

# ROMACT Overview



Snapshot July 2022

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

## 148\* in Bulgaria & Romania

ROMACT Municipalities (October 2013 - July 2022)

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

**143** /143

Municipalities committed to implement the ROMACT Programme



### STEP 2- Agreeing on Needs and Plans

**143** /143

Local Capacity Assessment done



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

**117** /143

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



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

**143** /143

Municipalities where Local Authorities were involved in ROMACT capacity building activities

**138** /143

Municipalities appointed a Coordinator for the ROMACT Programme

**143** /143

Municipalities where Community needs were assessed

**87** /143

Joint Action Plans adopted by Local Councils

**143** /143

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

**93** /143

Municipalities created a Municipal Taskforce for Roma inclusion

**125** /143

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

**39** /143

Joint Action Plans included in the mainstream Local Development Strategies

**95** /143

Municipalities where project proposals were submitted for funding

**138** /143


Community Action Groups (CAG) established

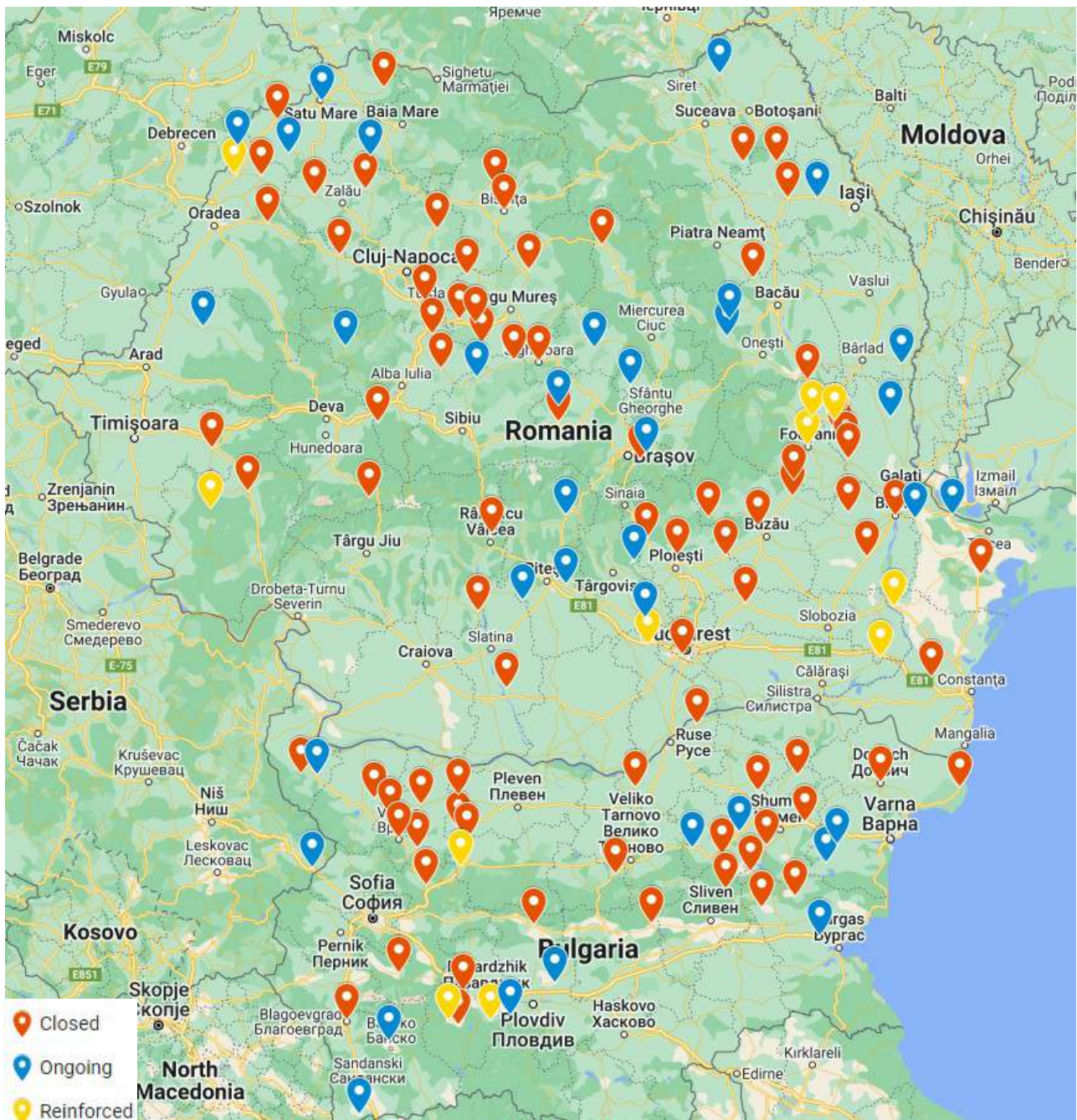
**110** /143

Municipalities are implementing measures as a result of ROMACT

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

# ROMACT in Bulgaria & Romania

 Snapshot July 2022

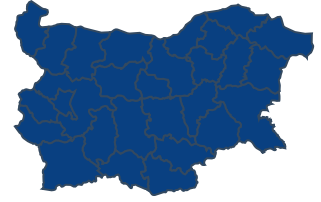


