



Annual report
2018



OUTWARD BOUND
ROMANIA™

Aventură și învățare • Kaland és tanulás • Adventure and learning

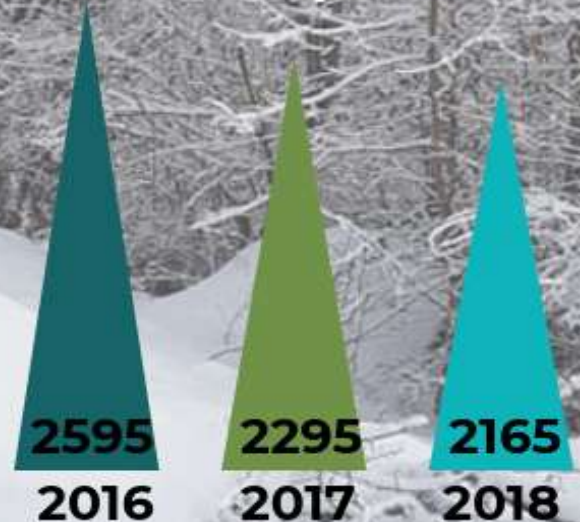
In 2018...

81	PROGRAMS
296,5	PROGRAM DAYS
2165	PARTICIPANTS
8131,5	PARTICIPANTS DAYS

Type of our programs

- 51 School of Experience
- 8 Training
- 8 Other
- 6 International school
- 4 OBP (OB Professional)
- 2 Project
- 2 Event

Participants



Social Impact

89 % learnt that with collaboration they can achieve more

88 % reported feeling able to co-operate with the others and work as a team

80 % of participants will pay more attention to their surroundings and nature

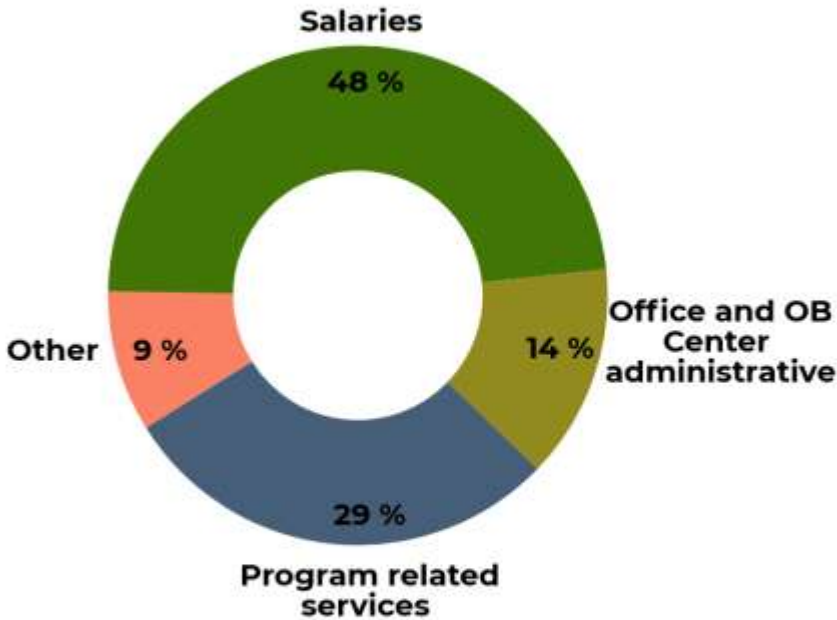
78 % of participants will help others more in the future

77 % of participants now they know they are able to do more.

