

# ROMACT Overview

 Snapshot February 2021

ROMACT is a Joint Programme of the European Commission and the Council of Europe.

The ROMACT Methodology consists of 4 steps, implemented over 18 - 22 months, as described in the [ROMACT Handbook](#)

## 141\* in BULGARIA & ROMANIA

ROMACT Municipalities (October 2013 - February 2021)

In addition to Bulgaria and Romania, ROMACT was implemented in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy and in the Slovak Republic between 2013 and 2017



### STEP 1 - Becoming Committed

**125** /136

Municipalities committed to implementing the ROMACT Programme

**120** /136

Municipalities appointed a Coordinator for the ROMACT Programme

**74** /136

Municipalities created a Municipal Taskforce for Roma inclusion

**115** /136

Community Action Groups (CAG) established



### STEP 2- Agreeing on Needs and Plans

**120** /136

Local Capacity Assessment done

**120** /136

Municipalities where Community needs were assessed

**107** /136

Municipalities where community priorities were listed in preparation for the Joint Action Plans



### STEP 3 - Translating the Community Priorities List into concrete measures and projects

**92** /136

have Joint Action Plans elaborated by the Community in cooperation with the Local Authorities

**69** /136

Joint Action Plans adopted by Local Councils

**27** /136

Joint Action Plans included in the mainstream Local Development Strategies



### STEP 4 - Funding, implementing and monitoring of the process

**122** /136

Municipalities where Local Authorities were involved in ROMACT capacity building activities

**129** /136

Municipalities where screening of funding was conducted with the help of ROMACT experts

**88** /136

Municipalities where project proposals were submitted for funding

**95** /136

Municipalities are implementing measures as a result of ROMACT

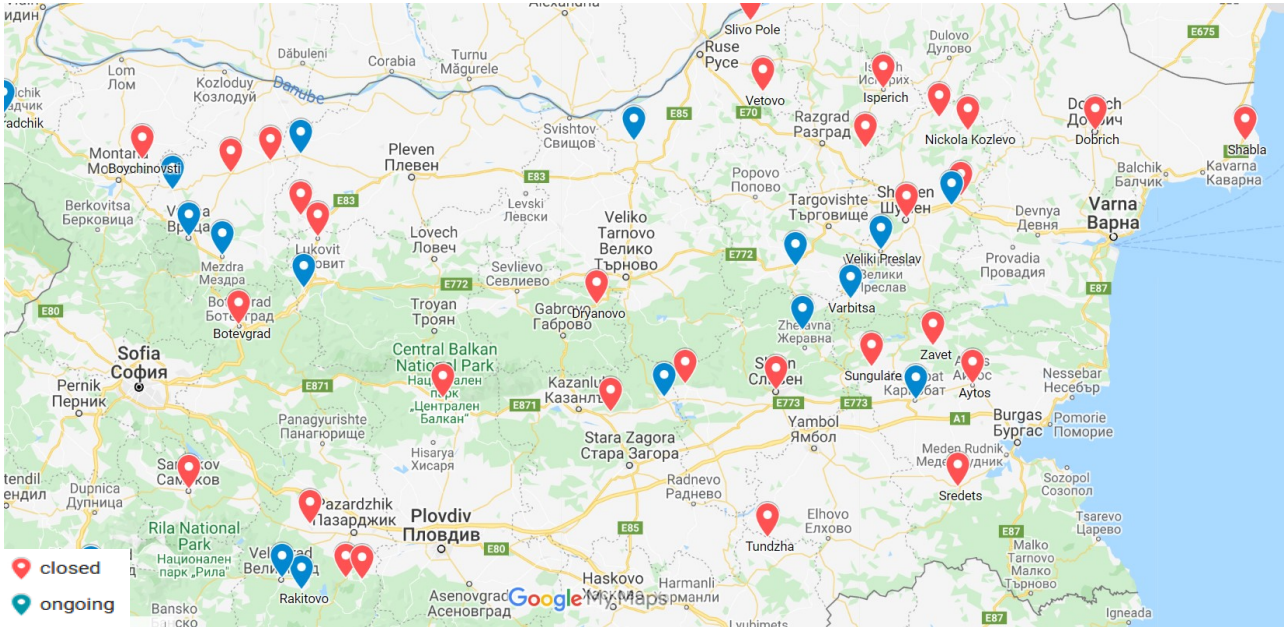
\* Total figures comprise ongoing, closed and (5) excluded municipalities.

