

# EU Second Roma Integration Award for the Western Balkans and Turkey



Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina,  
the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia,  
Kosovo\*, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey

## APPLICATION FORM

(ANNEX 1 OF THE CONTEST RULES)

### Did you know?

It is estimated that about 1 million Roma<sup>1</sup> live in the Western Balkans, 2.8 million in Turkey and 6.2 million in the EU. Roma are Europe's largest ethnic minority. They face continued exclusion, segregation and discrimination.

The EU's policy on Roma inclusion, integration and empowerment is placed within an EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies up to 2020 adopted by the European Commission in 2011. Within that framework, all 28 EU Member States and all 7 candidate countries and potential candidates for EU membership adopted their National Roma Integration Strategies which they now put in practice.

In June 2016, the Commission adopted its annual report on Roma integration that stresses the following as regards the candidate countries and potential candidates:

- Roma integration continues to be a priority in the enlargement process.
- Enough funding must be ensured to carry out integration measures.
- Attention should focus on implementation by local authorities.
- Roma community should be involved in planning, implementation and monitoring.
- Focus on results on the ground to reduce the gap between Roma and non-Roma.

Find out more: [http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/roma/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/justice/discrimination/roma/index_en.htm)

Watch a film about Roma: <http://romahomeland.org/>

Watch a short video "A Better Future for Roma" in candidate countries and potential candidates: <https://vimeo.com/143848472>

**Before filling out this Application Form, please read carefully the Contest Rules. You also have to fill out, date and sign the Declaration of Honour.**

<sup>1</sup>As it is most commonly used in EU policy documents and discussions, the term "Roma" refers to a variety of different groups of people who describe themselves as Roma, Sinti, Kale, Gypsies, Romanichels, Boyash, Ashkali, Egyptians, Yenish, Dom, Lom, Manouches and other, and also includes Travellers, without denying the specificities and varieties of lifestyles and situations of these groups.

\*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

*Please fill out this Application Form and send it, together with the Declaration of Honour (Annex 2 of the Contest Rules), by e-mail to*

*[NEAR-ROMA-INTEGRATION-AWARD@ec.europa.eu](mailto:NEAR-ROMA-INTEGRATION-AWARD@ec.europa.eu)*

*by 31 October 2016 23:59:59 of Brussels time (the time of registration in the European Commission's IT system is decisive).*

*("NEAR" is the abbreviation for the European Commission department responsible for the Second Roma Integration Award: the Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations.)*

*Please make sure that where the Contest Rules require quantified data, e.g. a specific duration or number of staff or beneficiaries, this Application Form contains this data.*

*Where this Application Form requires a limit on the number of words, any words in excess of that limit will be disregarded in the evaluation. Adjust the size of the table cells where necessary to fit the text.*

## 1. THE PARTICIPANT

Full official name of the participant	Association for support of marginalized groups "Roma Resource Center" – Skopje
Official legal form of the participant. This legal form must be suitable for an NGO.	Nongovernmental and non profitable organization (NGO)

Participant's history, aim and main activities (no more than 300 words). Demonstrate in particular the eligibility criteria under Section 3 points 2. and 3. of the Contest Rules	<p>RRC is a non-profit and nongovernmental organization with fully developed human resources and contribute to achieving the multiethnic and transparent society, improvement of the educational structure of the citizens in Macedonia especially of Roma, protect human rights, the promotion of social inclusion of marginalized groups, gender equality and strengthening of personal capacities of youth. Main activities of RRC are the following: improving the educational status of the Roma community in Macedonia, improving the inter-ethnic relation among young from different ethnicity, advocacy and lobbying, protecting of human and minority rights, socio-economic inclusion of marginalized communities and capacity building for youth, especially Roma youth.</p> <p>The RRC's core strategic activity is supporting of education of Roma children in primary education through providing of tutorship support in 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade in primary schools in Macedonia. This activity is implementing in 36 PS's within 18 municipalities in Macedonia. Through this activity are included total of 3330 Roma children for two schools year (2015/16 and 2016/17)</p>
Staff count: approximate number of people, voluntary or paid, full-time or part-time, directly carrying out <u>all</u> the activities of the participant, i.e. not just the project	<p>6 persons full time engagement  1 person part time engagement  92 persons part time engagement as a tutors  14 local coordinators  5 volunteers</p>
Full official address, notably street/post box, postal code, city, country	Str. Vietnamska n.7, Shuto Orizari, 1000 Skopje, Macedonia
E-mail address	info@rrc.org.mk
Website	www.rrc.org.mk
Statutory registration number, VAT registration number (whichever available)	<p>Statutory registration number: 6564488  VAT number: 4043010503863</p>
<b>CONTACT PERSON:</b>	
Name (Ms, Mr)	Ms. Ipek Usainova

