**Search for Twinning**

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| Municipality: | Territorial Administrative Unit Calafat Municipality |
| Location and geographical characteristics: | Calafat Municipality appeared and developed in a picturesque geographical area being surrounded by a silent but firmly witness – the Danube. It is situated in the South-West part of the country on the left bank of the Danube and it is the second most important city in the country of Dolj, belonging as well to its administrative structure. Being located în Ciuperceni Lowland, a subunit of the Bailesti Lowland, the city is situated 87 km far from Craiova and 309 km far from Bucharest. The town borders in the North - East to Maglavit village, in the South - East to Poiana Mare village, in the South to Ciupercenii Noi district and its neighbour to the North and West is the Danube which is also the border to Bulgaria. The town has am area of 138 km.  The relief is specific to the lowland area with altitudes below 200m. The climate is temperate continental with Submediterranean influences, the average annual temperature being 11. The climate is generality characterized by very hot summers with less abundant precipitations in the form of rain and mild winters with rare blizzards and frequent intervals of heating due to warm Mediterranean currents. |
| Population: | The city has a population of about 17.473 inhabitants . |
| Significant characteristics of the municipality: | • existence of an attractive economic potential for small and medium enterprises, given the facility of road and rail;  • there is potential for attractive services related development needs of those in transit;  • the possibility of attracting population of villages belonging without real prospects of development and even survival, to the city;  • high agricultural potential, with a large area of arable land, allowing the cultivation of cereals, pulses, industrial production process utilized up both large and small industry and even in the production of thermal energy generation system;  • Availability of qualified human resources;  • The positive public utility services sector;  • trained and qualified workforce at reasonable costs. |
| Principal economic activities in the municipality: | The agricultural sector - the main crops  Calafat Municipality has a high agricultural potential, with a large area of ​​arable land, allowing the cultivation of cereals, pulses, industrial production process utilized up both large and small industry and even in the production of thermal energy co-generation system. Development of rural economy and increasing productivity in the agricultural sector is one of the main objectives of the municipality.  Surface exploitation of vineyards, orchards and tree nursery has also remained steady, reaching 609 respectively 363 hectares processed.  Predominantly cultivated area is represented by cereals, wheat and rye which were grown on large tracts of over 3,000 hectares in 2001-2002, according to data provided by INS Tempo. Areas planted with oilseed crops (sunflower crop) decreased from 1951 hectares to 1812 hectares in the year 2001, 2003, due to climatic conditions. Areas planted with vegetables and potatoes have not experienced in recent years a very high level of service.  The livestock sector - farming  The livestock sector is the second branch in importance in the agricultural region, animal husbandry representing a main occupation of the population in localities of GAL "Calafat". Residents are breeders of cattle, swine, sheep, poultry and beehives.  Industry - Industrial activities in Calafat municipality are focused on traditional sectors, such as construction vehicles, construction and construction materials, textile units, food and agro-food, starch and glucose factory, metal. An important measure taken by local authorities in terms of stimulating local businesses is the fact that from 1 September 2013 Calafat City Hall set up the concept of zero local taxes for investors. The concept applies to any company that invests at least 20,000 euros in the municipality.  Trade, catering and services - The services sector in the municipality is represented in particular by social security and safety, health and social assistance, education. Today more and more businesses operating in the communications, financial intermediation and insurance, transport or storage. A special feature of the area is given by the Danube port for goods and passenger services associated with this structure, which is in fact an opportunity and at the same time require the development of the service sector. Trade is underrepresented in the area, although it with the link created by building the Calafat-Vidin bridge has the opportunity to grow while the aims and needs of the real benefits may entail.  Gastronomy and wine Oltenia area are known for specific cuisine. Oltenian cuisine specialties include chicken cooked well, leeks, sorrel and, not least, pork and fish. Sometimes prepared and venison. All soups are characteristic Oltenia soured with sauerkraut juice and used many herbs like parsley or dill . Oltenia is mandatory food seasoned with pepper and radishes. Here prepare homemade sausage, beef or pork with garlic, pepper and salt. Oltenia traditional dishes are chicken in white sauce with polenta, stuffed tomatoes, stew, pork offal, leek soup and stew, sausage, small spiced, stuffed cabbage, fish brine, olive stew, boiled tongue. Like drink before a meal, traditionally consumed a glass of brandy and meals accompanied by wines produced in the area. Vineyards in Oltenia are an important resource for tourism development. Among the most representative vineyards, and many are in the county Dolj: Sadova, Dăbuleni, Bechet, comprising three positioned along the Danube: Segarcea, Banu Mărăcine, Brădeşti. |
