Erasmus+ youth exchanges. He is committed to passing on his acquired knowledge and experiences to the youth, his aim is to have greater future impact in the youth field. Thus, in 2023, he has started to deal with application writing, organization, project implementation, facilitation, he also acts as a group leader. In the future, he would like to expand his experience on training courses and other KA1 and KA2 projects. He is also a nature-loving athlete, actively performs outdoor sports and runs competitively.

Mercédesz Németh is a seasoned advocate for youth exchanges, particularly within the Erasmus+ framework. Last year, she participated in two significant Erasmus+ training courses: TCA22SE-049 - Star of Europe in Riga, Latvia, and TCA22SE-077 - Think Global, Act Rural in Mollina and this year she participated in TCA23-YOU-SE-054 - Innovation Jam in Kuusamo, Finland. With her MSc degree in geography, her expertise in nature conservation and connecting youth to the environment is invaluable. Mercédesz's dedication and experience make her a key asset in the youth exchange community, where she continues to inspire and educate young people about the importance of environmental stewardship and our connection to nature.

András Verebélyi - Project Coordinator - He is an experienced, dedicated volunteer deeply committed to Erasmus projects. Over the years, he has excelled in project implementation and guiding applicants. His organizational skills, attention to detail, and leadership are crucial for event coordination, while his mentoring helps students navigate Erasmus applications. András's own Erasmus experiences enhance his guidance, inspiring countless individuals to embrace international education. Awards acknowledge his contributions, but his true reward is witnessing students' growth.

**Would you like to make any comments or add any information to the summary of your organisation's past participation?**

Our association have been partner in more Erasmus projects, in detail:

1. 2020-3-RO01-KA105-095092 - „With one step in the Past, and with the other one in the Future”
2. 2020-3-IS01-KA105-082757 - „Nature and Lens”
3. 2020-1-HR01-KA202-077757 - „Turn off the lights, turn on the stars”
4. 2023-1-SI02-KA152-YOU-000133347 - „Connect to Nature”
5. TCA22SE-077 – “Think global, act RURAL”
6. TCA22SE-049 – “Star of Europe Latvia”
7. 2023-3-CZ01-KA152-YOU-000172100 – "Our Language is Sport"
8. TCA23-YOU-SE-054 - Innovation Jam
9. ECOErasmus: Webinar on eco-friendly and sustainable practices in youth work

Erasmus projects organized by our association, in detail:

1. 2019-2-HU01-KA105-061363 – "Youth Acting for a Greener Environment - Small steps lead to big results /Y-AGE/"
2. 2023-3-HU01-KA152-YOU-000182733 – "Naturrific!"

LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE	
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