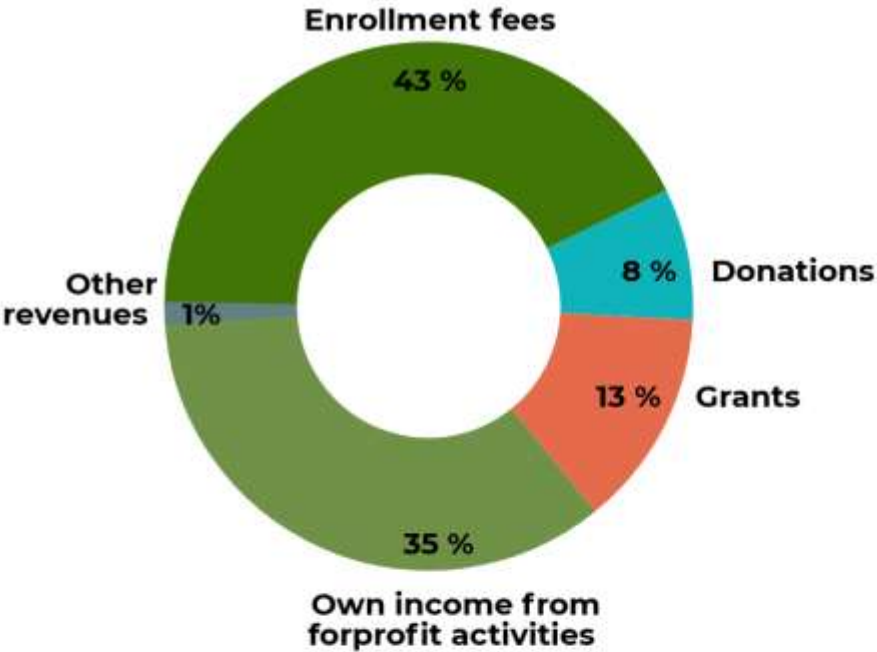
"I should not give up, if I do not succeed, I will not give up, I fight for it, I have to trust myself and than I succeed, there is no such thing as impossible." - 15 years old participant

Financial results

EXPENSES	Amount EUR
Salaries	134.845
Office and OB Center administrative	38.200
Program related services	80.509
Other	25.537
TOTAL	279.091



REVENUES	Amount EUR
Enrollment fees	137.013
Donations	25.685
Grants	42.501
Own income from for-profit activities	111.522
Other revenues	4.115
TOTAL	320.835





Fodor Imre trail running

The aim of this fundraising event was to draw attention to a healthy lifestyle, and with the help of this event we have gained further foundations for building a new ropes course in our youth center.



The Carpathian Adventure race

Within a time limit of 30 hours, teams of four had to take on 48km of hiking, 38km of mountain biking, 4km of rafting and a 50 m abseil. 6 teams took the challenge in Ghiurghiului mountain.



We can do more

90 youngsters participated on the competition included: Jacob leather, climbing wall, archery, group skiing, spider web. The participants was inspired to spend their free time in nature, and together with their friends.



Outward Bound International Board meeting

We are proud that in spring we could host the OBI board meeting which elaborated the strategic vision of the umbrella organisation for the period 2019-2021.



Consecration

Celebrating our 25th anniversary, we unveiled in the Outward Bound International Youth Center from Sovata a memorial pole dedicated to Imre FODOR, initiator and founder of Outward Bound Romania.



Celebration

Opening celebration ceremony with OBI board members, OBR board members, old and new staff who were attached to OBR development.



Swimathon

This fundraising event was about collect funds for a new high-tech ropes course. Our group swam 2250 m in an hour.

Orizont Project Romania

2018 was a year full of growth and development.

We supported **six young women** in their journey towards independence and integration into Romanian society. We are proud to say that each woman has a job, and found a happy, healthy rhythm in their housing groups.

On the administration side, we obtained special recognition to use the apartments as "**Residential centers for development of life skills**" and gave the spaces an upgrade.

In 2017: OBR was accredited as an organisation for social services

In 2018: The apartments were licensed as "Residential centers for development of life skills"; The flats were refreshed with new paint, furniture and appliances; We worked with 6 young women.

Special thanks to Orizont e.V. and their supporters for their devotion to helping young women in Transylvania towards achieving stability, security, and an independent life. Thank you to our collaborative partners: Lidia's Home, Sfîntu Elisabeta's Foundation, Children Agency Târgu Mureş, Dorcas Home, Caritas Organization.

A Look at 2018:

We worked with six young women to provide job search support and professional development, Romanian language learning for our Hungarian speakers, and workshops on everyday life skills.

All of the women are employed and participated in a variety of **professional development** activities. Most of them are working now. The way to being an employed person was challenging for them and it was full of up-and-down experiences.

Plan for 2019:

- Recruit more young women in order to fully realize the given infrastructure (we have the capacity for 8 clients).
- More involvement with cultural, sport, community-based events; Further encourage integration.
- Increasing volunteering (one of the limiting factors is limited time).
- Offering personal development programs where the girls have the possibility to socialize also with young people coming from different backgrounds.



