

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 Roma¹ 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

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>

¹ 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
*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.

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.

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

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 of citizens for promotion of Roma education – OTAHARIN
Official legal form of the participant. This legal form must be suitable for an NGO.	Association of Citizens, NGO sector

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

Association of Citizens for Promotion of Roma Education - OTAHARIN was formed in early 2005 by the parents of the Roma students and other citizens interested in the issue of education of Roma in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Association "Otaharin" was registered at the level of Bosnia and Herzegovina at the Ministry of Justice of Bosnia and Herzegovina under registration number: RN-249/05, book of registers "I", on the date 17.02.2005.

Vision: B&H as a responsible society of all equal citizens and especially educationally, socially and economically excluded marginalized and vulnerable groups.

Mission: Increasing the level of educational, social, and economic integration and inclusion of vulnerable and marginalized groups, through professional, dedicated and innovative work, recognisability and credibility.

The main objectives of the activities and work of the Association of citizens for promotion of Roma education – OTAHARIN:

- The inclusion of Roma children in the education system in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- Raising awareness about the importance of education within the Roma population;
- Protection and promotion of rights of national minorities, especially the Roma population;
- The protection and promotion of human rights;
- Organizing all kinds of educational work, informational activities and support to participants and beneficiaries;
- Taking care of environmental protection;
- Encouraging the development of creative skills;
- Work on improving people's health;
- Contribution to the promotion and development of civil society and creating networks across the country, as well as at the international level;
- Development and promotion of cultural and sports activities;
- Humanitarian activities (material and counseling);
- Support of the development of the entire society;
- Support to Roma men and women during their education;
- The organization and activities for Roma children included in the education system;
- The organization of educational, cultural and sports extracurricular activities for Roma children;
- Organizing and conducting seminars, lectures, conferences, workshops and other forms of education for children, youth and adults;
- Promotional activities and campaigns (making posters, brochures, magazines, etc.)
- Strengthening ties and cooperation with schools and other educational institutions
- Sending suggestions, requests, complaints to institutions and authorities in charge to solve certain issues in order to provide individual support for users;

Providing financial and advisory support to other associations, institutions and individuals.

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	10 members with working contract 6 members with contract of service 40 active volunteers 80 volunteers in Local volunteering service base
Full official address, notably street/post box, postal code, city, country	Beogradska 38., 76300 Bijeljina, Bosnia and Herzegovina
E-mail address	ugotaharin@teol.net
Website	www.otaharin.org
Statutory registration number, VAT registration number (whichever available)	4402198460007 ID number.
CONTACT PERSON:	
Name (Ms, Mr)	Mr. Dragan Joković, executive director
Telephone number	Office: +387(0)55 250543 Mob.: +387(0)65 931384
E-mail address	ugotaharin@teol.net ; djokovic77@gmail.com

2. THE PROJECT

Title of the project	“Sport for social change and education”
Period covered by the project (Section 4 point 3. of the Contest Rules)	From: 01.05.2016. To: 30.06.2018.
Geographical location of the project (Section 4 point 2. of the Contest Rules)	Bijeljina, Republic of Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Source of financing of the project	German Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development (BMZ)
<p>Objectives, design, planning and activities of the project (Section 4 point 1., Section 5, criterion 1 of the Contest Rules):</p> <p><i>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.</i></p>	

The project goal is to improve school education and living conditions of Roma children through physical and creative activities involving also activities with groups of parents and young people as well as support for schools.

This goal is supported by *three main targets*:

1. Vulnerable Roma children (70%) as well as non-Roma children (30%) are regularly attending school and thereby increase their prospects of secondary education,
2. By participating regularly in the physical activities the children learn to obtain responsibility, to behave in a social manner, and to concentrate,
3. The knowledge about health risks and hygiene are improved.