 In 2022, upon municipalities' request, ROMACT reinforced process started to be implemented in former localities to strengthen capacities and support some of the structures previously established in the Programme

# ROMACT in Bulgaria

 Snapshot July 2022

**BULGARIA**



**58**

Municipalities

**44**

Municipalities  
**Process closed**

**11**

Municipalities  
**Process ongoing**

**3**

Municipalities  
**Reinforced process**

## Projects supported by ROMACT



**25,000€**

invested by ROMACT /  
municipality / year



**16,792,026€**

generated through 67  
projects

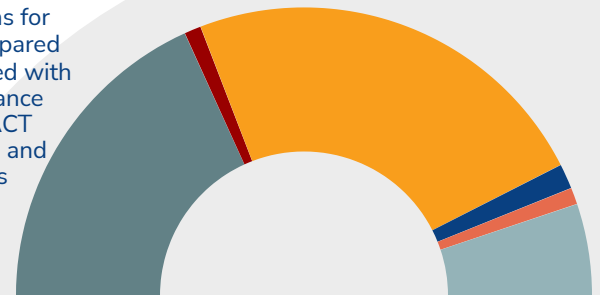


**3,769,739€**

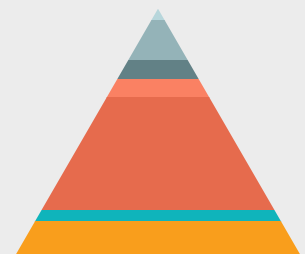
worth of projects currently  
under evaluation

**115**

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



### Distribution by field



National Funds (14.15%) ERDF (4.72%)  
ESF (45.28%) Others (7.55%) EACEA (7.55%)  
EAA-NG (16.04%) EAFRD (4.72%)

Funding sources

## EXAMPLES

### Sungulare

#### Early childhood development opportunities for Roma children



Addressing functional illiteracy  
among Roma children through early  
child development opportunities - in  
partnership with Centre of Expertise  
on Social Welfare in South-East  
Finland

#### Beneficiaries

150 vulnerable  
families with children  
0-6 years old

**98,273€**

Funded under OPHRD  
Transnational Cooperation

### Ispirich

#### Socio-economic integration of marginalized communities

Improvement of the access to  
employment, social and health  
services for socially excluded people  
living in difficult socio-economic  
conditions.



**102,563€**

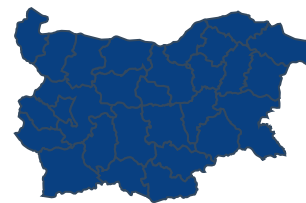
Funded under Local  
Development Strategy of  
Ispirich under CLLD of  
Rural Development  
Programme, OPHRD

