



EcoVillage Moldova

2024 Annual Report
The Avânt Association for Rural Development



Director's Welcome

Hello, and thank you for your interest in EcoVillage Moldova and The Avânt Association!

2024 was a big year for us, and we feel like we're back to normal after COVID-19 and the Ukrainian refugee crisis. Of course, we're proud of how we responded to both crises and lived our values by leaning into the needs of our neighbors.

Thank you to everyone who walked with us this year: every participant, every facilitator, every partner. Together, we are stepping into a more sustainable future.

If you see something in these pages that you want to be a part of, don't hesitate to give us a call. We'd love to work together.

Sincerely,

Botnaru Liliana
Executive Director



EcoVillage Moldova is...



a **COMMUNITY** of people, across Moldova and abroad, striving for a sustainable lifestyle



a set of **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS** for personal and community development



a **PLACE** for experimenting and learning eco-practices

Our Vision

is to live in a region full of resilient, mutually-supportive communities where sustainability and eco-practices are mainstream.

Our Mission

is to strengthen communities through developing more trust, collaboration, eco-mindfulness and engagement.

We do it by implementing educational programs, practical workshops, and eco-tourism activities, and by inspiring and supporting rural development initiatives.

EcoVillage Moldova was developed through the involvement and support of many individuals and two NGOs: EcoVisio and AVÂNT.



 Learn more at ecovillage.md

2012 • Began to envision
an eco-community

Our Growth

2014 • Identified a site
in Rîșcova, Criuleni

Organization

In 2017, the EcoVillage community created A.O. Avânt as a formal NGO to structure our work. We have grown from one to nine employees and from less than 30 events in 2017 to 50 in 2024.

Intentional Community

Our community in Rîșcova has grown to include people on the EcoVillage site, others who built homes nearby, and like-minded village residents who were already here.

Trainings

We expanded our expertise and now offer diverse training topics and formats for a wide range of learners.

Initiatives

We started by forming an eco club for the local school. Since then, we've organized cleaning campaigns, planted trees, hosted Ukrainian refugees, and much more.

Garden Transformation

We improved soil quality and increased biodiversity.

Eco-Construction

We slowly built living spaces and a training center out of straw bales and clay, using eco-practices like passive solar design and rainwater collection.



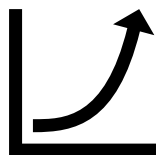
2024 In Review

91

Days with Events

Hosted Organizations

10 în
2020



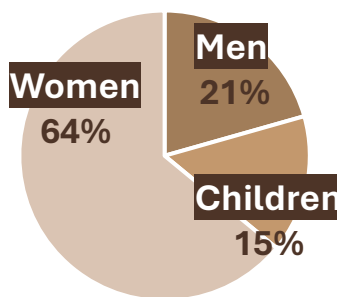
26 în
2024

886

Event Participants

“ [I was impressed by] the kindest people in the world who work here, incredibly delicious food, fresh air, just a wonderful place! Thank you for being there.

– training participant



New Solar Panels, Dining Room, Other Improvements for EcoVisio Training Center

2024 saw significant capacity building for the ETC, made possible by a grant from the nonprofit “Friends of Moldova” and two large donations from the Netherlands: Urgenda Foundation and Basjan Dane.



Energy efficiency was significantly boosted with the installation of a 7kWh photovoltaic system, ensuring business continuity during power outages. Although installed in the middle of the year, the annual cost of electricity dropped by 42%. In addition, the installed photovoltaic system serves as

a model during energy efficiency trainings.



A new dining area became operational in April 2024, capable of seating up to 35 people. The renovation makes it easier to host large groups and doubles as a training space full of natural light.

In addition, accommodation rooms were improved with hand-made clothes racks and tables for guest comfort.



Funding Enables Under-Resourced Groups to Benefit from Trainings

Donations, grants, and reserves created from service delivery allowed AO Avânt to host 17 events for low-budget groups, providing 317 people from rural schools, colleges, and NGOs with educational opportunities at EcoVillage Moldova

2024 Events



Teambuilding with organizations and companies



Study Visits: schools, Centers of Excellence, UTM, NGOs

**Perma-
culture
and
environ-
mentally
friendly
gardening**



“Keep Cool” simulation game



Trainings and seminars 3-7 days



Open Doors Day and practical workshops



2024 Event Highlights

Helvetas Bootcamp for Community Leaders

In 3 days at EcoVillage Moldova, 23 future community leaders discovered how to become ambassadors of change. They learned about creating sustainable community projects, social entrepreneurship, and personal branding. With the support of mentors, some participants developed action plans and launched initiatives in their communities: opening of a youth center, rehabilitating soil, creating initiative groups, etc.