35 municipalities started the ROMACT process between March 2020 and February 2021

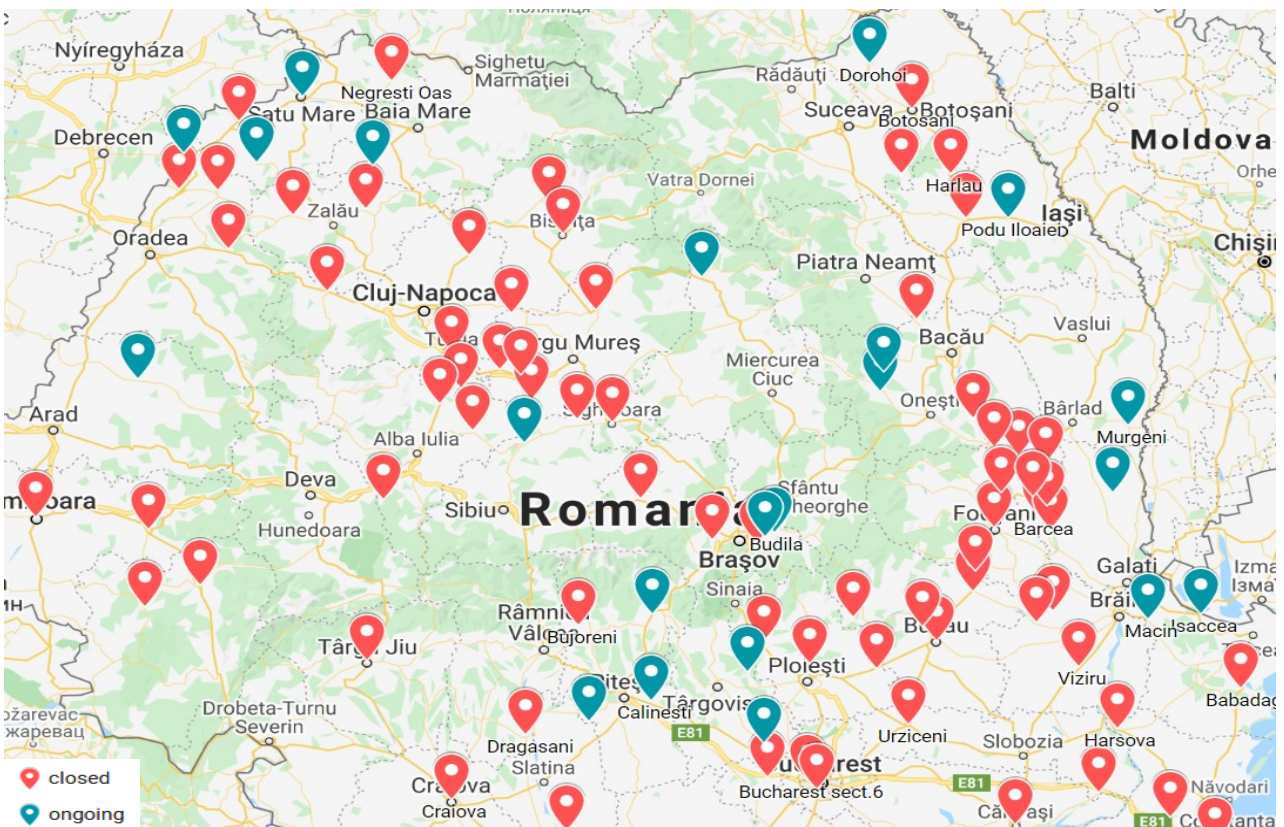
# ROMACT in Bulgaria



Snapshot February 2021

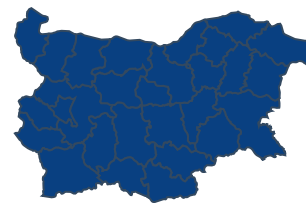


# ROMACT in Romania



# ROMACT in Bulgaria

BULGARIA



Snapshot February 2021

**46**

Municipalities

**33**

Municipalities  
Process closed

**13**

Municipalities  
Process ongoing

## Projects supported by ROMACT



**25,000 €**

invested by ROMACT per municipality per year



**15,410,728€**

generated through  
45 projects

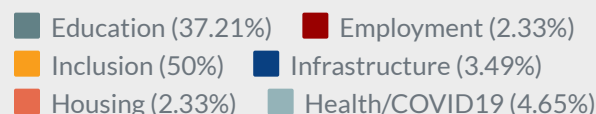
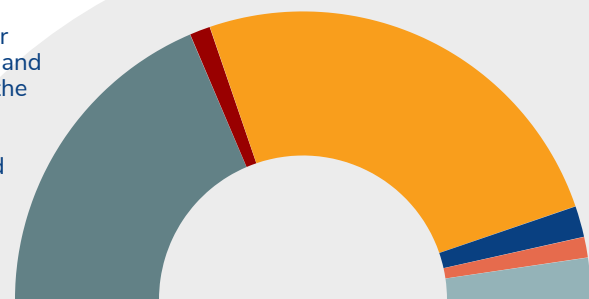


**1,220,770 €**

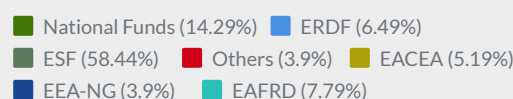
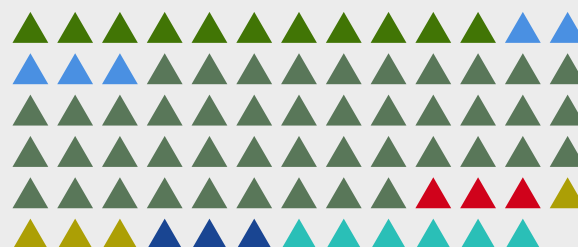
worth of projects currently  
under evaluation

**86**

applications for funding prepared and submitted with the assistance of ROMACT facilitators and experts



### Distribution by field



Funding sources

## EXAMPLES

### Ispерich

#### Empowering women from vulnerable communities

Contribution to the socio-economic integration of women from vulnerable communities by applying Mothers Centre model in 4 Ispерich settlements

