



Resettlement and Relocation



The Roșia Montană project proposes mining activities to extract gold and silver from Roșia Montană, a traditional mining community in North-Western Romania.

Up: Recea site built for the residents of Roșia Montană in Alba Iulia

Insert: Houses from Roșia Montană

Resettlement is a sensitive issue - which is why RMGC has worked to comply with Romanian legislation and all international instruments laying down responsibility standards in this field.

In accordance with **IFC Standards¹** for projects including relocation and resettlement activities, **the Action Plan developed by RMGC** takes account of several essential principles:

¹ International Finance Corporation, World Bank Division

- **The area proposed for project development accounts for about 25% of the area of Roșia Montană commune.** The remaining 75% of the commune area - 12 villages and the Protected Area - is available for non-mining economic activities, as part of the sustainable development plans.
- The area initially proposed as a mining area was contracted in order to reduce the impact of the relocation and resettlement process.
- The company began early **consultations with the community** and conducted **studies to assess the social impact** of resettlement and relocation and proposed a plan of measures to reduce this impact.

- **The Resettlement and Relocation Action Plan** is based on a strategy essentially oriented towards making resettlement a voluntary process.
- The resettlement process has been addressed and proposed to the community as a community development project.
- The community receives support throughout the process through the **Permanent Monitoring and Support Program for Relocation and Resettlement** (a program initiated and sponsored by RMGC).



Photo: Public consultations on resettlement options

BENEFITS OF RESETTLEMENT

RMGC's strategy through the Action Plan was to direct the community's options towards resettlement, providing the residents with a series of direct benefits:

- **25% company subsidy** towards the construction price of a house in the resettlement site in Roșia Montană;
- **50% subsidy towards the land needed for the construction of a house** both in the resettlement site in Roșia Montană, and in Alba Iulia, in Recea neighborhood;
- by opting for resettlement, the community has the possibility to preserve its values: social networks (by the possibility to choose their neighbors), cultural identity, traditions and customs.

Photo: New modern houses for Roșia Montană people



SUPPORT FOR THE FAMILIES

Adapting to a new home in a new place is a process which requires time and depends on various factors.

International studies and experience in the relocation/resettlement field show that, more often than not, compensation for the properties alone is not enough for the success of such a process. Monitoring and support for the families to assist them in overcoming whatever difficulties may arise during the process are necessary.

Starting from these recommendations, RMGC established **a specialized Support Program for the Relocation and Resettlement Process** within the Company's Community Relations Department.

OPTION FOR RESETTLEMENT

The construction of a resettlement site is a complex project **the success of which is ensured by permanent consultation and dialogue with all the stakeholders:** the affected community, the host community, local and county authorities, and housing and community experts.

RMGC began an early consultation process with the stakeholders. **The decisions related to the resettlement sites, resettlement neighborhood projects and house designs are all based on consultations with the affected parties.**

Public consultations made clear the two major and divergent desires of the

ADAPTATING TO A NEW COMMUNITY

To help families choosing resettlement, the Company:

- committed under the buy-sell agreement to **ensure a job for at least one member of the family**, during the project construction phase;
- provides **legal and real estate counseling** for the purchase of agricultural land to the families who want to practice agriculture and animal breeding in their new location;
- organizes **vocational training** for people looking for a job in their new location and provides support in finding employment;
- organizes **guidance training** on small savings, investments, bank operations, as well as for the **establishment and development of small enterprises;**
- provides **assistance for formal registrations associated with moving to a new home, including** the electricity provider, police, fiscal administration, communal management, territorial pension houses, school registration.

community: **part of the community wants to remain in the Roșia Montană area** to benefit from the development opportunities offered by the company and the mining project - while another part is **more inclined having left Roșia to look for development opportunities offered in urban areas.**

Pursuing the two different aspirations of the community, the company committed to develop the two resettlement areas: **Recea, in Alba Iulia** and **a resettlement site in Roșia Montană**, including the construction of a new administrative centre of the commune.



