

ALL IN KINDERGARTEN, ALL IN FIRST GRADE

Integrated programs for increasing access to education and the educational level of children from disadvantaged communities, with focus on Roma

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Priority Axis 2 “Linking lifelong learning with the labour market”

Key Area of Intervention 2.2 “Preventing and correcting early school leaving”

Partners:

The Romanian Ministry of Education, Research,
Youth and Sports – General Department for
Education in Minorities Languages and
Relationship with the Parliament

and

RUHAMA Foundation - Oradea

The general objective of the project:

To prevent and correct early school leaving among children of 5 to 8 years old from **420 disadvantaged communities**, with predominant Roma population, mainly in rural and small urban localities in Romania, by implementing educational alternatives for pupils and their parents.

“All in kindergarten, all in first grade” – an initiative piloted, tested and scaled-up to the national level

Ruhama Foundation, the School Inspectorate of Bihor County, the University of Oradea and Roma Education Fund, Budapest

have worked at and adapted the concept of this project for 4 years so as to better respond to the educational needs of children from disadvantaged communities, especially communities inhabited mainly by Roma.

Over 1000 children are enrolled in primary school in Bihor.

The specific objectives of the project are:

- to facilitate access to preschool and primary education for 8.400 children
- to adapt curriculum
- to inform and counsel the parents of the target children
- to provide specific training of the personnel involved
- to conduct a systemic study of the outcomes obtained
- to increase the awareness among the Roma communities

Expected outcomes for 420 Roma communities

- 8.400 children in „Summer Kindergarten”
- 6.000 pupils in „Afterschool”
- 2.100 personnel trained in the alternative education programs
- 10.000 parents/tutors informed and counseled
- 5.000 parents/tutors in „Parents School”
- 8.000 children benefit of subsidies consisting of basic clothing kits in order to enroll in 1st grade
- 420 representatives of the communities – trained and activated
- a preschool educational kit FROM HERE... TO 1st GRADE
- a sociological study useful to substantiate new educational policies in the field

Outcomes:

- 2 legislative proposals on educational policies
- 10% increase in the number of children enrolled in 1st grade
- 75% decrease in the school drop-out ratio in 1st grade
- increased awareness among disadvantaged families
- 20% increase of the cohort of first grade-pupils maintained in the education system
- 40% increase in preschool preparation level of children
- to establish the National Network of School Teachers for Inclusive Education

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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