**102,463 €**

Funded under Local Development Strategy of Ispерich under Community-Led Local Development (CLLD) of Rural Development Programme, Operational Programme Human Resources Development (OPHRD)



#### Beneficiaries

100 women from 4 Roma settlements

### Krivodol

#### Krivodol & Borovan - Partners to care for a better life

Improvement of the quality of life and opportunities for social inclusion of people with disabilities and adults through ensuring services in the home environment

**88,821 €**

Funded under OPHRD

#### Beneficiaries

63 people with disabilities & lonely elderly people



# ROMACT in Bulgaria

BULGARIA



Snapshot February 2021

**Examples of activities from the Joint Action Plans / Strategies implemented**

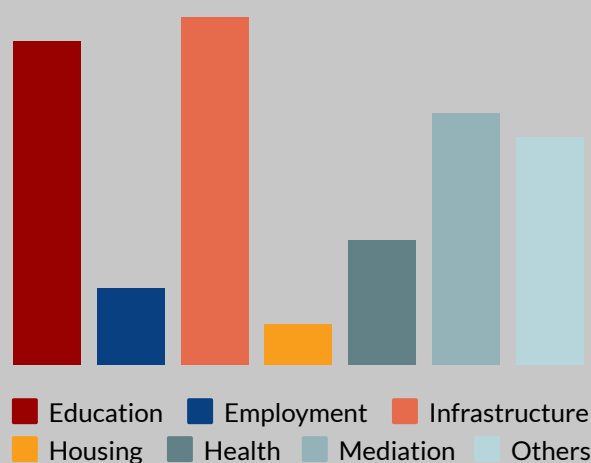


## 200

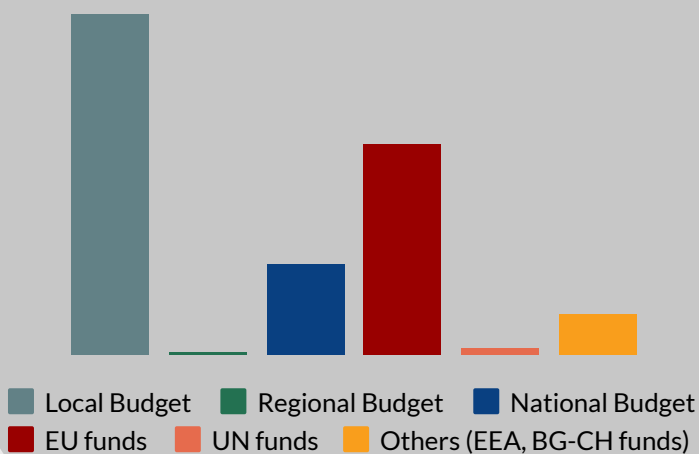
different interventions, measures and activities funded mainly through local, regional and national budgets