Becoming a freelancer

For Laura Marton, she was never into the 9-to-5 indoorsy existence of sitting still and crunching numbers. Unfortunately, she was working as an auditor. Worse still, she had a talent for it. After years of devoting her vacation time volunteering with a summer outdoor camp in Hungary, she had a realization: "I thought that if I spent all my energy with a profession that I don't even like, and they say that I'm good at it, how good could I be at something I liked?"

She decided to leave her job and pursue outdoor education, what she deems as Life 2.0. She's now four years on as a freelance outdoor educator.

Outward Bound Romania: How did you learn about outdoor education?

I first got [started] with adventure therapy or experiential-based learning by volunteering at a camp in Hungary called Bátor Tábör, which is part of the family of Serious Fun Camps, an association for children with serious diseases. It's where I first saw the method and how it was **very effective and very human**.

That [eventually] led to another training in Hungary, which is how I heard about Outward Bound, because the trainers had actually developed with OB. [I kept my eye out] for a call for the EVS program (Erasmus+ European Voluntary Service) and spent the next nine months at Outward bound Romania as a volunteer.

Why did you decide to pursue this career path?

I've never been good with sitting in place for more than 1.5 hours. I was always drawn to the outdoors, like hiking and sports, and I like to work with people. But I had no clue what the possibilities were and [for years] I had no idea there was a profession called "outdoor trainer."

Why freelance?

I didn't plan to be a freelancer. Ha!

When I quit my job, I thought maybe I could find a part-time job, or a project-based something, but I saw that being a trainer gives you a lot of possibilities to work in different fields and different countries [especially] if you are a freelancer. So far, I've been able to work in Romania, Hungary, The Netherlands, Germany, and Czech Republic.

The year after EVS I was traveling around the world doing trainings and volunteering at different places. That gave me the chance to work with kids, youngsters, adults, disadvantaged people, school kids; [I was working in] different settings and [with a range of] age groups. That variety showed me that I love working with kids and adults, working with companies and with school kids, indoors and outdoors. Being a freelancer gives me freedom and variety, and a lot ways to improve and develop myself.

What does life as a freelance trainer look like?

There's a seasonality to outdoor education, [which is] from May to end of October or early November. In the winter, maybe January or February, too. In the "off-season" it's administration, sorting out jobs, seeking out things for the coming year, and self-education. [These days] my calendar is filling up four to five months out. I really need to plan upfront because I have to prepare and adjust to different countries and programs, [to make] it all fit, which is not easy. Also, I have to take care that I leave free places in my calendar. I've observed that if I miss an opportunity to work with someone for a first time, then I probably miss the whole opportunity to work with that organization [because these can come up last minute, so I need to be able to accommodate them]. I don't yet find it easy to [discover] jobs as a freelancer.



What are some of the challenges of freelancing vs. being full-time?

The biggest thing is that it's not really planable, budget wise. I don't have a [consistent] monthly salary that I can plan on. That makes it hard to let go the idea that I have to work all the time, [the feeling that] if I don't work, I don't get money.

If I'm spending time making reports or training myself or reading books for professional purpose, those periods are not paid. So I'm working way more than I get paid.

For the first years I took every single program and I got kinda emotionally, physically and mentally tired after that period. It's very important as a freelancer to take care of yourself because no one else will.

What's next for you?

One of my friends said, "You can measure yourself as a freelancer based on the programs you have turned down." Meaning that if you are able to say "no" to a program, it means you are no longer doing it for the must--for the, "I have to earn money"--you are doing it for your own development.

For this year, my goal is to expand the organizations that I work with. I would like to work less, in the sense that, last year,

What advice do you have for other trainers who are considering becoming a freelancer?

1) Most important is to be flexible: [Things come up, like] my work is cancelled in the last minute, or I get another job last minute, or my teammates are changing. I have to work with many kinds of people in many settings. It is a key competence.

2) Being able to develop yourself, you need to adapt to different surroundings, people, methods, tools. It's partly adaptability but also being able to develop yourself in all aspects that you need.

3) Openness and curiosity.

Any parting words?

This is a profession that you can do well if you love what you do and you love who you are working with!

THANK YOU!

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MAROS MEGYEI
TANÁCS

Our Board of Directors

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