

## Agreement to implement the ROMACT Programme in the Municipality of Belogradchik

The ROMACT Programme, which has been implemented by the European Commission and the Council of Europe in Bulgaria since 2013, aims at increasing the capacity of local authorities to develop and implement inclusive policies and plans for the social inclusion of Roma communities.

After due information and consultation, the Municipality of Belogradchik, which already implemented ROMACT process between April 2021 - December 2022, agrees to be active in the ROMACT Programme and commits:

- to appoint a high-level member of the municipal staff as the Coordinator who will be responsible for managing and monitoring the ROMACT process;
- to appoint a municipal staff member that will be trained and coached to take over ROMACT facilitator's tasks at the end of the agreement;
- to delegate representatives of concerned municipal departments to participate in the Municipal Taskforce for Roma Inclusion:
- to ensure the participation of staff of concerned municipal departments in capacity-building activities planned in the framework of the ROMACT process;
- when required, to contribute to the drafting or revision of the Action Plan for Roma Inclusion, with the contribution of the Community Action Group, established with the support of the ROMACT Programme, and to seek for the adoption of the Plan by the Local Council;
- when required, to seek to integrate where relevant the content of the Action Plan for Roma Inclusion in the general Local Development Strategy and Plan of the municipality;
- to seek to implement the Action Plan for Roma Inclusion, alongside the activities integrated in the Local Development Strategy and Plan, by allocating local resources, as well as seeking - where appropriate - external financing, including EU funds.

As part of this Agreement, the ROMACT Programme shall provide:

- punctual assistance by a Facilitator who will train and coach relevant staff of municipal departments to design and implement plans and measures for the inclusion of Roma, as well as to strengthen the dialogue and cooperation between the municipality and the Roma community;
- when required, technical expertise (for capacity building and access to funding) by specialized experts.

Date: 17/01/2024

Date:

Strasbourg

Belogradchik

Eleni Tsetsekou Head of Division for the Roma and Travellers Team

Council of Europe

Boyan Minkov

Mayor

Municipality of Belogradchik