The project aims to reach directly 84 Roma children (70%) and 36 (30%) non-Roma children who are in social need and/or are beneficiaries of Day care centre for children who are living or working in the street or are in risk of becoming ones, age 6 – 15. Both Roma and non-Roma children are coming from socially endangered and dysfunctional families, they are beneficiaries of Day Care centre (or participate in its activities) and/or are registered in the Centre for social welfare, they come from the same settlement, but they hardly ever merge.

The main project activity – formation of the soccer club Otaharin, aims to address the problem of discrimination and inclusion of Roma, through sports activities.

Using soccer to help children in this target group to overcome their obstacles, develop social aptitudes and life skills, empower themselves, learn about different ethnicities and become included in society at large is a part of the process of “social inclusion”.

The process of empowerment and inclusion will also be supported by activities organized in the Day Care Centre “Otaharin” – additional classes to empower learning, develop learning habits and improve their grades in the school; hygiene and health risks workshops to raise awareness of developing healthy habits.

Besides working with children, the project will reach about 80 (40 per year) parents of direct beneficiaries, at least one parent from each child included in the project. Out of that number there would be approximately 30% of non-Roma parents that are registered in the Centre for social welfare, also participating in workshops for parents that will contribute to developing positive parental skills, changing attitudes towards education and school in a positive direction and breaking prejudice about people from different ethnical backgrounds.

Sport can serve as a starting point for stimulating the development of an individual’s social skills. For children in the fewer-opportunity group, this starting point is crucial. Having the opportunity to improve these skills, long-term inclusion goals like stepping away from criminal behaviour, living independently, moving in to higher-level education and finding employment will become attainable.

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.

So far, the project has managed to positively affect Roma children and youth in terms of inclusion, integration and empowerment, through following activities:

1. **Focus groups with children and parents** before the implementation of the project. This allowed the project team to verify the exact number of vulnerable Roma and Non-Roma children who will benefit from the project activities. It was conducted by a social worker and field teams consisting of mostly Roma volunteers and activists from Otaharin. The focus group was attended by 30 children and 30 parents.

2. **Provision of a football playground** by signing contract with FC Sloga for using their playground. FC Sloga (Tombak) is selected as the most suitable sports club due to its location, i.e. vicinity to the Roma settlements. Thus, proximity of the playground is beneficial for achieving of regular attendance of target group in the sports activities and is ensuring the development of responsibility among children beneficiaries.

3. **Creation of a football club by OTAHARIN**, having two a coaches who have experience and qualifications in teaching and working with children from these settlements. Two of the coaches have been trained by German Sports University staff at the beginning of the project, on how to work with the target group. The club is built by a mixed team of various age groups; containing girls and boys, as well as Roma and non-Roma children. A total of 40 children (28 Roma, 12 Non-Roma) are participating in the soccer training three times a week at the "Sloga" playground.

4. **Supply of healthy food and drinks at trainings** is crucial to develop healthy eating habits and something Otaharin practices on each training (40 children).

5. **Twice a week additional private lessons** for small groups. They particularly address children who have difficulties in Serbian language or Mathematics. The children are taught by volunteers in small groups of up to 5 students. The timeframe for private lessons do not compromise the participation in other creative and sports activities offered by the Day care centre. A total of 40 children are included at this moment.

6. Lunch for children who attend the private lessons. Intended as an additional incentive, the children can have lunch at the Day care centre. For most children, this is the only meal they get per day.

7. Awarding of 40 scholarships for poorer children of primary school age who regularly attend sports activities and other activities organized by the Day Care Centre. Further criteria are the regular school attendance and reach of needed score as well as interest in the work and activities provided by the Day Care Centre.

8. Provision of school materials and school bags for 36 vulnerable children who are attending regular classes at school. The provision of school material is ensuring that each child from the programme has a chance to fulfil school obligations on daily basis.

9. Hygiene and health risks workshops, as well as first aid training is recommended to all children .All these workshops encourage solidarity, empathy and altruism among the children, besides developing healthy eating habits and awareness of keeping the hygiene on a positive level.