Distribution by field



Distribution by sources of funding %



# ROMACT in Bulgaria

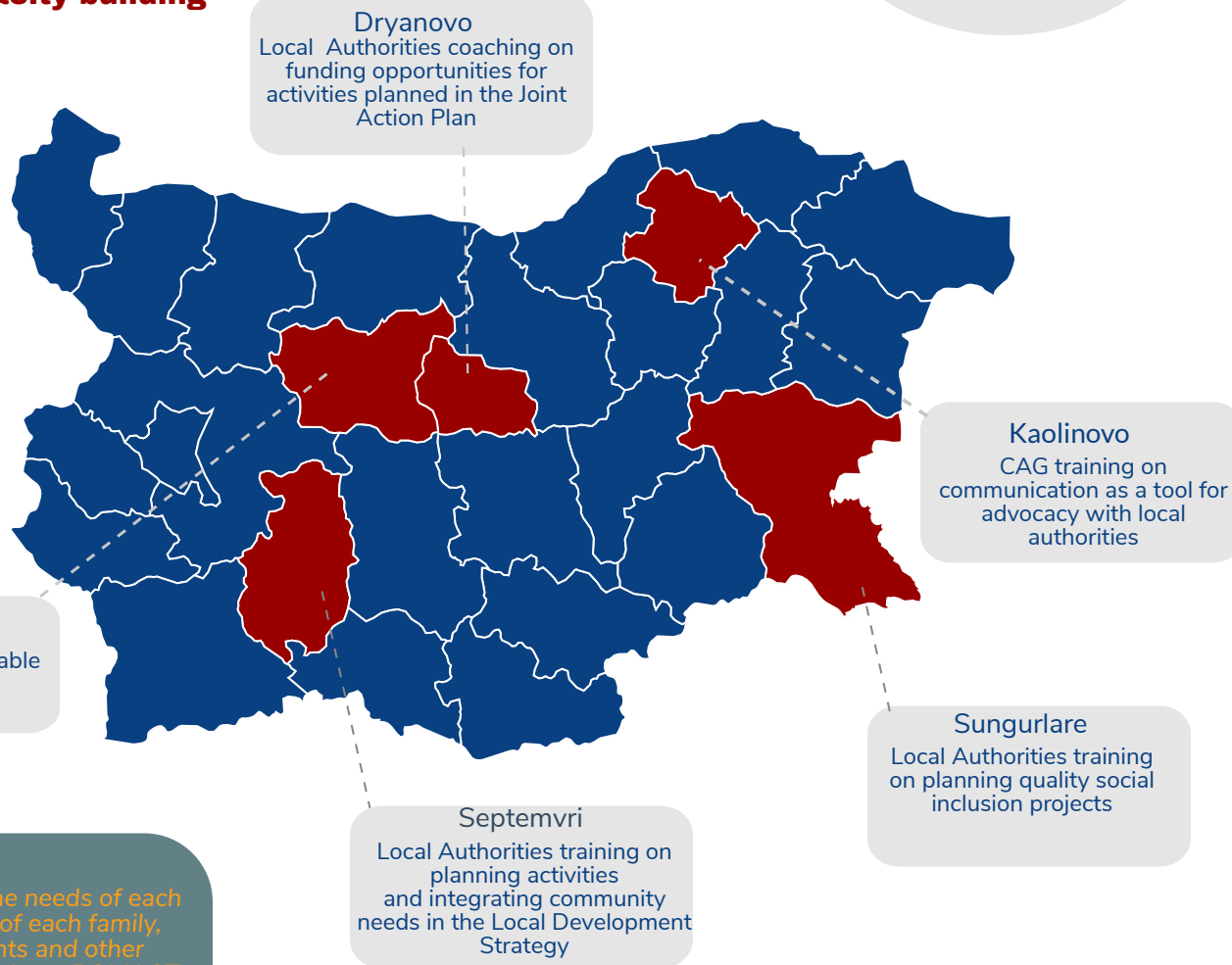
# 319

training and coaching sessions



Snapshot February 2021

## Examples of capacity building activities



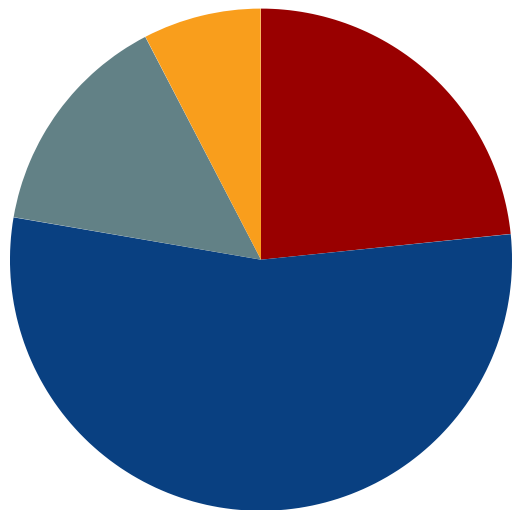
*"Better understanding the needs of each child and the situation of each family, partnering with parents and other responsible parties. Thanks to ROMACT training, I understood that this is the basis for successful inclusion."*

Municipal staff member, Borovan

## Training target groups

# 3011

participants in training & coaching sessions



Local Authorities (LA) (23.37%)    CAG (54.35%)  
LA & CAG (14.67%)    Other (7.61%)

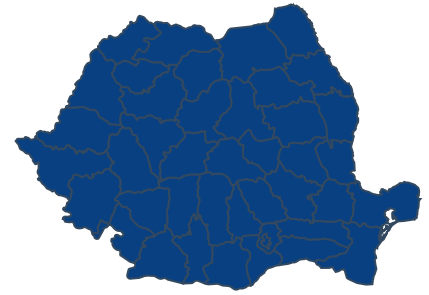


# ROMACT in Romania



Snapshot February 2021

ROMANIA



**90**  
Municipalities

**68** Municipalities  
Process closed

**22** Municipalities  
Process ongoing

## Projects supported by ROMACT



**25,000 €**  
invested by ROMACT per  
municipality per year