#### Beneficiaries

80 people with illnesses and elderly  
at risk of poverty and social exclusion

# ROMACT in Bulgaria

BULGARIA



Snapshot July 2022

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

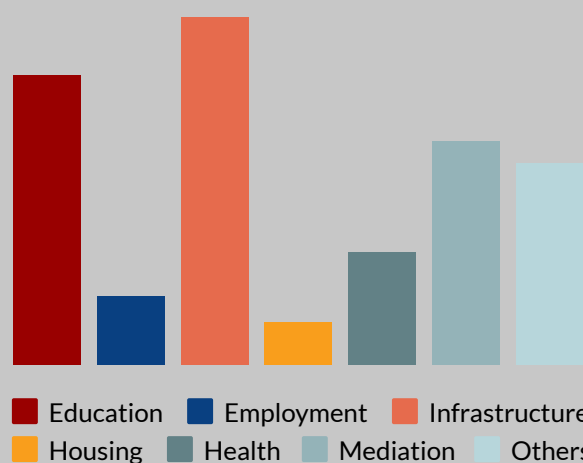


## 220

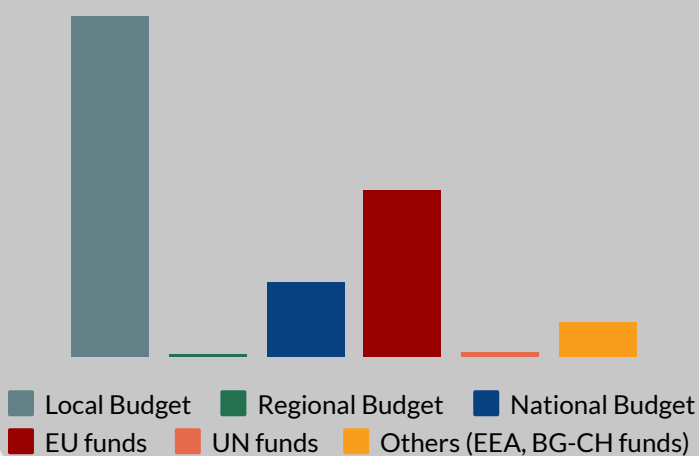
different interventions, measures and activities funded mainly through local, regional and national budgets