10. Cooperation with parents in monthly meetings is supporting the development of positive parental skills and raising awareness regarding significance of schooling, and benefits of social interaction. They are also suggested to foster the regular participation of their children in the activities organized by the Day Care Centre. (27 parents)

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.

The number of people who carry out the project:

- full-time and part time employed – **14 people** (Project Manager, Project Coordinator, Administrative and Financial Assistant, Coordinator of sports activities in the Day Care Centre, Psychologist, Social Worker, Community Mediator, Outreach Worker, Trainer for workshops with parents, Coach, Assistant-Sports Coach).

- Volunteers that implement the activities – **3 people**.

Altogether, we have 17 people engaged in the project. Out of those 17, **7 are Roma (5 of them are full time employed and 2 of them are volunteers) or 41,17 %**.

Share of Roma staff in the project is very significant, in the preparatory phase, as well as in the part of implementation.

In the preparatory phase they participated in identification of beneficiaries of project, participants for focus groups, actively participated in social mapping of Roma communities and families.

In the implementation phase Roma mediators and field workers are responsible for identifying of children and parents, organizing activities, informing Roma pupils about the schedule of workshops, sport activities, additional classes and etc. They are giving necessary assistance to the teacher regarding the language barriers, following the class and cooperating with class masters, schools and parents. Mediator and field workers have an obligation to write a report after every field/outreach visit and submit it to the project coordinator, and gave their opinion and suggestion for improvement of activities. They are also participating on group meetings with project coordinator, teachers, volunteers and parents.

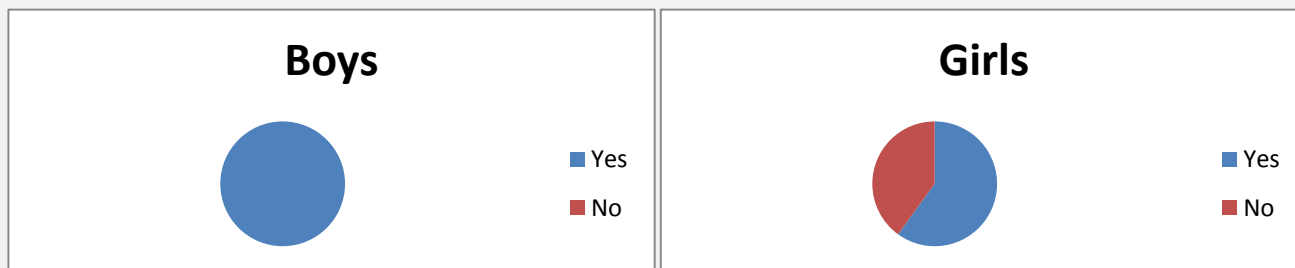
Roma mediator and field workers also gather information about the children progress through **cooperation with their families, the school, class masters etc. in order to provide a proper response in the best interest of child whenever it is needed.**

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.

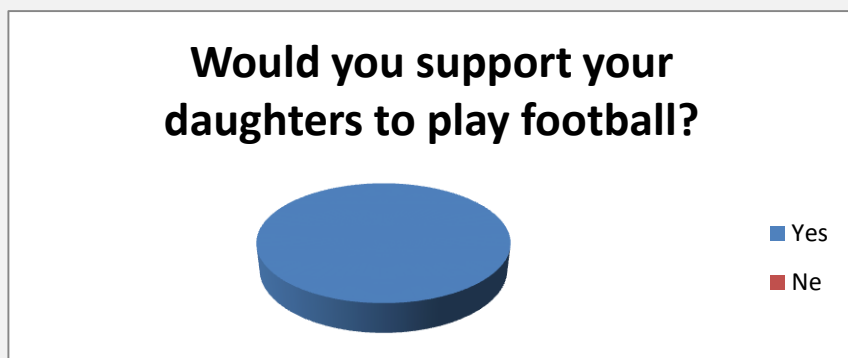
OTAHARIN’s expert staff from conversations (focus groups) and work with children of both genders in the preparation phase of the project came to a conclusion that certain number of girls is also interested in soccer as a sport.