**123,200,451 €**

generated through 52 projects

**10,117,142 €**

worth of projects currently  
under evaluation

## EXAMPLES

Iernut

### "Building social blocks"

3 social blocks with 36 apartments  
will be built by the end of 2021 with the  
support of the Romanian Ministry of Regional  
Development



**2,488,462 €**

Funded under the Romanian  
Programme for Building  
Social houses under  
114/1996 law framework



### "Improve the quality of life of the Iernut population"

The integrated project includes the construction  
of 2 social blocks of flats, the sewage and  
asphalting of a road and the creation of a multi-  
functional centre that will include an after school  
care and should be completed by December 2022

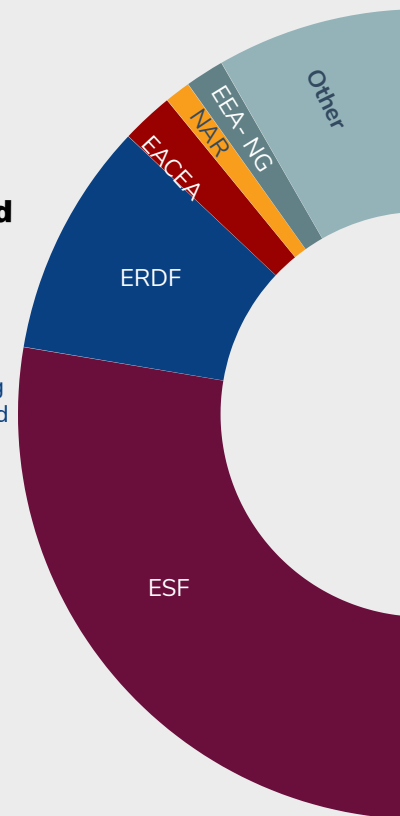
**5,017,405 €**

Funded under Regional Operational Programme 'Priority Axis 13.1'

Projects  
submitted

**96**

applications for funding  
prepared and submitted  
with the assistance of  
ROMACT facilitators  
and experts