Telephone number	+ 389 76 200 747
E-mail address	<a href="mailto:ipek.usainova@rrc.org.mk">ipek.usainova@rrc.org.mk</a> , <a href="mailto:ipek_usainova@yahoo.com">ipek_usainova@yahoo.com</a>

## 2. THE PROJECT

Title of the project	Tutoring support of Roma children in primary education in Republic of Macedonia
Period covered by the project (Section 4 point 3. of the Contest Rules)	From: 01.08.2015 To: <u>31.07.2017</u> <b>OR</b> <b>Ongoing since: 31.07.2017</b>
Geographical location of the project (Section 4 point 2. of the Contest Rules)	The project is implementing in 18 municipalities/localities in Macedonia: Shuto Orizari, Chair, Gorche Petrov, Karposh, Tetovo, Gostivar, Kichevo, Debar, Bitola, Prilep, Kumanovo, Shtip, Kochani, Vinica, Delchevo, village Crnik, Pehchevo and Berovo.
Source of financing of the project	The project is financed by Roma Education Fund from Budapest.

Objectives, design, planning and activities of the project (Section 4 point 1., Section 5, criterion 1 of the Contest Rules):

*Please explain in no more than 500 words how the objectives, design, planning and activities (completed by the date of submission of this application) of the project can directly positively affect the Roma children and youth (below 18 years) and/or young adults (18-30 years) in terms of inclusion, integration and/or empowerment, with expected long-term effects on their lives. If the beneficiaries of the project belong to various age groups, please explain and confirm that Roma children and youth and/or young adults are a majority of the beneficiaries.*

Education is a basic precondition for the integration of the Roma community into society. The key to all the problems of this community in Macedonia and the region is in education. Lately in Macedonia has shown significant progress in this area at all levels of education from pre-school to higher education. In Macedonia revised the National Strategy for Roma 2014 - 2020 year and therefore the action plans for education, employment, health and housing. It confirms that already has provided the basis for building long-term sustainability of the activities that have proven visible results during the implementation of the project. The "tutoring support for Roma students who attend elementary education in Macedonia" is in direct correlation with the National Strategy for Roma in Macedonia, as well as the Education Action Plan for 2014 - 2020 year. The project is supported from the Roma Education Found from Budapest, in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Science of Republic of Macedonia. The overall objective of the project is to contribute to increase retention rate and improve educational performance/outcomes of Roma children who study in fourth, fifth, and sixth grades in primary education in Macedonia for two school years 2015/16 and 2017/18. The specific objective of the project is increasing of the retention rate and educational outcomes of min 3330 Roma students who are in 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade in 36 primary schools in 18 municipalities around country for two school years 2015/16 and 2016/17. The project is implemented in 18 municipalities in 36 primary schools and included a total of 3330 Roma pupils who study in the 4th, 5th and 6th grade over two academic years. The project is designed to contribute for improving educational results for pupils in primary education, increasing the level of the transfer from one department to another and increased attendance of pupils and keeping them in the education and improve their personal quality. Mostly the Roma pupils in the educational process are giving up for several reasons such as poor socio-economic status, poor knowledge of the language, the departure of Roma families in foreign countries, low awareness among the Roma community about the importance of education, etc. The objective and the activities of the project are directly aimed at promoting inclusion in the educational system by providing additional tutoring support to overcome barriers Macedonian / native language and mathematics for students in 4, 5 and 6 grades. For realization of the tutoring classes are engaged about 100 tutors, students or graduates of some of the faculties in Macedonia. The tutoring classes are implemented in partnership with primary schools and they are realized at schools premises. In addition, within the project are being undertaken activities to reduce the dropout rate of pupils in the educational process through regular monitoring the attendance of pupils and identifying not regular pupils and their return to regular education and tutoring classes. Within the project are engaged local coordinators in 18 municipalities / locations that are responsible for coordination, mediation between schools and the community, for monitoring of attendance of students and intervention to reduce the drop out. Also, the project is offering direct support to Roma families by providing educational and didactic materials for their children. Additionally within the project are organized informal educational meetings with the parents to raise their awareness for the importance of education for the success of their children and for increasing their responsibility to support their children. The results which are achieved with the project are confirmed the necessity of this intervention in primary education to promote integration and inclusion of Roma children in the education process in Macedonia. As a long-term effect from the project is expected to increase the number of Roma pupils who successfully complete primary education, increase the number of students who enrol and successfully complete secondary education, and all this will make it easier for their employment in the future.