Photo: 3D Model. The new resettlement site in Roșia Montană

THE NEW RESETTLEMENT SITE IN ROȘIA MONTANĂ

By developing the new resettlement site in Roșia Montană, the company seeks to establish a first in the region: a model rural community, combining traditional design with modern amenities, to encourage families living in the mining area to remain in Roșia Montană.

As part of the resettlement site in Roșia Montană, the company will develop, in addition to the residential area, a modern civic centre including the mayoralty, the school, the kindergarden, the church, a dispensary and a pharmacy.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE RECEA SITE IN ALBA IULIA

The project at Recea is **one of the first real estate projects in Romania which encompasses the development of the entire infrastructure before construction of actual housing** - water system, gas, electricity and sewage, developed completely underground, to meet European standards.

The option for resettlement at Recea was driven largely by the desire to live in the most developed town in the county (the county capital), in a modern neighborhood. During site construction, individual visits and consultations with the families have been ongoing. These regular visits allowed for modifications in the house designs based on the families' preferences.

At present, **125 families have chosen resettlement at the Recea residential area built by the company in Alba Iulia**. Homes at Recea were completed in June 2009.

*Photos: Local officials and RMGC representatives at the Recea district inauguration ceremony (left)
People already moved in the new Recea houses (right)*





Photo: Clej family

OPTION FOR RELOCATION

The majority of families who chose to relocate in Alba or other counties (**Arad, Timișoara, Cluj, Bihor, Hunedoara**) did so to join family members who had already located in these areas.

HAPPINESS IN A NEW HOME

Doina Simedrea's family has chosen resettlement in Alba Iulia, in Recea neighborhood

"We are excited about our new home... We chose a company-built house in Alba Iulia for several reasons. We've thought about the future of our 12-year old boy - we want to continue in Alba Iulia the education he received in Abrud, while for the future we thought about being closer to the major university centers. We've also thought about my parents who are old and in poor health - we have better possibilities to take care of them in Alba Iulia, we have access to health services, more recreational places and richer cultural activities. Not least, I am a teacher in Zlatna and it is much easier to commute daily from Alba than from Abrud. Especially during winter time, it was a problem for me to go beyond Dealul Mare."

Clej family wanted to move near Arad

Valeriu and Valeria Clej moved to Chișineu Criș, near Arad. With money received for their house from Roșia Montană, they bought an apartment in Arad and two houses in Chișineu Criș - an apartment where the two pensioners live and a big house with a garden for their son. They also managed to buy a car, and save some money in the bank.

"We are very happy with what we have accomplished, with the money we received as compensation", says Valeria Clej. At the beginning, the family found it more difficult to accommodate to the new community. **"But we are 100% satisfied now"**, says Valeria. Their son and daughter-in-law have good jobs, their houses have heat and hot water and are connected to a modern sewage system. Clej family nephews walk a short distance to school.

The family is very proud with the accomplishments of the nephews, who have now the possibility to pursue their dream of playing professional football at Arad football club.

Morar family wanted to move to Alba Iulia

The Morar family live in a beautiful house in the centre of Alba Iulia - a modern house, with big rooms and windows. Cornel Morar says the decision he took together with his wife, to move to Alba Iulia within RMGC relocation project, was taken due to the fact that their daughter would have better opportunities: **"We thought about the future of our daughter; walking tens of kilometers to school, during winter, is hard"**.

Their daughter, Cornelia, is 22 years old, she graduated from the Faculty of Letters at Alba Iulia University and wants to become a teacher.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Get informed:

In order to ensure that you receive clear and transparent information, RMGC invites all those who have an interest in the project to register as a stakeholder – to inform yourselves, to make up your own minds, to discuss aspects related to the project.

You do not have to register as a stakeholder to obtain information, but it does enable us to keep you informed directly of project progress, and upcoming events.

Contact:

Info Center

RMGC, 321A Piață St., Roșia Montană, Alba County, Romania

Phone: (+4) 0258.806.726

Fax: (+4) 0258.806.725

Email: infocenter@rmgc.ro

Website: www.rmgc.ro