100% of boys want to train football and 60% of girls want to train football (data from focus group)



Hence, the project is to making an effort to maintain an interest of those girls that have already expressed it and also make the activities appealing for those that have not shown the interest yet in order to include significant % of girls into the project implementation. Furthermore, both boys and girls are playing soccer at regular classes of physical education in primary and secondary schools.

Generally speaking, women’s football has flourished in recent years, and interest in football played by women is currently at an all-time high. There are a total of 7 girls participating in soccer activities. After researching and focus group, conclusion was that parents are support girls (daughters to play football).



The positive role models are being presented through project activities. Also, by presenting the benefits of soccer and sports in general for both genders, the project aims to include more girls in sports activities. Participation of girls won’t be questionable since those girls are already beneficiaries of Day care centre or included in its activities.

Although the sports activities are a central part of the project and a tool for social inclusion, the project is structured in a way that provides other benefits as well including the support to the parents though workshops organized for them, where both moms and dads participate together.

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.

CARE Deutschland-Luxemburg e.V. –

- They mediate between „Otaharin“ and donor (BMZ),
- Provide guidelines for the reporting and implementation,
- Create a form for reporting, and ensure the transfer of funds,
- They are not directly involved in implementation of activities.

Deutsche Sporthochschule Köln / German Sport-

- They provide academic support to the initiative,
- Provide recommendations about the sport programme, coach selection and the distribution of stipends,
- Provide a training for coach,
- Addresses the specific goals and propose baselines as well as measurement tools and indicators,
- Work on evaluation of project activities,
- Prepare the questionnaires for evaluation,
- Provided expertise,
- Their role is important in the process of implementation and they directly involved in sports activities.

The participation of the partners in the project is significant because of their knowledge and experience in implementing similar projects. The project is new and innovative, never before done in the area of Bosnia-Herzegovina, and represents a challenge for implementers, as well as for partners.

Providing expertise in the implementation of project activities partners are helping to substantial progress of the project owner.

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.

CARE Deutschland-Luxemburg e.V.

Hauptgeschäftsstelle
Dreizehnmorgenweg 6
D-53175 Bonn

Deutsche Sporthochschule Köln / German Sport University

Cologne
Am Sportpark Muengersdorf 6,
50933 Cologne - Germany

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.

<http://otaharin.org/en/planing-activities-for-project-sport-for-social-inclusion-and-education/>

On the occasion of planning activities within the project Sport to social inclusion and education, 12th and 13th of September in hotel Drina in Bijeljina, there were held meetings with partners from German Sport University Cologne and representatives CARE Deutschland Luxemburg. The objects of the meetings were developing plan of monitoring and evaluation and discussion about challenges for realization of all activities within the project. On the sports field we did exercises to build confidence, self-esteem, teamwork, inclusion. The project is financially supported by the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany (BMZ).

<http://otaharin.org/en/ready-for-new-school-year/>

This activity is part of two projects, which are implemented by Otaharin: *Education, I accept!* (**CARE International**) and *Sport for social inclusion and education* (**BMZ Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung**). Through project *Sport for social inclusion and education*, 30 Roma children, which are socially vulnerable, beside getting a school material, will have a chance to participate in sport activities, in purpose further motivating the most successful students to continue with learn and work.

<http://otaharin.org/en/through-sport-to...on-and-education/>

„Sports for social change and education” is a project implemented by Citizen’s Association for promotion of education of Roma “Otaharin” in close cooperation with CARE Deutschland-Luxemburg e.V. and German Sports University from Cologne.

In the following period we plan to actively promote the project activities through our web page and social networks.

<https://www.facebook.com/otaharin/?pnref=story>

<http://otaharin.org/en/homepage/>

<https://www.instagram.com/otaharinbijeljina/>

<https://twitter.com/otaharin>

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.

We wish you good luck!