Results achieved of the project (Section 5, criterion 2 of the Contest Rules):

*Please explain in no more than 500 words the results (achieved by the date of submission of this application): how the project was able to directly positively affect the Roma children and youth (below 18 years) and/or young adults (18-30 years) in terms of inclusion, integration and/or empowerment, with expected long-term effects on their lives. Explain how you have measured these results and how these findings have been or will be used to adjust the objectives, design, planning or activities of the project.*

The project "Tutoring support of Roma children in primary education in Republic of Macedonia" is implementing in two school years 2015/16 and 2016/17 year. According the implementation plan, the activities from the first year were implemented till 31 August 2016 year, and the second year of implementation began on 01 September 2016 year.

**Achieved results in the first year of implementation of the project (2015/16):**

- Increased knowledge on the subject native language by 63.12% of the students involved in tutoring classes;
- Increased knowledge in Mathematics by 68.25% of the students involved in tutoring classes;
- Reduced rash for 38 % out of the total number of the Roma students dropped out (174) who attend the 4th, 5th and 6th grade;
- 75.81% of the total number of students involved in the project attended regularly the tutoring classes;
- Of the total number of students included in the project 92.28% successfully completed the department and transferred to the subsequent grade;
- Strengthened capacities of 113 tutors to deliver the tutoring classes;

These results justify the project as an intervention in primary education from many aspects. In Consideraion that more than 60% of students have increased their knowledge on Native language and Mathematics, is a base for improving the general educational success among pupils. In addition increasd attendance of the students at regular and tutoring classes is contribut to reducing the risk for students to stay out of the educational process. Especially is important that the project contribute to decrease the number of pupils who leave the school for 38%. With this, directly was prevented this children stay on the streets and practicing bad habits such as begging, use of intoxicants, delinquency, etc.. As opposed to that, these children will continue their education to acquire healthy habits, will strengthen their self confidence, will build the responsible persons and will build long-term basis for quality and proper lifestyle. Although implementation of the project in the first year showed solid results, however the need for continuation of this project in the future is in needed. Education of Roma in Macedonia and the region is a complex problem that deserves a long-term treatment. These results are a good basis for building long-term strategies and intervention programs in elementary education and support for the Roma community.

Share of Roma staff carrying out (implementing) the project (Section 5, criterion 3 of the Contest Rules):

*Please describe, in no more than 300 words, how many people – paid or volunteer, full-time or part-time – are directly carrying out (implementing) the project. What is the share in % of Roma among these people?*

*Do not confuse the people who carry out (implement) the project and the people who benefit from the project! For example, teachers and social assistants carry out a project while children benefit from it. However, sometimes it may be difficult to distinguish: for example, unemployed people may receive training as beneficiaries of the project and at the same time they can be employed by the project or do volunteer work to carry out the project. Therefore, describe clearly the people who carry out (implement) the project.*

#### 1. Management team of the project

For management and coordination of the project are engaged 6 people with full time jobs: Project manager, Project coordinator, two administrative assistants and one financial manager. All persons are members of the Roma community.

#### 2. Support team for coordination of the project on a local level

In order to coordinate the project locally, are hired 14 local coordinators through 9 local Roma NGOs. Of these, 7 are engaged full time, and 7 are hired part time. All persons are members of the Roma community.

#### 3. Tutors for realization of tutoring classes with the children

To deliver the tutoring classes are involved a total of 92 tutors who realize tutoring classes in 36 primary schools in 18 municipalities / locations in Macedonia. Of these 40 tutors are Roma and 52 non-Roma.

#### 4. External consultancy expert

RRC has engaged External expert analysis and evaluation of the success and attendance of students in 36 schools in 18 municipalities / locations in Macedonia. That person is engaged full time and is member of the non-Roma community.

#### 5. External monitoring expert

RRC has engaged External expert to monitor the level and quality of implementation of the project in 36 schools in 18 municipalities / locations in Macedonia. That person is engaged part time and is a member of the non-Roma community.

