

Educational awareness sessions

Educational awareness sessions in schools were part of the awareness and advocacy campaign. They were organized in the seven partner mainstream schools, as well as in other schools in the three locations of the project, as well as in other cities. The meetings facilitated discussions between students and successful people with visual or hearing impairments, who talked to the students about what disability means, about their journey in life, the barriers they have faced from the perspective of disability, successes achieved and the importance of integration in society of disabled people. Some of the educational sessions were also attended by students from special schools, which added value and interactivity to the meetings. At the project level, 11 face-to-face sessions were organized with 353 young people, and 2 online sessions with 151 students. The meetings were organized 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.

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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