# ROMACT in Romania

 Snapshot February 2021

## EXAMPLES



### Reghin

**Rehabilitation of a former school into a Kindergarten "Spiridusii Veseli"**

**784,900 €** Funded under Regional Operational Programme 'Priority Axis 10'

#### Beneficiaries

The project will benefit 40 children and should be finalised by December 2021

### Sarmasu

**Recruitment of a school mediator**

**5,000 €**

#### Beneficiaries

250 pupils

### Carei

**Recruitment of a school mediator**

Funded by the municipality for 12 months

**5,000 €**

#### Beneficiaries

250 pupils

**After school**

**50,000 €**

**Beneficiaries** 135 Roma children



### Focsani

**Municipality Local Development Strategy**

**8,580,000 €** Funded under Regional Operational Programme

#### Beneficiaries

Disadvantaged population from 2 Urban Marginalized Areas (ZUM) will benefit from a package of hard and soft measures

# ROMACT in Romania



Snapshot February 2021

# 364

different interventions,  
measures and activities  
funded mainly through  
local, regional and national  
budgets

## Examples of activities from the Joint Action Plans / Strategies implemented



**74**

**Projects implemented  
Infrastructure**  
(roads, bridges, sewage and  
electricity network  
construction)

**32**  
municipalities



**36** **Projects implemented  
Small infrastructure**  
(water & sewage  
systems repair, cleaning,  
speed bumpers, waste  
collection set up)


**19**  
municipalities invested  
local budget



**79**

**Projects implemented  
Education**  
(Second Chance Schools, School  
after school Programmes,  
campaigns against drop-out,  
kindergarten construction)

**34**  
municipalities invested  
local budget



**38** **Activities implemented  
Health**  
(information/vaccination  
campaigns, support in  
registering for health  
insurance/ family GP,  
etc.)

**21**  
municipalities invested  
local budget



**16**

**Projects (building or  
rehabilitation, support to  
access)  
Housing**

**10**  
municipalities invested  
local budget



**1123**  
**IDs  
provided by  
9**  
municipalities



**48**

**Activities implemented  
Culture**  
(8 April, 16 May, 2 August  
intercultural events)

**23**  
municipalities invested  
local budget



**46** **Mediation**  
mediators and Roma  
experts recruited by

**20**  
municipalities

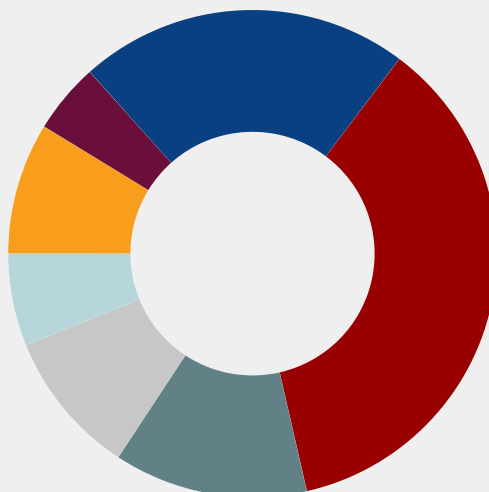


# ROMACT in Romania

 Snapshot February 2021

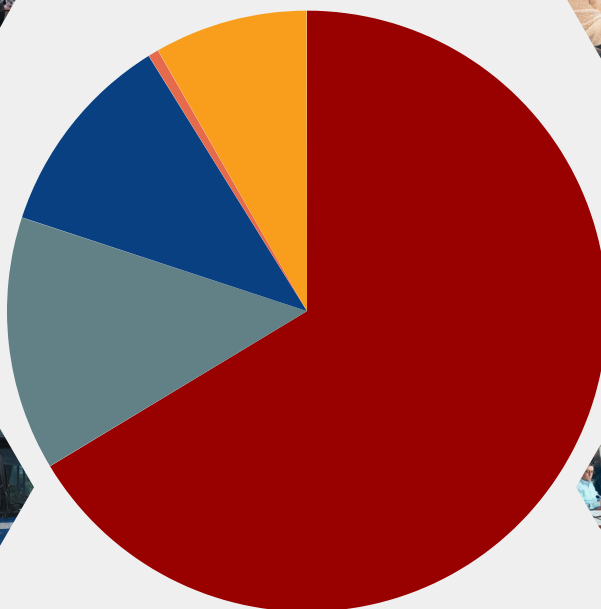
## Examples of activities from the Joint Action Plans / Strategies implemented