Distribution by field



Distribution by sources of funding %



# ROMACT in Bulgaria

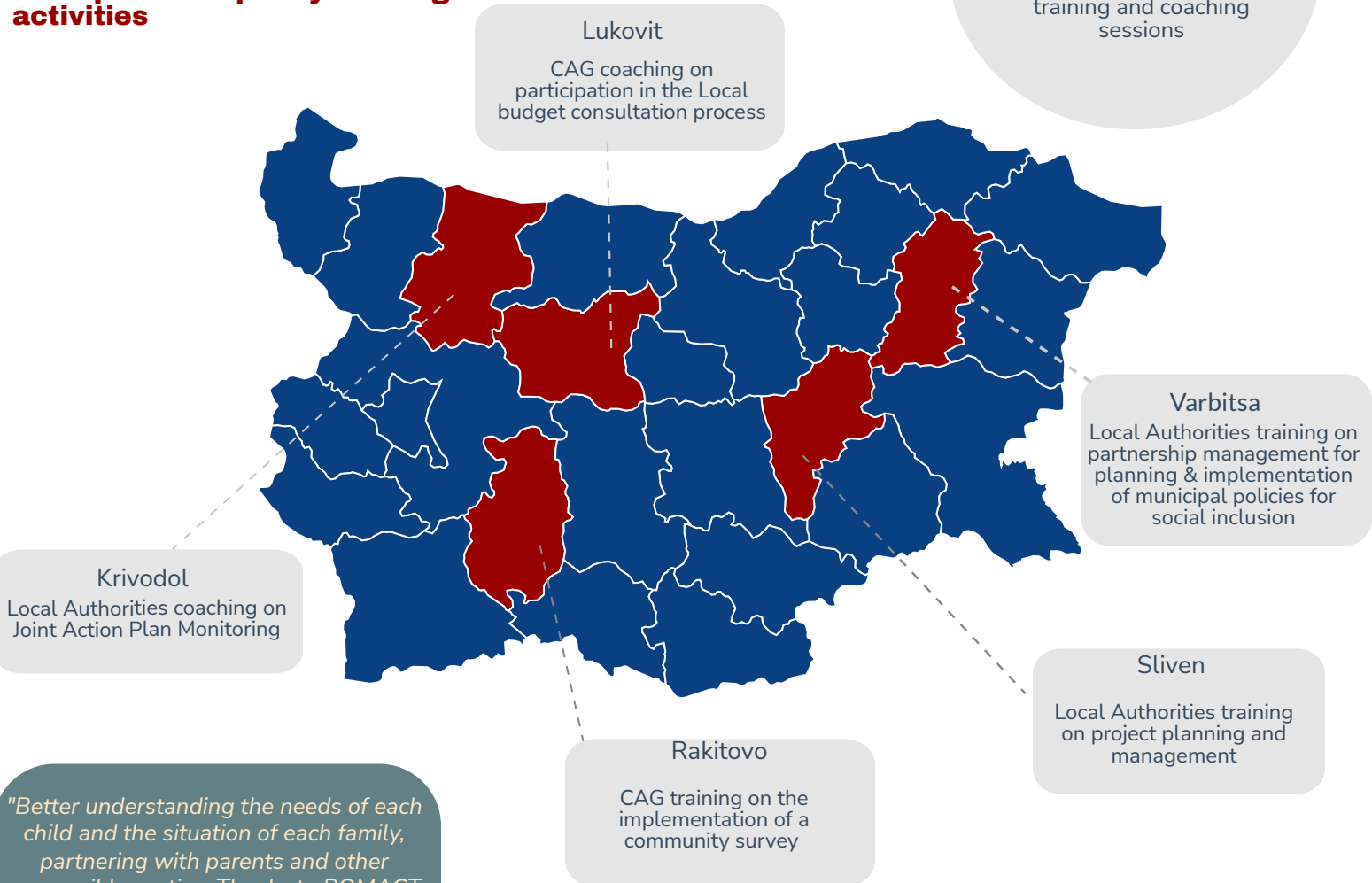


Snapshot July 2022

## 376

training and coaching sessions

### Examples of capacity building activities



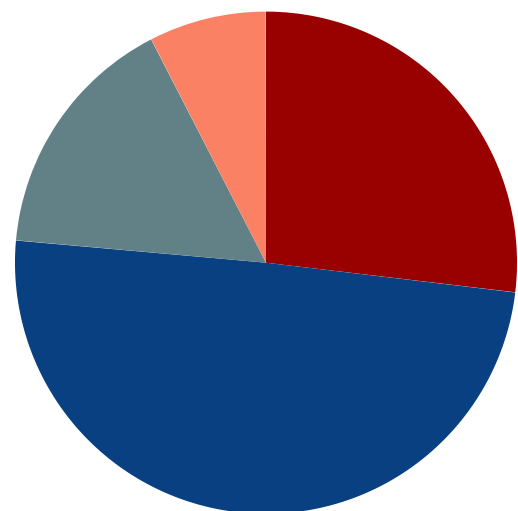
*"Better understanding the needs of each child and the situation of each family, partnering with parents and other responsible parties. Thanks to ROMACT training, I understood that this is the basis for successful inclusion."*

Municipal staff member, Borovan

### Training target groups

## 3320

participants in training & coaching sessions

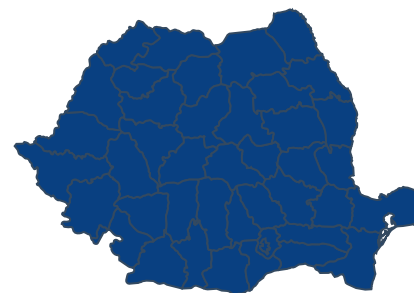


■ Local Authorities (LA) (26.89%) 
 ■ CAG (49.53%)  
■ LA & CAG (16.04%) 
 ■ Other (7.55%)



# ROMACT in Romania

ROMANIA



Snapshot July 2022

**95**  
Municipalities

**58** Municipalities  
Process closed

**19** Municipalities  
Process ongoing

**8** Municipalities  
Reinforced process

## Projects supported by ROMACT



**25,000€**

invested by ROMACT /  
municipality / year



**126,679,491€**

generated through 60 projects

**5,482,843€**

worth of projects currently  
under evaluation

## EXAMPLES

Iernut

### "Building social blocks"

**3 social blocks with 36 apartments**  
will be built by the end of 2022 with funding  
from the Romanian Ministry of Regional  
Development

**2,488,462€**

Funded under the Romanian  
Programme for Building Social  
Houses in the framework of  
114/1996/Law



### "Improving 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 centre.  
Construction to be finalised by December 2022

