Creanga Land Park Opens in Tirgu Neamt, Romania

Tourism in Tirgu Neamt will get a boost, thanks to the opening of Creanga Land Park, which celebrates the life and works of Romania's great storyteller, Ion Creanga. Formerly an empty, desolate yard in front of the city's history museum, the area was transformed into a first-rate park by the Neamteanca Craftsman Association with support from USAID and the local community. Now local residents and tourists can visit the park to learn about the life and works of Ion Creanga through statues, concerts, readings and theater productions. The park also now offers an ideal setting for local vendors to sell arts and crafts. Participants at the dedication of the park spanned generations and included including students, officials, local residents and tourists. "This is just the beginning of what we—NGOs, local administration, and local economic actors—can and will do together for our community," said Tincuta Ciubotariu, president of the Neamteanca Craftsman Association.



Photo: Adrian Pieptu

Before

The grounds of the Tirgu Neamt History Museum were unused and desolate. USAID collaborated with the community to improve the space.

After

The Creanga Land Park now offers local residents and visitors a space to organize community cultural events and learn about Romanian storyteller lon Creanga. The park dedication, attended by the mayor and other dignitaries, included a concert by children of disadvantaged families and regional food and drink. Each attendee was also given "a bag with two coins"—a reference to one of lon Creanga's most famous stories.



Photo: Radu Florea



