

## Roma Education Research Project Local Research Plan

<b>Name of Project:</b>	<b>Education Support Program for Roma Children and Youth from Shuto Orizari Municipality</b>
<b>Name of Country:</b>	<b>Republic of Macedonia</b>
<b>Name of Researchers:</b>	<b>M.A. Goran Janev, Dr. Natasha Gaber</b>

*After each research question, please describe any issues, modifications, or additions that are relevant to your specific project or country.*

<p><b><u>Research Question #1</u> – How effective is your project in (A) getting and keeping Roma children in school through completion and (B) improving their educational achievement?</b></p> <p><b>Issues, Modifications, or Additions Specific to Your Project/Country?</b></p> <p>The project is limited to only one municipality due to the fact that the largest concentration of Roma is in Skopje and especially in Shuto Orizari municipality.</p>
<p><b><u>Research Question #2</u> – Has your project promoted institutional or policy changes in the public schools which advance goals of equity and educational quality?</b></p> <p><b>Issues, Modifications, or Additions Specific to Your Project/Country?</b></p> <p>Project outcome shall also consider the probability of widening this kind of activities in other cities in the country.</p>
<p><b><u>Research Question #3</u> – Has your project results in (A) a change in attitude toward Roma children among teachers and other school staff, (B) a change in attitude toward Roma children among non-Roma children and their parents, and (C) a change in self-characterization by Roma children?</b></p> <p><b>Issues, Modifications, or Additions Specific to Your Project/Country?</b></p>
<p><b><u>Research Question #4</u> – What is the feasibility of replicating your project within your country or in other countries based on issues of cost, resources, institutions, and culture?</b></p> <p><b>Issues, Modifications, or Additions Specific to Your Project/Country?</b></p>

*Please describe your current plans or best estimates for carrying out the research associated with the Roma Education Research Project in your home country. In your descriptions, indicate an approximate timeline for completing the different phases of the plan. Where appropriate, indicate how the responsibilities for the research activities will be divided among the researchers. If any or all of the activities associated with any phase of the research project are not relevant to your local plan, indicate that in your responses to the appropriate planning questions below.*

*We recognize and expect that some activities, allocations of responsibility, or schedules will change as you carry out your local research plan. When it becomes apparent that any of the plans included in this document need to change, please notify us as soon as possible.*

**Phase #1 – Prepare a brief written background description on (A) the structure and operation of the public school system in your country, (B) the geographic distribution of Roma children in your country, and (C) educational problems and challenges facing Roma children in your country.**

**What sources do you expect to use in preparing this written background description?**

Data from the State Statistical Bureau, other studies concerning Roma population, other NGO programs related to this matter.

**When do you expect to complete this document?**

By Friday, November 10th

**Phase #2 – Gather information to prepare Program Profile by (A) conducting initial interviews with the Project Director, other project managers, and representatives of organizations knowledgeable about the project (Soros Foundation, other funders, national and local governmental agencies, and non-governmental organizations) and (B) obtaining and review written documents, news articles, and videotapes related to the project.**

**Who do you expect to interview (indicate position and organizational affiliation)?**

All the above mentioned- maximum 10 persons

**What steps do you expect to take and what sources do you expect to employ to obtain written documents, news articles, and videotapes related to the project?**

"Hope" documentation, Soros documentation, Ministry of Education data, comparative NGO data

**When do you expect to complete these activities?**

By the meeting in Budapest- November 30th

**Phase #3 – Collect statistical records on (A) the project’s impact on Roma students (see Research Question #1), (B) direct services provided by the project to school staff, Roma parents, and other adults, (C) the project’s budget and expenditures.**

**Which Roma students do you expect to use to assess the project’s impact, including age/grade level, type of community, geographical region, and other relevant characteristics? If only a sample of students benefiting from the project will be included in the research, indicate the anticipated size of the sample and list the criteria to be used in selecting the sample.**

We are considering to take the whole group, since the total number of beneficiaries is 250 children, of whom 100 are pre-school children

**What are the relevant characteristics of the students that you expect to use as comparison group(s)?**

First of all, we intend to compare with other Roma children who are not included in the program, but are also Roma and are living in the same neighbourhood and under the same conditions. Other than this, we intend to compare this group with another two groups, one being consisted of Albanian children and the ther of Macedonian.