| Educational facilities: | Education and training are essential for small communities, but in terms of school infrastructure apparent discrepancies. Regarding the internet and the presence of hardware and software systems in educational institutions in the city, there is an internet connection and also 83 new spaces in which children can learn skills to use a computer and the Internet. Training establishments in the city of Calafat are represented as follows: 2 primary and secondary schools, two high schools, a post secondary school, and no unit that addresses preschoolers and 6 kindergartens. All existing schools in Calafat are connected to the water and sewage, except those from neighbouring villages. Schools are renovated (including laboratories for various specialties), implemented an adequate system of student transportation to / from school. School units operating with its own solid fuel central heating or electricity - Electric infrared panels. In the villages Basarabi and Golenti , there are no longer schools, only kindergartens, and the students being brought to school by bus in Calafat. In these villages there are also Public Libraries which have an important collection of books. There are also numerous school libraries. The education system was serviced by 235 teachers who were active in local schools. Teaching standards for teachers is as follows: 26 of them working in pre-school, 95 teachers work in primary and secondary education and 114 of them in high school and vocational school . |
| Leisure facilities and activities: | The Earth offers different landscapes: some of them are colourful, with perfectly joined elements some other are monotonous, yet pleasant sights. However, each landscape impresses us by the simple or complex beauty, which sometimes leaves us speechless. When arriving in Calafat, you shouldn’t leave before having met the Danube. In the middle of a hot summer day, the Danube offers a fresh breeze and sprinkles sand in your way. And if the meeting is at sunset, a colourful bouquet will creep into your soul and you will feel its scent for a long time. A nightingale lost among wilows, will sometimes create a special soundtrack for your bringing drops of harmony into your soul. The rhythmic vibes of water by rowing boats move your gaze for a moment to the delayed fi sherman’s boat on his way home. If there is spring when you arrive in Calafat, the city will welcome you with green lawns, with old chestnut trees alleys, with the scent of acacia blossom or maybe with smiling widespread poppy fields. And if you get in Calafat by autumn, take your time to look for the oak forests, to clear your eyes with the symphony of colours and to stroll among the brown leaves scattered over the paths.  The protected area Calafat - Ciuperceni - Danube includes rivers and lakes, swamps, natural grasslands and steppe and arable crops, deciduous forests spread on 35% of the territory, transition forests, vineyards and orchards. Here it can be found 39 species of birds and 6 species endangered. The main threat to this area is the propensity to flood and cover with water at high tide stronger territory of the Danube. At the same time, protected species here are threatened by fishing and poaching practice. |
| Cultural events and facilities: | The Culture House of Calafat Municipality is a public institution with legal personality and is under the authority of the Local Council.  Facilities:  -organizing and conduct cultural and artistic activities and continuing education;    - The preservation and transmission of moral values, artistic and technical aspects of the local community, national and world heritage;  - Organizing or supporting amateur artistic groups, competitions and festivals, including participation in cultural events bands long distance, national and international;  - Organizing or assisting the documentation of temporary exhibitions, preparation of monographs and works of civic education and public information;    - Dissemination of films and documentaries;  - Organizing scientific and technical circles, folk and plastic art;    - Organizing and conducting continuous training courses |
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| Fields of Twinning Cooperation you prefer: | agriculture, agro-tourism, sport and education, socio-cultural , etc |
| Preferred countries you are looking partner town in: | European Countries |
| Twinnings already established in your municipality: | The hospitality and honesty of the inhabitants and municipality led to a flourishing and twinning collaboration with several European cities. In 2011 the twinning agreement with the italian town Almenno San Bartolomeo, leading to collaboration in fields of civil society, culture and education. Calafat adjoining villages cooperate with the Bulgarian towns, Kosova and Antimovo, with the Serbian villages Tarnaica and Ostreli, having common economic and social development programs. |
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