

Training courses

A series of training sessions took place within the project "**Our voice counts!**", project implemented by the Association Assistance and Programs for Sustainable Development - Agenda 21 in partnership with the National Association of Librarians and Public Libraries from Romania, Startlight Petra Association and Norsensus Mediaforum Norway, with the financial support of the Active Citizens Fund Romania, programme funded by Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway through EEA Grants 2014-2021. The aim of the project is to change the mentality and attitude of the citizens of Bucharest, Buzău and Râmnicu Sărat through advocacy activities that promote human and children rights, designed to combat stereotypes, prejudices and practices of exclusion and marginalization that affect children and young people with hearing and vision impairments, and their families.

The training course dedicated to project volunteers took place online on October 28th and 29th, 2021, respectively November 10th, and benefited from 27 participants. On November 18th and 19th, 2021, respectively November 22nd and 23rd, two more training courses took place, this time dedicated to children and young people with visual and hearing impairments from the seven partner special schools. The training sessions focused on the following topics: presentation of the project, human, children and people with disabilities rights, interactive exercises, barriers faced by disabled people, with an emphasis on visually and hearing-impaired people, the connection between environmental issues, climate change, human rights and the need to involve young people. The module supported by the Norwegian partner benefited from his expertise in working with volunteers and in advocacy actions that promote human rights, using modern means and technologies as a communication strategy. Subsequently, the 64 young people with visual and hearing impairments held another 13 training courses for 273 of their colleagues in their schools in the months of January - February 2022.

About Active Citizens Fund Romania

The Active Citizens Fund Romania programme is funded through the EEA Grants 2014-2021. The overall objective of the Grants is to reduce economic and social disparities, and to strengthen bilateral relations between 15 beneficiary countries and the Donor States (Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway). The programme is administered by a consortium composed of Civil Society Development Foundation, Romanian Environmental Partnership Foundation, Resource Center for Roma Communities, PACT Foundation and Frivillighet Norge, acting as Fund Operator designated by FMO – Financial Mechanism Office of the EEA and Norway Grants. The objectives of the Active Citizens Fund Romania are to strengthen civil society and active citizenship and to empower vulnerable groups. With a total allocation of 46,000,000 euro, the programme pursues a long-term development of the civil society sector sustainability and capacity, stepping up its role in promoting democratic participation, active citizenship and human rights, while strengthening bilateral relations with organizations from the Donor States, Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway. For more information about the Active Citizens Fund in Romania, please go to www.activecitizensfund.ro. For more information about the EEA and Norway Grants, go to www.eeagrants.org.

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