Share of women and men (girls and boys) among beneficiaries of the project (Section 5, criterion 4 of the Contest Rules):

*Please state, in no more than 300 words, what the share of women and men (girls and boys) is among the beneficiaries of the project. If there are gender imbalances, please explain them and explain how these findings have been or will be used to adjust the objectives, design, planning or activities of the project. If the project is intended to benefit one gender only, please justify why that is appropriate to achieve the objectives of the project.*

Within in the project, for the school year 2016/17 are included total of 1500 students. From them, 786 (52.4%) are female and 714 (47.6%) are male.



### 3. COOPERATING ENTITIES (fill out only if applicable – Section 3, point 4. of the Contest Rules)

Describe in no more than 300 words the share of implementation of the project by the participant, i.e. without the cooperating entities. This share must be meaningful and substantial.

RRC is the leader organization of the project "Tutoring support of Roma students who study in the primary schools in the country." The project is implemented in partnership with NGO SONCE from Tetovo. Additionally, the project included a consortium of 10 NGOs responsible for the project implementation at local level. RRC is a coordinator and has responsible for the project implementation in 18 municipalities / locations in 36 primary schools in Macedonia. NGO "Sonce" as a key partner in the project is responsible for the project coordination in West Macedonia for total of 6 municipalities, under RRC's coordination. For successful coordination of all parties involved in the project, RRC organizes regular coordination meetings and create quarterly action plans for project implementation. In addition, RRC coordinates and conducts all payments which are arising from the implementation of the activities under the project. The local coordinators submit monthly reports to RRC for the implementation of the tutoring classes at the local level as well as the overall implementation of the project. RRC create general reports based on the reports from the local coordinators. RRC together with SONCE plan activities for advocacy and lobbying for the project and organize and conduct meetings with local and national institutions.

RRC as a leader in the coordinating of the project realizes, coordinates and organizes all key meetings and partnerships for the project implementation.

RRC together with the NGO SONCE realizes internal and external monitoring to determine the level and quality of the project implementation at local level. Local coordinators and NGOs involved in the project have a direct responsibility to RRC for the project implementation.

List the cooperating entities. For each entity, provide its full official name, its legal form, its official address and its statutory and/or VAT registration number.

1. Ministry of education and science of Republic of Macedonia, Governmental institution, str. "St. Kiril and Methodius" n. 54 – Skopje, VAT number: 4030990253456
2. Association for Democratic Development of Roma "Sonce" NGO, str. "Ilirija" – Tetovo, VAT number: 4028999127300
3. Association "Center for educational support Dendo Vas", NGO, str."Bertrand Rasel" n. 40 – Skopje, VAT number: 4030001416236
4. Association for perspective integration and development "Roma Perspective", NGO, str. "Krume Volnaroski" n.115, VAT number: 4021015528712
5. Association for democratic development of Roma "Nevo Dzivdipe", NGO, str. "Vanco Prke" n.3 - Vinica, VAT number: 4005016504528
6. Association "Bela Kula" – Kicevo, NGO, str.Marshal Tito" – Kichevo, VAT number: 4012999109228
7. Centar for development of Roma community "Bairska Svetlina", NGO, str. "Jorgo Kostovski", VAT number: 4002001149137
8. Center for Roma community "Drom", NGO, str. "Serava" n.5/7a - Kumanovo, VAT number: 4017997128820
9. Association of citizens "Avena" – Kochani, NGO, str. "Stamen Panov", VAT number: 4013005121247
10. Association of citizens "Sumnal" – Skopje, NGO, str. "Slavej Planina" n.19, VAT number: 4030001410122
11. 36 Primary Schools in 18 municipalities/localities in Macedonia, Public educational institutions

## 4. SUPPORTING VISUAL MATERIAL

In compliance with the Contest Rules (Section 6), visual material supporting this application (e.g. photos, videos, brochures) is only accepted if it is openly available on the internet in electronic format (a website, YouTube, Vimeo, Facebook etc.). Provide links below and explain the material, in particular how it shows various aspects of the project. The supporting visual material itself may be in any language.