**What types of records (i.e. enrollment, attendance, course grades, completion, and disciplinary) will you seek to obtain for both the target population of Roma students and the comparison groups?**

All of this is possible

**IF RELEVANT, what types of records will you seek to obtain for adults (school staff, parents, or others) who are direct recipients of project services or direct participants in project activities?**

Whatever available, if Hope keeps some records, or the school

**What steps do you expect to take to identify and obtain the records and to ensure that they are in the appropriate computer-readable format for analysis?**

**When do you expect to complete these activities?**

End of December

**Phase #4 – Conduct surveys or interviews of project staff, knowledgeable school staff, adult participants in project activities, and representatives of government agencies and non-governmental organizations who know about the project. Surveys or interviews will focus on project structure and operation, direct services provided by the project, and project impact on Roma students, families, communities, schools, and others.**

**Who do you expect to interview or survey (indicate positions and organizational affiliations)?**

project staff-3 persons; school staff- up to 10 persons (depending on the level of involvement); adult participants 10 persons; govt. agencies up to 2 persons; NGOs depending on involvement

**Do you expect to conduct interviews or surveys with each of these groups**

focus groups with school staff and adult participants, the others in form of an interview

**What steps do you expect to take to identify individuals to interview, obtain their participation, and conduct the interviews?**

Identification- by getting assistance from Hope, participation (especially of parents) by giving them a small fee.

**When do you expect to complete these activities?**

End of January hopefully

**Phase #5 – Conduct site visits to schools and direct service locations operated by the project (i.e. centers) for (A) tours of the schools and/or locations, (B) observations of classrooms or project activities, (C) follow-up interviews with the project director, other project management staff, and project direct service staff, and (D) interviews and/or focus groups with school staff, students, parents, and others.**

**How many schools do you expect to visit? What are their relevant characteristics? If you are visiting only a sample of schools that are participating/benefiting from the project, what criteria did you use to make the selections?**

There is one elementary school in Shuto Orizari. For comparison, we might use neighbouring schools (ethnically different classes) for comparison.

**IF RELEVANT, how many project service sites (i.e. centers) will you visit?**

The only one

**How do you expect to conduct the site visits?**

<p><b>What steps do you expect to take to recruit interview subjects among program staff? How do you expect to conduct the interviews?</b></p> <p>See above</p>
<p><b>What steps do you expect to take to recruit interview subjects among school staff, students, parents, and others? How do you expect to conduct the interviews?</b></p> <p>See above</p>
<p><b>When do you expect to complete these activities?</b></p> <p>End of February</p>

<p><b><u>Phase #6</u> – Conduct field interviews with Roma students, Roma families, and other appropriate interview subjects. Field interviews should be conducted in homes, community centers, or other community locations.</b></p>
<p><b>What steps do you expect to take to identify potential interview subjects and to obtain their participation in the interviews?</b></p> <p>See above</p>
<p><b>How do you expect to conduct the interviews and particularly how do you expect to deal with language differences and with gaining the confidence of the Roma interview subjects?</b></p> <p>Generally, there is no tension, we do not expect that we shall have difficulties in approaching them. Besides, they are all bilingual and speak Macedonian.</p>
<p><b>When do you expect to complete these activities?</b></p> <p><b>Mid March</b></p>

*Most local Soros foundations have agreed to provide you access to equipment, supplies, materials, and other resources that you need to carry out your local research project. Please contact the representative of the local foundation to arrange for this assistance. If you have any questions or problems regarding this assistance, please contact Christina McDonald.*

*If you need additional resources to support your local research beyond those made available by the local foundation, please list these additional budgetary requirements in the categories below. Provide brief justifications for the requests and estimated costs (if possible).*

<b>Description</b>	<b>Justification</b>	<b>Cost Estimate</b>
<b>Additional Staff (primarily to assist with interviews of Roma adults or children):</b>	Probably not, but we should consider small fees for the interviewed (parents or probably others)	Not more than 150 USD.
<b>Travel (primarily for site visits and interviews):</b>	it will be basically by our cars, the location is back and forth 18 km per day, 1lt of gasoline is 0,84 USD. Visits will be at least 48 times (2 months by 24 working days). $48 \times 18 = 864$ . Expenditure is 12lt per 100 km.	In total spent gasoline would be approx. 110 lt, x 0,84 USD = 92,4 USD (according to the current dollar rate and the current gas price)
<b>Other Needs:</b>	material copying, statistics copying etc	200 USD