Distribution by field

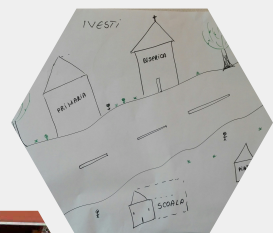


■ Housing (8.75%)   
 ■ Employment (4.66%)   
 ■ Education (21.87%)  
■ Infrastructure (36.15%)   
 ■ Health (12.83%)  
■ Others (culture, IDs, etc.) (9.62%)   
 ■ Humanitarian (6.12%)

Sources of funding



■ Local budget (66.38%)   
 ■ National funds (13.68%)  
■ European funds (11.11%)   
 ■ UN funds (0.57%)  
■ Others (Private companies, NGOs, fundraising campaigns) (8.26%)



# ROMACT in Romania



Snapshot February 2021

# 328

training and coaching sessions

## Examples of capacity building activities

**Cluj**  
CAGs training on community mobilisation

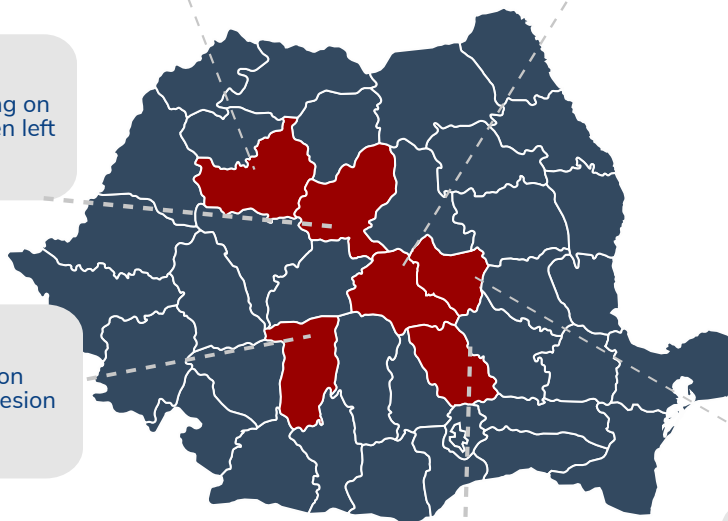
**Poiana Brasov**  
Project Management certified Training  
**10** municipalities represented

**Sarmasu**  
Local authorities training on the protection of children left behind

"An opportunity provided at an adequate moment. Thank you for the chance to attend this training course – I have been waiting for it for 10 years!"

A municipal civil servant after a certified EU funds expert training

**Dragasani**  
Local Authorities training on accessing structural and cohesion funds



**Mizil**  
Local Authorities and CAG joint coaching on EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021

**Covasna**  
Partnership management Training  
**12** municipalities

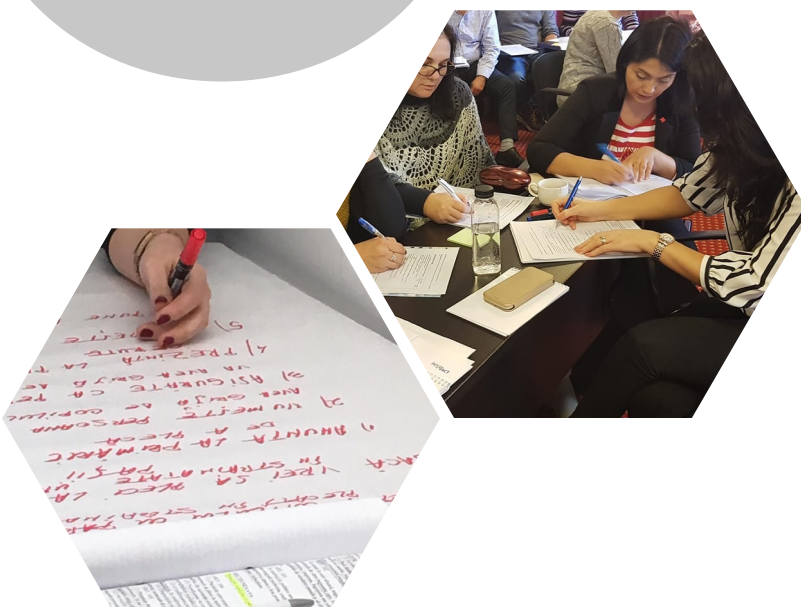
# 2945

participants in training and coaching sessions

## Training target groups



■ Local Authorities (LA) (54.73%)  
■ CAG (26.35%)    ■ LA & CAG (14.86%)  
■ Other (4.05%)



