

RomABC – the next dimension
Further development of innovative
instruments for combating functional
illiteracy of Roma in Europe



Programme:	ERASMUS+ Strategic Partnership 
Partner Countries:	Germany, Greece, Hungary, Romania
Duration:	01.09.2017 – 31.08.2019
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Description

Often, functional illiteracy is one reason for the difficult access of Roma to education and employment.

To make it clearer: of course, there are also illiterates among Roma – like among all other groups of the population. As a rule, these are the elder Roma who did often not attend school or only primary school. Not least, the missing practice of reading and writing contributed that reading and writing skills were not further developed or that learned things were forgotten.

Functional illiterates exist in all age groups. Comparably high is the share in the group of 25 – 40-year-old Roma. Since in many European countries the transfer of social services for Roma families depends on the attending of school of the children, they did go to school but in many cases the results of the lessons were lower-ranking. Many Roma experience in various ways discrimination in their every-day life.

Therefore, it is hard for them to admit their own deficits, such as functional illiteracy. Strategies of avoiding and covering-up give their own contribution.

After the previous project „RomABC goes Europe!“, alphabetisation courses considering the special needs of adult Roma as learners are offered now in the partner countries. However, they concentrate on the improvement of reading and writing skills of the participants.

Functional illiteracy contains also illiteracy in other fields of basic education, such as math, ICT, learning competences, capability in every-day-life, orientation in the working world, social and personal competences, communication and conflict solution.

European Added Value:

- The first specific alphabetisation course for Roma in the fields reading and writing, numeracy, basics in the IT field and capability in every-day-life
- A Handbook for trainers in alphabetisation measures for Roma
- A Basic Vocabulary and special Vocabularies with totally 1,000 words



Target groups

- Adult Roma who are functionally illiterate
- Adult educators / course leaders
- Relevant stakeholders

Project Partners

 JugendStil e.V. Germany	JugendStil e.V. Germany
 KfE Germany	Kontakte für Europa e.V. Germany
BIOPOLITICS International Organisation Greece	 BIOPOLITICS INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION
Panhellenic Confederation of Greek Rom Greece	
 erőforrásért egyesület	Humán Erőforrásért Egyesület Dél-Alföldi Régió Hungary
 CSÁCSÉ ROM CIGÁNY KULTURÁLIS EGYESÜLET	Csácsé Rom Cigány Kulturális Egyesület Hungary
Inspectoratul Scolar Judetean Buzau Romania	
Asociatia Vox Civica Romania	

Expected Results

1. TRANSFER AND MODIFICATION

The Curriculum for raising the literacy grade of Roma as well as according Quality Standards that were developed in the previous project „RomABC goes Europe!“ were transferred to Greece and modified there.

2. FURTHER DEVELOPMENT AND ADAPTATION

The existing Curriculum was completed by the emphases numeracy, basics in the IT field and capability in every-day-life.

3. HANDBOOK FOR TRAINERS

A Handbook for trainers in alphabetisation measures for Roma was developed, tested in practice and optimised.

4. VOCABULARIES

A Basic Vocabulary (500 words) and five topic-specific Vocabularies (100 words each) relating to the capability in every-day-life were elaborated with special consideration of the needs of the target group and serve for orientation and support.

5. PILOT TRAINING

Four experienced adult education actors (partly Roma themselves) from Germany, Greece, Hungary and Romania were educated in a way that they are able to implement the further developed Curriculum as trainers in alphabetisation measures for Roma. They have the capacity to use and multiply the gained skills and competences in the education practice of their countries.

6. TEST PHASES

The further developed Curriculum, the Handbook for trainers and the Vocabularies were tested with the target group and optimised in the partner countries.

7. RECOGNITION

The further developed Curriculum was accredited respectively certified by the responsible institutions in Greece, Hungary and Romania.

8. NETWORKS

Local/regional Networks „Basic Education“ were established or extended.

9. CONCEPT FOR MOBILITY PROJECTS

A concept for Mobility Projects of adult education staff (ERASMUS+, KA1) was developed. First projects were initiated.