PROJECT FACTSHEET

Funded by the European Union

Beyond Barriers: Roma Resilience in the Western Balkans



Duration: 02.12.2024 - 01.10.2027

Countries:
North Macedonia

EU contribution: € 851 292

Total budget: € 945 880

Implementer:
Association INSOC - Initiative for Social Change in North Macedonia, Roma Versitas Kosovo, Roma Information Center in Bosnia and Hercegovina - Kali Sara, Institute for Roma Culture IRCA Albania, YUROM Center - Serbia

Social media:
facebook.com/romalitico, instagram.com/romalitico

Website(s): romalitico.org/portfolio/nadvor-od-barierite-rezilientnost-na-romite-vo-zapaden-balkan/regional-policy-network-hub-for-roma-inclusion-policies/vision-mission-strategic-goals-and-activities/

Project description:
The 'Beyond Barriers: Roma Resilience in the Western Balkans' project aims to advance social and economic inclusion of the Roma community across the region through stronger cooperation, targeted employment support, and anti-discrimination efforts. At its core is the establishment of a Regional Roma Policy Hub, which connects civil society organisations, institutions, and donors to enable coordinated advocacy and more effective policy influence at both national and regional levels.

The project combines three complementary approaches. It strengthens regional coordination and policy dialogue, supports economic empowerment through vocational training and labour market integration, particularly for Roma youth, and addresses antigypsyism as a systemic issue through awareness, advocacy, and institutional engagement. By linking policy development with practical support measures, the project contributes to more inclusive policies, improved access to employment, and recognition of antigypsyism as a specific racism towards Roma.

Expected results:
• A well-functioning regional network of Roma and pro-Roma organisations, with at least 30 members actively engaged in policy dialogue and advocacy.
• Increased access to employment opportunities, with around 900 Roma benefiting from labour market integration measures.
• Stronger and more coordinated advocacy efforts addressing antigypsyism, including active engagement with public institutions.
• Greater recognition of antigypsyism in policy frameworks, contributing to more inclusive and responsive public policies.