



Issue 2 – MAY 2022

# NEWSLETTER

## ROMA PLUS 2<sup>nd</sup> newsletter

### The Roma Plus is progressing!

The consortium of the ROMA Plus project continues its regular online meetings towards planning the next steps and reaching a common understanding regarding the development of the project results, its deliverables and its training curricula targeted at educators and Roma adults.

The **online training material** targeted at educators and professionals working with Roma adults has been designed and developed based on the needs that have been identified during the first stages of the project

### ROMA PLUS NATIONAL NEEDS ANALYSIS REPORTS

The first stage of the project comprised of an in depth needs analysis regarding the state of the art of Roma adults in North Macedonia, Bulgaria, and Greece. The respective partners conducted extensive desk and field research including focus groups, interviews, and online questionnaires at the national level to identify the specific particularities and learning needs of the direct beneficiaries of the project: Roma adults with low literacy and numeracy skills. All partners followed the research guidelines developed by Symplexis and, in the end, three **National Reports** outlining the findings were produced.

The main aim of this project phase was to identify the needs and define the learning outcomes required for the development of an innovative training programme targeted at Roma adults and their educators.

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### DESIGN AND DELIVERY OF A ROMA ADULT EDUCATORS UPSKILLING MATERIAL

The results of the first step of the project fed into the development of online training material targeted at educators and professionals working with Roma adults. The online course developed "**ROMA Plus Improving literacy and numeracy skills of Roma People**" will soon be available on the project website. It consists of 4 Modules and an Introduction, corresponding to the overall learning objectives identified previously:

- **Introduction:** What is the Romani Culture and the overall needs of the Roma population
- **Module 1:** Understanding the Roma Culture
- **Module 2:** Performing a solid Literacy and Numeric Skills level test and analysing the results
- **Module 3:** Adult training techniques for Trainers



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- **Module 4:** Good practices of empowerment and increase of low literacy (numeric and language skills), for the Roma population

Each module consists of 4-6 Units, and the total duration of the course is 20 hours. The course has been specifically designed to address educators and professionals working with Roma adults

## DESIGN OF ROMA+ PEER LEARNING ACTIVITIES

One of the most important milestones of the project has been reached. After the results of the needs analysis that took place in the participating countries regarding the state of the art of Roma education and the specific needs of the project target groups (Roma adults with low literacy and numeracy skills), the partners have undertaken the task of designing a specific **set of peer learning activities**. The goal is to attract and retain the interest, motivation and participation of the target groups and facilitate their engagement in learning activities towards increasing their literacy and numeracy skills.

As part of the peer learning activities design, the consortium has conducted extensive desk research and literature review on peer learning approaches in adult education and has identified recommendations and elements of interventions and adaptations to tailor peer learning activities for Roma adults with low literacy and numeracy skills. The results of the research are outlined in detail in the Desk research of current peer learning strategies in adult education Report.

## NEXT STEPS

### *Peer Learning activities & Digitalization of Material*

The ROMA Plus consortium will continue working towards the finalization of the design and development of peer learning activities through the preparation of dedicated Train-the Trainers guidebook for delivery of peer learning training to Roma Population as well as towards the Digitalization of all developed educational Material and their uploading to the e-platform which is going to be linked to the official project website.

### *ROMA+ Joint Staff Training*

During the summer of 2022, the ROMA Plus consortium will organize a 5-day Joint Staff Training in Skopje, North Macedonia with the goals:

- To provide a 'Train the Trainers' session on the Adult Roma literacy OER and peer learning experience developed under IO1 and IO2.
- To promote and integrate the OER and peer learning material to current Roma Representative and adult training providers, through the design and delivery of trainings to Adult Teachers and Trainers.
- To increase knowledge of the new learning experience and the usefulness of the OER developed under IO1 and IO2 among Adult Roma trainers / teachers.
- To test and finalize the OER and the peer learning experience for the upskilling of low-literate Adult Roma developed under IO1 and IO2.
- To prepare the critical mass of Adult Roma trainers/teachers that are going to return and provide peer mentoring/training to adult low-literate Roma learners.

Participants in this 'Train the Trainers' event will be professionals from the partners organisations that are going to be involved in the delivery of the educational materials to the direct beneficiaries.

### *Guidance to Roma Adults / ROMA+ pilots*

After the end of the Joint Staff Training event, in the framework of the ROMA Plus project, guidance to at least 10 Roma participants per partner will be provided. These participants who are going to be selected for the peer learning, will be engaged in peer learning activities by the trained trainers who took part in the Joint Staff Training event.

In essence, this final stage of the project will entail putting into practice the educational material and approaches that have been developed.