# ROMACT

## Small grants scheme

**83**  
**grants**

max. 5,000 € each

Since 2020, the scheme has been supporting the implementation of immediate priorities of Roma communities, benefiting to approximately **60,000 persons**

Adaptability to needs in a crisis context

**46** grants to Municipalities or CAGs:



Provision of information and hygiene kits to help keeping the COVID-19 pandemic under control



Provision of food and basic material assistance to help overcoming the COVID-19 impact

for a total of **162,115 €**



**37\*** grants to Municipalities, CAGs or schools:



Support to educational activities to help fighting school dropout



Improvement of street furniture

for a total of **162,644 €**

A basis for further development

\* 12 grants were provided through financial resources of the Council of Europe Roma and Travellers Team using ROMACT expertise and field teams' support

# ROMACT

## Small grants scheme



### Targu Bujor, Romania

Provision of 350 hygiene kits and 500 information brochures to protect the most vulnerable against COVID-19

4,998 € ROMACT      555 € Municipality

### Isperrich, Bulgaria

Provision of hygiene kits, food packages and information leaflet on protection measures against COVID-19 for 90 vulnerable families

2,040 € ROMACT      200 € Municipality  
CAG in kind contribution



### Bistrita, Romania

Provision of hygiene & educational supply sets for 54 children & counselling program on protection measures against COVID-19 for their parents

3,890 € ROMACT      150 € Municipality



### Kotel, Bulgaria

Construction of a recreation area and playground in the village of Gradets

4,869 € ROMACT      400 € Municipality  
CAG in kind contribution



# ROMACT

## Evidence-based support to local & national authorities

ROMACT reports and guides are shared and debated with local, national and European stakeholders, including mayors, associations of municipalities, ministries and European Commission representatives



The implementation of the ROMACT Programme implies joint planning with the participation of local communities, revision and update of strategies and plans for Roma inclusion, as well as their integration into the mainstream municipal development strategies and plans.

## Guide on Social Housing Allocation Criteria

CRITERII DE ATRIBUIRE A LOCUINTELOR SOCIALE  
GHID pentru autorități publice locale



This Guide is based on continuous needs assessments in ROMACT municipalities in Romania.



It supports Romanian local authorities in better understanding the social housing allocation methodology promoting the prevention of discriminatory allocation practices.



It combines both legal and social approaches and exemplifies potential restrictive criteria as well as criteria that are accessible and already used by some municipalities.

## Analysis of Municipal Development Plans & Integrated Urban Reconstruction & Development plans of municipalities participating in ROMACT

The study prepared by ROMACT experts identified challenges met in Bulgaria regarding the planning process. It contributes to mainstreaming the issues of vulnerable and marginalised communities, including Roma, in the municipal strategies and plans in Bulgaria.

# ROMACT

## Evidence-based support to the local & national authorities

### Toolkit: Possible solutions for informal settlements

This Toolkit is dedicated to local public authorities in Romania who decide to enter in the process of legalizing these types of settlements and to design development projects together with the community.

The toolkit addresses issues such as the steps to be taken, the analysis of informal settlements, the demarche for legalization and the local development planning. The local team can easily identify the tools it needs from the toolkit, as appropriate.



### Guide on local information & awareness raising campaigns on the protection of children with parents going to work abroad

Fundamental rights of children left at home, such as the right to family and protection, the right to education, leisure, play and the right to opinion and participation are likely to be at risk.

This guide is intended for local specialists in Romania, who identify the need to organise such a campaign, taking into account the steps to be followed when it comes to public sector action.



Campanie informare și constituire la nivel local

### Other ROMACT Reports and Studies

- ✓ ROMACT Review of the Operational Programmes proposed for Romania in the programming period 2021-2027
- ✓ Urban CLLD Projects in Romania. Report on challenges encountered by Local Public Authorities in nine ROMACT municipalities in implementing the 2014-2020 Projects and Recommendations of the Programming period 2021-2027
- ✓ Report on the analysis of the legal provisions regarding the social component of the public procurement
- ✓ Report on the Situation of Social Economy Structures in the ROMACT municipalities in Romania

<http://coe-romact.org/resources>



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