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Working together for Roma Inclusive education

Newsletter #2

Selection criteria and small scale interventions

Following the 1st translational project meeting and the first study visit of the project “Working together for Roma inclusive education” held to the 2nd Gymnasio of Agia Varvara on 21-23 January 2017, each partner selected a small scale intervention to apply in its setting. The methodological aspects of the selection criteria for the best practices were discussed during the translational meeting and then to the monthly virtual project meeting in February 2017. With the aim the criteria to reflect the project’s characteristics and take into consideration the time and cost limitations, it was decided the project partners to apply the following criteria for the selection of the small-scale practices of the project:

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Number of participants (students, teachers, other stakeholders)
- Activities
- Results
- Dissemination
- Impact
- Stakeholders involvement
- Transferability

It was also decided that the actions/practices at all schools will be for students aged from 12 to 15 year-old.

The selected small scale interventions

Greece: 2nd Gymnasio of Agia Varvara

Inspired by the practices of Bacho Kiro Secondary School (Bulgaria) regarding **parents meetings outside school** the 2nd Gymnaisio of Agia Varvara with the support of BOLT International will implement an action in order to **explore parents’ attitudes and perceptions to the responsibilities that arise from the obligation of their children to**



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attend school as well as parents’ involvement in the school life.

Adapted to the local socioeconomic reality the best way to achieve this is through students. The majority of parents, mainly Roma parents, do not come to the regular meetings organized by school although they all live within walking distance from the school premises and they barely participate in the parents’ committee.

The importance of parents’ cooperation and active participation in school life as well as the fact that many Roma students do not fulfill the attendance requirements motivated school representatives to choose to work on this practice.

For achieving this aim a number of meetings will be organized and the focus group interview technique will be conducted in order to get students’ points of view regarding their obligations to school attendance and they will be asked to act as mediators in order to organize a meeting with their parents wherever and whenever their parents want. Followed by the next meeting will be held at a place and time convenient to the parents. The focus group interview technique will be applied in order to explore parents’ attitudes and perceptions to the responsibilities that arise from the obligation of their children to attend school as well as parents’ involvement in the school life.

The action will be supported by at least two Roma mediators with the aim to make parents feel comfortable.

Bulgaria: “Bacho Kiro” School

“Bacho Kiro” school with the support of AMALIPE NGO chose to apply a practice, proposed by Greek partners and implemented by the school Agia Varvara, namely "Photovoice", intervention in schools that will be adapted to Bulgarian conditions. The objective is to promote good examples of tolerance and respect between ethnic groups, to break stereotypes and overcome prejudices about Roma students, to plan specific activities and initiatives for bottom up integration.

The aim will be to motivate students through the dissemination of information and conducting workshops with stakeholders. For achieving it a number of actions will be implemented range from a photo contest, and interviews by students to students.

The results of the interviews and photo contest will lead to the identification of specific activities and initiatives to promote tolerance and understanding between ethnic next school year.



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Romania: Ialomita County School Inspectorate

Ialomita County School Inspectorate with the support of AEVB NGO choose to apply the practice, proposed by Greek partners and implemented by the school Agia Varvara, namely Δ-ROM-ΟΛΟΓΙΑ (Itineraries), intervention in schools that will be adapted to Romanian conditions.

Objectives: to promote good examples of tolerance and respect between students, to highlight the cultural capital of Roma students featuring its different elements: language, religion, mores and customs, to ensure for students smooth and equal integration in the everyday school routine.

The activity will be implemented in two schools of the county: in Borănești Middle School, Technology Highschool "Inaltarea Domnului" Slobozia.

- Implementation of activities to motivate students to participate at daily school activities, reducing school dropping out.
- Students, guided by their teachers, in cooperation with mediators from the Roma community will transfer of poems/ short novel written by famous Romanian writers into the Romani language with the use of the Romanian alphabet.
- Roma students will interpret a poems/will read a short novel in their language in festive moment nearby their colleagues, teachers, parents, other participants from community.

In this way it will give emphasis to the Roma special cultural capital so as to make student feel secure and build relationships of trust with the school, with the community.



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