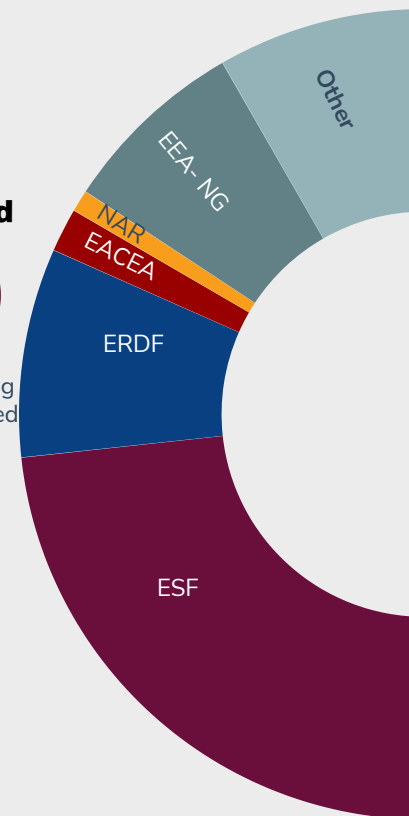
**5,017,405€**

Funded under Regional Operational Programme 'Priority Axis 13.1'

Projects  
submitted

**110**

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



# ROMACT in Romania

 Snapshot July 2022

## EXAMPLES

### Vulcan

Integrated education programme to reduce school dropout :

- preventive measures for 800 children
- second chance education tools for 200 early school leavers
- capacity building for 260 education professionals

**2,022,539€** Funded under Operational Program  
Human Capital Priority Axis 6



### Boldesti Scaeni

Infrastructure development in marginalised area:

- elaboration of technical documentation for obtaining approvals for construction of self-locking pavement
- set up of a covered concrete gutter (1,600m) for rainwater drainage in the marginalized area of Poienilor Street and on Calea Unirii

**7,110€** EEA and Norway Grants , "Local Development,  
Poverty Reduction and Enhanced Roma Inclusion"

### Sighisoara

Integrated measures for social inclusion of people at risk of poverty in marginalized communities in which there is population belonging to the Roma minority :

- support in access to health care for 600 persons and legal assistance
- support in professional skills development for 301 persons
- support access to quality education for 132 preschool and school children

**2,839,598€** Funded under Operational Program  
Human Capital Priority Axis 4.1



# ROMACT in Romania



Snapshot July 2022

# 395

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

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



**110**

**Projects implemented**  
**Infrastructure**  
(roads, bridges, sewage and electricity network construction)  
**44**  
municipalities

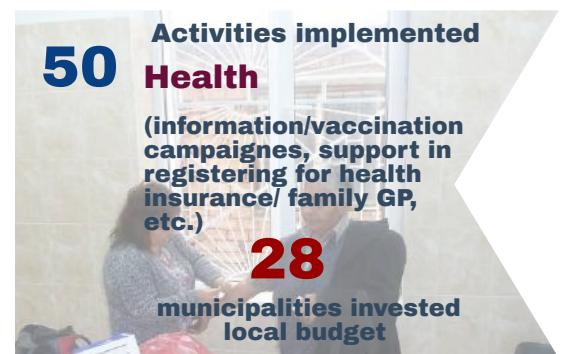


**36** **Projects implemented**  
**Small infrastructure**  
(water & sewage systems repair, cleaning, speed bumpers, waste collection set up)  
**19**  
municipalities invested local budget



**88**

**Projects implemented**  
**Education**  
(Second Chance Schools, School after School Programmes, campaigns against drop-out, kindergarten construction)  
**37**  
municipalities invested local budget



**50** **Activities implemented**  
**Health**  
(information/vaccination campaigns, support in registering for health insurance/ family GP, etc.)  
**28**  
municipalities invested local budget



**20**

**Projects (building or rehabilitation, support to access)**  
**Housing**  
**17**  
municipalities invested local budget



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



**26**

**Activities implemented**  
**Culture**  
(8 April, 16 May, 2 August intercultural events)  
**24**  
municipalities invested local budget