*Provide the link and a short (maximum 30 words) explanation for each item of visual material. Do not provide more than 10 items; any items beyond this limit will be disregarded during the evaluation.*

1. Link from the promotion of the training for the tutors within the project MAC 094 (Tutoring support for Roma children who are enrolled in Primary Education in Macedonia)

<http://televizijastar.com/2016/10/10/100-%D1%82%D0%B8%D0%BD%D0%B0-%D1%82%D1%83%D1%82%D0%BE%D1%80%D0%B8-%D1%9C%D0%B5-%D0%B8%D0%BC-%D0%BF%D0%BE%D0%BC%D0%B0%D0%B3%D0%B0%D0%B0%D1%82-%D0%BD%D0%B0-%D1%81%D0%BB%D0%B0%D0%B1%D0%B8%D1%82%D0%B5/#>

2. Link from the interview in national television Kanal 5 for the project MAC 094 (Tutoring support for Roma children who are enrolled in Primary Education in Macedonia)

[http://kanal5.com.mk/vesti\\_detail.asp?ID=105281](http://kanal5.com.mk/vesti_detail.asp?ID=105281)

1. Link from the interview in national Roma emission within the National Macedonian TV (MTV) for the project MAC 094 (Tutoring support for Roma children who are enrolled in Primary Education in Macedonia)

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B0olo8yDhIlekgtbDFobGlkZm8/view>

2. Link from news article for the project MAC 084 (Tutoring support for the children who are enrolled in Primary Education in Shuto Orizari)

[https://www.facebook.com/roma.resource.center/videos/1051740564853069/?\\_mref=message\\_bubble](https://www.facebook.com/roma.resource.center/videos/1051740564853069/?_mref=message_bubble)

3. Link from the promotion of social activities for the students which are implemented within the project

<http://24vakti.mk/%D1%80%D0%BE%D0%BC%D1%81%D0%BA%D0%B8%D0%BE%D1%82-%D1%80%D0%B5%D1%81%D1%83%D1%80%D1%81%D0%B5%D0%BD-%D1%86%D0%B5%D0%BD%D1%82%D0%B0%D1%80-%D1%80%D1%80%D1%86->

[%D0%BE%D1%80%D0%B3%D0%B0%D0%BD%D0%B8%D0%B7/](#)

4. Link from the promotion of the project on a local level in municipality of Kochani

<http://kanal8.mk/index.php//3516-proekt-za-deca-romi>

5. Link from the promotion of the project on a local level in municipality of Delchevo

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=peJHHxyaBRc&feature=share&app=desktop>

6. Link from the promotion of the project on a national level through the internet medium 24Vakti;

<http://24vakti.mk/i-programa-bashi-tutorstvo-taro-rrc-dela-baro-sukcesi-ko-romane-chave/>

7. Link from the RRC's facebook page where are applauded all of activities which are implemented by RRC within the project "Tutoring support of Roma children in primary school in Macedonia"

<https://www.facebook.com/roma.resource.center/?fref=ts>

# We wish you good luck!

***SUBJECT: Additional information for NGO RRC according the Eligibility criterion - section 3.3 of the Contest Rules regarding the Second EU Roma Integration Award for the Western Balkans and Turkey.***

NGO Roma Resource Center is **registered on 29<sup>th</sup> of January 2010 year in Skopje, Macedonia.** RRC is actively working for 6 years for support of the Roma community in Macedonia. In order to supplement your requested information in accordance with, below are several projects that have been implemented within the RRC till the period to 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2016 year:

**Project 1:** Advocacy Camp for Roma students and students who study medicine. Pilot project implementation started in August 2010 year and was implemented until 31<sup>st</sup> July 2016. The project aim is strengthening the capacity about 100 high school and university students who study medicine to become leaders in the community and to advocate for Roma rights in health care in the country;

**Project 2:** Paralegal assistance to the Roma community in the municipality of Suto Orizari. Project implementation began on 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2012 year and runs until 1<sup>st</sup> of December 2016 year. The project aim is to provide access of the Roma community to the services in the field of health and fulfilment of their health rights;

**Project 3:** Building of educational opportunities for children from vulnerable categories. The project aim was Assessment of opportunities for development of long-term programs for positive educational changes. The project was implemented from 01<sup>st</sup> July 2014 year till 01<sup>st</sup> June 2015 year;

**Project 4:** Tutoring support for Roma children who are included in 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade in primary education in Shuto Orizari. The project aim was Providing additional educational (tutoring) support for minimum 500 maximum 750 students at the Primary school "Brothers Ramiz and Hamid" in Shuto Orizari during the school year 2014/15. This project was implemented in the period from 01<sup>st</sup> of July 2014 year to 31<sup>st</sup> of July 2015 year.

Sincerely,

Ipek Usainova  
President



NGO Roma Resource Center, Skopje  
22/11/2016