Greening Vocational Schools and Colleges

We are delighted to have created new partnerships with 6 institutions of Technical and Vocational Education, following a training on adopting green practices in schools, supported by the ILO. Since the training, the centers of excellence and vocational schools have started a green transition through composting, creating solar panel demonstration sites, greening of the territory and information sessions related to the green transition.

Thank You to Our People!

AVÂNT Members

Botnaru Liliana
Bugneac Aurica
Cebotari Tatiana
Lozinschi Alexandru
Lozinschi Nina
Negară Nicolae
Rabei Ivan
Sadovnic Ecaterina
Sîrbu Doina
Stanila Natalia
Șvarț-Groger Valeria
Tacu Elena

AVÂNT Staff

Botnaru Claudia
Botnaru Liliana
Bugneac Aurica
Cebotari Eudochia
Cebotari Tatiana
Cebotari Valentina
Chirlicenco Cristina
Isac Gabriela
Sadovnic Ion

+ Our network of
facilitators

2024 Hosted Groups

AGAL „Drumul Vechi
Moldovenesc”
Agenția de Cooperare
Int. a Germaniei GIZ
AO Diversitate
AO EcoVisio
AO Grădina Moldovei
AO Zdorovii Gorod
AO STAN (Ucraina)
Fundația de Binefacere
„Caritas Moldova”
Fundația de caritate
„Bethania”
Fundația Böll
Green City Lab
HELVETAS Swiss
Intercooperation
OIM
PNUD Moldova
SKAT Consulting Ltd
4 școli rurale
Colegii: CEC, CEEE,
Universitatea Tehnică

Donors

Friends of Moldova, Dan Kane Grant
Urgenda Foundation (Holland)
Basjan Dane (Holland)

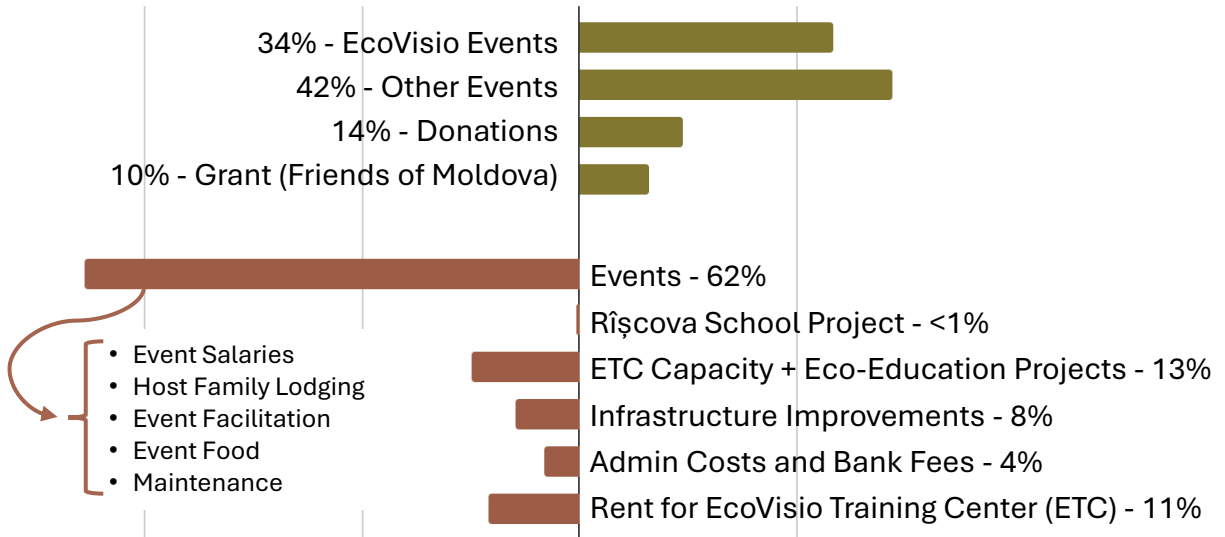
**Thank you to the host families and
producers from Rîșcova for their support!**



2024 Finances

Expenditures: 1,829,534 MDL || Revenue: 1,708,729 MDL

Balance: -120,805 MDL



Will you join our mission?

- 1 Donate** Contact us for details on direct transfers. If you are a Moldovan citizen, consider redirecting your 2% to us.
- 2 Partner** We facilitate trainings, practical workshops, eco-tourism activities, team-building retreats, and more. We're open for collaboration!
- 3 Share** Tell others about us, share our upcoming events on social media, and raise topics of sustainable lifestyle with your friends and family.



ecovillage.md/support



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[EcoVillage Moldova](https://www.facebook.com/EcoVillageMoldova)



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[@ecovillage.moldova](https://www.instagram.com/ecovillage.moldova)



[L.314, Rîșcova, Moldova](#)