**54** **mediators and Roma experts recruited by**  
**22**  
municipalities

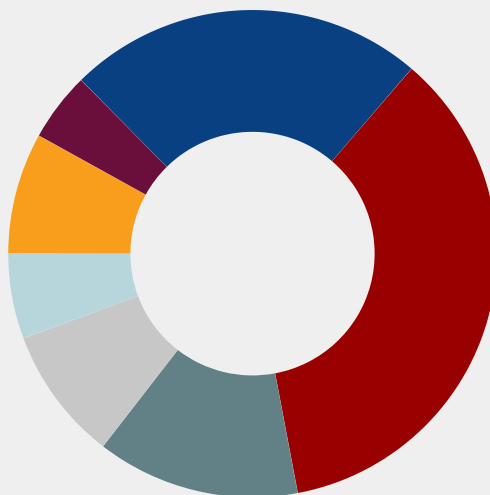


# ROMACT in Romania

 Snapshot July 2022

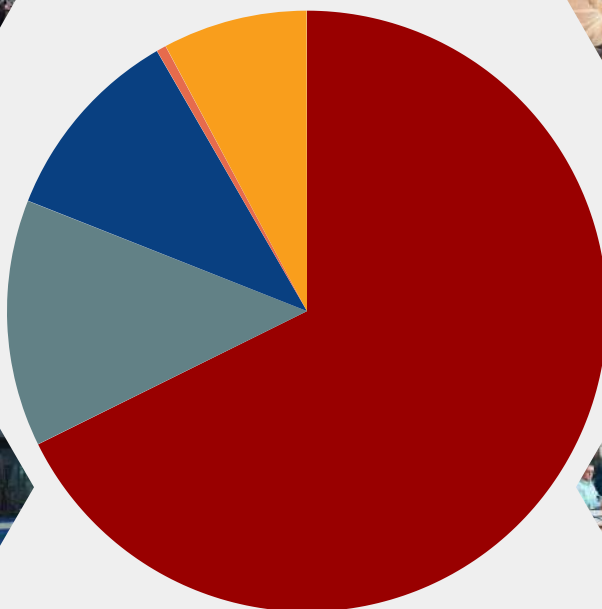
## Examples of activities from the Joint Action Plans / Strategies implemented

Distribution by field



■ Housing (8.06%)   
 ■ Employment (4.57%)   
 ■ Education (23.66%)  
■ Infrastructure (35.75%)   
 ■ Health (13.44%)  
■ Others (culture, IDs, etc.) (8.87%)   
 ■ Humanitarian (5.65%)

Sources of funding



■ Local budget (67.71%)   
 ■ National funds (13.28%)  
■ European funds (10.68%)   
 ■ UN funds (0.52%)  
■ Others (Private companies, NGOs, fundraising campaigns) (7.81%)



# ROMACT in Romania



Snapshot July 2022

# 451

training and coaching sessions

## Examples of capacity building activities

**Dolhasca**  
CAG training on community development

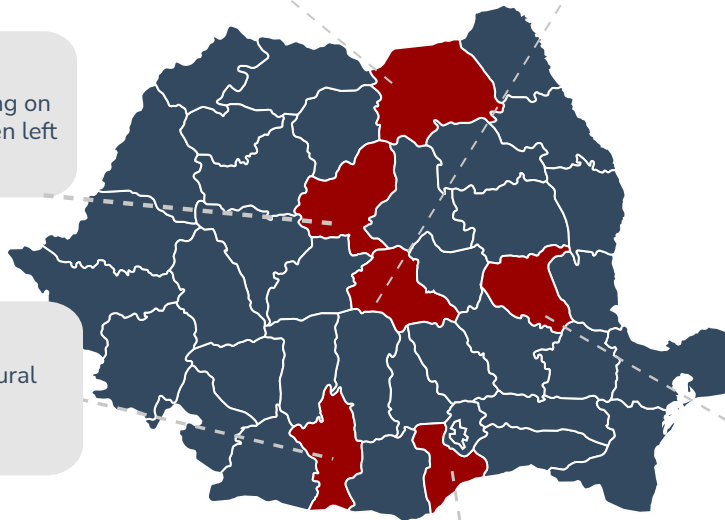
**Predeal**  
Public procurement expert certified Training 6 municipalities represented

**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

**Draganesti Olt**  
Expert in accessing structural and cohesion funds Certified training



**Bolintin Vale**  
Local Authorities and CAG joint training on Local Strategy development

**Focsani**  
Local Authorities Training on Challenges in using MySMIS platform

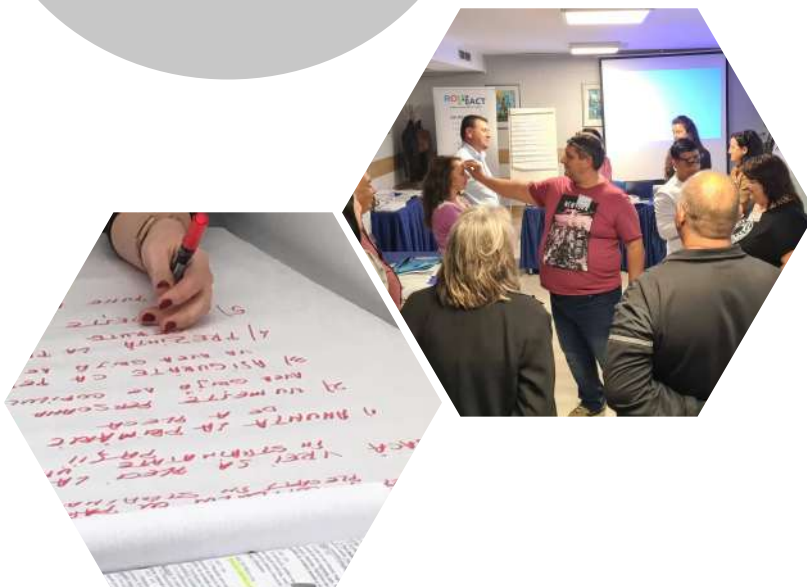
# 3685

participants to training and coaching sessions

## Training target groups



■ Local Authorities (LA) (57.23%)  
■ CAG (24.53%) ■ LA & CAG (13.84%)  
■ Other (4.4%)

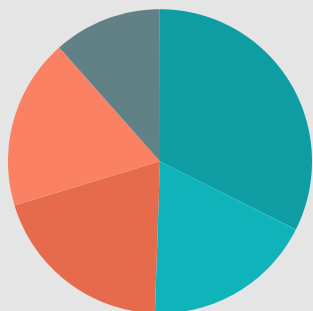


# ROMACT

## Small grants scheme

Since 2020, the scheme has been supporting the implementation of immediate priorities of Roma communities, benefiting to 100,000 persons

Health (32.42%) Aid (18.13%)  
Education (19.78%) Infrastructure (18.13%)  
Awareness raising (11.54%)



Distribution by field

**124** grants to Municipalities, CAGs or schools

max. 5,000€ each

for a total of **514,933€**

\* 17 grants were provided through financial resources of the Council of Europe Roma and Travellers Team using ROMACT expertise and field teams' support



Support to educational activities to help fighting school dropout



Improvement of street furniture



Health prevention



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

A basis for further development

# ROMACT

## Small grants scheme

Examples

### Botevgrad, Bulgaria



Organisation of a free mobile **health examination** for **100 members** of the Roma community.

**4980€ ROMACT**      **1550€ CAG**

### Podu Iloaiei, Romania



Procurement and installation of 300 m pipes enabled access to **clean drinking water supply** in the area and improved the living conditions of around **200 inhabitants** drastically.

**5000€ ROMACT**      **1500€ Municipality**

### Belogradchik, Bulgaria



Renovation of a **playground** for a pleasant and safe public place for a community of **1500 people** and children. Organization of **public discussions and workshops** on “socially responsible and tolerant behaviour in society” for families and children.

**5007€ ROMACT**  
**Municipality in-kind contribution**

### Isaccea, Romania



Provision of **hygiene & food packages** and information campaign for **300 vulnerable families** during COVID-19 pandemic. **Telephone consultancy and specialized assistance** for people in the high-risk group.

**4357€ ROMACT**  
**Municipality 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

In the period November 2020 - January 2021, ROMACT Programme experts conducted a study in order to outline the problems of children left behind in the municipalities it covers in Bulgaria.



## 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.

The report also contains a number of specific recommendations to various stakeholders - parents, guardians and relevant institutions – aiming at minimizing the negative consequences on the left-behind children.



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.

## Report on Children left behind: between labour migration, institutional standards, and extended family

# 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.



### 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
- ✓ Guidelines for Conducting Public Procurement with Social Criteria in the ROMACT Municipalities in Romania

## Other ROMACT Reports and Studies

- ✓ Guidelines for Permanent Address Registration and Issuance of an Identity Document in Bulgaria
- ✓ Guidelines for Obtaining a Sustainable Status of Housing Constructions built without Construction Papers in Bulgaria
- ✓ Analysis of Municipal Development Plans & Integrated Urban Reconstruction & Development plans of municipalities participating in ROMACT in Bulgaria
- ✓ Report on children left behind in Bulgaria: between labour migration, institutional standards and extended family
- ✓ Analysis of the challenges concerning registration at a permanent address and possession of identity documents of persons living in homes without valid lawful basis in Bulgaria

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

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